The Threshold

April 26, 2024

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

Volume 4 Number 4

SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024 AT 10:30 AM—*NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION SUNDAY: THE PRACTICE OF INTERBEING*— REV. CLARE L. PETERSBERGER, KARA TYLER, DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, TRACEY MYERS PRESTON, MEMBERSHIP CONNECTION AND GROWTH, TUUC YOUTH GROUP MEMBERS, TONY BONTA AND FRIENDS

One of our cherished Unitarian Universalist principles is to affirm the interconnected web of all existence. But what does it mean to not just affirm our interconnectedness, but to practice it? The late Buddhist teacher Thich Nhat Hanh offers practices for what he termed, "Interbeing." The proposed revisions to Article II for the Unitarian Universalist Association's Bylaws offer other practices. On this New Member Recognition Sunday, with the help of some of our youth, and the music of Tony Bonta and friends we will celebrate how we practice our interconnectedness, our interbeing.

SUNDAY, APRIL 28 ONLINE SERVICE INFORMATION

Topic: Sunday Service **Time:** April 28, 2024 10:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/99640788611?pwd=Q2pnNnNtSEd3b29uUXRVRVVKOE5Ldz09

Meeting ID: 996 4078 8611 Passcode: 924320

YOUTH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

On May 5th, students will participate in the community art project Birds of Gaza. Through the power of collective art, we're highlighting the atrocities that have led to over 30,000 people being killed.

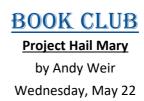
Students will be making birds in commemoration of the children who have died during this conflict on both sides. Prompts and instructions will be available, as will materials for creating birds of their own design. The birds will hang in the YRE cove in the lobby in Memorium. More information is available at <u>https://www.birdsofgaza.com/</u>

If you need support speaking to your children about this topic, here are some suggestions.

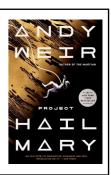


<u>Okja</u> Sunday, April 28 4:30 PM





7:30 PM



TUUC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

CONGRATULATIONS TO REV. KARYN MARSH!

Congratulations to The Reverend Karyn Bergmann Marsh, who has been chosen as the Developmental Minister of First Unitarian Church of Baltimore! Rev. Karyn will begin this position on July 1, 2024. She will be the first solo female Minister in the 207-year history of the congregation from which Towson UU Church was born. Congratulations to First Unitarian Church of Baltimore for making such an excellent choice! Blessings on their ministry together!

--- Rev. Clare

GREEN SANCTUARY TIP OF THE WEEK

Trees are one of our most important natural ways to mitigate climate change. They reduce the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and use it to make their own food. In the process of making this food, they give off water and oxygen. The shade their leaves provide and the water evaporating from their leaves cool the area around them. On this Arbor Day, try to plant a tree in your yard or help others plant them in a public area. Native trees grow best in this area and provide food and shelter for local wildlife. Planting a tree helps the environment and provides



pleasure for everyone who enjoys its shade, flowers, and beauty for years to come. What a good investment of time and energy!

CARE WORK: DREAMING DISABILITY JUSTICE-BOOK STUDY PRESENTATION APRIL 30

Join us on Tuesday, April 30th at 1:00 PM for a two-part Book Study Presentation on Care Work: Dreaming Disability Justice by Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha, presented by SarahRuth Wekoye Davis and EqUUal Access. This offering is for Unitarian Universalist religious professionals and lay leaders, as we examine disability intersectionality within our places of worship. Registration: <u>https://tinyurl.com/</u> <u>CareWorkPresentation</u>



Panelists include Rev. Julián Jamaica Soto, Aryanna Graff-Jones, Lay Minister Justine Nyakwara Magara, Rose and Sean Irvin, Mx. Anunnaki Ray Marquez, and Rev. Naomi King. Panelists will present on topics from the book, personal and professional experience with disability intersectionality, and will offer recommendations for congregations and religious professionals. The workshop will include question and answer sessions and small group discussion. Participants are encouraged to read the book and bring their thoughts and questions! Guided reading and discussion questions will be sent out to registered participants prior to each 90-minute session. We hope to see you there as we work together in love, toward a more just world.

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: Sunday, May 5, May 19, and June 2 Time: 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM Location: 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 <u>membership@towsonuuc.org</u> by <u>April 30.</u> We look forward to embarking on "Our Journeys" with you and extending a warm welcome to the TUUC community.**

SINGLES FELLOWSHIP GROUP POTLUCK—SATURDAY, APRIL 27 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.

