



**The
Threshold**

**Towson Unitarian
Universalist Church**

A Welcoming Congregation

UPCOMING SERVICE

June 9 - 10:30 AM

Rev. Clare Petersberger:

Beauty Will Save The World

The Soul Matters spiritual question for June is, "What does it mean to be a people of beauty?" The Russian author, Dostoyevsky, boldly asserted, "Beauty will

save the world." When has beauty inspired, opened, and uplifted you? And when have such experiences called you to join with others to challenge the status quo, to protect the vulnerable, and to work for a world transformed by our care?

YOUTH RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

Thanks to everyone who participated in YRE Sunday on June 2. We hope that you had a good time and maybe met some new folks, especially those who are younger or older. I am very grateful to the teachers who lent their time and creativity.

Although formal YRE classes have ended, the fun is not over!

Please join us this Sunday at 10:30 AM for a multiage class for those 6 and up. Older children and teens are welcome as assistants. We will meet downstairs at 10:30 for a variety of activities, ranging from improv and theater games, outside for parachute activities, and some time spent placing our

new stepping stones into the garden, and watering/garden upkeep. Please sign your child in at 10:25 am.

We hope that you will stay to attend **the congregational meeting at 11:45 AM** . Please sign in your child as we will have childcare available and monitored activities for older children also.

Summer Adventures, our multiage program for children 6 -10 starts on June 16 and will run through July 28 (no program on July 7 because of holiday weekend). Activities on different Sundays will include cooking, nature crafts, scavenger hunts, making dreamcatchers, and yoga. A detailed

schedule will go out soon. We hope that you and your children will join us. Older children and teens are welcome to assist. We still

need an adult assistant for a few Sundays, contact Joyce if you would like to help out for one hour on one Sunday this summer.



Morgan Glenn Wood born June 4, 2019 — 6:03 AM — 8 lbs. 14 oz. (yes, really!)

Congratulations! Katie & David Wood & Grandma Margee Bailey

ONGOING AND UPCOMING

TUUC RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Working with the American Red Cross, we've scheduled **Saturday, June 8th, 2019** for the next TUUC Blood Drive. With June 8th coming up fast, please check your calendar and consider donating blood at our drive. When you see our appointment sign-up sheet in the church lobby, please stop by and select an appointment time between 9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on June 8th. Contact Clare Flynn-Avallone or Nina Della Vecchia if you have any questions. Give the Gift of Life - Give Blood!



Give blood.
Save a life.

CALL FOR ARTISTS to apply for a juried exhibition on the theme of Expectation.

Gallery Unicorn invites you to submit by **June 17, 2019** two jpegs of original wall art related to the theme "EXPECTATION". Send to: gallerunicorn@towsonuuc.org.

Selected work will be part of a group exhibition to be held at Gallery Unicorn from July 28, 2019 through September 22, 2019. Entrance fee is \$25 and three cash prizes will be awarded.

For more information, call Lisa Lubomski, Gallery Curator at 443-869-0508.

SINGLES FELLOWSHIP GROUP POTLUCK, SATURDAY, JUNE 22, AT 6 PM.

Join the Singles Fellowship Group for a potluck with good food and conversation at one of our homes. We offer an atmosphere for fellowship and friendship among TUUC single adults. We range in age from the 60's to 80's, but gladly welcome anyone to join us.

Please call [Ronald Rowley](#) to RSVP and to get more information. He is listed in Breeze, the church online database.

EARL'S PLACE: REDUCING HOMELESSNESS ONE MAN AT A TIME

When you donate items such as toilet paper, paper towels, toiletries or laundry detergent to the bucket for Earl's Place, you are helping change a life. Thank you!

Earl's Place is a recovery-focused, supportive housing program for men experiencing homelessness. Thanks to people like you, the men are able to rebuild their lives and return to society as positive and productive citizens.

Want to learn more – stop by for a visit, Earl's Place is a project of United Ministries, Inc. 1400 E. Lombard Street, Baltimore, MD 21231, call us at 410-522-0225, email sheila@umhousing.org or visit our [website: www.umhousing.org](http://www.umhousing.org).

