

Volume 36
Edition 8
August 2018



CROSSROADS



Bull Run Unitarian
Universalists

SAVE THIS SPACE

Reverend Charlotte is packing and in
process of moving here soon!

Her official start date is August 15th
Her first service will be September 9th



Several BRUUsers gathered in 2 candlelight prayer vigils, joining the Alliance for Family Reunification (AFR) of Prince William County and other groups. Photos taken outside a Virginia facility in Bristow that is housing immigrant children who were separated from their families.

Shape the Future of Manassas

Redevelopment in Manassas could screw up downtown sidewalks and parking with inappropriate development near BRUU - or redevelopment could incorporate our congregation's priorities. Battle Street has already been transformed - but how will land use change near Church and Main? Will the Manassas Museum be replaced with more commercial development? Will Manassas pave the forests in city parks to create artificial turf ballfields?

The good news: we have an opportunity to shape that redevelopment. The city is updating its Comprehensive Plan to plan for 2040. Everyone is invited to share ideas, concerns, and preferences. *What do you *want* to see in the future?* BRUU may get what it asks for, but of course we have to ask... and know how to ask, in the planning game.

If you'd like to get up-to-speed on the process, there are more "community conversations" scheduled in August and September. See the **Let's Plan Manassas** site at <http://manassascity.org/2431/Comprehensive-Plan-Update> or talk to Charlie Grymes (cgrymes@gmail.com).



BRUU BBQ Potluck!! Sunday, Sept. 9, after Service in the Fellowship Hall

We will have sign-ups in late August for people to bring salads, condiments, hotdog, hamburger rolls, desserts, drinks, sliced tomatoes/lettuce, and so forth! Please sign up to bring the things we need to make this event happen! Fellowship-Activities Committee will provide the meat – hamburger & hotdogs.
POC: Liesl Main, Lisa Stewart, Margo Davies, Lori Connolly fellowship@bruu.org

AUGUST 2018

- 8/05 Social Justice Ctme, 9 A
Fellowship Ctme, 11:15 A
LGBTQ, 11:30 A
- 8/11 RE Teacher Orientation, 10 A
- 8/12 Men's Meeting, 9 A
Membership Ctme, 11 A
Finance Ctme, 11:15 A
BRIC Investment, 11:30 A
- 8/14 Food Pantry, 9:30 A
Board Meeting, 6:30 P
- 8/17 USDA Food Pantry
- 8/19 LGBTQ, 11:30 A
- 8/20 NuuNeers, 11:30 A
- 8/26 Soup for Acts, 11 A
RE Committee, 11:30
- 8/28 Food Pantry, 9:30 A



When you gather 1,100 UU's in the mountains of North Carolina for a week, magic happens. The weather cooperates with cool breezes and sunny days. A BRUU'er celebrating her 71st birthday goes rappelling over a mountain cliff. Roots music abounds. Ministers provide powerful worship services. Teens discover they can be accountable for choosing personal boundaries and beliefs. People have substantive conversations with strangers at lunch and make new friends. Workshops and Nature trips provide both fun and thought-provoking moments. The opportunities to get to know others, and to know thyself, are everywhere. It's SUUSI, the Southeast UU Summer Institute, and BRUU is there. *(Psst - You're invited. Join us for a week in July 2019.)*



The hard working and conscientious Tisler family facilitated, organized, outfitted, hauled, priced, cajoled, and patiently related to volunteers and customers at the successful BRUU yard sale. Many thanks to all the BRUUers who donated items and/or volunteered to work at the yard sale. All those efforts raised close to \$2000 for BRUU!



From the Treasurer's Office

BRUU has Switched from VANCO to BB&T for Automatic Bank Drafts (ABDs)

In July BRUU started using BB&T to process pledge payments by Automatic Bank Drafts. A few people still have not provided their bank information to me so I can't switch them over from VANCO to BB&T. This is causing BRUU to pay bank fees to both VANCO and BB&T. If you are one of those people, please contact the treasurer (treasurer@bruu.org) as soon as possible.

