



OCTOBER 8—10:30 AM—FOR ALL THAT HAS BREATH —REV. CLARE L. PETERSBERGER, KARA TYLER, DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, TRACY HALL AND THE TUUC CHOIR, CAREL HEDLUND, MARILYN CARLISLE, AND MEMBERS OF THE TUUC GREEN SANCTUARY COMMITTEE

Going back in our religious heritage as Unitarian Universalists, we find that the Hebrew word ruach meaning “wind,” “breath,” or “spirit,” appears in the second verse of the book of Genesis when the ruach of God hovered over the waters. Psalm 150 invites everyone to give praise “for all that has breath.” This summer, wildfire smoke from Canada made it more challenging to breathe. Today, we explore actions we can take to mitigate climate change so that everything that lives and breathes on the earth can thrive as intended. We are joining with other congregations in DC, Northern Virginia, and Maryland who are answering the call of Interfaith Power and Light to speak out for climate solutions including electrifying homes.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8 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/96598322474?pwd=Q0djczgOUON6SUV5bnMwVOVTc1ZvZz09>

Meeting ID: 965 9832 2474 Passcode: 242062

YOUTH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION EVENTS THIS MONTH

This week, new floors were installed in rooms 1-5 downstairs. Thank you to the Board, the Finance Committee, the A-Team, and mostly Clare Flynn-Avallone for helping this happen.

- **October 7th** is Game Night. Open to all Ages! From 7 to 9 PM. Bring a dessert to share.
- **October 15th** is a Multi-Generational Service. NO YRE, but kids will be performing a puppet show with the help of Bess Hauf.
- **October 15th** is OWL Orientation for our families who are joining this essential and life-saving curriculum. Want to know more? Ask Kara.
- On **October 21st**, the High School Youth Group will be helping First Unitarian in creating an outdoor walkable Labyrinth in South East Baltimore.

CABIN FEVER

BUG (2006)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

4:30 PM DISCUSSION

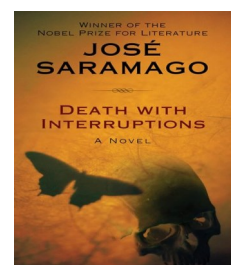


BOOK CLUB

**DEATH WITH
INTERRUPTIONS**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

7:30 PM



CLARE'S COLLOQUY

On a recent visit to see my parents, my ten-year-old nephew had one burning question for my father: "Is it true that you served in the Air Force?!" My father confirmed that it was true. Further, my nephew learned that my mother had studied in New York to become a teacher. My nephew asked, "How did I go my whole life without knowing this?!" This exchange made me realize that perhaps my nephew thought my parents had always been chronologically gifted: that my father had spent much of his life playing golf (as he does now) and that my mother had spent much of her life browsing the shop Politics and Prose for books for him and his brother.

Do you have a memory of learning something about a relative or even an ancestor that led you to exclaim: "How did I go my whole life without knowing this?!" Perhaps you will, this month, as we explore the gift of heritage.

Heritage is not one of the core values lifted-up in the proposed Article II revised Bylaws of the Unitarian Universalist Association which state our purpose as a faith. But like my parents, like each one of us, Article II has changed, significantly, in the past 62 years.

After serving in the Air Force, my father had begun to practice law. At that time, the first Article II of the Unitarian Universalist Association declared in 1961 that we united in seeking *"1. To strengthen one another in a free and disciplined search for truth as the foundation of our religious fellowship; 2. To cherish and spread the universal truths taught by the great prophets and teachers of humanity in every age and tradition, immemorially summarized in the Judeo-Christian heritage as love to God and love to man;..."*

Early in my father's retirement, in 1985, the Unitarian Universalist Association delegates had revised Article II to enumerate the seven principles and purposes (in the front of our grey hymnal and on the banner in our foyer) beginning with and affirmation of the inherent worth and dignity of every person and ending with the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Within the last few years, many Unitarian Universalist congregations (including TUUC) adopted an eighth principle to hold ourselves accountable for dismantling racism and other forms of oppression in ourselves, our congregations, and the wider world.

