

THE THRESHOLD



Towson Unitarian Universalist Church

A Welcoming Congregation

www.towsonuuc.org

Lutherville, Maryland

May 2011

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Upcoming Services

May 1, 2011

UNION SUNDAY

FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF BALTIMORE

Charles and Franklin Streets

11:00 AM

Africa and Unitarian Universalism's Future

This morning, we join Unitarian Universalists around the region for Union Sunday. Union Sunday celebrates the historic 19th century sermon preached by The Reverend William Ellery Channing at First UU of Baltimore which defined American Unitarianism. **We will worship at First Unitarian Universalist Church of Baltimore at 11:00 AM. This historic church is located at the corner of Franklin and Charles Street. Parking is available in a garage across from the church.**

There Reverend Dr. Yvonne K. Seon, the first African-American woman to be ordained a Unitarian Universalist minister, will be speaking on "Africa and Unitarian Universalism's Future. Historic communities in South Africa and Nigeria are being joined by new liberal congregations in Burundi, Congo-Brazzaville, Congo-Kinshasa, Kenya, Burundi and Uganda. These religious movements engage the African reality with fresh eyes—often with profound social reaction. In Uganda, in particular, the US-funded evangelical churches are behind a political movement that would make the UU church illegal due to their affirmation of the dignity of gay, lesbian and bisexual persons. Union Sunday will consider the great gift of African liberal religion to historic communities like our own Unitarian Universalist Association. Special music will be offered by combined choirs of several area churches—including the TUUC Choir. A special collection will be taken to support social justice work by Unitarian Universalists.

May 8, 2011

9:30 and 11:15 AM

Flowers Blooming In The Stones

Rev. Clare Petersberger, Dr. Joseph Gascho, Ms. Joyce Duncan, Sarah Ciaccio, Eli Carney-Seim

As is our tradition at TUUC on Mother's Day we celebrate the unique Unitarian Universalist ritual of Flower Communion. **Please bring a flower from your garden. You will receive a flower brought by another.** In this way, we affirm our covenant, our agreement, to walk together in the ways of truth and the spirit of love.

In today's service, our two graduating senior high students, Sarah Ciaccio and Eli Carney-Seim will share the truths they have found at TUUC as well as dreams for their ongoing journey.

The title of today's service comes from Basho (1644-1694), the Japanese poet, who perfected the telegram-like haiku style of poetry. He became a student of Zen. Today we reflect on "Flowers Blooming In The Stones" in Basho's poetry and in the extraordinary community spirit of contemporary Japan.

May 15, 2011
9:30 and 11:15 AM
Homespun Sensitivity

Rev. Clare Petersberger

In November, in the TUUC auction, Dr. Neil Porter purchased “a worship service on the theme of your choice.” When I met with Neil, he shared advice his mentor in medicine had received from HIS mentor. What should a doctor look for in the faces of his or her patients? The answer has nothing to do with symptoms or clues for a diagnosis. It has everything to do with living a meaningful life. And it is the theme of today’s worship service.

May 22, 2011
9:30 and 11:15 AM
The Third Act

Barbara Sterne and friends

In this service, we will investigate aging as an adventure.

May 29, 2011
ONE WORSHIP SERVICE
10:30 AM
The Journey of a Lifetime

Rev. Clare Petersberger, Dr. Joseph Gascho, Mr. Larry Smith, Ms. Jen Larson

On this Memorial Day Sunday, Larry Smith will share music and he and Jen Larson memories from their literal journeys to serve the United States military in Afghanistan. They will also share the spiritual journey members of the military are required intentionally to undertake in preparation for deployment. What can we learn from these journeys, not only about the sacrifices made by members of our military, but also about our own spiritual journey?

Stewardship Campaign Update

Breaking the \$300,000 barrier! As of April 13, we have received 184 pledges for a total of \$302,914. However, last year we had over \$330,000 in pledges, so we still have some ground to cover. About 30 to 40 members and friends have not yet pledged, so we should get close to (or perhaps even exceed) last year’s pledges. How we will do so is humorously communicated in the following story (thanks to Helen Smith for sharing):

Three survivors of a shipwreck made their way to a tiny tropical island, barren except for a few palm trees. One was a Baptist, one a Muslim, and one a Unitarian Universalist. The Baptist immediately began to try to construct a signal for rescue. The Muslim tore palm leaves and began to weave them into a prayer mat. The Unitarian Universalist took a nap. When he awoke, the Baptist said: “Aren’t you going to help me create a signal, which some ship or plane will see?” The Muslim said: “Aren’t you going to pray?” The Unitarian Universalist smiled and said: “Last year I gave my church \$50,000. Just before I boarded the ship for this cruise, I told my church’s Stewardship Committee that I would pledge for the coming year \$75,000.” He smiled again. “The Stewardship Committee will find me!”

