



**SEPTEMBER 11, 2022 - 10:30 AM**

**REV. CLARE L. PETERSBERGER, THE TUUC CHOIR—*WATER COMMUNION: WHAT WILL YOU BRING TO THE FEAST?***

Today we remember September 11, 2001 and all the helpers on that day and in the weeks that followed. Today we celebrate water communion. Our water communion ritual will be different this year. After pouring your water into a common bowl, rather than sharing where the water is from, you will be invited to share a few words about what you bring to our faith community and what you plan to share, from your heart and spirit, in the year to come. If you plan to attend worship on-line, we will pour water into the common bowl on your behalf in the Meeting Room and you will be invited to share in the chat your response to the question “What will you bring to our community and our community partners to make our wider community more friendly, stronger, and more peaceful in the year to come?”

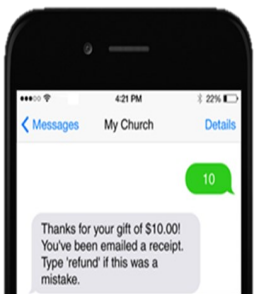
**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 ONLINE SERVICE INFORMATION**

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

**Zoom Link:** <https://zoom.us/j/96592212148?pwd=OFgwVTdXbVhPWVRDcXBoK2FHIEzUT09>

**Meeting ID:** 965 9221 2148

**Passcode:** 056855



**DONATE BY TEXT**

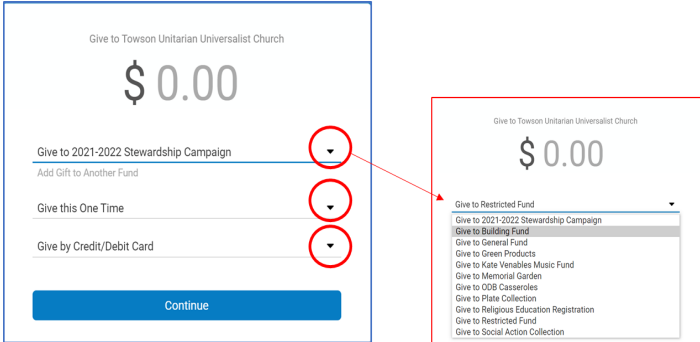
Send an amount to  
**(410)834-0700**

**PASSING THE PLATE**

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

**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.



## CLARE'S COLLOQUY

Groucho Marx is reported to have once said, "I don't want to belong to any club that would have me as a member." His son explained the origin of this one-liner, Once....when he was in a gregarious mood, he let some friends persuade him to join the Friars Club. After months of refusing to take part in any of the club's activities, he finally decided it was foolish to pay dues any longer and sent in his resignation. In the next mail, he received a letter from the club's president, wanting to know why he had resigned. My father promptly wrote back, "Because I don't want to belong to any club that would have me as a member!"

We are a church, not a club. But I have been thinking about this story in the context of our September spiritual theme of "Belonging." What does it mean? Does it mean that we long for a welcome to be ourselves in religious community, to be accepted for who we are? Does it mean that we are longing to be not merely observers but participants in community, engaged in the mission and work of the congregation? Are the two entwined? Do we become who we long to be by supporting our mission to deepen our spiritual and ethical lives by working for racial, social, and environmental justice?

The Soul Matters Sharing Circle packet for September offers the antithesis of Groucho Marx's pithy retort that he didn't want to belong to any club that would have him as a member. It offers this challenge: the true blessing of belonging is not that you get to come inside the circle; it's that you get to participate in expanding it.

With this in mind, for Water Communion on September 11th, you are invited to bring a small vial of water symbolizing a quality of talent or gift that you are bringing to TUUC to grow into the person you long to be thereby expanding the possibilities for what our community longs to become. If you can help with a reader's theater of a Chinese folk tale on September 11th, please contact me ([revclare@towsonuuc.org](mailto:revclare@towsonuuc.org))

On September 18th, Hannah Freeman, from BRIDGE, Maryland and I will dialogue on what it means for our congregation to belong to BRIDGE. Unlike the Friar's Club, this organization develops public relationships to promote policies to realize equity in our common life. How do we do this? Nancy Caswell and Ann Beazley will share what they learned at a training for BRIDGE, Maryland.

