



JUNE 4 - 10:30 AM-DELIGHT: THE CENTENNIAL OF THE FLOWER

- REV. CLARE L. PETERSBERGER, TRACY HALL AND THE TUUC COMMUNITY CHOIR, KARA TYLER, DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

One hundred years ago, today, in Prague, The Reverend Dr. Norbert Capek asked members of his Unitarian congregation to bring a flower representing themselves. It could be from their garden or from the roadside. These flowers, representing each individual congregant were gathered into a large vase representing the religious community. At the end of the service, everyone took home a flower brought by another. What can we learn about delight from this beloved ritual? Please bring a flower to add to our bouquet. If you plan to join us on-line, please send a photo of a flower by Wednesday at noon.

SUNDAY, JUNE 4 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/95471410329?pwd=dElJdlBRZHhnQ2dITW5nTVk4T3ZYQT09>

Meeting ID: 954 7141 0329

Passcode: 927335

TUUC YOUTH RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

The time of year has come when the Spirit of Summer infuses the air with dreams of adventure and play. And yet, there's still a month of school left and work every day. Sometimes looking out the window at the bright green trees can make you want to stomp your foot and pout that it's not fair. Because Summer is for PLAY.

There is no better time to explore nature and sit in silence in the evening breeze. Even if they are only small stolen moments, take DELIGHT in them this summer. Pick a dandelion and blow a wish, make a fort, daydream, and laugh. This summer will never come again, enjoy these sacred moments as we begin June with joy and play.

CABIN FEVER

THE BIRDS

SUNDAY, JUNE 4

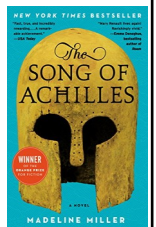
4:30 PM DISCUSSION



TUUC BOOK CLUB

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28

7:30 PM



CLARE'S COLLOQUY

Delight is like the butterflies flying around and landing on the thing that is joy. ---Ross Gay

Ross Gay turned 42 and gave himself the challenge of writing about something that delighted him each day for a year. He thought it was going to mean paying greater attention to the world around him including watching a dandelion grow through a crack in the sidewalk. That's how his practice began. But over time he discovered that what unveiled delight for him was "so often personal interactions" so he became "aware that delight is sort of a manifestation of interdependence." As he headed into the news cycles in the fall of 2016, he realized his practice was being shaped by the need to find and be light. After writing for a year about delight, he discerned that his life's work would be to help people get in touch with what moves them---not just what they like---but what they love. His focus became the question, "How can we love each other better?"

It's no accident that our Soul Matters theme for June is walking the path of delight.

We will begin by celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Flower Ceremony created by Norbert Capek for the Unitarian congregation in Prague on June 4, 1923. Please bring a flower (or several) from your garden or from the roadside or even growing through a crack in the sidewalk. At the end of the ceremony, you will receive a flower brought by another.

We will continue to walk the path of delight with summer memories from childhood of interdependence. Was it making ice cream by hand with family members? Going berry picking? Catching fireflies with neighbors? Building sandcastles on the beach with family and other children you did not know? After worship on June 11 all members will participate in the delights of our Annual Meeting. I do not mean this ironically. We affirm our interdependence by choosing new leaders and voting on how we will fulfill our values through our annual budget.

On June 18th we will celebrate the delights and possibilities of love with the wedding of Lou Geiszl and Eleanor Hughes who met at TUUC teaching Sunday School. June 18th is also Father's Day!

How we can love each other better will be a question for delegates to the Unitarian Universalist General Assembly as we vote on the proposed Article II draft which puts love at the center of our faith.

The world still needs us to find and be the light. June 19th the office will be closed to celebrate Juneteenth---which commemorates when General Gordon Granger issued an order to enforce the Emancipation Proclamation in Texas and all enslaved people in Texas knew they were freed. And yet, in the past week, Amanda Gorman's poem, "The Hill We Climb" was banned from an elementary school in Florida because one parent complained about it being "divisive." In reality, Gorman's poem is all about unifying our country. What is divisive is racism.

All of June is Pride month, a time to intentionally celebrate the freedom to be oneself in relation to others. This freedom is being challenged in too many states. Target made a corporate decision to remove Pride related products and relocate Pride displays to the back of certain stores in the South. But we Unitarian Universalists delight in the freedom to be oneself in relation to others. The Progress Pride flag is at the front of our church in the chalice of our congregation's sign which lights up at night serving as a beacon for inclusivity and delighting in each person's unique gifts.

This month, as we walk the path of delight together, may we discover ourselves to be "like the butterflies flying around and landing on the thing that is joy."

TUUC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

CELEBRATING OUR ANCESTORS

Last month, the TUUC Board of Trustees solicited feedback on a proposal to christen the newly created path through our property the TUUC Ancestors Trail. We appreciate the thoughtful and heartfelt feedback we received from several members.

At their May 17 meeting, the Board weighed these suggestions and voted to officially adopt the name Ancestors Trail for this path. The Board felt that this best encompassed our desire to honor those who helped create and grow our church as well as those who lived and worked on this land long before the church was created.

In the coming year, our website will be revamped and updated, and a detailed history of the original trail, the Francis Pettijohn Trail, will be included on our site alongside a description of the Ancestors Trail. A marker will be commissioned and dedicated to acknowledge the contributions of Dr. Pettijohn and other founders, as well as the indigenous people and enslaved Africans who came before us.

