2020-2021 SLATE OF OFFICERS

Board of Trustees
President: Ginny Spaulding (new)
Vice-President: Margaret Polski (new)
Program Coordinator: Marian Royer (returning)
Chair of Finance: Chris Laudon (returning)
Treasurer: Julie Herrick (returning)
Secretary: JoAnn Rosemont (returning)
Member at Large: Susan Kieronski (returning)
Member at Large: Tom Howard (new)
Member at Large: Jim Freess (new)
Member at Large: Candy Martin (new)

Standing Committee Chairs
Membership: Ruth Jernigan (returning)
Property: Abby Adams (returning)
Family Ministry Liaison: open
Social Action: open
Worship: Committee reports to Rev. Zelazny

Autonomous Committees/Positions
Financial Secretary: Joan Dermody (new)
Endowment: Mary Alice Smith (chair), Chris Yalanis, Terry Gavan
Margit Baum Fund: Sally Hanchett (chair), Joy Benson, Judie Porter,
Susan Booth, Jo Freedman, Linda Beall
Nominating: Milly Jessen (new), Mary Benson (returning),
Calvin Pierce (new), Jim Freess (returning)

UNSUNG UU AWARD
Julie Herrick, Joan Dermody, and Bob Janiesch all received the Unsung UU Award during the 2020 Annual Meeting in appreciation for their generous service & devoted commitment to Channing Memorial Church

To read the Annual Report
Click Here: 2020 Annual Report

To watch the recorded Annual Meeting
Click Here: Annual Meeting Recording
Password: 4Q?l@#27

For the first three Sundays in June, Rev Bill will continue our Channing Church Sunday Web Service posted each Sunday by 10:00am on Channing’s YouTube channel (click the icon above). Subscribe and then click on the little bell to the right of the subscribe button and you’ll receive email notifications when new videos are posted. The 15-20 minute service includes a homily, chalice lighting, music, and meditation. Bill’s homily theme for the week is posted in our Friday email. Music is provided by Janet Grant and others. John Burnham and Jeff Thomas provide the technical assistance.

On Sunday, June 28th, join the largest annual gathering of UUs joining in worship. This powerful, communal worship experience will stream on uua.org/ga at 10:00 a.m. EDT. Members of the public are welcome to view the service.

Each year a talented group of choral singers perform at the Sunday Morning Worship for the General Assembly audience. Learn about joining the GA Choir.

The worship service will include a collection for the Tomaquag Museum, an indigenous museum featuring an extensive collection and archive of Southern New England tribal communities.
**THE CHURCH IS OPEN!**
**ONLY THE BUILDINGS ARE CLOSED**

Channing Memorial Church is open and functioning. We are still doing church. A service with a message is delivered each week, the chimes are played every Sunday, social groups meet virtually, people are connecting with each other in a variety of ways, support is being provided to our children and parents by Family Ministry, money is being collected and sent to local social service programs through our Share the Plate program, committees and task forces are meeting to handle operational matters, the Caregiving Committee is in contact with members of the congregation, the Minister is providing pastoral care and programming. In other words, we are still here doing church things. The buildings are what are closed. But the buildings are not, and never have been, Channing Memorial Church. Remember, the church is the people, it has always been the people. And we the people of Channing Church are strong and resilient and creative and wonderful as ever. **Yea Channing!**

~Rev. Bill Zelazny

**MONEY MATTERS**

Many thanks to all who have sent in monthly checks to make up for what would normally be put in the offering plate on Sundays before Covid-19. Previously we averaged over $600 per month from Sunday collections to support Channing, and over $500 per month for Share the Plate. Since suspending Sunday services in the church, this income has dropped off significantly. In April we received 8 checks totaling $455 for Channing, and another 8 checks totaling $440 for Share the Plate. If you are able, please try to donate monthly to Channing’s “Virtual Sunday Plate”, both to help our own on-going expenses as well as to support our community organizations during this unusual and difficult time.

Also, two additional requests from the several people behind the scenes who receive, handle and deposit checks, enter data into databases, generate reports, reconcile bank statements and trouble-shoot problems:

1) For every check, please always note on the memo line the purpose for that check. Otherwise, someone has to take time to figure that out.
2) If (and only if) your individual situation permits, especially when paying pledges over the course of the year, sending larger amounts in fewer installments is always appreciated, as whatever the amount, every check requires the same amount of handling and processing.

