

Volume 37  
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2019



# CROSSROADS



## Bull Run Unitarian Universalists

### Rev. Charlotte's Word-Weavings

#### So Many Thanks!

As Art Muirhead noted recently, I've passed the 7-month mark since my arrival as your settled minister. I feel so fortunate to have been called by this congregation, it seems apropos to devote this month's column to expressing gratitude to all of you.

I am writing this BEFORE the installation service (aka "coronation" as Tina keeps telling me some folks have been referring to it), so all I can do with respect to this event is to express my gratefulness to all of the people who participated in the service and made the reception the wonderful celebration party that I expect it will be as well as attending that day. In particular, special thanks to Mona Tisler for being an extraordinary event planner and keeping everything organized. Of course, she couldn't have succeeded, as she did, without all of your help. All y'all pitched in in so many ways: clean-up during work day and beyond, including fresh paint applied by Christine Sunda and Amy Hamilton (Amy also spruced up the grounds); the staff met the challenges of this extra service with enthusiasm and thoroughness; Terri Hundley, Deborah Buckingham, Mike Freeland and others renovated the office restroom; the flowers and fellowship hall decorations by Ellen Percy Miller's team and Lois Montgomery made our space beautiful *and* fun!

There are a whole host of other things for which I am so very grateful.

*Continued on page 2*

*Word Weavings, continued...*

Thank you to Bev Reusser for leading the stewardship campaign (aka annual budget drive). We are off to a good start. I hope we can count on each and every one of you to respond generously when a canvas team member contacts you about your pledge for FY20. I am grateful to all who make a financial commitment to BRUU that allows us to keep on doing our ministries of social justice, pastoral care, music and worship, and life-long learning.

Without your volunteerism, it would cost considerably more to be able to provide a space for progressive spiritual community in the heart of Manassas.

I appreciate the people who contribute their time and talents to leadership on the Board, to worship and music, to guiding children, youth and adults in our search for truth and meaning, to maintaining and improving our buildings and grounds (in addition to those mentioned above, thanks also to Bruce Roemmelt for the radiator covers and Dave Feser for improving the elevator experience), to social justice actions and serving those in need.

I hope each and every one of you feels appreciated. I appreciate you, all that you do and all that you are. As a congregation, we really do share in these BRUU ministries together.

*Rev. Charlotte*

## April Worship Service Descriptions

**April 7** – *William Ellery Channing: An American Conscience* (Rev. Charlotte Lehmann)

On the 229<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth, we look at the life of William Ellery Channing (1780-1842) and his role in the development of American Unitarianism. This is a story replete with paradox and ambiguity, prophesy and foreshadowing.

**April 14** – *On Covenant* (Rev. Charlotte Lehmann)

We are a covenantal not a creedal faith community. An important aspect of covenant is that they are subject to review and revision as our understanding of right relationships change under the scrutiny of self-awareness and reflection. Our worship service includes the North-Jack family's child dedication.

**April 21** – *Earth Day/Easter* (Rev. Charlotte Lehmann & Kristin Worthington, DRE)

We celebrate Easter and Earth Day with a multigenerational worship service. What is our role in ecosystem renewal, rebirth and resurrection?

April 28 – TBD (Worship Committee)



Some of the many highlights of the Irish Dinner Fundraiser in celebration of St. Patrick's Day



Kudos to Dorothy Greenhouse for organizing the event, and to the many cooks, musicians and helpers who contributed their talents. Photos courtesy of Tom Miller





Beautiful newly-constructed radiators, built by Bruce Roemmelt. Scraping and repainting the metal radiators beneath are a gratefully retired workday task.

“Danny Boy” performed during “Kiss the Irish” worship service on St. Patrick’s Day.



***NOW IS THE TIME***  
***is a monthly series of articles by BRUU***  
***members on what stewardship means***  
***to them.***

## How Do I Decide What’s Important?

Beth and I found BRUU in 2005. I was running for the Virginia House of Delegates in the 13<sup>th</sup> District (yes against that Bob Marshall guy) and since he had won several elections in, at the time, the largest House of Delegates district with over 100,000 citizens and appeared to base all of his political positions on his evangelical interpretation of the Bible, I figured I’d better get “churched up” to at least take that issue off the table. Since I wasn’t religious and didn’t go to church, I put that on my candidate things to do list.

