



The Channing Connection

CHANNING MEMORIAL CHURCH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Volume 30, Issue 7

July 2023

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Wayside Pulpit

May your life preach more loudly than your lips.

—William Ellery Channing



**We are a Welcoming
Congregation**

Summer 2023 Worship News

David F. Back on the Team!

We are excited to announce that David F. will once again be joining us as a worship associate, beginning this summer! David, Ostara and Pam have divided up responsibility for the summer services, which will include lay-led services by the worship associates and by volunteers from the congregation.

Going Solo -- with Gratitude to Cedarhurst for the Past Two Summers

Now that we have a full team of worship associates, along with consistent access to in-person worship space, we are not planning on joining with Cedarhurst Unitarian Universalists (Finksburg, MD) for services this summer. We are appreciative of that collaboration for the previous two summers as our congregations bounced back from the pandemic challenges.

Multi-Platform Worship Most Sundays throughout the Summer ...

Our rental agreement with Epiphany Lutheran Church includes the summer months, so on most Sundays we will offer multi-platform worship in person and online via Zoom. Recordings of the Zoom sessions will be uploaded to YouTube for later viewing (typically available by the end of the day on the following Tuesday).

... Plus a Few Other Special Treats!

Multi-platform worship is volunteer-intensive. Plus, it's fun to do something a little bit different occasionally in the summer. By popular demand, the worship associates will be including a few non-worship activities for selected Sundays.

Here's the (Tentative) Lineup

All services start at 11:00 AM at Epiphany Lutheran Church (and live on Zoom), unless otherwise specified. (Events at other venues will not be live-streamed on Zoom.)

**July 2 - Julie F. - All Soles Walk 9:30 AM: Lake
Kitt, Columbia (meet by Sushi Sono)**

(continued on page 2)

Minister

Rev. Jane Bennett Smith
410-203-0474 (office)
minister@channingmc.org

President:

Kris Tyssowski ('24)

Vice President: Open
(‘24)

Treasurer:

Maureen Hayes ('25)

Secretary:

Angela Lesperance ('25)

Trustees:

Sheri Thomas ('24)
Chris Lynch ('25)
Open ('24)

Newsletter Editors:

Ken Grim
Chris Lynch

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 August 2023 issue of *The Channing Connection* to newsshare@channingmc.org by **7:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 23, 2023.**

(Summer 2023 Worship News - continued from page 1)

July 9 - David F. - "So Happy"

July 16 - Bernie N. - on Gratitude [reflections inspired by *Braiding Sweetgrass*]

July 23 - Ostara H. - "What I Did at My Summer Camp"

July 30 - David F. - Park Avenue Social

August 6 - Jim C. - "Joseph Priestley, Unitarian and Radical Immigrant."

August 13 - TBD

August 20 - Pam E. - [reflections inspired by *Where the Wild Things Are*]

August 27 - Sheri T. - "Little Bits of Good"

Sept. 3 - Ostara H. - Picnic (location TBD)

Summer plans and topics are subject to change, so stay tuned to emails, the weekly news, and the website for updates. We look forward to seeing you this summer!

Your worship associates,

*Pam E.
David F.
Ostara H.*

Rev. Jane's Summer Schedule

Rev. Jane is now on summer vacation and study leave. She will return on August 15.

If any pastoral care concerns arrive during this time, please reach out to a member of the Board and they will connect you to either a local on-call minister or to Rev. Jane. The Board can be reached at channingecboard@channingmc.org.

Park Avenue Gathering on July 30!

Take a break from worship at Epiphany to join us at Park Avenue on Sunday, July 30 at 11 am. We'll have treats and conversation and, if the weather is nice, we'll meet outside.

Dear Channing members and friends,

As we make our way through summer, I invite us to be intentional about noticing those places that feed our souls. Perhaps this is a special destination we travel to, a gathering with those we love, or a walk to center in nature. **I invite each of you to collect water from one of these places.** When we join together on **Sunday, September 10 for our annual Water Communion service**, we have a special opportunity to celebrate this water and the story it holds. We will bless the water and join in a ritual to share this water with that from years past, combining this year's joys with the joys of dedicated members and friends that came before us. I look forward to celebrating this beloved tradition!



Warmly,

Rev. Jane

Board Bits



A small group of Channing folks (Kris, Toni, Ken H.) met with Epiphany representatives to discuss options for building the ADA bathroom. The Board voted to table further action on construction of an ADA-compliant bathroom at Epiphany pending further examination and discussion of all aspects relevant to the decision. The Board also discussed the future of Park Ave: its contents and office space for Rev. Jane.

Evelyn presented the 2023-24 proposed budget which was approved by the Board.

The first steps for hiring a new Music Director were approved including the charge for the search team, the job description and budget. We also need a chairperson for the RE search team.

The Board heartily thanked Mel and Evelyn for their service on the Board. Chris L. and Maureen H. will begin service next month.

