

Rev Charlotte bottom left

From the Q&A session @ Masroor Mosque Ahmadiyya Muslim Community

This interfaith event was organized to bring together religious leaders and friends of the Masroor Mosque to share their thoughts on the important subject of peace in light of the teachings of their respective faiths and perspectives.

The monthly BRUU Newsletter



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SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS IN THIS ISSUE





February 5: Souls, Reincarnation, and the Population Boom

(Randy Freed)

Sermon details TBD

February 12: From There to Here - and On to Infinity (Art Muirhead and Cathy Ring)

Why did BRUU get started in 1981, and how have we thrived/persevered since then? We know where we came from - but where is this community going, and how will we get there? Aye, there's the rub. Come join the conversation on February 12.

The 2nd Sunday Share-the-Plate recipient is TBD

February 19: Transformation

(Rev. Charlotte Lehmann)

Among the six values enumerated in the UUA By-laws Article II revised language is "Transformation." The text reads: "We adapt to the changing world. We covenant to collectively transform and grow spiritually and ethically. Openness to change is fundamental to our Unitarian and Universalist heritages, never complete and never perfect.

The 3rd Sunday Share-the-Plate benefits BRUU's Community Assistance Fund.

February 26: Youth Service (BRUU Youth) TBD 2022-2023 Members and Friends Directory

Bull Run Unitarian Universalists



lev. Charlotte Lehmann, Minister 9350 Main Street Menanan, VA 20119 Chevrh Office: 765-361-6269 Home Pagel Mills Frome Innea any

BRUU ONLINE DIRECTORY IS AVAILABLE ON BRUUNET NOW!

As of January 8, people signed in to BRUUNET can use the following link to the directory:

https://www.bruunet.org/membership/bruu-online-directory-ofmembers-and-friends

You can also find the link on the Bruunet home page.

If you are not on BRUUNET, access to the directory pdf will require a directory password, which you can receive by emailing <u>di-</u><u>rectory@bruu.org</u>.

That's it! For questions please email directory@bruu.org.

PRINTED DIRECTORIES

One printed copy is free to BRUU Members. Additional copies are available for \$5.00. Shipping is available for \$2.00 per directory.

If you desire a printed copy of the directory, you may order one here: <u>https://auctria.events/BRUUMembersAndFriendsDirectory</u>

DIRECTORY UPDATES

To update your contact information, please fill out the online connections card at <u>https://www.bruu.org/www2/make-contact/connections-card/</u>.

To update your family photo, please send it to membership@bruu.org

If you do not want your listing to be included in the online PDF directory on BRUUnet, please let us know by emailing the membership committee at <u>membership@bruu.org</u>.

These updates will be made to the BRUU database in a timely manner. The online directory will be made current three times a year from the updated database, and these updates will be publicized.



Greetings Fellow BRUUers,

It is hard to believe that there is only 6 more months of my presidency. The time has really flown by! There is light at the end of the tunnel! But I must say I feel a sense of panic because there is so much that this board would like to accomplish and there is no way to get it all done by June.

Of primary importance is the sustainability of BRUU. I think that our Stewardship Pledge Drive will be a success this year because we have some very fine people involved in the Stewardship Committee. There are some increases we would like to make in the operating budget that are critical to the growth of our congregation, and I hope that members will be in a position to fund at least the majority of these increases. But, as we all know, we still need to fund the Infrastructure Budget. We promised we would share our ideas with the congregation on how to accomplish this.

Many ideas have been floated, paying off our mortgage and then use this money to fund infrastructure, refinancing our mortgage including the money needed for infrastructure, holding a Capital Campaign a year from now that would fund caring for our building and our vision of making this world a better place in which to live. The board realizes these are deep waters and we are working hard to consider all angles. The ultimate decision will rest with the congregation, so stay tuned. One of the board goals that has been set for this year is to revamp our organizational structure. We would like Stewardship to have a more central role, as Mark Ewert advised a couple of years ago and we would also like to include the IT and AV Teams in our Organizational Chart. This most likely will entail digging deep into our mission and vision statements so that our structure will optimize the success of our efforts and the accomplishments of our goals.

Our ministry of music appears to be alive and kicking. The addition of David Maley our new Interim Music Director and the recent attendance of the first Chrysalis Concert of the new year where Nothing Fancy performed are two very bright spots in our ministry of music. For those of you who were not able to attend the concert, we had wall-to-wall people in the pews. It was a joy to see!

Another goal that the Board set is to establish a Right Relations Team. Rev. Charlotte will be doing a sermon on covenant soon and the search for members will resume.

The congregation will be asked to submit names of people who are trusted individual that you think will be good to have on the team.

But if you have an interest in participating, please let me know!

Warm Regards, Rita Romano





Evolution and Change

Rev. Charlotte

Just about two hours before I sat down to write this newsletter column, my childhood piano was delivered to my home here in Manassas. This piano has a long history within my family and I have certain memories attached to it. As the person in my generation of the family who took lessons the longest and played it the most, I had long been promised that it would be mine when the time came to pass it along to the next generation. It was worth it to me to have it moved from my mother's home when she sold that last fall. I am excited to have it now in my home and I look forward to playing it once it has acclimated and been tuned. Afterall, I have been hauling my piano music around with me for several decades.

