



APRIL 9 - 10:30 AM - THE URGE TO EMERGE - REV. CLARE L. PETERSBERGER, KARA TYLER, SARAH RUTH DAVIS, TRACY HALL, AND THE TUUC CHOIR

The word “emerge” comes from the Latin *emergere*, to bring to light. In today’s intergenerational celebration of Easter we will celebrate the journey of the hungry caterpillar into the dark chrysalis before emerging into the light as a butterfly. We will celebrate the journey of the followers of Jesus who hungered for meaning into the darkness of grief before emerging into the light of transformation and hope. And we will celebrate where we are in our own journeys of transformation and what we hope to bring to light.

SUNDAY, APRIL 9 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/98919014276?pwd=ZFZ2bC95T2FnVWUyc0J2WWRwcm52Zz09>

Meeting ID: 989 1901 4276

Passcode: 125368

TUUC YOUTH RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

This past Sunday, our teens visited the All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church in DC as part of the coming of age curriculum. They were able to attend service, meet other UU Youth who are also doing coming of age this year, and get a tour of the historic building. Take a moment to ask one of our teens about the experience!



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 making a contribution 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 Restricted Fund' dropdown menu, which is open to show a list of options including '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 Casebooks', 'Give to Plate Collection', 'Give to Religious Education Registration', 'Give to Restricted Fund', and 'Give to Social Action Collection'. Red circles highlight the dropdown arrows for each of the three main categories.

CLARE'S COLLOQUY

Last week, Al Franken interviewed the drag star BenDeLaCreme on The Daily Show. The show turned serious when Ben shared his experience of growing up queer and having the Vice Principle of his school tell him to “tone it down.” Now he is a drag performer---not because he was exposed to it as a child---but because he saw a container for himself when he went to his first drag show. He saw a world that would accept him not “in spite” of who he was but precisely “for” who he was. He came on The Daily Show knowing that Al Franken would ask him about the anti-trans bills and anti-drag bills being proposed and passed in states around the country. Ben appearing as BenDeLaCreme was an act of resistance. The audience present in the studio and at home applauded. Since March 31 was National Trans Day of Visibility, I want to lift up that our religious community is one where people of all gender identities are welcomed and accepted not “in spite of” who we are but precisely “for” who we are.

When you think of walking the path of resistance, what comes to mind? For colleagues, it was not a specific image---it was the feeling of fatigue. Many associated resistance with fighting or expending energy against those wielding power unfairly. This can be draining.

But resistance can also inspire. A Facebook friend recently posted a photograph of a yellow flower blooming through the crack in the sidewalk. Against all odds, beauty grew and bloomed in the most unlikely of places.

Her photograph reminded me of the Russian scientist Nikolai Vavilov. He grew up hearing his father's stories of not having enough food. In 1891, he saw people in his country die of starvation. As he grew older, he committed his life to ending starvation. Genetics was a new field. Nikolai Vavilov had a dream. He would cultivate plant species that would be resilient and thrive where none had survived before. During World War I he was sent to Iran to determine why Soviet soldiers were getting ill. He discovered fungus growing on wheat. He put seeds of other plants in his pocket. He began the world's first seed bank at his Institute with the hope of training farmers to grow more resilient crops. By the 1930's, he had collected hundreds of thousands of seeds from five continents.

Then Stalin came into power. Stalin forced peasant farmers off their farms and turned to someone who was not a farmer or a scientist but who promised “an agrarian revolution.” It was an anti-science campaign not unlike what we have seen in the United States in the past few years including repeating lies.

Nikolai Vavilov was arrested and tortured by Stalin. Hitler, who wanted to control the world's food supply, sent troops to loot Vavilov's seed bank in Leningrad. Nine scientists died of starvation protecting Vavilov's seed bank from the Nazi's. Vavilov died in prison.

But his seed bank survived the war. He was pardoned posthumously. And because of Vavilov, the Svalbard Global Seed Bank was created near the North Pole in 2008 with the goal of preventing world famines in the future.

Walking the path of resistance takes many forms from speaking out and serving as a role model like BenDeLaCreme to seeking out knowledge to serve humanity like Nikolai Vavilov. Sometimes, a flower growing where it was not expected lifts fatigue and brings joy along the way. So, too, does a faith community that welcomes us for who we are and encourages us to fulfill our dreams for justice.

