



AUGUST 28, 2022 - 10:30 AM

REV. CLARE L. PETERSBERGER, ANDREW HAGER, MIA HAGER—*TO BLESS AND BE BLESSED BY ANIMALS*

During the summer we have been reflecting on what it means to be a people of blessing. We conclude our summer worship series by celebrating what our pets teach us about blessing. The Reverend Gary Kowalski wrote: " Don't animals teach us about blessing, about joy? They remind us to be satisfied with what we have. Not one of them is worried about the stock market. Not one of them wants to run for Congress or govern the animal kingdom. None brags that their religion is better than their neighbor's. Each is satisfied with just a little: fresh water, healthy food, and enough room to nest or den...they live in a state of bliss."

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28 ONLINE SERVICE INFORMATION

For those who plan to join us on Zoom this Sunday, please see below for the Zoom information.

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/99706157936?pwd=d3dhcTFkZTVTSzlsNkhtMzg5VEk3Zz09>

Meeting ID: 997 0615 7936 **Passcode:** 383159

IN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF SUSAN TUSA

We regret to inform you of the death of TUUC member Susan Laurie Tusa on August 16, 2022. Susan served as Board President of TUUC from 1992-1994. She also served as a Greeter, participated in worship services, served as a member of the Adult Religious Education Committee, the TUUC Sabbatical Committee in 2005, and the TUUC Personnel Committee.

Although Susan and her husband Dan moved to Lacey, Washington 13 years ago, Susan maintained her membership with our congregation, read the Threshold cover-to-cover, sent donations for fundraisers for our community partners, and participated in our virtual adult religious education class "A Date With Death Club" from January through mid-April. Susan never lost the art form of the handwritten letter in her beautiful cursive script. Messages of condolence may be sent to her husband Dan Durham. Susan's contact information is in Breeze. Her obituary was published here: <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/baltimoresun/name/susan-tusa-obituary?id=36278726>

Susan touched so many lives in her vocation as a teacher and in her intentional outreach to people in so many different walks of life. She will be remembered for her beauty and love of beauty, for her smile, graciousness, deep listening, affirmations of "Yes! Yes!", thoughtful analysis, gentle humor, hopeful perspective, generous spirit, and love. She will be greatly missed. In memory of Susan, donations may be made to TUUC, one of TUUC's community partners, or a charity of your choosing.

----Rev. Clare

TUUC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

MEET OUR INTERN MINISTER

SarahRuth Davis will begin serving as TUUC's Intern Minister after Labor Day.

She resides in Annapolis, Maryland. She is a Candidate with the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) and attends Meadville Lombard Theological School. SarahRuth completed her chaplaincy residency in 2022. She holds degrees in communications, psychology, and business administration and specialized training in special education advocacy. She grew up in Kakamega, Kenya and studied Arabic during her service in the United States Air Force. SarahRuth is a member of the disability community, living with lupus and military service-connected disabilities. She is the mother to five beautiful children, enjoys kayaking, crocheting, cooking, and spending time with friends and family.



SarahRuth is looking forward to meeting with members of the TUUC community and can be reached at sahruth@towsonuuc.org to schedule time to meet.

HELP NEEDED FOR SEPTEMBER 11 WORSHIP SERVICE

Calling actors of all ages for the September 11 worship service! We will be re-enacting a story from Africa and China during our annual water communion at 10:30 on September 11. There are 14 roles. If you are interested in playing one of them, to bring this story to life, please contact Rev. Clare (revclare@towsonnuc.org)

JOIN THE TUUC CHOIR!

TUUC Choir is meeting again in person! Join us for rehearsals on Thursday evenings at 7:30 PM. We sing a variety of styles and difficulty levels (we work ahead on the harder music). Choir does not sing in every Sunday service, but generally at least twice per month, and you'll receive a schedule ahead of time. Now is a great time to join! Masking is still required for singing at this time, and masks made for singers are available. For more information, contact Music Director Tracy Hall: music@towsonuuc.org.

SINGLES FELLOWSHIP GROUP POTLUCK—SATURDAY, AUGUST 27 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—WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 FROM 1-7 PM

Working with the American Red Cross, we've scheduled Wednesday, September 7th, 2022 for the next TUUC Blood Drive. There is a critical need for blood right now, please check your calendar and consider donating blood at our drive. Please only join us on September 7th, if you are healthy and have no concerns about donating. To sign up for an appointment time between 1-7pm please use [this link](#) or email Clare Flynn-Avallone with your preferred times. Give the Gift of Life - Give Blood!

