



Tufts

UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY

E-NEWS 9.20.23



Hurricane Lee approaching Boston's North Shore (taken by Lynn's brother Todd Cooper)

A Greeting From Your Catholic Chaplain

Last week, as I prepared a grounding exercise for our first gathering of the Interfaith Student Council, I happened across *The Good News*, a poem by the late Vietnamese Zen master and beloved teacher, Thich Nhat Hanh. Here is how it begins:

*The good news
they do not print.
The good news
we do print.
We have a special edition every moment
that we need you to read.
The good news is that you are alive
and the linden tree is still there
standing firm in the harsh winter.*

*The good news is that you have wonderful eyes
To touch the blue sky.*

It is such a common struggle, that tension between being an informed citizen of the world and the call to cultivate mindfulness, inner stillness, and peace. Thich Nhat Hanh lived many decades in exile as a result of his activism against the war in his home country. Until his final years, he was deeply involved with global movements for non-violence. It was amidst this reality that his prolific teachings around mindfulness, peace, and compassion took root - not as contradictions but as profoundly related.

When I shared *The Good News* with the Catholic community on Sunday, we reflected on 'sacramental living.' This phrase refers to a way of being, a posture or an orientation towards the holy in our midst. It is a deeply formative aspect of my spiritual life. Perhaps this is why *The Good News* and I have become such fast friends!

This week, I invite you to consider the good news in your life. What are you printing in today's special edition? How might it draw you deeper into the present moment? And how might you find a way to share it with our communities here at Tufts this week?

Lynn Cooper
Catholic Chaplain and Associate Director, University Chaplaincy

Inauguration Week 2023



University Chaplaincy Event

Wednesday, October 4, 2023 at 7:00pm, Goddard Chapel

All are welcome for a festive, multifaith gathering to welcome President Kumar into the Tufts community featuring Shir Appeal, Ladies of Essence, and student leaders from our many religious and philosophical traditions. Chaplains and President Kumar will also speak.

Through music and dance, spoken reflections, and a collaborative art installation, students and chaplains will lift up our shared values of pax et lux, hospitality, and service. Please join us as we celebrate the legacy of religious and philosophical life at Tufts, rooted in our Universalist heritage and alive across our diverse and vibrant communities. During the gathering, we will invite attendees to write their words of welcome or blessing for our new president on a paper oak leaf, which will be added to a special art installation created at this event which is inspired by the historic, stained glass oak leaves on one of the primary windows at Goddard Chapel.

If you are not able to join us in person, please consider sharing a word of encouragement or blessing for President Kumar by completing this form. Your words will be included in the art installation that is created during this special event. Please email the University Chaplaincy with any questions.

[Submit to the Installation](#)

A portrait of Dee-1, a man with long dreadlocks, a black headband, and a beard, smiling and looking upwards. He is wearing a white jacket over a blue shirt. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with blue and white splatters.

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Jonathan M. Tisch
College of Civic Life

Student Meet & Greet with Dee-1, Artist-in-Residence

Tuesday, September 26

12pm

Rabb Room, Barnum Hall

Get to know **renowned rapper, educator and activist**, Dee-1, and hear about the innovative work he will be doing at Tufts, including his **highly-anticipated spring course**.

Lunch will be provided.



Meet & Greet with Dee-1: Tisch College's Artist-in-Residence

Tuesday, September 26, 12:00 p.m., Rabb Room, Barnum Hall

Meet Tisch College's inaugural Artist-in-Residence, renowned rapper, educator and activist Dee-1! Get to know Dee over lunch and hear about the innovative work he will be doing at Tufts as Professor of the Practice. Dee will also preview his highly-anticipated spring course exploring the historical and cultural significance of hip hop and examining how it's been used as a catalyst for activism and social transformation. Time for networking will be allotted. [Read Dee-1's full bio and Artist-in-Residence announcement](#). Lunch provided. Register for the event through the link below.

Register for Meet and Greet with Dee-1

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](#).



Multifaith Gathering for Peace

Wednesdays, 12:15 p.m. - 12:45 p.m., Goddard Chapel

All members of the Tufts community—students, staff and faculty—are welcome to join members of the University Chaplaincy team for a weekly 30-minute multifaith gathering for peace. Our time together will include silence, candle lighting, music, reflections, and meditations from our different traditions. We look forward to sharing this space together as we navigate ongoing national and global crises and lift up our individual and shared hopes for peace in ourselves, others and our world. Please [contact the University Chaplaincy](#) if you have any questions or concerns.

If you would like to speak to a chaplain, please reach out to us through our [Contact a Chaplain](#) form or by emailing chaplaincy@tufts.edu.



Tufts Orthodox Christian Fellowship Barbecue

Wednesday, September 20, 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. 86 Bromfield Road

The Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) is hosting an opportunity to chat with the rest of the club and make some new friends. Bring a friend along with you! Please fill out this Google Form to help the OCF decide when to hold services in Goddard Chapel this year. This is not binding, and they will be holding services on a variety of days! This is just to gauge interest as to which days work best.

Share your preference with OCF

High Holidays at Tufts Hillel



Join us for all or part of High Holidays, services, meals, and events.

