Dear Tufts Community,

In a time when it can feel like everything is shifting, it is important that we find ways to ground ourselves. Let me tell you a brief story about one of the first times I heard the call to the ministry of chaplaincy.

Last year, I was leading prayer services and a friend who was here at Tufts reported that she felt called to the ministry of chaplaincy. There was some skepticism about her calling, so I asked her to give me a description of how she felt called. She shared a vivid story about a college student who she led to faith in Jesus during the college ministry. The student then went on to become a spiritual director and a counselor. This young man had a passion for making available urban youth to the experiences which he had found in his own journey of faith. It was the work of this young man that really inspired me to pursue the ministry of chaplaincy. So, this year, I am delighted to work with Jiamin and Rowan as they begin their orientation to the ministry of chaplaincy.

In addition, many of the weekly group gatherings with the Chaplains will be continuing in new virtual spaces. Rather than in Goddard Chapel or at the Interfaith Center. Our commitment also remains unchanged: to support the community. This week sparked a short reflection about Relying on my faith caused by all the losses, both large and small, ushered in by the coronavirus. An article that you may find helpful is "The Spirit of Suffering" on chaplaincy.tufts.edu.

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Do you have an idea for how the University Chaplaincy can support you?