



**OCTOBER 15—10:30 AM—*THE MEANING OF HOME* –REV. CLARE L. PETERSBERGER, THE TUUC PUPPET THING, LORRAINE SORBELLO, OUR TUUC HIGH SCHOOL GROUP MEMBERS, TRACY HALL, THE TUUC CHOIR, AND THE TUUC COMMUNITY CHOIR**

Today, the TUUC Puppet Thing will introduce us to the “Guest At Your Table” program of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. UUSC was founded during World War II to offer assistance to refugees fleeing Europe. Today, it helps to defend human rights around the globe. The focus of our intergenerational worship service will be “the meaning of home.” For some it is the structure in which we reside today. For some, it is a place we are grateful to be able to leave after the COVID pandemic. For others it is memories of specific places where we lived with our families. For yet others it is a longing, an ideal, never fully realized. For the partners of the Unitarian Universalist Committee home is sometimes a place one needs to flee; or defend; or protect. Guest at Your Table (GAYT) is UUSC’s annual intergenerational program to raise support for and awareness about key human rights issues. We will provide Guest At Your Table boxes to support the good work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee by inviting a “guest” to your table. We will be collecting boxes in the December 3 worship service.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15 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/94248618872?pwd=VENqeC9uZjliKy83TURXQmVtM21hUT09>

**Meeting ID:** 942 4861 8872

**Passcode:** 631397

**YOUTH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION EVENTS THIS MONTH**

Last 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 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.

## FROM REV. CLARE

*We need one another when we mourn and would be comforted....*

---George Odell

We mourn the loss of civilian lives in Israel.

We mourn the loss of young people attending a concert for peace.

We mourn the loss of parents and young children.

We mourn the loss of babies who never had a chance to walk or to talk.

We mourn the loss of grandparents.

We mourn the abduction of civilians of all ages and nationalities to be used as bargaining chips and human shields.

We mourn for the civilians in Palestine who have no safe place to run to in the desert nor to seek shelter.

We mourn for all civilians harmed and killed by violence.

We mourn the rise in Antisemitism and Islamophobia that leaders anticipate.

We mourn a lost appreciation for our shared humanity.

We would be comforted...

reaching out to friends directly impacted;

reaching out to neighbors we know are hurting;

calling members of our own community we know are suffering;

gathering on Sunday to exchange hugs;

and praying for all innocents caught up in the horrors of war.

We need one another when we mourn and would be comforted.

---Rev. Clare

### **October Work Party - October 21, 2023 at 9:00 AM**

#### **- Invasive Species Removal: Multiflora Rose**

**Multiflora Rose is an eastern Asian plant brought to the US as rootstock for other roses and for erosion control. Now considered invasive in the Eastern US it forms dense, thorny thickets. Manual removal is the way to go. We will be removing it from a portion of the property.**

#### **- Trail Management: Tree Removal**

**The Ancestors trail has some juvenile trees along it's route that need to be removed as they are clustered too tightly with other trees. We will be taking those down or digging them up.**

#### **- Waterflow Management: Micro-BioRetention Area**

**The MBRA helps prevent rainwater from flowing over our parking lot. This reduces the ice formed in the circle in the winter, increasing safety. We will be pruning the plants that are part of the MBRA system.**

## 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.

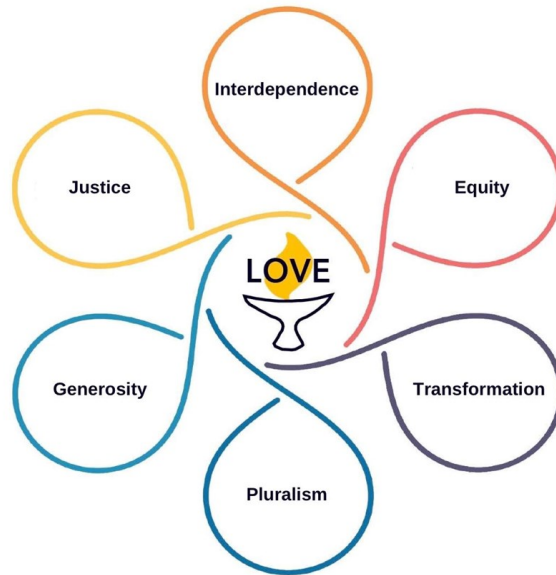
Now, we are looking to lift-up core values that unite us, with love at the center, and specific ways we promise to live them.

