



**The
Threshold**

**Towson Unitarian
Universalist Church**

A Welcoming Congregation

UPCOMING SERVICE

**SUNDAY SERVICE—February 10, 2019
TWO SERVICES @ 9:30 and 11:15 AM
Rev. Clare Petersberger**

No One Is Born Knowing How To Trust

The title of today’s worship service comes from Cynthia Wall, a clinical social worker and author. Our spiritual question this month is “What does it mean to be a people of trust?”

On this Sunday closest to Valentine’s Day, we shall explore our own understanding of trust and how we learned it. For in the words of Maya Angelou, “I don't trust people who don't love themselves and tell me, 'I love you.' ... There is an African saying which is: Be careful when a naked person offers you a shirt.”

MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION SESSIONS

Are you interested in deepening your relationship with Towson Unitarian Universalist Church? On the second Sunday of every odd month (see schedule below), the Membership Committee offers a one-hour session on membership at TUUC, which includes a brief discussion of UU theology and history and a light lunch.

The sessions start at 12:45 PM.

If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to membership@towsonuuc.org.

March 10, 2019

May 5, 2019



This Sunday, we will start out upstairs as usual and the younger classes will be sung downstairs.

YRUU will meet as usual at 11:15 in Room 7.

PreK/Kindergarten Chalice Children

#34 Valentine's day

While love has been a theme throughout Chalice Children, the Valentine's Day session is pure love. The children share their love by making gifts they will give to family and friends. Celebrate that thing called "love!"



1st/2nd Grades OWL session 1 Our Wonderful Bodies, part one This session builds on what children already know about their bodies.

3rd-5th Grades Cultural Tour of World Religions Judaism, part 2

Creation story

Participants will make a wheel of creation, and read different versions of the creation story.



6th-8th Grades Harry and UU Fighting the Horcrux of Child Slavery

Members of this group learn more about how groups used the power of public petitions to make sure the only chocolate made without child labor was used for Harry Potter--branded products.

YRUU This group will be finalizing elements for their service on February 24.

STEWARDSHIP

Our stewardship campaign "Stir it Up" is now underway. Our kick off brunch was a huge success. Thanks to all who helped. We all enjoyed good food and fellowship. And thank you to the early birds who have already sent in your pledges!

You should already have your stewardship packets. Please give careful thought to your pledge. We rely on your pledges to keep the church and its vital programs going. Approximately 75% of our income is from your pledges. I urge you to look over the "Suggested Fair Share Contribution

Guide" before deciding on your pledge amount. Consider the importance of TUUC in your lives and what it means to you to have a beacon of liberal religious ideals working towards our personal spiritual growth and social, racial, and environmental justice.

Pledges may be mailed to the church or dropped in the yellow pledge box in the lobby. Or you may scan and email your form to stewardship@towsonuuc.org. Please get your pledges in by March 10.



TUUC NEIGHBORHOOD DINNERS — TIME TO SIGN UP!

As you may or not know, the Stewardship Committee, in conjunction with the Program Council, has organized small neighborhood dinners at various members' homes, to promote fellowship during our annual pledge drive. These dinners are open to all members and friends and we encourage your participation!

There are two remaining dinners planned for February 23 and March 2.

We encourage you to sign up for a dinner in your neighborhood, where possible. Guests will be responsible for bringing something from a specific category to the dinner, such as main course, side dish or salad, appetizer, dessert, wine, bread. The hosts will receive a list of attendees, and will help coordinate the

meal. Please make your host aware of specific dietary requirements.

If your neighborhood dinner is not convenient, you may sign up for any of the dinners below. To sign up you may email specialevents@towsonuuc.org, or stewardship@towsonuuc.org. You may also sign up at church on a Sunday or respond to this email.

We hope to see you at one of the meals!

In trying to be inclusive of all our congregation and be sensitive to the needs of the hosts, some dinners will be family-friendly, where children are welcome. Look for the note at the top of the sign-up sheet that says “Children welcome” and any ages that might be specified.

