



JOIN TUUC FOR VIRTUAL OR IN-PERSON
SUNDAY SERVICE! PLEASE [CLICK HERE](#) TO
REGISTER.

THE
THRESHOLD

SUNDAY, MAY 15, 2022 - 10:30 AM

REV. CLARE L. PETERSBERGER: "THE CALL OF BEAUTY"

Simone Weil wrote, "The beauty of the world is the mouth of a labyrinth." If beauty/life calls us to enter a labyrinth, what do we discover along the way? For you, what would be in the center of the labyrinth? What is the beauty you are called to find?

After worship, we will celebrate Joyce Duncan and her long tenure as our Credentialed DRE. We will thank her for nurturing the beauty of religious exploration and faith formation with us over the past eighteen years.

SUNDAY, MAY 15 ONLINE SERVICE INFORMATION

For those who have not registered for in-person worship and who plan to join us on Zoom this Sunday, please see below for the Zoom information.

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/91279940426?pwd=WkxrLzdhdhZlQwNm01aGtoa3Y2MDhYQT09>

Meeting ID: 912 7994 0426

Passcode: 456922

YOUTH RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

YRE families are invited to join us for classes again this Sunday. The K-5th and 6th-8th will meet in the service and leave after the story for all ages.

YRUU meets in Room 7 at 10:30 AM; after check-in and discussion, the group will make cookies to share at the potluck.

K-5th will continue with stories and activities on Nurturing Beauty.

The 6th-8th grade class is discussing Peace, as a way to work for justice.

Please contact Joyce Duncan at tuucdre@towsonuuc.org for more information or to be added to our mailing list.



AMAZON SMILE QUARTERLY DONATION: \$87.89

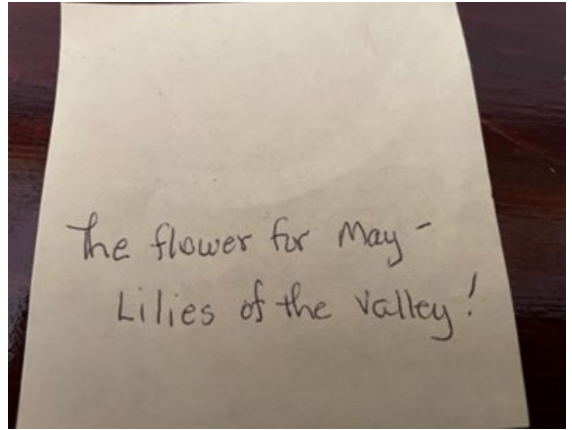
Thank you for choosing Towson UUC as your preferred charity with [Amazon Smile](#)! Every time you use the site with TUUC listed as your preferred charity, Amazon donates a small amount (0.5%) from your purchase to our church.

CLARE'S COLLOQUY

In a recent spring cleaning of our home, I discovered this post-it note.

It transported me to May 1, 2019. Walking into my office at TUUC, I was greeted with something new on my desk. The desk was cluttered. What stood out was a small vase with a sprig of lily of the valley. Below the vase was this note.

The flowers and note were from our Office Assistant, Nancy Hannah. The sweet smelling lily of the valley came from her home garden. The thoughtful gift came from her heart.



According to legend, on May 1, 1561, King Charles IX received a sprig of lily of the valley as a token of good luck. He was so appreciative that began the tradition of the Fête du Muguet in France. On May 1, family and friends give each other a sprig of lily of the valley to wish each other "bonne chance" and as a token of appreciation. It is also a reminder of the beauty of spring.

Holding the post- it-note in my hand, I thought about how the flowers of 2019 had faded; how the tiny vase was empty; how Nancy had not only retired in 2020 but had died on April 5th. I am not yet ready to part with her message which reminds me of the beauty of the lily of the valley and of Nancy who cultivated flowers and nurtured people!

This month, our Soul Matters theme is "Nurturing Beauty." Nurturing beauty is not just about awakening to the beauty of flowers. It is about planting seeds and cultivating their growth for future flowers. Nancy did not just savor beauty. She nurtured and shared it with others. This is part of her legacy.

In memory of Nancy, in honor of the Fête du Muguet, as a token of appreciation for you, and to inspire your reflection on how you are cultivating the true, the good, and the beautiful that will be part of your legacy, I leave you with a photo of lily of the valley---the flower for May!



GATHERING INPUT FOR THE DRE SEARCH

As you know, Joyce Duncan is retiring after serving as Director of Religious Exploration at TUUC for 18 years. The DRE Search Committee is gathering input from the whole congregation that will inform the future of RE at TUUC as well as selection of a new DRE. RE has undergone changes across the UU community that predate the pandemic, and many congregations are exploring new models for faith formation.

