



**BULL RUN**  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS

June 2026  
Volume 44, Issue 6

# Crossroads

**IN THIS CONGREGATION, WE BELIEVE:**

**LOVE IS LOVE**

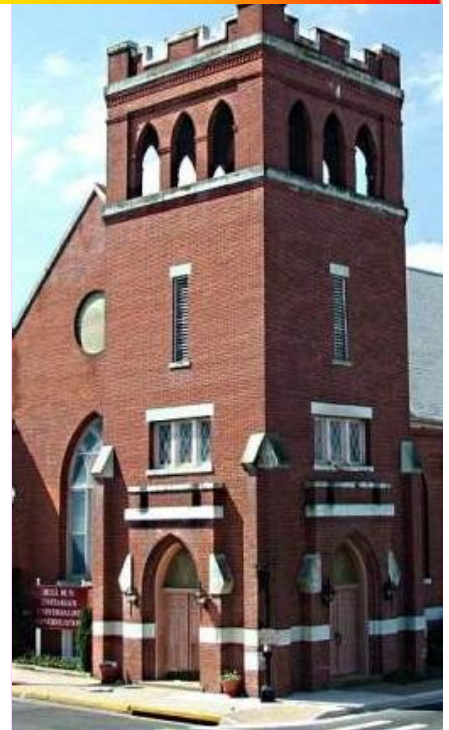
**BLACK LIVES MATTER**

**CLIMATE CHANGE IS REAL**

**NO HUMAN BEING IS ILLEGAL**

**WOMEN'S RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS**

**ALL GENDERS ARE WHOLE, HOLY, & GOOD**



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The Monthly BRUU Newsletter

# June Services

## **June 7: Flower Communion: Celebrating Beauty, Diversity and Community**

Kathy Sobrio and Elizabeth Burley

When BRUU comes together in our various colors, shapes and sizes, we are one big beautiful bouquet. Bring a flower for our Flower Communion, be sure to pick up a “blessing strip” for your flower outside near the courtyard, then bring flowers inside to celebrate and share beauty in our community.

## **June 14: Liberty and Justice for All**

BRUU Choir and Musicians

On June 14, Flag Day, our end-of-year music service will feature the choir and congregational musicians in a celebration of music grounded in Unitarian Universalist values and the ideal of “liberty and justice for all.” As the nation marks its 250th anniversary year, the service offers an opportunity for reflection on these enduring principles.

## **June 21: Father’s Day Rites: Celebrating the Changing of the Seasons**

CUUPS

The sun holds masculinity with its connection to the Sun King and many other fatherly deities. On this summer solstice, we will share the knowledge and wisdom of these divine fathers as well the more mundane on the longest day of the year.

## **June 28: "Joy Questing: A Tie Dye Sunday"**

Rev. Caitlin Cotter Coillberg

This Sunday we invite you to seek through your closet for your brightest happiest clothes for this special Tie Dye Sunday Service! We look forward to seeing you in your tie-dye splendor for this summer service about Questing for Joy. Join Rev. Caitlin Cotter Coillberg, Minister of Religious Education for All Souls Church Unitarian, for a service about finding our way to joy together and as individuals.



# Summer ALE

As our departing Director of Lifelong Religious Education explained it, she has “passed the baton to **Charlie & Cathy**” to continue the series of evening programming.

It was already announced that there would be **NO** ALE supper and sessions in June. This is to let you know that they are working with other volunteers to schedule some stimulating new, and continue ongoing sessions for **July and August**.



- ◆ These upcoming ALE evening programs will **NOT** be on Mondays.
- ◆ The suppers will be potluck salads and cold soups.
- ◆ Registrations are encouraged – but not required (it is a summer potluck, after all).
- ◆ Volunteers are always welcome to contribute ideas, assist with setup and clean up.
- ◆ Further details [RE.Adult@BRUU.org](mailto:RE.Adult@BRUU.org)

## Flower Communion



### Celebrating Beauty, Diversity & Community

By Kathy Sobrio

What’s more beautiful than a flower? Its beauty is only the beginning. What diversity too! Flowers come in all shapes and sizes – red, pink, yellow, white and all shades of purple — tiny to tall, dainty to thorny, round to columns. If you combine them all, what do you have? One big beautiful bouquet! It’s like a UU congregation. When we UU’s come together as people of various colors, shapes, and sizes, that’s what we are: one big beautiful diverse bouquet.

