



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

THE
THRESHOLD

SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2022 - 10:30 AM

REV. ERIKA HEWITT: "WOVEN IN A SINGLE GARMENT OF DESTINY"

We're all connected: an interdependent whole. Therefore, says Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, "covenant is our religious response to our fundamental interdependence." We make promises about how to be together, and how to be in the world. We also fall short of honoring those promises, inviting us to repair and strengthen the strands of community. The choice to mend broken strands of the web is an act of faithfulness.

SUNDAY, MAY 22 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/91079861013?pwd=TTZXQnNFNVIQUHFydWlodTJUREsydz09>

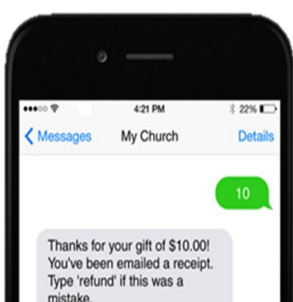
Meeting ID: 910 7986 1013

Passcode: 027530

YOUTH RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

We look forward to seeing children under five starting this Sunday, May 22, in our sunny, well-equipped Nursery in Room 5 downstairs. Two care providers will be there to welcome you. Please arrive a few minutes early to sign in your child and fill out an emergency contact form.

Teachers look forward to seeing your children and teens for the last regular RE session of the year. Stay tuned for details of a Sunday morning programming for kids 6-11 that will be offered throughout June. Please contact Joyce Duncan at tuudre@towsonuuc.org if you have any questions or wish to be added to our mailing list.



PASSING THE PLATE

DONATE BY TEXT
Send an amount to
(410)834-0700

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

FAITHFUL RESPONSES TO HEADLINES THIS MONTH

Our monthly Soul Matter's theme at TUUC is "Nurturing Beauty." National news stories this month have made it more difficult and also an imperative to nurture beauty.

Please know that in response to the leaked news that the Supreme Court is prepared to overturn Roe V. Wade, the Unitarian Universalist Association issued this statement:

"As Unitarian Universalists, we believe that all bodies are sacred. Every person has the right to determine if, when, and how they want to have children. As people of faith, this commitment is part of our sincerest religious values: Unitarian Universalism proclaims that all individuals and communities have the right to self-determination, safety, and the resources that are necessary for health and sustainability.

As a faith tradition, we are committed to Reproductive Justice, which espouses the human right to have children, not to have children, to parent the children one has in healthy environments and to safeguard bodily autonomy and to express one's sexuality freely. In 2015, we issued a Statement of Conscience embracing this framework, which was created by women of color in the 1990s. We remain dedicated to this work."

In response to the mass shooting at Tops, the UUA's Side With Love team issued this statement: *"This latest attack is the result of a society that is rooted in white supremacy. This violence begins with people aligning themselves with white supremacy, however, it shows up in our lives. It shows up with believing that white lives should be protected over Black lives—knowing that Black children playing on playgrounds or sleeping in their homes are killed by police without hesitation, while white assailants are taken safely into custody. It shows up with packaging genocidal movements in language like 'Replacement Theory.' It shows up when the media calls Mike Brown an '18-year-old man' and the Buffalo shooter a 'white teenager.' Whether it is the lie of a stolen election or calling a deadly insurrection 'legitimate political discourse,' we must remember that 'those who can make you believe absurdities can make you commit atrocities.' White supremacy, in all its expressions, is violence. And until we collectively commit to eradicating that root structure, this violence will continue.*

We must keep telling the truth, keep fighting, keep building a shared story and collective power because in our bones—we know another world is possible. As Black movement builder and Director of the Working Families Party Moe Mitchell said this morning, 'If you don't think change is possible, organizing is not your ministry.' We begin with truth-telling and moving together in that truth. Another world is possible if we build it together."

And in response to the grim news that the United States has surpassed 1 million deaths from Covid, The Reverend Susan Frederick Grey, President of the UUA, wrote: *"We mourn for all who have died from COVID-19, and we grieve with the millions more who have been impacted by it.... From the beginning of the pandemic, the country failed to center our response on supporting the well-being of the most vulnerable in our communities, which led to BIPOC and disabled people bearing the brunt of both illness and death. As a religious community, we know that no one is outside the circle of love, that every person has worth and dignity, and that love and compassion are the foundation for the world we need."*

Love and compassion are the foundation for the world we need when it comes to women's reproductive health, to naming and changing our white supremacist culture, and to caring for each other through yet another wave of this pandemic. We need one another. And we need to nurture beauty to renew our spirits for the work ahead.

---Rev. Clare

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?

COFFEE HOUR—SUNDAY, MAY 22 AFTER SERVICE

The DRE Search Committee will be hosting coffee hour following the service and gathering input from the congregation on the future of RE at TUUC. 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? We hope to see you there!



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.

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.

TUUC BLOOD DRIVE—TUESDAY, JUNE 7

Working with the American Red Cross, we've scheduled Tuesday, June 7th, 2022 for the next TUUC Blood Drive. There is a critical need for blood right now but we are also in a different time with COVID-19 disease prevention. **We at TUUC strongly encourage anyone that has ANY reservation about giving blood at this time for ANY reason to please sit this one out.** We will get past this and will have more blood drives in the future for you to participate in. Please only join us on June 7th, if you are healthy and have no concerns about donating. To sign up for an appointment time between 10:30am-4:00pm please use [this link](#) OR email Clare Flynn-Avallone with your preferred times. Give the Gift of Life - Give Blood!

**May 21, 2022
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

Third Saturday Work Party



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.

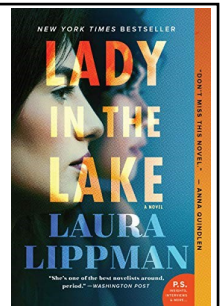


AMAZON SMILE QUARTERLY DONATION: \$87.89

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.

TUUC BOOK CLUB

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1



CABIN FEVER

BUBBA HO-TEP (2002)

SUNDAY, MAY 22: 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.

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
22 May	Sunday	Linda Pio Roda Recital	4:00 PM
22 May	Sunday	Cabin Fever—Bubba Ho-Tep	4:30 PM
23 May	Monday	Mindful Way Meditation	7:00 PM
23 May	Monday	Lay Service Schedule Meeting	7:30 PM
24 May	Tuesday	Aging Together	1:00 PM
24 May	Tuesday	Soul Matters Sharing Circles	7:30 PM
25 May	Wednesday	How to Be an Anti-Racist (Common Read)	7:30 PM
28 May	Saturday	Singles Fellowship Group	6:00 PM

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.

The screenshot shows a web form for online contributions to Towson Unitarian Universalist Church. The amount is \$0.00. There are three dropdown menus: 'Give to 2021-2022 Stewardship Campaign', 'Add Gift to Another Fund', and 'Give this One Time'. A red box highlights the 'Give to 2021-2022 Stewardship Campaign' dropdown, which is open to show a list of funds including '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', and 'Give to Social Action Collection'. A red arrow points from the dropdown menu to the 'Give to Restricted Fund' option.

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
05/15/2022	10:30 AM	70 / 31