New to the Church?

Those who have become members of the church in the past year are invited to the New Member Welcoming Ceremony on May 15. While you are welcome to officially join the church at any time, this ceremony is designed to formally recognize you and to allow others to recognize you. There will be a New Member Welcoming Ceremony at both services on May 15, so you can attend the service you normally attend. Email membership@towsonuuc.org to let us know you will be part of the ceremony.

Those who would like to learn more about the church are invited to the orientation sessions on May 22 and May 29. On May 22, after the later service, we will have a light brunch and Rev. Clare Petersberger will provide an orientation to Unitarian Universalism. On May 29, Memorial Day weekend, we will have only one service at 10:30 and a light brunch and discussion will follow that (at 11:45). This discussion will include information specific to TUUC. Please sign up at the Greeters' table or send an email to membership@towsonuuc.org so that we know you plan to attend.

Clare's Colloquy

Rev. Clare Petersberger



Thanks to Zach Currie, at the end of March, I was invited to be part of an interfaith panel for the UNITED (Universal Need to Introduce Tolerance Education and Diversity) club at Carver School ForThe Arts. We were invited to introduce ourselves in terms of what our faith tradition teaches about "acceptance." My Jewish colleague spoke of how Judaism teaches we are all created in the image of God. My Catholic colleague shared Jesus' teaching to "Do unto others as they would have them do unto you." I observed that Unitarian Universalism, drawing on both these faith traditions, affirms and promotes "the inherent worth and dignity of every person." Then the students put our words to the test of actual practices within our faith communities.

The first question was raised by a self-identified atheist. Would she be accepted in our faith community? I think this question perplexed my colleagues. I was able to share that TUUC is comprised of many self-identified atheists. We also have self-identified theists, agnostics, Humanists, Buddhists, Jews, Christians, Pagans...and sometimes combinations of these. I noted that this makes it a challenge to plan a worship service! I was able to affirm that the student who asked the question would definitely be accepted at TUUC!

The next question was raised by a student who wanted to know if our faith traditions teach that homosexuality is determined by God, by genetics, or is simply evil. I said that while we Unitarian Universalists don't all hold the same views of God, we do have a shared understanding that sexual orientation is formed *in utero*, like the color of one's eyes or hair, or whether or not one is left handed or right handed. Not only do we welcome and accept people of different sexual orientations, many of us actively lobbied for Marriage Equality! Another student asked a question, specifically, about the Westboro Baptist Church and their hateful actions in the name of Christianity. Does our faith community support this? While we all said, "No," I was able to add, "And that is why, when Westboro Baptist Church members came to Towson, to protest the formation of a gay-straight club at Towson High School, members of my congregation organized to stand on the other side of the street holding up messages of love.

At the end of the meeting, two youth came up and asked about the location of TUUC and the times of our services. I thanked them for their thoughtful questions and dialogue. I left Carver reminded that the heart of our faith tradition is not right religious beliefs, but right relationships. In the wider community, there is a great yearning for the good news that "we need not think alike in religious matters to love alike." May we continue to be its bearers. May we witness to our understanding of "acceptance," summed up in the bumper sticker, "Bless the whole world, no exceptions."

Adult Religious Education

Lectio Divina

May 14, 10 AM to noon

This is an opportunity to explore spiritual direction through the ancient practice of *Lectio Divina* which means, "sacred reading." Benedict described this practice as "listening with the ear of the heart." The pattern of this practice is to read a Biblical text four times. The goal is not information. The goal is spiritual formation. So the first time we read the passage we ask, "What does this passage say?" The second time we hear the passage is for *Meditatio*: meditation. We listen for the "still, small voice" of a particular word or phrase that says, "I am for you today." The third time we read through the passage, is for *Oratio*: Prayer. We notice what feelings arise in us. Finally, the last time we read through the text is for *Contemplatio*: contemplation. Where is the spirit leading us?

