

THRESHOLD



Towson Unitarian Universalist Church

A Welcoming Congregation

www.towsonuuc.org

Lutherville, Maryland

September 2009

Upcoming Services

The theme of our September worship services is the healing and transforming power of religious community.

September 6

Water Communion: We are the Rain and the Rainbow

10:30 AM

Rev. Clare Petersberger; Joyce Duncan, DYRE

**Music: The TUUC Women's Ensemble
and Joseph Gascho, music director**

This morning we celebrate the life-giving and transforming power of both water and community through our annual water communion service. Through the story of *When Watute Wants Some Water*, we will reflect on the value of access to water and how we can work, together, as a community of all ages, to ensure it. We will also share sources of water that were important to us this summer. Please bring a small vial of water from, or symbolic of, a spiritually transformative experience from your summer.

TUUC is turning 50
this church year!

1960 2010

See page 7 for a
listing of our
anniversary events.

September 13

Faith Development: Becoming Agents of Truth, Love, and Hope

9:30 and 11:15 AM

Rev. Clare Petersberger

**Music: Harmonious Blacksmith Chamber Ensemble
Joseph Gascho, harpsichord and Justin Godoy, recorder**

This morning we reflect on our goals for lifespan Unitarian Universalist religious education. What is our Unitarian Universalist understanding of faith development? How do we intentionally cultivate our own faith and that of our children? Members of Chalice Circles will deliver a credo and we will have the honor of dedicating Darcey Martina McFall to the care and nurture of members and friends of TUUC.

September 20

Ethics ... Health Care

9:30 and 11:15 AM

Dr. Rebecca Elon

Music: The TUUC Choir, Joseph Gascho, piano

Dr. Elon returns to TUUC's pulpit to share her wisdom on the ethics of health care.



September 27

King Solomon's Challenge and Our Own

9:30 and 11:15 AM

Story For All Ages Sunday

Rev. Clare Petersberger

Music: Ina Allen, piano

We are in the midst of the Days of Awe in Judaism...a time to reflect on endings; regrets; hopes; and new beginnings. In honor of this, we shall reflect on a story for all ages of a spiritual challenge King Solomon gave one of his advisors and the advisor's experiences trying to meet it. This story still speaks to a spiritual challenge of our contemporary lives.

Clare's Colloquoy

By Rev. Clare Petersberger

In July, I was honored to be invited to be a theme speaker at the Southeast Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute. SUUSI is a week long summer camp for Unitarian Universalists that meets on the campus of Radford, Virginia. This year's theme was "Rekindling the Flame Within." I was asked to speak on being raised a Unitarian Universalist and the specific experiences that had shaped my call to ministry. What follows is how I began my theme talk.



Last week, I was reminded that we are "our grandmother's prayers, we are our grandfathers' dreaming, we are the breath of our ancestors, we are the spirit of God." I was touring the Royal Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh. I was captivated by the first floor of the exhibit. Artifacts and relics revealed how the early people of Scotland encountered and made sense, in community, of nature and the universe, of life and death, of the human condition and the holy, of the gods, and of God.

On one wall were written these words:

“We watched the sun, arcing into evening. We watched the moon grow fat by night in the vast unknowable sky. We felt the earth cool and gather warmth again. We heard spring in the songs of birds and smelled autumn in the fallen fruits and last leaves. There are many orders in the life of the world and these we honoured as we marked the passing ages of our own lives, for we were afraid of evil and needed luck. We chose sacred places to sing our awe, and our art endured in rocky places. We spoke with gods and were humble. And we carved symbols on stones, telling ancient tales of creatures and stars.”

The questions and issues religion addresses have not changed much in thousands of years! For with three exceptions, this description reflects what I learned about faith growing up in Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church. We did not carve symbols on stones in Sunday School classes. But we did draw, paint, construct, and create in numerous arts and crafts projects. We did not talk of speaking with gods and feeling humble. But we did converse about the deep mysteries of existence and felt awe, wonder, and gratitude. Being part of a faith tradition that valued the tool of reason, we did not say that we were afraid of evil and needed luck. Instead, we said that we were afraid of that which separates us from the unity of existence and needed love.

I share these memories because we, at TUUC, are actively preparing to celebrate our 50th anniversary! Throughout the coming year’s festivities, we will be intentionally sharing stories about our origins, the passing ages of TUUC, those to whom we belong, and our hopes and dreams for the future of this beloved religious community of all ages. Welcome back to kindling the flame of TUUC and to rekindling the flame within!