Originally, this piano was a gift from my maternal grandmother to her (favorite? – she had four of 'em) brother, Charles Herman Janssen, Jr. Uncle Charlie, as he was always referred to by my mother, was a WWII airman – a Weather Observer – whose plane disappeared over "The Hump", in Burma on the eastern end of the Himalayas, on a routine, though always hazardous resupply mission from India to China. Neither the plane nor the bodies of the flight crew were ever found. He was just 26 y.o. I think he wasn't even a teenager when my Grandma Trudie gifted him the piano purchased with money earned from her first jobs in early adulthood.

Next my mother ended up growing up with this piano and it was given to her sometime after my family moved to the Twin Cities in the late 1950s. Mom continued to play long into her middle adult years. I specifically remember how Mom would sit down at the piano, while dinner was cooking in the oven, and playing a bit while she waited for the roast or potatoes or baked squash.

At least two of my three siblings, as well as myself, learned to play the piano. But I was the one who did so the most, taking lessons starting at age 8 and continuing for at least a decade, maybe longer. Mom loved to hear me playing. And a dear friend of mine, one of our neighbors, would come up to the window on the front of the house and comment how lovely it sounded.

Why am I sharing these thoughts with you? Well, there are some things in life that we can bring along with us from one place to another, whether as revered objects or as memories. And there are other things that get left behind. In this case, I made a choice about the piano; it was worth it to me to have it moved half-way across the country. But it simply wasn't possible for any of us in my family to take in all of the things we might have liked to keep with us when Mom sold her house last fall.

The Unitarian Universalist Association is in the process of revising and updating an important section of its by-laws called Article II. This is the section which has contained the 7 Principles and the 6 Sources for several decades. They have not always been the same in the 60 years since Unitarians and Universalists voted to become a single faith tradition. They have changed over time, and they have been added to as well. Since the initial adoption of the language that we are most familiar with in 1985, the changes have been small. But this year (and next if the 2023 General Assembly (GA) delegates vote to affirm the changes), the changes are substantial.

We are close to knowing who will be serving as our BRUU delegates to GA and I will be meeting with them to talk about the process and the proposed Article II language. After that these BRUU members will be asking you to join them in conversation, in listening sessions, to learn about your views on the proposed changes so they can represent the congregation well at GA.

One thing I want to be clear about is that though the bylaws will change, that doesn't mean that the 7 Principles, that so many of us love and know by heart, won't disappear. We may still refer to them, use them as guides, and keep them in our memories like a favorite tune we learned during our childhoods.

As well as preaching about the values lifted up in the new Article II language, I expect that I'll be writing further upon this topic in the months to come.

Remember that change and transformation are a part of who we are as Unitarian Universalists. With change comes spiritual growth.

Blessings,

Rev. Charlotte

See Something? Report It!

Notice anything in or around the BRUU building that needs maintenance or repair?

Please report it by using this link:

www.bruu.org/www2/building-repair-request-form

This will provide a quick opportunity for you to contact the Building & Grounds folks and alert them to the situation that needs attention.

It takes a village (aka congregation)!

Courtyard is sleeping for now

However **Amy Hamilton** and the **gardening team** are planning for **2023**



DENTAL CARE ITEMS NEEDED

The Social Justice Committee would like to highlight a different need in the community each month. Items collected will be distributed from the church or donated to designated organizations. There is a container at the back of the sanctuary with a community support calendar affixed to it where items can be collected by those that have interest.

Join us this month in collecting dental care items for the Community Support Box at the back of the sanctuary. This includes for any life stage.

The food pantry is always in need of eggs and cooking oil. Please contact Laura Crowne for more information about when and where to deliver. 540-272-6319 crownehelm1@comcast.net

As always, thank you for your contributions.



BRUU's 2023/2024 stewardship canvass kicks off

Saturday March 4

with a BRUU players show and light finger food at BRUU.

Time and details coming soon. Look for the SignUp genius to contribute food and beverages as well as labor for our BRUU canvass kickoff. It will be great to gather together and reaffirm our bonds of community. Want to be a canvasser?

We're having training on February 18 via Zoom. For more info, contact vicepresident@bruu.org.



Every **third Sunday** at **11:30** in the **Flamingo Lounge (room 107).**

If you want to participate but don't have a drum, let me know in advance so I can bring one for you.

CONTACT—Martin Crim



Looking for BRUU Players



Have a little acting bug that needs attention?

Like to sing/dance?

Can't wait to do it again?

Well then, join the BRUU Players as we prepare for our big stewardship event in March.

If you're interested, and have time to devote to some rehearsals over the next few weeks please let Janette Muir know (jmuir@gmu.edu) by February 6th.

[Note: you are not required to memorize lines – though that helps.]

PLEASE PASS THE BASKET!

...as it is an act of BRUU support each Sunday that can be demonstrated by everyone - whether you contribute treasure, or not, but you will be giving time & talent!

