Dear Tufts community,

For many Christians, this is Easter Week, a time to rejoice in celebration of Christ’s Resurrection from the dead. In the Gospels (the biblical accounts of Jesus’ life), there are several stories that speak of the Risen Savior appearing to the disciples and others in bodily form. One of my favorite post-Resurrection appearances is found in Luke, chapter 24, which describes Jesus’ followers walking from Jerusalem to a village named Emmaus. On their way, Jesus appears next to them and begins walking and talking with them. The whole time they have no idea that it is Christ and think that he’s just some stranger.

Then, they arrive at Emmaus, sit down for dinner, and a miracle occurs. Scripture says that Jesus “took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight” (verse 31, NRSV). In my Episcopal Church tradition, we have a prayer that accompanies this story, which includes these words: “O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work” (The Book of Common Prayer, 1979).

I love this idea that the Divine can be made known to us through food and fellowship, among friends and perhaps especially with the strangers who cross paths with every day. When we open the eyes of our hearts and minds to

*A Reflection from your Protestant Chaplain*
behold God in each other and in every person who comes across our path - even and especially those we do not yet know - we experience the Divine.

May the promise of new life, celebrated this Eastertide and springtime, be yours.

Blessings,
The Reverend Dan Bell
Protestant Chaplain
Join the Interfaith Ambassador team!
Apply by April 10

Hiring Interfaith Ambassador for Fall 2024
Apply by Wednesday, April 10

The Interfaith Ambassador Program is a student leadership program for undergraduate students. This team works in collaboration with University Chaplaincy staff, campus student leaders and organizations, and community groups to create more inclusive multifaith spaces on campus. Ambassadors offer opportunities to bring people of diverse backgrounds and beliefs together for reflection, community-building, advocacy, and service. The Ambassador team is supervised by the University Chaplain and receives guidance and support from the whole Chaplaincy team. They also actively partner with student organizations and university offices across campus. Ambassadors work 6 – 8 hours per week. Hours include weekly team meetings and scheduled hours for study, program development, and program leadership. Please email University Chaplain Elyse Nelson Winger with questions and find the position on Handshake below.

Apply to be an Interfaith Ambassador

Religious and Philosophical Programs

Our gatherings are open to all members of the Tufts community! Please find more information and more regular weekly programming and events here on our
If you have any questions, or would like to connect about convening a new gathering, please reach out to the University Chaplaincy.

Community Iftars on the Medford Campus

Join the Muslim community for our open iftars! See image above for exact dates and locations (marked in red on the calendar). All remaining iftars will be held at the Interfaith Center at 58 Winthrop Street. Prayer space will be available at IFC for Maghrib.

Note: All iftars will be held at the Tufts Interfaith Center (IFC) located at 58 Winthrop St. with the exception of Interfaith Iftar on 4/12 which will be held in Breed Hall (51 Winthrop Street - across from IFC). On all nights, prayer space will be available at IFC for Maghrib.
Isha/Tarawih will be available at each iftar. We will not be distributing single-use water bottles so if possible please bring your own reusable water bottle to iftar. This will help us eliminate waste during Ramadan. Find more information about Ramadan at Tufts below.

Beyond Darkness
Stories of Renewal

Hear from a panel of survivors and those impacted by the Holocaust and genocides in Darfur, Bosnia, and Cambodia. Listen to the speakers’ experiences of strength, fear, and uncertainty, as well as their tireless efforts to advocate for their communities.

April 3rd, 2024
7:30pm
@The Joyce Cummings Center
177 College Ave, Medford, MA 02155

RSVP For Cummings/Hillel Keynote
Tech Agnostic with Greg Epstein, hosted by the Humanist Community at Tufts
Thursday, April 11, 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m., Interfaith Center

The Humanist Community at Tufts (HCAT) invites you to a special event featuring Greg Epstein, the Humanist Chaplain for Harvard and MIT. Join us to hear about his upcoming book: "Tech Agnostic: How Technology Became the World's Most Powerful Religion, and Why It Desperately Needs a Reformation." Encouraging readers to reassert their common humanity beyond the seductive sheen of "tech," this book argues for tech agnosticism—not worship—as a way of life. Without suggesting we return to a mythical pre-tech past, Epstein shows why we must maintain a freethinking critical perspective toward innovation until it proves itself worthy of our faith or not. For questions, contact HCAT.