Board of Trustees

By Catherine Morris

First, I would like to thank the Worship Committee for putting together a summer of interesting and thought-provoking services along with inspiring and fun music. I was first drawn to TUUC during the summer services 10 years ago, so I understand that pulling together a variety of engaging topics and speakers is a challenging and critical job that makes TUUC inviting to members and visitors during the dog days of summer.



I’d also like to share my aspirations for this year before the day to day business takes over. In addition to all the usual programs and services, this year will be filled with special events to celebrate our 50th Anniversary –our founding members and origins, our present accomplishments, and our hopes for the future. What a great opportunity to evangelize about our unique and open-minded approach to religious exploration.

And what a great opportunity to think about where we would like to be in five years. I’ll be looking to the Board members, the Operations Team, all the committees, and the members and friends of TUUC to provide vision and ideas for the next five years. That might mean starting a dedicated fund so we can have a ministerial

intern, or creating a new ad hoc committee to address the long-term needs of our building, or launching gift-based ministry in full force. My role will be to make sure we have the resources, the leaders and the plans to implement your priorities.

One of the Board's on-going responsibilities is to manage on your behalf the finances of the church. As I promised at the June Congregational Meeting, we will provide frequent updates on our evolving financial picture – the monthly costs and revenues and the outlook for the budget -- so that we can make a considered decision by January about whether or not to implement a 2-week staff furlough next June.

Although we haven't officially started our fall Board meetings at the time of this writing, we have planned an August Leadership Retreat for the Board and Operations Team to think about the goals for the year. We will convene our first Board meeting on Tuesday, September 14, and I would like to invite you to join us from time to time to get to know the leaders of TUUC and to make sure your thoughts are being heard. We meet the second Tuesday of each month at 7 PM.

Youth Religious Exploration

By Joyce Duncan, director

Another year of fun, learning, worship, and putting faith into action is about to start! **Please join us for the start of YRE classes on Sunday, September 13.** This year we are focusing on our Unitarian Universalist heritage as a toolbox of faith. The curricula for the two elementary classes can be accessed on-line at

<http://www.uua.org/religiouseducation/curricula/tapestryfaith/index.shtml> or by going to the UUA.org website and clicking on I am interested in, Religious Education,

Tapestry of Faith, then the curricula name. Please register your child on the TUUC Nursery Care, YRE Classes registration and Family Cooperation form if you wish to receive regular weekly emails with all the activities that are planned.



The new playground is underway! Some components have been delivered and others are on the way. Please look for invitations to join work parties for preparation and installation of new equipment. Upcoming emails will let you know when you and your family can participate in this effort. We look forward to having a new site that will enable our children to enjoy the outdoors and to engage in group interaction in a safe place. We kept Green Sanctuary goals in mind by reusing as much as was possible and choice of new items. We hope that this will be safe haven for our kids for many years to come! Contact **Tom Zeller** at email in directory for info on upcoming work parties.

Children who are not yet in Kindergarten will be cared for in our staffed nursery. Parents are welcome to stay with their children or to attend the service upstairs. Parents may also be asked to stay and help out occasionally. We have regular nursery attendants who maintain a warm and loving atmosphere in our fun-filled space. **Please register your child if you use the nursery on a regular basis.**

Kindergarteners through 3rd Graders will be using a new UUA curriculum entitled, *Faithful Journeys*. Participants embark on a pilgrimage of faith, exploring how Unitarian Universalism translates into life choices

and everyday actions. In each session, they hear historic or contemporary examples of Unitarian Universalist faith in action.

4th through 6th Graders *Toolbox of Faith* invites 4th through 6th graders to reflect on the qualities of our Unitarian Universalist faith, such as integrity, courage, and love, as tools they can use in living their lives and building their own faith. Each of the 16 sessions uses a tool as a metaphor for an important quality of our faith such as reflection (symbolized by a mirror), flexibility (duct tape), and justice (a flashlight).

7th and 8th Graders The Coming of Age program will provide youth in 7th and 8th grades with a supportive environment to explore spirituality, UU religious heritage, personal relationship building, and social action. Sunday morning classes, which will be supplemented by retreats, field trips, and social events, will culminate in a ceremony and dinner planned by the youth themselves.

