



**BULL RUN**  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS

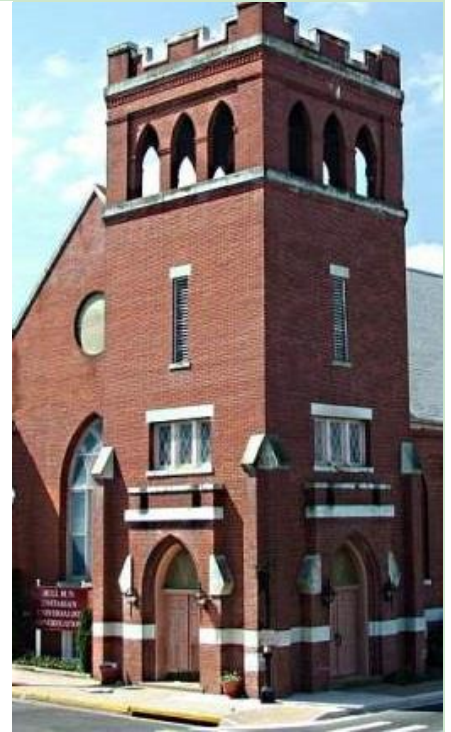
December 2025  
Volume 43, Issue 12

# Crossroads



*Whether you're traveling far and wide or home  
during the holidays, there's a place for you in body  
or spirit at BRUU.*

**The monthly BRUU Newsletter**



## **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

December Services  
Ministerial Search  
ALE Announcements  
BRUU Sangha  
Events At & Around BRUU  
Chrysalis Concert Series  
Contact Information



# December Services

**December 7: What to Expect When You're Expecting (Rev. Kimberley Debus)** - December is a time of waiting, as the calendar connects us to holy days of anticipation, hope, and expectation. Sometimes the waiting helps us find stillness, and sometimes it brings anxiety. Together we'll explore what it means to wait and dwell in possibility.

**December 14: Music Service (David Maley)** - All are invited to a warm and inclusive winter holiday service featuring music from our choir and congregational musicians. We will celebrate the traditions of Buddhism, Hanukah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, and Yule through beloved hymns and choral pieces, kindling candles for each tradition. As we do, we honor the many ways people find light, hope, love, and connection in this season, each flame adding to a shared brightness and the promise of the new year.

**December 21: Returning home: the season of Yule (CUUPS)** - In Norse tradition, Yuletide is not a day, but a season of connection, celebration and feasting while the nights grow longer, the Trolls have been released and the Wild Hunt rides in the darkness. Come together in community, and welcome home.

**December 24: Christmas Eve (Kelly Muzzin, Martin Crim, Kathy Sobrio)** - 7:00pm. The annual Christmas Eve service. Kids, candles, and tradition.

**December 28: Here We Are: The Spiritual Work of Showing Up (Janette & Star Muir)** - In a world that tugs at our attention and scatters our energy, showing up becomes a radical act. This service invites us to explore what it means to be grounded, attentive, and openhearted as we step into the next chapter of our shared community life. We are shaped not only by what we believe, but by how we show up for one another. As the year turns, we'll reflect on the small choices that transform intention into action and help us grow into our best selves.

# Ministerial Search: Job Posting

Ministerial Search Team

The BRUU Ministerial Search Committee wishes to provide the following for the congregation to be aware of this aspect of the search process. Please email [search@bruu.org](mailto:search@bruu.org) with any questions.

## **Opportunity for Ministry Bull Run Unitarian Universalist Seeking Half-Time Contract Minister Start Date: March 1, 2026 (flexibility to start earlier or later)**

### **Position Highlights**

**Reports to:** Board of Directors of Bull Run Unitarian Universalists (BRUU)

**Time Commitment:** 50% time

**Term:** 12-month contract (renewable by mutual agreement)

**Compensation:** Salary range \$40-45K, and benefits subject to negotiation

**Who is BRUU:** Bull Run Unitarian Universalists (BRUU) is a vibrant, lay-led congregation located in historic Old Town Manassas, Virginia. As a “safe community for seeking and service,” BRUU welcomes people of many theological perspectives—humanist, theist, agnostic, atheist, and beyond—united by shared commitments to compassion, justice, and the free pursuit of truth. We are an intellectually engaged and spiritually nourishing community that values inclusivity, social action, and the creative interplay of worship, fellowship, and service. Currently in a period of transition and renewal, BRUU seeks a ministerial partner to guide us in deepening our spiritual life, strengthening right relations, and helping to sustain our mission within the broader Manassas and Prince William County region.

