



# The Channing Connection

CHANNING MEMORIAL CHURCH  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

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July 2018

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## Wayside Pulpit

I tremble for my country  
when I reflect that God is  
just.

—Thomas Jefferson

## Goodbye From Rev. Robert F. Renjilian, Interim Minister



Dear Channing Memorial Church members and friends, thank you for the ways you welcomed and supported me in the Interim Ministry. Thank you for letting me into your lives, thank you for so generously supporting your congregation with your time, talent and treasure. Thank you for your willingness to experiment and envision new possibilities, and for reclaiming your story and history.

The goodbye event on Father's Day was a warm and moving day for me. Thank you! As much as we always knew I would be leaving this summer, it still brings sadness. I will bring the t-shirt and framed photos with me to Rochester, NY, and display your coffee mug with my collection.

Best wishes in your future!

— Rev. Bob Renjilian

## July Worship Services

The Worship Team is looking forward to a spirit-filled summer of services. (We'll even have a couple of Sundays of "comebacks" for David F.!) Things may not be set in solid concrete, but here's a sneak preview of plans for July:

**July 1:** Agape Love, *with Jodi D.*

**July 8:** The Labyrinth at Bon Secours, *with Jodi D.* (Please note the special location!)

**July 15:** The Point of No Return, *with David F.*

**July 22:** TBD, *with Jodi D.* (and possibly special guests)

**July 29:** Repetition in Spiritual Practice, *with Ostara Hollyoak*

Looking forward to seeing you on summer Sundays!  
Thanks!

--Ostara

Interim Minister:  
Rev. Robert Renjilian  
410-203-0474 (office)  
[minister@channingmc.org](mailto:minister@channingmc.org)

President:  
Julie Fitzer ('20)

Vice President: Maureen  
Hayes ('20)

Treasurer: Ostara Hollyoak  
('19)

Secretary: Kathleen Raz-  
mus ('19)

Trustees:  
Ken Hart ('20)  
Jason Grabelle ('19)  
Open ('19)

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Newsletter Editor:  
Ken Grim

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To place an event on the cal-  
endar, in the Order of Ser-  
vice announcements, in the  
newsletter or in an  
allchanning email, send an  
email to:  
[newsshare@channingmc.org](mailto:newsshare@channingmc.org)

Send submittals for the  
August issue of *The Chan-  
ning Connection* to  
[newsshare@channingmc.org](mailto:newsshare@channingmc.org)  
by 7:00 p.m. on Sunday,  
July 22.

## Pastoral Care in July

For pastoral care needs that arise in July, please contact the Channing Care Team, or speak to a Care Team member. Care Team members are Maggie N. (chair), Joe C., Steve P., and Marion V. Contact information is as follows:

E-mail: [careteam@channingmc.org](mailto:careteam@channingmc.org)

Members can also be reached by phone. Please see individual listings in the Channing directory.

## Snack Squad

Summertime is here. We've said goodbye to Rev. Bob and enter that sunlit time of flip flops, swimming pools, and untethered worship associates at church. Can you help by bringing snacks on Sunday?

Remember that Snack Squad has been split into two parts: healthy food and "fun food." If you can do both slots, bless you. If you can just do one of the slots, that's ok--- hopefully someone else will take the other task. (Feel free to con a friend into this job.)

(Note: When signing up for a slot on SignUp Genius, make sure you hit the "Sign Up" button at the bottom of the page, or your signup will be lost.)

Contact Cathy F. for the link to the SignUp Genius or for help in signing up.

One last thing: Please keep our four- and six-legged friends away by cleaning up and taking your dishes home after all have been served.

Thanks,  
*Cathy*

## President's Column

As we start the 2018-2019 church year, I am working on putting together some of the teams of people we need to accomplish our church plan goals. During our July board meeting, I will orient the new board to the continuing projects from the previous board, and the major tasks coming up this year. The new transition team, with help from the Board and committee members as needed, will make plans to welcome our new interim minister and orient her to our church. I also am taking the opportunity this summer and fall to have as many conversations as I can with individual church members and friends, in order to get to know you better. To date, I have had "coffee conversations" with five members and have several more scheduled. If I haven't reached out to you yet, I am working my way through the church directory, and I also invite you to go ahead and reach out to me. We can chat in a quiet place during the coffee hour, or find a separate time to meet. I am sending people a list of questions ahead of these chats so that people may reflect ahead of time if they wish, but these should not be viewed as "mandatory homework". I find that I am learning much more through face-to-face conversation than I would through an online survey.

