



# Tufts

# UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY

E-NEWS 11.01.23



## An Invitation to In Living Memory: A Concert of Stories and Songs

Dear Jumbos,

For a third year, the University Chaplaincy is collaborating with the Latinx Center and the SMFA for *In Living Memory: A Concert of Stories and Songs* to celebrate and highlight the religious and cultural traditions around this time of year, including Día de los Muertos, Samhain, All Souls Day, and All Saints Day. The ofrenda is already up in Goddard Chapel (pictured above), the papel picado are being strung up by students this week, and the order for pastries has been placed. All we need now is you finding your way here on Thursday night, to be near this happening.

Nearness is one of the uniting threads of the holidays and observances *In Living Memory* lifts up. Samhain, the holiday my Irish mother always made very special in our home, marks the time when the Celts believed that the spirit world is closer, a time when the normal barriers between the living and the passed are made porous and inviting. Today, Día de los Muertos, which the Latinx Center and

Indigenous Center are also celebrating this week, is a blend of Mesoamerican ritual, Catholic religious tradition, and Spanish culture that takes many forms in many countries but centers on the sweet reunion of the dead with the living for a time. While never equivalent, the shared pulse of these holidays, to me, beats insistently to the question, "Will you choose nearness?"

Nearness to people, the living, the dead, this world, the solemn, grateful, joyful, heartbroken feelings of right now, that's how I hear the question. Nearness to the strength of communities who grieve and celebrate together, nearness to the fragility of what it means that each of us is a finite being in an infinite world. Nearness to the warmth that is always still possible whenever we choose colorful, connected, life.

It is an auspicious time to choose proximity to each other through music, candlelight, cocoa, poetry, and rich togetherness. We welcome you, first years to seniors, graduate student, alumni, staff, faculty, community member for this year's In Living Memory, and do hope you can be near.

Warmly,  
Nora Bond  
University Chaplaincy Program Manager

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## Upcoming Signature Programs



### **In Living Memory: A Concert of Stories and Songs**

Tomorrow - Thursday, November 2, 7:00 p.m., Goddard Chapel

Join students and staff from the University Chaplaincy, the Latinx Center, the LGBT Center, the Indigenous Center, and the SMFA for *In Living Memory: A Concert of Stories and Songs*. The evening will feature music, performances by Public Harmony, sQ!, and Ballet Folklórico, and spoken word offerings on the themes of remembering those who have passed, uplifted by the many religious and spiritual holidays this time of year, including Día de los Muertos, Samhain, All Souls Day, All Saints Day, and more. We will also be showcasing an installation of the Ofrenda Project from student artists at the SMFA. Latinx Center, LGBT Center, and Indigenous Center staff, students, and chaplains will speak, and the event will be followed by cocoa and candy outside. Join us for a night of candlelight, meaningful festivities, and treats! Please email program manager [Nora Bond](#) with any questions or accessibility needs.





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## **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 website](#). If you have any questions, or would like to connect about convening a new gathering, please [reach out to the University Chaplaincy](#).**



# Tea Time and Care Packages



In this time of suffering and conflict in the world and among our community at Tufts, genuine acts of kindness and care matter. Come by the Chapel on Wednesday to assemble small care packages that can be picked up by any student to share with another. Write cards of support to friends and peers, and connect with others in a warm and supportive space.

Wednesday, November 1  
Goddard Chapel  
2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.



Tea and snacks will be provided

Sponsored by the  
University Chaplaincy and the  
Interfaith Ambassador Team



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## Tea Time and Care Package Making

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**Hindu Chaplaincy and Hindu Students Association Diwali Puja**

Friday, November 3, 5:00 p.m., Interfaith Center (58 Winthrop Street)

Diwali, or Deepawali, translates to row of lights and is commonly known as the Festival of Lights. The lunar calendar date for Diwali this year is Sunday Nov 12, 2023, but because it falls on the long weekend, Tufts is holding it a week earlier. On this day, the community will celebrate the return of Lord Ram, an avatar of Vishnu (1 of the three forces of creation, maintenance and destruction), to his home in Ayodhya after being exiled for 14 years. We will be giving our prayers to Ma Lakshmi, Goddess of Wealth, to bless us with prosperity, wealth, health and abundance, as is done in many households at this time. Join for a celebration this Sunday!

