

## TUUC WEEKLY NEWS

**[SUNDAY, MARCH 7, 2010]**

**SUNDAY SERVICE – MARCH 7, 2010 @ 9:30 & 11:15 AM**

### ***Temperance***

**Rev. Clare Petersberger, Vincent DeMarco, Jay Hilgartner, Tony Bonta**

What instigated, and who lead, The Temperance Movement of the 19th century? What is the public health care rationale behind the proposal to increase the tax (which hasn't been raised since 1972) on alcohol in Maryland? And what spiritual meanings might the word "temperance" hold for Unitarian Universalists today?

### **CELEBRATING CLARE'S TENTH**

This Sunday we will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of Clare's installation as our minister. Please join us. There will be a short recognition during each service and a small party during the coffee hours.

### **SERVICE OF INSTALLATION**

The members of the First Unitarian Church of Baltimore cordially invite you to the Service of Installation of Reverend David Carl Olson, their 23<sup>rd</sup> settled minister, today at 4 PM in the sanctuary. First Church is located at the corner of Charles and Franklin Streets in Baltimore. A reception will follow at 6 PM.

### **[YOUTH RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION]**

Thank you to the teachers and students who shared what they have been learning about Habitat for Humanity last Sunday. We also appreciate all those who supported our fundraiser by donating for the painted bricks or signing a 2 X 4 last week. Our fundraiser table will be set up this Sunday also between the services, including a container for the tool collection for Chesapeake chapter of Habitat for Humanity.

#### ***Items to donate include:***

Painting supplies (brushes, tape, gloves)

Small tools (screwdrivers, hammers, used if in good condition)

Sharpie markers

Home Depot gift cards

Legos (to use at their office!)

**PreK/K class at 9:30 AM** will hear the story of *The Castle on Viola Street* about a hardworking family who gets their own house at last after joining a community program that restores old houses, and then will do other activities.

**1st through 3rd at 9:30 AM; Kindergarten through 3rd grade at 11:15 AM** This Sunday they will be completing the key holders for homeowner gifts and other activities to finish the Habitat Helpers Club. This class will be making lasagna for the EastSide Shelter on March 14. **Please bring jars of tomato sauce and \$5/family this Sunday.**

**4th through 6th grade** will be finishing the benches for homeowner gifts that will complete their hands-on service activity for Habitat Helpers Club. This class will be making lasagna for the EastSide Shelter on March 14. **Please bring jars of tomato sauce and \$5/family this Sunday.**

**Coming of Age (7th/8th grade)** class will have regular classes this week.

**Our Whole Lives (9th grade)** will meet.

**Youth Group** will meet at 11 am.

## **Coming up on March 14: Book Nook Children's Book Sale**

On the first open date of each month, in addition to Nook's usual fare of adult literature, we will include one table of children's books, CDs, and DVDs. Donate only what you would buy; no more than 12 books at a time in a box or a bag. Donations can be left at the Nook any time TUUC is open. All proceeds go to TUUC.

## **Can You Be a Keeper of the Flame?**

Rev. Clare invites all families and individuals to consider helping with the chalice lighting during a service, also known as being a Keeper of the Flame. Because YRE classes are starting out upstairs at every service, families can participate also. Aynsley Hamel will be coordinating the Keepers of the Flame. Please check your calendar and email Aynsley (see directory for email) with dates and services that you can help with OR see the sign-up sheet that will be posted near the kitchen. If you sign up, you will be emailed the words for the chalice lighting by the Friday before that Sunday.

Please visit <http://blogs.uuworld.org/parenting/> for a **lively discussion of Unitarian Universalist parenting**. From now through April, *uuworld.org* will be hosting a weekly conversation led by Michelle Richards (above) about raising Unitarian Universalist children. Michelle, a religious educator and mother of two, is the author of a brand new book, [\*Tending the Flame: The Art of Raising Unitarian Universalist Children\*](#), from the UUA's Skinner House Books. Each week, she'll initiate a conversation about some of the unique challenges and joys of raising UU children. We hope you'll join in, and bring your friends.

## **[NOTICES]**

### **ANNIVERSARY FLEA MARKET**

Applications for vendors at the TUUC Green Flea on May 1, 2010 (Rain date May 8, 2010) are now being accepted. There may be snow on the ground, but it's not too early to start thinking spring cleaning! Why throw something out when you can "recycle" it by selling it at TUUC's Anniversary Flea Market? Spaces are only \$12 each. Act now! We'll be opening up spaces to the general public later in March. For more information, contact Derek Perner, Aynsley Hamel, or Karyn Marsh, or email [tuucgreenflea@gmail.com](mailto:tuucgreenflea@gmail.com). If you want to help out with the TUUC table on May 1 or just help out in general, please come to our meeting on March 24 at 7:30 pm.

