



The Channing Connection

CHANNING MEMORIAL CHURCH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Volume 25, Issue 10

October 2018

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Wayside Pulpit

If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way.

-- James Freeman Clarke



In the Interim October 2018



Bring Your Whole Self to Church!

Have you ever been invited to bring your whole self to church? What does that mean to you? And do you feel comfortable doing that? And gee, Pastor Madelyn, why are you asking these questions, anyway? Well, I'll tell you.

I remember going to a new school in the middle of high school. I happened to have one friend at the school already, but I didn't know anyone else. I sat with my friend at lunch and she introduced me to some other friends. At first, we talked about things such as where I'd gone to school before, and what classes I was taking, and where we all lived. These are safe things to talk about when we don't know each other very well.

When we're not sure of whom everyone is and how we're all going to get along, we stay in safety zones. We work very hard to maintain a pleasant and harmonious atmosphere.

Over time, I got to know these people very well, and they got to know me. We became very comfortable with each other. That meant we could be risky with one another. We could talk about dangerous things – things about which we might disagree. We could talk about political differences. We could tell each other about private things. We could let each other see our full selves. This sometimes led to fights. Fights happen when we care deeply about people (why would we bother to have a fight with someone we don't even care about?).

This happens in churches and all sorts of small groups and organizations, too. The lifecycle of a group is sometimes called forming, storming, and norming (and then, performing, if it's a group that has a task to do). In the forming stage, we behave like we're in a garden party. We don't want to offend, and we certainly don't want to let people into the more intimate spaces of our lives.

In the storming phase, we're feeling more comfortable with
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Newsletter Editor:

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—————
To place an event on the calendar, in the Order of Service announcements, in the newsletter or in an allchanning email, send an email to:
newsshare@channingmc.org
—————

Send submittals for the November issue of *The Channing Connection* to newsshare@channingmc.org by **7:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 21.**

(In the Interim - continued from page 1)

each other, and it's safe enough to fight. So we test our limits. We start to say what we think. That thing that was annoying from the beginning, whatever it was, we feel safe enough to mention now. And so sparks might fly. But this is only possible *because* we feel safe with each other.

Finally, we establish a normal way of being with one another. We know each other. We trust each other. We can be ourselves. We can cry without apology. We know how we work together. And we are in fuller relationship with one another. But we have to get through the other stages first.

So where are you? Are you able to bring your whole self to church? Are you able to be yourself at Channing, without apology?

Take time to think about the answers to these questions. If you don't yet feel completely comfortable, let's consider how we might move to the next stage together. If you're wondering how we might make it safe for new folks to come in, let's consider that.

One of the things I'll be offering (on November 10) is a workshop on conflict resolution skills. There's always conflict, so we might as well learn effective and productive ways of dealing with it. I hope you'll join me!

In shalom,
Pastor Madelyn

Interfaith Liturgical Calendar

October

- 1 Simchat Torah (begins at sundown) (Jewish)
- 4 Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi/blessing of the animals (Christian)
- 9 Navaratri begins (Hindu)
- 19 Dasara (Hindu)
- 20 Birth of the Báb (Baha'i)
- Installation of Scriptures as Guru Granth (Sikh)
- 31 All Hallows Eve

Worship Volunteer Opportunities

How would you like to help out with worship services? We're looking for some volunteers to help with a variety of different things. Maybe you'd like to be a Worship Associate and assist with the readings and such. Or perhaps you'd like to help with the sound system. Or maybe you'd like to volunteer earlier in the week, helping to gather information for the Order of Service. Whatever your interests, there's probably a job for you! And there are no meetings required.

Please contact Pastor Madelyn, minister@channingmc.org or 703-304-5818, if you're interested!

President's Column

Welcome to a new church year at Channing Memorial. We've held our ingathering service and combined our waters. We welcomed Pastor Madelyn in distinctive Channing style with an ice cream social, and listened to her first sermon in our pulpit. Deanna has met with the Religious Education team and planned an exciting year for the children and youth. This year's Auction theme has been announced. The Snack Squad has provided ample calories to fuel all of this excitement.

We are, as a Board, organizing our policies and clarifying our church structure. I think of this year as the time to build some solid foundations to support the work that we will do together with our next settled minister. Watch this space in future months for more details. We have a search team gathering to launch their important mission to look for our next settled minister. Another team is considering our space rental options.

Have a question? Send me a message and I will try to answer. I know most UU jokes about light bulbs. Math homework questions, I shall route to one of our in-house mathematicians.