# PROTESTANT

## *Evening Worship*



**Every Sunday, 7pm | Goddard Chapel**

ALL ARE WELCOME. ALL ARE VALUED AS PART OF THE COMMUNITY.  
ALL ARE LOVED BY GOD.

**Refreshments and community time afterwards**

*There's always room for you in the PEW.*



## **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5**

### **Rev. Megan Berkowitz, A14**

Senior Pastor of the Union Church in Waban (Newton, MA). Megan is an ordained United Church of Christ minister, social worker, and Tufts alumna.

Please join us as we welcome her back to The Hill for an All Saints Celebration!



Contact: Protestant Chaplain Dan Bell

**Daniel.Bell@tufts.edu**  
**chaplaincy.tufts.edu/protestant**



University Chaplaincy  
Protestant Chaplaincy

### **Protestant Evening Worship with Rev. Megan Berkowitz, A14**

Sunday, November 5, 7:00 p.m., Goddard Chapel

All are welcome every Sunday for Protestant Evening Worship with the Protestant Chaplaincy. This Sunday the Protestant Community will observe All Saints Day with guest preacher Rev. Megan Berkowitz, A14. Rev. Berkowitz is the Senior Pastor of the Union Church in Waban, an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, a social worker, and a Tufts alumna. Please join for a meaningful Sunday.



MAJORS MONTH X UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY

## **More than a Major: Life is (Much) More Than Work and School**

What does your best life *really* mean, you think?

Join the University Chaplaincy to really get to know  
what you want from your days, including relationships,  
rest, play, nature, and more.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15 12-1PM, LUNCH PROVIDED

ALUMNAE LOUNGE

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### **More than a Major: Life is (Much) More Than Work and School**

Wednesday, November 15, 12:00 p.m., Alumnae Lounge

What does your best life really mean? Join the University Chaplaincy for More than a Major: Life is (Much) More Than Work and School to really get to know what you want from your days, including relationships, rest, play, nature, and more. As part of Majors Month this year, we are inviting you to join in-person for lunch and crafty conversation about what makes your life full, and how your major can be a part of that fullness. Follow [this link to learn more details about the event and register](#). Reach out to program manager [Nora Bond](#) with any questions.

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## **Partner Programs**

*feeling ok feeling ok feeling ok*  
***feeling ok***

Do you ever struggle with difficult emotions like uncertainty, comparison, anger, or regret?

CMHS's free, 6-week email challenge will help you ***feel ok*** & learn how to make those feelings more manageable

***Sign up at*** [tinyurl.com/feelingokfall2023](https://tinyurl.com/feelingokfall2023)

**Tufts** | Counseling &  
Mental Health Service

***Starts November 6***

**Feeling Ok with Counseling and Mental Health Services**

Begins Monday, November 6

It's normal to struggle with tough emotions, like uncertainty, comparison, anger, and regret. These types of feelings are inevitable, and there are strategies to make them feel more manageable and less overwhelming. Sign up for the Feeling OK Challenge with CMHS, a free, 6-week email challenge to learn how. Plus, you can enter to win prizes each week for trying the tips we share in each weekly email. Sign up below and [learn more about Counseling and Mental Health Services here](#).

Sign up here for Feeling Ok



# Stand by your God:

## *Paul of Tarsus on Fidelity*



*Jennifer Eyl, Associate Professor*

**Monday, November 6**

**12:00 - 1:15pm**

**CHAT Conference Room | Fung House, 48 Professors Row**

Alongside the ever-expanding presence of Roman power, the first century CE saw a noteworthy increase in discourse about the virtue of fidelity (*fides* in Latin, *pistis* in Greek). Amid rising concerns over loyalty and trustworthiness that accompany empire, when the question of fidelity occupied the attention of the Julio-Claudian and Flavian administrations, how might we understand the apostle Paul's promotion of *pistis* as the quintessential virtue for his mission to attract and cultivate obedient Gentile followers? This talk explores the letters of Paul as illustrations of first century discourse advocating allegiant behavior.

