

Newcomer's Guide

SUNDAY SERVICES

Channing Church holds one service each week on Sunday mornings at 10:00. From September through June, our minister, Rev. Jay Deacon conducts the services three Sundays each month. On the other Sundays, our services are lay led and may include guest preachers or speakers and services led by members of our congregation, including the Religious Education classes. While our minister is off during the summer months our services are all lay led and include a wide range of guest speakers, topics and music.

DIRECTIONS

Channing is located on Pelham Street near the intersection of Memorial Boulevard and Bellevue Avenue. From Memorial Boulevard turn left onto Bellevue Avenue, away from the mansions. The third street on the left, across from the Newport Art Museum is Pelham Street. The church is directly opposite the Old Stone Tower and the statue of William Ellery Channing.

WHERE DO I PARK?

Channing church does not have a parking lot, but there is generally parking on the street. You can park along Pelham Street or on the other side of Touro Park on Mill Street. You can also park along Bellevue in front of the Newport Art Museum or in the lot behind the Newport Federal Bank.

SPECIAL NEEDS

If you are in need of handicapped parking you are welcome to park in the semi-circular driveway in front of Channing House which is right next to the Sanctuary to the left. The Elks also allow to use some of their parking spaces for people requiring handicapped parking. If you are dropping off someone, you can pull into the driveway next to the Sanctuary and to the ramp on the side of the building.

Please be sure to let our Greeter know if you are in need of any special accommodations. We offer amplification headsets for the hearing impaired and large print orders of service for the visually impaired.

WHERE DO I GO?

You may enter the church through the front door or use our handicapped ramp on the side of the building. Please be sure to introduce yourself to our Greeter inside the front door and let he/she know that it is your first visit so they can assist you and answer any questions you may have. Our ushers will provide you with an Order of Service.

Since our church was built in 1880 there are no bathroom facilities in the Sanctuary. You can find those in our Parish Hall which is directly behind the church. Our Parish Hall is also where the nursery is and our

Religious Education classes are held. Before the service begins you can usually find a pot of coffee on as well. Please feel free to help yourself.

NURSERY

You are always welcome to have your child/children in the church during Sunday services. However we do offer nursery care for children from 0 to 3 years old. Our nursery is staffed by an experienced, adult, paid childcare provider who has CPR training. Our paid staff member is assisted by a volunteer from our congregation. Everyone involved in childcare and the Religious Education program has undergone a background check.

For your first visit please, if you can, arrive 20 minutes before the service to allow time to meet the care givers. If you need to leave the service with your child you are welcome to go the nursery at any time.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

On Sunday mornings during the regular church year we offer Religious Education (RE) classes for children ages 4 through high school. Children usually start in the sanctuary with adults for the beginning of the regular service before going off to their classes. Please check with the greeter at the door for details.

The first time you bring your children please try to arrive 20 minutes before the service begins. Ask to be introduced to a member of the RE staff or committee member who can assist you with making introductions and to make sure your child is comfortable in the class before you leave.

If you have questions about the Religious Education program please call the office or email dre@channingchurch.org.

What kind of religion is Unitarian Universalism?

Unitarian Universalism is a liberal religion with Jewish-Christian roots. It has no creed. Unitarian Universalists (UUs) do share a set of core principles which affirm the worth of every human being, advocate freedom of belief and the search for advancing truth and the democratic process. We strive to provide a warm, open, supportive community for people of all faith tradition and beliefs. We are a welcoming congregation for people from all walks of life, including the LGBT community. If you would like to read more about our religion, and its rich history, please visit the Unitarian Universalist Association web site and bookstore at www.uua.org. You are also welcome to attend our monthly introduction to UUism and Channing called **100 Questions about Unitarian Universalism** which is generally held on the first Sunday of each month. There is no charge and no need to sign up, just join us in the ladies parlor in the Parish Hall.

How are we governed?

Channing Church is a democratic society. The members determine the budget, call the minister, and elect officers—including the Board of Trustees, which guides the business affairs, administration, and policy of the church. The church is funded, in large part, by the pledged contributions and fund-raising activities of the congregation. If you are not a member of Channing yet, you are always welcome to attend and participate in all congregational meetings, discussions and events. You will not, however, be able to vote. All meetings are open and everyone is welcome to participate in all church activities regardless of membership status.

WANT MORE INFORMATION?

Our monthly newsletter, *The Catalyst*, contains all the news, updates and announcements for the month ahead. If you would like to receive our newsletter, please contact the office at (401) 846-0643 or email us at office@channingchurch.org. You can also fill out a blue information card that can be found on the back of each pew and drop it in the collection plate on Sunday.

Channing Memorial Church

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