This will require some assistance from both our volunteer Ushers and the congregants in the pews. We could use another one or two folks as Ushers to arrive a bit early to assist with welcoming new and returning attendees, passing the Collection baskets during the service, and ensuring the contributions are directed to the correct, responsible financial folks following the service.

If you would be willing to help one Sunday a month with this effort, please contact <u>Worship@BRUU.org</u> or stop and speak with one of the Ushers at the main doors to the Sanctuary.

WANT TO AVOID BEING ELECTED TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS NEXT YEAR?

One way to accomplish this is to be a part of the Nominating Committee!

We are looking for a few good men and women to find qualified candidates to fill the following positions:

President, Program Council Chair, Treasurer and Member at Large.

Around March the current Board needs to appoint at least 3 members to serve as the Nominating Committee.

Please let me know if you are interested or willing to serve on this important, very time limited task.

Rita Romano, Board President



Second Sunday Hike on February 12 (1:00-3:00pm)

Join us as we will explore Bull Run Mountain Natural Area Preserve

Please register <u>HERE</u> to get the address

NOTE: sorry, no dogs in the preserve



Explore BRUU Class

Would you like to know more about BRUU?

Maybe become a member?

We are offering an **Explore BRUU Class**

Sunday, February 26th 11:30 – 1:30

Discussions will include some history of Unitarian Universalism, and BRUU.

We will talk about the Seven Principles and how they are changing.

You will also have an opportunity to meet some of the leaders that make decisions and offer services at BRUU.

Childcare will be available, and lunch will be provided.

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 and let us know if there is a need within our community, so that we may coordinate with caring volunteers within BRUU



What is General Assembly?

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2023

General Assembly is the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists, where we conduct business of the Association, explore the theological underpinnings of our faith, and lean fully into our mission and principles.

Call for Building Stewardship

Angie Carrera, Leadership Development Committee

Change is in the air!

We are blessed with a beautiful, but old, church and now have an opportunity to improve how we can more effectively and efficiently take care of our historic building (s)* - and our lovely gardens.

The BRUU Board has approved a plan for change that will more equitably distribute and accomplish specific elements of routine care of our building and grounds. Teams, under the direction of a Building and Grounds Coordinator, will work together to ensure that our church home is not just beautiful, but well maintained, safe and accessible.

If you're a hands-on person who likes to see the results of the contribution of volunteer time and talent, you're invited to join any of these teams: **Property Maintenance, Building Use, Garden, Infrastructure, and Aesthetics**.

Want to know more?

Contact Building & Grounds via **Bldg-Grds@BRUU.org**, with questions and/or for the Zoom link to participate at the upcoming meeting on **Wednesday**, **January 4th at 7:30pm**.

*Our property includes the historic commercial building adjacent to the courtyard.



We have all heard of a **jalopy** or been lucky enough to have one in their front yard, but what is a **jalopy** and why is it called a **jalopy**?"

Just a humble little question.

In other words, what is the <u>derivation</u> of that old expression "jalopy"?

An old... dilapidated or unpretentious automobile.



The origin of jalopy is unknown, but the earliest

written use that has been found was in 1924. It is possible that the longshoremen in New Orleans referred to the scrapped autos destined for scrapyards in Jalapa, Mexico, according to this destination, in which they pronounced the letter J as in English.

If you enjoyed this puzzler, check out the next page.

BRUU

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Minister

Rev. Charlotte Lehmann minister@bruu.org

BRUU Board of Directors

President (2021-23) Rita Romano president@bruu.org

Vice President (2022-24)

Dianne Lane vicepresident@bruu.org

Secretary (2022-24) Chris Sexton secretary@bruu.org

Treasurer (2021-23) Heather Berthold

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Directors at Large

Jessica Hruska (2022-24) Sophia Kadlubowski (2021-23) Chris McClure (2022-24) director@bruu.org

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Program Council Catherine Ring (2021-23)

programcouncil@bruu.org

Director of Lifespan Religious Education

Kristin Worthington dre@bruu.org

Interim Director of Music

David Maley music@bruu.org

Office Assistant Tina Cox, office@bruu.org

BRUU OFFICE HOURS M-F 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

THE PUZZLER February's Puzzler

A Dictionary Bovine Puzzler *HINT*

Get your oldest copy out, like from the 1500's



Most singular nouns can be made plural by simply adding an 's' or sometimes an 'es' to the end of the word. So, in most cases, every letter of the singular form of the noun will also be found in the plural form. Like, "shoe" and "shoes," or "bum" and "bums." There are exceptions, of course. The word "matrix" is the plural of matrices. But, even in those cases, just about every letter from the singular noun also appears in the plural form.

We're looking for a plural noun but it has no letters-- none-in common with the singular form. Not one single letter.

HINT: Bovine



Please email your answer to -

newsletter@bruu.org

Use the Subject Line - BRUU PUZZLER

From the correct answers, one random winner may be chosen to be featured in the newsletter and awarded bragging rights of course. Good Luck!