Thank you for your support of Channing with your time, your talent, and your treasure. Together, we make this magic place come alive.

In faith,  
*Julie Fitzer*

Questions for coffee conversations with Julie:

1. What attracted you to Channing Memorial?

2. What has kept you coming to Channing over the years?
3. What do you think is going well?
4. What would you like to see happen over the next year?
5. What are your thoughts on our current space that we are renting? What should we consider in deciding whether to stay or move after this next year?
6. If you could design a dream job at Channing, that nourishes your soul and energizes you, while also serving the church, what would it be?
7. How can we at Channing continue to nourish your soul? What keeps you going spiritually?
8. What topics or activities would you like to see in Adult RE? Are there times and days that work best for you?
9. Any thoughts you want to share on child/youth RE?
10. What identities do you have, in addition to being a member or friend of Channing, that you'd like me to know - which could be volunteer, professional, personal. For example: parent, LGBT, retired accountant, schoolteacher, Audubon society member, gardener, etc.?
11. What identities do you have at Channing, now and in the past - I may not be aware of all of your sharing of your time and talents, so please go ahead and brag. For example, do you teach in RE? Have you served on a committee or team?
12. Anything else you'd like me to know, while you have my bionic ear?

### **Letter from Rebecca B.**

Dear friends,

I don't know how to find the right words to express a very deep and heartfelt Thank You for your generosity of love and care following Dunbar's death. He was a special person and I know that my loss and his family's loss is a loss for you also.

People at Vantage House are still talking about the wonderful memorial service and I just tell them "That's my church." They really appreciated Rev. Bob's words, the special music, and the reception. And a few even said "I think I want to come to your church."

Dunbar will stay with us in spirit and we can only be grateful that we were blessed with his presence as long as we were.

Rebecca

### **In Memory of Dunbar B.**

Channing Memorial Church has made a donation to the Vantage House Sidwell Garden Fund in memory of Dunbar B. The funds will be used to purchase a bench, inscribed with Dunbar's name, which will be placed in the garden. It is a lovely area and was a place that Dunbar enjoyed sitting and reading his newspaper and watching the birds and flowers and butterflies.

### **Congratulations**



Former Channing youth Jill H. (daughter of J.L. and Charlie) gave birth to Reagan Quinn A. on June 1st.

Congratulations to Jill and to the grandparents, J.R. and Charlie.

## Board Bits



On Tuesday, June 19th, the Board engaged in an important meeting where we transitioned leadership from Evelyn Grim to Julie Fitzer as Board President. Kathleen Razmus and Ken Hart joined the Board as Jodi Davidson and Anne Hart have stepped down from their roles. The meeting provided an opportunity to acknowledge these transitions and to extend appreciation for those who are remaining on the Board.

Covered during the meeting:

- Board covenant and procedures were reviewed
- The 2018 - 2019 budget was approved
- One year interim agreement for Reverend Madeline was approved; she will begin to get acquainted with the congregation in August, and will be in the pulpit starting in September
- Lease at 3220 Corporate Court is expiring September 2019; Channing will form a small committee to explore options.

--Jodi Davidson, Secretary

## Save the Date!



**Channing Auction**  
**Saturday, November 17,**  
**2018**  
**Evening**

## Toiletries Needed for the Westside Men's Shelter



So many of you travel frequently and are supplied with those little travel-size toiletries at hotels and on the plane. If you ever find you don't need them, please consider donating the extras to the men at Westside Shelter. We've put a box in the foyer for donations of individual toothbrushes and tooth pastes, razors, lip balm, hand sanitizers, combs, deodorant sticks, hand lotion, shampoos and conditioners.

Diana M., Nancy H., Joe C. and Steve P. take turns delivering groceries to the Shelter and will take these over when they go each month.

## Church Cleaners Needed



Keeping our church clean is a big part of creating a welcoming and inviting place. Channing does not have a janitor or a paid cleaning crew. A small cadre of dedicated volunteers clean, scrub, dust, vacuum, and otherwise keep the place looking great. Help is needed! Won't you consider lending a bit of your time to help keep the church looking great? For more information on volunteering to clean, please see Diana M.





*Channing Memorial Church, A Welcoming Congregation  
Walking in the Pride Parade... a step in the right direction!*

*Submitted by Jodi D.*

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month is celebrated during the month of June to honor the Stonewall riots in Greenwich Village, NY which occurred in June of 1969. The Stonewall incident started the modern gay liberation movement that later morphed into the LGBT rights movement in the United States and around the world. Channing celebrates and recognizes the positive impact and legacy of the LGBT community!

