



# The Channing Connection

CHANNING MEMORIAL CHURCH  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Volume 26, Issue 5

May 2019

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**We are a Welcoming Congregation!**



## Wayside Pulpit

*Go out on a limb. That's where the fruit is.*

—Anonymous



## In the Interim May 2019

### Saying Goodbye

It seems that I just got here and now it's nearly time to leave you. In just a few short weeks I'll preach my last sermon to you, and then we'll part. You'll be moving forward in ministry with your new minister (how exciting!), and I'll move on to my next ministry. And you will always have a special place in my heart.

We still have a few weeks left together, so we'll have a chance for goodbyes. And perhaps we'll have the opportunity to run into each other at UUA events such as General Assembly and other events in the wider community.

If we've become friends on Facebook, I will unfollow you after I leave Channing. It doesn't seem right to me to unfriend people, but neither does it seem right to me to continue to be involved in the life of the congregation, even in a virtual sense. Even so, I'll watch Channing from afar.

We have done so much together, and I know you will continue to do wonderful things. This year you've outlined a strategy for growth. You've experimented with new things in worship. You've resuscitated your social justice ministry. And you've continued to welcome newcomers into your midst. I hope you're proud of the work that you've done. I'm certainly proud of you.

I know that right now, you don't know where you will physically be after August. But what I do know is this – you will BE. You will be somewhere together.

Over the next few weeks we'll have plenty of time to talk in person and say goodbye. I'm looking forward to hearing what you're most proud of from this year.

In shalom,  
Pastor Madelyn

**Interim Minister:**

Pastor Madelyn Campbell

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

Razmus ('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](mailto:newsshare@channingmc.org)*

Send submittals for the June issue of *The Channing Connection* to [newsshare@channingmc.org](mailto:newsshare@channingmc.org) by **7:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 26.**

**Interfaith Liturgical Calendar**

**May**

- 1 Beltane (Wiccan/Euro-pagan)
- 2 Last day of Rdvan (Baha'i)  
National Day of Prayer (USA – Interfaith)  
Yom HaShoah (Jewish)
- 6 Ramadan begins (Islam)
- 18 Bisakha Puja (Buddha Day) (Buddhist)
- 23 Declaration of the Bab (Baha'i)  
Lag B'Omer (Jewish)
- 29 Ascension of Baha'u'llah (Baha'i)

**Board Bits**



The April 9 Board meeting was mostly a planning session for the two significant upcoming events that face the congregation: calling a new minister and finding a new home.

At the congregational vote, membership rules and proxy voting apply in precise ways. Having an orderly vote will be appreciated by all.

Toni R. joined the Board meeting for updates and further direction on the space search. Finding rental space in the Route 40 corridor that fits our budget is proving difficult. The Board raised the monthly rent hard limit to \$4600 to see if it will bring new spaces into Toni's search net. Toni will also widen her search area a bit the see if that helps. We do have options, but the search continues for the best situation.

Sincerely,

*Dan V.*, Board Scribe



## “Marching in the Light of God”— Palm Sunday at Channing

### President’s Column

Welcome to May at Channing Memorial Church. After the April showers, we will soon enjoy the May flowers. Lots of new things are in bloom here.

At the time that you read this, we’ll be in the middle of meeting our candidate for the settled ministry. We need everyone to vote on May 5. Candidates want to see that there is broad support for their ministry. If you absolutely cannot be there, you may vote by proxy. Just be sure to send a note with your proxy holder or let me know in advance.

The May annual meeting on the 19th will elect the board for next year, review the annual report and church plan, and go over next year’s proposed budget.

The board is working hard to identify options for space next year. Wherever we land, the most important space for church growth continues to be the space inside of ourselves – for new ideas, new ministries, and new friends. We could move into the most beautiful building and still fail to grow as a congregation if we do not welcome the change that comes with new faces. A church of 100 people cannot operate with the same habits as a family-sized church of 50 people.

It is also important to remember that society is changing, and church attendance is no longer an expected norm. Young adults today do not have the disposable income to pledge

to organizations as they struggle with student loans and stagnant wages. In addition, many young adults work a second job and take on “side-hustles” to make ends meet, reducing the time that they have for church and volunteering. The church of the future will need to be flexible in how and when it delivers programs in order to reach seekers. A group that meets at the Bagel Bin for a casual conversation may be vital ministry to a young adult whose schedule does not permit Sunday worship attendance. I encourage us to think beyond buildings as we consider strategies for growth.

Granted, most of us would love a beautiful and inspiring place for worship. We will work towards that. I just want us to realize that we can still grow even if we cannot secure the perfect space in the short term. The most important space at church is the room in our hearts.

From what I have heard in feedback, we do a great job of welcoming visitors. We have experimented a great deal during this interim period. Let’s continue to learn and grown together.

In faith,

*Julie*

## Introducing Our Candidate for Settled Ministry

### Pastor Jane Smith!

Channing is very pleased to welcome our new candidate for settled minister! Our candidate is Jane Smith who will be ordained as a Unitarian Universalist Minister at the First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis on June 2nd. Jane currently lives in Minneapolis. We are pleased to welcome her and look forward to meeting her during the upcoming candidating week of April 28-May 5.



### Candidating Week Is Here!

The wait is over! Pastor Jane will be with us for Candidating Week from April 28—May 5.

Sunday April 28 at 10 am— Pastor Jane presents her first sermon, “The Spark that Brings Us Together.”

Tuesday, April 30 from 10 am to 12 noon — Drop-in Open House

Wednesday, May 1 from 5 to 8 pm: — Drop-in Open House

Sunday, May 5 at 10 am— Pastor Jane presents her sermon, “The Journey.”

