Magic Meat with Bob Kieronski

Wed., Sept. 25, 6:30 PM, in the Parish Hall
Come and join us on a gastronomical adventure: a lecture and comparison tasting of real beef vs. plant-based "meat". Explore the new agriculture - plant-based and cultured meat is in our future!

Advanced registration requested, to enable TLC to pre-purchase supplies. $20 apiece will cover sliders for sampling, side dishes, and beverages.

To purchase tickets & reserve a spot, either see TLC folks at Fellowship, or go to: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/magic-meat-a-gastronomic-adventure-tickets-68563965667?aff=ebdssbeac

Kieronski, a retired electrical engineer and artist, has been engaged in research for several years about food production and energy issues. He is a dedicated carnivore, but is always open to new ideas.

Strategic Storytelling for Changing Hearts and Minds

With Tim Phelps

Wed., Oct. 2, 6:30 PM in the Parish Hall
Wine and cheese/ $10 suggested donation
Come and hear new member Tim Phelps share what he's learned as leader of the Spiritual Storytelling program at River Road UU Congregation in Bethesda, MD. He says, “Whether the venue is a nonprofit conference, political rally, or church pulpit, the most transformative public speaking is based on storytelling. And storytelling at its best comes from deep personal experience and an indelible message.”

Timothy Phelps is a retired reporter and editor (The Projo, The Baltimore Sun, The New York Times, Newsday, The LA Times Washington Bureau). He co-founded Eloquential, which offers presentation coaching and editing. He is co-author of a best-selling book on Clarence Thomas and Anita Hill, Capitol Games, and was a consultant for the recent HBO film on that controversy.

September Worship Services

Sunday, September 1:
Margaret Polski
Who's Side Are You On?
Labor Day From A Unitarian Universalist Perspective

Today we face persistent and growing challenges to shared economic prosperity in Newport and across our nation. The labor force participation rate has fallen steadily since 1999. We have experienced long-term real wage stagnation and a persistent lack of economic progress for many workers. The “gig economy” holds the potential to undermine the foundations of our democracy. But we have faced these challenges in the past. What can we learn from our Unitarian Universalist forebears about how to approach these challenges?

Margaret Polski is a political economist, an Associate Professor at the U.S. Naval War College, and a member of Channing Memorial Church.

Sunday, September 8:
Rev. Bill Zelazny

I Know this Rose Will Open

The sermon title comes from hymn No. 396 in “Singing in Living Tradition,” by Mary Grigolia, a seminar classmate of mine. She explains the song as a way to think about responding to the Universe/Spirit/Deep and Creative Self. On this In-gathering Sunday Bill will reflect on what can happen when we allow ourselves to weather life disruptions and live into good expectations, and how Unitarian Universalism can help people, help us, let their rose unfold.

Continued on page 2
**MINISTRY TOGETHER**

**Water Ceremony**
On Sunday, Sept. 8, we will also conduct our annual Water Ceremony within the service. Everyone is invited to bring a small container of water from their home or other favorite place to mix with the waters of other as a symbol of how we bring our secular life into this religious community.

The annual congregation potluck picnic in Touro park will follow the service (See full announcement on page 3)

**Sunday, September 15:**
Rev. Bill Zelazny

**What do you believe is True for You?**
Beliefs come before faith. All abstract knowledge is based on belief. Faith is related to belief because it supplies the conviction that the belief is true. This Sunday, as the first in a series of sermons on theological perspectives, Bill will look at the concept of belief, doubt, and its relationship to a person’s faith in a UU context.

**FROM THE MINISTER**
This month we start our standard church year with our In-gathering service and Congregation Picnic on September 8 and the Channing Community Fair on the 15th.

This is our 184th year as a religious institution in Newport. Over the years we have experienced strong times and faced some major challenges that tested our fortitude, including concerns in the past if we were going to be able to keep our doors open. But today, we can say that Channing is a solid, functioning, stable church, and one in which I am very happy to be involved.

But, as I begin my fourth year here, I sense our spirit has not been fully released. We can be the Ultimate Home of Progressive Religion on Aquidneck Island.

Channing Community Fair
After the service take a walk through the Channing Community Fair to see all the programs and ministries we have and how you can be part of making us the Ultimate Home of Progressive Religion.

