



MARCH 31, 2024 AT 10:30 AM - CRACK OUT OF YOUR SHELL - INTERGENERATIONAL EASTER SERVICE - REV. CLARE L. PETERSBERGER, KARA TYLER, DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION, TRACY HALL AND THE TUUC CHOIR

The Reverend Sarah Schurr tells the story of her three-year-old grandson. His preschool class had been talking about chickens hatching out of eggs. When, with his grandmother, he watched a video of a chicken pecking its way out of its shell, he realized this was not easy. He asked his grandmother, "And if the little chicken doesn't like it outside, he can just go back inside his egg?" His grandmother told him the truth: "No. The little chick is too big for the shell and has to come out." This is the gift of transformation---which we learn in preschool talking about chicks hatching out of their eggs; and in our lives when a former way of understanding ourselves no longer fits and we can never return to the way our lives were before; and in church on Easter talking about the stone that was rolled away from the tomb. Today we celebrate life's invitation to crack out of our shells.

EASTER HOSPITALITY

Following worship, there will be an Easter Egg hunt outdoors (weather permitting). Please bring something delicious to share for hospitality in the foyer.

SUNDAY, MARCH 31 ONLINE SERVICE INFORMATION

Topic: Sunday Service

Time: Mar 31, 2024 10:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98777037290?pwd=T2R3QmozL2hpRnorOGRQMGRPSk5xUT09>

Meeting ID: 987 7703 7290

Passcode: 085094

YOUTH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Who doesn't love the whimsy of the Easter Bunny and the images of frolicking through fields as you hunt for eggs filled with surprises. This Sunday, come hear the story of Piggy Bunny a sweet story of becoming your authentic self and enjoy the fun of an Easter Egg hunt in the side yard near the Memorial Garden.

And if you are able, please consider a donation to YRE for the Earth Day activities we have planned. We are looking for donations of succulent specific potting soil and decorations for a terrarium project.



TOGETHER, WE SHAPE THE FUTURE: YOUR PLEDGE, YOUR IMPACT

As spring unfolds, bringing a wave of renewal and vibrant energy, we at TUUC find ourselves inspired by the promise of what lies ahead. This time of awakening and fresh starts mirrors our journey together — firmly grounded in our shared values while ambitiously reaching for what's possible. Our annual pledge is more than a tradition; it's a vital step in cultivating a future that embodies our collective hopes and dreams.

The Heart of TUUC: Rooted and Reaching

At the core of our church lies a dynamic balance, a beautiful duality of being both rooted and reaching. Like a tree with deep, sturdy roots and branches stretching upwards, we are grounded in our values while aspiring to reach new heights. Our church thrives on the collective financial investment we make, transforming it into a vibrant sanctuary of connection, growth, and enlightenment.

A Call to Action: Your Pledge Matters

This year, as we kick off our Pledging for 2024, we invite each of you to reflect on the role TUUC plays in your life and consider how your financial commitment can support our journey forward. **With every pledge, we reaffirm our dedication to a community that is both nurturing and visionary, one that embraces each member with open arms and seeks to make a broader impact on the world around us.**

Investing in Our Aspirations

Your contributions help turn aspirations into reality. Whether it's through enhancing our building, welcome newcomers to our services and programming, or building sacred community together, each pledge is a testament to our shared values and goals. We're excited to delve deeper into the priorities that you, our cherished congregation, have voiced. These priorities not only reflect our collective vision, but also guide our steps towards a future where our church continues to be a beacon of spirituality and learning, justice and hope.

The Power of Immediate Action

In the spirit of Margaret Wheatley's inspiring words, ***"There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about,"*** **we urge you to take immediate action.** By pledging now, you ensure that TUUC remains a cornerstone of spiritual growth, social justice, and unconditional support.