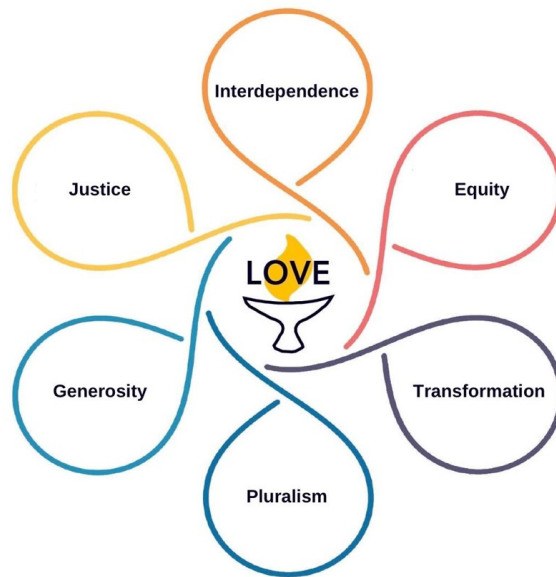
Now, we are looking to lift-up core values that unite us, with love at the center, and specific ways we promise to live them.

We are doing this not for the sake of change itself. Rather, like our relatives and ancestors in 1961, we are articulating our faith for those who have yet to find us, and perhaps for those who have yet to be born. The proposed revisions to Article II are for those who will need these values and the encouragement to live them in order to create the world we envision can be.

Rev. Scott Tayler writes: *Whereas history pleads, "Protect what we put into place!" Heritage urges, "Know the plotline of which you are a part." History is what happened; Heritage is a story still unfolding. History tends to trap us in tales about what they did; Heritage inevitably gets us talking about what we are called to do.*

As my nephew discovered, we need to know our history. “How did I go my whole life without knowing this?!” We need to know our history in order to appreciate our heritage, to find the plotline of which we are a part, and to get us talking about what we are called to do.

Here is an image of the eight core values being proposed for Article II of the UUA Bylaws (which will be voted on by delegates to the UUA General Assembly in June.)



The language to accompany the graphic follows. Let’s talk more about the heritage of our faith and what the proposed revisions call us to do! Here is the current language to accompany the graphic. This language may change before June.

Article II Purposes and Covenant (with passed amendments, 6/24/23)

Section C-2.1. Purposes.

The Unitarian Universalist Association will devote its resources to and use its organizational powers for religious, educational, and humanitarian purposes. Its primary purposes are to assist congregations in their vital ministries, support and train leaders both lay and professional, to foster lifelong faith formation and spiritual development, to heal historic injustices, to support and encourage the creation of new Unitarian Universalist communities, and to advance our Unitarian Universalist values in the world.

The purpose of the Unitarian Universalist Association is to actively engage its members in the transformation of the world through liberating Love.

Section C-2.2. Values and Covenant.

As Unitarian Universalists, we covenant, congregation-to-congregation and through our association, to support and assist one another in our ministries. We draw from our heritages of freedom, reason, hope, and courage, building on the foundation of love.

Love is the power that holds us together and is at the center of our shared values. We are accountable to one another for doing the work of living our shared values through the spiritual discipline of Love.

Inseparable from one another, these shared values are:

Interdependence. Interdependence. We honor the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. With humility and reverence, we covenant to protect Earth and all beings from exploitation, creating and nurturing sustainable relationships of repair, mutuality, and justice.

Pluralism. We celebrate that we are all sacred beings diverse in culture, experience, and theology. We covenant to learn from one another in our free and responsible search for truth and meaning. We embrace our differences and commonalities with Love, curiosity, and respect.

Justice. We work to be diverse multicultural Beloved Communities where all thrive. We covenant to dismantle racism and all forms of systemic oppression. We support the use of inclusive democratic processes to make decisions within our congregations and society at large.

Transformation. We adapt to the changing world. We covenant to collectively transform and grow spiritually and ethically. Openness to change is fundamental to our Unitarian and Universalist heritages, never complete and never perfect.

Generosity. We cultivate a spirit of gratitude and hope. We covenant to freely and compassionately share our faith, presence, and resources. Our generosity connects us to one another in relationships of interdependence and mutuality.

Equity. We declare that every person has the right to flourish with inherent dignity and worthiness. We covenant to use our time, wisdom, attention, and money to build and sustain fully accessible and inclusive communities.

Section C-2.3. Inspirations.

As Unitarian Universalists, we proclaim that direct experiences of transcending mystery and wonder are a primary source of inspiration. These experiences open our hearts, renew our spirits, and transform our lives. We draw upon, and are inspired by, sacred, secular, and scientific understandings that help us make meaning and live into our values. We respect the histories, contexts, and cultures in which these understandings were created and are currently practiced. These sources ground us and sustain us in ordinary, difficult, and joyous times. Grateful for the experiences that move us, aware of the religious ancestries we inherit, and enlivened by the diversity which enriches our faith, we are called to ever deepen and expand our wisdom.

Section C-2.4. Inclusion.

