February 23, 2024

Submissions appearing for the first time this week are printed in GREEN.

Volume 2 Number 4

## FEBRUARY 25—10:30 AM—*TO DO JUSTICE*—ANN BEEZLEY, CHAIR OF SOCIAL ACTION, AND THE TUUC SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE, AND THE TUUC COMMUNITY CHOIR

The prophet Micah taught that what is required of human beings is that we do justice and love kindness. What does it mean to do justice? This morning we explore what we have learned from our partnership with BRIDGE, MD about what is means to do justice and what this asks of us both as individuals and as a congregation.

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25 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/94371739483?pwd=MWs5RVhCQ0g3T0NydWZhY0RISE5rZz09

Meeting ID: 943 7173 9483 Passcode: 032020

## YOUTH RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

Last week, I discovered a lovely little gift in my mailbox. Someone had left me a surprise that filled me with such a sense of belonging and rightness I wanted to share it with you. It was a Ganesha finger puppet. This seemingly small token meant so much to me, because it was a sign that whoever my mystery gift giver is really saw me.

I have a special and important place in my heart for Ganesha, the God of Overcoming Obstacles and the God of New Beginnings. Living with chronic illness has meant every day is full of obstacles, and every day is an opportunity for a new beginning, a mindset I try hard to embrace and embody.

And, of course, finger puppets are the epitome of playfulness and silliness, but they also present opportunities for difficult discussions by distancing oneself and using the toy as an avatar. Finger puppets are a mainstay in my home, including Spock, Frida Khala, and Buddha, amongst others. Ganesha has been welcomed into the fold with loving arms.

So thank you, mystery friend, for seeing me. Seeing my need for the renewal, Ganesha offers during trying times and the joy the simple act of play can bring to us all. -- Kara Tyler, DRE

## JOB OPENING-NURSERY CARE PROVIDER

This position aims to provide childcare for children attending Sunday Services with their parents. Childcare is provided for children ages two months to five years in the nursery. On some occasions, children up to age eight will be cared for. Additional hours will occasionally be available as requested.

Contact Kara Tyler if interested at TUUCDRE@TowsonUUC.org.





#### **NEWS ABOUT US**

We regret to inform you of the death of long time TUUC member Margaret Ingram, peacefully and in her sleep, on February 17th at the age of 92. Margaret and her husband Thomas had been long time members of First UU of Baltimore. When she joined TUUC, Margaret sang in the Choir; participated in worship; organized music for our summer services, was involved with Adult Religious Education; and supported our Welcoming Congregation team. Margaret was a force of nature! When she and her husband moved to Oak Crest, Margaret worked with Frank Chen and Allan Thorn on establishing a Unitarian Universalist presence at Oak Crest. Margaret lived an active and impactful life. She outlived her husband and many of her closest friends. Margaret is survived by her daughter Susan Ingram and her son, Bruce Ingram. She is fondly remembered by TUUC. A family service will be scheduled at a later date. ---Rev. Clare

Marilyn and Allan Thorn deeply appreciate the cards and calls they received as Marilyn was healing from injuries sustained in a car accident. Thank you for your kindness and support encouraging Marilyn during her recovery. It meant (and continues to mean) a great deal to her and Allan. They are doing well and are so happy to finally be home together!

## **GREEN SANCTUARY TIP OF THE WEEK**

Surprisingly, raising animals for meat, (especially beef and lamb), contributes strongly to climate change through the process of raising their food, the methane their bodies produce, and all that is involved in getting them to market. Cutting down on meat consumption has shown that less meat promotes a healthier diet for humans as well as for the planet. Reducing meat consumption gradually can be a palatable and sustainable way to help the planet. And it may open pathways to discovering new and delicious veggie options!

## UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST LEGISLATIVE MINISTRY OF MARYLAND

Please help the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland (UU-LM-MD) get important legislative bills passed. Go to their website: <u>www.uulmmd.org</u> and join an advocacy team, get their latest updates, and, of course, donate funds.

## SINGLES FELLOWSHIP GROUP POTLUCK—SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24 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 ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25**

Our next Community Choir Sunday is on Feb. 25th. Participants will need to arrive at 9:00 AM to learn the music for that morning's service. Everyone is invited! If you plan to participate, please RSVP to Tracy Hall at <u>music@towsonuuc.org</u>. Children and teens can sing at the beginning of the service, and still leave for YRE at the appropriate time. Hope to see you then!