And on September 25th, our Membership Committee will reflect on what belonging to TUUC really means. In the words of Jan Richardson, "It desires for you to become the sanctuary that you have found..."

Welcome back to, if not THE place where you belong, a people to whom you belong who accept you for who you are and invite you to become who you yearn to be. Together, may we realize our collective longing for all to know they are whole and holy.

### 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.



## TUUC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

### FAIR TRADE SALE—SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 BEFORE AND AFTER SERVICE

Have you been missing your favorite fair trade coffee, tea or chocolate? Or maybe nuts? Celebrate our new church year by supporting fair trade farmers when the Green Sanctuary Committee holds its sale on Sunday September 11th both before and after the service. We will have a variety of regular and decaf coffee, tea, almonds and cashews, and chocolate bars.

### SEPTEMBER “OUR MESSY LIVES” CONVERSATION TO DISCUSS “CLARITY” ON SEPTEMBER 15

"Our Messy Lives" will be discussing CLARITY, suggested by our insightful participant, Liora, at our August session, at our next get together on **Thursday afternoon, September 15th, from 3:00-4:00 p.m.** For newcomers who would like to join us, just send an email to Nancy Caswell, Zoom Host and Facilitator, whose info may be found on the database, TUUC Breeze. The Zoom Link will arrive in your Inbox the day before! **"Clarity!"** Rev. Clare used the word in her Homily about the Cosmos last Sunday: **"to see the stars with clarity"**, said she. On the 15th, our ten-minute writing exercise will be prompted by such questions as: "When have you experienced something with clarity?" And: "Using Alan Jay Lerner's (1965) '**On a Clear Day (You Can See Forever)**' lyrics, tell of a time when these words may have happened to you and how they made you feel: 'On a clear day, rise and look around you, and you'll see who you are...how it will astound you that the glow of your being outshines every star'"... And lastly, "How do the words describing clarity, in the 1972 reggae song by Johnny Nash, '**I Can See Clearly Now (the Rain is Gone)**,' resonate with you? They are: 'I can make it now, the pain is gone...gone are the dark clouds that had me blind... all of the bad feelings have disappeared...nothing but blue skies....it's gonna be a bright, bright sunshinin' day!" And I might ask, "Can we see with clarity every day or only occasionally?" The James Webb telescope has helped us to see, with more clarity, "the spacious firmament on high," as the words of the hymn we sang Sunday go! Hope to enjoy the discussion of CLARITY on the **15th of September** with some of you!

### SEPTEMBER ETHNIC LUNCH—WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 AT 12:30 PM

Summer is ending and it is time for Ethnic Lunch to return from vacation. Last June we were supposed to gather at Yasou Greek Bistro <http://www.yasougreekbistro.com>

However their oven broke down that day and they were closed. We are trying again on Wednesday, September 21 at 12:30. Their address is 11121 York Road, Suite C in Cockeysville. They are in the same shopping center as the PA Dutch Market.

Please RSVP to [ethniclunch@towsonuuc.org](mailto:ethniclunch@towsonuuc.org) by Monday September 19 so we can reserve a table. Looking forward to seeing everyone. ---Janet Kuperstein and Claudia Sumler

### SINGLES FELLOWSHIP GROUP POTLUCK—SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 AT 6:00 PM

Join us for good food and conversation at one of our homes. 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.

## **COME OUT FOR THE “COMMUNITY CHOIR” ON SEPTEMBER 25—EVERYONE WELCOME!**

We're bringing back a concept we started a few years ago--Community Choir! On a Community Choir Sunday, everyone is invited--all ages and all skill levels--to come for a rehearsal on the morning of the service. On September 25th, you can just "walk in" to be part of this special initiative, at 9 AM. We need to start early due to AV sound checks at 10 AM (at which point you'll have a break). We'll be learning relatively simple music for the service that day. For young children, there will be one song that may be a bit of a challenge if you are not reading yet, but most of the music will be doable by practically anyone! We also will include some rhythm instruments at one point in this service, so if you have something special (and small) at home that you want to play, feel free to bring it. Because we need to be distanced, it would be very helpful if you could RSVP that you plan to participate by emailing Tracy at [music@towsonuuc.org](mailto:music@towsonuuc.org). Please remember to bring some kind of mask to wear as well.