Systems of power, privilege, and oppression have traditionally created barriers for persons and groups with particular identities, ages, abilities, and histories. We pledge to replace such barriers with ever-widening circles of solidarity and mutual respect. We strive to be an association of congregations that truly welcome all persons who share our values. We commit to being an association of congregations that empowers and enhances everyone's participation, especially those with historically marginalized identities.

Section C-2.5. Freedom of belief.

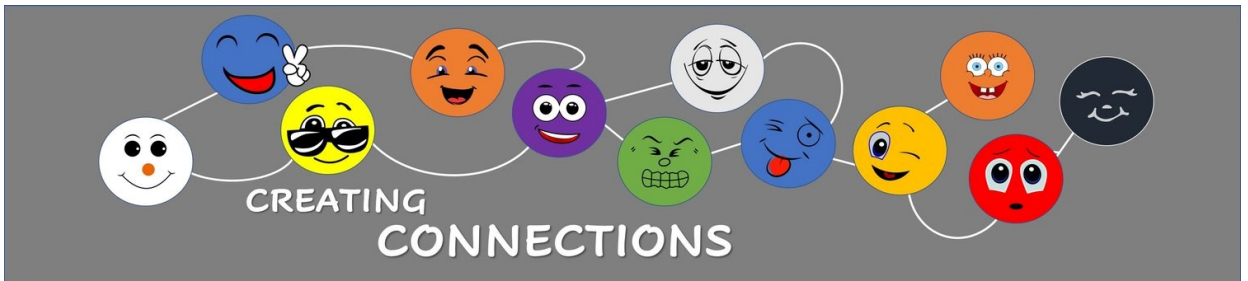
Congregational freedom and the individual's right of conscience are central to our Unitarian Universalist heritage. Congregations may establish statements of purpose, covenants, and bonds of union so long as they do not require that members adhere to a particular creed.

TUUC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

TUUC AUCTION—SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 18th to make sure you're a part of TUUC's 2023 People-to-People Auction. We'll all gather at TUUC at 5 pm for *Creating Connections!*—an evening of food, fun, fellowship and fundraising for our beloved TUUC. A zoom link will be available too for those of you unable to join in person. It's never too soon to think about what you can donate in support of this year's auction. Visit the church website (www.towsonuuc.org) and click on Events, Auction to find some donation ideas and the donation form for 2023. And keep watch on this space for some peeks at what's been donated, how to bid and how you can help make the Auction a success!

-- The 2023 Auction Team



SINGLES FELLOWSHIP GROUP POTLUCK – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14 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.

COMMUNITY CHOIR—SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

The first Community Choir Sunday of the new worship year will be on Sunday, October 15th. This is an opportunity to rehearse only on the morning of the service, and to sing that day. All ages are welcome! You'll need to arrive at 9:00 AM to rehearse together. You'll have a substantial break time during sound checks before the service. This time we'll combine forces with the TUUC Choir (they will have prepared one piece already, which you can join in on), and we'll have a guest cellist joining us that day. Hope to see you the morning of October 15th! Please RSVP to Tracy at music@towsonuuc.org if you plan to come. But if you forget...you can still just show up!

ETHNIC LUNCH—WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18 AT 12:30 PM

In October Ethnic Lunch will be meeting at a favorite Japanese restaurant, Edo Sushi, www.edosushimd.com. Edo Sushi is located in the Padonia Village Shopping Center, just off York Road, 53 E. Padonia Rd. Join us on Wednesday, October 18 at 12:30 PM for good food and fellowship. RSVP by Sunday evening, October 15 to ethniclunch@towsonuuc.org.

-- Janet Kuperstein and Claudia Sumler

TUUC DRUM CIRCLE—SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22 AT 3 PM

The first meeting of the TUUC Drum Circle for the season will be Sunday, October 22nd at 3 PM in the Meeting Room. Hope you'll join in the rhythm! We'll spend most of the time free form jamming, but we'll have a time for meditational drumming towards the end. Please bring a hand drum if you have one, and we'll have some small percussion available as well. We are short on djembes right now, so if anyone has an extra you can bring (or even donate to the cause), please do so! For more information, contact Tracy Hall at music@towsonuuc.org.

ICJS TO HOST INTERRELIGIOUS EVENTS ON HOWARD THURMAN—MON, OCT 23 AT 7 PM

The Institute for Islamic, Christian, and Jewish Studies (ICJS) is presenting a series of events this fall centering on the life and legacy of Howard Thurman. Dr. Walter Fluker, one of the preeminent experts on Thurman, will deliver the ICJS Manekin-Clark Lecture at 7 PM on Monday, October 23 at Northside Baptist Church, 1101 E. Northern Parkway. The lecture is free, but registration is required as space is limited. It will also be live streamed. Other events include: Howard Thurman: Moral anchor to the Civil Rights movement, a three-week minicourse available in person at ICJS or via zoom; a book study group for religious leaders, and a reading group for the general public. For more information and to register, please visit icjs.org.