I would like to ask the congregation for a

favor. When I'm sitting in the sanctuary prior to the service, I am often approached with church business questions. It is hard for me to hear you over the prelude music. It also disrupts my experience of the prelude time as a time to settle into worship. I welcome greetings, hugs, and smiles in the sanctuary, but please ask the quick questions out in the hallway before the service as we arrive, or hold more complex church business until after the worship service.

In love and faith,
Julie Fitzer

Religious Education ...What are we up to??



The Religious Education Committee has been busy this year adjusting to changes and finding the best ways to provide connections to our youngest members and friends. The RE committee has invited Stephanie Beben to join and she has accepted! The committee now consists of 3 members: Lynne Schaefer, Stephanie Beben, and Deanna Grabelle. This year we have created two multi-age RE groups so that our youth are supported in their growth, and we have rich

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(Religious Education - continued from page 3)

programming for our youngest children. Our youth group this year (older youth) has created a small group fellowship.

Tasha Fu has graciously taken on a role in helping Lynne (Schaefer) facilitate the fellowship group discussions for the first half of the year, as Lynne is also serving on the Search Committee this year! The youth group has chosen their discussion topics for the year and are having wonderful dialog on topics close to their heart, finding connections to their peers, and stronger connections to Channing as well.

Our younger group of RE friends will be participating in a new method of RE learning. David Fu and Stephanie Beben will be attending a workshop on Spirit Play, which we are hoping opens doors for more younger friends and allows us to be flexible in our growth with new members. We are excited that David Fu and Ashruf El-Dinary have agreed to, and will be teaching the Spirit Play lessons once a month. Our hope is that this multi-age lesson will open doors for new visitors to join us, and none of our youth will have to participate in a program as a solo member. These lessons will be geared toward ages 3-7/8 year olds. It will focus on teaching spiritual stories through play.

Along with these two groups, Loving Hearts Helping Hands (our youth social justice group or LH3) will continue to meet once a month. Stephanie Beben and Anne Kyle will be facilitating the group this year. We are looking forward to hearing what the group has in store for their community outreach projects for 2018-19!

What about the Nursery, some may ask. Ms. Terry will continue to provide excellent childcare for our youngest friends (and for the younger friends when Spirit Play is not meeting). Ms. Terry is still a necessary and vital part of Channing's

growth in religious education; without our youngest children, religious education will not continue to grow. If you are interested in volunteering with Ms. Terry in the nursery contact Cathy Fu.

As always, thank you for all of your support!

Deanna Grabelle

Board Bits



At the September Board meeting we fell a little short of a quorum, so there were no decisions made, but a full set of discussion topics were covered. First

and foremost was the policy update plan, which will result in a policy binder that will hold the complete set of Channing policies. Also discussed was the Youth Membership Policy and the continuing effort to finalize the Church structure documents.

Sincerely,

Dan Vallone, Interim Board Scribe

Blessing of the Animals

There will be a blessing of the animals on **Sunday, October 7 at 1:00 p.m. at Cypressmede Park, 3100 Fawnwood Drive, Ellicott City, MD.** All well-socialized and leashed furry, feathered, and scaled companions are welcomed. If your animal is shy with others, you are invited to bring a photo for a blessing.

Cottage Meetings Coming - October 7 and 14

Save the dates! Cottage meetings with the Settled Minister Search Committee are coming. These are small-group discussions to give us input about what Channing means to you and what your hopes are for our next minister. We value your feedback as part of the search process.

We'll meet **Sunday, October 7 and 14 from 11:30 - 12:30**. You only need to attend one meeting, although you are welcome both days. If you can't attend either session, feel free to contact the Search Team to give us feedback. Hope to see you there!

Your Search Team-- *Kris Tyssowski, Patrick Beben, Cathy Fu, Ken Kalumuck, Bernie Nibel and Lynne Schaefer*

Soul Stories with Facilitator Julie Fitzer

Thursday, October 11 at 7:00 PM

We'll listen to, and discuss, a short wisdom tale selected from the multicultural collection, Doorways to the Soul, compiled by a UU professional storyteller (ISBN: 9781556357404). It is not necessary to buy the book. Julie will post a copy of the story on the church bulletin board for a few weeks. The book author allows for one copy to be posted in a common area for the purpose of sharing and discussing the stories.

We meet on the second Thursday of each month through the fall. Remaining meetings are on October 11 and November 8, from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Channing.

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.

Come Join the Channing Choir!