Continued on page 5

## April 2019 Crossroads

### *Now is the Time, continued*

So as a progressive, running as a Democrat, I started finding individuals with values like mine, who might have some kind of gathering where I might speak to and connect with more like-minded voters. It was Christmas and I got myself invited to the Equality Prince William holiday party. Thinking I'd be a relatively important person there I was excited to dip my toes in the political waters. Boy was I wrong.

The group had also invited this kid, right out of Seminary, who was the newly called minister at BRUU. That's right, Nancy McDonald. After listening to her speak I was blown away. The UU thing was in no way "Christian Lite" but it did reflect/espouse the lives that Beth and I were trying to live. We went to BRUU the following Sunday and our search was over. We signed the book and began our BRUU journey in two weeks from that Christmas party.

As you might expect or recall, I lost in 2005 and 2007, but never compromised my principles and values to win an election. What I did not expect was that the young reporter who covered both races would then beat Bob Marshall and be the first openly transgender person to win and serve as a state legislator in the United States!

As running for office got smaller in my rear-view mirror, BRUU got bigger. I went on a UU quest to figure out how I could be the best contributor I could be to this community. I pledged and each year have increased my monetary pledge. Keeping the lights on is a very good thing, especially when we were one of the few voices of the Liberal Church for lots of miles, but there was more to do. I wanted to figure out what was important to me. What made me smile? What helped BRUU? What could I contribute? Well I tried a lot of things.

As a RE instructor I taught elementary school kids who have now graduated from college. I loved it but had to quit when I joined the choir. I took on the Communications committee for a while. I was a third Sunday Usher (I still do 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays and fill as needed) but that also bumped due to my minor contributions to the choir. I was a part of a task group to revise the BRUU Mission Statement, and to this day every time I hear, "BRUU: A Safe Community for Seeking and Service" I smile. Especially when people don't call it a "place" 'cause we **are** a community.

My sense when I ask myself how can I figure out what "to decide what's important", and how I want to contribute not only my riches to BRUU but my time and energy, nothing is better than going to that Mission Statement and looking for something you can do that fits into those seven words.

So now I'm smiling a lot. I'm the Safe Congregation committee chair (which sorta fits with someone that spent 30 years in the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue) and we're making slow but important progress. I'm a Bass in the choir and love Wednesday night practices (and a dinner date every Wednesday with my bride before choir practice) almost as much as looking at the faces in the pews when we sing on Sundays.

Other than giving BRUU as much of your riches as you can afford to our canvass, I can't "decide" for you, what's important. But I can point you to that mission statement and ask you, in which part of it do you want to contribute. Nothing says we're committed to our values more than living them.

Bruce Roemmelt



## Family Calendar April 2019

April 7 - Youth choir 11:15-12

April 14 - Children's choir 11:15-12 (followed by lunch)

April 21: Multigenerational Service

April 28: Senior Youth Tea following service

### SAVE THE DATE

May 5: Our Whole Lives; Grades 7 - 12;  
Guest Panel discussion. Lunch begins 11:30  
am, Workshop meets 12:00 - 2:00 pm.

## From the Treasurer's Office

### Turning Expenses Into Donations

Hardly a week goes by that someone doesn't say to me: "I paid this expense for BRUU but I don't want to be reimbursed, just credit it to me as a donation to BRUU". Sounds simple enough and it used to be simple when we were using Quicken, Home Edition, for our bookkeeping. Quicken didn't care what you did, it was for your home finances; so you could turn expenses into donations, no problem. Well things have changed since July 2017 when we converted our accounting system to a double entry bookkeeping system. We can no longer make expenses and donations appear from nowhere; real money has move into and out of our accounting system in order for a record of the expense and donation to be created. However, there are three ways to accomplish this simple request with our current accounting system:

1. I can write a reimbursement check to you for the expense and you can donate the money back to BRUU by writing another check to BRUU.  
**Advantage:** a record of your donation will appear on your tax donation statement at the end of the year.  
**Disadvantage:** Two checks have to be written.
2. I can give you a "Tax Donation Letter" for your contribution.  
**Advantage:** No checks have to be exchanged and you have a record of your donation for tax purposes.  
**Disadvantage:** Your contribution will not appear on any statement generated by the accounting software, so don't lose the letter.
3. I can write a BRUU check to BRUU. I did this once and hope to never do it again.  
**Advantage:** a record of your donation will appear on your statement at the end of the year for tax purposes and only one check has to be written.  
**Disadvantage:** Creates a lot of funny looking checks that have to be explained over and over again to anyone reviewing or auditing our financial records.

So those are the options, excluding number 3, for turning expenses into donations. Let me know which one you want to use.