### **BLOOD DRIVE**

We've started recruiting donors for the March 20 TUUC Blood Drive! We've placed a large sign up sheet on an easel in the lobby. We've also produced a booklet describing the donation process and providing additional information for potential donors. Please check your calendar, take a look at the booklet (attached to the easel), and sign up to donate blood on March 20! Contact Barry Marsh at [circus\\_cyaneus@comcast.net](mailto:circus_cyaneus@comcast.net) or 443-416-3192 if you'd like to help organize our blood drive or if you have any questions about donating. Give Life - Give Blood.

### **NAMASTE: YOGA PRACTICE GROUP**

The yoga practice group meets every Wednesday evening downstairs at TUUC from 6 PM - 7:15 PM. The group is free and open to anyone with an interest in yoga. Bring a mat (and props).

### **NEWCOMER ORIENTATION**

People who are new to TUUC are invited to attend a series of two Newcomer Orientation sessions:

- Sunday, March 21, 1PM Brunch and presentation by Rev. Clare Petersberger on Unitarian Universalism
- Sunday, March 28, 1PM Brunch and orientation to TUUC provided by a variety of church leaders.

Please RSVP to [membership@towsonuuc.org](mailto:membership@towsonuuc.org) if you are able to attend either or both sessions.

## **STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN**

The annual Stewardship Campaign is now in full swing. Our campaign theme, "The Next 50" celebrates our 50th anniversary while looking ahead to the next 50 years of our church history.

All TUUC members and friends of record have been mailed their pledge forms, along with the Gifts Based Ministry Survey. Please take the time to review and fill out BOTH of these forms. They are vital for the budgeting and planning for programs, not only for the 2010-2011 church fiscal year, which begins July 1, but for future years as well.

As a part of this year's Campaign, there are about 30 visiting stewards meeting with four families apiece. These 30 members of our church community have contacted their assigned members and friends to collect pledges for the 2010-2011 church fiscal year. Since we have only 30 visiting stewards, we will not be able to meet individually with every member and friend of our church community. If you would like to meet with one of our visiting stewards and have not received a phone call or e-mail offer to do so, please contact Jason Braspenickx or Mike Robinson via the information in the directory so that we can arrange for a visit. We are also planning to have cottage meetings for those members and friends whom we cannot meet with individually. These are group meetings that are held in the home of a member of TUUC to discuss our church and arrange for those attending to make a financial contribution for the next church year. We hope over the next two to three years to be able to meet with every member and friend of TUUC through the Stewardship Campaign. If you do not wish to meet with one of our stewards, simply fill out the pledge form and bring or mail it to the church.

## **[ADULT RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION]**

### **2012: THE ODYSSEY: ARMAGEDDON IS NOT WHAT IT USED TO BE**

Join us Sunday, March 14, 2010, for a light lunch and discussion from 12:30 -2:30 PM and view this film by Sharon Rose. It is a welcome alternative to the Hollywood version about the Mayan Calendar that ends December 21, 2012. This is an exciting and thought-provoking feature documentary that includes experts Jose Arguelles, Gregg Braden, Moira Timms, and more. Discover the secrets of the Mayan, the Incans, the Alchemists, the Christians, the Masons, and others of our ancient ancestors concerning the end of time and the promise of our destiny as human beings. This film brings together science, mysticism, and common sense. Facilitator: Rev. Karen O'Rourke. Sign up by leaving your name / RE:2012 in the ARE drop box by the church office so we have a head count for lunch

### **"WHY IN THE NAME OF GOD?"**

**March 17 and 24 from 7:30 P – 9 PM (Please note the start date is a week earlier!)**

**Facilitated by Rob Canosa and Rev. Clare**

Many Humanists wonder, "Where does the human need to believe in the transcendent come from? What purpose does it serve in individual and communal lives?" We shall discuss a March 4, 2007 article in the New York Times about the research Scott Atran has done in response to these questions and what he has discovered. Please register so that we can send you the reading in advance of our discussion.

## **[SOCIAL ACTION]**

### **ACTC**

The staff and volunteers at the Assistance Center of Towson Churches (ACTC) want to thank the TUUC congregation for their generous donations of non-perishable food. ACTC clients are especially grateful for your generosity. This type of assistance is always needed. Keep up the good work. Thank you, Vera D. Williamson

## **[WORSHIP ASSOCIATES]**

On Sunday, March 21, 2010, TUUC's Lay Worship Associates Committee is pleased to welcome Lawrence Prograis, Jr., M.D., of the Center for Clinical Bioethics at Georgetown University and the National Institutes of Health to our pulpit. Dr. Prograis is a widely published immunologist and renowned expert in bioethics. Most recently, Dr. Prograis authored *Afro-American Bioethics: Culture, Race and Identity* with Dr. Edward Pellegrino through the Georgetown University Press. Dr. Prograis will discuss current issues in bioethics with special insight into the inequities inherent in the medical system as it stands today. Facilitated by TUUC Worship Associate Tara McIntyre, this service will offer challenging food for thought for everyone concerned with quality of care for their own families and for the community at large. Please make plans to join us.

