



196 Elm St, Braintree

All Souls Church of Braintree

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

781.843.1388 allsoulsbraintreechurch.org



The Reverend Beau Rivers



The Chimes

SUMMER 2022

Monthly Newsletter



Summer Sundays

There will be two lay-led services over the summer; July 17 and August 14 at 10:30 am. More information will be provided when it is available.

The Zoom link for services is <https://zoom.us/j/96571006038>
If the technology is a barrier, you can call in by phone 646-558-8656
and enter Meeting ID: 965 7100 6038

Connection Circles

Mid-Week Connection Circles organically sprang to life in March 2020 in response to the social isolation created by the pandemic, and have continued to meet twice a week for over two years. As the world has begun to open up, we have re-imagined the format and frequency of these circles.

First, we plan to begin meeting on Thursday afternoons at 3:30 PM ET, beginning in July.

Summer – to afford ourselves more freedom in the summer months, we will not meet weekly, but will meet twice a month on July 7, July 21, August 4, August 25, and September 8. These gatherings will last for one hour and will have an open conversation format.

Church Year – We will begin meeting once each week at 3:30 PM ET on Thursday afternoons, beginning on September 15. These gatherings will last for 1 ½ hours and will incorporate time for both open conversation and a specific topic and discussion. Your ideas for circle topics and/or your interest in presenting and leading a circle theme are welcome.

All are invited to attend as you are able. Please do not hesitate to contact me for more information.

I am grateful for all the participants who have enriched these Connection Circles with their wit, wisdom, and willingness to connect with each other.

Mary Mitchell, Midweek Connection Circle Coordinator

Spiritual Writing Group



The Writing Group meets monthly, usually on the last Wednesday of the month, at 4 pm on Zoom. Here are the themes for the coming months.

July 27, 2022 - Teach me something

August 31, 2022 - what things that have followed me (i.e. blue angels show a spirit animal, a person, a place). Is there something you have seen or done, a tradition that has been with you throughout your life

September 28, 2022- Three characters, the Knight, the Dragon, and the Damsel. The old story is when a dragon captures the damsel and the knight saves her and kills the dragon... change it up, tell it a

new way. From any perspective

Remembering Rick Anderson

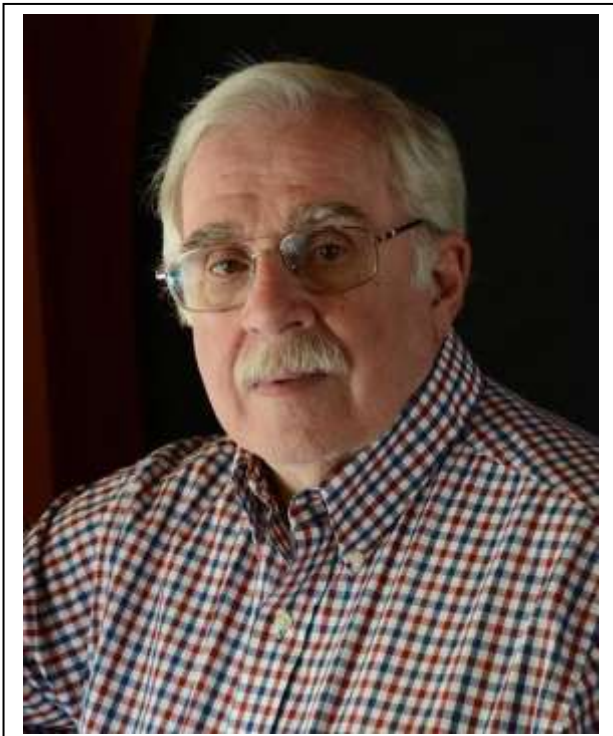
August 14 at 2 pm

Rick Anderson's Coffee Hour

SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, August 14 at 2 pm

Pot Luck Coffee Hour to remember Rick Anderson as he requested.

Please bring finger foods or non-alcoholic beverages. Coffee will be provided. We hope for an outdoor gathering. If it rains, we will be indoors. The idea of finger foods is to eliminate the need for forks.



Book Group

The Book Discussion Group invites you to note what you are reading during these summer months. Then plan to attend our Zoom gathering at 7 PM on Tuesday, September 6 to share something about your favorite reads! We will add them to a list of titles to consider for the group or individual interest.

Over the summer, the group hopes to establish a title to read for our October gathering, which will be held at 7 PM on Tuesday, October 4 on Zoom.

Enjoy your summer to the fullest!

Treasurer's Report

We have wrapped up our Stewardship Season, "Nurturing the Web of Life," having met our budgeted goal of \$49,000 in pledge commitments. Funds donated in memory of Sal Vento as well as generous gifts from several members will fund the purchase of a new camera and laptop that promises to make creating multi-platform Sunday services much easier and sustainable for the tech team.

Final figures for this fiscal year aren't yet available, but I still expect that our actual shortfall won't be as large as had been originally projected.

The continued financial support of our members and friends has been a crucial factor for our survival. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I thank you for the steadfast generosity that sustains this beloved community, enables us to fairly compensate our wonderful staff and to insure, maintain and preserve our stately, historic building.

As we move ahead into a new fiscal year, your contributions throughout the summer months will be an important element in meeting our community's financial commitments.

With gratitude,
Mary Mitchell, Treasurer

Development and Engagement



Fundraising events can be both profitable and fun for our community. But they require enough helping hands to make them work.

There is a proposal being discussed to hold a yard sale on Sunday, August 21st (rain date Sunday, August 28th).

This fits calendar wise in that it won't be in conflict with our Saturday morning rentals, nor with Sunday services since none are

scheduled those two weekends, nor with Magic years since it comes after their summer school and before their fall resumption.

