



The Channing Connection

CHANNING MEMORIAL CHURCH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Volume 26, Issue 4

April 2019

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In the Interim April 2019

Opening Day

This year, the Oriole’s home opener is going to be on April 4 against the NY Yankees. It’s only fair – after all, the Yankees will be hosting the O’s at their own home opener on March 28 this year.

It must be spring!

Now, I love the Yankees. Perhaps you love the O’s. And I really love a good game of baseball. Every spring, there is the promise of great baseball. Every spring, there is the promise of redemption from last season. Every spring, fans of every team can see the promise of the pennant.

April also brings the festival of Passover, a time when Jews around the world commemorate the story of who we are and where we come from. This year, Passover coincides with Easter, the holiest day in the Christian calendar; a day for Christians to celebrate rebirth and renewal, and what it means to be a Christian.

What does the springtime hold for you? I’m hoping that by the time you read this, we will have word about your next minister. So many possibilities rest in that! What are you looking forward to?

Many of you have asked me about the next steps in building your social justice ministry. That’s one way that you can prepare for moving forward and renewing the church. On April 14, I’m inviting you to stay after the service for a presentation and conversation on taking the next steps in forming a social justice ministry. Please join me!

Are you ready? Well then! Play ball!

In shalom,
Pastor Madelyn

We are a Welcoming Congregation!



Wayside Pulpit

Goodness is the only investment that never fails.

—Henry David Thoreau

Interim Minister:

Pastor Madelyn Campbell
410-203-0474 (office)
minister@channingmc.org

President:

Julie Fitzer ('20)

Vice President: Maureen

Hayes ('20)

Treasurer: Ostara

Hollyoak ('19)

Secretary: Kathleen

Rasmus ('19)

Trustees:

Ken Hart ('20)

Open ('19)

Open ('19)

Newsletter Editors:

Ken Grim

Cathy Fu

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 May issue of *The Channing Connection* to newsshare@channingmc.org by **7:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 21.**

Good Friday Service

Join us on Friday, April 19 at 7 pm. All are welcome. If you would like to participate in the service (as a storyteller, reader, musician, etc.), please contact Pastor Madelyn.

Interfaith Liturgical Calendar

April

- 3 Laylat al Maraj (Islam)
- 9 Mahavir Jayanti (Jain)
- 14 Baisakhi (Sikh)
Palm Sunday (Christian)
- 18 Maundy Thursday (Christian)
- 19 Good Friday (Christian)
Passover begins (sunset) (Jewish)
Theravadin New Year (Buddhist)
- 21 Easter Sunday (Christian)
First Day of Ridvan (Baha'i)
Lailat al Bara'ah (Islam)

Board Bits

The March 19th Board meeting kicked off with an interim ministry discussion, related to Madelyn's plans for supporting us over the next few weeks. In mid-April, she would like to hold a social justice workshop, which will go along with the service she is planning.

The space search was the main focus of the meeting. The Board agreed to have Toni R. be the new lead for this effort. Toni has an abundance of skills to draw upon and is able to put forward the time and effort to help us find the best situations to choose from. The Board is grateful that Toni offered to help find our



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(Board Bits - continued from page 2)

new home. At this point, the Board is requesting that the search be quite open with regard to size, rent and situation, so that we don't miss opportunities from a narrow search.

The remainder of the meeting was spent with a continuation of the Church Structure effort, which is getting the finishing touches applied.

Sincerely,

Dan V., Board Scribe

President's Column

It's been another busy month at Channing as we balance the settled minister and space searches on top of our usual programs and worship services. Given the small size of our congregation, a large percentage of our congregation is deeply involved in one of the searches, the board, religious education, worship services, hospitality, cleaning, membership, choir, finances, communications, care team, or another major activity. We have big dreams, and we also need to pace ourselves so that volunteers do not burn out. Our volunteers are resources that we need to guard as carefully as our financial resources.

As we make major decisions about space and approach the time to start goal-setting for next year, I suggest that the volunteer workload be considered as much as the financial cost of any decision. There may be times that spending funds in one area versus another makes sense from the standpoint of better managing volunteer resources.

I also encourage volunteers to look for ways to do things efficiently and let go of perfectionism. Does every worship service need to be worthy of the National Cathedral, or does the annual report need to read like it came from a Fortune 500 company? I imagine that we will still reach many souls with less lofty goals. We have done much in the last couple of years to explore more sustainable models of providing religious education to our children and youth.