RSVP For Tech Agnostic hosted by HCAT
Holi with Hindu Students Association
Sunday, April 14, 12:00 p.m., Residential Quad

Join the Hindu Students Association for Holi on Sunday, April 14 on the Residential Quad! Early arrivals get free tshirts to get colorful! You can email Hindu Chaplain Preeta Banerjee with any questions.
There’s No Time: Let Us Make Sanctuary

Wednesday, April 17
4:30-7:30pm
Interfaith Center
58 Winthrop Street
Dinner will be provided

In the wake of fluid migrancies, blurred boundaries between flesh and technology, the rise of AI, daily pandemics, declining trust in democratic institutions, and climate chaos upending the familiar, a new ethic is required. A posthumanist-phenomenological aesthetic of emancipation.

Join Tufts undergraduate and graduate students for a transformative journey where Dr. Báyò Akómoláfé’s concept of sanctuary beckons. Discover sanctuary not as mere protection, but as a courageous embrace of loss and a celebration of the possibilities within us all.

Contact Anthony Cruz Pantojas, Humanist Chaplain for more information:
anthony.cruz_pantojas@tufts.edu

There’s No Time: Let Us Make Sanctuary
Wednesday, April 17, 4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. ET, 226 Austin Room and via Zoom

The Unlearning Retreat is a BIPOC space to let go of what no longer serves us. We will be engaging with the work of Bayo Akomolafe over dinner. Join Tufts undergraduate and graduate students for a transformative journey where Dr. Báyò Akómoláfé's concept of sanctuaty beckons. Discover sanctuary not as mere protection, but as a courageous embrace of loss and a celebration of the possibilities within us all. You can contact Humanist Chaplain Anthony Cruz Pantojas or Hindu Chaplain Preeta Banerjee for more information; please RSVP by April 16.

RSVP for the Unlearning Retreat
Who are all the stakeholders in creating Interfaith Sanctuary in Higher Education spaces? What is Sanctuary and how do we recognize it when we enter?

Please join students, scholars, and practitioners as we delve into these questions and more. Featuring Báyò Akómoláfé. Cohosted with Journal of Interreligious Studies.

Based on special issue #39 "Beyond Resistance: Building, Making, and Creating Sanctuary" guest-edited by Dr. Preeta M. Banerjee, Dr. Sheron Fraser-Burgess, and Rev. Anya Phillips Thomas.
Partner Programs

TUFTS MUSIC PRESENTS | SUNDAY CONCERT SERIES

IRON RIVER SINGERS

SUNDAY, APRIL 7th, 2024 AT 2PM
Distler Performance Hall, Granoff Music Center
Free; no tickets required

A presentation at 2pm and performance at 3pm of Northern-Style Indigenous pow-wow music and dance by members of the Chippewa, Wampanoag, Abenaki, and Passamaquoddy nations.

followed by a post-concert reception
gs.tufts.edu/musicevents
617.627.2253

CO-SPONSORED BY THE TUFTS DEPARTMENTS OF
Music | Anthropology | Theatre, Dance & Performance Studies | Sociology | Studies in Race, Colonialism & Diaspora | Civic Studies
The Tufts Diversity Fund, International Relations Program, the DEIJ Leadership Program, and the following

Iron River Singers
Sunday, April 7, 2:00 p.m., Distler Performance Hall, Granoff Music Center

The Tufts Department of Music invites everyone to a presentation of Northern-Style Indigenous pow-wow music and dance by members of the Chippewa, Wampanoag, Abenaki, and Passamaquoddy nations-- The Iron River Singers.