Sunday, May 5 at 11:30— Congregational vote. If you are a member, please come and cast your vote. (Church friends are welcome, but cannot vote.) Please bring “finger foods” for coffee hour.

Note: Pastor Jane is also meeting with church groups during Candidating Week. For details on your church group’s meeting, please see the calendar on the church website or contact Cathy F.

**Annual Congregational Meeting**  
**Sunday, May 19, 2019**  
**11:30 a.m.**

In accordance with Article V, Section 1 of the church bylaws, the purpose of the meeting shall be:

- to receive a report from the board on the state of the church;
- to consider the Church Plan and the Church's financial needs and resources related to the plan;
- to fill vacant positions on the Board of Trustees and the Leadership Development and Nominating Committee.
- to conduct other business of the Congregation

**Agenda**

Approve minutes of May 2018 Annual Meeting  
Report on exceptions made to bylaws during the year  
Receive and consider Annual Report and Church Plan  
Update on current status of space search  
Elect members to fill vacant positions on the Board  
Review the budget for 2019-2020

**Slate of Nominees for the Board**

Secretary: Kathleen R. (2019-2021)  
Treasurer: Evelyn G. (2019-2021)  
Trustee: Colleen R. (2019-2021)

**Save the Date!**



**Farewell Potluck for  
Pastor Madelyn  
June 9, 11:30 PM**

After serving Channing for the past year as interim minister, Pastor Madelyn will be leaving us soon. We will celebrate her year of service to Channing with a potluck after her last service on June 9. More details will follow as the date approaches.

**Stewardship Update**

**March Year to Date**

Total Operating Income	\$118,895
Total Expenses paid	\$120,327
Difference	\$(1,432)

**Men's Group**

**Thursday, May 2 and Saturday,  
May 18  
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.

**Welcome New Members!**



We're so happy to welcome Brian G. and Angela L. as new members of Channing!



If membership is a shift from thinking, "I like to go to Channing on Sundays." to "Channing is my church, and I want to help it succeed," Brian and Angela have made that shift. Bravo!

**Channing Commemorative  
Union Service at First Unitarian  
Church of Baltimore  
Sunday, May 5 at 3:30 pm  
10 W. Franklin St.  
Baltimore, MD**



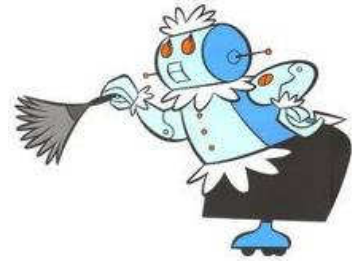
**"The Soul's Horizon"**

William Ellery Channing Commemorative Sermon by W. Frederick Wooden Senior Minister, Fountain Street Church, Grand Rapids, MI

Premiere Performance of the Festive Anthem **"Love is the Most Excellent Way"** conducted by the composer, Joyanne Amani Richardson

*And Now, A Message from YOUR facilities team:*

Thank you to the following people who signed up to clean the church in the last six months: Julie F., Ken and Evelyn G., Nancy H., RoseMarie M., Colleen R. and Kris T. Thanks to the Anne and Ken H. who stay after the service every Sunday to help collect the trash and clean the kitchen, and thanks to those of you who have cleaned without signing up.



Can you help keep our church clean? As Rev. Susan used to say, think of it as a beautiful cathedral. Diana will help by taking down and setting up the chairs for anyone who signs up to clean the sanctuary,

This signup is a combination of the four areas of our church that we will clean:

1) Classrooms, hallway, foyer; 2) Kitchen and storage closets; 3) Restrooms; 4) Sanctuary. You can signup to clean any or all of the four areas.

Cleaning is done during the week, usually on Friday or Saturday, leading up to the Sunday date listed. If these two days don't work for you, any day of the week is fine, but not during Sunday services. Cleaning instructions are posted on the back of the LEFT storage area door (behind the kitchen). The facilities team will also email you the cleaning instructions when you sign up for a specific date and church area.

Feel free to clean with others. It's much more fun! Use only one email address to sign up and include a team name, e.g. F/H Sanitation League, in the comment line, so that all cleaners are acknowledged in the church bulletin.

Questions or problems? Contact Diana M.

Thank you,  
Channing Facilities Team  
facilities@channingmc.org

**Next "Final Friday" Potluck and Game Night at Channing!  
Friday, May 31, 6:00-9:00 p.m.**

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.*

# May 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<i>1</i> Candidating Week! Open House with Pastor Jane 5-8 pm	<i>2</i> Candidating Week! Men's Group 10 am—12 N	<i>3</i> Candidating Week!	<i>4</i> Candidating Week!
<i>5</i> Worship Service 10:00 - 11:00 am Spirit Play 10:00-11:00 am Congregational Vote 11:30 am	<i>6</i> Choir Practice 7:30 - 9:30 pm	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>12</i> Worship Service 10:00 - 11:00 am Mothers Day	<i>13</i> Choir Practice 7:30 - 9:30 pm	<i>14</i> Board Meeting 7:00 - 9:00 pm	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i> Men's Group 10 am—12 N
<i>19</i> Nursery Open 9:45—11:30 am Worship Service 10:00 - 11:00 am LH3 10:00-11:20 am Annual Meeting 11:30 am	<i>20</i> Choir Practice 7:30 - 9:30 pm	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>26</i> Worship Service 10:00 - 11:00 am Nursery Open 9:45 am-11:30 am	<i>27</i> Choir Practice 7:30 - 9:30 pm Memorial Day	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i> Groceries to Westside Shelter	<i>31</i> Final Friday Potluck and Game Night 6—9 pm	



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). 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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