9th Graders this year will be using *Our Whole Lives*, a sexuality education program that models and teaches caring, compassion, respect, and justice. In an inclusive and developmentally appropriate manner, it addresses sensitive topics that other programs usually exclude. The OWL program is a comprehensive lifespan program that helps participants gain the knowledge and skills they need to lead sexually healthy, responsible lives.

The **Youth Group** looks forward to welcoming back members from last year and new friends. The Youth Group will be doing a mix of curricula from *Popcorn Theology*, discussion of contemporary issues, planning retreats and services, and working on social action and church projects. Contact the youth group advisors, **Karyn Marsh, Tom Zeller, and Bess Hauf**, with any ideas for this year or questions. (See directory for phone numbers and email addresses.)

We are looking for **room parents** for a few classes. If you are contacted, please keep in mind that being a room parent is an easy way to get involved and become part of the TUUC community. Please contact Joyce at tuucdre@towsonuuc.org. **Reminder to teachers:** teacher orientation will be held from 9 AM to 1 PM on Saturday, September 12. Bagels and lunch provided; please RSVP to Joyce when requested with lunch and childcare needs.

YRE CALENDAR

Saturday, August 29, 5:30-8:30 PM Coming of Age Orientation and Opening Ceremony

Saturday, September 12, 9 AM – 1 PM YRE Teacher Training

Sunday, September 13, 9:30 and 11:15 AM First Day of YRE; OWL orientation for parents of 9th graders at 12:15 PM

Sunday, Sept. 20 10:30 AM/12:15 PM Meeting for parents of YG members

Music Notes

By Joseph Gascho, Music Director



I hope its been a good summer for everyone. I've enjoyed attending a few services at TUUC this summer and want to say a big thank you to music committee chair **Judi Clague** for organizing the music so efficiently. Also, thanks to everyone who volunteered their time and shared their musical talents with the congregation.

The fall promises to hold some great musical events. My chamber group, Harmonious Blacksmith, will be performing the first concert on the Music in the Great Hall series on Sunday, September 13, at 3 PM For those of you who haven't heard me playing harpsichord, it will be an easy and enjoyable way to come see me doing my "day job"! Traditionally, the series offers discounted tickets to TUUC members, so it should also be a bargain.

The Bald Mountain Bluegrass Band just performed at TUUC and will be playing again on the evening of Saturday October 3 for one of the 50th Anniversary special events. We've also been doing more playing in the area, and will perform music for an upcoming play at Towson University - contact **Jay Herzog** or me for more details.

The TUUC Choir will get off to a fun start with a combination potluck, hymn sing, and rehearsal on Thursday, September 10, at 6:00 PM. It will be a great chance to have some good food, enjoy some nice communal singing, and see if choral singing suits you. We'd love to have more members in the choir, please contact me to discuss your involvement. TUUC is blessed with many great musicians and artists, and I'm always excited to collaborate with new people in our services. Another great outlet for a wide variety of artistic expressions is the Intergenerational Arts Coalition, which will be participating in a number of services and events this year - contact **Angela Castillo-Epps** for more information.

While plans haven't been finalized, I'm excited about two special music services this year - the first devoted to music of Pete Seeger and Bruce Springstein; and the second devoted to music of Charles Ives. Another special service will be the premiere on January 10, 2010, of a piece for choir and instruments that I've been commissioned to compose in celebration of TUUC's 50th Anniversary. The music committee is also in the beginning stages of producing the first official "Music from TUUC" CD - to be recorded by **Andy Peterson** and showcasing much of the great musical talents we're lucky to have here.

Concluding on a personal note, it was a productive summer for me, with concerts in Boston, Indianapolis and Washington DC. I also spent two very busy weeks teaching at the Oberlin Conservatory in Ohio. Elena, Jed, Maggie and I took a brief vacation to Rehobeth Beach, and have enjoyed spending time with family and friends over the summer.

I look forward to seeing you all more often in the coming months.

TUUC 50th Anniversary Events

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3 AND SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2009: HONOR THE PAST - HOMECOMING WEEKEND

Rev. David McPherson, our first minister, will join us for this celebration. Saturday evening will commence with a potluck picnic supper. Entertainment will include a video created for this event about church history and the Bald Mountain Band, with the option to dance. Sunday, Rev. McPherson will be in the pulpit and we will have a reception between the services. Current and former members and friends, RE children, and staff are encouraged to join in these festivities.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2010, FOUNDING DAY: CELEBRATE THE PRESENT

Our Minister, Music Director, and RE Director will create this celebration of our congregation as it is today. The service will include a procession of banners, recognition of members, and special music created for this event, with a reception between the services. A luncheon at the Hunt Valley Inn will follow the service. The Unicorn Gallery will display art of members past and present during January.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2010: NICK PAGE MUSIC SUNDAY

Nick Page, a talented leader who draws music out of ordinary people (yes, even our congregation can sing), will be with us for a very special service on Love this Valentine's Day.