## FROM ANNEASE

“Lessons from the World’s Great Teachers”- evensong service April 26 at 7:30. Throughout the course of history, there have been those who taught universal truths which have stood the test of time. In advance of National Teacher’s Day on May 7, we will reflect on the words of the world’s great sages and the lessons they imparted.

Annease Hastings, Director of Music

### **2019 Bluebell Festival on April 14**

Nature starts at home. That’s why the Prince William Conservation Alliance organizes the annual Bluebell Festival at Merrimac Farm Wildlife Management Area. That 300-acre site could have been developed with 30 houses, but instead it is managed for wildlife and plants.

April is, of course, time for early Spring wildflowers. Ideally, the bluebells will be at peak bloom this year on April 14 between 10:0am-4:00pm. There are numerous other species that bloom in mid-April, whatever the weather.

The free festival offers guided tours every 20 minutes, nature exhibits to touch and smell, and an opportunity for good family exploration into the independent web before the spiders start stringing lines across the trails. Hundreds of people come annually to get up-close-and-personal with Mama Nature in our own backyard, to learn about local conservation opportunities/challenges, and to just have fun in a relaxing place.



For more details (including the scheduled tours), see <http://www.pwconserve.org/merrimacfarm/bluebellfestival/index.html> or contact Charlie Grymes at [cgrymes@gmail.com](mailto:cgrymes@gmail.com).

## **COSM Cottage Meetings to be held April 14, June 2 and September 8 at 11:30**

The Committee on Shared Ministry (COSM) is holding its first cottage meeting on April 14 at 11:30 in the Flamingo Lounge. Our goal is to see if BRUU is on the right path and to get feedback on how BRUU is doing with all its ministries (worship, faith formation, community engagement, and supporting one another). As chair of the Committee on Shared Ministry, Martin Crim will be facilitating the first cottage meeting. Please grab a cup of coffee and a bowl of stew (for Stewardship), bring your thoughtful opinions, and come for as long as you can stay.

COSM will have two more cottage meetings if you can't make this one, and those are scheduled for June 2 and September 8 at 11:30. If you can't make any of them, please talk to any member of COSM about your feedback. We'd love to hear from you. Look for the red ribbons on our nametags that say "Committee on Shared Ministry."

The members of COSM are Martin Crim (Chair through June 30), Dionne Stephenson, Rick Flaherty, Rita Romano, Gretchen Almstead, and Deborah Buckingham. Our primary role is to take a "balcony view" of how BRUU is doing, so we can report to the Board and the congregation on what we see and how things could be improved. We also will be doing an evaluation of Rev. Charlotte as part of her preliminary fellowship with the UUA. We'd love to hear from you any time!

# **April 2019**

<b>4/02</b>	<b>UuPBeats, 12:45 P</b>	<b>4/15</b>	<b>Nuuners</b>
<b>4/06</b>	<b>Ethics ALE, noon</b>	<b>4/16</b>	<b>UuPBeats, 12:45 P</b>
<b>4/07</b>	<b>Social Justice Com, 9 A</b>		<b>PFLAG, 7 P</b>
	<b>Fellowship Com, 11:15 A</b>	<b>4/18</b>	<b>Master Naturalists, 7 P</b>
	<b>New UU, 11:30 A</b>	<b>4/19</b>	<b>USDA Food Pantry, 9:30</b>
<b>4/08</b>	<b>SASS, 1:30 P</b>	<b>4/21</b>	<b>Program Council, 11:30</b>
<b>4/09</b>	<b>Food Pantry, 9:30 A</b>	<b>4/22</b>	<b>Storms, Hurricanes, 7 P</b>
	<b>Board Meeting, 6:30 P</b>	<b>4/23</b>	<b>Food Pantry, 9:30 A</b>
<b>4/10</b>	<b>Merrimac Farm, 6:30 P</b>		<b>Worship Committee, 7:30</b>
<b>4/11</b>	<b>Brooksie Wells Concert,</b>	<b>4/24</b>	<b>Moms Demand Action, 6</b>
<b>4/14</b>	<b>Stewardship Stew, 11 A</b>	<b>4/25</b>	<b>Climate Change – VA, 7</b>
	<b>Membership Com, 11 A</b>	<b>4/26</b>	<b>Evensong, 7:30 P</b>
	<b>Finance Com, 11:15 A</b>	<b>4/28</b>	<b>Senior Youth Tea, 11 A</b>
	<b>BRIC Investment, 11:30</b>		<b>Soup for Acts, 11 A</b>
	<b>Listening Meeting, 11:30</b>		<b>RE Committee, 11:30 A</b>
	<b>Bluebell Walk, 1 P</b>		