**Sunday, September 22:**
**Speaker & Sermon TBA**

**Sunday, September 29:**
**Rosh Hashanah**
Sermon and program on the spirit of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur

Everyone to make a church healthy and growing and developing. Taking our church up a notch will take the work of everyone, each in his, her, their own way. You know in your spirit what this means for you.

I would like to know your ideas about how we can kick things up a notch -BAM!- so that Channing Memorial Church will be known as the best church to engage in your personal spiritual search. Drop me a note or email or talk with me.

~Rev. Bill Zelazny
minister@channingchurch.org

**FAMILY MINISTRY**

Welcome back Chalice Children families! I am looking forward to another exciting year of digging deeper into meaning of the 7 UU Principles. I am hoping that each child who participated last year will be back and they there newcomers as well. Below is our September schedule.

**Sept 15:** Volunteer sign up for Sunday Chalice Children sessions and other Family Ministry programs. I need an adult assistant each week, and new members on the family ministry committee.

**Sept 22:** Mandatory family orientation meeting for registration the various parts of the family ministry experience and curriculum presentation.

**Sept 29:** First week of Chalice Children learning session.

Also, before September 22, I am hoping to have volunteers to help me reorganize and spruce up the classrooms. Contact me if you would like to help!

~JoAnne Ritchie, Family Life Coordinator
familyministry@channingchurch.org
CAREGIVING UPDATE

Welcome back to all who were away or took a break from church this summer! We hope you all enjoyed a pleasant summer and were able to spend precious time with friends and family – the months go by so fast.

Many thanks to the dedicated coordinators who served during July and August, keeping us abreast of any caregiving news: Kathy Takata, Betsy Dees, Lindsay Cassidy, and Diane Bonds.

We send our love and deepest sympathies to our former minister, Amy Freedman, her husband Peter Bowden, their daughter Liza, and the rest of Peter’s family on the death of his mother, Ruth Arellana, on July 15.

Our condolences go out to Drew Carey and his family on the death of his father on June 29 at age 97. We are very sorry to hear that Ruth Jernigan’s brother passed away in July.

Best wishes go out to Fatima Devine, who unfortunately broke her kneecap at the beginning of the summer – hopefully you are well on the road to a complete recovery, Fatima.

At the time of this writing, Joy Benson has just undergone a knee replacement. We also hope for a speedy recovery time for you, Joy!

After months of rehab and recovery after several procedures on her hip and shoulder, I’m happy to report that Chris Ariel will be back in the belfry taking her turns as the Sunday morning chimer. It’s great to have you back with our chimer crew, Chris!

DURING SEPTEMBER, please contact Nickie Kates (caregiving@channingchurch.org) with any needs among our Channing members and friends. We are looking for volunteer coordinators for the coming months, so do let Nickie or Barbara Russell-Willett know if you are interested!

~Linda Beall, for Channing Caregiving

CHILD CARE DURING OUR WORSHIP SERVICES

We are looking forward to seeing our young children again soon! The Childcare Program, for infants - kindergarteners, with our wonderful providers, Miss Amy and Miss Morgan, will resume on September 8th. Please bring your little ones to play, have fun and be well cared for on Sunday mornings at 10:00. Pick-up after service/fellowship by 11:30.

For questions about Childcare Program contact Barbara Russell-Willett and Marilyn Murphy at: childcare@channingchurch.org

WELCOME BACK PICNIC

Reconnect with friends at our annual “Welcome Back Potluck Picnic” following the Ingathering Service on September 8th. Help make it a sumptuous feast by bringing your best dish to share. Beverages will be supplied. Don’t forget to bring a chair too! The picnic is sponsored by the Membership Committee and we are guaranteeing sunny weather (but just in case, it will be held in the Parish Hall if it rains). We will be setting up at 9:30 am on the 8th in Touro Park and would appreciate your help and also with cleaning up after the picnic. We are looking forward to seeing you all and hearing about your summer adventures.

CHANNING COMMUNITY FAIR!

After church Sunday, September 15, Parish Hall & Church Grounds

Learn how you can become involved in programs and ministries of Channing church. Prizes for participation!
The summer is winding down and this coming fall will bring us closer to a presidential election year where the choices could not be clearer. In fact, in terms of the global environment, from the historic flooding in the American Midwest, to the burning of the Brazilian Amazon rainforest, from historic heatwaves in continental Europe, to historic Greenland ice sheet water loss from unprecedented ninety degree heat, the effects of climate change are happening everywhere.