February 23, 2019 (deadline February 17):

Neighborhood	Host(s):
Carney/Parkville	Atif & Justin Jensen
Cockeysville & North County	Nancy & Dan Seligson
East Side	At TUUC – Alta Haywood
East Towson/Reservoir	Trish Lott & Guillermo Gordillo
Lutherville/Timonium 1	Janet Kuperstein
Lutherville/Timonium 2	Sue Walker
Mays Chapel	Monica Sweidel

March 2, 2019 (deadline February 24):

Neighborhood	Host(s):
Carney/Parkville	Ann Beezley
Cockeysville & North County	Samantha Saalfield & Nick Troxel
Loch Raven/Morgan	Susan Woolhiser
Lutherville/Timonium	Marcia Brooks
North County 1	Janet & Doug Schollenberger
North County 2	Lelah & Patrick Mahoney
Rodgers Forge/Stoneleigh	Patty & John Barry
West Side	At TUUC – Joe & Kathy Tumbler
West Towson 1	Betsy & Sean Mackey
West Towson 2	Nancy Mears

CLARE'S COLLOQUY

For Christmas, I had hoped to give my brother some of his favorite licorice from Scotland. Through an on-line search, I found a vendor in England who was willing to sell me a jar of individually wrapped licorices and ship the jar to me.

This vendor wanted me to wire him the money for this transaction. The manager of my bank strongly advised against it. She went on to explain that a) to do so would be significantly more expensive than the transaction itself and b) once the money left my account, there would be no way to trace it and therefore no accountability. She went on to describe a client who had wired thousands of dollars for a transaction and it had disappeared in a scam. She did not want me to be scammed---even for a jar of licorice.

The vendor said he would accept PayPal. With trust and hope, I proceeded with the transaction. The vendor e-mailed me a tracking number. The tracking number is how I know the licorices got stuck in customs in New York on December 14 at 3:16 a.m.

Neither Royal Mail nor the United States Postal Service know what happened to the jar of licorices. I would like to think the licorices got eaten and enjoyed and not merely thrown away. What I do know is that the vendor refunded my PayPal account for the full amount. He did so before he was reimbursed by Royal Mail. He apologized for the transaction not going smoothly.

After writing this vendor a thank-you, I did some soul searching about my own journey from trusting him/ to wondering if he was actually trustworthy/ to having my trust affirmed and re-affirmed by his actions.

Our spiritual question this month is, "What does it mean to be a people of trust?" In this For Christmas, I had hoped to give my brother some of his favorite licorice from Scotland. Through an on-line search, I found a vendor in England who was willing to sell me a jar of individually wrapped licorices and ship the jar to me.

And yet, as Unitarian Universalist minister The Rev. Christine Robinson wrote: "Perhaps....because trust is so primal...we Americans rate this quality as the most important aspect of a relationship. Whether it's our lover or our doctor, more than anything else we want to trust that person so we can continue to believe, 'I can trust the world. I know what to expect. I will be cared for. It's okay.'"

As a congregation we help one another to discern what and who we can trust in order to keep faith that, ultimately, all will be well. We support one another when our trust is betrayed and model reconciliation when we fail one another. Together, we work for justice so that the world will be a bit more trustworthy tomorrow than it is today.

These purposes deepen our relationship with ourselves, with others, and with Life itself. They merit our time, thought, care, and financial commitment. Please join me in making a generous financial pledge during our annual stewardship drive this month. I can't promise you a jar of Scottish licorice if you do. But I can promise you that financial support of our congregation's mission is part of what it means to be a people of trust.

NOTICES

AGING TOGETHER

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 12, at 1 PM. The topic will be *Losses in Our Lives - but Not from Death*. Things like a lose of abilities, divorce, or friends moving away. For information contact Art Starr, contact info in the directory.