You can expect, great Kosher meals, connection with your community, and spiritual renewal through Traditional/Egalitarian or Reform Services!



High Holidays with Tufts Hillel

See Tufts Hillel calendar

The High Holidays are an amazing opportunity for spiritual growth and community connection right at the beginning of the year. Rosh HaShanah offered us the chance to imagine our own recreation and the rebirth of our world anew and Yom Kippur will give us the spiritual and emotional space to return to the core of our most authentic selves. Our two service options this year exemplify these values of Jewish seeking and community building. Whether you attend our Reform minyan, Conservative minyan, come for meals, or any of our other High Holiday programming, we are so happy to be a part of this special time of year with you. Please email Jewish Chaplain Rabbi Naftali Brawer with any questions and find more information on the [Tufts Hillel website](#).

[See Tufts Hillel Event Calendar](#)

Resources, Scholarships, and Opportunities



Payne International Development Fellowship

The USAID Donald M. Payne International Development Graduate Fellowship Program seeks to attract outstanding individuals who are interested in pursuing careers in the Foreign Service of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). The Payne Fellowship Program awards up to 30 fellowships valued at up to \$52,000 annually for a two-year program. At the conclusion of two years of study, the Payne Fellow is expected to obtain a degree in international development or another area of relevance to the work of the USAID Foreign Service at a U.S. graduate or professional school approved by the Payne Program. Fellows who successfully complete the Payne Program and USAID Foreign Service entry requirements will receive appointments as Foreign Service Officers with the U.S. Agency for International Development. You can [learn more about the Fellowship here](#).

[Learn more about the Payne Fellowship](#)



Foundations of Interfaith Leadership Course

What is interfaith leadership? How does one build and develop an interfaith skill set? Help make a meaningful impact in your community with skills learned at [Foundations of Interfaith Leadership LIVE](#). Presented in partnership with [Interfaith Philadelphia](#), this certificate course takes place virtually once a week for 6 weeks with a cohort of other passionate interfaith leaders from across the country.

[Take the Foundations of Interfaith Course](#)

BECOME A TUTOR!



YOUTH EMPOWERMENT!

EVkids empowers students to reach their potential by strengthening core academic abilities, organizational habits, and other life skills.



Three sessions to choose from:
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (4-6pm)



In-person and Zoom options available



Submit your
Interest
Form here!

REAL IMPACT!

Tutors attend a skills-based training in September, gather at a social justice in-service in February, and meet with an Education Advocate to develop a unique learning plan for each student.



HOLISTIC GROWTH!

Through monthly *small group gatherings* and semesterly *conversations with a Tutor Chaplain*, our tutors are invited to confront structural injustice, reflect about the meaning of their work, and discern their hopes for their lives.



Volunteer with EVkids

Submit your interest form now

EVkids creates a community of support through 1-on-1, multi-year, academic mentoring relationships, professional family engagement and school advocacy, college success advising, and a summer camp. As an organization with roots in the Catholic commitment to social justice, EVkids Tutoring supports low-income students in grades 4 to 12 aspire to and achieve college enrollment and graduation as first-generation college attendees. Tutors explore the values of service, community, and reflection, and ideally become lifelong agents of positive social change. Tutors come through local university partnerships, including at Boston College, Harvard, Tufts, Northeastern, UMass Boston, and Massachusetts College of Pharmaceutical and Health Sciences among others. Tutoring pairs meet weekly at five EVkids after-school Tutoring sites: three in Dorchester, one in Roxbury, and one virtual site. EVkids supports 100+ tutor-tutee pairs, and has plans to expand to 140-150 pairs in the 2023-24 academic year. EVkids Camp hosts up to 36 campers each summer, and EVkids high school graduates are paired with College Success mentors through college. You can [find out more here on the EVkids website](#).

Find out more about EVkids

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., Sep. 20 – Fri., Sep. 29, 2023

Tradition: Jainism

The Paryusana Festival of Jain Digambar Sect is 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.

Mabon

Sat., Sep. 23, 2023

Tradition: Wicca/Paganism

Autumnal equinox and the second harvest festival, celebrating the equivalence of light and dark, the arrival of Autumn, and thanksgiving for the Earth's bounty. Begins at sundown.

Yom Kippur

Sun., Sep. 24 – Mon., Sep. 25, 2023

Tradition: Judaism

Day of Atonement at the conclusion of the Ten Days of Awe, Yom Kippur is the holiest and most solemn of all days in the Jewish year. It is characterized by repentance, fasting, and forgiveness. Begins at sundown.

Mawlid an-Nabi

Tue., Sep. 26, 2023

Tradition: Islam

The birthday of the Prophet Muhammed. Begins at sundown.

Sukkot

Fri., Sep. 29 – Fri., Oct. 6, 2023

Tradition: Judaism

Also known as Feast of Booths. An eight-day Jewish festival of booths (or tabernacles) and the fall harvest. The name refers to the booths (sukkot) used by Israelites during desert wanderings and constructed in the fields during the harvest season. It is a time of thanksgiving for God's presence in creation and among the Jewish people. The Eighth Day (Shmini 'Atzeret) is considered both the end of Sukkot and a distinct festival.

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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