



The Channing Connection

CHANNING MEMORIAL CHURCH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

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August 2022

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**We are a Welcoming
Congregation!**



Wayside Pulpit

We must learn to live together -- or perish together as fools.

-- Martin Luther King, Jr.

President's Column

When I was a young, and not so young, fourth and fifth-grade teacher, I loved and embraced the excitement and energy of this time of year. Having exhaled in June and taken a few deep cleansing breaths in July, August was full of expectation. A new classroom, new students, new ideas, maybe some new colleagues, a new plan book, and new mechanical pencils. I was good to go. (Same old jokes, though. It was a new class, after all.) I knew there would be challenges and uncertainties during the year. I knew there would be times of frustration, times when my spirit would flag, and, in some years, times with formidable obstacles. Somehow though, in August, I'd feel refreshed and undaunted on the cusp of whatever was ahead.

I imagined and daydreamed as I set up and organized my classroom, mentally rehearsing things I would say and do. I was hopeful, optimistic, and ambitious about the new school year. I looked forward to how my skills and passion as a teacher would help my students flourish. In my exuberance, I trusted myself. I didn't question that some combination of grace and grit would carry me through the year. And, besides, I was sure there would be some fun along the way.

This is where we are now. Channing Memorial Church. On the cusp of a new church year. Our annual report and meeting in May gave us a chance to look back over 2021-2022 and see how we directed our energy. It gave us the chance to take pleasure in our accomplishments and consider how to apply lessons learned. Now we get to look ahead.

We get to think about creating opportunities that invite seekers into spiritual community and ways to mine the riches found in our Sources to connect souls in mystery and wonder. We can imagine moments of deep, personal connection to our Principles as we ignite compassion into action. We get to look toward our vision, to welcome, support, inspire, and care for each other and the larger community.

I invite you to embrace the energy and excitement that can come with a new year, to trust that the intangible facets of spirit will help carry us through and to know and honor your sacred gifts. Yes, we will face challenges in the days

(continued on p. 2)

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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

Send submittals for the September issue of *The Channing Connection* to newsshare@channingmc.org by **7:00 p.m.** on **Sunday, August 21.**

(President’s Column - continued from p. 1)

ahead. But in this moment, let's open our hearts to exuberance and fill our reservoirs with hope, and optimism, and ambition. Let's lean into the promise of what is dawning.

Happy New Year!

Kris

Rev. Jane’s Summer Schedule

Rev. Jane will be out of the office this summer for study leave and vacation time. She will return on August 16. If any pastoral care needs arise during that time, please reach out to a member of the Board and they will direct you to either an on-call minister or to Rev. Jane. You can reach the Board at channingecboard@channingmc.com

**Lectio Divina
July 12, 7:00 PM**

During the summer, through August, we meet on the 2nd Tuesday, 7-8 pm, of each month. **Next meeting is on Tuesday, August 9. Join Channing members and meet others from the Charlestown retirement community.**

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, we will pause for several minutes of silent reflection, which will be followed by each person sharing their unique reflection.



Summer Worship Services

We have a wonderful variety of summer worship services planned for Summer 2022. We are again partnering with Cedarhurst Unitarian Universalists to offer some virtual services, some outdoor activities, and a field trip!

Here is the list of planned services and events for the rest of the summer. All services and activities will begin at 10:30 a.m. More details will be provided for each service or event the week prior.

August 7 - Virtual Worship Service via Zoom - Cedarhurst will lead

August 14 - Visit Benjamin Banneker museum in Oella/Catonsville - museum is fully accessible; some outdoor paths are accessible <https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/recreation/countyparks/mostpopular/banneker/>

August 21 - Virtual Worship Service via Zoom - Cedarhurst will lead

August 28 - Virtual Worship Service via Zoom - Channing will lead

September 4 - In-person Worship Service and Picnic at Piney Run Park in Sykesville, MD - we have rented a pavilion; pavilion, parking, and restrooms are fully accessible <https://www.carrollcountymd.gov/government/directory/recreation-parks/places-to-go/piney-run-park/>

8th Principle Update

This spring, Channing approved its version of the 8th Principle. Now what? A small group of us are meeting over the summer to plan congregational discussions using the *Widening the Circle of Concern*. This report has great resources for bringing the 8th Principle to life in our church. Our first discussion will be in September. We look forward to fruitful engagement and actions!

8th Principal Committee: Angela L., Kathleen R., Ostara H., and Rev. Jane

Afghan Refugee Resettlement Project

A couple months ago, our Afghan Refugee Resettlement team explored with the congregation Channing's plans to support Afghan refugee families as they settle in our area. We continue to rent a storage unit to hold furniture and household items temporarily as we prepare to move them to families via the local, Howard County-based organization we are partnering with -- Luminus Network of New Americans.

<https://www.beluminus.org/> Jim C. will be sending out information soon about what we will be collecting next.

We received multiple offers for the donation of the sewing machine. Thank you so much!