### **Purpose / Role Overview**

BRUU is seeking a half-time minister who will coordinate with lay leadership, staff, and the congregation to deepen our spiritual life, promote intellectual and ethical engagement, honor our commitments to justice, equity, inclusion, and compassion, and help us grow as a welcoming, high-energy congregation in our community. This minister will help the congregation move forward with transparency, mutual trust, clarity of roles, and shared ministry. Like all good congregations, we are ideally seeking a minister who can walk on water and tell a joke while they’re doing it (really, the latter is more important!).

# Ministerial Search: Job Posting

Ministerial Search Team

## Responsibilities

**Worship & Preaching:** Plan and deliver sermons (2 per month). Work with worship teams, lead special services (holidays, rites of passage).

**Pastoral Care & Community Presence:** In coordination with the Pastoral Care team, provide pastoral care (visits, counseling, grief support). Be present in congregational life and welcoming to newcomers. Support the congregation in their ongoing efforts to positively impact the community.

**Leadership & Collaboration:** Work with lay leaders, committees, and staff to support BRUU's programs, improve communication, and support governance clarity.

**Justice, Equity, and Inclusion:** Support justice and inclusivity efforts. Model anti-racism and equity practices.

**Healthy Community:** In coordination with the Healthy Community team, model and teach the meaning of being in covenant and maintaining right relations.

**Administrative Coordination:** Coordinate with the board, attend meetings within limits of half-time role, prepare reports as agreed upon.

## Core Competencies

Demonstrates warmth, empathy, and active listening in interpersonal interactions; effectively builds relationships, motivates action, and communicates with clarity and compassion while maintaining professional boundaries.

Guided by rich personal spiritual practice and able to support the spiritual growth of congregants across diverse pathways and traditions.

Committed to BRUU's mission and values, including spiritual growth, diversity, justice, and inclusion.

Models integrity, confidentiality, and transparent communication in all interactions.

Skilled in collaboration and conflict resolution, with experience (or willingness) to build and sustain programs that nurture a healthy and resilient congregation.

Possesses a balanced and reflective personality, demonstrating self-understanding, emotional maturity, and a genuine love of ministry.



## Ministerial Search Team

Have obtained an M.Div and satisfactory completion of an approved clinical pastoral education (CPE) program or equivalent.

Ordained or credentialed UU minister (or on path) or equivalent spiritual leader.

Must pass a background check.



**Above:** A word cloud synthesized from BRUUser responses to the question “What qualities do we need in our new half-time minister?”

# ALE Announcements

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## GENTLE YOGA

*with Bridgett*



[dre@bruu.org](mailto:dre@bruu.org)

SCHEDULE CHANGE:  
NOW HELD ON SECOND AND  
FOURTH TUESDAYS:

**6:00 - 7:00 PM**

NOVEMBER 11

DECEMBER 9

DECEMBER 23



# ALE MONDAY

**DINNER & EDUCATION  
IS ON HOLIDAY BREAK**

**JOIN US JANUARY 19, 2026!**



**Now exploring subjects and  
presenters for 2026 – contact Kristin**

**DRE@BRUU.ORG**

# BRUU Sangha: Equanimity

Randy Earl

## December 4<sup>th</sup>: “Equanimity: The Fourth Brahma-Vihāra”

Finally, we'll explore equanimity, the calm, balanced awareness that holds all of life's ups and downs with steadiness and grace. This quality supports us in meeting life with wisdom, clarity, and care. Sometimes equanimity can feel too ambitious given our personal circumstances so we will talk about how to capture and relish moments of equanimity.