MARCH 11, 12, 13, APRIL 13, 14, 2010: 50TH ANNIVERSARY PHOTO DIRECTORY

To commemorate the members and friends of our church on our 50th anniversary, we have asked Olin Mills to help us compile a Photo Directory. An illustrated history of our church will be included, with comments from our past and present leaders. Please make sure your photo is included!

SATURDAY APRIL 24 AND SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 2010: IMAGINE THE FUTURE:

Reverend Bill Schultz, who was UUA President from 1985 to 1993 and head of Amnesty International USA from 1994 to 2006, will be with us this weekend to inspire us for the future. Saturday evening Rev Schultz will join a Q & A session, with light refreshments. Sunday, Rev. Schultz will deliver the sermon. In order to turn the church over to Music in the Great Hall at 1PM, services are scheduled for 9AM and 10:45, with a reception between services.

SUNDAY, MAY 16, 2010: ENDOWMENT PRESENTATION

The Endowment Committee and experts from the Joseph Priestly District will lead us in focusing on the financial future of our church.

SUNDAY, JUNE 6, 2010, ANNUAL MEETING

The photo directories will be available at this final event of our 50th anniversary year.

Finance Council

By Jason Braspennickx



I hope everyone is enjoying the final days of summer and getting ready for fall. As we begin our RE church year, I wanted to give everyone an update on the exciting activities we are planning in the Finance Council.

First, mark your calendars for Saturday, November 21 for our annual People To People Auction. Our Auction Committee has begun planning for the auction, and in the coming weeks, we will be asking you for donations. Last year's auction raised \$16,500 for our church despite the horrendous state of our economy at the time. Hopefully, as things seem to get better, we can raise even more this year. Please let me know of any worthwhile projects both within our church and outside our church community that you think deserve our support with our auction funds this year. More details about the time of the potluck and voice bids will come in future issues of the Threshold. So put on your thinking caps for ideas on creative donations so that this auction will be the best it can be.

Our Fundraising Committee has been coming up with creative fundraisers, both large and small, to help close our budget deficit for the new church year as well as increasing fellowship. Congratulations to **Susan Woolhiser** and **Jay Herzog**, who won our Tootsie Roll and Peace Lilly contests, respectively. The Fundraising Committee is planning a new cookbook made up of recipes created by church members and friends. The cookbook will be making its debut at our People To People Auction, and will sell for \$15.00. This will make a great holiday present for your loved ones as well as bring in money for the church. **Barbara Sterne** is chairing a subcommittee that is organizing the cookbook. If you have favorite recipes that you would be willing to share, please bring them to me or Barbara. We also have a need for graphic artists to help design the cookbook and willing volunteers to help sell cookbooks at church functions. We are also having a naming contest to come up with a name for the cookbook that is running from now until September 6. Please see Barbara Sterne or me for more details.

In addition, our Fundraising Committee is going to hold a Flea Market at TUUC on Saturday, May 1 (rain date Saturday, May 8) from 9 AM-3 PM. We are opening this up to the community in an effort to raise money for the church thru the sale of tables for those wishing to sell their goods. It will also be open to church members and friends wishing to sell goods on behalf of the church. Please see me if you are interested in participating. More details will come in future Threshold issues.

Green Sanctuary – Yes We Are!

Carel Hedlund, chair, Green Sanctuary Committee

On Sunday September 13th the Green Sanctuary (GS) Committee will once again be selling Zeke's fair trade/organic coffee, for \$10/pound. The profits made on the sale of this coffee helps support TUUC serving "green coffee" every Sunday, so please consider buying from us. We plan to sell on the second Sunday of every month throughout the church year.



Thanks to all who have supported our green coffee sales in the past year. We made approximately \$700 last year, and plan on using those funds to continue to support TUUC serving green coffee every Sunday, as well as other "green" initiatives at the church.

