



# The Channing Connection

CHANNING MEMORIAL CHURCH  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Volume 28, Issue 7

July 2021

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## President's Column

As I write this on Solstice morning, with the raucous din of the cicadas fading into memory, and the first year of my presidency drawing to a close, I thank outgoing Board Member Colleen Rathbun for her service, and I welcome incoming Board Member Kris Tyssowski. I also thank the rest of the Board: Patrick Beben, Mel Currie, Evelyn Grim, and Kathleen Razmus for their service and for being a great bunch of people, both to work with, and to “Be Church” with.

July marks the beginning of our Church year, and it looks to be a busy one! We are still looking for short term space, and we will be working to develop a strategic plan for long term space with some help from Liz Coit, of Stewardship for Us. Our work on the UUA proposed 8th Principle will continue, and we hope to conduct a vote in the fall. At some point during the year we hope to provide hybrid (simultaneous in-person and on-line) worship services. And there will, as always, be so much more. Some details follow.

First, about space. We will not be renting space from Dickeyville Memorial Presbyterian Church (DMPC). There are non-trivial accessibility issues which cannot be resolved quickly. The Space Team is hard at work, “stomping the bushes” in a rental market that has become quite “hot” with the recent loosening of pandemic-related restrictions. I hope to have more concrete news to share with you in the near future.

Frankly, accessibility was not the only factor in the decision to not rent space from DMPC. The Congregational survey results indicated a marked reluctance to move our “everything else” space to Dickeyville. These results will be released to the Congregation, and I encourage you to take the time to read and consider them thoughtfully, **especially those viewpoints and comments that are not the same as your own.** As it states in our Covenant, we are a like-hearted people, not a like-minded one, and I believe that how we manage our differences will be crucial as we move forward and plan our future in the coming Church year.

In our discussions with DMPC we found kindred spirits, and while we will not be renting space from them, we still hope to  
*Continued on next page*

## We are a Welcoming Congregation!



## Wayside Pulpit

Faith has nothing to fear from thinking.

—Albert Schweitzer

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Kris Tyssowski ('23)

**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 August issue of *The Channing Connection* to [newsshare@channingmc.org](mailto:newsshare@channingmc.org) by **7:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 25, 2021.**

*President's Column, continued from page 1*

grow our relationship. In the spirit of the proposed UUA 8th Principle, we have reached out to see how we can help serve the mostly African American community that surrounds their buildings. Thank you, Toni R., for taking the first steps, and I look forward to upcoming opportunities.

And speaking of the proposed UUA 8th Principle, I am thankful for the work, the opportunities to learn, and the discussions that our 8th Principle team has done, provided, and moderated over this past Church year. While we have not adopted the principle, and while I know that not everyone is (or even can be) satisfied with all of its aspects, I have already been witness to its effective invocation in discussions; and, if I may invoke our 5th Principle, the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process, I believe that it is essential that we hold a vote. Whether we choose to adopt the principle or not, our work in this area is only beginning.

As for when we will start hybrid worship, we'll have to wait and see, but I'm cautiously optimistic that we can do this by some time in the fall. We are following and will likely continue to follow the UUA guidelines for meetings, and some of us have had the joy of connecting with each other in person.

May you live well, remembering what is most important.

—David Fu



**Rev. Jane has left the building!**

I will be taking time off this summer for vacation and study leave. I will be out of the office starting after worship on June 20. I will return \*August 10.\* I will be out of the office again from August 14-18.

For any pastoral care needs during this time, please reach out to the Board at [channingecboard@channingmc.org](mailto:channingecboard@channingmc.org) and they will connect you with either myself or an on-call minister. I hope you enjoy your summer months!

Warmly,  
Rev. Jane

## Adventures in Summer Services -- Shared Worship with Cedarhurst UUs



This summer (as Rev. Jane takes her well-earned leave!), beginning June 27th and continuing through August, our Sunday services will look a little different... and much the same. Channing's worship associates are working collaboratively with lay worship personnel from Cedarhurst Unitarian Universalists to produce shared online summer services for our two congregations.

Channing and Cedarhurst lay volunteers will conduct the service on alternating weeks. One of our worship associates will act as a liaison for each service that is "Cedarhurst-produced," to keep things smooth for Channing's congregation. You'll notice some variation in the order of service and the production on those weeks, but essential elements will be included, and we'll continue to have music with Stephen each Sunday.

We're looking forward to hearing other voices, and meeting new people at after-church coffee hour. We hope you'll find this summer service experience enriching!

