



Tufts

UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY

E-NEWS 4.12.23



Tufts Buddhist Mindfulness Sangha on retreat in Spring 2022, Photo credit: Ji Hyang Padma

A Greeting From Your Buddhist Chaplain

Dear Tufts Community,

At this point in the year, as we begin to look towards the semester's end, it is the perfect time to consider whether you wish to fit a spiritual retreat or work-study into your summer plans. Retreat is a practice of purposeful separation, usually involving leaving the physical space of your daily life, taking time to be by yourself or with

others on retreat, and with the intention of rest and contemplation. For example, above is a photo of the Tufts Buddhist Mindfulness Sangha on retreat. We spent a weekend at a Buddhist monastery in Rhode Island. Over the weekend, we spent time in nature, created art, journaled, engaged in dialogue and meditated.

By creating space for contemplation, we balance academic knowledge with the “not knowing” of spiritual growth. Knowledge fills the mind with information; spiritual growth creates the space for that information to become wisdom. By dedicating retreat time to creating this space within, we are able to respond to our studies-- and all of life-- with greater clarity, energy, and resiliency. It is possible to find many retreats-- as well as retreat scholarships-- that may expand your horizons and provide opportunities for spiritual growth. Let me offer a few tips for your consideration:

- 1) Retreats involve a stepping outside of our busy lives in order to cultivate our inner life. Retreats set in nature will make it more possible for the nervous system to unwind, so that the full measure of stillness, silence and spaciousness that is the essence of retreat can be experienced.
- 2) Before going on retreat, take some time to tie up loose ends so that you can be fully present; let your family and friends know you are going away so that they do not worry.
- 3) On the retreat, give yourself time to decompress. Sometimes boredom, aversion, restlessness or doubt arise. However, if you continue to be present, unexpected epiphanies and moments of beauty will also visit, and you will experience a new level of intimacy with yourself.

Tufts chaplains can offer valuable guidance in selecting the retreat setting that is the best fit for you. Many of us also offer retreats for students within our communities: these will resume next fall. Consider prioritizing restoration for even a short amount of time for yourself in this upcoming season.

Metta and best wishes,
Ji Hyang Padma
Buddhist Chaplain



Nominate a Graduating Senior or Young Alum for an Award

Nominations due by 11:59 p.m. on Monday, April 17

Our Senior & Young Alumni Awards provide an opportunity for our community to nominate and celebrate our graduating seniors and recent alumni, and the awards are themed according to our core mission commitments: pastoral/spiritual care; supporting religious, spiritual, and philosophical communities; engaging spiritual and ethical issues; and multifaith engagement. The Young Alumni award is for a recent graduate (2018-2022) who has provided leadership for current students and the University Chaplaincy through offering support, guidance and engagement.

You are welcome to submit more than one nomination, as well as nominate yourself. You can nominate anonymously or share your name and email. Sharing your information ensures that you will be notified of the final awards decisions and Senior Award Celebration. All nominees will be honored at our celebration, featuring delicious food and mocktails, at the Interfaith Center on Wednesday, April 26, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Please [submit all nominations by 11:59pm on Monday, April 17 through this form](#). Reach out to University Chaplain [Elyse Nelson Winger](#) with any questions.

[Nominate a Senior or Young Alum](#)

Upcoming Co-Sponsored Events



TISCH COLLEGE SOLOMONT SPEAKER SERIES 2023

Thursday, April 13
5:30 PM ET
Breed Memorial Hall
51 Winthrop Street

Bishop William J. Barber II

*Civil rights leader, architect of the Moral Mondays Movement &
co-chair, Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival*

Solomont Speaker Series: Bishop William J. Barber II

Thursday, April 13, 5:30 p.m. at Breed Hall (51 Winthrop St.)

Join Tisch College for a lecture and conversation with renowned orator, moral leader, civic rights activist and organizer, Bishop William J. Barber II, on organizing for multiracial democracy. Bishop Barber will discuss our individual and collective power to effect change on issues like systemic racism, poverty, and climate change at a time of historic demographic transition by breaking through divisions and centering solidarity. Generously co-hosted by the University Chaplaincy and the Africana Center with support from the Political Science Department, the Tufts Democrats and the Civic Studies Program. [To register for in-person attendance, click here.](#) We strongly encourage in-person attendance, however, the event will be livestreamed. Be advised there is no Q&A or chat feature with the livestream. You can [find more information about the event on the Tisch College website.](#)