Every year on the first Sunday of June, UU’s around the world celebrate Spring’s diverse, colorful beauty in a ceremony called Flower Communion. This year on June 7th, BRUU will join UU’s worldwide to celebrate the beauty, diversity and community of all congregations, using flowers as the medium.

Calling all adults and children! Flower Communion on Sunday, June 7th. Bring a flower for each person in your party. Arrive a little early so that you can stop by the tent in BRUU’s garden on the east side of the building and pick up a “blessing strip” for your flower. (We’ll explain more that day.) Once you have your blessing strip stapled to your flower, you can proceed to the sanctuary because there’s a beautiful Flower Communion service about to begin!

# Green Up Prince William and Manassas

Charlie Grymes, BRUU Green Team



## Second Sunday Hike

On **June 14th**, we will take advantage of the fee-free day at national parks and explore **Prince William Forest Park**.

We'll loop within the Park to see remnants of the Washington-Rochambeau Route used on the march to Yorktown in 1781.



Our Second Sunday Hikes are **1:00-3:00pm**.

Hike distance will be about **3 miles** on well-maintained natural surface trails with some hills, roots and rocks. Well-behaved dogs on a leash are welcome.

Register online at <https://tinyurl.com/e27h4m8s> to get parking details, and notified in case weather forces us to cancel.

Questions? Contact Charlie Grymes at [cgrymes@gmail.com](mailto:cgrymes@gmail.com)

**Green Team** members have lots of suggestions on how to enhance habitat at your home and reduce energy use. Want to get involved? Contact us at [greenteam@bruu.org](mailto:greenteam@bruu.org)

## Larry Underwood Awarded the Green Chalice!

In recognition of his lifelong love of nature, his extensive activism and political lobbying on environmental issues, and his willingness to share his passion and his insights in our Sunday services.

Thank you Larry, for encouraging us to live our values, and for reminding us of the stakes for the generations who follow.

Be sure to thank Larry when you see him!



# Social Justice Plans & Activities

Cathy Ring

## Mark your Calendars...Upcoming Meeting...

The next Zoom meeting for the Social Justice Committee is scheduled for **Monday evening, June 22nd at 7pm.**

Contact [SocialJusticeAdmin@BRUU.org](mailto:SocialJusticeAdmin@BRUU.org) for the meeting link, if you are new and interested in being informed and active in making **Good Trouble.**



**Discussions** to include combined activities with the **Accotink UU Social Justice group** and organizing protest sign rallies in our local area. This is What Democracy Looks Like!



## Chrysalis Concert Series: Music, Community, and Connection



Jeanette Muir

### Circle of Toads

Local band **Circle of Toads** is known for their layered harmonies, clever takes on timeless classics, and original songs by singer/songwriter **Bill Stejskal.**

They met through BRUU and are pleased to be performing as part of the **Chrysalis Concert Series** on **Saturday, August 15.**



You can also catch them at the **June 5 for First Friday** as the opening band for Tiny Hands, right outside of the BRUU building!

For ticket information, scan the QR Code or email [chrysalis@bruu.org](mailto:chrysalis@bruu.org)



# Events At & Around BRUU

## 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.

## BRUU's Biblical Discussion Group June 7---SUNDAY---9:00 AM---Flamingo Lounge

### WHO IS "US"?



The Bible was written from the perspective of *us* versus *them*. Who was *us* (which seems to vary between books of the Bible)? And who was *them*? Do the distinctions apply today in our world of Israel, Jews and Christians? Martin Crim will lead.

Come join



the discussion!

## Annual Picnic—Saturday, June 20th @ 3:00 p.m.

The Sunda's are graciously hosting!

