



NOVEMBER 13, 2022 - 10:30 AM

REV. CLARE L. PETERSBERGER—*OUR IMAGINARY RELATIONSHIP TO A REAL SITUATION*

We see images of people fleeing burning houses; of cars being washed away by hurricanes; of people trying to swim out of floods. But what can we do about the biggest change facing humanity? Today an author of fiction will point us to our very real situation and what we can do to prepare for it.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13 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/97376300238?pwd=UXZZc3R1SW04SWNTQkYzRktJcC9qdz09>

Meeting ID: 973 7630 0238 **Passcode:** 491243

YOUTH RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION—WHAT'S UP DOWN BELOW

This Sunday, our Teen Group will continue the Coming of Age curriculum to explore their personal faith and relationship with Unitarian Universalism. Usually, this program is offered to middle school students, but thanks to Covid, we are yet again not where we expected. Instead of having the teens simply move on, skipping this important benchmark in their lives, the Religious Education Committee decided to have them spend the year reflecting and growing.

Coming of Age, or any rite of passage is private, personal, but also communal. This process can be challenging for anyone, but especially for young adults. Your support will be essential as they grapple with difficult questions and their place within our community. Thank you for holding our youth in your hearts as they travel this road.

Later in the church year, we will have a ceremony for students who have completed this program. We would love to have you attend and celebrate with us. Watch for the announcement toward the end of the church year.

A note to parents: RE students will begin to bring home a card with a discussion question each week. This is for them to reflect on, but also for you to discuss with them and share as a family. I hope this inspires many great conversations.

AMAZON SMILE QUARTERLY DONATION: \$70.84

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 the middle of the night, an 82-year-old man has his skull fractured and his hand and arm brutally hammered by an intruder seeking to do harm to his wife.

What would the public response to this headline have been a decade ago? Collective outrage? Collective condemnation of violence? Collective sympathy for the victim and his family?

Some politicians have expressed anger, condemned the brutal attack, and sent healing wishes to the Pelosi family.

But some individuals holding public office have also taken this as an opportunity to spin strange and sickening conspiracy theories to blame and mock Paul Pelosi for being a victim of violence.

American history reflects an effort to curtail violence in politics. A Joint Resolution Prohibiting Dueling was passed in March of 1838 after House member Jonathan Cilley of Maine was killed by House Member William Graves of Kentucky and General William White was wounded by Representative Sam Houston of Tennessee. Almost two hundred years ago, there was an intentional effort to limit violence by any person holding federal public office and to bar anyone who engaged in such violence from holding office.

As we've witnessed in the past several years, violence in rhetoric by those holding public office (which often provokes physical violence) has been on the ascendency.

I am reminded, again, of the peace activist, A. J. Muste. He was a key organizer in a broad antiwar movement in response to the Vietnam War. Once a reporter asked him, "Do you really think you are going to change the policies of this country by standing out here alone at night in front of the White House with a candle?" A.J. Muste replied softly: "Oh I don't do this to change the country. I do this so the country won't change me."

Our spiritual theme this month is the path of change. The 5th century Greek philosopher observed, "Change alone is unchanging."

The current headlines reflect changes in our culture that are out of our control.

A.J. Muste modeled changes that are within our control.

For A.J. Muste, freedom of conscience was a determining factor in the quality of life.

We choose to participate in a faith community that values freedom of conscience.

We choose to participate in a faith community that encourages each one of us to carry our light of truth, warmth of love, and commitment to justice into the world.

As we walk the path of change together this month, I will keep in mind A. J. Muste's affirmation "There is no way to peace, peace itself being the way."

TUUC AUCTION 2022—SATURDAY, NOV 19 AT 7PM; POTLUCK SUPPER AT 5PM

TUUC Auction night is now just one week away!! And BIG NEWS: We'll start the evening at **5 PM** with our traditional potluck supper (remember those) before the Voice Auction starts at 7 PM. Bring a dish to share and some cash for the beer and wine bar which will stay open through the evening. You'll also have the chance to view all the donations on display and to place early evening bids for silent and buy-now offerings. Nursery and childcare will be provided. For those choosing to attend the Auction on Zoom, watch for an email next week with instructions and the link.