Using ABD offers advantages to both BRUU and the members and friends who have opted to use it. First, BRUU collects virtually all of your donation, bank fees are minimized. If you are currently making your pledge payment by credit card, where fees are over 3%, please consider switching to ABD or increasing your pledge payment to cover the CC fees. Second, once the ABD is set up for your pledge payment you can use it to make any one time or recurring contribution to BRUU you wish to make. Want to make a onetime or recurring contribution to the Food Pantry or Community Assistance Fund, no problem, just let the treasurer know how much you would like to contribute and when you would like the contribution debited from your bank account. To reduce bank fees all ABDs occur on or near the 5th and/or the 20th of each month. Did your significant other spend too much at the auction? Instead of using your credit card have your auction payment made by ABD and tell the treasurer to divide your auction payment up over several months. Finally, and perhaps the most important reason of all to switch to ABD: all the contribution information is imported via a file into the accounting software; greatly reducing the data entry work and chance for errors.

So, what are you waiting for? Switch your pledge or donation payment to automatic bank draft today. Just provide a cancelled check to the treasurer's office and sign the authorization form and you can rest comfortably knowing that your pledge payment to BRUU is being made every month.

Henry Hastings, Treasurer



The Way I See It

Here we are at the end of July, getting into the dog days. My friends at Dictionary.com inform me that the dogs days are the sultry part of the summer, supposed to occur during the period that Sirius, the Dog Star, rises at the same time as the sun, now often reckoned from July 3 to August 11; it is a period marked by lethargy, inactivity, or indolence. Phew! Too hot!

So, it's a good time to be thinking about advent calendars. I happen to love advent calendars. We always had one when I was growing up. Although there was the obvious religious component, the part that appealed most to my six-year old mind was when they had pictures of Christmas presents behind the little paper door, which set me wondering about whether I would end up getting that toy drum or model train or toy soldier or set of building blocks. There was a sense of excitement every day that made us kids eager for the big extravaganza that would come on Christmas Day.

One good reason to think about advent calendars is that it takes us back to a cooler time and provides a distraction from coping with the Northern Virginia heat. Don't you feel cooler already having read this? I hope so. The other reason is that we have our own time of advent coming upon us at BRUU. Rev. Charlotte will arrive in our midst at the beginning of August. We want to do a true-BRUU job of receiving her, welcoming her, and making her feel at home in our community.

If you want to be creative, you can even put together your own personal advent calendar for helping out with Rev. Charlotte's arrival. Get that paper calendar off the wall, or get out your smart phone, and jot down reminders to do some of the following:

- Be on hand to help greet her and unload her household goods (stay tuned to Roundup and special info blasts for details on when this will occur).
- Sit down and write her a note of welcome and encouragement – you can leave these with Tina or in the Minister's mailbox in the BRUU office.
- Consider becoming a member of the reconstituted Committee on Shared Ministry, that will work in partnership with Rev. Charlotte to promote ministry awareness, assessment, and empowerment.
- Wear your name tag when she's around (learning the names of 240 members is no walk in the park).
- Seek to engage with her in the spirit of the BRUU Congregational Covenant, with acceptance, integrity, and the desire to dwell together in peace.
- Show up for her first service in the pulpit, on September 9, and help with the potluck barbeque we'll have immediately afterward.
- And finally, remember that Rev. Charlotte's working covenant with BRUU begins on August 15, so that's when she will officially take up her ministerial duties.

Happy advent everybody!

Art Muirhead, President, BRUU Board of Directors, president@bruu.org, 703-266-1949
July 18, 2018

For her devotion to all of our children and youth, whether they are in her class or not; for teaching OWL; for the mentorship she gives to all other teachers; for the creativity and joy in her lessons and relationships; for long term planning and minute details; and the support she gives to others because it's just what she does.... Mary Kadlubowski is this year's RE Lynne Scherer award winner! — with [Mary Kadlubowski](#).



FROM OUR DRE

Long ago, in a Celtic land, there was a hero. This hero was strong and brave, with heart and dependability. The townspeople relied on this hero for any type of adventure, large and small. Well, after a great deal of time of defending against armies, repairing the village from weather disasters and all sorts of things that heroes do, this one decided it was time to hang up his mantle. He went to the leaders of the village, who agreed he had every right to end his duty. But before you do, they asked, would you do just one more thing? The village had an agreement with a neighboring land to trade food and other supplies. All they needed him to do was travel to the other village and carry home the treasures. Then he could retire.

The hero agreed to this one last task, and headed out to the other village. After several weeks, he finally reached the destination, feeling weary. He was not thrilled to see the number of carts filled high that he was to transport back to his village. He was thankful, though to find a good amount of people volunteering to help carry the load.

Getting started, the people followed the hero swiftly and on path to his village. This continued for days and into weeks, but the hero was on a mission to return home, and the people continued with enthusiasm on the journey. On this night, the clan arrived to the top of large hill, set down their packages, and laid down to rest.