--Worship Associates (*Ostara Hollyoak, Pam El-Dinary and Virginia Voigt*)

## Stewardship Corner

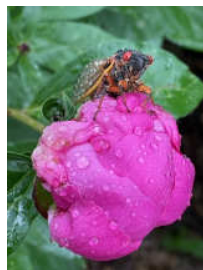


At its June 15 meeting the Board approved the budget for fiscal year July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 as shown below. Note that there are two new budget items for next year. First, we have budgeted for a technical assistant to provide support for multi-platform (hybrid) services when we resume meeting both in person and online. Second, the Board is establishing a Sabbatical Fund to cover future expenses that may occur when Rev. Jane takes advantage of the sabbatical time provided in her contract. If you would like more detail, contact [treasurer@channingmc.org](mailto:treasurer@channingmc.org). Thank you to all for your continuing support of Channing Memorial Church's mission and ministries during this challenging year.

—*Evelyn Grim*

<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenses</b>	
Pledges and donations	\$163,500	Administrative expense	\$ 2,389
Auction and Other Fundraising	7,400	Rent, utilities and maintenance	49,830
		Insurance	1,500
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$170,900</b>	Worship, education and programming	5,164
		UUA/CER Dues	6,431
		Total Music Director	11,122
		Total Minister	89,943
		Technical Assistant	5,200
		Sabbatical Fund	1,200
<b><u>Income—Expenses = -\$1,880</u></b>		<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$172,780</b>

## Cicadas, The Final Chapter



Two things of  
beauty from  
Marian V.

Hear that one solo humming cicada  
Like a swami who's chanting Rig Veda:  
So hypnotic a toning!  
And when \*thousands\* are droning--  
It's a symphony of aural big data.

—Ostara H.

Creepy crawly  
Emerges from the ground  
After seventeen years of slurping xylem sap!  
Climbs nearest object  
Sheds exoskeleton  
Patiently Waits For Complete Transformation...  
From Nymph to Adult  
Clumsily Flies  
In Search Of Mate

Oh! I hear the vibrations!

No Defense  
Only Procreation  
Gestation  
Then Death  
Leaving her body behind  
As a final gift to the Earth

—Angela L.

Brood X has come, Brood X has gone,  
Those are just the facts,  
And now the birds are left to moan,  
"What happened to all the snacks?"

—Bert M.



Cody "The  
Sheltie" Fu's  
short-lived  
muzzle trial.  
(He loves to  
eat cicadas!)

### Stewardship Update



#### May 2021 Year to Date

Total Operating Income	\$ 141,910
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 127,087
Difference	\$ 14,823



## Lectio Divina Continues This Summer!

Lectio Divina meetings will continue to be held over the summer led by church members. Meetings are still the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 7—8 pm. Each meeting consists of reading/listening to a poem, most likely new to you, then silently meditating on memories it invokes, feelings it brings up, and on wisdom it conveys before sharing insights with other participants.

For me, this practice brings me to think outside my usual box, find inspiration in the insights of others, and deepen my relationship with others. I hope you will join us at the Zoom link below.

—Bernie N.

Channing Board is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. (This is a new Zoom link for use during the summer)

Join Zoom Meeting


<https://zoom.us/j/99767592938?pwd=VkpGSytxVnBDdDk1eUpNWVJ1YjdYQT09>

Or call 1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 997 6759 2938

Passcode: 312946

### Board Bits

- The 8th Principle Committee will reach out to Dickeyville Memorial Presbyterian Church to explore opportunities for collaboration on racial justice issues. 
- The Board revised its guidelines for meeting in person, specifically adopting the new UUA Guidelines for Covenantal Community: [New CDC Guidelines in Covenantal Community | LeaderLab | UUA.org](#)
- The Board passed the 2021-2022 budget.
- Rev. Jane's summer study begins on June 20.
- Reminder - Channing will be sharing some summer services with Cedarhurst Unitarian Universalists.
- The Space Team is searching for office/meeting/storage/choir space as well as worship space. We are hoping to be able to meet in person for worship in fall.

—Colleen R.

### Summer Is Here!



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. Of course, our worship associates are planning wonderful services over the summer, too.







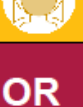


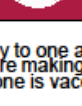
See you at church!

**Chart released by the UUA in June.** The Channing Board has decided to adopt these guidelines. Stay tuned for updates.



### Guidance for Gathering in Covenantal Community

As part of our covenantal commitment to care for all, we encourage congregations to maintain a culture of masking while indoors regardless of vaccination status, and to take time to listen deeply to one another's concerns and fears before making any decisions that might put members of the community at risk, either physically or mentally, with a continued practice of inclusion, covenant, consent, and care for each other.