## The Way I See It

Here it is Monday already, but I'm still basking in the warm glow of Rev Charlotte's Installation Service this past Saturday. What a great feeling to have our Settled Minister properly installed and recognized by the BRUU community and by her clerical peers! It was a wonderful, rapturous and inspiring celebration – kudos to everyone who had a hand in planning or participating. And the same goes for the sumptuous reception that came afterward, and caused some of that warm glow to gravitate from our hearts down to our stomachs. Literally dozens of people chipped in to make the reception a classic event, but I'd like to especially recognize the amazing organizational efforts of Mona Tisler – her magic touch made this into an occasion that will be legendary in the annals of BRUU.

So, feel free to go ahead and revel in that warm glow for a minute – we're entitled, and we owe it to Rev Charlotte and to ourselves.

What the heck, take two minutes, it's not every day we get to indulge ourselves in such a feel-good moment.

OK BRUU, your two minutes are up, and it's time to stop resting on your laurels and get back to work!

One thing we need to get busy on is making sure we have a robust delegation at the UUA-GA. General Assembly is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association, where attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through our democratic process. The 2019 GA will be June 19-23 in Spokane, Washington. Anyone may attend, and as a certified congregation, BRUU is eligible to send up to five voting delegates. As we go to press, Rev Charlotte, Michelle Luman, and yours truly have expressed their intent to attend, so there are still slots available to participate as a voting delegate. There are also opportunities to be an on-line delegate. General information is available at the GA webpage, <https://www.uua.org/ga>, and the registration and reservation system is now open. Ask anyone who's been to GA – it's a great experience, give it a whirl!

Also coming up on the radar is our annual congregational meeting, which will take place this year on June 9. As is customary, we'll be voting on our annual budgets, considering proposed amendments to BRUU's bylaws, and presenting awards to members who have excelled in their contributions to our various activities and ministries. But the one thing I hope everyone will focus on in the near term is the need to fill the open positions on the Board and Endowment Committee that exist for the coming fiscal year. Our Nominating Committee is already engaged in the process of reaching out to members who they believe have the potential to serve in the various positions that are becoming vacant. If you are asked to serve, please give heartfelt consideration to these opportunities to help make the BRUU community everything we want it to be.

And thanks to everyone for all you do for BRUU, no matter how large or small.

Art Muirhead, President, BRUU Board of Directors, [president@bruu.org](mailto:president@bruu.org), 703-266-1949  
March 25, 2019

DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS

The 40<sup>th</sup> UU Summer Institute is Open!



The Central East Region Summer Institute (CERSI) is an intentional intergenerational community that gets created and re-created each summer in Oberlin, Ohio, to come together to live fully as Unitarian Universalists. It is a vacation week to grow, relax, play, and connect. It is a time to experience workshops and new ideas. It is a place for relaxed conversations with old friends and friends you do not yet know. It is a time to recharge and live fully.

Summer Institute is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> year from July 7 to 13, 2019. Dr. Ysaye Barnwell will be the 2019 Theme Speaker. A former member of the vocal group Sweet Honey in the Rock, Barnwell is an energetic and beloved workshop leader in the UU community. Read more about Dr. Barnwell's accomplishments at: <http://www.cersiuu.org/category/brochure/2019/>



There is a diversity of both programming and worship opportunities designed to appeal to the breadth of our community. The content of the programming and the worship are meaningful, but these community-wide events also serve to create a shared experience. There is also time for quiet reflection and introspection. We each create our own balance of activity and peace.

As fabulous as it is, the programming just scratches the surface of Summer Institute. At the end of our week our sense of trust and confidence in the inherent goodness of others reaches a new level. The integrity of our intentional community is reflected by simple things, such as the transformation of perfect strangers to friends over the course of a meal. We experience our diversity and celebrate our humanity. We live and breathe our Unitarian Universalist principles without explanation to each other or any sense of self-consciousness.