TUUC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

SINGERS AND HAND CLAPPERS NEEDED FOR PROJECT FOR SPECIAL MUSIC SUNDAY IN MAY

We are working on some amazing choir projects for the Special Music Sunday on May 21st of this year. Two of the pieces are very unusual and require larger forces and lots of rhythmic energy. This music is incredibly fun, yet substantial. One is an arrangement of a Tune-Yards song, and the other one will give you goosebumps!

Tracy Hall will be holding extra rehearsals on Saturdays for anyone who can help, but who can't be at Thursday evening rehearsals. We'd especially like to have some young adults or teens involved, but anyone 12 or older (all the way up!) who can help is very welcome. The rehearsals will be from 10 AM to 12 PM, on the following dates: April 8th, April 22nd, May 6th, 13th, and 20th. One or more of these rehearsals may be cancelled if everyone is on track learning the music, or if a majority of the special singer group cannot attend. Please contact Tracy at music@towsonuuc.org if you'd like more info, or you'd like to participate. We need singers, but we also need people to learn fairly complex handclapping parts or percussion parts. If you like rhythmic, embodied music, you will really want to be part of this!

FAIR TRADE COFFEE/CANDY SALE—SUNDAY, APRIL 9

Just in time for Easter and Spring celebrations, the Green Sanctuary Committee will be selling fair trade coffee, tea, nuts and candy. Surprise your Easter bunny and show support for small-scale farmers by stocking up. We count on these sales so the church can serve fair trade coffee during coffee hour, consistent with our values and principles.

APRIL ETHNIC LUNCH—WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19 AT 12:30 PM AT ORCHARD MARKET CAFÉ

In April, Ethnic Lunch is returning to an old favorite, Orchard Market and Café www.orchardmarketcafe.com, which specializes in Persian and Middle Eastern cuisine. The restaurant is located off Joppa Road at 8815 Orchard Tree Lane, Towson. We will be gathering on Wednesday, April 19 at 12:30 PM. To make a reservation send an email to ethniclunch@towsonuuc.org.

THE FACES OF DEPRESSION: MAY 1, MAY 8, MAY 15, AND MAY 20

May is National Mental Health Awareness Month. One of the major mental health issues of our time is depression. Statistics show that 20 percent of adult Americans can expect to experience clinical depression at least once.

In the 18th and 19th century, depression, also known as melancholia, was thought to be a character trait that was inherited and could not be changed. Today, we understand it as a disease that can be treated. Nevertheless, there is much about depression that is still not understood, and stigma attached to depression remains a problem. For those suffering from depression and those close to them, depression can seem mysterious and impossible to cure.

In this 4-week course, led by Rev. Karyn Marsh, who is a chaplain at Johns Hopkins Hospital,




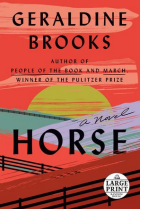
participants will learn to recognize the signs and symptoms of depression, about treatments for depression, and how to support those who are experiencing depression. While this course is designed for those who are supporting people with depression, it will also offer resources for participants to tend to their own mental health.

The first three classes will be held via zoom on Mondays, May 1, May 8, and May 15, from 7 pm until 8 pm. The final class session will be in-person at TUUC on May 20 from 1 pm until 3 pm. Participants are encouraged to attend all four sessions. To register please click on this link: <https://tuucdatabase.breezechms.com/form/55276183>


IN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF MIMI MARKS

We regret to inform you of the death of Mimi Marks on March 25, 2023. Mimi was an energetic and dedicated member of our congregation for 38 years. Mimi served in virtually every volunteer role at TUUC from greeting visitors to serving as Board President from 1998-1999. In the past 20 plus years, Mimi Chaired Membership; served on TUUC's 50th Anniversary Committee; worked on Stewardship; served as the Inner Life Council Head; and organized Hospitality. Mimi enjoyed people of all ages and brought her listening skills and warm heart to Lay Pastoral Associates. A multi-platform celebration of Mimi's life will be held at 10 AM on April 29th with a reception to follow.