So, are you ready? Have you made a donation? There's still time and it's easy; just click this link: [Donation Form](#) Please bring your donated objects to TUUC by noon on November 19th so the Auction Committee can see that they are properly displayed before people start to arrive.

Have you set up your BidBeacon account and started to look at, and maybe bid on, some of the wonderful donations we've received? If not, [click here to Get With The Program](#). **All bidding, even for those at TUUC, will be done through BidBeacon** so be sure you're set up. The final coaching session is Thursday, Nov. 17th at 7 PM if you need a little help on how to bid.

While you're on BidBeacon don't forget to get your Raffle tickets. The Raffle has always been a fun part of our annual Auction and this year is no different. Look at the Raffle poster in this issue to see the many wonderful gift cards and certificates donated this year. Raffle sales close shortly after 7 PM on Auction night so [buy your tickets now](#). And remember, you don't have to be present to win a Raffle prize.

The Auction Committee is working hard to make this year's Auction a big success and lots of fun. Please do your part! Make a donation, place some bids, buy raffle tickets, and plan to join in the fun on Auction night. It's time for Rising Together! to support TUUC.

Gratefully, Your 2022 Auction Committee

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](#)

TUUC BOOK CLUB

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

7:30 PM

CABIN FEVER

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD **IN
PERSON** (1962)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13

1:00 PM

TUUC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

TUUC DRUM CIRCLE—SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12 AT 5:00 PM IN THE MEETING ROOM

The TUUC Drum Circle will meet on Saturday, November 12th at 5:00 PM in the Meeting Room. Please bring a djembe if you have one. Some drums are available and lots of smaller percussion. Feel the rhythm!

For more information, contact Tracy Hall at music@towsonuuc.org.

NOVEMBER ETHNIC LUNCH AND MORE (REVISED DECEMBER DATE)

In 2019 Ethnic Lunch began a new list of restaurants to visit. In October 2022 we finally finished it! Now it's time to start anew.

For the November Ethnic Lunch we are going to visit **Tbiliso**, a Georgian restaurant in Cockeysville. If you are thinking southern comfort food, think the other Georgia, located on the Black Sea near Turkey and Russia with food influences from both countries, plus many dishes that are all their own. Lunch will be **Wednesday, November 16 at 12:30 PM**. Tbiliso is located at 9926 York Road, Cockeysville. <https://www.tbiliso21.net/>

If you want to join us to try some khachapuri and other Georgian treats, RSVP to ethniclunch@towsonuuc.org by Sunday, November 13.

COMING UP:

December 7 (Revised): DANIELA

January 18: FUSION

OUR MESSY LIVES TO DISCUSS AGING—TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15 FROM 3 TO 4 PM

The suggested topic for the "Our Messy Lives" discussion this coming Tuesday, November 15th, from 3 to 4 PM is **aging**. David Bowie said, *"Aging is an extraordinary process where you become the person you always should have been."* An interesting thought. Please come, join us on Zoom, and share your unique thoughts on **aging**. To join, please look up Nancy Caswell's email on Breeze, and the Zoom Link for the November 15 will be emailed to you on the 14th. Hope to see you then! As Margaret Deland says, *"As soon as you feel too old to do a thing, do it!"*

UUSJ—SUPREME COURT, NORTH CAROLINA MOORE V. HARPER—NOVEMBER 16 AT 8PM

The next major challenge to U.S. Democracy comes before the Supreme Court in **North Carolina's Moore v. Harper** case. Join us for an in-depth look at what's at stake with **Becky Harper** of Common Cause NC (a long-time member of **UU Fellowship of Raleigh, NC**), who will discuss arguments by NC lawmakers, the case's potential impact on our elections and what Unitarian Universalists can do to fight back. Becky will be joined by an attorney involved in the case from the **Southern Coalition for Social Justice**.