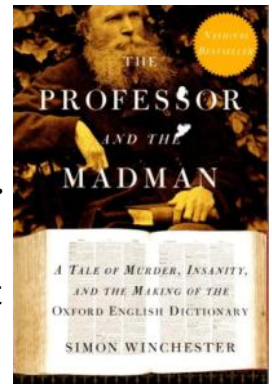
- BRUU Musicians
- Volleyball
- Summer Solstice bonfire
- Smores

**Bring a side dish to share! BYOB!** All meat and meat substitutes, condiments, and beverages will be provided. Come out and enjoy some Fellowship fun!



## Join the BRUU Book Group!

On Monday, **June 22 at 3:30**, we will be discussing "**The Professor and the Madman: A Tale of Murder, insanity, and the Making of the Oxford English Dictionary**" by Simon Winchester. 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)



## Summer Religious Education (for ages 4-10)

Summer RE will be held in **Room 208**.

Gather in the courtyard by **9:45 a.m.** and we'll walk to the room together!

### EXPLORE THE STORIES AND FOODS OF OUR WORLD



June 7: Rice Balls  
June 14: Limonana with Melon  
June 21: Tacaca  
June 28: Chocolate Smoothie  
July 5: Coconut Ladoo brings JOY!  
July 12: Otai  
July 19: Pease Porridge  
July 26: Paypaya Salad  
August 2: It's Everybody's Birthday!  
August 16: Pancit  
August 23: Southern Apple Pie  
August 30: Harvey Milk and Rainbows



*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.

## Fellowship Opportunity

It has been a summer tradition for BRUU folks to take advantage of the City of Manassas **live music concerts** at the **Harris Pavilion** on **Tuesday**



evenings. The concerts are **free** and open to the public and begin at **7pm**.

BRUUsers can bring your own lawn chairs, libations, snacks. and gather on the Center Street side of the pavilion to enjoy casual socializing and the mix of music genres that are performed. Look for a **BRUU sign** and/or familiar face and enjoy a beautiful summer evening social.

## Acoustic Tuesday presented by micron & the City of Manassas

MAY 5	SHANE GAMBLE DUO
MAY 12	RYAN SILL
MAY 19	ROOK RICHARDS
MAY 26	MATT DAVIS
JUNE 2	PATTY REESE
JUNE 9	SHANE GAMBLE
JUNE 16	ZACH JONES
JUNE 23	MINDY MILLER DUO
JUNE 30	TRAVIS TUCKER
JULY 7	SCOTT KURT
JULY 14	KEVIN KOA
JULY 21	CHESAPEAK SON'S DUO
JULY 28	SHANE GAMBLE
AUG. 4	TIMMIE METZ DUO
NAUG. 11	JASON DUEO
AUG. 18	ENSLOW DUO
AUG. 25	RAY & JOE
SEPT. 1	GARRETT MABE
SEPT. 8	SHANE GAMBLE DUO



Have any photos of BRUU events? Send them to [communications@bruu.org](mailto:communications@bruu.org) so they can be used in upcoming publications and posts.

## Annual Meeting

**June 7 at 11:35 a.m. in the Sanctuary**

In order to conduct business, it is necessary to obtain a quorum (defined in the Bylaws as **30% of members** who have signed the Membership Book at least **30 days prior** to the meeting).

If a member will not be attending the annual meeting, that member can provide a completed and signed proxy to the **Board Secretary 72 hours prior to the meeting** (email: [secretary@bruu.org](mailto:secretary@bruu.org)). Only **one** proxy per member is permitted. Please be prompt so that a quorum can be counted and established. Childcare will be provided. Members are requested to share this notice with family members who are also BRUU members.

In order to prepare, please review....



Annual Committee



Proxy Form

*"May you go forth with the extravagance of Spring's exuberant, budding, blossoming promise, as the Earth awakens yet again. May you awaken to new possibilities."*

— *Blessing of the Seasons*



**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)

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**BRUU OFFICE HOURS**

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