## **50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

### **TUUC PHOTO DIRECTORY**

In celebration of our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, TUUC has asked Olan Mills to help us prepare a photo directory. It is our hope that everyone who is currently a member or friend of the church will be included in this directory. Participation is FREE, and those who participate receive a FREE directory and a FREE 8x10 photo. Is there a catch? You do have to sit through a sales pitch after the photo shoot, but TUUC has no interest in whether you purchase photos or not. Photos will be taken March 11-13 and April 13-14 at the church. You can still schedule your photo shoot online. To schedule online, go to: [www.signup.olanmills.com](http://www.signup.olanmills.com). Click on "Schedule New Appointment" and fill in the requested information. Then you will see a calendar. Find the date you want (in red) and click on it to get to the schedule. Please help us make this directory complete - schedule your photo shoot today!

**[CALENDAR]** For info on all the happenings at TUUC go to: <http://my.calendars.net/towsonuuc>

### **PFLAG FILM AND DISCUSSION – SATURDAY, MARCH 6, from 11 AM – 2 PM**

PFLAG Baltimore County in Cooperation with Towson Unitarian Universalist Church will present a showing of the film *In Good Conscience*, a documentary about the journey of Sr. Jeannine Gramick in ministering to the LGBT Community with New Wave Ministry. Sr. Jeannine will be present to discuss the film and her work.

### **SINGLES POTLUCK – SATURDAY, MARCH 13 @ 6 PM**

A TUUC Singles Potluck will be held on the above date. After a long hibernation, we'll all be hungry. So bring your best dish and come join us for food and fun at the home of Jim Turner. For more information and to RSVP, contact [office@townsonuuc.org](mailto:office@townsonuuc.org).

### **SUNDAY SERVICE – MARCH 14, 2010 @ 9:30 & 11:15 AM**

#### ***The Next 50***

**Rev. Clare Petersberger, Lelane Schmitt, Wendy Werkheiser**

**Music: TUUC Choir and Joseph Gascho, piano - both services**

We are in the midst of celebrating our 50th anniversary. We have remembered and honored the vision and ministry of our founders and the beloved liberal religious community they birthed. What will the congregation remember about us at TUUC's centennial? What is our vision and ministry as individuals and as a congregation?

### **AGING TOGETHER – TUESDAY, MARCH 16 @ 12 NOON**

The Aging Together Group will next meet on this date. As usual, bring your lunch and refreshments will be provided. The topic for discussion, to be led by Allan Thorne, is "Things We're Afraid to Talk About." Joan Kolobielski will share some new resources. All interested are encouraged to join the group. Please call Joan the day before if you have weather concerns.

### **ETHNIC LUNCHEON – WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17 @ 11:45 AM**

Jasmine Asian Bistro, 2141 York Road in Timonium, next to the new Giant, features Japanese, Thai and Malaysian dishes in a very attractive setting. Meet there at 11:45 AM. In order for seating to be arranged, an accurate head count is needed. Please RSVP to Bette at [ethniclunch@towsonuuc.org](mailto:ethniclunch@towsonuuc.org) no later than Sunday, March 14. Thank you.

### **PHILOSOPHY BITES – WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17 @ 7:30 PM**

Discussion Five - Jesus as Philosopher (a radical secular post modern humanist?)

Don Cupitt, a Cambridge emeritus professor, discusses his interpretation of Jesus as a philosopher, with David Edmonds and Nigel Warburton, the BBC hosts of this recorded program. Join us upstairs TUUC foyer for a follow-up discussion.

### **PFLAG – TUESDAY, MARCH 23 @ 7 PM**

This group is for everyone: parents of LGBT (Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, and Transgender) children, grandparents, friends and straight allies, and LGBT no matter your age. Please join us. For further information or questions please send email to [PFLAGbaltimorecounty@gmail.com](mailto:PFLAGbaltimorecounty@gmail.com) . All are welcome.

### **ANITA GREGORY BOOK GROUP – TUESDAY, APRIL 6 @ 2 PM**

Our next selection is *The Piano Teacher* by Janice Y.K. Lee – "A standout debut dealing with the rigors of love and survival during a time of war and the consequences of choices made under duress". Hope to see you there.

### **EVENING BOOK GROUP – WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7 @ 7:30 PM**

The Evening Book Group will meet to discuss *The Believers* by Zoe Heller. Described as "a juicy satire full of complex characters, intellectual contradictions, and disturbing choices," this novel set in New York after 9/11 "takes on hypocrisy of all kinds". (If you want to get a head start, our book for May 5 is *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese (560 pages)). All are welcome. Please call Carel Hedlund at her number in the directory if you have any questions.

### **Communications Information**

Weekly News\* - Send submissions to [news@towsonuuc.org](mailto:news@towsonuuc.org) or give to office staff by 3 PM each Wednesday. Only one paragraph per event.

The Threshold\* - Send submissions by midnight on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Send to [news@towsonuuc.org](mailto:news@towsonuuc.org).

Website: Please go to our website for newcomer Information; to see the latest edition of the Threshold; upcoming sermon information; Board and O Team minutes; social action info and much, much more! Go to [www.towsonuuc.org](http://www.towsonuuc.org).

Electronic Bulletin Board - To join go to: <http://towsonuuc.org/bulletinboard.html>.

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