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Annual Congregational Meeting of the Towson Unitarian Universalist Church will be held on Sunday, June 9, 2019, at 12 noon. Please see the agenda and materials, which were emailed to you on May 21, along with an addendum to the nominating slate which was emailed on May 29. These materials were also posted in the files section of our Facebook group.

Note that there are four items requiring a congregational vote:

1. The election of officers
2. A resolution for a Governance Transition Year
3. A resolution for Forgiveness of the Roof Loan
4. Approval of the Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2019 – 2020

All are encouraged to attend; however, only members can vote. Members are requested to check-in at 11:45 am and receive a voting paddle.

Contents of the Call to the Annual Congregational Meeting:

- Agenda
- Nominating Slate
- Resolution for Governance Transition Year
- Resolution for Forgiveness of the Roof Loan
- Budget Memo
- Proposed Budget for 2019 – 2020 (separate file, spreadsheet)

ACTC

Many thanks to all those who have been bringing donations. Currently ACTC is in need of plastic grocery bags (used to pack homeless bags. Cereal and soup are in small supply.

HELP PLEASE - FEEDING THE HUNGRY

Even though the weather has turned warm and summer is here, the homeless and poor people of Baltimore are still hungry every day! June has a 5th Saturday, so the TUUC community has a commitment to provide **AT LEAST 60 casseroles** for the hot lunch that is

served at Our Daily Bread every day, 365 days a year!

Please sign up to make a casserole, buy a Party Size Stouffer's Mac & Cheese or donate \$10 for a casserole to be bought in your name. Casseroles can be brought to TUUC anytime in June and stored in the freezer in the closet next to the choir area.

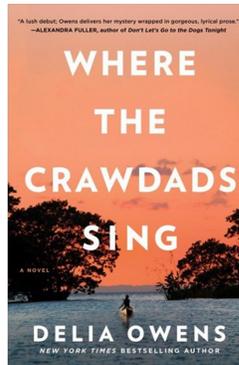
Casseroles are due at TUUC by 8:30am on Saturday, June 29.

EVENING BOOK GROUP

WEDNESDAY JULY 10 AT 7:30

(NOTE: change of date due to July 4th holiday)

We will meet downstairs to discuss. [Where The Crawdads Sing](#) by Delia Owens (fiction, 2018, 384 pages)



The novel is set in the 1950s and revolves around a young woman named Kya Clark, who is from extremely rural North Carolina. Known by others as the Marsh Girl, she lives alone in nature—but the draw of other people, and specifically love, brings her into contact with the greater world. This novel has a mystery at its core, but it can be read on a variety of levels. There is great nature writing; there is coming of age; and there is literature. *Crawdads* is a story lovingly told—one that takes its time in developing its characters and setting, and in developing the story.

(The book for the August 7th meeting is [The Death of Mrs. Westaway](#) by Ruth Ware)

All are welcome. Contact Carel Hedlund (info in Breeze) if you have any questions.

CLARE'S COLLOQUY

Upon first hearing that the Soul Matter's spiritual question for this month is: "What does it mean to be a people of beauty?" my thoughts turned to the dedication of the TUUC Memorial Garden in May of 2007. Jay Cherry requested that the dedication end with the following reading from the Navajo Tradition:

"Beauty is before me, and
Beauty is behind me;
above me and below me
hovers the beautiful.

I am surrounded by it;
I am immersed in it.

In my youth, I am aware of it,
and in old age
I shall walk quietly the beautiful trail.

In beauty it is begun.
In beauty it is ended."

Jay did more than request the inclusion of specific closing words. After delivering them, he added one more sentence, "Let the water

fall!" And at that, his son, Warren Cherry, turned on the switch for the water fall in the Memorial Garden. It was a dramatic; effective; and moving moment to affirm the ongoing flow of life, of loveliness, and of human love.