WHERE'S MY TRAVEL MUG?

Have you wondered lately...whatever happened to my travel mug? Maybe you left it at the church. Check the top shelf in the hospitality area to see if your vessel is among them. We seem to have quite a collection these days!



CALL FOR ATTENDEES – PROGRAM COUNCIL MEETING

By Sue Royer, President-Elect and Convener of the Program Council

Wednesday, February 13 at 7:30 in the lounge

As we continue with the trial governance

model, we will meet again as a Program Council. All committee chairs are invited to participate, in addition to O-Team members. If you are the chair of a committee and cannot attend, please send a representative. The purpose of the Program Council is to support and forward TUUC's mission and vision by offering programming. We will continue sharing across committees, work on enhanced communication, and work on our all church fun event planned for May.

Interested TUUC members and friends are welcome to participate. We look forward to seeing you!

TUUC PARTNER LEGISLATIVE ACTION UPDATE

The Unitarian Universalist Ministry of Maryland (UULM-MD) supports the following measure, which has a committee hearing this week. TUUC members are encouraged to contact legislators who serve on these committees. More information is available at <https://www.uulmmd.org/>:

House Economic Matters Committee: HB166 to increase the minimum wage to \$15 by 2023.

Other measures supported by UULM-MD include:

- Healthcare: SB759 Prescription Drug Affordability
- SB802: to allow uninsured taxpayers to pay marketplace premiums in lieu of a penalty
- Immigration: SB144: to allow Maryland officials to certify that an abuse victim who seeks a U-class visa has been helpful

to prosecution of the abuse

- [HB224](#): Prohibits local governments from privatizing jails or contracting with authorities such as ICE to provide detention services at higher than per-diem rates
- [HB262](#): in-state tuition rates for students who graduate from Maryland secondary schools regardless of immigration status
- Death With Dignity: [SB 311](#)/HB 399: End of Life Option Act

Other TUUC community partners support:

- Restorative Justice (Out For Justice, Inc.) - Stand-Alone Women's Pre-release Centers
- Information and materials for registering and voting while detained
- Repeal the "unit rule" which prevents expunging offenses from one's record when they have been charged together with non-expungable offenses
- Economic Justice (Earth Sustainability Initiatives)-provides an exemption from state capital gains tax when Maryland business owners transfer the business to employees.

NEW CHAIR DEDICATION CAMPAIGN ON SABBATICAL

The new chair campaign is well on its way with [103](#) dedicated chairs ready to be ordered. Our goal is 200 to fill the meeting room. We will resume the campaign in March or April. In the meantime, a BIG THANK YOU goes out to all of you who have already made the commitment.

COME JOIN THE JOY!



The TUUC Nursery needs help with our little ones. We are looking for TUUC members willing to help in the nursery in an on call basis. No meetings required, we just need people to be available to come and play with the little ones during the services. Sign up forms will be available on the bulletin board above the name tags, or contact Joyce Duncan or Margee Bailey. Come join the JOY!

GALLERY UNICORN

Gallery Unicorn is pleased to present the Annual Members Show which runs through March 10, 2019. The exhibition includes a variety of work in different media and styles by 22 member artists including Janette Anders, Cynthia Bearer, Mary Beth Brizzolara, Anita Cox, Erica Cox, Jane D'Ambrogi, Beverly Ginsburg, Beverly Hopkins, Dorothy Hosmer, Dianne Hosmer, Michelle Nonnan List, Shirley Magder, Casey Mashburn, Omi May, Bernard McGibbon, Nancy Mears, Len Proctor, Bonnie Fous Reynolds, Lorraine Sorbello, Carolyn Stewart, Emily Tarsell, and Richard Wagner.

Our appreciation to Michelle List and Lisa Lubomski for assisting Emily in hanging the show and to Dorothy and Dianne Hosmer and Kai Aiyetoro for publicity.