This will be a part-time position (20 hours a week with benefits), and will start as early as the beginning of September. We will be hiring a consultant to assist the candidate and the congregation to do the interim work that is necessary when a DRE director departs. The RE Committee is committed to offering a full RE program in the fall, which we are currently planning. We do need teachers, so please consider volunteering!

We will be holding all-congregation listening sessions via Zoom on May 16th and May 19th at 7:30pm, and at a coffee hour following the service on May 22. RE teachers will also have conversations on this topic with students in their classes. The feedback that we get from these conversations will be very helpful to us as we go through the process of screening and interviewing candidates. If you would prefer to provide input via email, please write to Ellie Hughes, Search Committee Chair, at eleanorhughes400@gmail.com.

Here are the questions that we will be asking:

For you, what are the most important aspects of RE at TUUC?

What other elements would you like to see as part of RE/faith formation?

What are your hopes and aspirations for your child/youth/adult religious education/faith formation?

What do you think are the most important qualities for an RE director at TUUC?

Is there any other input that you would like to offer?



4:21 PM 22%
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10
Thanks for your gift of \$10.00!
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Type 'refund' if this was a mistake.

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PASSING THE PLATE

DONATE TO TUUC VIA PAYPAL, TEXT, OR BREEZE
MORE INFORMATION ON THE [TUUC WEBSITE](#)

UUA 2022 GENERAL ASSEMBLY—JUNE 22-26, 2022

If you've never attended the General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association of congregations, it's really quite amazing. Worship services are multicultural, led by diverse UU ministers. Music is multicultural. There are workshops on so many topics! And there are caucuses for young adults, and for people of color. There are opportunities to witness.

The theme is **Meet the Moment: Reimagining Radical Faith Community**.

Promotional videos for over 80 workshops are available here:

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/9361087>

There will be workshops on Beloved Community, The 8th Principle, A Conscious Model of Transformative Justice, Co-Creating Community Ministry, Faith Based Response to Homelessness, Including Islam in UU Sources of Inspiration, Our Vision for a Radical Mental Health Community, Play Workshop for Multicultural Competence, Ecological Civilization - Earth, Religion, and the Human Future, Four Indigenous Spiritual Practices Promoting Flow and Resilience, Restorative Circles - A Pathway to Right Relations, Sociocracy - Governing with Equivalence Effectiveness and Transparency, Wearing Bifocals - Seeing the Nondual through Queer Eyes, and more!

Registration is now open for both in-person and/or virtual participation. Virtual registration costs \$275. New this year is a Business-only virtual voting delegate option, donation to be determined by the delegate.

<https://www.uua.org/ga>

If you plan to attend and would like to serve as a voting delegate, please contact Sue Royer by May 31. The Board will be voting to approve TUUC's five delegates.

In addition, the Board of TUUC is offering a **scholarship of \$275** to cover the registration fee for a virtual registration. This scholarship is prioritized for a congregant who identifies as:

- Black, Indigenous or a Person of Color (BIPOC), or
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Queer/Questioning, Intersex or Asexual (LGBTQIA), or
- Youth (will have completed grades 9 – 12), or
- Emerging Adults (age 18 – 24), or
- Young Adults (age 18 – 35)
- A first-time attendee who needs the scholarship

If you are interested, please contact Sue Royer at president@towsonuuc.org by May 31.



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
MULTIPLATFORM / PORTLAND • 2022

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS AT TOWSON UUC

STEWARDSHIP REPORT AND BUDGET PROCESS

The stewardship of TUUC members and friends is our largest source of income. At present, Finance Head Dan Alper is working through the second draft of a budget for fiscal year 22-23. The first draft has already been reviewed by the A-Team and by the Board. All committee chairs, staff, and program leaders should have already submitted their budget requests to Dan. All members and pledging friends should have already submitted their pledge for the next fiscal year. Once the Board approves a draft budget, it will be sent to members; the congregation will vote to approve the draft budget at our June 12 annual meeting.



Here's an update on our pledges:

Year	Total Pledged	Paid-to-date
FY 21-22	\$294,404	\$235,899
FY 22-23	\$277,033	\$7,285 (paid in advance)

If you haven't yet pledged for FY 22-23, please complete the online pledge form:

<https://www.towsonuuc.org/2022-23-pledge-form>

We appreciate every pledge!