Below are some resources about Equanimity. If possible try to explore them before the December 4<sup>th</sup> gathering.

[Link To Video About Equanimity - 10 minutes](#)

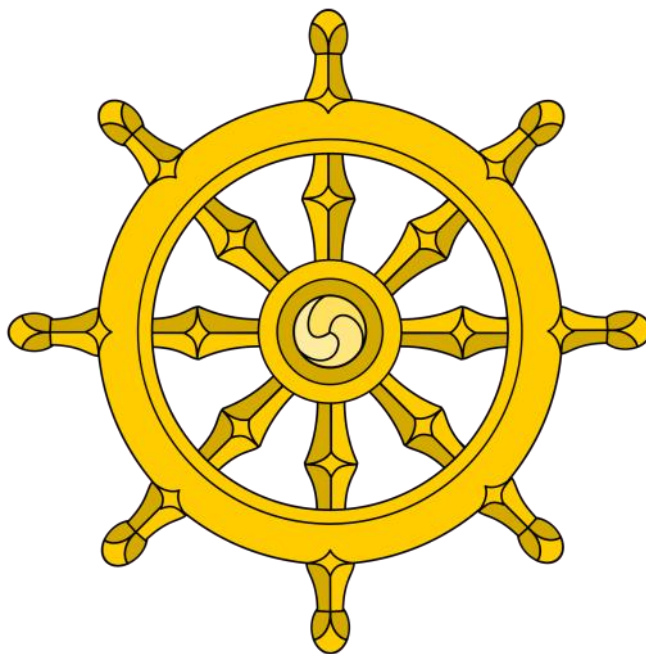
[Information About Equanimity](#)

The class & meditations led by Ann Deschamps will be 7:00 PM – 8:30.

If you want additional information, send an email to [Sangha@BRUU.ORG](mailto:Sangha@BRUU.ORG).

BRUU Sangha,

Randy Earl





# Events At & Around BRUU

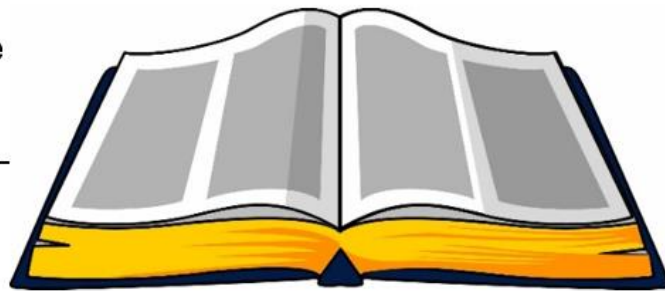
**BRUU's Biblical Discussion Group:  
DECEMBER 7, SUNDAY, 9:00 AM in the Flamingo Lounge**



## **What Is “The Law” For?**

The Hebrew Bible contains a mountain of laws governing Jewish daily life, which created constant problems. But Jesus preached a different interpretation of “The Law”. At last month’s meeting, we decided to continue this fascinating discussion at our next meeting. Join us on Sunday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 as we continue our exploration under the leadership of Martin Crim, a Biblical history expert.

**Come join the  
discussion!**



**And bring  
your questions!**

## **Second Sunday Hike on December 14**

We will explore the Broad Run Greenway, upstream from Route 28, from 1:00-3:00pm. We’ll see the impact of adjacent data centers and explore how a electricity transmission line might impact the stream valley. Hike should be about two miles total, with some walking being on a hillside where no trail has been constructed yet. Well-behaved dogs on a leash are welcome.

Please register at [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd2xqIVXGb-E1UUouqGInOAnh3dtyOFJmN\\_FLYDkwLIwk3-tQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd2xqIVXGb-E1UUouqGInOAnh3dtyOFJmN_FLYDkwLIwk3-tQ/viewform) , in case weather forces a postponement.