Adjusting Together: Rising Costs and Our Shared Responsibility

In a world where everything from health insurance for our staff to the day-to-day expenses of our church is on the rise, we find ourselves at a crucial juncture. The reality is clear and unavoidable: costs are increasing, and as responsible stewards of our church, we need to adapt our pledges accordingly.

This isn't just about numbers on a page; it's about ensuring the sustainability of the community and values we hold dear. We've heard from many within our congregation that the rising cost of living hadn't been considered in their pledges. This oversight means our collective contributions haven't kept pace with the actual costs of maintaining our church's

operations and mission.

We're reaching out to ask each of you to reflect on this reality and adjust your pledge, if possible. Even a modest increase from each of us can make a significant difference. We recognize that not everyone has the capacity to give more, and we want to affirm that every gift, no matter its size, is valuable and appreciated. It's the collective effort that counts.

There Is No 'Someone Else'

In our TUUC community, every member matters, every pledge counts. **There's no mysterious 'someone else' to shoulder the responsibility; it's on us, together. Your pledge is a declaration of commitment, a symbol of what we can achieve when we all contribute.**

Join Us in Shaping the Future

We invite you to visit our website to explore in greater detail the investment priorities that emerged from our heartfelt conversations. It's an opportunity to understand the depth of our aspirations and the impact your pledge can make.

[Click here to delve into our 2024 Investment Priorities and Make Your Pledge.](#)

In closing, we extend a heartfelt thank you. Your unwavering support and dedication to TUUC not only sustain us, but propel us towards a future filled with promise and possibility. Let's continue to build this future together, rooted in our legacy and reaching for the future we have envisioned together.

With gratitude and hope.

TUUC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

GREEN SANCTUARY TIP OF THE WEEK

Take reusable bags with you every time you shop. Place sturdier reusable bags in a prominent area in the house or in the car so you remember to take them into the store. There are also lightweight fabric ones which easily can be carried in a pocket or purse so that they will not be forgotten. Since reusable bags have a greater carbon footprint from their production than that for plastic bags, get all the life you can out of each reusable bag before replacing it.



ALL SOULS AUTHOR EVENT: THE HIDDEN ROOTS OF WHITE SUPREMACY AND THE PATH TO A SHARED AMERICAN FUTURE - WEDNESDAY APRIL 3, 7:00 PM, AT ALL SOULS AND ONLINE.

All Souls is pleased to welcome New York Times bestselling author, leading scholar and commentator on religion and politics, Robert P. Jones, talking about the 2024 Election and his new book. Taking the story of white supremacy in America back to 1493, and examining contemporary communities in Mississippi, Minnesota, and Oklahoma for models of racial repair, *The Hidden Roots of White Supremacy* helps chart a new course toward a genuinely pluralistic democracy. It also explains how the founders could build the philosophical framework for a democratic society on a foundation of mass racial violence--and why this

paradox survives today in the form of white Christian nationalism. Tickets Sliding Scale \$0-100 with In-Person and Online Options. Book Sales, Signing, and Light Reception to Follow. [Register Here](#)

COMMUNITY CHOIR ON APRIL 7TH AT TUUC

On April 7th, in our first April service with the theme of Interdependence, we're having some very special guests for part of the service. During the remaining part, Community Choir will sing! On a Community Choir Sunday, anyone may participate. You'll need to arrive at 9 AM to learn the music. Then we'll have a significant break before the service starts at 10:30. All ages and skill levels are invited. If you plan to participate, please help with planning by RSVPing to Tracy at music@towsonuuc.org. But if you forget and you get inspired to come that morning, please come anyway!

TUUC DRUM CIRCLE ON APRIL 7TH

The TUUC Drum Circle will meet on the afternoon of Sunday, April 7th at 3 PM. All ages and experience levels are invited. Please bring a djembe or other hand drum if you have one. We'll have a few drums and other percussion available for those who need one. We will mostly be free-form jamming, but we always include a little meditational drumming as well. It would be helpful if you could RSVP to Tracy at music@towsonuuc.org, but you may still attend regardless. Join the rhythm!