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 AUCTION 2023—SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

TUUC's *People-to-People* Auction time is nearing and this year we are delighted that it will again be a combined in-person and virtual event. We are counting on all of you to make it a successful one. With no time to waste, we have begun the call for donations to the 2023 Auction. It's time for ***Creating Connections!*** Online bidding for the Silent Auction will open on November 4<sup>th</sup>! It would be great to have lots of donations entered by that date, so they have maximum exposure to interested buyers. Here are links to the instructions and the online donation form:

**Instructions:** Click here for the [link](#).

**Donation Form:** Click here for the [link](#).

We are happy to have all kinds of donations: household items large and small, in-person or online services you can offer, artwork, jewelry, vacation rentals, theater or concert tickets, activities you can host, gift boxes and baskets, online classes and group events. Those who think up interesting offerings are often surprised by the appreciative response of the congregation. Hosting a group dinner, a bike ride, hike, or picnic gets a great response and allows the donor and buyers to have a good time together.

We ask that donations of physical articles be limited to new or previously owned items in excellent condition. We are requesting that items have a value of at least \$15.

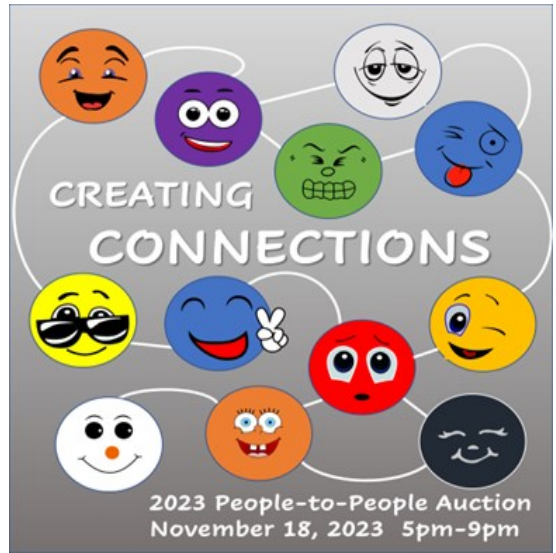
Donated gift cards and gift certificates are always welcome. You'll be able to buy raffle tickets online or at the church and gift cards/certificates make great raffle prizes!

If you're still stumped, a cash donation will help offset the expenses of putting on the Auction. You can enter your cash donation using the Auction 2023 Donation Form (link above)

The Auction Committee is working hard to make the 2023 event a big success and lots of fun. And it all starts with your donations ***Creating Connections!*** in support of TUUC.

Gratefully,

Your 2023 Auction Committee



### CABIN FEVER

**GASLIGHT (1944)**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15**

**4:30 PM DISCUSSION**

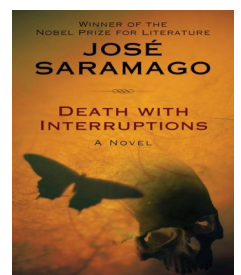


### BOOK CLUB

**DEATH WITH  
INTERRUPTIONS**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25**

**7:30 PM**



# TUUC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

## GREEN SANCTUARY COMMITTEE

If you could not attend the October 8th service in person, you can still voice your support for the "Let All That Has Breath" campaign, to strengthen Maryland's EmPower program so it helps more low-income households become energy efficient. [Click here](#) to print out the form and return it to TUUC.

You can also urge our U.S. Senators to include important climate change provisions in the massive Farm Bill when it is reauthorized. Click [here \(Senator Cardin\)](#) and [here Senator Van Hollen](#) to print out letters to sign and send directly to Senators Cardin and Van Hollen.