---Rev. Clare

<p>CABIN FEVER</p> <p>THE LAST TEMPTATION OF CHRIST</p> <p>SUNDAY, APRIL 16</p> <p>4:30 PM DISCUSSION</p>		<p>TUUC BOOK CLUB</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26</p> <p>7:30 PM</p>	
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	<p>DONATE BY TEXT</p> <p>Send an amount to (410)834-0700</p>	<p>PASSING THE PLATE</p> <p>DONATE TO TUUC VIA PAYPAL, TEXT, OR BREEZE</p> <p>MORE INFORMATION ON THE TUUC WEBSITE</p>
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<p>Third Saturday Work Party</p> <p>April 15, 2023 - 9:00 AM - Noon</p> <p>Weeding of: Hillside, Cherry Grove, Thoreau Meadow & Meditation Area, Circle Garde, Pine Garden, Bayscape Garden, Memorial Garden, Rain Garden, Playground. Parking lot clean up. Weed whacking around the building. Weed whacking tree maintenance trails. Reforestation evaluation and maintenance.</p>	 <p>Please contact Todd Robertson at mrtodd37@gmail.com with any questions.</p>
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SOCIAL ACTION

BRIDGE UPDATE

Our Sacred Listening Campaign has officially ended. We appreciate all those who took the time to talk with our visitors. We have lots of interesting information and we are in the process of analyzing it. The next big event in this process is the Issues Convention. At the convention, all the congregations involved will gather and discuss our priority social justice issues moving forward. Since there is much to be done before the convention, the date has been moved from April to mid-June, the exact date is TBA.

DONATIONS AT TUUC

Assistance Center of Towson Churches (ACTC) still need donations. 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). 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.

OUR DAILY BREAD

It's April and we are collecting casseroles for Our Daily Bread again. You and your family can make and freeze casseroles (the recipes and pans are in the lobby) or you can purchase Stouffers Party Sized Mac & Cheese or Lasagna, or you can donate \$15 for each casserole. All casseroles need to be frozen and delivered to our freezer(in the closet near the piano) by 4/30/23). If you chose to donate funds, just be sure to specify Our Daily Bread, ODB, in the memo line.

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.)

HELP SUPPORT OUR VALUES THROUGH THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST LEGISLATIVE MINISTRY (UULM)

One of TUUC's Partners is the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland (UULM-MD) is a statewide action network of Unitarian Universalists who work to support UU values. They educate, engage, and mobilize UUs to advocate for specific issues before the Maryland General Assembly. Working in coalition with local, state and national organizations, we as UUs promote UU values through legislation which affirms:

- the inherent worth and dignity of all,
- reverence for the interdependent web of all existence, and
- justice, health and equity in society.
- It approaches each issue through an anti-racism/anti-oppression lens to deepen an understanding of the impact of policies on historically marginalized communities and people of color.

This organization is, of course, very active before and during the MD legislative Session, which is going on right now, from the middle of January 11 until April 10. You can become a member of UU Legislative Ministries by donating as little as \$25 on their website, which is uulmmd.org.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT TUUC

Calendar is subject to change. Check the website calendar [here](#) for most current schedule.

7 Apr	Friday	Parkinson's Support Group	12:30 PM
7 Apr	Friday	Writing as a Spiritual Practice	1:00 PM
8 Apr	Saturday	Choir Rehearsal	10:00 AM
9 Apr	Sunday	Fair Trade Coffee/Candy Sale	10:00 AM
9 Apr	Sunday	Sunday Service	10:30 AM
11 Apr	Tuesday	Aging Together	1:00 PM
11 Apr	Tuesday	Soul Matters Sharing Circles	7:30 PM
13 Apr	Thursday	TUUC Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
15 Apr	Saturday	Third Saturday Work Party	9:00 AM
16 Apr	Sunday	Sunday Service	10:30 AM
16 Apr	Sunday	Social Action Committee Meeting	12:30 PM
17 Apr	Monday	Socrates Café	7:30 PM
18 Apr	Tuesday	Men's Reflection Group	7:30 PM
18 Apr	Tuesday	Women's Group Meeting	7:30 PM
19 Apr	Wednesday	Ethnic Lunch	11:30 AM
20 Apr	Thursday	Our Messy Lives	3:00 PM
20 Apr	Thursday	TUUC Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
21 Apr	Friday	Parkinson Support Group	12:30 PM
21 Apr	Friday	Writing as a Spiritual Practice	1:00 PM

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
04/02/2023	10:30 AM	70 / 27