COMBINED CHOIR FESTIVAL AND CONCERT ON SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH

TUUC will be participating in a group event at All Souls Unitarian in DC on Saturday, April 27th. You may remember the Podd Brothers, particularly Adam Podd, from the Brooklyn UU Church, who produced a number of the videos we saw in our Zoom services during the pandemic. The Podd Brothers plus singer Kiena Williams will be in the DMV to facilitate this event for MUUSICA, the organization of UU musicians in this area. A concert will happen that day at 4 PM, which will include the three musicians plus several of Adam's arrangements presented by combined UU choirs/singers. "The Times, They Are a-Changin'" is the name of the concert, the event, and one of the arrangements we'll be singing. You may participate whether you sing in the TUUC Choir or not. And everyone is invited to the concert! For more information, contact Tracy Hall at music@towsonuuc.org.

DEEPEN YOUR CONNECTION TO TUUC AND UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM

The TUUC Nominating Committee is actively seeking members who want to deepen their connection with TUUC by serving on the Board of Trustees, the A-Team, or on a Board committee.

Serving is a way to give back, share your talents, develop new skills, and grow spiritually. Please take a moment to review the slides from the [session held on March 17](#). Our Board President, Andrew Hager, recently said, "Getting into leadership at the church has brought me closer to so many people".

Please speak with any member of the Nominating Committee: Sue Royer, Chair; Nancy Caswell Magrogan, Lou Gieszl, and Art Starr.

SOCIAL ACTION

2024 VOTING CAMPAIGN ORGANIZER WORKING WITH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS IN DC, MD, & VA (HALF-TIME CONSULTANT, APRIL 15 - NOVEMBER 30, 2024)

The Voting Campaign Organizer will help mobilize Unitarian Universalists in DC, Maryland, and Virginia to conduct non-partisan voter registration, engagement, and turnout actions, particularly in communities negatively affected by voter suppression. The sponsoring organizations are All Souls Church Unitarian in Washington, DC, UUs for Social Justice, and the national UU the Vote campaign. These organizations partnered in 2022 as well, and seek to build on that success. The work will focus on (1) supporting and coaching volunteers, and (2) helping to arrange/plan events, including phone banking, text banking, postcarding, and likely in-person canvassing trips. The contract term is April 15 (Negotiable) to November 30, 2024, though the organizer must start in time to attend (and ideally support) our Voter Mobilization Organizing School on Sat April 27. Estimated 20 hours per week on average, with the weekly schedule and hours based on activity and proximity to the election. The organizer must be available for some in-person meetings/events in DC, Maryland, and Virginia. Total compensation of \$37,000-43,000 based on experience. The priority deadline for applications is Noon on Friday, March 29. [Check out the full posting here.](#)

VOTER MOBILIZATION ORGANIZING SCHOOL - SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 10:00 AM TO 3:00 PM AT ALL SOULS CHURCH

Whether your congregation has a long history of voter mobilization or you're just starting to think about it, we hope you'll join with other UUs from DC, MD, and VA for our first-ever organizing school! We are all more effective when we gather together in our power. We strongly encourage congregations to send teams of at least 3 people to help build momentum. Also, we are excited to welcome youth and offer programming to several other age groups in conjunction with the organizing school!

For more information: [Organizing School Public Page - Google Docs](#)

Registration is on a sliding scale from \$0 to \$50, with \$25 being the standard fee. This allows us to provide a light breakfast, full lunch, and snacks. [Click here to register for Organizing School.](#)

ACTC

The Assistance Center of the Towson Churches (ACTC) is in serious need of more donations. They have seen a 25% increase in the individuals and families in need of food and termination of their grants from the Maryland Food Bank. They need \$35,000 just to be able to meet their needs in April. ACTC may have to give out food less frequently if they don't get more funds. You can donate to ACTC in several ways.