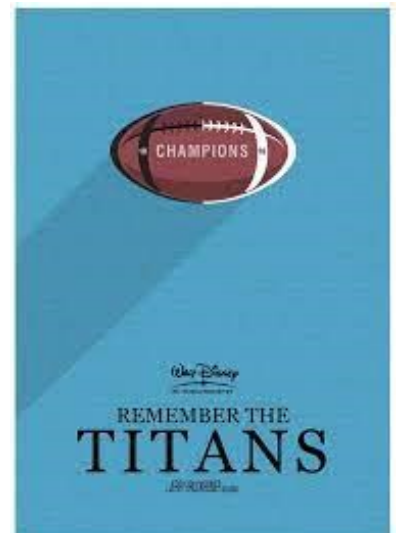
GREEN SANCTUARY—MAPPING THE ROAD TO FREEDOM TRAIL

As a follow-up to the Earth Day service, check out the [Green Sanctuary section of the TUUC website](#) for information on how you can support the "Mapping the Road to Freedom Trail" initiative.

CABIN FEVER AND YRE—REMEMBER THE TITANS—FRIDAY, MAY 13 AT 6:30 PM

Please join us at TUUC this Friday, May 13, at 6:30 pm for a family-friendly movie followed by a short discussion. We will be screening Remember the Titans, which is based on the true story of coach Herman Boone, portrayed by Denzel Washington, and his attempt to integrate the T. C. Williams High School (now Alexandria City High School) football team in Alexandria, Virginia, in 1971 (113 min). Please register using this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C48A9A628A02-cabin1>



**CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF BETTE SPICER THOMSON—
SATURDAY, MAY 14, AT 12:00 PM**

A celebration of life for Bette Thomson will be held at TUUC at noon on Saturday, May 14th.

Bette organized the TUUC Ethnic luncheons 14 years ago, was a devoted member of the TUUC Caring Committee, participated in the Socratic Circle, and brought her grandson to TUUC Halloween parties. She was a free spirit and life long learner who had sparkling eyes, a lovely smile, a terrific sense of humor, and loved to travel. Bette is, and will be, greatly missed.

---Rev. Clare



POTLUCK LUNCHEON TO CELEBRATE JOYCE DUNCAN—MAY 15 AT 12:00 PM

In worship, on May 15th, we will be celebrating Joyce Duncan's 18 years with TUUC as our Acting Director of Religious Exploration, then Director of Religious Exploration, then Credentialed Director of Religious Education. Joyce is retiring at the end of June.

At noon, we will be holding a potluck luncheon---our first potluck since the pandemic began--to continue to celebrate Joyce and her years of dedicated service to TUUC.

If your name is A-F bring fruit or dessert; G-Q bring main dishes ; R-Z bring appetizers or sides; but if you especially want to provide something in particular, please feel free.

We look forward to sharing delicious food, moving testimonials, and lots of laughter on May 15th!

SOCRATES CAFÉ TO MEET ON ZOOM THIS MONDAY EVENING—MAY 16 AT 7:30 PM

The next monthly meeting of the TUUC Socrates Cafe, a discussion group of philosophical ideas, will be held on Zoom on Monday evening, May 16th, from 7:30-9:00 PM. Our question for pondering is: "What does the 5th UU Principle mean, and how are we living it in our daily lives?" The 5th UU Principle is that "We covenant to affirm and promote: the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large." We will also be continuing to hold the proposed 8th UUU Principle up with regard to how it interfaces with the 5th UU Principle. If you would like to join us, are not already on our email list, and receive the Zoom Link on May 17th for the May 18th session, please send an email to socratescafe@towsonuuc.org.

MAY ETHNIC LUNCH—WEDNESDAY, MAY 18 AT 12:30 PM

On May 18 Ethnic Lunch returns to Villagio Café, <http://villagiocafe.com>, 6805 York Road, in Towson. It has been several years since we ate at this Persian restaurant but I had lunch there recently and it was as good as I remembered it.

Lunch will be at 12:30, Wednesday May 18.

All are welcome, but we will need to make reservations. Please respond by Sunday, May 15 to

ethniclunch@towsonuuc.org so we can contact the restaurant.

---Janet Kuperstein and Claudia Sumler

OUR MESSY LIVES TO MEET ON ZOOM—THURSDAY, MAY 19 AT 3 PM

The next session of "Our Messy Lives," the TUUC group that discusses a word or a concept each month, will be meeting this month on the third Thursday, May 19th, from 3:00-4:00 PM. New participants are always welcome. To join, please send an email to Nancy Caswell, Zoom Host and Facilitator, at caswellnancy7@gmail.com, and the Zoom Link will be emailed to you the day before, on May 18th. The May discussion topic, suggested by Walt Dent at our last session in April, is the dichotomy, Idealism/Realism. We look forward to fresh thoughts, ideas, opinions, and conjures-up!

