



# The Channing Connection

CHANNING MEMORIAL CHURCH  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Volume 26, Issue 9

September 2019

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## September Minister's Column

Dear Channing Memorial Church,



What an honor it is to be here! This first month was filled with wonder and excitement. I have thoroughly enjoyed beginning to get to know you all, as well as attending powerful worship.

The conversations I have been blessed to have truly touched my soul as I repeatedly heard testimonies about the warm, welcoming, radically inclusive spirit that is at the core of Channing Memorial Church. I heard often about how this spiritual community provides powerful sustenance through all of the inevitable hardships of life, and a community of celebration during the joys. What a remarkable church.

This church is in the midst of big change. A new minister can create anxiety. We have also moved buildings, leaving behind the home of the past five years and embarking on a new adventure. Change can elicit so many emotions: excitement, anxiety, stress, wonder. But no matter where we are, we always know who we are: Channing Memorial Church. We are a community, not a building.

During one of my daily walks, I was reminded of a favorite poem written by Langston Hughes.

## We are a Welcoming Congregation!



Hold fast to dreams  
For if dreams die  
Life is a broken-winged bird  
That cannot fly.

Hold fast to dreams  
For when dreams go  
Life is a barren field  
Frozen with snow.

## Wayside Pulpit

I will show thee my faith  
by my works.

*James 2:18*

In this midst of change let us dream. Let us envision a future of promise and joy. Let us enthusiastically move forward together, guided by our common dreams and thirst for a spiritual home. You have quite the future ahead of you. I am excited to see where this next journey takes us.

Warmly,

*Rev. Jane*

**Minister**

Reverend Jane Smith

410-203-0474 (office)  
[minister@channingmc.org](mailto:minister@channingmc.org)

**President:**

Julie Fitzer ('20)

**Vice President:** Maureen Hayes ('20)

**Treasurer:** Evelyn Grim ('21)

**Secretary:** Kathleen Razmus ('21)

**Trustees:**

Ken Hart ('20)  
Colleen Rathbun ('21)

**Newsletter Editors:**

Cathy Fu  
Ken Grim

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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](mailto:newsshare@channingmc.org)*

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Send submittals for the October issue of *The Channing Connection* to [newsshare@channingmc.org](mailto:newsshare@channingmc.org) by **7:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 22, 2019.**

**President's Column**



Amazing.

That's the word that described the Channing Family during August. It was a ton of work to move and get things ready for the new church year. So many people pitched in to help. I won't write a comprehensive list, because I'm likely to inadvertently leave someone out. I want to thank everyone who helped in any way.

However, I want to give a special shout-out to Maureen H. who became our move coordinator. She saved my sanity!

It's been a blessing to welcome Rev. Jane to her settled ministry here at Channing. She has already handled a few pastoral care issues. In the midst of moving and new church year chaos, she has brought a calm presence.

I'm excited to see what this new church year will bring.

Our first few weeks worshipping at Linden Hall will likely feel a little chaotic. Please bring your sense of humor to church those weeks. From a spiritual perspective, it will be a good time to practice accepting "good enough" instead of expecting perfection from yourself and fellow human beings.

In faith,

Julie



**Ingathering is September 8!**

Remember to save water from travels this summer, or just from your own faucet during your "staycation." We'll bring our water to church in September as we start a new church year with Rev. Jane.

## Official Channing Move Page

*(aka Where in the World is Channing Memorial Church?!)*



### Linden Hall on Sunday mornings

**We will meet there at 10 am Sundays** beginning September 1. Linden Hall is in Dorsey Search, at 4765 Dorsey Hall Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21042. Directions <https://www.channingmc.org/wp/directions-to-linden-hall/> We have Linden Hall from 9 am—12 noon on Sundays

**Our main contact with Linden Hall is Rev. Jane.** Please contact her if you have questions or concerns with that space. If she is on summer leave, has a week away from the pulpit, or is otherwise absent, you can route time-sensitive requests to Julie Fitzer. Email [minister@channingmc.org](mailto:minister@channingmc.org) or call (410) 203-0474.

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### Park Avenue house for meetings and office space

**For choir, meetings and all church business,** we're renting a house at 3677 Park Avenue, Ellicott City, MD 21043. The house is a few doors down from the Howard County courthouse. The area can be accessed from Ellicott City Main Street or Route 40. Same church phone number: (410) 203-0474.

**Our main contact with the Park Avenue house is the Facilities Team.**

Email [facilities@channingmc.org](mailto:facilities@channingmc.org) or call Diana M. or Dan V.