## 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:music@towsonuuc.org).

## **TUUC'S SOCRATES CAFE TO EXAMINE ALTRUISM ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 16 AT 7:30 PM**

With Peter Singer, the Australian ethical and moral philosopher, as the backdrop reference, the next Zoom TUUC Socrates Cafe will be examining altruism at our next third Monday session on October 16th from 7:30-9:00 PM. A suggestion made by Jeff Savoye at a previous session is Peter Singer, whose work in applied ethics and political activism, informed by utilitarianism, holds that actions are right or wrong depending on the extent to which they promote happiness or prevent pain.

On the 16th, we'll be probing the idea of an ethical life: Is it realistic, is it practical, to live modestly, in order to save the poor? So our question to probe on Monday evening will be: "Can we do something purely, completely altruistically or is there a dark side to human nature? Is true, unadulterated altruism possible in human psychology?"

Three suggested Peter Singer YouTube videos to watch, prior to the session are: "[What it Means to Live an Ethical Life](#)", "[What is Effective Altruism?](#)", and "[Animal Liberation Now](#)", where, at Princeton, Singer explains what dolphins think of humans! Enjoy! Come and share your thoughts and perspectives! To join us on the 16th, and if not already on our email list, please send an email to [socratescafe@towsonuuc.org](mailto:socratescafe@towsonuuc.org), and you'll receive the Zoom Link the day before.

## **OUR MESSY LIVES TO DISCUSS "HERITAGE/PERSONAL VALUES" ON OCTOBER 19TH**

What is meant by one's "heritage?" Does it have a little or a lot to do with one's personal values? This topic was suggested at our September Our Messy Lives meeting. We hope you can drop by for our next every third Thursday session which will be held on Zoom, in the afternoon on October 19th, from 3:00-4:00 PM.

To join us on Zoom, look to our Member Directory, BREEZE, for Nancy Caswell's email address, send her an email, explaining that you'd like to join us for the next Our Messy Lives discussion. She will email the Zoom Link to you the day before.

What is our heritage? Is it a special or individual possession? How do we come to possess it? Is it our own unique family traditions, the way our family does things? Is it the language we are born into? Does our heritage come to us, belong to us by reason of birth? Is it our inheritance? Is our heritage one of poverty and suffering? Or have we been born with a silver spoon in our mouth? How do we adopt our own personal values? Are they formed by our families or do they evolve throughout our lives? When does heritage begin and end? We look forward to sharing thoughts, ideas, perspectives, and reflections with one another on the 19th!

## **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](http://icjs.org).

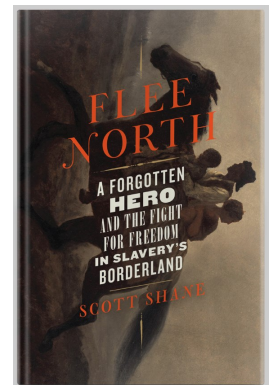
### **SAMHAIN RITUAL AND POTLUCK—SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4**

In Irish, Samhain is the name for the month of November as well as a Gaelic festival on October 31/November 1. The Celts celebrated on this day the end of the harvest season and beginning of winter or "darker half" of the year. For pagans, this day marks the new year and is a time to commemorate ancestors while making intentions for the new year. The Roots and Wings Chapter of CUUPs will be celebrating Samhain on Saturday, November 4 in the evening. The ritual will begin at 6:30 pm and will be followed by a potluck. Doors will open at 6:00 pm. If the weather is clear, our rite will be held outdoors. Please dress accordingly and bring a dish for sharing, canned food for the ACTC basket, and a memento of a beloved ancestor for the altar. All are welcome!