When the sun rose, our hero woke and prepared to get back on the road. The rest of the group was not. Some were eating, some were involved in deep conversation, and others simply sat, enjoying the warmth and light.

The hero, confused, looked around and asked the people, why after so many days of hard work and progress they were stopping? He questioned - We're so close! Why not get there? And the people replied, *we've been moving too quickly. It is time for us to wait for our souls to catch up.*

Kristin Worthington, Director of Religious Education

**Mark your calendar:
Saturday, August 11, 10 am – 4 pm
RE Teacher Orientation**

**Sunday, September 2
First Sunday of RE**

RE Registrations accepted all August

August Worship Services Schedule

Sunday, August 5 "Forgiveness" by Faye Sledge

Sunday, August 12 "Journeys" This service is a BRUU tradition, where three members tell us of their own spiritual/ religious journey, some of the important events along their path, and where they are now. Roseanne North-Jack, Katie Simon, and Jake Simon will share their journeys with us.

Sunday, August 19 "General Assembly Topics of Interest to BRUU: Report from our GA Attendees" to be given by Art and Martha Muirhead and Bev Reusser.

Sunday, August 26 Social Justice Committee by Osk Honeycutt and the SJ committee, with Pablo de Jesus from the UUA

BRUU Activities Fall 2018-Winter 2019:

We have a lot of fun events coming up at BRUU this Fall and into next year! Be sure to save the date for these activities!

- **Fellowship – Activities Committee Meeting** – Sunday, Sept. 2nd (and first Sundays of the month) The first Fellowship Meeting of the year will be in the Conference Room from 11:15am to noon. New members are welcome! Help plan out the fun events at BRUU! If you'd like to run BRUU's Fall Movie night you get to pick the genre (drama, comedy or whatever!!), the date, and the time! Just let Liesl know! (activities@BRUU.org)
- **BRUU BBQ Potluck** – Sun. September 9th (Sign ups to bring dishes to share will be with Lori Connolly, Lisa Stewart and/or Margo Davies Sun. August 26th and Sun. Sept. 2nd or email feel free to email activities@BRUU.org) (POC Liesl Main, Lori Connolly Lisa Stewart) – Remember this is Rev. Charlotte's first day in the pulpit! 😊
- **BRUU Games Night** – Sat. Sept. 22, 5-8pm Fellowship Hall – Bring your favorite board game. All ages!
- **Circle Dinners** – Sign-ups will be in mid to late September with meals/get-togethers in October. (That's the tentative plan!! Stay tuned!)
- **Evensong** – October 19th
- **Volunteer Fair** – September 23rd after Service (on Soup for Social Justice Sunday) POC: Nina Lomax
- **BRUU Boo** Sat. Oct. 27th 4-7pm (Families) – (POC Lisa Stewart)
- **Sherman Adult Retreat** Oct. 26th -28 (POC Janette Muir) - Country Inn Berkeley Springs, WV
- **Shenadoah Run Concert** – Nov. 3rd 7:00 PM (POC Janette Muir)
- **BRUU Auction** – Saturday, Nov. 17th
- **BRUU Thanksgiving Meal**, Thurs. Nov. 22nd (POC Mary Kadlubowski)
- **Craft Fair** – Dec. 1st and 2nd, 2018 Fellowship Hall (POC Christine Sunda)
- **Children's Christmas Party** Sat. Dec. 1st, 1pm-3pm (3rd Floor Rooms) (POC Lisa Stewart)
- **Holiday Service** Sunday, Dec. 16th
- **BRUU Games Night** – Sat. Jan. 12, 2019 5-8pm
- **Evensong** – Jan. 25
- **Variety Show** – Feb. 9th
- **History/Cultural Fair** -- Bring an ethnic dessert to add to Soup 4 Social Justice! (Probably 4th Sunday in February 2019)
- **Evensong** – March 8
- **Evensong** – April 26

BRUU Board of Directors: July 2018 Meeting Highlights

Under announcements, Art noted that he would attend an August 20 meeting of the Search Committee for a discussion of assessment, phase-out, and transition activities. He also summarized the conversation he and the other BRUU delegates had with Rev. Charlotte over dinner at GA, including her plans for arrival and intentions for the early phases of her ministry. Finally, he mentioned that Rev. Megan Foley from the Central East Region would be here September 16 for a start-up consultation designed to help the congregation welcome our new minister.

