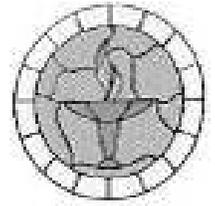




BRANCHES



PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

Affirming and promoting the inherent worth and dignity of every person since 1954

APRIL 2011

Sunday Services at 10:00 am

*Families with young children are invited to sit in front for a better view until the Singaway Song.
Nursery care is provided in Room 5 every Sunday from 9:45 to 12:45.*

Coffee and Fellowship after the service, then Enrichment Hour from 11:45-12:45, with child care provided.

April 3

Saving The Future

The PBUUC High School Youth Group

It's our earth and it's our job to save it.

An extraordinary special collection for UUA Japan Relief Fund will be taken. See p. 11 for details.

April 10

Living In The Heart Of The Civil War

2011 Worship Associates' Auction Sermon, sponsored by Mike and Kim Stark

with Worship Associates Tish Hall, Shantida, Abby Crowley,

Donald Mitchell, John Sebastian and the Choir

Our nation's interpretation of the Civil War has varied over the years, from a 50th anniversary soldiers' reunion and reconciliation at Gettysburg while Jim Crow and sundown towns expanded... to a centennial focused on military pageantry at the height of the civil rights struggle. April 12 marks the 150th anniversary of the attack on Fort Sumter. How does our interpretation of the Civil War today fit in with the events and ethos of our times?

April 17

The Man Who Planted Trees

An All Ages Service for Earth Day

Rev. Diane Teichert, Interim DRE Karen Lee Scrivo, with Shantida, Worship Associate,

Young Dancers and Holiday Choir

Continuing the "tree theme" that began on Samhain and continued with the Winter Solstice Service, this All Ages service will lift up environmental action steps households can undertake. In a departure from past All Ages services, we will share written Joys and Sorrows as part of a Meditation modified for children. This month's Special Collection will be taken today for Chesapeake Climate Action Network (see. P. 11).

April 24

Arise, Hope!

Easter Service with Flower Communion

Rev. Diane Teichert and Interim Director of Religious Exploration Karen Lee Scrivo,

with Abby Crowley, Worship Associate, the Choir and the Chalice Dancers

We may not interpret The Resurrection literally, but we do want to be (in the words of the poet May Sarton) "the always hopeful gardeners of the spirit who know that without darkness nothing comes to birth, as without light nothing flowers." Please bring flowers from garden or roadside for this celebration of Earth's annual rebirth.

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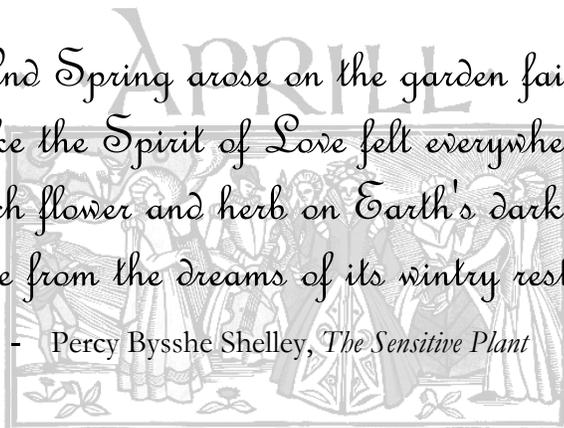
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*"And Spring arose on the garden fair,
 Like the Spirit of Love felt everywhere;
 And each flower and herb on Earth's dark breast
 rose from the dreams of its wintry rest."*

- Percy Bysshe Shelley, *The Sensitive Plant*



The Minister's mUUsings...

I share with you here the op-ed piece I sent to the *Washington Post*, which was not published.
Title: What does God love?

I write in response to “Pr. George’s pastors step up fight against gay nuptials bill” (Tuesday, March 9, Metro B-1) in which Protestant and Catholic clergy referred to gay people as sinners.

I, too, am a pastor who lives and works in Prince George’s County, and I support marriage equality.