Building The World We Dream About

June 10, 7:30 to 9:00 PM

We are completing our 18 month exploration of becoming a more multi-cultural and anti-oppressive congregation. We are formulating recommendations for TUUC. Join us for this informative discussion!

President's Message

Mike Robinson



Hello everyone. It is with considerable regret that I announce that I am stepping down as president of TUUC. As I stated to the Board at our most recent meeting, I have become clearly aware of my own limitations and challenges and must step back. I must attend to personal and professional responsibilities that I have, in part, neglected recently. I have felt most supported by the other lay leaders during my months as president, and I hope that you will all continue to encourage and support the work that our lay leaders—the Operations Team, Personnel Committee, Board of Trustees and all of the rest of you who make TUUC the place that it is—do with such commitment. President-elect Melissa Reuland has been most supportive and gracious with my decision; her skill and energy makes it feasible to step aside. As per our by-laws, Melissa, in fact, now steps in to become president as my resignation creates the vacancy. Again, I apologize to the extent that my stepping back poses an undue burden on others.

Youth Religious Exploration

Joyce Duncan, director



Please register for next year! It helps me and the YRE Committee immensely if we know by the end of May who is planning to attend next year. To this end, we hope that all families will fill out and return TUUC Nursery and Family Cooperation forms that will be available soon. Any questions can be answered by contacting me directly or as *part of the congregational conversation held on May 15*. The YRE Committee may plan additional dates for meetings as needed. Please plan to attend on May 15 (childcare will be provided and lunch can be ordered and purchased ahead).

In case you missed this information previously, every family will be asked to check off either fall (September to January) or winter (February to June) semester every year for one class; it can be a class your child attends or a different one. This is a change from past models when we asked teachers to teach from September through June. We will still encourage 9-month sign-ups for adults to lead Coming of Age, Our Whole Lives, and YRUU especially, as these groups rely on leadership continuity.

YRUU News

Congratulations to Mike Malenski and Zach Currie who were elected to positions on the Joseph Priestley District Youth Steering Committee. These will require attending monthly planning meetings in addition to four youth conferences.

YRE Survey

We are preparing a short email survey to get some feedback on current and possible new programs through the youth religious exploration program at TUUC. We hope families will watch for that and for more information about opportunities for leading and participating in a summer Sundays multi-age class and a monthly outdoor exploration program for older elementary age children. Contact us if you have an idea that you would like to initiate.

Boston Trip

A group of 10 YRE teens and 5 adult followers went to Boston April 21-24 to visit UU sites, offices and churches. It was a good trip, very informative and interesting, and we saw everything from parks to statues, warm sun to frigid rain, Harvard Square to the Salem Witch Museum. We cooked and ate a fine pasta dinner at our Hostel, and visited several Food Courts. A highlight was an Improv lesson followed by a performance in which we starred!



Now that we are back from Boston, we will be holding another informational meeting and figuring out the amount of money we would need to raise to allow all those interested and old enough to participate in a service trip to Guatemala. We plan to use the skills learned in planning and fundraising for our Boston trip for this larger effort. We hope this will be a transformative trip for all who participate and for TUUC as we watch our youth grow in leadership and compassion.

YRE Committee

Youth Religious Exploration Committee meetings are on second Tuesdays at 7:30 PM until the end of June. We especially welcome parents of younger children; please join us! Please let Joyce or Sue Royer (contact info in directory) know if you plan to attend.



Notes



Joseph Gascho, music director



One of the highlights of April was having Andy Peterson lead our first ever AV Workshop at TUUC. Around a dozen people attended to learn about how our AV system works and how we can best use these resources. Thanks, Andy, for taking time to lead this and help many of us learn a great deal. The effects were pretty clear April 17 at church where we had a basically flawless PowerPoint presentation integrated into both services. My thanks to Maxine Saunders, Carel Hedlund, Marilyn Carlisle, Mike Tierney, and Jay Hauf for working on this. We hope to find more individuals with technical know-how to support the AV committee in presentations like this, so please contact Andy or me if this interests you. It's my hope that soon we'll be able to construct a dedicated AV desk to much more effectively house our equipment and make the job of the AV folks easier and less stressful.