### **BOOK DISCUSSION BY TUUC MEMBER SCOTT SHANE, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4 AT 4 PM**

Save the date! Mark your calendars! On Saturday November 4 at 4pm, Scott Shane, longtime member of TUUC, will talk about his new book, *FLEE NORTH: A Forgotten Hero and the Fight for Freedom in Slavery's Borderland*. A book sale and signing will follow the talk. All proceeds will benefit TUUC. This will be a hybrid event; details to follow on how you can attend and purchase Scott's book online—stay tuned!



*FLEE NORTH: A Forgotten Hero and the Fight for Freedom in Slavery's Borderland* is a nonfiction book that weaves together the true stories of three men: Thomas Smallwood, a Washington D.C. shoemaker who bought his own freedom, helped hundreds of others escape slavery, and wrote about the escapes in sometimes hilarious, sometimes scathing satirical dispatches to an Albany newspaper; Charles Torrey, his younger white partner, a graduate of both Yale and the battles within New England abolitionism; and Hope Slatter, who from his private "slave jail" on Pratt Street, near Baltimore's Inner Harbor, operated the region's largest slave trading business.



"*Flee North*, a gripping story told at a brisk pace in the no-fuss prose of a practiced reporter, is a model of the advantages that journalists can bring to the writing of history. . . . *Flee North* is the kind of story we sorely need at a time when there is no shortage of opportunities for inspiring acts of heroism." -- *Washington Post*

"This astonishing and propulsive narrative rights a historical wrong by returning Smallwood to prominence. It's an absolute must-read." -- *Publisher's Weekly*

Scott Shane, a longtime member of TUUC, was a journalist for 40 years, including 21 years at The Baltimore Sun and 15 years at The New York Times. *FLEE NORTH* is his third book.

## 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.

## 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.

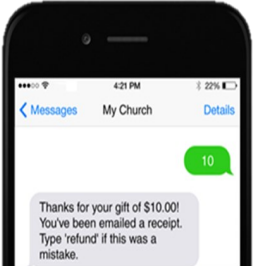
### NONPERISHABLE FOOD

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.)

### CASSEROLE DONATION MONTH

Heat your ovens. October is a casserole donation month. We have a variety of easy recipes to choose from. The baking tins and the recipes are in the lobby. If you don't feel like cooking, you can donate money for us to purchase a casserole for you. Just send your donation to TUUC your preferred way and be sure to put ODB (Our Daily Bread) in the memo line. \$15 buys one party size casserole. Thanks so much for helping feed those in need.



## DONATE BY TEXT

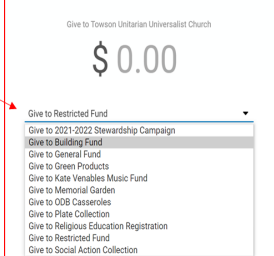
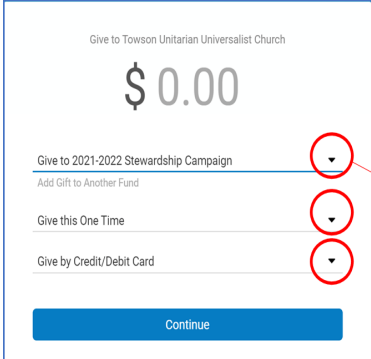
Send an amount to  
**(410)834-0700**

## 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.



# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT TUUC

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

14 Oct	Saturday	Bridge Maryland	10:00 AM
14 Oct	Saturday	Singles Fellowship Potluck	6:00 PM
15 Oct	Sunday	YRE—Making Faith	9:00 AM
15 Oct	Sunday	Community Choir + TUUC Choir Rehearsal	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
17 Oct	Tuesday	Women's Group Meeting	7:30 PM
19 Oct	Thursday	Our Messy Lives	3:00 PM
19 Oct	Thursday	TUUC Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
20 Oct	Friday	Writing as a Spiritual Practice	1:00 PM
21 Oct	Saturday	Third Saturday Work Party	9:00 AM
22 Oct	Sunday	YRE—Making Faith	9:00 AM
22 Oct	Sunday	YRE—OWL	10:00 AM
22 Oct	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
10/08/2023	10:30 AM	66 / 24