TUUC BLOOD DRIVE—SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11 FROM 9 AM TO 2 PM

Working with the American Red Cross, we've scheduled Saturday, November 11, 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 November 11th, if you are healthy and have no concerns about donating. To sign up for an appointment time between 9 AM to 2 PM, please use [this link](#) or email Clare Flynn-Avallone with your preferred times.

EMBARK ON A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY WITH “OUR JOURNEYS” AT TUUC

TUUC is thrilled to introduce **Our Journeys: Exploring TUUC Together**, a captivating series designed for friends and newcomers eager to delve deeper into Unitarian Universalism.

In the heart of TUUC's vibrant faith tradition lies a unique philosophy—a belief in religion as a journey through the world rather than a destination with fixed beliefs. It's a path filled with exploration, growth, and a profound sense of connection.

Our Journeys: Exploring TUUC Together is your invitation to discover the heart of TUUC, deepen your understanding of Unitarian Universalism, and find your unique place within our vibrant community. It's not just an opportunity; it's the first step in joining us as a member—a valued part of our growing community.

Key Details:

Dates: October 15, October 22, November 5, and November 12

Time: 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Location: Room 7 at TUUC

This program is a pivotal step in your path towards becoming a TUUC member. Here's a glimpse of what you'll experience:

- **Your Personal Journey:** In this session, you'll have the opportunity to share your own spiritual path with fellow travelers. It's a chance to connect on a deeper level with your fellow community members.
- **Unitarian Universalism's Journey:** Take a captivating journey through the rich history of Unitarian Universalism. Discover how our faith has evolved over time and the principles that guide us today.
- **Our Congregation's Journey:** Explore the fascinating history of TUUC, our beloved congregation. Learn about the milestones and stories that have shaped our community.
- **UU Spiritual Journey ("Our Journey Together"):** Dive into the spiritual practices that enrich our faith. Explore how these practices can enhance your own spiritual journey.
- **Finding Your Journey Within the Church Community:** Discover how your unique path can lead you to feel that TUUC is your spiritual home. It's about finding your place within our community and making it your own.

To join this extraordinary expedition and take your first step towards membership, **please send us an email at membership@towsonuuc.org by **October 12****. We look forward to embarking on "Our Journeys" with you and extending a warm welcome to the TUUC community.

SOCIAL ACTION

ASSISTANCE CENTER OF TOWSON CHURCHES

The Assistance Center of the Towson Churches, ACTC, is again responding to the community needs. They are open on Wednesday evenings from 4-7pm, to help those unable to come during the day. They are also restarting their financial assistance program. Please note that ACTC really needs hearty canned soups and beans.

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.)

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.

Give to Towson Unitarian Universalist Church

\$ 0.00

Give to 2021-2022 Stewardship Campaign ▼

Add Gift to Another Fund

Give this One Time ▼

Give by Credit/Debit Card ▼

Continue

Give to Towson Unitarian Universalist Church

\$ 0.00

Give to Restricted Fund ▼

- 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 Casseroles
- Give to Plate Collection
- Give to Religious Education Registration
- Give to Restricted Fund
- Give to Social Action Collection

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT TUUC

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

6 Oct	Friday	Writing As a Spiritual Practice	1:00 PM
7 Oct	Saturday	YRE Game Night	7:00 PM
7 Oct	Saturday	YRE Sleepover	10:00 PM
8 Oct	Sunday	YRE—Making Faith	9:00 AM
8 Oct	Sunday	Sunday Service	10:30 AM
8 Oct	Sunday	Social Action Committee Meeting	12:00 PM
8 Oct	Sunday	Cabin Fever—Bug	4:30 PM
10 Oct	Tuesday	Aging Together	1:00 PM
10 Oct	Tuesday	Makers' Meetup	7:00 PM
12 Oct	Thursday	TUUC Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
14 Oct	Saturday	Singles Fellowship Potluck	6:00 PM
15 Oct	Sunday	YRE—Making Faith	9:00 AM
15 Oct	Sunday	Sunday Service	10:30 AM
15 Oct	Sunday	Our Journeys	12:00 PM
15 Oct	Sunday	YRE—OWL Orientation	2:00 PM
15 Oct	Sunday	Cabin Fever—Gaslight	4:30 PM
16 Oct	Monday	Mindful Way Meditation	7:00 PM
16 Oct	Monday	Socrates Café	7:30 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
10/01/2023	10:30 AM	Unknown / 28