The TUUC Choir and I are happy to welcome soprano Marilyn Hanchett who's been singing with us for a few weeks now. We've had some long and tough rehearsals preparing for our upcoming Easter service, which should be wonderful. Rev. Clare will be preaching, the choir will be accompanied by a chamber orchestra of baroque string instruments, and Jay Cherry and Abby Mahoney will present a humorous sketch about Antonio Vivaldi. Individuals who helped out with music over the last weeks include Andy Peterson, Al Muehlberger and Judy Vennes on drums; Alta Haywood on piano; soprano Nancy Hannah; and Sarah Ciaccio on clarinet. I look forward to playing with Sarah again next month, and also especially to a Memorial Day service with Larry Smith and other regulars from Bald Mountain.

I hope you'll be able to attend my Bach recital with my friend Elizabeth Field on Wednesday, April 27 at 7:30 PM. It's just down the road at Divinity Lutheran Church on Providence Road; more info is at harmoniousblacksmith.com. Harmonious Blacksmith will also be featured on a May 15 Handel Choir of Baltimore concert. This 4 PM concert is at St. Ignatius Church (next to Center Stage). The program also includes Mozart's *Requiem* with a period instrument orchestra. Info at handelchoir.org. As always, please contact me if you're interested in participating in our music-making at TUUC. I look forward to hearing from you.

Music schedule for May 2011

May 1 - Union Sunday - TUUC Choir will participate in this service. Joseph Gascho will conduct some part of the service as well.

May 8 - Joseph Gascho, piano; Sarah Ciaccio, clarinet - both services

May 15 - TUUC Choir; Joseph Gascho, piano - both services

May 22 - TUUC Choir, Joseph Gascho, piano - both services

May 29 - Larry Smith, vocals; members of the Bald Mountain Band; Joseph Gascho, piano

Words, Words, Words

Mickie Grover, church administrator



O The month of May, the merry month of May,
So frolic, so gay, and so green, so green, so green!

The Merry month of May, Thomas Dekker (1572-1632)

Well, May may be “so frolic” – what a wonderful description – but it is a rainy April day as I sit down to type out my words of wisdom. Or, as Hamlet says, simply “words, words, words.” However, I do look forward to being “so frolic” next week when I am on vacation in North Carolina – a state I have only passed through before. I am especially looking forward to seeing friends in Raleigh and to visiting the gardens on the Duke University campus. They should be lovely this time of year.

Rev. Clare opened the April board meeting with an exercise from the UUA in which we each took a penny, made a wish relating to TUUC, and then, rather than keep it to ourselves, passed our wish to another person who then repeated it to a third party. In this way our wishes for the church spread rather than being hoarded. Because of some confusion arising from the odd number of people (note I didn't say ‘odd people’) sitting at the table I did not get to tell my wish.

Therefore, I will tell you. I wished, what I often wish in UU gatherings, that the first principle, (The inherent worth and dignity of every person) become such a part of each of us that we always act from that place of equality and respect for the personhood of each and every individual person; that the first principle become so much a part of each of us that we wonder why we write down something so obvious, something we always act from and on.

From me all the other principles flow from that one. And for me, and I suspect for so many others, it is very difficult to always enact the inherent worth and dignity of each and every person I encounter. Robert Browning, in the persona of Andrea del Sarto, said, “Ah, but a man's reach should exceed his grasp, or what's a heaven for?” Perhaps we can butcher this in our modern way and say, “Ah, but a person's reach should exceed their grasp, or what's a principle for?” For above all we are human and thereby striving but fallible. All of which leads me to thanking everyone who contributes their presence to this community. Amazing, isn't it? All the inherently worthy people we meet here?

I especially want to thank Mike Robinson for all the help he has given me this year. A new job always has its bumps – and working at a Unitarian Universalist Church always has its special challenges. Mike was always ready to answer my questions and always ready to lend a hand to anything that needed to be done – from organizing Healthy Congregations to salting the icy walks. What I admire most is that Mike does embody the first principle and does so with unassuming grace and a warm smile. Thank you, Mike. See you in the neighborhood!

Wise Gardening & Pest Management

Louise Harmony



This month we had two events planned: the Teen WorkParty on April 3rd and the regular WorkParty on April 16th.