– Angela, Toni, Kris, and Jim



Are you a member or close friend of Channing Memorial Church? Are you looking for a way to get more involved? Do you like working with numbers and solving puzzles? If so, we have the perfect job for you. Channing has an opening for an assistant treasurer (volunteer book-keeper). Requirements are the ability to spend 1 - 2 hours a week at the office on Park Ave. and the willingness to learn to use Church Windows software. If you can balance your checkbook you can do this. To apply, email treasurer Evelyn Grim.

Evelyn Grim, Treasurer

****August Dessert Gathering****



The Dessert Musketeers are planning an outside gathering at Park Avenue on **Sunday, August 14 at 2 pm**. Come as you are, enjoy dessert, and chat with other Channingites.

Want to know more? So do we! Stay tuned.

– Cathy F., Nancy H. and Marian V.

**Stewardship Update
As of June 30, 2022 End of Year**

General Operating Fund

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Total Operating Income | \$167,295 |
| Total Operating Expense | <u>-145,562</u> |
| Difference | <u>\$ 21,733</u> |

Vision and Growth

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Beginning Balance, 7/1/21 | \$ 55,466 |
| Total V&G Income | 3,000 |
| Total V&G Expense | <u>- 1,920</u> |
| Ending Balance, 6/30/22 | <u>\$ 56,546</u> |

Reserve Fund

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Beginning Balance, 7/1/21 | \$ 150,213 |
| Change in Market Value | <u>-14,652</u> |
| Ending Balance, 6/30/22 | <u>\$ 135,561</u> |

Men's Group

**Thursday, August 4
and
Saturday August 20
10 am - 12:00 pm**



Everyone is welcome. We look forward to meeting back at the Bagel Bin when feasible in the coming months. Comments welcome.

The men's group meets on the first Thursday and the third Saturday of the month on Zoom. Email *Ken H.*

**Young Adults Game Night
and Virtual Potluck
August 3**

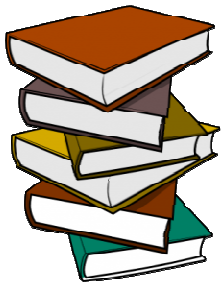
The **Young Adult Game Night and virtual potluck** meets every first Wednesday of the month **from 7 to 9**. We'll have games and conversation. Anyone in their 20's, 30's and 40's welcome.

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.

Soul Collage

Each month the SoulCollage® group spends an afternoon letting our intuition and imagination guide us to select images from magazines, creating collage cards with those images, and then reflecting on what spiritual and life lessons our created cards have to give us. SoulCollage® is a creative but not artistic activity that is accessible to everyone! If you're curious to try out SoulCollage®, contact Kris T. We would love to have you join us! (Online on **Saturday August 13, at 1:30-4:30pm**)

Channing Book Club



The Channing Book Club will not meet in August. In September, we will read Peach Blossom Spring by Melissa Fu. We are currently scheduled to meet on **Sept. 10**.

What's on your book list? Or a poem or essay? 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.

****November Auction is coming! ****



The auction will be here before you know it! Your (untested but enthusiastic) new auction team is planning an early November auction, so please block out November 5 and 12 on your social calendar, and we promise to be back with more details soon.

We are looking for ideas for a theme and volunteers for entertainment, so if you have any theme thoughts or are willing to dare to be a dork, please e-mail channingauction@yahoo.com.

--Team Auction: Eric S., Cathy F. and David F.

August 2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|-----------|---|--|---|--|---|
| | <i>1</i> | <i>2</i> | <i>3</i> Space Search Mtg 5-6 pm Young Adult Game Night 7:00-9:00 pm | <i>4</i> Men's Group 10 :00 am - 12:00 pm | <i>5</i> Membership Tm 2:00 pm Outreach Team. 6-7 pm | <i>6</i> |
| <i>7</i> Worship Service 10:30 - 11:30am | <i>8</i> | <i>9</i> LDNC Mtg 5:30-7:30 pm Lectio Divina 7:00 - 8:00 pm | <i>10</i> Stewardship Meeting 7:00 -8:00 pm | <i>11</i> | <i>12</i> Worship Team Mtg. 1:30 - 3:00 pm | <i>13</i> SoulCollage 1:30-4:30 pm |
| <i>14</i> Worship Service 10:30 am at Benjamin Banneker Museum Dessert Gathering at Park Ave. 2:00 pm | <i>15</i> | <i>16</i> Minister's Office Hours 1:00-4:00pm Board Meeting 7:00 - 9:00 pm | <i>17</i> | <i>18</i> | <i>19</i> | <i>20</i> Men's Group 10:00 am - 12:00 pm |
| <i>21</i> Worship Service 10:30 - 11:30 am | <i>22</i> | <i>23</i> Minister's Office Hours 1:00-4:00pm | <i>24</i> | <i>25</i> | <i>26</i> | <i>27</i> |
| <i>28</i> Worship Service 10:30 - 11:30 am | <i>29</i> | <i>30</i> Minister's Office Hours 1:00-4:00pm | <i>31</i> | | | |

Channing Memorial Church
Unitarian Universalist
3677 Park Avenue
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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 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.

NURTURE Your Spirit.
Help HEAL The World.



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