Register for the In-Person Event

Unpacking White Christian Nationalism

An Event Series with Dr. Anthea Butler

Thursday, April 27, 2023

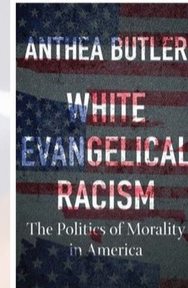
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. • Alumnae Hall

Keynote Address by Dr. Butler: Speaking from the Book and Implications for the Present Day, and Q&A

Friday, April 28, 2023

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. • Alumnae Hall

Brunch and Conversation with Dr. Butler



How does white Christian nationalism impact a multifaith and multiracial democracy? The Interfaith Ambassador team, University Chaplaincy, and the Tufts Department of Religion invite you to an event series featuring bestselling author and renowned public scholar, [Dr. Anthea Butler](#).

Dr. Butler will deliver a lecture on her book *White Evangelical Racism: The Politics of Morality in America* and join us for dinner and a discussion on Thursday, April 27. The book asks individuals to consider their role in this larger history, and in

Friday's session, we will explore together the contours of American and global nationalisms in the major justice issues of our day.

Register at go.tufts.edu/unpacking or scan the QR code

The first 25 students to visit Goddard Chapel after registering will receive a copy of *White Evangelical Racism: The Politics of Morality in America* prior to the event.

Anthea Butler is Geraldine R. Segal Professor in American Social Thought, and chair of the department of Religious Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. A historian of African American and American religion, Professor Butler's research and writing spans African American religion and history, race, politics, Evangelicalism, gender and sexuality, media, and popular culture. You can find more of her writing and public engagement at AntheaButler.com.



This series is made possible thanks to grant funding from The Arthur Vining Davis Foundations

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Religion

Unpacking White Christian Nationalism Series with Dr. Anthea Butler

Keynote address: Thursday, April 27 in Alumnae Hall, 5:30 pm - 7:30pm

Brunch and conversation: Friday, April 28 in Alumnae Hall, 9:30am - 11:00am

How does white Christian nationalism impact a multifaith and multiracial democracy? The Interfaith Ambassador team, University Chaplaincy, and the Tufts Department of Religion invite you to an event series featuring bestselling author and renowned public scholar, [Dr. Anthea Butler](#). Dr. Butler will deliver a lecture on her book *White Evangelical Racism: The Politics of Morality in America* and join us for dinner and a discussion on Thursday, April 27. On Friday, April 28, participants will explore together the contours of American and global nationalisms in the major justice issues of our day. You can [register for both events here](#).

The first 25 students to visit the Chaplaincy Office at Goddard Chapel after registering will receive a copy of *White Evangelical Racism: The Politics of Morality in America* prior to the event. This event is funded by the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations and is a part of Tufts University's Religious Diversity and Civic Life Initiative.

Register for Series

Religious and Philosophical Programs

ISOT X COFFEE
PRESENTS

Indigeneity in Interfaith Conversations

THURSDAY | 04.13.2023 | 8:00PM | INDIGENOUS CENTER
112 Packard Avenue, Medford, MA 02155

JOIN US IN HAVING CONVERSATIONS ABOUT INTERSECTIONALITY IN
INDIGENOUS AND INTERFAITH IDENTITIES

- Reconnecting with Indigenous spirituality & Unpacking appropriation
- Creating a respectful space for Indigenous and non-indigenous students of all religions

FOOD WILL BE PROVIDED
@tuftscoffee | @tufts.isot

Indigeneity in Interfaith Conversations

Thursday, April 13, 8:00 p.m. at the Indigenous Center (112 Packard Ave)

Join Community OF Faith Exploration and Engagement (COFFEE) and the Indigenous Student Organization at Tufts (ISOT) in conversation about intersectionality in Indigenous and interfaith identities. Reconnecting with Indigenous spirituality and unpacking appropriation will be a theme. Together we will create a respectful space for Indigenous and non-Indigenous students of all religions.



Survivors Speak: Stories from Sudan, Rwanda, Bosnia and the Holocaust

Survivors Speak: Stories from Sudan, Rwanda, Bosnia and the Holocaust

Wednesday, April 19, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Tufts Hillel

Tufts Hillel is pleased to invite you to the annual Keynote Address for the Cummings/Hillel Program for Holocaust & Genocide Education, featuring Jack Trompetter, Bol Riiny, Jasmina Cestic and Consolee Nishimwe. At the reception, guests will have the opportunity to meet the speakers prior to the panel, where they will share their stories of survival and answer questions. Please [RSVP for Survivors Speak here](#). If you would like to bring a guest, please include their name.