Teen Work Party: A huge success with 11 teens and 5 adults. A big thank you goes to the teens: Carlie Hruban, Zachary Currie, Anne Thompson, Justine Foote, Dylan Beatty, Georgia Beatty, Jeremy Anderson, Stephanie Linsenmeyer, Naomi Sinn, Michael Malenski and Nick Setter. A big thank you to the adults too: Tom Zeller, Jen Larson, Connie Anderson, Jason Hauf, and Louise Harmony.

We did a tremendous amount of work: cut up all the downed tree branches on the hillside behind the trash can enclosure, pulled long branches off the hillside below the compost, burned all this wood, cleaned out the composter, moved the wood from under the portico in the back of the church, moved

the cut up logs from beside the trash can enclosure to the wood pile, picked up sticks and recycled trash in the picnic area, and best of all, removed English Ivy (an invasive plant) from three trees (ten black plastic bags have been removed from the property). I deeply appreciate everyone's help and the support they gave to improving the landscape at TUUC. Due to rain, the April WorkParty was cancelled.

Next month we will be starting a new check in/ task assignment procedure and signing off on a health form and safety rules information sheets. It is my hope to train all the volunteers in the Garden Coop in some organizational and safety procedures, so I can accept the help from outside organizations on the gardens, because I have some trained volunteers from the Garden Coop . So, if you volunteer occasionally with garden efforts, expect to see a few new procedures.

FREE WOOD AVAILABLE: We have more wood than we need for TUUC. If you stand at the end of the parking lot, facing the street, look right to see the pile and help yourself.

The outside fireplace is ready for use by the whole church community. Overhead branches have been cleared and the fire pit will be cleaned out. So consider enjoying the picnic area and fireplace in our back yard.

Saturday Concert: Four Shillings Short, May 14



Celtic, Folk & World Music

www.fourshillingsshort.com

POT LUCK: 6:30 – 7:30 CONCERT: 7:30 TO 10PM

1710 Dulaney Valley Rd., Lutherville, MD 21093

(410) 825-6045 www.towsonuuc.org

Cover: \$20 DOOR or ADVANCE BY 5/9 \$15.00 adults/\$10 students /\$40 family

Upcoming Events

ANITA GREGORY BOOK GROUP – TUESDAY MAY 3 AT 2 PM

This month's selection is *The Painted Veil* by W. Somerset Maugham, beautifully written with a urprise ending.

EVENING BOOK GROUP - WEDNESDAY MAY 4 AT 7:30 PM

We'll be discussing *Sputnik Sweetheart* by Haruki Murakami. Set in modern, conformist Japan, this novel explores how hard it is to know and connect with others and even oneself. Each character has a personal reality, that may or may not match objective reality, but it has a profound effect on their life. The narrator, identified only as "K," falls in love with Sumire, while she relates to him as a friend and confidant. But her untidy writerly life precludes her from any personal commitments, until she meets Miu, an older and much more sophisticated businesswoman. When Sumire disappears from an island off the coast of Greece, "K" is solicited to join the search party and finds himself drawn back into her world and beset by ominous, haunting visions. A love story combined with a detective story, *Sputnik Sweetheart* ultimately lingers in the mind as a profound meditation on human longing.

GALLERY UNICORN

Gallery Unicorn is pleased to present a very special exhibition, "An Artist's Retrospective" by Dawn Murr. Dawn has recently stepped down as co-director of Gallery Unicorn and is now a designated Gallery Unicorn Consultant. Dawn has been an artist for many years and enjoys watercolors as her primary medium. This exhibition compliments her talent as well as her commitment to the gallery. The exhibition runs from May 15 through June 19. A reception will be held May 15, from 2 to 4 PM. Please join us in celebrating Dawn's achievements. —Gail Ogin

Cedarhurst UUs Annual Flower Mart and Flea Market – Saturday May 7, 7 AM to 2 PM

Come meet and support your fellow UUs at Cedarhurst's annual fund raiser. High-quality flowers and vegetable plants provided by a local nursery will be for sale. It's your opportunity to help our UU neighbors while getting fine flowers and plants. Homemade breakfast is served until 10:30 AM; then homemade soups and grilled lunch items will be served. Also there are books, clothing, and household items at bargain prices. Cedarhurst UU is in Carroll County at 2912 Club House Road, Finksburg.

New Member Welcoming Ceremony Sunday May 15, 9:30 and 11:15 AM

Newcomer Orientation & Brunch Sunday May 22 at 12:45 PM

Newcomer Orientation & Brunch Sunday May 29 at 11:45 AM

See the “**New to the Church?**” article on page 4.