Bev Reusser joined the Board for a discussion on implementing Charlie Grymes and Cathy Ring's proposed grant for volunteer training and development. Bev attended a workshop at GA about leadership development, and subsequently put together a proposal with a charter, implementation plan, and annual calendar for a Leadership Development Committee. She noted that there was material available online about UU Leadership Institute Training. Observations from the general discussion: a Leadership Development Committee could help us create a structured way to identify and develop congregational leaders; it could also help with improved membership engagement and retention; the Board should further discuss in August how to constitute a Leadership Development Committee.

There has been previous discussion by the Board on whether and how it might be possible for the Board to include a youth representative. Those who attended the GA were able to observe the positive role of youth members on the UUA National Board, and this issue was recently highlighted on the CER Presidents discussion forum. In the present discussion, it was suggested that this is something BRUU youth are aware of, and it was noted that broader youth participation could make a difference to the future to the congregation and the individuals involved. One aspect to be addressed is whether it would be preferable to choose a youth liaison, or to confer the status of a full voting board member. Owen volunteered to explore this issue further with members of the RE community, including whether in addition to the Board, there are other places in governance or committee structure where youth could be more involved.

The Board took note of the June budget report, and the addendum in which the Treasurer discusses the end-of-year funds deficit. Art said he was engaged in an online discussion about the deficit with members of the Finance Committee, and there were possibilities for adjusting some accounts so that the need to draw on operating reserves can be reduced to the levels originally projected at the beginning of the fiscal year. Art said he would report back by e-mail within the next week on the result of these discussions, and on whether any action was needed by the Board to balance the budget. There was also discussion of the need to replenish both our operating and capital reserve funds; this will be addressed by the Board during the current fiscal year.

There was consensus on having the Board continue the practice of adopting a year-long schedule of program and policy evaluation topics during the upcoming fiscal year. Discussion ensued on issues to be included and the ordering of priorities for discussion. Art said he would draft and circulate a proposed schedule prior to the next meeting.

The next Board meeting will be held on August 14, 2018 (second Tuesday) at 7 pm. Contact me if you have questions or concerns at president@bruu.org or 703-266-1949 (home).

Art Muirhead, President, BRUU Board of Directors



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST MINISTRY FOR EARTH

Respect Life. Restore Earth. Renew Spirit.

Greetings, Bull Run UUs,

Thank you for your donation of 250.00, which we received on 06/30/2018. Your generous gift enables UUMFE to continue its leadership role in seeing that the UU voice for Environment and Justice is strong and unified.

Unitarian Universalists everywhere are living our faith and our call to climate justice through worship, discussion groups, congregational events, community engagement, civil disobedience, direct advocacy trainings, demonstrations and vigils, lobbying, and more. From Standing Rock to West Roxbury to New Orleans to Morocco, you are taking action with courage and creativity in the face of the challenges to Earth and our web of life.

We are stronger together—and more creative, more joyful, and more effective. This is why UUMFE has invested its resources to build networks and deepen relationships in new ways. In the last several years we have expanded our impact by founding the [UU Young Adults for Climate Justice \(UUYACJ\) Network](#) and the [UU Environmental Justice Collaboratory](#), as well as being one of the founding organizations of the [CreateClimateJustice.net](#) online community.

**—CREATE—
CLIMATE JUSTICE**

The new website [UUMFE.org](#) and the recently launched [CreateClimateJustice.net](#) were designed for connecting climate justice organizers and ecological activists with one another for efficient, effective and secure activism organizing. Your gifts and future

donations help fund this work, and your feedback, input and financial support is immeasurable. Much gratitude!

We encourage you to explore UU Ministry for Earth further:

- On Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/uuministryforearth>
- Online Group Discussion, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/uumfediscussion/>

Thank you again, for your participation and support. We hope to deepen this connection in the future. And, as always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us.

Blessings for all that you do for Earth!

Irene Keim

UU Ministry for Earth Chair

Visit UU Ministry for Earth online at [uumfe.org](#).
Please [support our work](#).

DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS
AND EVENTS IN OUR AREA

SAVE THE DATE!

13th Annual Unity Walk

#KNOWYOURNEIGHBOR

**SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 16,
2018
1:45PM-6PM**



Please join us as we walk down
Massachusetts Avenue, NW and
visit houses of worship
and other religious centers in a
public celebration of solidarity
among different faiths and
cultures in our region.

InterFaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington
www.ifcmw.org