SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

Summer Worship Service Break
June 25 – July 30
Linda Beall will play the chimes at 9:30 on July 2, 16, and 30. Please enjoy from a shady spot in Touro Park!

Sunday, August 6, 12:30pm, Ports. Historical Society HQ
Meeting W.E. Channing in Portsmouth
Rev. Bill Zelazny
William Ellery Channing, the “Father” of American Unitarianism and for whom our church is named was born and raised in Newport loved his family farm in Portsmouth. Throughout his life he spent entire summers at Oakland Farm. Sundays would often find him preaching or simply talking about religion and life with the farmers and fishermen who attended the non-denominational Christian Church at Portsmouth, today the Portsmouth Historical Society headquarters at the corner of East Main Road and Union Street. Rev. Bill will talk about Channing life’s and philosophy in the very church on East Main Road at which Channing spent many Sundays.

NOTE: The service begins at 12:30 p.m. Stay afterwards for a tour of the historical society’s many exhibits of nearly 400 years of life in Portsmouth.

Sunday, August 13, 10:00am, in Touro Park
Awaken the Spirit with Movement
Rachel Balaban & Rev. Bill Zelazny
Movement is great to energize the body and the spirit. Gather in Touro Park for a service, lead by Rachel Balaban, of gentle meditative movement that honors your mind, your body and your energy force. The service will take place in Touro Park, weather permitting. Rain location will be the Sanctuary. Bring a chair.

Sunday, August 20, 10:00am
A Sunday Morning Walking Meditation
Rev. Bill Zelazny
Back by request, we will do a walking mediation service. Join Rev. Bill at the Portuguese Discovery Memorial at 9:55am for a silent, intentional, mindful meditative walk along the ocean, paying attention to how all our senses are being touched by nature. The service will be cancelled in the event of rain.

Sunday, August 27
A Wisdom Lesson from the East
Rev. Bill Zelazny
In the Parish Hall
Last summer an ancient Taoist story offered us a life lesson about what we can learn from water. Join Rev. Bill in the Parish Hall to consider some other lessons from ancient eastern stories that may help us to better enjoy life.
MINISTRY TOGETHER

CAREGIVING UPDATE
Happy summer to everyone! We hope you all will enjoy a safe and fun season with family and friends.

Thank you to Sally Hanchett and Judie Porter for volunteering as Caregiving coordinators during June, keeping up with congregational news.

Best wishes to several people who are coping with orthopedic issues. Judi Tisdall continues her recovery from a foot injury as well as lung surgery in May. Sondra Gold and Nan Heroux are both recovering from knee surgeries. And Tom Howard is recuperating at home following a fall and a hip replacement – at the time of this writing, he has graduated from a wheelchair to a walker, which is great news.

John Burnham and Rachel Balaban welcomed their second grandchild, Isla Maxine, on June 16! Congratulations to parents Isabel and Sebastian and big brother Zephyr.

Congratulations also go out to Pam Goff’s son, David Wall, who married Beth Souza in June.

Anna Smith is scheduled to move to Vermont at the end of June to be nearer her daughter Heather and son Jeff and their families. We will miss you, Anna, and hope you’ll be back to visit, but we wish you all the best at settling into your new home.

Please remember that even during the summer when we take a break from regular Sunday services for a month, the Channing Caregiving team is always available to offer support to anyone who is feeling isolated, coping with an illness, or just needs a bit of cheer. If you know of anyone who could use a friendly phone call, a meal offering, a ride to an appointment, or some other assistance, we welcome hearing from you. The July coordinator is Kathy Takata, and during August JoAnn Rosemont and Tim Phelps will serve as coordinators (please note Tim will be available only from Aug. 1-12 – we welcome him to our Caregiving crew for his first volunteer stint!). Please contact these individuals, or Caregiving co-leader Sally Hanchett, with any Caregiving news or needs.

~Linda Beall for Channing Caregiving
Greetings all.

So this will be my last Catalyst message of the 2022/23 church year as we take a little holiday in the month of July. Much has been accomplished over the past year and our energy is good as we move forward into the coming church year. Everyone has worked hard to keep things running smoothly and will continue to work hard together to make our church the amazing place it is. Of course, it is always the people who make the church and we have many longtime members still contributing much and newer members who are willing to jump in and do what is needed to reach our goals and enact our mission. Our project for vision, 2025 phase 2 will likely be in full bloom come this September. We are grateful that our outdoor space will be very pleasantly updated and will provide a much needed place that is friendly and inviting. We are also engaged in our search for the new music Director. We know this is an important position and we hope for an enthusiastic and innovative leader to take us into the next phase of our development. Our treasurer position remains open but again a number of people have pulled together to ensure our financial processes continue with as much fluidity as possible. Thanks to all who contribute so much!!