AGING TOGETHER GROUP – Tuesday May 17 at 1 PM

The Aging Together Group will meet on Tuesday May 17 at 1PM in the church. Allen Thorn will lead a discussion on “Coping with Serious Losses”. Since we are all aging, folks of all ages are welcome. For questions, ideas and suggestions, call Joan Kolobielski; her info is in the church directory.

CHALICE CIRCLES TO CONTINUE DURING THE SUMMER

This popular program will continue on a modified basis during the Summer months. Chalice Circles is a network of small groups that meet a few times a month. We explore topics or themes in a way to help each member get to know others at a deeper and more meaningful level. Look for the sign-up sheets in the Church lobby in May!

Summer Worship Theme: Spiritual Sources

By Tara McIntyre, TUUC Lay Worship Associates Co-chair

Theme The TUUC Lay Worship Associates committee is very pleased to announce the theme for our Summer 2011 worship season. After battling around some especially creative ideas and engaging in much spirited debate, we ultimately settled on a theme related most closely to a widely held favorite among the Seven UU Principles, our belief in every individual's right to "the free and responsible search for truth and meaning."

Spiritual Sources This summer we'll take a look at the fascinating spectrum of sources of our rich and diverse collective spirituality. One thing to which most of us can attest is the long and winding exploratory road which brings us here, to Unitarian Universalism in general, and to TUUC specifically. Our experiences and relationships are usually our most formative road signs. But, seekers that most of us are, we educate ourselves along the way about a wide variety of schools of thought and cosmologies. What do we find most credible? Why? How do we blend the best of what we find over a lifetime into our very personal understanding of the universe and our place in it? How do we put those beliefs into practical action to enlarge the compassion in today's world and in the one we leave for our children?

Favorites We hope to release a final summer schedule within the next few weeks. We're very pleased to reprise a few favorites from summers past, driven and made more meaningful by congregational participation; we'll do another storytelling service and a poetry service, so that members and friends can share their own spiritual sources and learn more about those which fellow members hold dear. Watch the *Weekly News* for calls for submissions and contributors.

Guests Some of our featured guests will include our own Bill Feiss on Father's Day, Carol Mason and former members of Theater Hopkins in a Reader's Theater service, LWA member Barbara Sterne on Ancestors, a service on Veganism and eating for a healthier planet (recommended to us by Jen Larson), a Yoga service celebrating movement and our personal relationship with that which we consider divine, and two very special music services.

Children Also of note, while we're hoping to have something creative for kiddos to do downstairs this summer, the LWA is also working to make the summer services as widely accessible to all ages as possible.

Food for Thought Summer worship at TUUC has historically been an engaging, informal and highly interactive expression of Who We Are as a spiritual community. Summer 2011 is shaping up to be no exception. The Lay Worship Associates committee looks forward to bringing you abundant food for thought, all summer long. Please let us know what you think. See you this summer!

Building Healthy Congregations

Congregational Conversation update

First, thank you to the approximately two dozen members and friends of the congregation who attended the Congregational Conversation on Sunday, April 17. Paul Konka, TUUC's treasurer, delivered very useful information about the current budget and prospects for next year's budget, and tied it into the current strategic plan. Based on feedback given to us by attendees, the presentation at the next Congregational Conversation, scheduled for May 15 after the second service, will focus more on the strategic plan itself. Melissa Reuland, TUUC's current president-elect, is scheduled to present, so we hope that you will join us!

Outreach Council

Salli Ward, council head



During the past 10 years, TUUC has been actively involved with serving the 100 to 150 homeless women, children and families at the shelter at the Eastern Family Resource Center. Our interactions with the guests there have included providing, preparing, and serving meals, supplying needed items of clothing and personal items, bringing Sunday afternoon parties to the shelter, and teaching life skill courses and "for fun" classes.

We will be continuing with many of these programs, but are now considering a new means of serving homeless persons in our county. There are many individuals, who for a variety of personal reasons, prefer not to live with large groups in a shelter. They prefer sharing space with those they know, in the outdoors, in hidden, protective places. The people involved in street ministry tell us that these folks' needs are the same – food, medical care, weather-appropriate clothing, and acknowledgement.

If you would like to know more about, and possibly become involved, in this kind of outreach, please contact Marilyn Thorn; her info is in the church directory.