Interfaith Iftar during the holy month of Ramadan

Wednesday, April 19, 8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. at Breed Hall

The University Chaplaincy would like to say Ramadan Mubarak to all those observing this month! We would also like to extend an invitation to all students, faculty and staff to this year's Interfaith Iftar hosted by the University Chaplaincy and the Muslim Students Association, which will be held on April 19 from 8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. in Breed Hall. [Please RSVP here](#) if you would like to attend this iftar. For more information about Ramadan at Tufts you can visit the [Muslim Chaplaincy's Ramadan Page](#).



TUFTS ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Vespers

AT GODDARD CHAPEL



With Fr. Anthony Tandilyan
of the Dormition of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church

Thursday, April 20 | 6:30 PM

Join us for a beautiful evening prayer service and a short sermon from Fr. Anthony!

Celebrate and learn about Bright Week and the Resurrection of Christ!

All are welcome!

Vespers with the Orthodox Christian Fellowship

Thursday, April 20, 6:30 p.m., Goddard Chapel

Join the Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) for Vespers with Fr. Anthony Tandilyan. There will be an evening service and a short sermon, followed by fellowship time. Please reach out to the [OCF with any questions](#).

Living a Meaningful Life:

ACADEMICS AND WHAT MATTERS TO YOU



**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 12-1:15P
INTERFAITH CENTER
58 WINTHROP STREET**

Pizza provided

In the age of neoliberal hustle, constant credentialing demands, and endemic flux, *how might we make “the art of living” more meaningful and sustainable?*

Join *Dr. Justin Jiménez*, StAAR Center Academic Coach and Faculty Affiliate in the Department of Education, and *Anthony Cruz Pantojas*, Humanist Chaplain to explore how your academic journey at Tufts can be better aligned with your core values and aspirations. Together, we will center personal stories and clarify the big questions that make us move.



University Chaplaincy
Humanist Chaplaincy



StAAR
Center

Living A Meaningful Life: Academics and What Matters To You

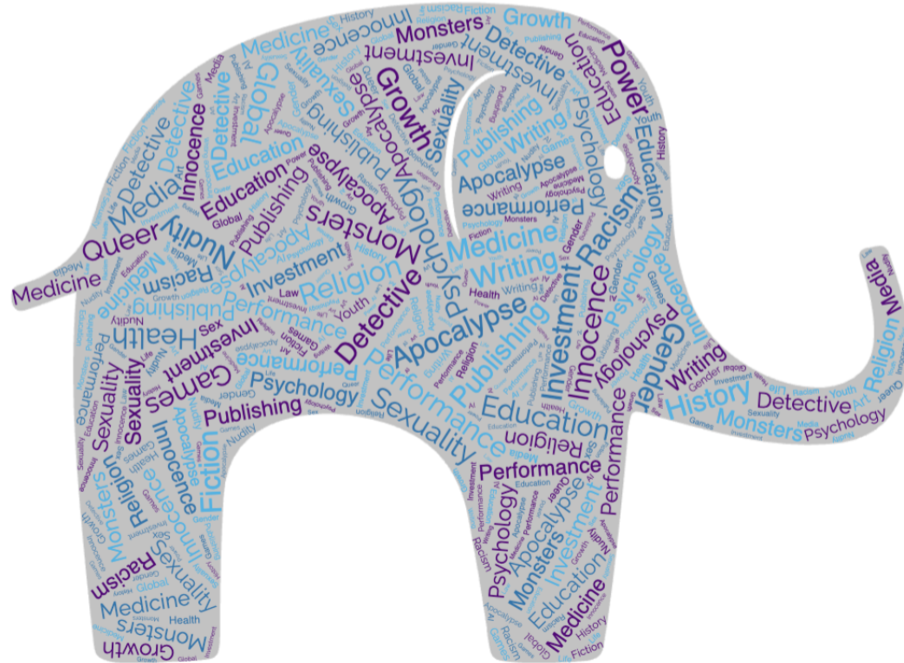
Wednesday, April 26, 12:00 p.m. at the Interfaith Center

In the age of neoliberal hustle, constant credentialing demands, and endemic flux, how might we make “the art of living” more meaningful and sustainable? Join Dr. Justin Jiménez, StAAR Center Academic Couch and Humanist Chaplain Anthony Cruz Pantojas to explore how your academic journey at Tufts can be better aligned with your core values and aspirations. Together, we will center personal stories and clarify the big questions that make us move. Pizza is provided, please email Humanist Chaplain [Anthony Cruz Pantojas](#) with any questions.