I support marriage equality because it brings “joy to the world.” I witnessed that joy at the gay weddings I officiated in Massachusetts before I was called to serve my congregation in Maryland. Several of those couples had already been together for decades and never, ever dreamed they would have the opportunity to wed! When I announced, “And, now, by the power conferred upon me by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, I do hereby declare you lawfully wed!” all manners of joy, from quiet tears to standing ovation, erupted among the family and friends gathered to publicly witness what they had privately supported for so many years. If we can say anything about what God loves, it is joy.

I support equal marriage because it increases love in the world. If you ask any Massachusetts priest or pastor who had been or is opposed to equal marriage rights whether the granting of those rights to gay couples had harmed the families in their congregations, a truthful answer would have to be “no.” Anything that increases love in a family helps that family. Every extended family includes a gay or lesbian person (though they may not be “out”). When the love in a family is sufficiently Jesus-like, those gay family members and their partners are welcomed and cherished, just like straight partners. As a straight couple’s love and commitment becomes more evident to their family, the question on everyone’s mind is “Will they get married?” Let’s have it be in our state that the answer can be “yes,” if and when they are ready, for gay couples too. If we can say anything about what God loves, it is love.

These are among the reasons why, after prayerful consideration and with my congregation’s support, I announced on Valentine’s Day 2010 that I will not sign Maryland marriage licenses for heterosexual couples until it is legal for me to sign them for gay and lesbian couples too. This means that straight couples must have their licenses signed by a public official and it has been our experience so far that they are glad to support marriage equality by doing so. They realize that, in a profoundly generous way, their own marriage is diminished if gay couples are not free to wed. If we can say anything about what God loves, it is generosity.

(Signed) Rev. Diane Teichert, Minister,
Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church, Adelphi, Maryland

See you on Sundays!



minister@pbuuc.org

Religious Exploration News

Teaching as a Spiritual Practice

I spent a wonderful weekend last month with some 50 teens and youth advisers at a conference for Unitarian Universalist youth at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Delaware County in Media, PA.

Youth Cons build on what the Unitarian Universalist Association calls the five components of a balanced youth program – community-building, social action, worship, learning and leadership development.

Most Youth Cons in our Joseph Priestley District are sponsored and run by the JPD Youth Steering Committee -- a group of youth assisted by adult advisers -- and focus on one of the five components.

Some Youth Cons, such as the one I attended, are sponsored by individual congregations. LepraCon -- so-named because it's held the St. Patrick's Day weekend -- was hosted and run by the youth group of the UU Church of Delaware County. It will be using the money raised from registration fees to fund a summer trip to New Orleans to help rebuild parts of the city still suffering the effects of Hurricane Katrina.

One of my favorite parts of the weekend was the wonderful interactive and experiential Friday and Saturday night worship services with their moving music and meditations, original poetry and readings, heart-felt joys and sorrows and the spiral dance of movement as we wound our way throughout the sanctuary.

On Friday night, teens and advisers were each assigned a family group that met that evening to get to know each other. Each family group was responsible for setting up for meals or cleaning up afterwards at least twice during the weekend. Each family group also took a role in Saturday night's worship.

On Saturday, there were workshops on yoga, creating illustrated journals, copper jewelry-making, tie-dyeing tee-shirts, spinning paint pictures, making duct-tape creations and a musical jam session. There was also a lively game of Quidditch outside on what turned out to be a beautiful spring day.

Saturday night, we enjoyed a coffeehouse, a talent-show tradition at Cons, and the movie "The Social Network." In addition, there was plenty of time to talk with old friends and make new ones. And there were many lively conversations that included both adults and teens.

All of this reminded me of my days as a youth adviser in my home congregation in Bowie, which started more than 20 years ago when I was still fairly new to Unitarian Universalism. At the time, I had left behind the religions of my childhood – Catholicism and evangelical Christianity – but remained among the unchurched who saw little need for organized religion. Still I felt my life was missing a spiritual dimension.