Come join the Channing choir as we serve the congregation, learn new skills, and have fun! Practices are held at Channing on Mondays from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., with occasional extra practices when needed. For more information, contact Music Director Stephen Deininger at antonious-block81@gmail.com



Channing Auction
Saturday, November 17, 5:30 PM

Channing Memorial Church will hold its Auction on Saturday, November 17, 2018. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. to start bidding on silent auction items and signing up for single-price items. Dinner, prepared by our very own High School Youth Group, will be served at 6:00 p.m.

This year's theme will be The Jungle BUUK, and the menu includes Chana Masala, Butter Chicken, Basmati Rice and Naan. Cost will be \$10 per person; children 5 and under are no charge. Please sign up to attend by November 11, 2018.



We will have three types of items this year:

1. Live auction items and events
2. Silent auction items and baskets
3. Single-price events for multiple attendees with a sign-up opportunity at the auction

Child care is available - please let Colleen Rathbun know as soon as possible if you will need child care.

We need lots of help with this big event! Some tasks are needed as early as the beginning of October, such as helping to advertise the event and assisting with collecting donation information. Please see the list of items we need help with at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0f45abab23ab9-channing>

Now is the time for all good Channingites to consider donating to the Auction!

Channing Memorial Church's 2018 auction will be held on Saturday, November 17, 5:30-8:30 p.m., at the church (3220 Corporate Court, Suite C, Ellicott City, Maryland). Our theme will be The Jungle BUUK, and we will have delicious Indian food prepared by our High School Youth Group.

We need donations of items for the auction in order to make this event a huge success!

Would you like to donate? Feel free to use the form below. Completed copies may be given to Colleen Rathbun. You can also send Colleen an e-mail at michael_colleen@verizon.net

There are several categories for donations:

1. Events with a fixed price per person - you determine how many people can attend. These will be set up as "sign-ups" at the auction. Example: Soup for You at Whose House. Fixed price, maximum number of participants.

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(Now is the Time... - continued from page 6)

2. Events with a "top bidder" - you determine the date, time, number of people who can attend, and the minimum bid. The "top bidder" gets to attend, buy as many slots to your event as they want (up to the maximum number), and they receive something special for being the top bidder. Everyone else who wants to attend pays \$10 less than the top bid. Example: Beverage Tasting in the Outdoors. Top bidder is the first to taste each beverage; all other attendees pay \$10 less than top bidder.

3. Physical item donation - for either live or silent auction. The item may be auctioned on its own, or the Auction Team may combine your donation with other items to create a basket or collection to entice bidders. Example: Complete Guitar Package (6-string acoustic guitar with strap, case, guitar stand, and music stand).

4. Service or lesson for one bidder - for live auction. Your service will be available for only one person, the top bidder! Example: Calligraphy - the donor personalizes envelopes in a beautiful serif style calligraphy for your special event. Note - include special requirements, such as lead time, on donation form.

5. Gift cards or cash - don't know what to donate? Feel free to donate a gift card to a restaurant or other venue - we can combine it with other items to create an enticing package for live or silent bidding. Generic store gift cards (Target, Walmart, etc.) and cash would be gratefully accepted for use in filling in gift baskets for live or silent auction.

New this year - we will NOT be calling you to ask for donations. BUT, Colleen will be available after church services every Sunday in October to assist you in filling out your form.

If you don't feel you have anything to donate this year, that's quite all right. Not everyone needs to donate. We would be happy to have your support in any form, including helping to set up or clean up, attending, bidding, or just warm thoughts. Thank you!



AUCTION DONATION FORM

Return to Colleen Rathbun - michael_colleen@verizon.net

1. **Title of Item:**

2. **Description of Item, Event, Lesson, Service:** Please include enough information to show people why they might want to bid on your donation.

3. **Price Per Participant (if fixed price):**

OR

Minimum bid (if auction item):

4. **Maximum number of participants** (if applicable):

5. **Event date/s & time** (if applicable. Please include day of the week and calendar date.):

6. **Location** (if applicable):

7. **Name/s, e-mail address, and phone number of donor/s:**

8. **Other information** (lead time needed, etc.):

Stewardship Update

	<u>August</u>	<u>Fiscal Year-to-Date</u>
Total Operating Income	\$10,838	\$25,994
Total Expenses	\$17,993	\$26,020
Difference	\$(7,155)	\$(26)

Men's Group

**October 4th and 20th
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Bagel Bin at Enchanted
Forest Shopping Center**



Join the men of Channing for informal conversation, coffee and bagels. Bring a topic to discuss, or just bring yourself.