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### (L)(Br)unch after Church

When we meet at Linden Hall for worship, we must clean up and depart by 12. Deep in a philosophical conversation about the meaning of life? Solving a major world problem? Enjoy these nearby spots for more coffee or lunch after the service...



*Located in Dorsey's Search Village Center* next to Linden Hall: Hunan Legend Chinese food, Casey's Coffee, Yama Sushi, The HoneyBaked Ham Company

*Less than a mile away:* Leelynn's Dining Room at 9495 Old Annapolis Road 21042 for Sunday brunch

**But please move your car** to the front of the shopping center if you plan to eat lunch nearby. This way rentals that start after us have access to Linden Hall parking.

**September Sermons**  
**Sunday services at 10 am at Linden Hall**



**The Urban Reservation with Mel Currie 9/1**

Many African American communities in the inner cities have come to resemble reservations. Ironically, it began in the sixties as the Civil Rights Movement celebrated its breakthrough legislative achievements. Buckle your seat belts and observe the realization of Manifest Destiny.

**The Celebration of Ingathering 9/8**

Today we come together as a community of faith to celebrate the joy of reconnecting after our summer apart. Through the symbolic act of pouring our individual water into a common vessel, we find a tangible way to express our interconnectedness; to demonstrate the power of many becoming one.

**What to You is a Skunk? 9/15**

Often we navigate this world seeing what we expect to see, not seeing what is. When we see a skunk, we may see nuisance and not a beautiful creature. We may bypass the suffering with fear and judgment. How can we find the poetry in the mundane, and beauty in the scorned?

**From Night Comes Dawn 9/22**

Just as inevitable as dawn after nightfall and the rhythm of the tides, the times of grief and pain will ultimately pass. Cycles are inherent to nature, although so often the flowers of spring seem unattainable after the frost of winter. Join us today as we honor, and come to expect, the cycles of life.

**Divinity in the Unexpected 9/29**

From where does the unexpected come? Some speculate that novelty is divine, that unanticipated beauty is derived from the sacred. Rev. Dawn Fortune writes that divinity is “irrational, unexpected, and beautiful.” The future is full of holy unknowns, found in what we do not or cannot expect.

**Office Hours for Rev. Jane**



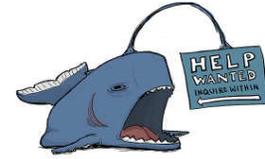
I'll be at Park Avenue on Tuesdays from 1 - 4 pm for drop-in appointments. I am also happy to meet throughout the week for scheduled appointments. Please email me at [minister@channingmc.org](mailto:minister@channingmc.org) or call (410) 203-0474. Monday is my day off.

*Rev. Jane*

## Help Wanted at Church

**Clean up gurus** needed to return order to Linden Hall each Sunday after the service. Clean-up head gurus are encouraged to recruit friends for assistance. See the Sign Up Genius for more information and instructions.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D49ABAE22A7F94-linden>



### Facilities Team Member

Join our rock star Facilities Team! Are you more of a doer than an organizer? The facilities team needs doers! If you'd like to join the facilities team to help with the maintenance tasks at the house, please let Julie F. know.

### Brochure Author

We have a new location and new pastor, but old brochure! Please help the Membership committee to develop a brochure that will adequately reflect who, what and where we are. It's an important effort! Please send your interest to [membership@channingmc.org](mailto:membership@channingmc.org) by September 15.

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE!**

***Church Auction***

**Saturday, November 16**  
from 6-9 pm  
at Christian Temple  
Fellowship Hall in Catonsville



### Board Bits

At the August 20 board meeting, the Board revised the 2019-20 budget a bit, now that we have actual numbers for things like rent. There were small discussions on the move and the auction. This was the first board meeting with Rev. Jane, so she led the discussion related to her new ministry with Channing Memorial Church. The ministerial startup retreat, Soul Matters and nighttime pastoral care were among the topics.

*Dan Vallone*, Board Scribe

## Spotlight on Snack Squad



This month, the Channing Connection salutes a very special Snack Squadder, Nancy H. Nancy was one of seven siblings in a “meat and potatoes” household, and remembers her mother teaching her how to make cream puffs. She finds recipes on several websites including Allrecipes.com and, in her eternal struggle to cook quality Indian dishes, Showmethecurry.com.

While Channingites know her for her famous date nut roll, Nancy also loves baking Christmas treats, especially a multi-layered wonder called Venetians. She would love to try baking bread, but is a bit apprehensive about working with yeast. When she’s not baking, she loves to travel and dote on her two young grandchildren.