Now that we have a dishwasher, one of these green projects is to provide the church with real silverware, to replace our use of plastic forks, spoons and knives. We've made an initial purchase of 123 pieces of used silverware (thanks to Marcia Reinke and her contacts at Broadmead). We plan to purchase additional used silverware. **Better yet, if you have any stainless steel silverware at home that you do not use, please consider donating them to TUUC! We'll be collecting them at the Coffee Sale table on September 13th!**

During the summer, the Green Sanctuary Committee also oversaw several projects to increase the energy efficiency of the church (funds were previously approved for these projects from capital reserve funds). We had solar tinting added to the skylights and to the window behind the choir. We had one day of air sealing (i.e., caulking) done, which focused on the meeting room and included the front window and skylight, the clerestory windows on both sides of the meeting room, and around the door jambs, as well as one skylight in the lobby. We also had the duct sealing to the meeting room "sealed" with an aerosol product designed to fill the gaps in the duct system. This took two full days, and resulted in a reduction of 67% of the leakage in that duct system, which should result in a 25% efficiency increase in our heating and air conditioning. We are now working on adjusting the thermostats to take advantage of this increased efficiency in our cooling and heating systems. We should certainly see improvements in our energy bills going forward.

Inner Life Council

By Mimi Marks



NEW GROUP FORMS UNDER INNER LIFE

During the lazy (?), occasionally hazy days this summer, the group *Aging Together* started meeting under the leadership of **Joan Kolobielski**. Although the primary focus is to help the elderly remain active and valued members and friends of the TUUC community, Joan points out the group welcomes people of all ages to attend their meetings: those in old age, those caring for elderly family and friends, and those who want to plan for their own old age. June and July meetings were well attended, with open ended discussions about the needs and concerns of those present. At the July meeting, it was decided to meet monthly, alternating between Sundays after the second service and mid and how to structure meetings. A typical agenda will include the sharing of resources and reports on aging issues and discussion on a previously agreed upon topic. Upcoming meeting dates are Sunday, September 6th and Tuesday, October 20th. And remember - all are welcome! Please call or email Joan or Mimi Marks with any questions or suggestions.

EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS AT TUUC, JOIN A CHALICE CIRCLE!

We are people...communities...relationships...mutual ministry...circles...

We are about caring...growing...service...listening...commitment to each other...

We meet around a variety of ideas and themes...We value each voice and presence...

We are Chalice Circles.

A Chalice Circle is a group of six to ten participants who meet twice a month, engaging in a combination of worship, fellowship, learning, and service. Circles typically meet at the church. Recent topics include: the listening ear, congruence of belief and action, exploring non-violence, memory and hope. The circles covenant to meet with each other for a certain number of sessions, and they commit to perform a service project of their choosing, either for the church or the wider community.



An initial commitment to a circle is late September to January with an opportunity to renew your commitment for a second “semester” (February to May).

The Chalice Circle program depends on its members and co-facilitators for their enthusiasm and insight. We’re excited about the opportunities for spiritual growth and closer community. Are you willing to contribute your own perspectives and passions?

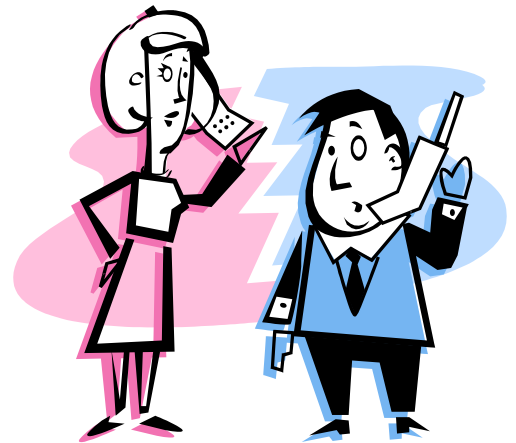
“Chalice Circles has been totally enjoyable because I’ve interacted with members whom I would not have gotten to know on Sundays. The commitment has introduced members on a more personal basis and created new friendships. We have had wonderful discussions!” --- Marcia Brooks, participant and new co-facilitator

There are a number of ways to get more information about Chalice Circles as we gear up for the fall term. You can e-mail us at chalicecircles@towsonuuc.org. Our Chalice Circle coordinators, **Carrie Landfried** and **Dick Scholle**, are happy to talk to you about the program and will be sharing their experiences with Chalice Circles during the worship services on September 13. We will also be in the lobby with information and sign-up sheets after the 10:30 AM worship service on August 30 and September 6 and after each service on September 13 and September 20. Groups will start meeting the week of September 21.

