



The Channing Connection

CHANNING MEMORIAL CHURCH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

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**We are a Welcoming
Congregation!**



Wayside Pulpit

The greatest gift you can give another is the purity of your attention.

—Richard Moss

President's Column



This month I have various bits to share with you about what is going on in Our Congregation.

The Covenant Circle and the Social Justice Team are working on purchasing a "Black Lives Matter"-related banner for our Park Avenue space. It may be a while before it's up, as various signage permissions need to be obtained, but the donation will happen soon, and, as Reverend Jane reminded us, donating is a good way to support the cause.

Stewardship for Us: Meetings and interviews with Liz Coit have begun. I encourage you to be frank and honest with her as this will be the best way to help her help us figure out how to match up our needs, desires, and resources for our future worship space.

From the mailbag: We received both a letter of thanks and a phone message from the Community Assistance Network (CAN), the Baltimore County non-profit organization which runs the Westside Men's Shelter and provides many other essential services to those in need. They were especially grateful for our donation that came from our special collection.

More from the mailbag: We received a physical copy of *Widening the Circle of Concern: Report of the UUA Commission on Institutional Change*. This report is both a hard look at structures of white supremacy within our denomination and a set of recommendations for how to dismantle these structures. I am reading it as part of my personal 8th Principle work, and I encourage you to do so as well. Let me know if you want to borrow it before I leave it at the Park Avenue office space. Additional copies are available for purchase on the UUA website, and it is also available as a free download. See <https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/cic/widening> .

—David

Minister

Reverend Jane Smith

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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

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Send submittals for the September issue of *The Channing Connection* to newsshare@channingmc.org by **7:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 23, 2020.**

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 (Zoom) church!

Board Bits



The board met virtually via Zoom. The following discussions and decisions took place:

- Board covenant was recited by the new board.
- The auction will be held virtually. The date of the auction is being delayed to allow for time for Colleen to learn an online auction platform. A date will be set in the next few months.
- Annual financial reports and 2020-2021 budget reviewed. Evelyn is in the process of applying for PPP loan forgiveness.
- Added \$500 to the Social Responsibility committee budget for the year.

—Julie Fitzer, board scribe

Giant Scrip



Giant Scrip (\$100 gift card) is available and can be delivered to you with all appropriate social distancing. Contact Maureen H..

—Maureen H.

**From Membership:
Please invite visitors**



With the pandemic limiting so many of our usual social interactions, this may be a particularly good time to reach out to friends and acquaintances and invite them to what we have at Channing--our connections via Zoom to services, other meetings, and personal ties. We welcome newcomers.

For security reasons we advise: Please don't freely give out our Zoom url. Rather, anyone expressing an interest should email membership@channingmc.org with their wishes. That way, monitors will know to let them into the Zoom gathering and the Membership committee will have a handle on providing information and pursuing further contacts as they may desire.

— *Membership Committee*

Channing Royal Moment



Artists Julie F. and Dan V. capture the transition of power at midnight on June 30, 2020.

Community Connections Committee: Here for You



During this stressful time, remember that there is a team at Channing ready to help members and friends who are affected by COVID-19. The Community Connections Committee consists of Patrick B., Mel C., Cathy F., David F., Anne H., and Diana M. We are dedicated to matching folks needing help— groceries, meals, or just a conversation— with folks in our congregation who are wanting to help.

There are two ways to get help, or to offer help:

- Fill out the Connections survey at <https://forms.gle/XxDBeKD5NiwBXWEB6>. The survey takes an assessment of your situation, resources you may have to offer, and needs you may have. This form can be filled out multiple times, so if your situation changes at any point during this virus, you can update the form to help us know about your changing situation. This survey allows the committee to coordinate care needs and responses.
- Reach the committee directly at connections@channingmc.org if you have any further needs or resources you would like to share.

Our goal is to offer as much support as we can throughout this difficult time. If you need us, reach out.

Summer Pastoral Care



Dear Channing Members and Friends,

I will be out of the office this summer for vacation and study leave from *June 22 – August 25*. For emergency pastoral care needs during this time, please reach out to a member of the Board or to the Community Connections Committee. The Board or Community Connections Committee member will get in touch with either me or another local on-call minister. I continue to hold you all in my thoughts and prayers these upcoming months.

The Board and the Community Connections Committee can be reached at the following email addresses:

channingboard@channingmc.org

connections@channingmc.org

Warmly,
Rev. Jane

Outreach Report



The Outreach Committee has become a member of The Ellicott City Partnership. This nonprofit group supports businesses and entities within the historic area of Main Street in Old Ellicott City. Since our Church office is within the historic district, we are included in their efforts to promote Old Ellicott City (OEC). The committee encourages you to support these local businesses, if you are out and about.

There have been a lot of changes to OEC if you have not been there recently. Just before the pandemic shutdown, Chef Gordon Ramsey and his crew initiated a makeover of Main Street and three businesses. <https://www.baltimoresun.com/maryland/howard/cng-ho-gordon-ramsey-ellicott-city-thursday-20200227-liosceep15d25h33cx6sfddwt4-story.html> The efforts were documented in a Fox two-hour special that aired in May. The businesses that were upgraded were the Little Market Café, the merger of the Phoenix Emporium and Ellicott Mills Brewing Company which is now call Phoenix Upper Main and Jaxon Edwin, a game room, coffee bar and barbershop. Volunteers helped clean and freshen the streetscape. New murals and window displays give a fresh look to empty and boarded up buildings.

As restrictions lift, many of the OEC businesses ae coming back to life. This is one way that we can support our local businesses and enjoy a great meal or shopping experience.

—*Marian V.* for the Outreach Committee



UUtheVote - Mail-In Ballots in Maryland

Despite the likelihood that Maryland will not have sufficient Personal Protective Equipment for enough poll workers nor appropriate social distancing measures in place to ensure a safe general election in November, Governor Hogan has ordered all precinct-level polling places to open on Election Day, Tuesday, November 3, 2020. It is also unlikely that the COVID-19 virus will be controlled by then and you may want to take advantage of voting by mail.

The Maryland State Board of Elections (BOE) will automatically mail an [absentee ballot application](#) (**not your actual ballot**, as was done in the primary) to the address under which you are registered to vote. You may also [request an absentee ballot online](#) by October 27, 2020. You can check your voter registration address [here](#).

If you need to register to vote or update your current address, you must do so by Tuesday, October 13, 2020. Or you may exercise your right to “same day” register and vote during the early voting period and on election day. You can find further guidance on this process [here](#).

If you are unable to vote by mail, you must vote in-person during the early vote period or on election day at your designated polling location in your jurisdiction.

Here are some additional resources:

- If you need to register to vote, [click here](#).
- To check your voter registration, text CHECK to 77788 or visit [this link](#)
- If you are registered to vote and need to check that your address is up to date, [click here](#).

As the leaders of New York City's Tammany Hall used to say, please vote early and of-

ten.  (Note: This is a joke. I am not advocating voter fraud. Only a certain Kansas congressman and a North Carolina campaign worker do that.)

Yours in faith and justice and please stay safe and healthy,

—Jim C.

August 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<i>All events *online* unless otherwise noted</i>				1
2 10 am Sunday Service	3	4		6 Men's Group 10 am—12 n	7	8
9 10 am Sunday Service	10	11	12	13 Channing Book Club 10 am—12 N	14	15 Men's Group 10 am—12 n
16 10 am Sunday Service	17	18 7 pm Board of Trustees	19 	20	21	22
23 10 am Sunday Service	24	25	26	27 No groceries to Westside— we are donating \$ instead!	28	29
30 10 am Sunday Service	31					

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.