The Gallery is open weekdays between 10 AM and 3 PM and on weekends by appointment. For more information call 410-825-6045.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE LOOKING FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS

Imagine this: The service ends and people rush to the lobby to enjoy a hot coffee or tea and something to nibble on. They are looking forward to talk with old friends or to learn more about a newcomer they sat next to during the service. Newcomers have the opportunity to linger and see TUUC's hospitality in action. Now imagine a lobby empty of food or drink, with no incentives to stay. People may organize in small groups to meet for coffee or lunch, but it is not the same, especially for newcomers, who have no option but to go home. A very sad option. So here's the pitch. We all like our Hospitality hour, but its continuance depends on a sufficient number of volunteers. For the past several years, we have been able to provide reliable service with an excellent crew – both individuals and groups. But now we need an influx of several new volunteers, to avoid burnout of our current members. Keep in mind an empty lobby after a service, and please contact me. Mimi Marks (see directory)

JOINT MEDITATION DAY—FEBRUARY 9

Clare Sangha and The Mindful Way will hold a joint practice day at TUUC on February 9th from 10am to 5pm.

The day includes alternating periods of seated and walking meditation, dharma talk, optional interviews, tea/coffee and rest breaks, lunch, and spiritual circle at the end of the day.

Introductory instruction is offered to newcomers. Please bring a cushion and mat if you have them. Suggested donation is \$20.

To register, kindly send an email to register@zcbclaresangha.org or register in

person at TUUC the day of the event. We hope to see you there on a cushion near us!

ZCB/Clare Sangha www.zcbclaresangha.org

SAC MEETING, FEBRUARY 10

The Social Action Committee will meet after the first service, on Sunday, February 10 (the 2nd Sunday of the month), in the open area downstairs. All are welcome. An agenda will be sent to members.

FAIR TRADE CHOCOLATE (AND COFFEE) FOR VALENTINE'S DAY, FEBRUARY 10

Treat yourself and your Valentines to fair trade, organic chocolate, grown sustainably and purchased fairly from small-scale farmer co-ops. Dark and milk, minis, and bars in a variety of flavors. Or, if you prefer, pick up some fair trade, organic coffee (regular and decaf) or tea. Brought to you by the Green Sanctuary Committee, with proceeds funding fair trade coffee for Sunday hospitality.

SOLAR CO-OP

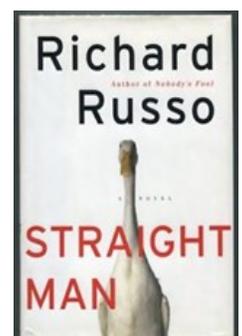
Solar Co-op Information Session, February 19
Go solar in good company! Join the Solar United Neighbors Baltimore County Solar Co-op to save on the cost of installing solar panels. Information Session at TUUC on Tuesday, February 19 at 6:30 p.m.

For more information or to sign up, solarunitedneighbors.org/Baltimore

EVENING BOOK GROUP

Wednesday, March 6, 7:30 PM

The book for March 6th is *Straight Man* by Richard Russo (fiction, 1997, fiction, 416 pages). All are welcome to join us! Contact Carel Hedlund (info in directory) if questions.



ONGOING & UPCOMING

**SUNDAY SERVICE February 17 - 9:30 AM
and 11:15 AM**

*Ethical Issues at the Beginning
and at the End of Life*

Dr. John LaFerla, Dr. Donn Teubner-Rhodes,
Dr. Neil Porter, Dr. Atif Jensen,
Rev. Clare Petersberger,

The roots of the word “trust” point to confidence, reliance, protection, solace, and support. The field of medical ethics, from the beginning of life to its end, is concerned with trust in the patient/doctor relationship. Today physicians in our congregation will reflect with us on basic concepts in medical ethics at the beginning and at the end of life.

ETHNIC LUNCH

Wednesday, February 20 @ 12:30 PM
February Ethnic Lunch features Mexican cuisine!