Experts say an extreme interpretation of the Constitution in this North Carolina redistricting case would make it even easier for state legislatures to suppress the vote, draw gerrymandered election districts, and subvert election results, among other concerns. At issue is a fringe legal ploy, the so-called "independent state legislature theory," which has never

been accepted by U.S. courts. While the Moore case will not affect the 2022 election voting maps, it could have profound implications for the freedom to vote — and having those votes count equally in future elections — including the all-important 2024 presidential cycle.

The Supreme Court is expected to hear arguments on the case on December 7th and make a ruling next year, in time for the 2024 elections. UUSJ has joined an [Amicus Brief](#) prepared and submitted to the U.S. Supreme Court. [Register here for this event.](#)

TUUC BLOOD DRIVE—SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

Working with the American Red Cross, we've scheduled Saturday, December 3rd, 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 December 3rd, if you are healthy and have no concerns about donating.

To sign up for an appointment time between 9AM to 2 PM, please use [this link](#) or email Clare Flynn-Avallone (contact information in Breeze) with your preferred times. Give the Gift of Life—Give Blood!

SINGLES FELLOWSHIP GROUP POTLUCK—SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3 AT 6:00 PM

Join us for good food and conversation in the church upper level lobby. 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.

THANK YOU, COMMUNITY CHOIR! NEXT ONE ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

Thanks to those who came out for the Community Choir this past Sunday. It was a great group, and you sounded wonderful together! Hope everyone will consider joining us for the next one, on December 11th!

2022-2023 VISION OF MINISTRY

Each year, the TUUC Board of Trustees develops a specific vision of ministry to share the work of the church in the coming year. The Board develops the Vision by considering the needs of the congregation, our hopes and dreams for the future, and the Eight Principles.

These are the top priority goals for the congregation this year. These will guide our actions and guide the Administrative Team, the staff, and the Program Council in setting priorities for the year.

Here is our Vision of Ministry for 2022-2023:

1. Grow and strengthen the present and future of the church by drawing in newcomers, cultivating new members, reconnecting with families, and creating connection and belonging through physical and virtual engagement.
2. Foster an intergenerational approach to faith formation, programming, and social, economic, racial, and environmental justice work.

As we continue to move through the coming year, you will see aspects of these ideas in the programming that is offered, in the way services are presented, and in the decisions made by the Board and the Administrative Team. We invite you to consider your own part in making this Vision a reality, and we welcome any feedback or suggestions.

A NEW PHASE OF REOPENING

As we were reminded in the TUUC Puppet Thing last Sunday, Covid-19 metrics appear to have stabilized in the green zone for Baltimore County. So as of Nov. 4, TUUC recommends, but does not require, masks for entering the building and participating in activities. This includes worship, hospitality, programs, and choir.

TUUC continues to strongly encourage everyone to be as vaccinated as possible. TUUC requests that if you have been exposed to Covid-19 or are exhibiting symptoms, please stay home until you test negative for the virus.

TUUC asks that decisions to wear a mask and/or remain physically distanced should be respected and accommodated. TUUC will continue to provide a mask for those more comfortable wearing one who forgot their mask. TUUC will continue to offer multi-platform worship and we are excited that we have new AV equipment installed that offers better sound on-line!

---Rev. Clare on behalf of the A-Team (Kai Aiyetoro, Dan Alper, and Clare Flynn-Avallone)

UU GENERAL ASSEMBLY: DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND BELONGING

General Assembly continues to be a time for us to gather, in body and spirit, to honor our history, celebrate who we are, and forge our future together. The General Assembly and Conference Services Team leads the initiative to ensure that diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEIB) are woven throughout, from planning to fruition.

Over the next several months leading to General Assembly 2023, we will highlight aspects of DEIB through a series of videos. Our hope is that you will embrace the theme and activities and continue discussions, both in and outside of the UU community. American developer John Seely Brown said, "conversation is a catalyst for innovation." Be an innovator and champion for diversity, equity, inclusion, belonging, and accessibility at General Assembly 2023 and beyond.