Questions? Contact [greenteam@bruu.org](mailto:greenteam@bruu.org)

## BRUU Midweek Coffee Hour - 10am Wednesdays

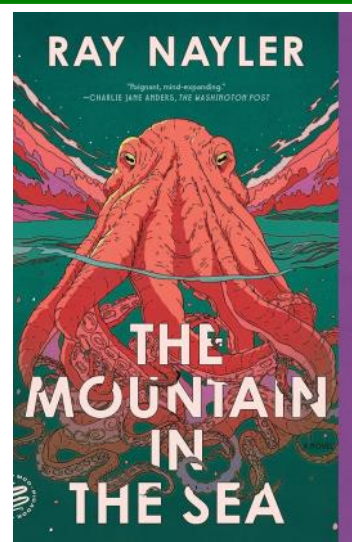


- Visit with old friends and make new ones
- Share your joys, concerns and insights
- Discuss serious topics and not so serious ones.
- Start your day off with a smile and a laugh or two!

10am-11:30am every Wednesday on Zoom. Feel free to drop in at any time. Contact Gordon Ward for links at [midweekcoffee@bruu.org](mailto:midweekcoffee@bruu.org).

## Join the BRUU Book Group!

On Monday, December 15th at 3:30, we will be discussing "The Mountain in the Sea" by Ray Naylor. New members are welcome. Discussion can still be stimulating even if life got in the way and someone has not read much of the book. To get the Zoom link, contact us at [bookgroup@bruu.org](mailto:bookgroup@bruu.org)



## Pastoral Care



One of our strengths as a congregation is how we care for one another.

Please reach out to us at [pastoralcare@bruu.org](mailto:pastoralcare@bruu.org) and let us know if there is a need within our community, so that we may coordinate with caring volunteers within BRUU.



CHRYSLIS CONCERT SERIES  
PROUDLY PRESENTS

# NOTHIN' FANCY

Join us for an unforgettable live performance by Nothin' Fancy! Their phenomenal, soul-warming Bluegrass music will leave you feeling uplifted and inspired. Don't miss this incredible experience!



SATURDAY  
DEC 6, 2025  
7:30 PM

BULL RUN UNITARIAN  
UNIVERSALISTS  
9350 MAIN STREET  
MANASSAS, VA 20110



TICKETS | \$25





# Chrysalis Concert Series at BRUU

## October 2025-September 2026 season



### Sam Robbins - 10/17/2025

Transport yourself back to the golden era of singer-songwriters with the soulful tunes of Sam Robbins. Hailing from Boston, Sam's music draws inspiration from legends like James Taylor and Neil Young, blending timeless melodies with a contemporary twist that will captivate your heart.

<https://samrobbinsmusic.com/>



### Nothin' Fancy - 12/6/2025

Experience the magic of a live performance by Nothin' Fancy in the heart of Manassas! Join us for an unforgettable evening filled with soul-warming Bluegrass music that will leave you feeling uplifted and inspired. This is an opportunity to witness the phenomenal talent of a beloved band that has captured the hearts of audiences everywhere. Don't miss your chance to be swept away by the incredible sounds of Nothin' Fancy - it's an experience you'll remember long after the final note fades away.

<https://www.nothinfancybluegrass.com/>



### Greg Greenway - 1/10/2026

Greg is a cherished performer in many UU communities, and especially at BRUU. His talents defy categorization as he seamlessly blends musical genres and shares poignant insights on global events. Greg's performances serve as a reminder that we are all interconnected as citizens of the world. Come be inspired to embrace our ability to effect change. Don't miss this extraordinary opportunity to experience his artistry once again.

<https://www.greggreenway.com/>

### Amy Speace - 2/27/2026

Get ready for an enchanting musical experience with the talented Amy Speace. Known for her soul-stirring lyrics and captivating performances, Amy's music has the power to take you on a transformative journey. With heartfelt songs that resonate deeply, Amy Speace's live performance promises an unforgettable evening filled with beauty and emotion.

<https://www.amyspeace.com/>



### Joe Jencks - 4/10/2026

Spend an evening with award-winning musician Joe Jencks, a favorite performer in many UU communities. Joe was the opening performer for the Chrysalis Concert Series back in April 2023 and we're delighted he's coming back to see us again. Joe's profound music is sure to leave a lasting impact offering a night filled with beautiful melodies, social consciousness, and spiritual exploration.