Congregational Activity	Guidance	
<b>Small Groups Outside</b> Religious education, childcare, youth group, OWL, Coming of Age, Committee/team meetings, bell choir, small group ministry, playground meetup, games, hiking, bonfire	 OR 	Safest
<b>Large Groups Outside</b> Worship, rites of passage, lawn concert, poetry/play readings, coffee hour, "bring your own food" picnic, camping trips, vigils, protests, community gardening	 OR 	
<b>Small Groups Inside</b> Religious education, childcare, youth group, OWL, Coming of Age, committee/team meetings, bell choir, small group ministry	 OR 	Less Safe
<b>Large Groups Inside</b> Worship, rites of passage, poetry/play readings, concerts, art shows		
<b>Small Groups Inside (with food/ drink/ singing/ deep breathing)</b> Retirees' lunch, lunch bunch, choir, yoga, strenuous activity	 OR 	Least Safe
<b>Large Groups Inside (with food/ drink/ singing/ deep breathing)</b> Coffee hour, "bring your own food" meals, catered dinners/receptions, sing-a-longs, strenuous activity		



= Take prevention measures to protect self and others



= Take time to listen deeply to one another's concerns and fears before making any decisions, even if everyone is vaccinated

### Help Wanted with Church Calendar



Do you have an hour or so each week?

Yes, this is one of those "Your community needs you" entreaties. There's regular "stuff" that needs to be done to communicate the church schedule, and one of the tasks is to maintain the events on the calendar each week or whenever things change. Typically this should take not more than an hour a week— even less, from time to time. It's not difficult to learn how to do it, and no technical skill is required. *An additional bonus is you can do it at home with a cup of coffee at your side!*

If you can be this Very Important Person for Channing (VIPIC), please email Ken H. and write "Here I am!" in the subject line. You'll be glad you did.



## Summer Adventures with Julie

Join Julie and other UU friends at **Howard County Conservancy at Mount Pleasant** at 8 am on the dates below (let's beat the summer heat!) for a family-friendly easy paced walk of about 1 hour, weather permitting. We'll be done before the center programs start and trails start to get crowded.

Masks are not required for this outdoor activity. Note that the buildings do not open until 9 am so there is no access to bathrooms or water until the buildings open. Follow hikes with informational brochures describing sights along the way. No charge. <https://www.howardnature.org/mt-pleasant/>

To let Julie know to expect you, for weather cancellations, or to catch up to the group if you are running late, text Julie at (901) 216-5995. You may want to print out or have the brochures below on your phone.

**July 3** - West Meadow and Stream hike 0.7 miles. Meet at west end of parking lot. See brochure: <https://www.howardnature.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/meadow-hike-Final-1.pdf>

**July 17** - East Woodland Trail hike 0.8 miles. Meet at east end of parking lot. See brochure: <https://www.howardnature.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Woodland-Hike-FINAL-1.pdf>

**In August**, Julie will go to the Howard County fair - an informal time to see the friends you've missed. Details to come in July.



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**UUMAC is Coming to a Computer Near You!** See their website for details.





# July 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>All events *online* unless otherwise noted</i></p>				<p><i>1</i> Men's Group 10 am</p>	<p><i>2</i> Covenant Circle and Outreach Mtgs</p>	<p><i>3</i> Stewardship Committee 10:00 am</p>
<p><i>4</i>  10 am Sunday Service</p>		<p><i>6</i> Committee on Ministry</p>	<p><i>7</i> Space Search Meeting  Young Adult Game Night</p>	<p><i>8</i> Clearing as Spiritual Practice 1pm</p>	<p><i>9</i> Worship Team</p>	<p><i>10</i> Channing Book Club 10 am</p>
<p><i>11</i> 10 am Sunday Service</p>		<p><i>13</i> LDNC Meeting  7 pm Lectio Divina</p>	<p><i>14</i></p>	<p><i>15</i></p>	<p><i>16</i> Covenant Circle</p>	<p><i>17</i> Men's Group 10 am</p>
<p><i>18</i> 10 am Sunday Service</p>		<p><i>20</i> 7 pm Board of Trustees</p>	<p><i>21</i></p>	<p><i>22</i> Clearing as Spiritual Practice 1pm</p>	<p><i>23</i></p>	<p><i>24</i></p>
<p><i>25</i> 10 am Sunday Service</p>		<p><i>27</i> 7 pm Lectio Divina</p>	<p><i>28</i></p>	<p><i>29</i>  No groceries to Westside— we are donating money instead!</p>	<p><i>30</i> Covenant Circle</p>	<p><i>31</i></p>



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



**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.