*Sponsored by the Department of Religion*

### **Stand by your God: Paul of Tarsus on Fidelity**

Monday, November 6, 12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m., CHAT Conference Room, Fung House, 48 Professors Row

Join the Department of Religion for a conversation with Associate Professor Jennifer Eyl about the apostle Paul. This talk explores the letters of Paul as illustrations of first century discourse advocating allegiant behavior.

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**Resources, Scholarships, and Opportunities**



### **Winter Clothing Drive**

Please help a Tufts student in need! Donate your clean and new or gently worn winter coats, jackets sweaters, boots, scarves, gloves, muffs and other accessories to support Tufts students during the upcoming winter months. Donations will be accepted October 23–November 3, Monday to Friday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Drop-off locations:

- First Resource Center 20 Professors Row, 3rd Floor
- International Center, 20 Sawyer Ave.
- Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, Ballou Hall, 1st Floor, GSAS Suite
- SOE Graduate Dean's Office, Anderson Hall, Room 113, 200 College Ave



# Thursday Dinner Shift

## Harvard Sq Homeless Shelter

### 6:45 pm - 9:15 pm.



Join fellow Tufts community members to serve our neighbors for a dinner. Contact [Lynn.Cooper@tufts.edu](mailto:Lynn.Cooper@tufts.edu) to sign up. No experience needed, and you can sign up just once. Transport is free.



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#### Harvard Square Homeless Shelter Dinner Shift

Thursday Dinner Shift, 6:45 p.m. - 9:15 p.m., Harvard Square

Starting November 2, the University Chaplaincy will send 3-5 students to help serve dinner at the Harvard Square Homeless Shelter, located in University Lutheran Church, 66 Winthrop St., Cambridge, MA (in the middle of Harvard Square). The University Chaplaincy will provide a T Pass for transportation on the 96 bus into Harvard Square or the T from Davis. Volunteers travel together and we will send new folks with returners to offer support and guidance. We will have this shift through the spring semester. Please email Associate Director [Lynn Cooper](mailto:Lynn.Cooper@tufts.edu) if you are interested in signing up or learning more. As a volunteer, you decide which weeks you are able to serve. Learn more about [Harvard Square Homeless Shelter here](#).

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## 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](#).

#### Reformation Day

Tue., Oct. 31, 2023

Tradition: Christianity, Protestant

Commemorates the beginning of the Protestant Reformation of Christianity with Martin Luther's challenge to the Roman church in the sixteenth century C.E.

#### Samhain

Tue., Oct. 31, 2023

Tradition: Wicca, Paganism

The New Year and the final harvest festival, celebrating the last gifts of the Earth before winter and the return of the spirits of the dead.

### **All Saints Day**

Wed., Nov. 1, 2023

Tradition: Christianity-Protestant, Christianity-Roman Catholic

Christian celebration of the lives of all the saints, especially those not having a special day; Orthodox churches observe the day in mid-summer.

### **All Souls Day**

Thu., Nov. 2, 2023

Tradition: Christianity-Roman Catholic

Catholic Christian observance in memory of all the faithful who are deceased. In some Latin cultures, this day is known as "The Day of the Dead."

### **Diwali (Dipavali)**

Sun., Nov. 12, 2023

Tradition: Hinduism

Perhaps the most popular of all Hindu festivals, also known as the Festival of Lights, it is dedicated to the goddess Kali in Bengal and to Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth, in the rest of India. As with several other festivals, Diwali is associated with one of the stories about the destruction of evil by Vishnu in one of his many manifestations.

### **Diwali/Mahavir Nirvana**

Sun., Nov. 12, 2023

Tradition: Jainism

This "Festival of Lamps" celebrates the attainment of Moksha by Lord Mahavira. A burning lamp symbolizes the "light of knowledge," which dispels the darkness of delusion and ignorance.

### **Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji**

Fri., Nov. 24, 2023

Tradition: Sikhism

This day commemorates the martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji (1621-1675), the ninth of the Ten Sikh Gurus. He is remembered not only for his defense of the Sikh faith, but also of Hinduism and of religious liberty.

### **Day of the Covenant**

Sat., Nov 5, 2023

Tradition: Baha'i

Celebrates the anniversary of the appointment of 'Abdu'l-Baha, the son of Baha'u'llah, as the Center of the Covenant. Work is not suspended on this day. Begins at sundown.

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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.

[Give Today](#)

## **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





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