You can donate non-perishable foods or donate funds. (They have a Spring Matching Gifts Challenge right now.)

To donate directly: <https://www.actcserves.org/donate-to-actc/> You can also donate to TUUC and write ACTC in the memo line.

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 3/26/24)

EARL'S PLACE COLLECTION FROM MARCH 3, 2024

After a moving presentation about the work being done at Earl's Place, we collected **\$1264** for this community partner. Thanks to everyone who donated.

EARL'S PLACE DONATIONS NEEDED

Please see the wish list below for items requested by Earl's Place.

WISH LIST		
	Bath Towels and Wash Cloths	Aluminum Foil
	Bar Soap	Plastic Wrap
	Deodorant	All Purpose Cleaners
	Razors	Dish Liquid/Dishwasher Powder
	Shampoo	Toilet Paper
	Toothpaste/Toothbrushes	Paper Towels
	Lotions	Nonperishable food items
Twin or Double Bed Sheets	Laundry Detergent	Sugar
Twin or Double Bed Blankets	13 Gallon Trash Bags	Coffee
Twin or Double Bed Comforter/ Bedspreads	Light Bulbs (60 watt)	Gift cards to Home Depot, Staples or local grocery stores
Bed Pillows		

CABIN FEVER

NO FILM

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

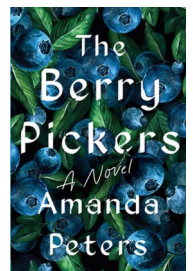
BOOK CLUB

APRIL 2024

The Berry Pickers by Amanda Peters

Wednesday, April 24, 2024

7:30 PM:



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 2023-2024 Stewardship Campaign

Add Gift to Another Fund

Give this One Time

Give by Credit/Debit Card

Continue

23-24 Stewardship Campaign July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024

Give to Towson Unitarian Universalist Church

\$ 0.00

Give to 2023-2024 Stewardship Campaign

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

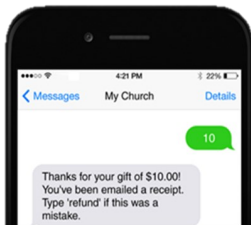
WHAT'S HAPPENING AT TUUC

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

29 Mar	Friday	Writing as a Spiritual Practice	1:00 PM
31 Mar	Sunday	Sunday Service	10:30 AM
31 Mar	Sunday	YRE - Making Faith	10:45 AM
1 Apr	Monday	Mindful Way Meditation	7:00 PM
2 Apr	Tuesday	Women's Group Meeting	7:30 PM
3 Apr	Wednesday	Program Council Meeting	7:30 PM
4 Apr	Thursday	Men's Brunch	11:30 AM
4 Apr	Thursday	TUUC Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
7 Apr	Sunday	Coming of Age	10:00 AM
7 Apr	Sunday	Sunday Service	10:30 AM
7 Apr	Sunday	YRE - Making Faith	10:45 AM
7 Apr	Sunday	Drum Circle	3:00 PM
7 Apr	Sunday	Cabin Fever - MARCEL THE SHELL WITH SHOES ON	4:30 PM
9 Apr	Tuesday	Aging Together	1:00 PM
9 Apr	Tuesday	Makers' Meetup	7:00 PM
10 Apr	Wednesday	Lay Pastoral Meeting	7:30 PM
11 Apr	Thursday	TUUC Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
12 Apr	Friday	Writing As a Spiritual Practice	1:00 PM

PASSING THE PLATE

DONATE TO TUUC VIA PAYPAL, TEXT, OR BREEZE
 MORE INFORMATION ON
 THE [TUUC WEBSITE](#)



DONATE BY TEXT

Send an amount to
(410)834-0700

SUNDAY SERVICE

ATTENDANCE REPORT

(Does not reflect actual number of people watching)

Date	Time	In-Person / Online
03/22/2023	10:30 AM	64 adults- 10 children /23 online