**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. See Maureen Hayes to make a purchase. A percentage of each gift card that you purchase through Channing goes to help support the church.

Channing Fall Tea

**October 21, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.
At Channing Memorial Church**



It is Tea Time! The days are growing shorter and fall is upon us. Leaves and acorns are scattering the ground. Time to savor the bounty that the earth has to offer. Please join the church ladies for a Fall Tea at Channing Memorial. This will be a delightful opportunity to enjoy wonderful companionship and conversation. Be prepared to raise your pinkies and feast on an assortment of savories and sweets while sipping on fine teas from around the world.

Cost \$30.00 per person. Email Maggie Nebel @ maggienebel@gmail.com to save your seat! Limit of 12 people.

Thank you, Channing!

During our special offering on September 16, we raised \$696.00 for our Westside Shelter Fund!

SHARING OUR VOICES AND VALUES CONCERT

**A BENEFIT FOR
THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST LEGISLATIVE MINISTRY OF MARYLAND
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12TH AT 7:30PM
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF ANNAPOLIS
[333 Dubois Rd, Annapolis, MD](http://www.uulmmd.org)**

Tickets:

**\$25 in advance, \$30 at the door, \$18 student/low income
\$50 Sponsor (Admission plus
pre-concert reception with Artists at 6:30pm)
\$100 Benefactor (Admission, pre-concert reception
with Artists at 6:30PM, preferred seating and
\$50 donation to UULM-MD)**

**All Contributions to UULM-MD may be tax deductible as a charitable deduction
Tickets Available Online: www.UULMMD.org or
<https://emmasrevolution.com/concerts>
For information, email info@uulmmd.org**

The Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland is a statewide advocacy network of Unitarian Universalists working to educate, mobilize, and coordinate UUs on issues before the Maryland General Assembly, including economic justice, climate change, restorative justice, health care, death with dignity, immigration and gun control.

Emma's Revolution is the dynamic, award-winning activist duo of Pat Humphries & Sandy O, whose songs have been sung for the Dalai Lama, praised by Pete Seeger, and covered by Holly Near. With beautiful harmonies and genre-defying eclecticism, Emma's Revolution delivers the energy and strength of their convictions, in an uprising of truth and hope.

**Celebrating Native Americans Today
October 13, 2018, Noon to 5:00 PM
Sandy Springs Friends School (Yarnall Hall)
16923 Norwood Rd.
Sandy Springs, MD 20860**

For All Ages

Film Festival
Dancing/Drumming
Food
Art Exhibit
Craft Vendors
Speakers

Piscataway Mobile Museum
American Indian Society (Learning from the Elders)
Tribal Leaders

An opportunity to learn

Sponsored by the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Indian Affairs Committee

Suggested Donation: \$2/person, \$5/family

For more information: indianaffairs@bym-rsf.org

October 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i> Choir Prac- tice 7:30 - 9:30 pm	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> Men's Group 10:00 am - 12:00 pm	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> Board Retreat
<i>7</i> Worship Service and Children's RE 10:00 - 11:00 am Cottage Meeting 11:30 am - 12:30 pm Blessing of the Animals 1:00 pm	<i>8</i> Choir Practice 7:30 - 9:30 pm	<i>9</i> Stewardship Committee Meeting 7:00 - 9:00 pm	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i> Soul Stories 7:00 - 8:00 pm	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>14</i> Worship Service and Children's RE 10:00 - 11:00 am	<i>15</i> Choir Practice 7:30 - 9:30 pm	<i>16</i> Board Meet- ing 7:00 - 9:00 pm	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> Men's Group 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
<i>21</i> Worship Ser- vice and Chil- dren's RE 10:00 - 11:00 am Cottage Meet- ing 11:30 am - 12:30 pm	<i>22</i> Choir Practice 7:30 - 9:30 pm	<i>23</i> Transition Team Meet- ing 7:00 - 9:00 pm	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i> Groceries to Westside Shelter 6:00 - 7:30 pm 	<i>27</i> Worship Workshop
<i>28</i> Worship Service and Children's RE 10:00 - 11:00 am	<i>29</i> Choir Practice 7:30 - 9:30 pm	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i> Halloween 			

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

On the web:
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). Take 4th right onto Corporate Court, then take the first right into the parking lot. 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 4th light (Pine Orchard Lane), turn left. Take 4th right onto Corporate Court, then take the first right into the parking lot. 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.



Channing Memorial Church
Unitarian Universalist
www.channingmc.org