The Iron River Singers is a well-known local northern style pow-wow singing group, bringing together members of the Chippewa, Wampanoag, Abenaki, and Passamaquoddy nations, among others. The Iron River Singers will perform traditional pow-wow music from their repertoire of music, along with dance performances, and punctuated by short explanations. The 3:00 pm concert will be preceded by an interactive presentation at 2:00 pm by the group's director and educator, Chris Newell, to introduce indigenous music to the audience and give key elements to understand its sounds and culture. Join for an post-concert reception in the Granoff Music Center lobby. This event is supported by Tufts Diversity Fund, Medford Arts Council, the Center for the Humanities at Tufts, the Tufts Departments of Music, Anthropology, Race Colonialism & Diaspora, Sociology, History, Theater, Dance & Performance Studies, Tufts Fletcher School, Civic Studies program, and the International Relations Program. For more information, please visit the link below or call the Granoff Music Center Box Office at (617) 627-2253. All are welcome.
Fall 2024 Religion courses are live

The Religion Department is offering variety of classes for Fall 2024! You can find more information through the coursebook linked below, and email the Religion department with any questions.

Find the Full Fall 2024 Religion Coursebook

Resources, Scholarships, and Opportunities
All are invited to gather for an Interfaith Iftar hosted by local Muslim leaders and the Medford Interfaith Community. In a world that seems to be dividing at alarming rates, we need more opportunities to come together across cultural, religious, and political differences. Ramadan is a time set apart to build relationships and (re)connect with God, self, and community. It is a time overflowing with prayer and tradition, and it is also a time filled with joy and delicious food.
The Iftar schedule:
6:00p: Welcome, Program, Reflections
7:18p: Adhan - Call to Prayer, Duas & Break Fast, Maghrib Prayer
7:40p: Dinner and Dialogue

You can find more information and event host contact information below.

Moishe House Applications

Are you a senior graduating this semester? Moishe House Cambridge Central Sq is looking for new residents! Apply today to be a part of an incredible community! Moishe House invites Jewish young adults (ages 22-32) to create monthly programming with your roommates for your local community and become a part of a global Jewish network. They provide the tools and support, you create the programs that fit your interests and community – all are welcome to apply!

Upcoming Religious Celebrations and Observances

These events are drawn from the multifaith calendar maintained by the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life at Harvard Divinity School. To see more upcoming religious holidays and festivals, please follow the link to the Harvard Divinity School calendar.

Ramadan
Mon., Mar. 11 – Wed., Apr. 10, 2024
Tradition: Islam
The Holy Month of Ramadan is the month of fasting during which Muslims who are physically able do not eat or drink from the first sign of dawn until sunset in honor of the first revelations to the Prophet Muhammad. The evening meal is celebrated with family.

Great Lent
Mon., Mar. 18 – Sat., May 4, 2024
Tradition: Christianity-Orthodox
In Orthodox churches, the first day of Lent marks the beginning of the Great Fast, the final six weeks of a 10-week period leading up to Holy Week and Easter (Pascha). In the churches that follow the Gregorian calendar, Lent is a six-week observance (40 days excluding Sundays) beginning with Ash Wednesday and culminating in Holy Week. It is a time of repentance and sacrifice in preparation for Easter.

Anniversary of the Founding of the Church
Sat., Apr. 6, 2024
Tradition: Latter Day Saints
Annual World General Conference of the Church held on Saturday and Sunday closest to this date each year.

**Laylat al-Qadr**
Sat., Apr. 6, 2024
Tradition: Islam
The Night of Power or Destiny commemorates the first revelation of the Qur'an (the Islamic scriptures) to Prophet Muhammad in 610 CE.

**Eid al-Fitr ('Id al-Fitr)**
Tue., Apr. 9 – Fri., Apr. 12, 2024
Tradition: Islam
Also known as the Festival of the Breaking of the Fast. One of the two main Islamic festivals (the other is Eid al-Adha), this day celebrates the end of Ramadan, the month of fasting. It comes on the first day of the next lunar month, Shawal.

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**Support the University Chaplaincy**

Supporting dynamic programs at Tufts University in religious, spiritual, ethical, and cultural life is easy and vital to our work. To donate, please click on the button below. Thank you for your generosity.

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**ABOUT US**

The University Chaplaincy is a dynamic hub supporting religious, spiritual, ethical, and cultural life for all members of the Tufts community. We provide pastoral care, support religious and philosophical communities, educate about spiritual and ethical issues in society and the world, and promote multifaith engagement.

Tufts University Chaplaincy | Goddard Chapel, 3 The Green | Medford, MA 02155 US
chaplaincy.tufts.edu | chaplaincy@tufts.edu | 617.627.3427

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