**Meanwhile, and most importantly, may you and your loved ones stay healthy and safe!**

Thank you!
Julie Herrick, Treasurer

**JUNE CHIMERS**

June 7: Cynthia Skelton
June 14: Janna Pederson
June 21: Jim Freess
June 28: Linda Beall

Five people call us to church each Sunday by playing our chimes. During this time they have stepped forward to give us a beautiful 30 minute musical service each Sunday from 10:00am to 10:30am which we can enjoy from Touro Park. Bring a coffee and enjoy being together, while six feet apart, listening to the bells ring out. Our chimers are Linda Beall, Janna Peterson, Chris Ariel, Cynthia Skelton, and Jim Freess. Their work is greatly appreciated.

**STAY TUNED -- SUMMER SERVICES ARE COMING!**

Rev. Bill and the Worship Committee are developing plans for services during the summer. Several options are being considered and while the specifics are still to be worked out, Rev. Bill and the Committee want everyone to know we will be here all summer. Check out the July/August Catalyst for details.
CAREGIVING UPDATE

It has been a long time since we’ve all been able to be together for church services, but groups have continued to meet via phone conferences or Zoom, and caregivers have been continuing to stay in touch with those in our congregation who need some extra support during this time of isolation.

We are so sorry to hear about the death of Gabe Doumato’s mother on May 5 at the age of 98. She was buried at Swan Point Cemetery in Providence. Our thoughts are with Eleanor, Gabe, and their family at this sad time.

Best wishes to Bill Campion, who has been hospitalized at Brigham & Women’s Hospital in Boston during May for surgery. May your recovery be swift, Bill!

While businesses, restaurants, and other public places are beginning to re-open, and stay-at-home orders have been discontinued, we know there are still those at risk for contracting the Covid-19 virus who are remaining mostly at home for a while yet. Please remember that if we can be of help to you or any of our other Channing members or friends, help is just a phone call away. You can call Michele at the church office, who will pass any requests along to us, or contact one of the June Caregiving coordinators, Sally Hanchett or Betsy Dees.

Enjoy this month as beautiful summer weather arrives in earnest, and please continue to stay safe and well!

~Linda Beall, for Channing Caregiving

COMMUNITY MEAL

Our Community Meal has changed but it is still happening! In May we again brought bagged meals to the McKinley Shelter and had bagged meals available outside at Channing. The shelter and the people in charge of all of the community meals were made aware of these changes.

~Joy Benson, Comm. Meal Coordinator

“SHARE THE PLATE”

The fourth Sunday of the month is “Share the Plate Sunday” when the offering is donated to the chosen recipient of the month. The June recipient is the Newport Partnership for Families (NPFF). This collaborative of 37 Newport County nonprofits has taken on the role of leading a network of programs and services for families and communities in need. From their website at newportpartnership.org, you can find news and information on these organizations.

Due to the financial investment from the Rhode Island Foundation, Newport Partnership for Families was founded in 1990 to develop and maintain a coordinated network of collaborating partners that measurably strengthens families and enhances the quality of life in Newport, Rhode Island. NPFF has been successful in coordinating services and programs among Newport organizations to eliminate duplication and fill service gaps, providing a framework for public and private agencies and members of the community to work together to promote the health and well-being of everyone in the city of Newport.

The Partnership has expressed a need for personal protective equipment (PPE) assistance for some of its partners during this crisis. For the next few months, our Share the Plate donation will be used to address needs related to the coronavirus epidemic. Stay safe everyone and please help us help the communities most affected by COVID-19.

If you wish to support the Share the Plate program please make out a separate check with a memo “Share the Plate” to the church office, thank you!!

~Nan Heroux, Social Action Comm. Chair
ECO-BITS & TIPS

The Architecture Field’s Effect on Carbon Footprint

When looking at ways to minimize the effects that humans have on the climate, it’s important to consider which aspects of our lifestyle have the highest contribution to the global carbon footprint. According to the United Nations Environment Program, the buildings and construction sector accounted for 36% of energy use and 39% of energy and process-related carbon emissions in 2018. From materials to energy systems, there are a number of contributing factors.

Efficient heating and cooling systems will certainly lower the environmental impact of any design. However, there are numerous alternatives to aid in this effort as well. Norbert Lechner’s Heating, Cooling, Lighting: Sustainable Methods for Architects illustrates in a diagram the many moving parts when it comes to sustainable design strategies. It’s a page in his book which consistently comes up in architecture school and one I believe to be essential to the field.