Join us for
delicious
Mexican food at
12:30 on
Wednesday,
February 20 at
Mezcal –
Mexican - 6 W.

Ridgely Rd, Lutherville, MD · (410) 616-9827
(deadline 2/15/19)

All are welcome,; however, sign ups
to Ethniclunch@towsonuuc.org by Friday,
February 15 are a must so we can be sure to
have a large enough table to accommodate
the group.

Hope you will be able to join us!

Janet Kuperstein and Monica Sweidel

AVAILABLE LIGHT

Friday, March 1, 6:30 PM (rescheduled)

ADORE and Available Light present:
WHOSE STREETS?



This documentary offers a ground-level perspective of the events in Ferguson, Missouri, following the police-involved shooting of Michael Brown in 2014. Critic Matt Zeller Seitz writes: “This documentary is one piece of a prismatic American narrative of race and power that can stand alone, as a report from a community that was briefly a near-war zone, or that can be watched in relation to versions of the tale as told by TV news crews, Internet outlets, newspapers, magazines, radio reporters and social media commentators.

What makes it unique and valuable is that it is not like those other versions, and has no interest in trying to be like them. The movie recounts not just the major incidents but also the black Ferguson community's specific point-of-view on what happened, with the anger and frustration that point-of-view entails. It is a straightforward attempt to redress an imbalance of storytelling power—to see and hear people who felt misrepresented or ignored at the time.”

Join Andrew Hager and Lora Powell-Haney for the movie and a discussion afterward. Film at 6:30. Bring a snack to share.

USHER ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2019

Date	Time	Adults & Children	Choir	Lounge	Total	Visitors Total
2/3/2019	9:30 AM	32	21	5	58	↓
2/3/2019	11:15 AM	107	2	6	115	6

YRE ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR SUNDAY, January 27, 2019

Nursery	PreK - K	1 st / 2 nd	3 rd - 5 th	6 th - 8 th	YRUU	TOTAL
3	6	5	3	9	7	33

INCLEMENT WEATHER AND EMERGENCY CLOSURE INFORMATION

In the event that severe weather or other emergencies compromise the safe use of TUUC facilities or property the church may cancel events or close to all activities. If the weather or the condition of the roads cause you to wonder whether we are proceeding with our programming as scheduled, please check for cancellations before you head out.

The Church Office and facilities are closed 9-5 on weekdays if Baltimore County Public Schools are closed.

Additional closure or cancellation information can be found in the following places:

- Outgoing Church Office Voicemail: (410) 825-6045
- <http://www.wbaltv.com/weather/closings>
- TUUC Website: <http://towsonuuc.org/>
- Church Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/51782871068/>
- TUUC Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/TowsonUnitarianUniversalistChurch/>
- TUUC Bulletin board/listserv: Request joining bulletin by emailing assistant@towsonuuc.org



When the facility is closed no one is permitted on church grounds without the express permission of the Chairperson of the House and Grounds Council (houseandgrounds@towsonuuc.org)

We will do our utmost to update these sources as early and as quickly as possible. Please check multiple sources and use your best judgement. Event/activity/meeting leaders may choose to cancel events, activities or meetings even when the facility is not closed. For possible cancellations of a specific meeting or event please contact your event leader.

Event/activity/meeting leaders (Committee Chairs, Committee or Meeting Organizers, Board Members, and Staff, Etc.), it is your responsibility to notify your event, activity or meeting participants if you choose to cancel a session. Please also notify the Church Administrator (churchoffice@towsonuuc.org) and the Chairperson of the House and Grounds Council (Houseandgrounds@towsonuuc.org) if you do. It may affect our plans for snow removal.

Please use your best judgement and be safe!

