

**Minister's Musings – March 2022**  
**Soul Matters Theme: Renewing Faith**

I am still Rev. Boomerang!

Last month, I promised to share more with you about my plans for my “semi-sabbatical,” March 21 – April 27<sup>th</sup>. During these five weeks, I will be traveling about half the time, finally getting a chance to do parts of the Civil Rights Trail in Louisiana, Alabama, and Mississippi. I am most excited about visiting the [Legacy Museum](#) (sometimes called the “Lynching Museum”), and the [Memorial for Peace and Justice](#), both created by Bryan Stevenson and his team of visionaries and justice seekers.



In addition to the Civil Right Trail, I hope also to visit some of the locations important to the Lost Souls history – those 137+ African American women, children, and men who were stolen from our area and sent by ship into permanent slavery in the Deep South. I plan to visit the town that is now called Morganza, but was the plantation owned by Charles Morgan, one of the slave ring leaders and where we believe many of the kidnap victims ended up. I will visit the port of New Orleans, where the ships carrying them, and so many thousands of enslaved peoples, docked.

When I come back, I'll be sure to tell you all about my travels.

While I'm away, if there is a pastoral concern or emergency, please reach out the Chair of the Pastoral Care Team, Linda Jay or that month's Pastoral Care Associate (in March, it's Phyllis Shaw; in April, it's Clif Ashcraft). You can reach them by emailing [TUSPastoralCare@gmail.com](mailto:TUSPastoralCare@gmail.com). We do have a UU minister who is providing emergency pastoral care and support – if the situation requires it, Linda will involve them.

All the Sunday services are in the process of being planned. Our DRE, Jessica M. Hess, will coordinate Sunday services and be available for problem-solving as necessary, though she will be on site only every other Sunday with a primary focus to lead Spirit Lab. If there is big issues that arise that impact the congregation, please reach out to the President of the Board, Chris Fisher. You can email him at [cfisher2468@gmail.com](mailto:cfisher2468@gmail.com).

I will return to TUS on April 28<sup>th</sup>. I'll be in the congregation on Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, though not in the pulpit. On April 30, some of the folks who have been participating in Date with Death Club this year will join me on a field trip to the Pinelands and New Jersey's only Green Burial Preserve. I'm hoping for good weather that day – regardless, it should be a spacious, values-full way to return to our Shared Ministry.

Because of the timing of my 5 weeks of “semi-sabbatical” there probably won’t be another Minister’s Musings until June’s monthly news. As I was last year when I got to take three of my four months of sabbatical, I am deeply grateful to you all as a congregation for this opportunity.

I am blessed to be on this journey with you ~ **Rev. Karen**