In order to hold this event, we need commitments from a number of folks to be available for pricing and prep on Saturday and/or especially the check in of vendors and selling of our merchandise on Sunday. **Please let Roger or I know when you would be available to participate. We need to know soon so that a decision on going forward can be made that will leave enough time to recruit vendors and rent spaces and tables.**

Thank you,

Roger and Tom (Tmbularzik@gmail.com)

From the Board of Trustees

Thank you everyone for attending last month's Annual Meeting. Thank you to our outgoing leadership, incoming leadership and leadership who have renewed their positions. The vacancies that remained will have to be acted upon by the Board of Trustees.

This is the final newsletter submission I will be writing for the foreseeable future and I wanted to take the time to thank all of our members, friends, staff, guests and volunteers for their time, assistance and work over these past two years.

At the beginning of my leadership term, we were in the midst of a pandemic and learning new ways to connect with each other.

In my few remaining days, we have been able to renew an in-person connection while still having an online presence, purchase technology to assist with our Sunday services, draft a protocol in cases of Covid exposure and gather in person for social activities.

A special thank you to our Board of Trustees and our minister Reverend Beau Rivers for all of their work and leadership during these two years.

The next Board of Trustees meeting is yet to be announced, please look for any announcements and all are welcomed to attend.

With gratitude and appreciation,

Joseph Maloney, Chairperson of the Board

Ross Edwards, Vice Chairperson of the Board

UUA General Assembly (virtual)

General Assembly June 23 – 26, 2022

Those who have attended the annual UUA General Assembly (GA) likely recall being inspired and energized by being in community with thousands of UU's. It was like that for me this year as well, and here are just a few reasons why:

After two years of being 100% virtual, this GA was multi-platform, and *more people attended virtually than in person*. This is good for our denomination because more people can attend and participate without the substantial expense of travel, room and board.

There were many gifted and inspiring speakers. At the Sunday Morning Worship, I was moved by the words of Rev. Sean Neil-Barron and Rev. Gretchen Haley, both of Foothills Unitarian in Fort Collins, CO. They "told it like it is", lifting up both the challenge and promise of church community. Other wise and insightful speakers included Rev. Dr. Bill Sinkford, Rev. Dr. Susan Frederick-Gray, Rev. Sofia Betancourt, Dr. Ibram X. Kendi, and adrienne marie brown.

Five business meetings ("General Sessions") charted a path forward toward a more diverse and flexible UUA. The 60-year-old bylaws were enacted when the Unitarians and Universalists merged, and have been tweaked and adjusted along the way. We voted to empower the UU Board of Trustees to appoint a task group to thoroughly review and draft a rewrite of the UUA bylaws for review at the 2023 and/or 2024 General Assembly. The hope is to develop bylaws that "provide role clarity, accountability to our values, and flexibility that allows for innovation and meaningful participation..."

Tasked in 2020 to review Article 2 of the bylaws, the Article 2 Study Commission made several presentations. The 7 UU principles are spelled out in this section, and the commission invited our input into questions such as: what is the purpose of the UUA?; what are our shared UU values?; what should our covenant express?; what do we identify as UU inspiration (aka “sources”)?

On Friday, after the disheartening news broke that the US Supreme Court had overturned Roe v. Wade, UUA President Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray spoke eloquently to begin the day’s business meeting, “... I am roiling between holy rage and heartbreak and fear. If you’re angry, you are welcome here, as is your heartbreak, as is your fear. may we be held this day rooted in a faith that is unapologetic in our support of access to abortion for all who need or want it.” I am proud to be a member of this denomination that mightily strives to create a more just world where no one is left behind.

Here are some resources for further exploration:

To learn more about or have input into the Article 2 Study Commission:

<https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/article-ii-study-commission>

To learn more about the work of the UUA Board of Trustees:

<https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/board>

To see the General Assembly 2022 Program Book: <https://www.uua.org/files/2022-06/program%20book%202022.pdf>

I welcome your comments and/or questions about GA 2022. – Mary Mitchell

Outside Community

Hull Artists Open Studios gives you a chance to visit the homes and studios of some of the best artists living on the South Shore. Submitted by Michael Domina



JULY OPEN STUDIOS - JUST TWO WEEKS AWAY!

Hull Artists Open Studios is one of the South Shore's preeminent annual arts events. During two Open Studio weekends, artists open their doors and welcome the public into their studios and select community locations. **2022 features 27 artists showing work at 17 locations**, showing and selling painting, drawing, pottery, baskets, photography, mixed-media, textiles, jewelry, and more.

The Tours attract visitors from around the South Shore and the region and are a remarkable opportunity to view artists at work. They also are a chance to explore the unique neighborhoods and spectacular coastal beauty of Hull.

Pick up a copy of the free 2022 Guide and Map at [Gallery Nantasket 121 Nantasket Ave, Hull](#), at businesses all over the South Shore, and at artist's studios throughout Hull.

Full information about exhibiting artists, and a Tour Map are available on the [Hull Artists website](#).

Visit the Open Studios Website!



P.O. Box 850219
Braintree, MA 02185-0219

The Chimes Newsletter from All Souls Braintree – Summer Highlights

Sunday Service at 10:30 am: July 17 and August 14

Connection Circles at 3:30 pm for 1 ½ hours on the following Thursdays: July 7, July 21, August 4, August 25, and September 8.

Social Action and Environment Committee: Tuesday, July 12 and August 9 at 7:15 pm

Writing Group: 4 pm on the last Wednesday of the month: July 27, August 31 and September 28

Pot Luck Coffee Hour for Rick Anderson: Sunday, August 14 at 2 pm

Yard Sale Tentatively Scheduled: Sunday, August 21, rain date August 28

Book Group will not meet in July and August, next meeting Tuesday, September 6

September Chimes Deadline: Friday August 26 at 6 pm