## SOUL MATTERS RESUMING IN FEBRUARY

Our Soul Matters Sharing Circles will next meet on Zoom on February 27 to explore the monthly theme. Prior to gathering, you will receive a packet of possible spiritual practices; questions on the theme; and readings. Participants are invited to choose one spiritual practice to engage and one question to reflect upon. In a circle of six to ten people, we share our experience with the practice and our thoughts on the question. We learn more about ourselves and connect with others on a deeper level.

This year's themes are based on the values articulated in the proposed Article II revision which delegates to the UUA General Assembly will vote upon next June. This year's overarching frame is *The Gifts of Our Faith*. We focus on UU values and explore their potential to shape us and in turn shape the world.

How do these values offer us both challenge and comfort? What might it mean to place them at the center of our living and loving? What promise do they hold for us individually as well as collectively? Here is the list of our 2024 themes:

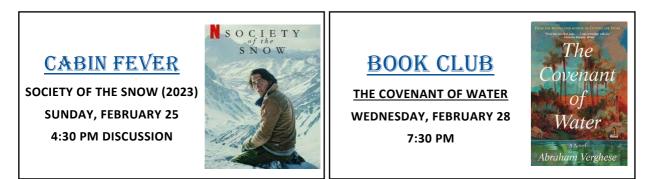
The Gift of... February: Justice & Equity March: Transformation April: Interdependence May: Pluralism June: Renewal

We are scheduled to meet on Feb. 27, March 26, April 23, May 28, and June 11th. If you would like to participate, please e-mail Rev. Clare at <u>revclare@towsonuuc.org</u> so she may send you the February packet.

## NEXT TUUC BLOOD DRIVE—FRIDAY, MARCH 8 FROM 11 AM TO 5 PM

Working with the American Red Cross, we've scheduled Friday, March 8th, 2024 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 March 8th, if you are healthy and have no concerns about donating.

To sign up for an appointment time between 11am-5pm please use <u>this link</u> or email Clare Flynn-Avallone with your preferred times. Give the Gift of Life - Give Blood!



## **SOCIAL ACTION**

#### INCLUSIONARY HOUSING SUCCESS IN BALTIMORE CITY

BRIDGE worked with the Inclusionary Housing Task Force for two years to support the two bills that make up the Inclusionary Housing package in Baltimore City. Mayor Scott signed the bills on January 22. The first outlines the requirements for large developments above 20 units to make 10% of their units affordable to 50% and 60% of Area Median Income residents. The second is a tax credit that helps to pay for the lost rent for those units. 60% of Area Median Income (ALMI) is



\$53,600 for a family of two, and \$67,000 for a family of four; and 50% of AMI is \$48,700 for a family of two, and \$60,850 for a family of four.

## UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST LEGISLATIVE MINISTRY-WEEKLY UPDATE

During the legislative session, the TUUC Social Action Committee will provide updates on the status of our legislative priorities and tips for how you can get involved.

For more information, please visit this page. (Updated 2/18)

## ACTC NEEDS NONPERISHABLE FOODS

ACTC needs nonperishable foods, especially hearty soups.

## 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.)



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 <u>TUUC WEBSITE</u>

## **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.

24 Feb	Saturday	Singles Fellowship Group	6:00 PM
25 Feb	Sunday	Coming of Age	10:00 AM
25 Feb	Sunday	Sunday Service	10:30 AM
25 Feb	Sunday	YRE—Making Faith 10	
25 Feb	Sunday	Cabin Fever—Society of the Snow	4:30 PM
27 Feb	Tuesday	Soul Matters Sharing Circle	7:30 PM
28 Feb	Wednesday	Book Group	7:30 PM
29 Feb	Thursday	TUUC Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
1 Mar	Friday	Writing as a Spiritual Practice	1:00 PM
3 Mar	Sunday	Coming of Age	10:00 AN
3 Mar	Sunday	Sunday Service	10:30 AN
3 Mar	Sunday	YRE—Making Faith	10:45 AN
3 Mar	Sunday	Drum Circle	3:00 PM
3 Mar	Sunday	Cabin Fever—Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore	4:30 PM
4 Mar	Monday	Mindful Way Meditation	7:00 PM
5 Mar	Tuesday	Women's Group Meeting	7:30 PM
7 Mar	Thursday	TUUC Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
8 Mar	Friday	Blood Drive	11:00 AN

# Don't Work Sick Don't <mark>School</mark> Sick Don't Church Sick

## SUNDAY SERVICE

## ATTENDANCE REPORT

(Does not reflect actual number of people watching)

Date	Time	In-Person / Online
02/18/2023	10:30 AM	Unknown / 30