For the past 43 years, Pride Month is celebrated in Baltimore with a three-day celebration. A “small but mighty” group of eleven adventurous souls from Channing joined the collaborative called “Faith Communities with Pride.” Together we turned out 250 walkers from 35 Faith Communities, seven that were new this year.

Demonstrating our solidarity with the LGBTQIA+ community were Rev. Bob, Jodi and Tom D., Pam E., Julie F., Ken H., Ostara H., Dan, Heather and Holly V., and Kris T. A special thanks to our new Board President, Julie Fitzer, who organized our efforts, and the H.-V. family for bringing our banner!

*Says Julie, “Our feet were aching by the end with all of that walking, but we were thrilled to shout out ‘Channing Memorial’ and let people know that we are a proud welcoming congregation.”*



## Channing Care Team

The Care Team is a group of Channing volunteers who respond when a member of the Channing community is in need. They visit, send flowers, cards, meals and provide other caring gestures when needed. If you know of a need in the congregation, contact the Care Team at [careteam@channingmc.org](mailto:careteam@channingmc.org).

## Calling All Artists and Creatives!



The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia (UUC) will be accepting work for their next art exhibit to open on September 9 at the Owen Brown Interfaith Center (7246 Cradlerock Way, Columbia, MD 21045). This artwork will illustrate *A Free and Responsible Quest for Truth and Meaning* - the fourth UU Principle. All types of media qualify, including painting, photography, quilting, mixed-media, and the written word. Submitted artwork must fit in a square frame or be mounted onto a square, sturdy backboard. There are no size restrictions.

**The DEADLINE to submit a jpeg image and application is August 13.** Approved artwork will be delivered to UUC by Aug. 26.

Email [arts@uucolumbia.net](mailto:arts@uucolumbia.net) to request more information and a submission form.

## Men's Group



*(This is us at the Bagel Bin)*

**July 12th and 21st  
10:00 AM - 12:00 p.m.**

**Bagel Bin at Enchanted  
Forest Shopping Center**

All are welcome to this celebration of fellowship, conversation, coffee and bagels!

## Buy Gift Cards Through Channing Memorial Church



Support Channing Memorial Church while doing your weekly grocery shopping! Grocery cards are available for Giant, Safeway and Weis. There are also a few Lowes cards available. See Maureen H. to make a purchase. A percentage of each gift card that you purchase through Channing goes to help support the church.



## Support Channing Memorial Church.

When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com),  
Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

**amazonsmile**

# July 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worship Service 10:00 - 11:00 pm	2	3	4 Independence Day 	5	6	7
8 Worship Service: Labyrinth at Bon Secours 10:00 - 11:00 am	9	10	11	12 Men's Group 10:00 am - 12:00 pm	13	14
15 Worship Service 10:00 - 11:00 pm	16	17 Board Meeting 7:00 - 9:00 pm	18	19	20	21 Men's Group 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
22 Worship Service 10:00 - 11:00 pm	23	24	25	26	27 Groceries to Westside Shelter 6:00 - 7:30 pm 	28
29 Worship Service 10:00 - 11:00 pm	30	31				



Channing Memorial Church  
Unitarian Universalist  
3220 Corporate Ct.  
Suite C  
Ellicott City, MD 21042

On the web:  
[www.ChanningMC.org](http://www.ChanningMC.org)

### **Channing Memorial Church, Unitarian Universalist**

Our mission is to invite seekers into spiritual community, connect souls in mystery and wonder, and ignite compassion into action.

We are a church of liberal religious worship that inspires its members on their spiritual journeys. We derive inspiration from other world religions; promote religious education for all ages; create a welcoming, supporting, and caring community; and work together to build a better world.

**Directions to 3220 Corporate Court: From Catonsville and east:** Rt.40 West. Right on Pine Orchard Lane (one light after Bethany Lane). Turn right at first driveway. Suite C is in middle of building on right. Parking is available in front or at end of building and in back of building.

**From Carroll County and west:** Go east on I-70 to Rt 40 east; at 2nd light (Pine Orchard Lane), turn left. Take 4th right onto Corporate Court; Suite C is in middle of building on right. Parking is available in front or at ends of building and in back of building.

**NURTURE Your Spirit.**  
**Help HEAL The World.**



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Unitarian Universalist  
[www.channingmc.org](http://www.channingmc.org)