In closing, I wish you all a very pleasant and relaxing summer and I will look forward to seeing you all again in August.

Till then may you all be happy, safe, healthy, and live with as much ease as is possible.

Ginny

NEW FINANCE PROCEDURES
A PLEA FOR CLEAR INFORMATION

Because as of July 1st we don’t have a Treasurer, we would like to request that members of the congregation make life simpler for our Financial Secretary and bookkeepers by making sure that the donor remembers to write on all checks their intended destination category. For example, if your check is intended to pay toward your yearly pledge, put “Pledge 23/24” (or 22/23 as appropriate) on the memo line of your check. If it is intended for “Share the Plate” or “Sunday Donation” or “Capital Campaign Pledge” write that on the memo line. Thank you from the Finance Committee.

~Chris Laudon

NEW CHECK WRITING POLICY

Paperwork for reimbursements needs to be submitted to the church office by the 15th or 30th of the month. Checks will be written following receipt of the completed forms shortly after those dates. Reimbursement forms can be picked up or sent by e-mail from Michele in the Church Office. Any other checks by special request (i.e. musicians, contractors, etc.) will be written as needed by designated people who will be identified at the beginning of each month in the Catalyst and on our weekly emails.

~Ginny Spauling

2023 UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPORT

The 2013 congregation delegates voted 1816 Yes (86.3%), 289 No (13.7%) with 4 abstentions, to approve the first reading of the proposed new Article II (Purposes and Covenant) of the UUA Bylaws. There were several amendments that will now be incorporated into the article for a final vote at the 2024 General Assembly. Rev. Dr. Sofía Betancourt was selected as the next president of the UUA to service a six year term.
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHANNING PARTICIPATION AT NEWPORT PRIDE**
Seven church members – Joy Benson, Nancy Peresta, Bill Peresta, Mary Benson, Pam Golf, Joan Dermody, Sally Hanchett -- came forward to organize and staff the Channing Church information booth at the 2023 Newport Pride Festival . Thank you for your dedication to the church and LGBTQ+ issues.

~Rev. Bill

**MUSIC DIRECTOR POSITION**
Our beautiful, historic church is seeking a Music Director, for a part-time salaried position, responsible for the overall music program of the church. The music director works cooperatively with the minister and the worship Committee in planning the Sunday and special services and provides piano and/or accompaniment for them.

For a complete description of the position please email music@channingchurch.org

**THE VILLAGE COMMON OF RI**
A spin-off group from the TLC program on the Village Movement has met for the second time to explore bringing a Village to the Newport area. The group will meet again on Thursday, July 13 at 12:30 PM in the Parish Hall.

The first village was created by neighbors in the Beacon Hill section of Boston in 2002. These friends developed a formal network of volunteers available to help members with some of the common challenges people experience as they age: getting to medical appointments, running errands, doing household repairs, finding opportunities for social interaction.

Much like our caregiving program at Channing. The difference is there is a paid administrative staff with a computer database to match volunteers with members. Now there are over 264 Villages nationwide.

Villages are grassroots, membership-driven nonprofit organizations that connect older adults to their communities and the resources they need to continue living life on their own terms in the places they call home. There are members, volunteers who assist them, and a small administrative staff. People can be both members and volunteers.

Villages are a cost-effective, home-based model for our aging society, each one reflecting the needs of older adults in the community in which it operates. Villages are increasingly serving older adults in under-resourced communities with diverse populations, and most Villages subsidize membership fees for older adults. The Village Common of RI has no sliding fee scale nor means tests. People pay what they can. Members pay from $1 to $480 per year. Some pay nothing.

Please contact Mary Alice Smith or Caroline Gangi at caroline.gangji@villagecommonri.org if you have questions or want more information. To learn more about the Village Movement and The Village Common of Rhode Island, please visit www.villagecommonri.org

**SHARING LOCKER**
Summer time travel includes visits to places with nature and beautiful trees. Our Sharing Locker appreciates any toiletries or cleaning supplies but will especially be requesting paper towels, TP, or any paper goods

**SHARE THE PLATE**
Our summer share the plate collection will be donated to Jeanne’s closet. A teacher at Rogers High School distributes clothing and toiletries to the students in need. Last year she created over 100 holiday gift bags for the kids and now with the support of Stop and Shop she has developed a food pantry there.