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT TUUC THROUGH FEBRUARY 20 AS OF 02/08/2019

Date	Day	Event	Location	Start Time
8-Feb	Friday	Stewardship Luncheon	Lobby	11:00 AM
9-Feb	Saturday	Zen Community	Meeting Room	9:00 AM
10-Feb	Sunday	Sunday Service	Meeting Room & Lobby	9:30 AM & 11:15 AM
10-Feb	Sunday	SAC Meeting	Lower Level Lobby	10:30 AM
10-Feb	Sunday	Tau Delta Omega	Rooms 1 & 2	4:00 PM
11-Feb	Monday	Handel Choir Rehearsal	Meeting Room & Lobby	6:00 PM
11-Feb	Monday	Mindful Meditation	Room 7	7:00 PM
12-Feb	Tuesday	Aging Together	Lobby	1:00 PM
12-Feb	Tuesday	Employee Ownership Meeting	Room 7	6:45 PM
13-Feb	Wednesday	Voice Lesson	Meeting Room	10:00 AM
13-Feb	Wednesday	Wednesday Writers	Room 6	10:30 AM
13-Feb	Wednesday	A-Team Meeting	Business Office	6:30 PM
13-Feb	Wednesday	Al-Anon Meeting	Room 6	7:00 PM
13-Feb	Wednesday	O-Team Meeting	Lobby	7:30 PM
14-Feb	Thursday	Voice Lesson	Meeting Room	10:30 AM
14-Feb	Thursday	TUUC Choir Rehearsals	Meeting Room	5:30/6:45/7:30 PM
14-Feb	Thursday	Men's Group	Room 7	7:30 PM
16-Feb	Saturday	3rd Saturday Work Party	Entire Campus	9 AM
16-Feb	Saturday	Singles Group Potluck	Lobby, Kitchen	6 PM
17-Feb	Sunday	Sunday Service	Meeting Room & Lobby	9:30 AM & 11:15 AM
18-Feb	Monday	Handel Choir Rehearsal	Meeting Room & Lobby	6:00 PM
18-Feb	Monday	Mindful Meditation	Room 7	7:00 PM
19-Feb	Tuesday	Dragon's Way	Rooms 1, 2, 3	6:00 PM
19-Feb	Tuesday	Baltimore Solar Coop	Meeting Room & Lobby	6:30 PM
19-Feb	Tuesday	Men's Reflection Group	Room 7	7:30 PM
19-Feb	Tuesday	Soul Matters	Room 6	7:30 PM
20-Feb	Wednesday	Voice Lesson	Meeting Room	10:00 AM
20-Feb	Wednesday	Wednesday Writers	Room 6	10:30 AM
20-Feb	Wednesday	IMPROV	Meeting Room	7:00 PM
20-Feb	Wednesday	Al-Anon Meeting	Room 6	7:00 PM
20-Feb	Wednesday	TUUC Board	Rooms 1 & 2	7:30 PM



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Email: churchoffice@towsonuuc.org
Website: www.towsonuuc.org
Office Hours: Mon-Fri. 10AM—3PM

Minister

Reverend Clare L. Petersberger
revclare@towsonuuc.org

Leadership

Board of Trustees:

President: Neil Porter
President-Elect: Sue Royer
Treasurer: Monica Sweidel
Secretary: Angela Castillo-Epps

Trustees-at-Large:

Karyn Marsh (2018-2020)
Art Starr (2018-2020)
Carol Watkins (2017-2019)
Luke Williams (2017-2019)

Operations Team:

Communications Council: Patty Berry
Finance Council: Joseph Tumbler
House and Grounds Council: Todd Robertson
Inner Life Council: Jeanette Anders
Outreach Council: Jane D'Ambrogi
Religious Education Council: Larry Magder
Sunday Service Council: Andrew Hager

Ministerial Intern

Lora Powell-Haney
lpowellhaney@meadville.edu

Staff

Youth Religious Exploration Director:

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Kai Aiyetoro
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Administrative Assistant:

Nancy Hannah
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Bookkeeper:

Mary Kay Baker
bookkeeper@towsonuuc.org