We are preparing for our Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday at noon. We will be surrounded by the beautiful artwork of our Water/Ways art exhibit. We will bring our own beauty and ideals. May we also bring an awareness of the beauty of our Unitarian Universalist faith in democracy. Terry Tempest writes: "The human heart is the first home of democracy. It is where we embrace our questions. Can we be equitable? Can we be generous? Can we listen with our whole beings, not just our minds, and offer our attention rather than our opinions? And do we have enough resolve in our hearts to act courageously, relentlessly, without giving up, trusting our fellow (congregants) to join us in our determined pursuit—a living democracy?"

Our faith tradition answers with a resounding, "Yes!" There is great beauty in trusting ourselves and one another to make together the decisions that will enable, to fulfill our mission, to deepen our spiritual and ethical lives by working for racial, social, and environmental justice.

Although our Annual Meeting will not begin nor end with "Let the water fall!" may we remember that democracy is, in the words of Parker Palmer, "not something we have but something we do." May it be done in, and with, love.



GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2019 PART 1

General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA).

<https://www.uua.org/ga> Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through the democratic process. Anyone may attend. Three thousand or more UU's attend General Assembly. This year it is being held in Spokane, WA, June 19-23. Congregations are entitled to send voting delegates, the number depending on the size of the congregation. Delegates may be elected by the congregation or appointed by the governing board.

This year's theme is "The Power of We". "In a time of great challenge and heartbreak in our world, what does our faith demand from us? At this year's General Assembly we will explore the power, possibility, purpose, struggle and joy of finding the path forward together as Unitarian Universalists. Attendees will leave inspired, with the tools needed to carry on the work into their own congregations and communities. Join us as we work for collective liberation inside and outside our faith. "

Many congregations cover all or part of a delegate's expenses. Many do not, and in these latter cases delegates are in effect, self selected as they are the members of the congregations who can afford to pay GA expenses. However, it is possible to attend GA electronically, and if appointed as a delegate, participate in the plenary sessions at which the business of the UUA is conducted, as well as being able to view live cast streaming of workshops and other events. The registration cost is less than half

of that for on site attendees and delegates.

TUUC's delegates are Rev. Clare Petersberger, Karyn March, Marti MacKenzie, and Thomas Zeller. Attending offsite will be Suzanne Royer.

Most the major events and worship services are live cast streamed and anyone with a computer may watch and listen. All of these are recorded for later viewing.

A listing and description of these follow.

The opening ceremony features attendees marching through the auditorium with the banner of their congregation. It's a very colorful and celebratory event. Attendees also hear welcomes and information about GA from UUA officers, board members and staff, and there is a lot of singing.

The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) President, in consultation with the General Assembly Planning Committee, invites a distinguished guest each year to address the General Assembly as the Ware Lecturer. This year the lecturer is Richard Blanco. Selected by President Obama as the fifth inaugural poet in U.S. history, Richard Blanco is the youngest and the first Latino, immigrant, and gay person to serve in such a role. Born in Madrid to Cuban exile parents and raised in Miami, the negotiation of cultural identity characterizes his poetry, which has won numerous awards.

The Service of The Living Tradition recognizes newly fellowshiped ministers, and newly credentialed religious educators and music directors, as well as those ministers who have passed during the year. Music is provided by a choir of ministers and of course, by the

congregation. The sermon is delivered by a UU minister and usually is very engaging and dynamic.

Sunday Morning Worship is “... the largest annual gathering of UUs joining in worship. This powerful, communal worship experience will take place at the Spokane Convention Center on Sunday, June 23, 2019 (start time TBD). Members of the public are welcome. Live-streaming video will also be available . Music is provided by the General Assembly Choir, which consists of attendees. It is quite something to hear a choir of 150 or more. Rev. Marta I. Valentín, minister with the Unitarian Universalist Church of Medford, MA, will deliver the sermon at the Sunday Morning Worship.

Our next Denominational Minute will describe some of the other activities that take place at General Assembly. For a complete schedule and description of these, you can download the program book and also the final agenda for the business sessions.

<https://www.uua.org/ga/program/book>



Social Action 5th Sunday

- June 30th
- Entire collection plate is designated for the Social Action Committee.
- Launch of summer donation drive of money and school supplies for ACTC.