Angela Lesperance, Secretary

Introducing the Music Director Search Team



The Music Director Search Team is charged with identifying a candidate to serve as music director at Channing Memorial Church. Among other actions, the team will develop the director's position description, advertise the position, screen applicants, complete background checks, interview and audition the strongest candidates, and finally, present a final candidate and employment agreement to the Board of Trustees for approval.

The team members are *Pam E.*, *Ken G.* and *Jim V.* Rev. Jane will also work with the team when she returns from summer leave.

We invite comments from the congregation. What background or qualities are important to you in our next music director?

You can contact the team at musicsearch2023@channingmc.org .

Volunteers Needed for Channing Services



Channing needs volunteers for a number of jobs at church! To sign up, go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f084fa4ad2ba46-sunday1#/> with access code: cmc.

We are working to fill these roles but more help is needed. Please volunteer to make the in-person and online services work each week.

Any questions, contact *Cathy F.*

Thank you!

Outreach Needs Your Ideas



The Outreach team is looking for your good ideas on venues in which we can have a presence in the community and spread the word about CMC. Is there a fair or event coming up in the area that you know of that we could participate in? Have or share a table? Have a sign/ banner? Other means of getting publicity?

This can be any time of year, though summer and fall are of particular interest now. Don't worry, you don't need to personally participate, though we will certainly welcome this. Please contact any member of the Outreach team with your great ideas!

Your Outreach Team,

Evelyn G., Ken G., Ken K., Kathleen R.

Stewardship update Year-to-date as of May 31, 2023

General Operating Fund	
Total Operating Income	\$ 178,966
Total Operating Expense	<u>-147,684</u>
Difference	<u>\$ 31,282</u>



Lectio Divina

Next session, Tuesday July 11, 7-8 pm, held on Zoom

This ancient practice allows us the opportunity to delve deep into a chosen text. Each gathering we will focus on one poem. We will read through the selected text several times, with a different focus on every read-through. After each read through, will pause for several minutes of silent reflection, which will be followed by each person sharing their unique reflection. **Summer schedule, managed by attendees from Channing and Charlestown, will run on the second Tuesdays of July and August. Bernie N. of Channing to lead the July session.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93324550758?pwd=VFVLZkdES2lodTNHK1pWZ1pZb114UT09>

Meeting ID: 933 2455 0758

Passcode: 250704

Channing Book Club



Our next meeting will be on **Saturday July 8.**

The reading will be **Siddhartha**, by Herman Hesse. Thanks to Chris for the suggestion. Copies are widely available for a reasonable price used as well as electronically on Libby and at the Baltimore and Howard County Libraries.

Next, we'll read **Improvement** by Joan Silber. Tentatively on the calendar for **August 12.** Here's are links to reviews:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/01/books/review/improvement-joan-silber.html>

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2019/feb/21/improvement-joan-silber-review>

Used editions available – www.thriftbooks.com, www.alibris.com , etc.

Multiple formats: Amazon (variety including Kindle), Howard County Library

We will meet outside at Park Avenue at 10 a.m. weather permitting. We'll fall back to zoom **if** the weather is not friendly or perhaps meet inside. Notice will be sent out if we make this change.

What's on your book list? Would you like to make it a selection for the book club so you can have good conversation about it? Let *Ken H.* know what you are thinking about, and contact Ken with any questions.

The book club focuses on fiction and non fiction and attempts to offer a variety of interesting, thoughtful reads nominated by members of the club itself. We meet for up to two hours on the second Saturday of the month.

Men's Group

Thursday July 6 at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom

and

In person at the Bagel Bin at 10:00 a.m. on July 20

Everyone is welcome to join the men at either or both of these events. For the zoom meeting, a link will be sent out via the distribution list for the group. If you are not on that list and are interested, check with Ken H. via email.

All are welcome to these events. Email *Ken H.* if you have any questions.



Young Adults Game Night

The Young Adults Game Night meets every **first Wednesday of the month from 7:00 to 9:00 pm**. We'll have games and conversation. Anyone in their 20's, 30's and 40's are welcome. This event is open to the public and folks are encouraged to share this event with anyone who may be interested. Contact *Patrick B.* for information.