## **SOUL MATTERS SHARING CIRCLES—BEGINS ON SEPTEMBER 27**

### **Registration deadline in September 13**

With many other Unitarian Universalist congregations, TUUC participates in a theme-based ministry program called “Soul Matters.” We are currently forming Soul Matter Sharing Circles which will meet every other Tuesday from 7:30-9:00 PM. Each participant will receive a packet which includes spiritual practices; questions for reflection; and readings and music pertaining to the theme. The themes for the next five months include *Belonging*, *Courage*, *Change*, *Wonder*, and *Finding our Center*.

Participants are asked to covenant to attend as many of the upcoming 8 sessions as possible. If you would like to participate, or have questions about Soul Matters Sharing Circles, please e-mail Rev. Clare ([revclare@towsonuuc.org](mailto:revclare@towsonuuc.org)). Rev. Clare will be sending participants the packet on September 13 in order to give two weeks to prepare for our first session on September 27.

## **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!

## **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.

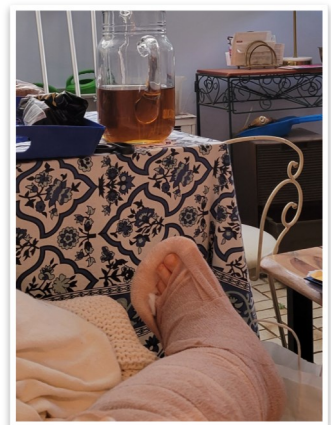
Participants are required to attend the first session. That's why it is being offered twice. The other sessions will be held on Nov. 13, Jan. 8, Feb. 5, March 5, April 2, and April 30.

Participants are required to attend at least 6 of the 8 sessions including the first one. Please register [here](#) 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.

### MESSAGE FROM THE HALL FAMILY

Words are not adequate thanks for all the attention given to Tracy during her convalescence by members of Towson Unitarian Universalist Church. Members of TUUC sent flowers while she was in the hospital, lent various devices, visited her in the hospital, posted her needs for food before and after surgery, delivered food, helped with household chores, sent cards and gifts, picked up grocery orders, called to check in, and contracted a pianist to help with services during her absence. The response to her needs was so great that most everything she needed was taken care of.

--- Gale Hall, Tracy Hall's father



**CABIN FEVER**

1900  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11: 4:30 PM

**TUUC BOOK CLUB**

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28  
7:30 PM



### Replacement Refrigerator needed for Lower Level

(must be 32 in or less in width) to replace the broken one on the lower level. Please contact [churchoffice@towsonuuc.org](mailto:churchoffice@towsonuuc.org) should you have one to donate. Thank you!

## 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 the link above. Please contact Sheila Helgerson with any questions at 410-522-0225 or [sheila@cchbaltimore.org](mailto:sheila@cchbaltimore.org).



# 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.

10 Sept	Saturday	Celebration of Life—Jeff Arnstein	11:00 AM
11 Sept	Sunday	Fair Trade Sale	10:00 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
11 Sept	Sunday	Our Journey Together	7:15 PM
13 Sept	Tuesday	Aging Together	1:00 PM
15 Sept	Thursday	TUUC Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
17 Sept	Saturday	Third Saturday Work Party	9:00 AM
17 Sept	Saturday	Celebration of Life - Simeon G. 'Moan' Margolis	11:00 AM
18 Sept	Sunday	Sunday Service	10:30 AM
18 Sept	Sunday	Cabin Fever—Salt of the Earth	4:30 PM
19 Sept	Monday	Socrates Café	7:30 PM
20 Sept	Tuesday	Men's Reflection Group	7:30 PM
20 Sept	Tuesday	Women's Group Meeting	7:30 PM
23 Sept	Friday	Writing as a Spiritual Practice	1:00 PM
24 Sept	Saturday	Singles Fellowship Group	6:00 PM
25 Sept	Sunday	Community Choir Rehearsal	9:00 AM

**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
09/04/2022	10:30 AM	40 / 37