<https://joejencks.com/>



### Billy Jonas - 5/23/2026

Join Billy Jonas on a musical journey that began around a campfire in 1972 and has since blossomed into a profound experience of connectedness and musical camaraderie. Through his soul-stirring vocals, mesmerizing guitar skills, and innovative use of industrial re-percussion, he creates an unforgettable performance that resonates with audiences of all ages. Don't miss this opportunity to be part of the Bucket Brigade and immerse yourself in the beauty of live music that touches the soul and brings people together in harmony.

<https://www.billyjonas.com/>



### Circle of Toads - 8/15/2026

Embark on a fun musical ride with Circle of Toads - a favorite BRUU band that brings together a unique and diverse mix of talents. Dave, Bill, Kel, and Mike have been playing together since 2023, combining their individual musical backgrounds to create a one-of-a-kind sound that resonates with audiences all around Manassas. Experience an eclectic blend of folk, rock, and original pieces that are sure to captivate your senses. A great way to wrap up the summer.

<https://www.facebook.com/p/Circle-of-Toads-6156570008114/>



### Chris Haddox - 9/15/2026

Help us welcome this talented artist from West Virginia. With heartfelt lyrics and soulful melodies, his performances are a blend of tradition and contemporary flair that captivate audiences of all ages. Prepare to be taken on a rollercoaster of emotions as each song is a testament to Haddox's ability to weave intricate yet relatable stories that resonate deep within the soul. Join in on the experience and let the music speak to you in ways you never imagined.

<https://www.chrishaddoxmusic.com/>

Get your tickets here:





**From the  
Treasurer's Office**

*Links for donating to BRUU*



BRUU can receive online charitable donations via Zelle, Stripe or Paypal. You can use these services for your pledge payment (supporting our operational expenses), food pantry or community assistance donations, capital fund contributions, Sunday and split-the-plate, or any of our special collections and fundraisers. When donating online, you may use the comments section to specify your designation.

If you have questions or concerns just send us a note. Thanks!

Heather Berthold, Treasurer,

[treasurer@bruu.org](mailto:treasurer@bruu.org)

Robin Fegeas et al, Bookkeepers,

[bookkeeper@bruu.org](mailto:bookkeeper@bruu.org)

**BRUU**

9350 Main Street  
Manassas, VA 20110-5150  
703-361-6269

**BRUU Board of Directors**

**President**

Josh Rachford (2025-27)  
[president@bruu.org](mailto:president@bruu.org)

**Vice President**

Dr. Michelle Fegeas-Foster (2025-26)  
[vicepresident@bruu.org](mailto:vicepresident@bruu.org)

**Secretary**

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**Treasurer**

Heather Berthold (2025-27)  
[treasurer@bruu.org](mailto:treasurer@bruu.org)

**Directors at Large**

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Ralph Giffen (2025-26)  
John Sunda (2025-27)  
[director@bruu.org](mailto:director@bruu.org)

**Youth Representative**

Sashka Visnevski (2025-26)

**Program Council**

Mary Kadlubowski (2025-26)  
[programcouncil@bruu.org](mailto:programcouncil@bruu.org)

**Ex-Officio (Immediate Past President)**

Angie Carrera-Earl  
[pastpresident@bruu.org](mailto:pastpresident@bruu.org)

**BRUU STAFF**

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**Religious Education**

Kristin Worthington  
[dre@bruu.org](mailto:dre@bruu.org)

**Director of Music**

David Maley  
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**Office Administrator**

Taylor Johnson  
[office@bruu.org](mailto:office@bruu.org)

**Building Engineer**

George Monroe  
[buildingengineer@bruu.org](mailto:buildingengineer@bruu.org)

**BRUU OFFICE HOURS**

M-F 10:00 am – 2:00 pm  
2nd and 4th Tuesdays 12:00 pm-2:00 pm