A member of the SAC will make the collection plate announcement.

USHER ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR SUNDAY, June 2, 2019

Date	Time	Adults/Children	Choir	Lounge	Total	Visitors Total	Nursery
6/2/2019	10:30 AM	61/10	1	1	73	6	8

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT TUUC THROUGH June 23, 2019 AS OF 06/08/2019

Date	Day	Event	Location	Start Time
8-June	Saturday	Blood Drive	Lower Level	8:00 AM
8-June	Saturday	Zen Community	Meeting Room & Room 7	9:00 AM
9-June	Sunday	Sunday Service	Meeting Room & Lobby	10:30 AM
9-June	Sunday	Congregational Meeting	Meeting Room	11:30 AM
10-June	Monday	Mindful Meditation	Room 7	7:00 PM
10-June	Monday	Personnel Committee	Room 6	7:30 PM
11-June	Tuesday	Aging Together	Lobby	1:00 PM
12-June	Wednesday	Voice Lesson	Meeting Room	10:00 AM
12-June	Wednesday	Wednesday Writers	Room 6	10:30 AM
12-June	Wednesday	Voice Lessons	Meeting Room	3:00 PM
12-June	Wednesday	A-Team Meeting	Business Office	6:00 PM
12-June	Wednesday	IMPROV	Meeting Room	7:00 PM
12-June	Wednesday	AI-Anon Meeting	Room 6	7:00 PM
12-June	Wednesday	O-Team Meeting	Lobby	7:30 PM
13-June	Thursday	TUUC Choir Rehearsal	Meeting Room	5:30; 6:45; 7:30 PM
13-June	Thursday	Men's Group Meeting	Room 7	7:30 PM
14-June	Friday	No Meetings		
15-June	Saturday	Third Saturday Work Party	Entire Campus	9:00 AM
16-June	Sunday	Sunday Service	Meeting Room & Lobby	10:30 AM
16-June	Sunday	SAC Meeting	Lower Level Lobby	11:30 AM
16-June	Sunday	Irina Briskin Recitals	Meeting Room & Lobby	1:00 PM
17-June	Monday	Dragon's Way Qigong Class	Lobby	6:30 PM
17-June	Monday	Mindful Meditation	Room 7	7:00 PM
18-June	Tuesday	Men's Reflection Group	Room 7	7:30 PM
19-June	Wednesday	Voice Lesson	Meeting Room	10:00 AM
19-June	Wednesday	Wednesday Writers	Room 6	10:30 AM
19-June	Wednesday	Voice Lessons	Meeting Room	3:00 PM
19-June	Wednesday	IMPROV	Meeting Room	7:00 PM
19-June	Wednesday	AI-Anon Meeting	Room 6	7:00 PM
20-June	Thursday	Voice Lesson	Meeting Room	10:30 PM
20-June	Thursday	TUUC Choir Rehearsal	Meeting Room	5:30; 6:45; 7:30 PM
20-June	Thursday	Sierra Club Meeting	Room 6	6:45 PM
20-June	Thursday	COED: Can We Talk?	Room 7	7:30 PM
21-June	Friday	No Meetings		
22-June	Saturday	Irina Briskin Recitals	Meeting Room & Lobby	4:00 PM
23-June	Sunday	Sunday Service	Meeting Room & Lobby	10:30 AM
23-June	Sunday	Huggins Music Recitals	Meeting Room & Lobby	1:00 PM



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Website: www.towsonuuc.org
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Minister

Reverend Clare L. Petersberger
revclare@towsonuuc.org

Leadership

Board of Trustees:

President: Neil Porter (2018-2019)
President-Elect: Sue Royer (2018-2019)
Treasurer: Monica Sweidel (2017-2019)
Secretary: Angela Castillo-Epps (2018-2020)

Trustees-at-Large:

Karyn Marsh (2018-2020)
Art Starr (2018-2020)
John Mattingly (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'Ambrogio
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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Music Director:

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Church Administrator:

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Administrative Assistant:

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Bookkeeper:

Mary Kay Baker
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