In addition to new Circle members, we are looking for co-facilitators for the fall. A training session is tentatively scheduled for September 13. If you are interested in co-facilitating a circle, or if you have any questions about co-facilitating, please contact us at chalicecircles@towsonuuc.org.

CARING COMMITTEE ASKS - WHO’S YOUR BUDDY?

The Caring Committee is encouraging ALL who live alone to have a designated daily contact. This is to assure each person in case of an accident or illness that there will always be another person aware and be able to get you some help. For example: if you should slip while carrying something down the stairs or fall off a stool while replacing a light bulb and not be able to get to the phone. We all have friends and family but do not speak to any one person each day. If you have a daily contact you will have the assurance that if you do not interact on the phone at a designated time it will alert the other individual that you may be in trouble. This telephone assurance only takes a minute of the “Buddy’s” time and may save a lot of discomfort or even a life. If you do not have a designated “Buddy” please call the office and the Caring Committee will try to connect you with a daily contact.



Outreach Council

Bill & Salli Ward, co-chairs



WANTED - IDEAS FOR POSSIBLE NEW SOCIAL ACTION PROJECTS

As TUUC approaches the beginning of the active church year, the Social Action Committee is, as usual, seeking input from the congregation on where they would like to see our efforts focused. Current programs concern hunger (Our Daily Bread, ACTC, CAN, Eastside Shelter), education (Banner Reading Club), housing (Habitat for Humanity, Earl's Place, Eastside shelter), and justice oriented legislation (UULM-MD, UUSJ). All these efforts will be reviewed for the coming year. But if you feel we are missing an issue or opportunity, please let any SAC member know or contact Salli Ward (see directory).

DINNERTIME AT THE EASTSIDE SHELTER

Beginning this fall, TUUC plans to assist the staff at the shelter in preparing and serving one evening meal each month. There is limited staff at night to serve the other needs of the guests, so mealtime help is scarce.

The menu, as well as the food items, will be provided for us and we work in a commercial kitchen - we just need willing hands for about 2 - 3 hours. We are hoping to provide a group of about seven people for one evening each month. Children are very welcome to come along. Perhaps a chalice circle, a book club, a church committee, a group of friends, etc. might volunteer for one dinner during the coming year. A convenient date would be arranged. There will be a sign up poster in the lobby. Please contact Marilyn Thorn, whose number is in the directory, if you would like to share in this monthly project with us.

ASSISTANCE CENTER OF TOWSON CHURCHES - ACTC

Many thanks to the TUUCers who have increased their food donations. Requests for food and financial help remain high. Please pick up extra cans of vegetables, peanut butter, etc EVERY week and bring in. The hungry NEED your help. At the recent Treasure Hunt the planners included ACTC. For one of the team exercises they asked team members to bring a racquet and a can of food. The food was given to ACTC.

EARL'S PLACE UPDATE

David Schwartz, who heads up outreach to Earl's Place from TUUC through the Social Action Committee, has joined the Board of Directors of Earl's Place, effective in May 2009.

As many know, Earl's Place is a project of United Ministries that provides transitional housing and supportive services of up to 2 years' duration to homeless men who are all coming from lives with addictions. Many of the men have been in prison; all the men are committed to turning their lives around.

Since 2007, TUUC and its members have been supporting Earl's Place in a number of ways: individual computer tutoring; workshops on general health, stress, and cooking; consulting on grants and fundraising; cash, clothing and furniture donations; and participation in the holiday Adopt-a-Resident program.

For more information on ways you can offer your assistance to Earl's Place, please contact David Schwartz, whose phone and email are in the TUUC directory.

Upcoming events

BLOOD DRIVE

Announcing the TUUC Blood Drive: November 7, 2009. Working with the American Red Cross Greater Chesapeake and Potomac Blood Services Region, we've selected Saturday, November 7, 2009 as the date for the next Blood Drive at TUUC. We'll need a lot of help - and donors, of course - to make this blood drive successful, so stay tuned. Please contact **Barry Marsh** at information in directory if you'd like to help organize our drive. We'll start recruiting eligible donors this summer, so save the date! Give Life - Give Blood.