[Click here for a video message from Ann Verdine-Jones—Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Consultant from the UU General Assembly and Conference Services](#)



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 most requested food items are: boxed breakfast cereal, canned meals (pork & beans, chili), canned vegetables, canned fruit, dry pasta, pasta sauce, Mac & cheese, canned tuna, peanut butter, jelly, canned soup, family and travel sized toiletries, and household supplies (toilet paper, laundry detergent).

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.

THANKSGIVING BASKETS FOR ACTC

Thanksgiving Baskets for ACTC must be delivered to ACTC by 11/18. Please help us reach **our goal of 50 Baskets**. The list of items for the basket and a sign-up sheet is on the poster in the lobby. **Baskets do need to be brought to TUUC by Sunday November 13th** for us to take to ACTC.

November 19, 2022
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

- Ivy Removal from trees
- General clean up
- Snow Prep
- Moving stones in the Memorial Garden

Rain or shine

May cancel for severe cold, snow, or thunderstorms, Please use your best judgement.

NO sandals, flip flops or open toed shoes. Work Boots or sneakers recommended.

Long Pants recommended.

We will be operating in wild areas and may encounter poison ivy or stinging insects.

Please direct any questions to Todd Robertson at mrtodd37@gmail.com

Third
Saturday
Work Party



IN MEMORY OF THOSE
WHOM WE LOVE AND
WHO LOVED US

TUUC AUCTION RAFFLE



So many fabulous prizes and a great investment in
TUUC!
Tickets on sale now and early on Auction Evening
11/19

Buy your tickets on Bid Beacon - Winners drawn on Auction Evening
You don't have to be present to win!

RAFFLE PRIZES*

Look at this fabulous list of gift cards/certificates, with more expected!

- \$200 Southwest Airlines
- \$50 Giant Food (3)
- \$50 MOM'S Organic Market (2)
- \$50 Towson Hot Bagels
- \$25 Trader Joe's (2)
- \$50 The Wine Source (2)
- \$100 Namaste Restaurant (2)
- \$50 Wegmans
- \$25 Panera Bread (4)
- \$50 Gertrude's Restaurant at the BMA
- \$150 Bluestone Restaurant

* Thanks to our generous raffle prize donors:

Ann Beezley, Jason Braspenickx & Aynsley Hamel, Karyn Marsh, Dan Alper,
Robert Canosa, Darla Tewell & Fred Sypher, Claudia Sumler,
Karin Symonds, Oak Crest TUUCers

The Children's Raffle will be held following the Potluck on Auction Evening. Children will need to be present to pick their prizes. Buy your Children's Raffle Tickets when you arrive on Auction Evening.

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.

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.

11 Nov	Friday	Hanging of Holiday Decorations	10:00 AM
12 Nov	Saturday	Celebration of Life for Ginny Billian	11:00 AM
12 Nov	Saturday	TUUC Drum Circle	5:00 PM
13 Nov	Sunday	Sunday Service—Climate Change	10:30 AM
13 Nov	Sunday	Social Action Committee Meeting	12:00 PM
13 Nov	Sunday	Cabin Fever—To Kill a Mockingbird	1:00 PM
13 Nov	Sunday	SACReD	1:00 PM
13 Nov	Sunday	Our Journey Together	7:15 PM
15 Nov	Tuesday	Our Messy Lives	3:00 PM
15 Nov	Tuesday	Men's Reflection Group	7:30 PM
15 Nov	Tuesday	Women's Group Meeting	7:30 PM
17 Nov	Thursday	BidBeacon Training Session	7:00 PM
17 Nov	Thursday	TUUC Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
18 Nov	Friday	Parkinson Support Group	10:00 AM
18 Nov	Friday	Writing as a Spiritual Practice	1:00 PM
19 Nov	Saturday	Third Saturday Work Party	9:00 AM
19 Nov	Saturday	ANNUAL AUCTION—Rising Together	7:00 PM
20 Nov	Sunday	Sunday Service—Earl's Place	10:30 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
11/06/2022	10:30 AM	84 / 28