We have always held high standards for ourselves; if we do not balance work with rest and renewal, we will in the end fail to accomplish our mission. Volunteers are also congregation members and friends who seek to connect in mystery and wonder. When church starts to feel more like a "job" and less like a place of spiritual renewal, we need to restore balance. Please take care of yourselves and each other.

In faith,

Julie

Search Committee Update



Hello Channing Members and Friends,

We know everyone is anxious to have an update on the search for our minister. The Search Committee has completed a series of pre-candidating weekends. During these weekends, the candidates met in person with the search team, toured the area, visited our church, and served as guest minister at a nearby UU congregation, enabling us to experience the candidate leading worship. Since completion of these weekends, we have discussed and evaluated how each

(continued on page 4)

Search Committee Update - continued from page 3)

candidate fits the priorities of the congregation. We then submitted our choices to the UUA Transitions Office. The ministerial candidates have also submitted their choices. Following a matching procedure between candidates' preferences and ours by the Transitions Office, we will be notified of the results in early April. If there is a positive match, we will then announce the candidate to the congregation.

As we await word from the Transitions Office, we are optimistic and hopeful, but also aware that the candidate must be a good fit with CMC. As always, stay tuned and offer positive thoughts, energy, or prayers as this exciting time continues.

Your Search Team-- Kris T., Patrick B., Cathy F., Ken K., Bernie N. and Lynne S.

Roaring Into the 2020s Stewardship Update



WE'RE ALMOST THERE

A big thank you to all who have responded to our Roaring Into the 2020s pledge drive and have turned in your Operating Fund pledges for the upcoming 2019-20 church year. As of this writing, we have received about \$121,600 in pledges toward our goal of \$130,000, with about 6 potential pledges still outstanding. With the addition of \$6,100 in match fund pledges, this should bring us close to our goal. As a reminder, we would like to complete the pledge drive by March 31 so we can start working on next year's budget. Some of our canvassers have been busy traveling during March, so if you have not been contacted for a pledge, please contact Evelyn or

Ostara and we will arrange for someone to call on you. You may place completed pledge forms in the box on the table near the name tags. Thank you again for supporting Channing Memorial Church's mission and goals.

Sincerely,

The Stewardship Team

*Evelyn G., Anne H., Ken H.,
Ostara H., Diana M. and Dan V.*

Stewardship Update

February Year to Date

Total Operating Income	\$107,721
<hr/>	
Total Expenses paid	\$110,869
Difference	\$(3,148)

Men's Group

Thursday, April 4 and Saturday, April
20

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Bagel Bin at Enchanted
Forest Shopping Center



Join us for informal conversation, fellowship, coffee and bagels. Bring a topic to discuss, or just bring yourself. All are welcome.

From Membership

Hello Channing friends -

This is an exciting time of change at Channing! Our settled minister search is rapidly coming to a close, and we have recently been advised that our lease will not be renewed and we need to find a new place of worship by this fall.

If you have been enjoying your time with us and contemplating membership at Channing Memorial Church, this is the time! In order to be eligible to vote for the settled minister and for any votes at the Annual Meeting coming up in the next few weeks, you will need to sign the membership book very soon, since the Bylaws state that a member has to have been a member for at least 30 days in order to be eligible to vote.

As per our Bylaws, an active member is one who: 1) is at least 18 years old or has completed the requirements for youth membership designated by the Coming of Age Class; 2) knows the purpose of the Church as described in the Bylaws; and 3) has signified acceptance of that purpose by: (a) signing the membership book in the presence of the minister or other individual designated by the Board; and (b) has made a current recorded financial contribution to the Church.

Please contact the Membership Committee or Pastor Madelyn with any questions, and we hope to welcome you as a new member to Channing soon!

Steve P., Marian V. and Joe C.
membership@channingmc.org

Pastor Madelyn Campbell
minister@channingmc.org

Covenant Circle Collects Food Bank Contributions in April

The Covenant Circle is asking for your help to reduce food insecurity and hunger in our surrounding community. Each year after the holidays, donations to food banks fall, sometimes leaving shelves bare. This results in an increase in the number of suffering families in the community. April is the highest time of need for donations to food banks.

Channing's closest community food bank is the Howard County Food Bank on Gerwig Lane in Columbia. Items most needed are listed below; they can also be found at the food bank's website (<<https://www.cac-hc.org/wp-content/uploads/Items-Needed-at-Food-Bank-Flyer-v5pdf>> Howard County food bank website). Members of the Covenant Circle are asking you to purchase requested items and bring them to church during the month of April. Whatever help you can give, whether it's items from the list or other non-perishable food items, will be appreciated. Please ask Deanna G. if you have any questions.