The Republican Party, under President Trump, has chosen to support a path of “deregulation” to “free up the economy”, in stark contrast to previous Republican Administrations including Nixon. President Nixon passed the Environmental Policy Act (1969), created the law that lead to the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA in 1970), established The Clean Air Act (1970) and the Clean Water Act (1972) and lastly, The Endangered Species Act (1973). Of course, Nixon lived in a time when the country and its youth were bringing great awareness about the condition of our environment including burning industrial rivers as well s predatory birds, including the majestic Bald Eagle, our National Bird, in serious population decline due to widespread pesticide use. And don’t forget, Watergate loomed vary large at this time, eventually bringing about his resignation in 1974. Indeed, Nixon accomplished much under the specter of Watergate.

Trump, on the other hand, has brought conservatives to government who have either fought against or openly defied regulations and science-based protections to restore endangered species, make our polluting industries less deadly, cars less polluting and on and on. In fact, not only have Trump appointees loosened regulations to the point of risking our cleaner air and water as well as loss of critical wildlife protections on many species. His decisions are clearly endangering the health of the human population of both this country, but the world. Not to mention the ethical lapses leading to multiple resignations at EPA, The Interior Department and elsewhere by “only the best people” according to the President.

This year in Ecobits, I want to look at the politics of the environment, where we’ve been and where we are as a country. I also want to look at what I believe needs to happen to both modify this current state of imbalance between our economy and our environment as I think is necessary if our species is to survive. A future that depends on functioning ecosystems including the ocean to raise self-sustaining fish populations, land-based food producing systems that do not pollute, and enough land under protections that preserve ecosystems for future generations is a tall but necessary order. I also want to make you aware of resources to educate yourselves.

~Craig Gaspard, Green Congregation Committee

Do you eat?

A friend recently sent us a link to a Climate Change Food Calculator featured on the BBC News web site. It allows people to gauge their diet’s carbon footprint by giving the relative impact of their selected foods on greenhouse gas emissions and water consumption, as well as comparisons to other choices in the same general category. The fact that we don’t live in the U.K. lessens its accuracy to some extent, but the relative impact of such things as meat and beans, or dairy and nut or soy beverages still roughly applies. Check it out at https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-46459714. It’s fun!

Do you drive a plug-in car?

Earlier this summer, Beth joined SmartCharge RI, a National Grid pilot program to study the behaviors of electric vehicle owners. The study offers points and rewards throughout its two-year duration. A monitor installed in her Prius Plug-In allows the program to track charging time and frequency and electric and non-electric miles driven, and GPS information on where she charged the car, but none on the trips she made. She’ll learn how to optimize her charging and driving habits and how the car is performing, while (ostensibly) helping National Grid "design and
manage a more efficient electrical system." August 31 was the pilot sign-up deadline for 300 electric and plug-in hybrid vehicle participants, but if they still have places, they'll consider applicants after that date, or put people on a wait list. Interested? (And if people sign up using Beth's referral code, she'll get credit for the referral. So if you're interested, go to https://www.fleetcarma.com/smartchargerhodeisland/?referralCode=59411101.)

~Russ Milham, Green Congregation Committee

**SEPTEMBER SHARE THE PLATE**

**Beautiful Day Granola**

The Social Action Committee (SAC) is asking Channing members to give generously to the collection plate in the month of September to help us share a portion of the collection with Beautiful Day Granola (BDG).

Located in Providence, BDG helps refugees in Rhode Island, especially in the Providence area, develop employment skills and economic self-sufficiency through the making and marketing of food products. The organization provides job-training and develops consumer demand for its socially conscious products.

BDG’s target population is refugees from countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo, Myanmar, Syria, Afghanistan, and Iraq, who live in Rhode Island. It employs 3 permanent staff members, 9 part-time permanent trainers who were formerly refugee trainees, and 20 refugee-trainees. Five regular volunteers work with the organization.