When the week together is over, we wonder how we can bring this life experience home with us. That is the SI magic. The result is something quite spectacular. For more information on programming, registration, and costs, go to: <http://www.cersiuu.org/register/>

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**UUMAC: one-week, residential family camp for UUs, including YOU!**

Loved by kids of all ages, this is a peak life experience for those who have been in attendance. Not kidding! Located on an idyllic college campus in Central PA, someone else cooks AND cleans: vegan, vegetarian, omnivore, and with MANY and VARIED allergy requests. The children go to programming in the morning. You can have some free time or do a fun workshop with others. This year's theme talks are on Non-Violent Communication, and led by the Rev. Lora Kim Joyner. Check out the YouTube on the UUMAC website homepage for more information. Contact Ann Andrex, [andrexes@comcast.net](mailto:andrexes@comcast.net) for detailed help or encouragement! Or visit [www.uumac.org](http://www.uumac.org)

## BEACON and BRUU

### 11 years of service to the community

By Martha Walsh

**Special thanks to BRUUs who have participated:**

**The “original”:**

Liz Alcauskas  
Dave Covin  
Laura Crowne  
Joanne Gladly  
Henry Hastings  
Rosie Jones  
Marge Landis  
Sue Morgan  
Star Muir  
Brian Pace  
Claire Smith  
Ed & Martha Walsh  
Sarah Wright

**More recent:**

Rick Flaherty  
Martha Muirhead  
Bev Reusser  
Sheila School  
Jake & Katie Simon  
Kelley Studholme  
John Wertz  
Tina Cox  
Mike Freeland  
Kristin Worthington  
Mary Kadlubowski

**BRUUs on BEACON Board:**

Lisa Johnson-Firth  
Vicky Castro

“We are so grateful for BRUU’s incredible hospitality and ongoing support. This partnership makes critical services available.”  
Jen Mora Zuniga,  
Executive Director

One of several ways that BRUU connects with our surrounding community is through partnership with Benedictine Education Assistance Community Outreach to Neighbors (B.E.A.C.O.N.) to offer ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) and Citizenship classes.

In early 2008 Rev. Nancy McDonald Ladd led the congregation to join with BEACON to address the overwhelming adult literacy needs of the local immigrant community in Manassas City, Manassas Park, and Prince William County. We started that summer by providing four classrooms on Tuesday nights for different level English classes, all of which were taught by BRUUs.

Since then, with BEACON, we have increased the four classes to two nights a week, adding Thursdays. Classes run in three sessions (fall, winter, and spring) and a shorter summer conversation session. The curriculum has expanded to include life skills, Citizenship preparation, conversation, computer literacy, financial literacy, and workforce development. We’ve had many teachers from outside of BRUU, and several BRUUs have taught or otherwise volunteered for BEACON for other sites in the area as well as here.

In addition to teaching, BRUUs have also made significant contribution to BEACON’s program through service on BEACON’s Board, scheduling classes, assisting with maintenance of the building, preparing classroom space, and the many other critical behind the scenes tasks.

For the past 11 years this partnership has provided learning opportunities for many of our neighbors.

BEACON serves an average of 375 students with the help of over 130 volunteers per year. Students come from 49 different countries, have a variety of educational backgrounds, and pursue goals that include communicating with their children’s teachers, getting better employment, and getting their Citizenship or GED.

A special shout-out to those whose names I missed!

**Thank you to all the BRUUs who help make this possible!**



For more information or to get involved visit:  [www.beaconliteracy.org](http://www.beaconliteracy.org)

# From our DRE

## Charge to the Minister, from Children and Youth

Reverend Charlotte, the children and Youth of BRUU are so happy to have you join us. As we begin our journey together, we have some promises we wish to make you:

We will communicate with you, both by listening and asking you questions. Lots and lots of questions.

We will be responsible for our own actions.

We will seek you out to say hello. We will invite you to our activities. We will share all of our talents with you. We will make art for you, do experiments with you, explore the outdoors and play games with you. We will also give you quiet time.

We will give you donuts when you visit our class. (This promise is specific to the 8 to 10 year old classroom.) We will care for you when you are sick. We will celebrate your birthday and help with any technology needs. We will share in caring for our peers.

We will maintain an individual relationship with you, and not compare you with other ministers we may know. We promise to support you in your many roles.

Rev. Charlotte, We, the children and youth have need for your ministry. So we ask that as you accept our promises, that you make us some promises as well.

We need you to be understanding and responsible. We need you to be on our list of trusted adults. We need you to listen to our ideas, without judgement. We need you to be available to us emotionally and spiritually.

We need you to help us get to know you. We need you to be a teacher and take time for discussions because we will have questions. Lots and lots of questions. We need you to help us become teachers. We need you to help us take care of ourselves. We need you to help us discover our values and our identities.

We need you to not talk down to us, rather, meet us as individuals. We need you visit our classrooms, enjoy nature with us and share music together.