Nancy says she likes being a Squadder because, “Everybody loves to chat after church, and snacks ‘lubricate’ the conversation.” Thank you, Nancy, and happy baking!

Want to learn more about Snack Squad? Click on <https://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?go=s.SignupLogin&urlid=20F084FA4AD2BA46-sunday> Access code: FeedUs or talk to Cathy F. at church .

## Presidential Humor

Scrolling down my Facebook feed, I was astonished to read a friend's praise of the naked ladies at her UU church service in Memphis.

I rushed to read the rest of the post. Turns out that "naked lady" is an alternate name for a type of flower. Whew!



*Julie Fitzer*

*Amaryllis belladonna,  
aka naked lady*

## Stewardship Update

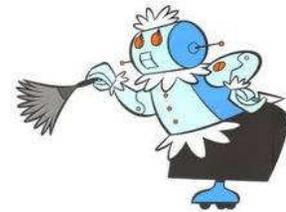


### July Year to Date

Total Operating Income	\$20,785
Total Operating Expenses	\$13,089
Difference	\$7,696

## Channing Cleaners Take on Park Avenue!

Thanks to Diana M. and her expert cleaners for whipping our new Park Avenue space into shape.



First open the window...

then clean!

Cleaning with friends is best

Ms. Roboclean approves!

Want to help keep our space clean? Click on the link.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080F4BAEAE28A3F58-cleaning4>

Questions or problems? Contact the Facilities Team at [facilities@channingmc.org](mailto:facilities@channingmc.org)

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## Main Street Music Fest

Main Street Music Fest is inspired by the desire to support and celebrate the best indie artist talent the Mid Atlantic has to offer.

Join us on Saturday, September 21, 2019 in Ellicott City!

Full day FREE festival features 3 outdoor stages, 7 indoor stages, 45+ bands, Craft Beer & Boutique Wine Gardens, and family friendly activities throughout the historic district.



# September 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>1</i> 10 am Sunday Service at Linden Hall!</p>	<p><i>2</i> <b>LABOR DAY</b>  7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><i>3</i> 1—4 pm Minister's Drop in Office Hours</p>	<p><i>4</i></p>	<p><i>5</i> 10 am Men's Group at Bagel Bin  4:30—8 pm Private music lessons</p>	<p><i>6</i></p>	<p><i>7</i></p>
<p><i>8</i> 10 am Ingathering Service at Linden Hall</p>	<p><i>9</i>  7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><i>10</i> 1—4 pm Minister's Drop in Office Hours</p>	<p><i>11</i></p>	<p><i>12</i></p>	<p><i>13</i></p>	<p><i>14</i></p>
<p><i>15</i> 10 am Sunday Service at Linden Hall Nursery open</p>	<p><i>16</i>  7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><i>17</i> 1—4 pm Minister's Drop in Office Hours 7 pm Board of Trustees meeting</p>	<p><i>18</i></p>	<p><i>19</i></p>	<p><i>20</i></p>	<p><i>21</i> 10 am Men's Group at Bagel Bin</p>
<p><i>22</i> 10 am Sunday Service at Linden Hall</p>	<p><i>23</i> Fall Begins  7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><i>24</i> 1—4 pm Minister's Drop in Office Hours</p>	<p><i>25</i></p>	<p><i>26</i>  Groceries to Westside Shelter</p>	<p><i>27</i> 6 - 9 pm Final Friday Potluck and Game Night</p>	<p><i>28</i></p>
<p><i>29</i> 10 am Sunday Service at Linden Hall Nursery open  Rosh Hashanah Begins</p>	<p><i>30</i>  7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>					

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Channing Memorial Church  
Unitarian Universalist  
3677 Park Avenue  
Ellicott City, MD 21043

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 a common spiritual center from Jewish and Christian roots while drawing 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 Linden Hall: From the South:**

Drive north on Rt. 29 from south of Columbia.  
Take Rt. 108 West.  
Turn right onto Columbia Road.  
Turn right at the first light on Old Annapolis Road.  
You will be behind the Dorsey Search Village Center. Take the third entry road on the left (Old Route 108).  
The parking lot is immediately on your right. Overflow spaces available at other locations in the Village Center.

#### **From Baltimore:**

Take 70W to Rt. 29 south.  
Take Rt. 108 West.  
Turn right onto Columbia Road.  
Turn right at the first light on Old Annapolis Road.  
You will be behind the Dorsey Search Village Center. Take the third entry road on the left (Old Route 108).  
The parking lot is immediately on your right. Overflow spaces available at other locations in the Village Center.