BDG receives 1/3 of its funding from sales of its products, and 2/3 from individual donors, corporate sponsors, foundation grants, and gifts and will use the STP funds it receives to purchase aprons for trainees, standing banners for advertising its presence at Farmers’ Markets, and bus tickets to enable trainees to travel to the BDG facility to work.

~Respectfully submitted, Nan Heroux

**INTERWEAVE MEETING & POTLUCK**

**Sunday, September 15, 5:30pm, Parish Hall**

What does it mean to be welcoming? What does it mean to belong? How do we create spaces that foster both? Interweave is Channing's group for LGBTQ+ people and allies. We'll be exploring these concepts at our potluck dinner and meeting Sunday, September 15th from 5:30-8pm in the Parish Hall. Bring a dish to share. All are welcome. Hope to see YOU there! For more information, contact Rex LeBeau at interweave@channingchurch.org.

**MONTHLY PFLAG MEETINGS**

**Monday, September 9, 6:45pm, Parish Hall**

PFLAG holds monthly support meetings the second Monday of every month from 6:45 - 8pm.

For more information contact Doreen LePage at: led1pflagnewport@gmail.com

For more information or if you would like to volunteer go to: movingwallnewport.org

The full schedule of events is updated regularly. Many thanks to Russ Milham for being Channing Point of Contact person for this special event!
CHANNING CHIMES FOR 400 YEAR COMMEMORATION

Bells rang out at noon across the nation on Sunday, August 25, to mark 400 years since the arrival at Point Comfort along the James River in Virginia of the first people from Africa to be brought as slaves to America in 1619. The forced labor of these “20 and odd” captive Africans helped establish the first permanent English colony in North America. From their landing at Point Comfort, several were transported to Historic Jamestown.

Linda Beall played Channing’s chime for the 12 noon bell ringing, arranged by the Newport Middle Passage Port Marker Project. Chiming lasted four minutes … one minute for each 100 years. Channing joined the following sites on Aquidneck Island: Emmanuel, St. John the Evangelist, St. Joseph’s, St. Paul’s United Methodist and Trinity Churches in Newport and St. Columba’s Chapel in Middletown.

The tolling of bells across the nation commemorated African ancestors and their descendants who have had a large share in building what became the United States.

This country’s history of the arrival of captive Africans and their contributions is shared with 51 other documented Middle Passage locations. Forty-two of these locations, Newport included, recently received the international designation of a “Site of Memory” associated with the UNESCO Slave Route Project. Significantly, bells were rung at other Middle Passage locations to acknowledge this common history.

Bells have great symbolic meaning to many societies. The national bell ringing celebrated the value, persistence, strength, and courage of these ancestors and enabled all Americans to participate in this historic moment in the spirit of peace, freedom, and unity wherever they were and to share stories about the role Africans and their descendants played in the history of the nation.

“This is a special moment in American history,” said National Park Service Superintendent Terry E. Brown of Fort Monroe. “Let’s unite as one on this day and show our appreciation for 400 years of African American history. We must embrace the West African concept of Sankofa, which teaches us that we must go back to our roots in order to move forward.”

Commemorating that history honors the lives of these African people and their descendants, acknowledges their sacrifices, determination, and contributions, and encourages a re-shaping of the history with a more honest and inclusive telling of the story that will continue to unfold and inform.

~Submitted by Mary Alice Smith

SENIOR BROWN BAG GATHERING
Reconvening in October!

The Channing Senior (Adult) Brown Bag Gathering will reconvene after the summer break on October 8 at 12:00 noon in the Parish Hall. Bring a lunch, coffee/tea is provided. SBBG generally will meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month at noon.

This group, for 60+ adults, provides camaraderie, conversation, and learning in an one hour format. This year the group will be opened to the community as an outreach initiative. The host, Rev Zelazny, is considering having several sessions devoted to specific topic conversations about elder issues including elder spirituality.

GREAT GUYS GROUP
Channing Men’s Group to Restart

The Channing GGG will hold its first 2019-20 gathering on Saturday, October 19, 2018 at 8:30 in the Parish Hall.

GGG is an informal church association for men. It is open to men of all ages, both Channing members/friends as well as men from the larger community. Its purpose is to provide camaraderie, conversation, learning, spiritual exploration. The group generally meets once a month for an hour and a half. Group participant take turns making or bringing breakfast. Coffee/tea is provided. Come on October 19 and check out the group.