If you would like to be part of the team that will design and place this marker, please email Andrew Hager at AndrewW.Hager@gmail.com.

SPECIAL GARDENING MORNING AT AMAZING GRACE—SATURDAY, JUNE 3

TUUC partners with Amazing Grace Lutheran Church and the Charm City Land Trust to maintain the Amazing Port Street Commons in East Baltimore. These gardens are the only public green space in the McElderry Park community. Please join the Green Sanctuary Committee for a morning of weeding and cleaning of the rain garden and labyrinth and tending to newly-planted vegetables, from 10 AM to 12 PM on Saturday, June 3rd! We can carpool from TUUC (meeting there at 9:30 AM). Please contact Carel Hedlund (info in Breeze) to let us know you will join.

NEXT COMMUNITY CHOIR—SUNDAY, JUNE 4

Our final Community Choir Sunday of the season will be Sunday, June 4th. It will also be the 100th Anniversary of the UU Flower Communion. Singers of all ages may come and rehearse the music that morning at 9 AM, and then sing in the service on June 4th.

WOMEN'S LUNCH—MONDAY, JUNE 5 AT 12:00 PM

The Women's Lunch Bunch will meet Monday, June 5 at Noon in the Café at Edenwald. For information or reservations, please contact Sue Shankroff.

CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING—SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 2023 AT NOON

Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on June 11, 2023 at 12:00 PM, both in person at TUUC and on Zoom.

These items will require a congregational vote:

1. The Rules of Procedure for this meeting
2. The Election of Officers

3. Approval of the Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2023–2024

Amendments must be submitted in writing to Board Secretary Patty by Monday, June 6 at 5 PM. Her email is secretary@towsonuuc.org. Amendments will not be accepted from the floor during the meeting.

Members who are unable to attend may find another member to serve as their proxy. Please notify Board Secretary Patty Barry if you need a proxy or can serve as a proxy. See you at the meeting!

NEXT TUUC BLOOD DRIVE—THURSDAY, JUNE 15

Working with the American Red Cross, we've scheduled Thursday, June 15th, 2023 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 June 15th, if you are healthy and have no concerns about donating. To sign up for an appointment between 12-5PM, please use [this link](#) or email Clare Flynn-Avallone with your preferred times. Give the Gift of Life - Give Blood!



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 image shows two screenshots of an online donation form. The left screenshot shows the main form with a \$0.00 amount and three dropdown menus. The right screenshot shows a zoomed-in view of the dropdown menu, which lists various funds such as 'Give to Building Fund', 'Give to General Fund', and 'Give to Restricted Fund'. A red arrow points from the first dropdown menu in the left screenshot to the zoomed-in view on the right.

Third Saturday Work Party

June 17, 2023
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM



Weeding of: Hillside, Cherry Grove, Thoreau Meadow & Meditation Area, Circle Garden, 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.

Rain or shine (disposable rain gear provided)
Moderate weather permitting.



SOCIAL ACTION

BRIDGE UPDATE

The initial phase of Our Sacred Listening Campaign has ended, but we have learned so much, we are entering a new phase. We are going to be reaching out to more individuals for a while longer. So, you might be receiving a message asking you to participate in these conversations. If you don't want to wait to be asked, just let Rev. Clare or Ann Beezley know, we want to hear from as many people as possible. The date for the Issues Convention has been set as Saturday, 6/10/2023, from 10 AM to 1 PM. Everyone from TUUC is invited.

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.

NONPERISHABLE FOOD

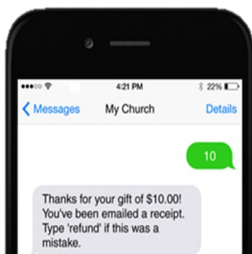
Nonperishable food can be dropped off at these locations:

- 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.)

ISSUES CONVENTION IN BALTIMORE—JUNE 10 FROM 10 AM TO 1 PM

The Issues Convention is 6/10/2023 from 10am-1pm with doors opening at 9am. The location is St. Vincent DePaul Roman Catholic Church at 120 North Front Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201. Please come at 9am and learn about all the issues. For more information, please visit

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfbCm1QGk-FM5KyJDbTTD5iBlboYDqTijpmlrGTmgVZdcnnWQ/viewform?usp=sf_link



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.

3 June	Saturday	Coming of Age Graduation Ceremony	2:00 PM
3 June	Saturday	Green Sanctuary—Special Gardening Morning	10:00 AM
4 June	Sunday	Sunday Service—Flower Communion	10:30 AM
5 June	Monday	Mindful Way Meditation	7:00 PM
6 June	Tuesday	Men's Reflection Group	7:30 PM
6 June	Tuesday	Women's Group Meeting	7:30 PM
8 June	Thursday	TUUC Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
9 June	Friday	Writing as a Spiritual Practice	1:00 PM
11 June	Sunday	Sunday Service	10:30 AM
11 June	Sunday	Annual Congregational Meeting	12:00 PM
13 June	Tuesday	Aging Together	1:00 PM
13 June	Tuesday	Makers' Meetup	7:00 PM
13 June	Tuesday	Soul Matters Sharing Circles	7:30 PM
15 June	Thursday	Blood Drive	12:00 PM
15 June	Thursday	Our Messy Lives	3:00 PM
15 June	Thursday	TUUC Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
16 June	Friday	Parkinson Support Group	10:00 AM
17 June	Saturday	Third Saturday Work Party	9:00 AM
18 June	Sunday	Sunday Service	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
05/27/2023	10:30 AM	53 / 27