The diagram is broken into three tiers, like a three-tiered cake. The bottom tier is “basic building design.” Many of these are determined before construction—building orientation, overall form, and aperture size and location. South facing windows and roof planes are clearly important for maximizing sun exposure and heat retention. However, even if a building has already been constructed, there are still alterations that can be made to capitalize on these guidelines, ranging from more effective insulation and windows to a lighter— and therefore more reflective—paint color, which cuts cooling costs.

The second tier also addresses passive strategies, but includes more focused and intentional elements for maximizing the use of natural energies—wind, solar, etc. For example, clerestories, shown below, enhance ventilation and help in lighting the center of spaces. Additionally, a trombe wall utilizes dark paint and an equator-facing wall to collect thermal energy for a space.

Each of the examples discussed above contribute to a buildings’ need for HVAC systems. If a design can successfully avoid or retain heat when needed, it will be more self-sufficient and decrease its demand for active systems, the third tier of the Lechner diagram. It is probably best to view this tier as a list of aids, ideally additions to the passive strategies already in place. Although furnaces, boilers, and air conditioners were once impressive feats of engineering, these technologies, when they are not integrated with a building’s design, they exacerbate the environmental issue at hand and, at scale, impact the carbon footprint at an alarming level.

Whether you are looking for ways to improve the energy efficiency of a new or existing home or you want to understand the way in which architects approach sustainable design, the heating, cooling, and lighting of buildings is one crucial component of the field.

~Guest Columnist, Catherine Gaspard, for the Green Congregation Committee
SPIRIT OF “VIRTUAL” COMMUNITY

VIRTUAL GET-TOGETHERS, VIA ZOOM!

Zoom is an on-line video conference service. You will need to download Zoom to your computer (with either a built in or external camera), or you can download the mobile app to your phone to join in the meetings. Please join in one of the meetings below!

Wednesday Coffee Break with Rev. Bill
Wednesdays, 11:00am, via Zoom
Join Rev. Bill and other Channing friends for a weekly “Coffee Break” session on Wednesdays, at 11:00am. Email Rev. Bill if you are interested in joining at: minister@channingchurch.org he will need to know by noon on Tuesday if you want to participate. Rev. Bill is looking for someone to take over hosting/monitoring this Zoom group. Please let Rev. Bill or Michele in the Church Office know if you are interested.

Great Guys Breakfast Group
Saturday, June 20, 8:45-9:30am, Via Zoom
The Great Guys Group (the open Channing men's group) will have a Zoom breakfast Saturday, May 16, from 8:45am- 9:30am. Stop in and chat. Make your breakfast, sit by your computer and talk with other Channing men. Contact Rev. Bill (minister@channingchurch.org) by Friday, June 19, to let him know you want to stop by so he can send you the Zoom URL.

Circle of Concerns and Joys
Saturday, June 20, 9:00am, via Zoom
“Circle of Concerns and Joys” is an opportunity to gather in an interactive, supportive setting to share joys and concerns. For the time being, we’re gathering virtually, via Zoom, rather than in person. Each session includes brief readings, sharing, shared silence, and candle-lighting, and lasts about an hour. All are welcome! Please contact Maryellen at least a few days beforehand if you’d like to participate, and she’ll send you the Zoom meeting information and readings. (maryellen7@cox.net or 845-0273.) Plan to sign in a few minutes early to get settled before we begin at 9:00.

Interested in starting a Channing Zoom Group?
If you are able to monitor/host Zoom meetings and would like to start a Channing group of your own, please let Rev. Bill or Michele in the office know and we will post it in the next catalyst and weekly announcements. All you need is a catchy title and a regular meeting time and we can take it from there!

A VIRTUAL UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Participants worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process.

The UUA Board of Trustees has passed a resolution to make the 2020 General Assembly a 100% virtual event. This decision alleviates the anxiety and concern shared by many about how GA might proceed given the impact of COVID-19. It also gives the Association time to plan a more robust and rewarding virtual experience.

A virtual GA has many benefits, including a significant reduction in our carbon footprint and the possibility of higher attendance, since it is more accessible for delegates and anyone else burdened by travel costs or time. For many years we have offered virtual attendance as an option and, this year, we will scale and enhance our technology so that we can accommodate a wider, ideally more global, audience.

For further updates go to UUA.org. We hope you will be part of this year’s General Assembly!