ETHNIC LUNCH RETURNS IN SEPTEMBER

Ethnic Lunch will return in September with a visit to Yasou Greek Bistro. We were supposed to go there in June, but they had to close that day because of an oven malfunction. We went to the Indian restaurant Mint Leaf instead. In October we will be doing dim sum at Asian Court in Ellicott City. Janet Kuperstein and I are working on a new list of restaurants. We have received several suggestions and welcome more. Any restaurants that you have tried that you think the group would like? Any that you have heard about but haven't visited yet? Any old favorites? Anyone know of a good Vietnamese restaurant? We haven't done Mexican in a while. Other Latin American cuisines available at lunch time? Send your suggestions to ethniclunch@towsonucc.org.

SOUL MATTERS SHARING CIRCLES

Sept. 27, Oct. 11, Oct. 25, Nov. 8, Nov. 22, Dec. 13, Jan. 10, Jan. 24 from 7:30-9 PM on Zoom

Soul Matters Sharing Circles are small groups that meet to explore our spiritual theme of the month in greater depth by fostering circles of trust and deep listening. Each participant is provided with a packet which includes exercises to experience the theme of the month and not just analyze the theme. In addition, each packet includes questions to walk with and not talk through. Participants bring their life story as a way to answer the question.

There are additional resources in the packet for contemplation and spiritual practice. These are not intended to be stand alone sessions. Instead, participants are asked to commit to attend as many of the eight sessions as possible. Soul Matters sharing circles will re-open in February if this is a better time of the year for you. If you would like to participate in the sessions from Sept. through January, please e-mail Rev. Clare (revclare@towsonuuc.org) so that she may send you a packet. Also, if you are interested in facilitating a circle, please let Rev. Clare know.

WRITING AS A SPIRITUAL PRACTICE—DROP IN SESSIONS

Sept. 23, Oct. 7, Oct. 21, Nov. 4, Nov. 18, Dec. 9, Jan. 6, Jan. 20 from 1-2 PM on Zoom

Writing As A Spiritual Practice will resume on September 23 and all are welcome to these stand alone sessions on Zoom. We check-in; light a chalice; listen to a brief reading; and then choose one of several prompts. After writing together for 15 minutes in silence, we are invited to share what we have written. Through this practice we become more present to our own lives and get to know the lives of others at a deeper level. We close with a benediction. The purpose of this group is not perfection it is presence. Join us on one or all of the Friday sessions above!

BE A MONITOR AT TUUC!

Towson Unitarian Universalist Church (TUUC) derives income from renting our facility to external groups when not in use by the congregation for church events. The monitor is to ensure that both the Church and the renter are satisfied with their use of church facilities.

The monitor role is to ensure that the church facility is appropriately used and in accordance with the TUUC Facility Use Policy to protect the Church building and resources from misuse and damage. As a representative of TUUC it is also the monitor's responsibility to ensure that the renter's use of the facilities is as smooth and trouble free as possible.

This is an on-call paid position. Rate of pay is \$15.00 per hour. Please contact the Church Administrator at churchoffice@towsonuuc.org for more information.

REVISED COVID PLAN FOR TUUC

The CDC has revised its guidance on Covid. The A-Team has updated our guidelines for our congregation. While we encourage everyone to be vaccinated and boosted (if eligible), we are not requiring those who enter our building to show proof of vaccination. We are no longer requiring registration for worship.

Because we are currently in the "yellow" zone, we are still requiring masks in the building and planning to offer hospitality (i.e., eating and drinking) outside.

We ask that if you do test positive shortly after attending TUUC, please let Rev. Clare know so that we inform those with whom you may have been in closer contact in the building.

Revised Plan: <https://www.towsonuuc.org/tuuc-covidplan>

Revised Matrix: <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/597f797ce58c6268ebdad71c/t/62f66b88498d3a4da62f44a9/1660316552536/New+Matrix+Revised.pdf>

---Rev Clare on behalf of the A-Team, Kai Aiyetoro, Church Administrator, Dan Alper, and Clare Flynn-Avallone

AND THIS SHALL BE A SIGN UNTO YOU!

A sign from TUUC! Our new TUUC sign, with the Pride Flag chalice on both sides (which will be lighted at night), was installed today! Be sure to look for it when you next drive to (or by) the building! This sign replaces the one lost in a bad car accident in January.

The A-Team (Rev. Clare, Kai Aiyetoro, Dan Alper, and Clare Flynn-Avallone) designed the sign with the input of Sue Royer. Special thanks to Clare Flynn-Avallone, Todd Robertson, and Kai Aiyetoro for their labors of love getting the sign installed. May our new sign (with its lighted Pride chalice) shine welcome on all who drive to, and by, our building!