Most Needed Donation Items:

Canned and dried fruit; Hot and cold cereal; Soups; Pasta; Pasta sauces; Tuna; Baby food, diapers and wipes; Peanut butter; Canned beans (pinto, kidney and black); Canned vegetables (low sodium); 100% fruit juice

Thank you for your support!

Arthur Ashe said "Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can."

**Next "Final Friday" Potluck and Game Night at Channing!
Friday, April 26, 6:00-9:00 p.m.**

Please join us on the final Friday in April to share food, friendship, and fun!

Bring a dish to share and a board/table game or, if it's not a good week, just bring yourself.

After dinner, join in a game, or just socialize. We'll have a movie available for young children who might want to just chill and watch.

If you have any questions, see *Deanna G.*

LGBTQ SEDER

Thursday, April 11th, 2019 at 6:30 pm
Bolton Street Synagogue
212 Cold Spring Lane, Baltimore 21210

Hosted by JPride and
Bolton Street Synagogue

Tickets \$20
Visit lgbtseder2019.eventbrite.com
Please RSVP by April 7, 2019

Howard County Faith Communities present Courageous Conversations about Race and Religious Bias

In Courageous Conversations, we will learn from one another and hear each other's perspectives about how we are living together in our experiences of race and religious bias. Our overarching theme this year is the question, "How do we work towards creating a connected community of different people rather than a community that lets different people in?"

[https://
www.hococourageousconversations.com/?
fbclid=IwAR0eKRJN8D-ehCtqWwp5-P
crXQDG9IBUrmrKhjSL71cshsTultRTCsGH-
nPs](https://www.hococourageousconversations.com/?fbclid=IwAR0eKRJN8D-ehCtqWwp5-PcrXQDG9IBUrmrKhjSL71cshsTultRTCsGH-nPs)

Next Conversation Circles are April 2 and 9,
2019. All conversation circles begin at 7 pm.

The Ninth Annual "Hotter Than Thou" Chili Cook-Off

will take place on Sunday, April 7, 2019 from
12 pm to 2:30 pm at The Great Room at His-
toric Savage Mill, 8600 Foundry Street Sav-
age, Maryland 20763 and will raise critical



awareness about the issue of
homelessness and increased
need for affordable housing in
Howard County. This event
will bring together chili cook-
off teams from 20 Howard
County congregations and over
300 community members to
raise funds in support of our mission to pre-
vent homelessness.

The Chili Cook-Off will also bring together
invited local dignitaries, guests and friends
for an informal afternoon of light-hearted
competition to determine which congregation
will earn the coveted "Golden Ladle". There is
no entry fee for this fundraising event.

Chili Cook-Off attendees vote by placing cash
and checks in the congregation chili cook-off
teams' "Tip Jar" and the congregation which
brings in the most money earns the "Golden
Ladle". Amid the fun and fellowship, we give
away door prizes, we host a silent auction
and raffle, local celebrity chili judging, client
testimony, and event sponsors are thanked
and promoted.

We are hopeful that Channing members and
friends will support Bridges and enjoy some
chili at the same time! Next year we would
like for Channing to be one of the participat-
ing churches. Talk to Ken H or Joe C. if
you're interested. This could be an oppor-
tunity for fun and support of a great cause
and outreach for Channing.

April 2019

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 am—12 N	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> SoupEvent— Closed auction item
<i>7</i> Stewardship Sunday Wor- ship Service 10:00 - 11:00 am Spirit Play 10:00-11:00 am10:00-	<i>8</i> Choir Prac- tice 7:30 - 9:30 pm	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>14</i> Nursery Open 9:45 am-11:30 am Worship Ser- vice 10:00 - 11:00 am LH3 10:00- 11:20 am	<i>15</i> Choir Prac- tice 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> Good Friday Service 7 pm	<i>20</i> Men's Group 10 am—12 N
<i>21</i> Worship Ser- vice 10-11am	<i>22</i> Choir Prac- tice 7:30 - 9:30 pm	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i> Groceries to Westside Shelter Final Friday Potluck 6 pm—9 pm	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i> <i>Potential Candidating Week</i> Worship Ser- vice 10:00 - 11:00 am Nursery Open 9:45 am-11:30 am	<i>29</i> <i>Potential Candidating Week</i> Choir Prac- tice 7:30 - 9:30 pm	<i>30</i> <i>Potential Candidating Week</i>				

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.



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Unitarian Universalist
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