GREEN SANCTUARY-WORK PARTY AT AMAZING GRACE ON SAT, APRIL 27, 10:30-12:30

Join members of the Green Sanctuary Committee as we work with our neighborhood partner Amazing Grace Lutheran Church on projects to enhance the garden, labyrinth and community space that are so important in this East Baltimore neighborhood. Please contact Carel Hedlund (info in Breeze) if you would like to attend. We can arrange carpooling from TUUC.

TOWN HALL MEETING SUNDAY, APRIL 28 AT NOON: ACCESSIBILITY PROJECT

As part of our commitment to being a welcoming and inclusive congregation, TUUC is working with the architectural firm DKMB to help us make our grounds more accessible for everyone. They have now provided initial designs, and we need your feedback.

Come and learn about the project! We will provide information, share the architectural drawings, and answer questions.

This meeting will be hybrid—join us in the meeting room or via Zoom: <u>https://zoom.us/</u> j/97929465134?pwd=RkVSS0tGOXdkb1lFZCt0eXVWTFJsQT09 Meeting ID: 979 2946 5134 Passcode: 489178

Can't make this one? There will be another on May 19!

AUTHENTIC SELVES—THE TRANS COMMUNITY AND THE 8TH PRINCIPLE—MAY 8 AT 7 PM

This meeting will be held on May 8, 2024 from 7:00 to 9:30 PM Eastern Time. Register in advance for this meeting at <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZElc-uhrDIrGtATOC36kZrixFXdztfRkWC0</u>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

ONLINE CONTRIBUTIONS When making your contributions online,	Give to Towson Unitarian Universalist Church	23-24 Stewardship Campaign July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024
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	Give to 2023-2024 Stewardship Campaign Add Gift to Another Fund Give this One Time Give by Credit/Debit Card Continue	Cive to Treveson Unitation Universalist Church \$ 0.000 Give to 2023-2024 Stewardship Campaign Cive to General Fund Cive to General Fund Cive to General Fund Cive to General Cive Cive to Cive Cive Cive to Cive Cive Cive to Cive Cive to Cive Cive to Cive Cive to Cive Cive Cive to Cive Cive Cive to Cive Cive Cive to Cive Cive Cive to Cive Cive Cive to Cive

SOCIAL ACTION

UULM-MD 2024 LEGISLATIVE WRAP UP

UULM-MD had another successful year advocating for UU values in Annapolis, with victories on gun control, climate change, and access to the Maryland Health Exchange for undocumented Marylanders. Out of sixteen legislative proposals, nine passed and are on their way to the Governor for his signature. The <u>attached table</u> summarizes all UULM-MD's accomplishments this year. Do you have questions about UULM-MD, or would you like to get involved? Contact Thomas Higdon (contact information in Breeze).

OUR DAILY BREAD

April is our month to make and freeze casseroles for Our Daily Bread. The details, recipes and baking tins are all out in the lobby. Don't feel like cooking? You can also donate funds to purchase casseroles. \$17 pays for one Party Sized casserole. Please help feed the needy.

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. <u>Click here to register for Organizing</u> <u>School</u>.

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

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT TUUC

Calendar is subject to change. Check the website calendar here for most current schedule.

26 Apr	Friday	Writing As a Spiritual Practice	1:00 PM
27 Apr	Saturday	Singles Fellowship Group Potluck	6:00 PM
27 Apr	Saturday	Board Games with the Board	6:30 PM
28 Apr	Sunday	Coming of Age	10:00 AM
28 Apr	Sunday	Sunday Service	10:30 AM
28 Apr	Sunday	YRE—Making Faith	10:45 AM
28 Apr	Sunday	Townhall Meeting: Accessibility Project	12:00 PM
28 Apr	Sunday	Cabin Fever—OKJA	4:30 PM
30 Apr	Tuesday	Care Work: Dreaming Disability Justice—Book Study	1:00 PM
2 May	Thursday	Men's Brunch	11:30 AM
2 May	Thursday	TUUC Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
5 May	Sunday	Coming of Age	10:00 AM
5 May	Sunday	Sunday Service	10:30 AM
5 May	Sunday	YRE—Making Faith	10:45 AM
5 May	Sunday	Our Journeys	12:00 PM
5 May	Sunday	Cabin Fever—Charade	4:30 PM
6 May	Monday	Mindful Way Meditation 7:00 F	
7 May	Tuesday	Women's Group Meeting	7:30 PM

PASSING THE PLATE

DONATE TO TUUC VIA PAYPAL, TEXT, OR BREEZE MORE INFORMATION ON THE <u>TUUC WEBSITE</u>



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
04/21/2023	10:30 AM	79 / 19