Partner Programs

Fall 2023 Courses

As of 3/14/23 - Check back for updates



EXP-0008-F: Humanism for Everyday Life (In-Person; 3 credits, Letter-graded)

Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

How did Humanism develop? What are the values that inhere a Humanist community? This seminar is an introduction to Humanism, a dynamic tradition, philosophy, and lifescence. Students in this course will read diverse texts that address genealogies of Humanist thought, the human condition, and the possibilities and challenges of realizing a Humanism for all. We will examine Humanist orientations from marginalized voices and subjectivities. Throughout the course, we will address questions such as: What does it mean to be? How might a Humanist orientation respond to obligations to self, other, and the world, especially during this time of “post-truth.” Humanist Chaplain [Anthony Cruz Pantojas](#) (they/he) will be leading the class; they have a background in inter-religious education and pastoral/spiritual care. Their queer Afro-Boricua identity also deeply informs their engagement with ethics and relationality. They are pursuing a PhD in Cultural Studies at Universidad Ana G. Méndez- Gurabo, Puerto Rico, with research interests in Caribbean epistemologies and decolonial thought.

Resources, Scholarships, and Opportunities

want to learn
how to bike?

for free!

'BOS TO BIKERS

*community members with
disabilities encouraged
to apply*

scan to learn more!



Tufts Bikes



'Bos To Bikers: Learn To Bike

In collaboration with Tufts Bikes, Tufts Mountain Club, and The Green Fund, 'Bos To Bikers aims to bridge the gap between those who know how to bike and those who have not yet had the chance to learn. Whether it be due to financial or environmental barriers or general lack of opportunity, we help anyone (including SMFA students) in the community learn how to ride a bike! Bikes, helmets, and safety gear are provided. [Click here to sign up.](#)

FIRST Resource Center WEEKLY Community Hours

Do you... Have a question or concern?
Want to just be in community?
Need to talk to a staff member?
Have a great idea for the FIRST Center?
Need a quick bite?

Alternating weeks:

CHRIS CAMPBELL

Wednesdays

4-5 PM



DANIELA POZOS

Thursdays

4-5 PM



FIRST Resource Center Weekly Community Hours

Wednesdays and Thursdays, 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the FIRST Center (20 Professors Row)

Come to the FIRST Resource Center during our weekly community hours and speak with Director Chris Campbell and Associate Director Daniela Pozos! Office hours are for any questions you have about life at Tufts as a first gen student.

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](#).

Great Lent

Ongoing through Sat., Apr. 15, 2023

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.

Ramadan

Wed., Mar. 22 – Fri., Apr. 21, 2023

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 and in community.

Holy Thursday/Maundy Thursday

Thu., Apr. 13, 2023

Tradition: Christianity-Orthodox

Commemorates the institution of the Lord's Supper/the Eucharist by Jesus prior to his arrest and execution. "Maundy" is derived from the Latin text of John 13:34, in which Jesus gives a mandatum novum ("new commandment"). The date observed by Protestants and Roman Catholics differs from the date observed by Orthodox Christians.

Holy Friday

Fri., Apr. 14, 2023

Tradition: Christianity-Orthodox

The day that commemorates the Passion of Jesus Christ, i.e., his death by crucifixion. It is the Orthodox equivalent of "Good Friday."

Vaisakhi

Fri., Apr. 14, 2023

Tradition: Sikhism and Hinduism

Occurs on the first day of the solar year. It is primarily an agricultural festival, celebrating the harvest, and is especially important in North India. It is named after the month Vaisakh. For Sikhs, it is also the anniversary of the creation of the Khalsa (the "Brotherhood of the Pure") in 1699 by Guru Gobind Singh.

Easter Sunday (Pascha)

Sun., Apr. 16, 2023

Tradition: Christianity-Orthodox

Celebrates the resurrection from death of Jesus Christ. It is the oldest and most important festival in the Christian year and initiates the 50-day period culminating in Pentecost. Protestant and Roman Catholic Christians often observe Easter on a different date than Orthodox Christians.

Laylat al-Qadr

Mon., Apr. 17, 2023

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.

Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day)

Mon., Apr. 17, 2023

Tradition: Judaism

Memorializes the six million Jews who died as victims of the Nazis during World War II and emphasizes respect for human dignity. Its observance is not limited to Jews. Begins at sundown.

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.





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