LAY LED SERVICE PLANNING MEETING—MONDAY, MAY 23 AT 7:30 PM

All committees and service groups within the church who would like to host a service during the 2022-2023 church year should plan to send a representative to the service planning meeting on Monday, May 23 at 7:30 PM.

The Soul Matters themes for the coming year are:

September: Belonging

October: Courage

November: Change

December: Wonder

January: Finding Our Center

February: Love

March: Vulnerability

April: Resistance

May: Creativity

June: Delight

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81262234362?pwd=dGVPaVdZcXoxREdHbGxjT3VpcERzQT09>

Meeting ID: 812 6223 4362

Passcode: 095461

SINGLES FELLOWSHIP GROUP POTLUCK—SATURDAY, MAY 28 AT 6:00 PM

Join us for good food and conversation at the church's lower level outdoor patio. We offer an atmosphere for fellowship and friendship among TUUC single adults. We range in age from the 60's through the 80's, but gladly welcome anyone to join us.

Please call Ronald Rowley to RSVP and to get more information. He is listed in the church directory.

SOCIAL ACTION

FOOD DONATIONS AT TUUC

We are again collecting donations of nonperishable food for the Assistance Center of Towson Churches (ACTC). Please deposit them in the round bin (Marked ACTC) on the floor of the Church lobby.

The top five items that ACTC is requesting are: pasta, pasta sauce, cereal, peanut butter, and Pop Tarts.

NONPERISHABLE FOOD

Nonperishable food can be dropped off at these locations:

- Mondays, 12 to 2 PM: Ascension Lutheran Church parking lot (7601 York Rd.)
- Thursdays, 12 to 2 PM: Trinity Episcopal Church parking lot (120 Allegheny Ave.)
- Thursdays, 5 to 6 PM: Valley Baptist Church parking lot (1401 York Rd.)

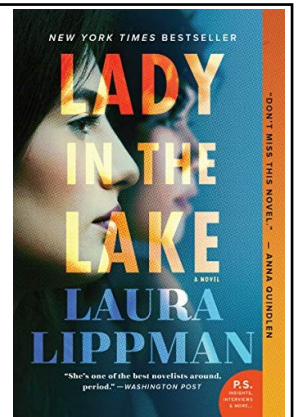
EARL'S PLACE DONATIONS

In addition, there is a round bin marked "Earl's Place" for donations of paper goods and toiletries, such as toilet paper or paper towels.

TUUC BOOK CLUB

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1

7:30 PM



CABIN FEVER

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WIND (2018)

SUNDAY, MAY 15: 4:30PM



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT TUUC

Calendar is subject to change. Check the website calendar [here](#) for most current schedule. Click [here](#) for the schedule of ongoing regular TUUC virtual meetings.

13 May	Friday	Cabin Fever & YRE—Remember the Titans	6:00 PM
14 May	Saturday	Celebration of Life—Bette Thomson	12:00 PM
15 May	Sunday	Sunday Service and Coffee Hour	10:30 AM
16 May	Monday	Mindful Way Meditation	7:00 PM
16 May	Monday	Socrates Café	7:30 PM
17 May	Tuesday	Men's Reflection Group	7:30 PM
17 May	Tuesday	Women's Group Meeting	7:30 PM
18 May	Wednesday	Ethnic Lunch @ Villagio Café	12:30 PM
20 May	Friday	Writing as a Spiritual Practice	1:00 PM
21 May	Saturday	Third Saturday Work Party	9:00 AM
21 May	Saturday	Celebration of Life—Craig Wisotzki	2:00 PM
22 May	Sunday	Sunday Service and Coffee Hour	10:30 AM

ONLINE CONTRIBUTIONS

When making your contributions online, please be sure to designate your donation to the correct fund by using the dropdown arrow. Click on the fund you wish to contribute to and write the entity (ex: ODB) in the note area for clarification.

Give to Towson Unitarian Universalist Church

\$ 0.00

Give to 2021-2022 Stewardship Campaign

Add Gift to Another Fund

Give this One Time

Give by Credit/Debit Card

Continue

Give to Towson Unitarian Universalist Church

\$ 0.00

Give to Restricted Fund

- Give to 2021-2022 Stewardship Campaign
- Give to Building Fund
- Give to General Fund
- Give to Green Products
- Give to Kate Venables Music Fund
- Give to Memorial Garden
- Give to ODB Casseroles
- Give to Plate Collection
- Give to Religious Education Registration
- Give to Restricted Fund
- Give to Social Action Collection

Don't Work Sick
Don't School Sick
Don't Church Sick

SUNDAY SERVICE ATTENDANCE REPORT

(Does not reflect actual number of people watching)

Date	Time	In-Person / Online
05/08/2022	10:30 AM	52 / 28