Communications Council

Al Peabody



It was my good fortune to accompany the group of teens who went to Boston April 21-24. I was assigned to sleep in a room with 3 bunkbeds, along with the five young men on the trip. Dylan, Jared, Michael, Nick and Zach were gentlemen, a pleasure to room with.

The most interesting part for me was hearing about the UU church's participation in the Montgomery marches in 1961. During a UU board meeting, a telegram arrived from Martin Luther King, Jr., asking the church to send representatives to join the marches and protests. The board immediately elected to go; the meeting broke up and members prepared to leave.

Their participation was significant, and tragic. A plaque outside UUA headquarters on Beacon Hill commemorates the three UUs who were killed over the ensuing weeks as the protests continued.

MAY 2011 Calendar <http://my.calendars.net/towsonuuc>

May 1	Sun	UNION SUNDAY @ FIRST CHURCH, DOWNTOWN!	11 AM
May 2	Mon	Mindful Way Meditation Group/12 Step Program	7 PM
		Chalice Circles	7:30 PM
May 3	Tue	Anita Gregory Book Group	2 PM
		Operations Team	7 PM
		Chalice Circles	7:30 PM
May 4	Wed	Improv Group	7 PM
		Evening Book Group	7:30 PM
May 5	Thu	Poetry Group	7:30 PM
		Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
May 6	Fri	Men's Breakfast Group	8:30 AM
		Caring Committee	10 AM
May 7	Sat	Chalice Circles Picnic	5 PM
May 8	Sun	Discussion Group	12:30 PM
May 9	Mon	Mindful Way Meditation Group/12 Step Program	7 PM
May 10	Tue	Board Meeting	7:30 PM
		YRE Committee	7:30 PM
May 11	Wed	Improv Group	7 PM
		Chalice Circle Facilitators	7:30 PM
May 12	Thu	Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
		Poetry Group	7:30 PM
May 14	Sat	ARE <i>Lectio Divina</i>	10 AM
		House Concert	6 PM
May 15	Sun	Social Action Committee	10:30 AM
		Congregational Conversation	After 2 nd Service
May 16	Mon	Mindful Way Meditation Group/12 Step Program	7 PM
		Chalice Circles	7:30 PM
May 17	Tue	Aging Together	1 PM
		Chalice Circles	7:30 PM
May 18	Wed	Improv Group	7 PM
		Worship Program Associates	7 PM
May 19	Thu	Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
		Poetry Group	7:30 PM
May 20	Fri	Men's Breakfast Group	8:30 AM
		Improv Group - Jam	6:30 PM
May 21	Sat	Work Party	9 AM – 12 Noon
May 22	Sun	Green Sanctuary Committee	10:30 AM
		Discussion Group	12:30 PM
		4 th at 4 Storytelling	4 PM
May 23	Mon	Mindful Way Meditation Group/12 Step Program	7 PM
May 24	Tue	PFLAG	7 PM
May 25	Wed	Women's Breakfast Group	8:30 AM
May 26	Thu	Choir Rehearsal	7:30 PM
		Poetry Group	7:30 PM
May 30	Mon	Mindful Way Meditation Group/12 Step Program	7 PM

TOWSON UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

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threshold@towsonuuc.org

Our Minister

Reverend Clare L. Petersberger
revclare@towsonuuc.org

Our Leadership

Board of Trustees:

President: Melissa Reuland

President-Elect: vacant

Treasurer: Paul Konka

Secretary: Francie Weeks

Members-at-Large:

Betty Lou Anderson

Aynsley Hamel

Carel Hedlund

Max Mutchler

Operations Team:

President-Elect: vacant

Communications Council: Al Peabody

Finance Council: vacant

House and Grounds Council: Jason Hauf

Inner Life Council: Faith Miller

Outreach Council: Salli Ward

Religious Education Council: Adan Ayala

Sunday Services Council, Tara McIntyre

Our Staff

Youth Religious Exploration Director:

Joyce Duncan

tuucdre@towsonuuc.org

Music Director:

Joseph Gascho

music@towsonuuc.org

Church Administrator:

Mickie Grover

churchoffice@towsonuuc.org

Office Assistant:

Nancy Hannah

assistant@towsonuuc.org

Bookkeeper:

Mary Kay Baker

bookkeeper@towsonuuc.org

Custodian:

Joseph Ellis