We need you to love us and our families. We need you to give us encouragement and advice. And we need you to ensure there is always hot chocolate at coffee hour.

We hope that you share the joys and sorrows of our journey together.

Covenanted, March 24, 2019

Kristin Worthington, Director of Religious Education

## **BRUU Board of Directors: March 2019 Meeting Highlights**

The Board took note of the fact that the Joseph Priestly District has been dissolved; its functions have been assumed by the Central East Region.

The Board reviewed the draft charters submitted by the Committee on Shared Ministry and by the Leadership Development Team. In each instance, there were suggestions on material that could be added or modified in order to make the documents both clearer and more comprehensive. Both charters will be sent back to their drafters along with the comments registered by the Board.

Kathy Sobrio led a discussion of the congregational visioning project. She proposed that a working group or task force be put together in order to move the project forward. Board members mentioned possible activities that could be included under this initiative, such as researching previous efforts to define an overall vision/strategy, as well as holding meetings with as big a cross-section of the congregation as possible. As an Action Item, Kathy and Mike Cleary agreed to put together a proposal and general timeline on how the visioning process could be carried out.

The Board approved a motion to adopt the plan developed by Kathy for reallocating the functions previously carried out by the BUC to the administrative staff and to the MAC. The new responsibilities will be posted on BRUUnet.

Board members discussed several possible bylaw amendments to be considered at the June annual meeting, and agreed to include these items on the draft agenda for the annual meeting that will be discussed at the April Board meeting.

Rev Charlotte briefed the Board on developments and suggested improvements in carrying out employee performance evaluations and designating employee areas of responsibility. She is working toward ensuring that Letters of Agreement are in synch for all three salaried positions. Staff evaluations have been completed, and this process included reflecting on challenges and successes from the past year in order to set new goals for the coming year. Rev Charlotte also recommended that the Board bring greater focus to the issue of aligning salaries with UUA guidelines.

The most immediate need for change in the BRUU Personnel Manual has to do with changing the timing of performance evaluations. If staff evaluations are going to have a near-term impact on salary and budgeting, then they need to take place earlier than March, as the Manual currently dictates. A better practice would be to move employee assessments to the first half of January, so that any input from these can be translated into budget formulation.

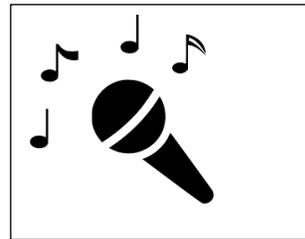
The Board discussed the upcoming UUA General Assembly to be held this June in Spokane, and strategies for encouraging attendance by a solid delegation from BRUU.

The next Board meeting will be held on April 9, 2019 (second Tuesday) at 7 pm. Contact me if you have questions or concerns at [president@bruu.org](mailto:president@bruu.org) or 703-266-1949 (home).

**Art Muirhead, President, BRUU Board of Directors**

## Concerts and Karaoke Are Coming!

Coming off a successful St. Patrick's Day Dinner fundraiser—we earned about \$500 profit—we have three more wonderful programs planned for this spring! The first one is coming soon.



**On Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> we have the fantastic folk sounds of Brooksie Wells** performing. This should be a great night.

Then in May we have two events. The first is our very **first Karaoke Night at BRUU on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>!** We will have a professional DJ handling all the sound so it should be a fun night. With so many awesome singers this should be a real treat.

Then the following weekend we have the well-known **Roy Zimmerman! This is on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>.** Look for more details in the Roundup on all these events. Remember our profit goes to BRUU. For more information contact Dorothy Greenhouse or Christine Sunda.

## Where Can I Buy My Spring Plants?

There are many spring events coming. Two sales I'd like to bring your attention to are one in Leesburg and one in Manassas. These plant sales should excite you or save you money.

The first one is on April 27-28<sup>th</sup> and is the annual Leesburg Flower and Garden Festival on Market Street in Leesburg, VA. Downtown Leesburg is closed to foot traffic for blocks and filled with many booths selling a plethora of plants and plant paraphernalia. There are even native plant booths and outreach programs.

The second sale is on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, from 9am to Noon. This annual native plant sale is hosted by the Prince William Wildflower Society. If you want to get amazing natives like ferns and bluebells and phlox for great prices, then come to this one! But everything goes quickly, so get there by 9 when the sales begin because this is a very popular event. The sale is located on the grounds of Bethel Lutheran Church, 8712 Plantation Lane in Manassas.

Lastly, don't forget the TLC racks at many garden centers. There are great buys to be had! --Christine Sunda