---Rev. Clare on behalf of the TUUC Administrative Team

SACRED CURRICULUM ON FAITH SUPPORT FOR REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM

A new national organization called SACReD, the Spiritual Alliance of Communities for Reproductive Dignity (<http://www.sacreddignity.org/>) has formed to empower congregations to become loving, justice-seeking faith communities that fully support the fulfillment of reproductive moral agency and flourishing for all. SACReD has developed a curriculum to help participants deepen their understanding of the connection between faith, racism, and reproductive ethics, and to identify strategies and actions for liberation within religious communities and the larger world.

Given that the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade—and that many people have never had meaningful access to reproductive healthcare—it is a critical time to learn and to act. Rev. Clare will be offering this curriculum in seven 2-hour sessions on Zoom, 1:00-3:00 PM. The first session will be offered on Sunday Oct. 2 and repeated on October 30th.

Participants are required to attend the first session. That's why it is being offered twice. The other sessions will be held on Nov. 13, Jan. 8, Feb. 5, March 5, April 2, and April 30. Participants are required to attend at least 6 of the 8 sessions including the first one. Please register at <https://tuucdatabase.breezechms.com/form/4e7459> if you would like to participate. Your participation will help TUUC to become an official part of this interfaith Spiritual Alliance of Communities for Reproductive Dignity.

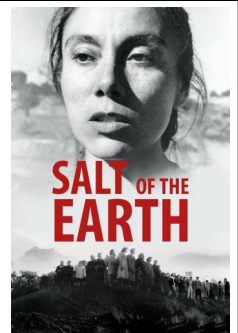
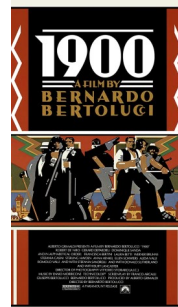
AMAZON SMILE QUARTERLY DONATION: \$81.66

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.



CABIN FEVER

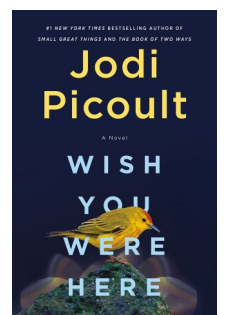
RETURNING IN SEPTEMBER



TUUC BOOK CLUB

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

7:30 PM



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.

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY HOUSING OPENING DOORS DINNER—THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6

Cornerstone Community Housing (a SAC partner) invites you to join us at the Shriner's Boumi Temple in Rosedale for the Opening Doors Dinner, Thursday, October 6 at 6 PM.

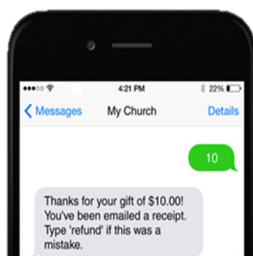
We are so grateful for your ongoing support during the past years of distancing. You may not see us in person, but your presence is felt every day.

We are opening the doors and invite you to join us as we celebrate new beginnings for the men of Earl's Place and Prospect Place. We look forward to sharing how you continue to help change their lives as they move from homeless to housed.

DINNER: Catered by Atlantic Caterers; Soft drinks and wine are included in the ticket price. Cash bar for beer and mixed drinks.

For more information or to purchase tickets online: <https://ourfundraiser.events/OpeningDoors2022>.

The silent auction is online this year and can also be accessed through this link. Please contact Sheila Helgerson with any questions at 410-522-0225 or sheila@cchbaltimore.org.



DONATE BY TEXT

Send an amount to
(410)834-0700

PASSING THE PLATE

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

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.

27 Aug	Saturday	Singles Fellowship Group Potluck	6:00 PM
28 Aug	Sunday	Sunday Service	10:30 AM
1 Sept	Thursday	TUUC Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
4 Sept	Sunday	Sunday Service	10:30 AM
6 Sept	Tuesday	Men's Reflection Group	7:30 PM
6 Sept	Tuesday	Women's Group Meeting	7:30 PM
7 Sept	Wednesday	Blood Drive	12:00 PM
8 Sept	Thursday	TUUC Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
10 Sept	Saturday	Celebration of Life—Jeff Arnstein	11:00 AM
11 Sept	Sunday	Sunday Service	10:30 AM
11 Sept	Sunday	Social Action Committee Meeting	12:00 PM
11 Sept	Sunday	Cabin Fever—1900	4:30 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 donation form for 'Give to Towson Unitarian Universalist Church' with a total amount of \$0.00. It features 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 Restricted Fund' dropdown menu, which is open to show a list of options including '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'.

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
08/21/2022	10:30 AM	37 / 36

WANTED

Refrigerator

(must be 32in or less in width)
to replace the broken one
on the lower level.

Please contact
churchoffice@towsonuuc.org
should you have one
to donate.

Thank you!