



# Tufts

# UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY

E-NEWS 9.7.22



## Welcome to the Fall Semester from your University Chaplain

Dear friends,

Greetings and peace to you as we begin a new semester together at Tufts, and welcome to all new students, staff and faculty!

At the University Chaplaincy, we are energized and looking forward to the year ahead. These past weeks, we have been a part of wonderful Tufts traditions and programs—from CAFE Pre-Orientation and the Class of 2026 Matriculation and Illumination Ceremonies to open houses and the first gatherings for meditation, worship, prayer, and meals across our distinctive communities. We are excited to share in the work of building and sustaining our religious, spiritual and philosophical communities together with you, and continuing to offer meaningful opportunities for reflection, renewal, and engagement.

For this beginning, I offer a portion of the Invocation I gave at Matriculation. I hope that an ongoing spirit of “new beginnings” will lead us together into this new year.

*“This,” to borrow a phrase from poet Brian Wren, “is a day of new beginnings:  
time to welcome you, Class of 2026,  
and give thanks for the love and care  
that have brought you thus far along your way.*

*This is a day of new beginnings:  
time to make this place your own*

*to be and discover your beloved self  
to embrace the soul-searching and often not-knowing  
that comes with encountering challenging ideas, vexing problems, your own deepest questions  
and to trust, throughout it all,  
that you are enough, you belong here, you will never go it alone.*

*This is a day of new beginnings:  
time for each of us to claim anew the  
meaning-making work— in arts and sciences, fine arts and engineering—that we love  
for the sake of this beautiful yet broken world we share  
torn asunder by violence and injustice  
and hungering for the vision,  
ready for the creativity,  
yearning for the courage  
we are together called to cultivate and proclaim.*

*This is our day of new beginnings:  
Let us celebrate it!*

Pax et Lux,

Reverend Elyse Nelson Winger  
University Chaplain

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# BE-FRIEND



## Be Yourself. Go Deep. Be Friend.

*Starts the first week of October.*

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## **Be-Friend**

Sign up by Friday, September 23

Be-Friend is back. This semester-long interfaith friendship project is designed for participants to go deep and to talk about the things that matter like our values, our sense of purpose, and our questions about life. You will hone the skills of active listening while experimenting with shared spiritual practices from different religious and philosophical traditions. Our multifaith chaplains have contributed to the program, offering a diverse array of spiritual practices including nature walks, meditation exercises, listening to music, deep reading—of poetry, art, the world, our lives and one another. Participating students, graduate students, staff, faculty and alumni will be paired and will commit to spending an hour together each week. Students will be paired with other students, and the same for staff/faculty and alumni. The program will begin the first week of October, and all are welcome! Please sign up through the links below by September 23. Contact Catholic Chaplain [Lynn Cooper](#) if you have any questions. You can [sign up here](#).

# FREEDOM MAKING:

## A FELLOWSHIP FOR EMERGING INTERRELIGIOUS LEADERS

FALL 2022

Do you identify as a first-generation BIPOC student?

Do you want to join a supportive community that values inquiry and social justice?

Do opportunities for mentorship and leadership interest you?

**Then the Freedom Making Fellowship is for you!**

**Apply by Sep.16!**



This fellowship comes at an urgent time to reimagine the ways we think about our connection to self, other, and society. We will draw on multiple perspectives and the collective knowledge of our community to advance decolonial and abolitionist futures.



University Chaplaincy  
Humanist Chaplaincy

### **Freedom Making: A Fellowship for Emerging Interreligious Leaders**

Apply by Friday, September 16

Do you identify as a first-generation BIPOC student? Do you want to join a supportive community that values inquiry and social justice? Do opportunities for mentorship and leadership interest you? If so, the Freedom Making Fellowship is for you. This fellowship comes at an urgent time to reimagine the ways we think about our connection to self, other, and society. We will draw on multiple perspectives and the collective knowledge of our community to advance decolonial and abolitionist futures. You can [find the application here](#). If you have any questions or would like to learn more, please contact Humanist Chaplain [Anthony Cruz Pantojas](#).





# Weekly Fall Gatherings at the University Chaplaincy

## **Weekly Gatherings at the University Chaplaincy**

Find the calendar of University Chaplaincy [weekly events and gatherings here](#). You are welcome at any event, and you do not need to RSVP. You can [reach out to any chaplain](#) before joining if you like, as well. See Hillel's website for their [weekly gatherings](#).

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## **Partner Programs**



### **Become a Peer Teacher**

Applications are due September 19

Current sophomores and juniors can apply to become peer teachers with the ExCollege. Peer teachers design and teach their own course, either solo or as a teaching duo, for the Spring 2023 semester. [Full details on the peer teaching program are available here.](#) The [application is available here.](#) Associate Director [Amy Goldstein](#) is happy to meet with you to discuss your idea and guide you through the process.





# David Hogg

September 19, 2022

5:30 PM ET

ASEAN Auditorium- Cabot Center

Tufts ID and/or proof of vaccination and booster required for entry.

To RSVP, or for more information, use the QR code  
or visit [tischcollege.tufts.edu/events](https://tischcollege.tufts.edu/events).

Follow the conversation: #HoggAtTufts

Cosponsored by Tufts CIVIC. This event is generously supported by Susan  
and Alan Solomont.



## **Tisch College Solomont Speaker Series: David Hogg**

Monday, September 19, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. ET, ASEAN Auditorium, Cabot Center (Medford campus)

Join Tisch College for a conversation on youth activism, organizing and gun reform with activist and co-founder of March For Our Lives, David Hogg. David's activism has taken him around the country, meeting with impacted families and diverse communities to deepen his knowledge of gun safety and the politics needed to end gun violence. He is the co-author of "#NeverAgain," a New York Times best-seller, with his younger sister, Lauren, who is also a Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School student. In addition to being a fulltime student at Harvard University, David has become a powerful voice for civic engagement, activism, voting and organizing. This event is cosponsored by Tufts CIVIC. You can [register for this event here](#).



# BECOME A TUTOR!



## EVKids: Become a Tutor

EVkids empowers underserved Boston youth with the skills and confidence needed to realize their potential. The Tufts Catholic Chaplaincy works to help connect students to this organization as tutors. Tutors are university students who form 1-to-1, multi-year relationships with their tutees, grades 4-12. We ask our tutors to commit to the values of service, community, and reflection to foster a more just and equitable world. Tutoring pairs will meet virtually or in-person at four sites in Roxbury and Dorchester. Fill out our [Tutor Interest Form](#) to receive the web-based application sent to your email. Learn more about our program via our [EVkids website](#). You can contact [Scott Pyzik](#), Associate Director for Tutor Engagement, via email or at 617-862-9411 with any questions.

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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](#).

### Das Laxana Festival

Wed., Aug. 31 – Fri., Sep. 9, 2022

Tradition: Jainism

A 10-day festival that is considered to be a holy convocation. During these days, Jains impose some restraints on their daily activities by fasting, meditation and prayer. The last day of Paryusana is the most solemn occasion of forgiveness and the examination of one's own thoughts and feelings. On this day, Jains ask for forgiveness from their relatives and friends for any offense they may have committed by deed, word or thought.

### Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

Thu., Sep. 8, 2022

Tradition: Christianity-Orthodox

### Ghambar Paitishem

Mon., Sep. 12 – Fri., Sep. 16, 2022

Tradition: Zoroastrianism

Celebrates the creation of plants, the sowing of the winter crop and the return of herds from pasture

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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.

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