MUSIC IN THE GREAT HALL

Our 36th season opens on Sunday September 13 at 3 PM with the highly-acclaimed early music ensemble Harmonious Blacksmith, featuring soprano Ah Young Hong, harpsichordist Joseph Gascho, and recorder player Justin Godoy. In a program of masterworks by George Frederic Handel, the trio will commemorate the 250th anniversary of his death.

YOUTH GROUP CAMPING

Save the Date! The Youth Group will be camping at Genesee Valley October 3-4. The weekend will include a ropes initiative course and night programming, complete with a campfire. We guarantee a totally fun time. Contact **Karyn Marsh**, **Bess Hauf**, or **Tom Zeller** for further information.

ETHNIC LUNCHEON

The Ambassador Dining Room Road is an unlikely combination of Old Baltimore mixed with British Empire-style Indian housed in an elegant 1930s-era apartment house. The luncheon buffet of Royal Indian Cuisine is \$14.95 and if weather permits, can be enjoyed on an outdoor terrace with a lovely garden. Meet there at 11:45 AM on Wednesday, September 16th. Please let **Bette Thomson** know by Sunday, September 13th, at ethniclunch@towsonuuc.org if you plan to attend.. Directions: 3811 Canterbury Road. Take North Charles Street south. Right at 39th Street. Left at Canterbury. There are a few parking spaces to the right of the Ambassador on Canterbury. Otherwise street parking at meters on Canterbury or 39th Street.

ANITA GREGORY BOOK GROUP – TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 @ 2 PM

We will be discussing *The Elegance of the Hedgehog* by Muriel Barbery, a double narrative delivering essays on time, beauty, and the meaning of life. Looking ahead, our October 6 meeting will feature *People of the Book*, by Geraldine Brooks, a favorite of Dawn Murr.

EVENING BOOK GROUP – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 @ 7:30 PM

The Evening Book Group will meet to discuss *Out Stealing Horses* by Per Petterson and Anne Born. Trond Sander, an older Norwegian man, recollects a transformative afternoon of his youth. According to the *New Yorker*, "Petterson's spare and deliberate prose has astonishing force, and the narrative gains further power from the artful interplay of Trond's childhood and adult perspectives." All are welcome! We have interesting discussions and a good time. Please call **Mike Robinson** at number in directory if you have any questions.

INTERNET TECH SUMMIT SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER

Put on your computerized green thumbs and get ready for a free growth session on Internet technology the morning of Saturday, September 26, 2009 at the Cedar Lane UU church in Bethesda, MD, from 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM.

The summit, called "Growing Community: Seeding the Electronic Garden," is designed for professionals and lay leaders who want to learn how the Internet can be used to create awareness of the UU faith community. The summit will also provide a forum for sharing information and skills to help attendees fill gaps in Internet training and tools.

Topics include social networking and blogging; website management, coordination and design; web-based pastoral care; content development; and internet evangelism. In addition, attendees will learn how to prepare their churches for the upcoming JPD Google Adwords Marketing Campaign.

A continental breakfast and networking lunch is included with registration. Child care provided upon request. For more information, either go to www.jpduua.org, or contact Aynsley Hamel (contact information is in the directory).

FAMILY GAME NIGHTS

Back by popular demand, the Tuesday Night Chalice Circle (the NMR's) will be hosting a family game night at the church on Saturday, September 19 from 7 to 10 pm. All kinds of games for kids of every age from classics like Scrabble to new fangled ones like Apples to Apples will be available. Child care for folks too young to appreciate games will be provided. 50/50 raffles will be held throughout the evening with all proceeds going toward the TUUC youth group. Cost of admission is an appetizer. Don't miss the fun.

GALLERY UNICORN

September 20 - October 25 Joseph Hart, "The Anatomy of Life" Recent Works
Reception: September 20 from 2 – 4 PM.

Our Minister

Reverend Clare L. Petersberger
revclare@towsonuuc.org

Our Leadership

Board of Trustees:

President, Catherine Morris
President-Elect, Mike Robinson
Treasurer, Paul Konka
Secretary, Kay Terry

Trustees: Anita Cox, Lois Hybl,
Melissa Reuland, Sue Shankroff

Operations Team:

President-Elect, Mike Robinson
Communications Council, Susan Seim
Finance Council, Jason Braspenickx
House and Grounds Council, John Venables
Inner Life Council, Mimi Marks
Outreach Council, Bill & Salli Ward
Religious Education Council,
Adan Ayala
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