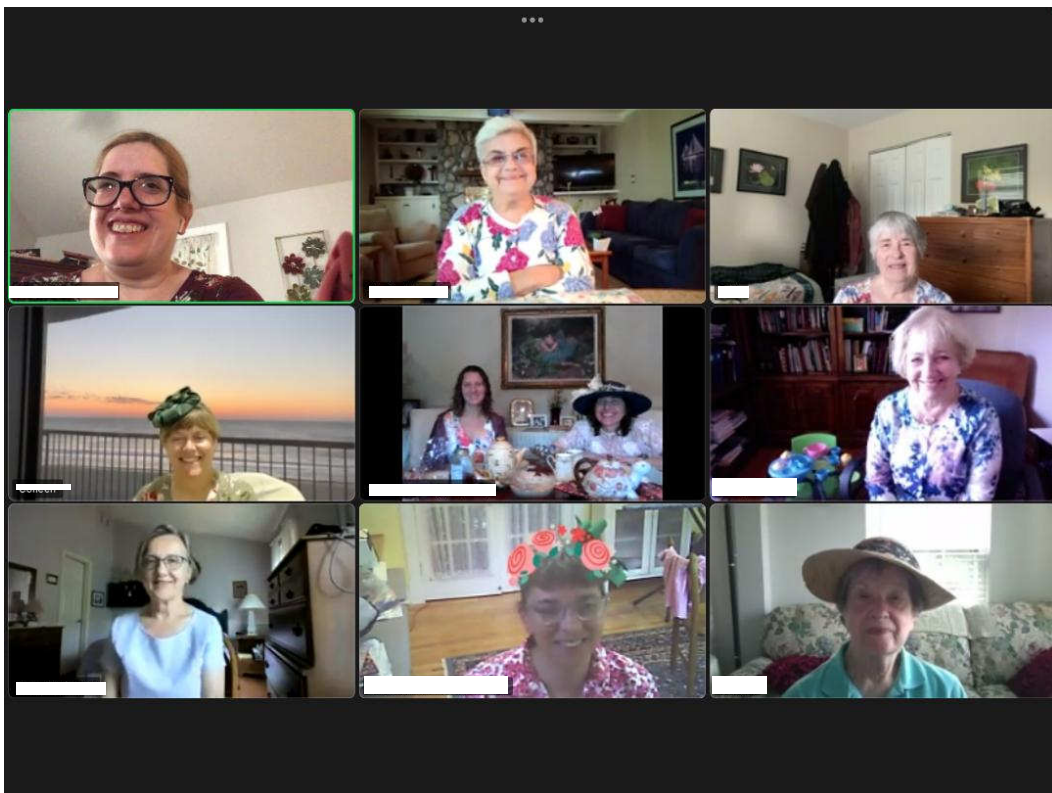
Young Adult Small Group

Each month, our Channing Young Adult group meets to share insights, stories, reflections, and questions. Our conversations range from imagination to courage to vulnerability. Before each gathering, we engage in individual reflection guided by a monthly Soul Matters packet. Delving deep into our reflections each month leads to meaningful conversation, and the prep work offers thoughts to reflect on between our gatherings.

We gather the **third Wednesday of every month from 7:00-9:00 p.m.** for dinner and conversation. Young Adults include anyone in their 20s, 30s or 40s. It is always a good time, and we would love for you to join us!

Channing Photo Album

The Channing Auction often generates activities that allow us to gather together for fun, food and socializing. The **Tea Party**, occurring on Zoom on June 6 and pictured below, was reportedly a lot of fun!



Continued on page 8

(Channing Photo Album - continued from page 7)

In celebration of our space-sharing arrangement with Epiphany Lutheran Church, Channing and Epiphany enjoyed a joint **potluck dinner** on June 17. A good time was had by all, as you can see in the photos below.



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(Channing Photo Album - continued from page 8)



(continued on page 10)

(Channing Photo Album - continued from page 8)

On June 24, members of Channing Memorial Church and Epiphany Lutheran Church organized a **combined work party** to do a thorough cleaning and some landscaping work at Epiphany Lutheran Church.



July 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<i>1</i>
2 All Soles Walk 9:30 am at Lake Kitt, Colum- bia	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	5 Young Adults Game Night 7:00 - 9:00 pm	6 Men's Group on Zoom 10:00 am - 12:00 pm	7 Membership Team 2:00 pm Outreach Team Meet- ing 6:00 - 7:00 pm	8 Channing Book Club 10:00 am
9 Worship Ser- vice 11:00 am	<i>10</i>	11 LDNC Meet- ing 5:30 - 7:30 pm Lectio Divina 7:00 -8:00 pm on Zoom	12 Stewardship Meeting 7:00 - 8:00 pm	<i>13</i>	14 Worship Team Meet- ing 1:30 - 3:00 pm	<i>15</i>
16 Worship Ser- vice 11:00 am	<i>17</i>	18 Board Meet- ing 7:00 - 9:00 pm	19 Young Adult Small Group 7:00 - 9:00 pm	20 Men's Group at Bagel Bin 10:00 am - 12:00 pm	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>
23 Worship Ser- vice 11:00 am	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>
30 Park Avenue Social 11:00 am	<i>31</i>					

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.

We meet at Epiphany Lutheran Church, 9122 Sybert Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043. Our Sunday worship service begins at 11:00 am.

Directions to Epiphany from the North on Route 29: Take Route 29 to Route 100 East, take first Exit Long Gate Parkway to stop sign (keep left at split). When traffic is clear, go straight across to Meadowbrook Lane, past the Park and Ride to the stop sign, turn right onto Sybert Drive; Epiphany will be on your right.

Directions to Epiphany from the South on Route 29: Take Route 29 to Route 108, head East on Route 108 to first traffic light (Bendix Road), turn left onto Edgar Road; at stop sign turn right, then in two blocks turn left onto Parkvale Road. Continue to stop sign, then turn left onto Sybert Drive. Epiphany will be on your right.