Through work with my congregation's youth group, I discovered that I really enjoyed working with youth. We talked about our beliefs and how we could make a difference in the world as we explored life's big questions. Together, we also learned about Unitarian Universalism and I realized I had finally found a church home after years of wandering. We also had lots of fun and the group supported each other in good times and bad.

For me, that was the beginning of a journey that led to becoming a religious educator and continues now as I study for the ministry. And what a wonderful journey it's been – one that began with the single step of becoming involved in religious exploration.

So I'd like to encourage you to consider becoming a part of next year's wonderful RE program here at Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church. Although it's only April, the RE Committee and I are already thinking about next year's program for children and youth and looking for people called to this transforming and important work.

Rev. Dr. Barry Andrews, minister of religious education at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Shelter Rock in Long Island, NY provides a good description of what we're looking for.

"The essential qualities of a good church school teacher are a love of children, a sense of wonder about life, empathy and the ability to listen, and a willingness to share more who you are than what you know," Andrews says. "Above all, teachers are mentors and companions of children as they undertake their religious journeys in life."

This is from his essay he wrote called, "The Soul Only Avails: Teaching as a Spiritual Act." If you'd like to read the rest of the essay, it can be found on our UUA website at the following link:
http://archive.uua.org/re/reach/teaching/the_soul_only_avails.html.

Teaching religious exploration classes to children and working with youth has given me a wonderful chance to deepen my own faith, learn from others, and be continually renewed by the wonder and hope of our young people. I hope you'll consider teaching or assisting next year at PBUUC. We're working particularly hard to make sure all the slots are filled before your new DRE arrives in August.

This is one of the best ways to welcome your new religious educator!

Blessed be,



Karen Lee Scrivo
Interim Director of Religious Exploration

April RE Happenings

April 2 – Gardening Work Day – Join the Green Team and the RE Committee as we begin preparing the area for two raised-bed RE Gardens for edible plants in the grassy area in front of the Meeting House. We'll start at 9 am and work until about 3 pm. Please RSVP if you think you can make it to Green Team Co-chair Karine Bouis-Towe at greenteam@pbuuc.org.

April 3 – Parent-Teacher RE Tea -- Join the RE Committee for its monthly conversation in the Kelley Room during Enrichment Hour. This month's session will focus on recommendations from the Curricula Review Team for next year's program. Light refreshments and child care provided.

April 10 – RE Ice Cream Social – The RE Committee is hosting an Ice Cream Social during Enrichment Hour in the Meeting House. This is a chance to learn about plans for next year's RE program, sign up to teach or assist and find out about the many other opportunities to volunteer your time and talents.

April 17 - Earth Day All Ages Service -- Join us for this interactive celebration of Earth Day that focuses on trees and includes the Chalice Dancers.

April 24 – Children's Chapel: Caring for Our Earth. Our chapel takes place during our regular RE time. Afterwards, we'll begin planting our new RE Gardens in the area in front of the Meeting House.

From the Board

At the February Town Hall meeting, the Board of Trustees unveiled a new perpetual plaque to honor those who have made significant contributions to Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church. The plaque was purchased by the board members at no cost to the church. It reads "Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church wishes to express its enduring gratitude in recognition of the extraordinary contributions of the following." The following criteria and nomination process have been established for church members who wish nominate someone for inclusion on the Enduring Gratitude plaque.

Criteria:

The Enduring Gratitude plaque is not an acknowledgment of success or completion of a project. It is not even a thank-you for a job well done. This plaque commemorates service so far above all expectations that it must never be forgotten. The names on this plaque are people who through their extraordinary work have earned our enduring gratitude.

Nomination Process:

If you know of a service that meets this criterion and wish to put forth a nomination for inclusion on the Enduring Gratitude plaque...

- * Nominations can only be made by members of the church in good standing, although non-members can be nominated.
- * Nominations must include a justification of no more than a page that explains the extraordinary service performed by the nominee(s). This document will be evaluated by the church Board of Trustees and read into the minutes of a board meeting.
- * The nomination must include a citation of up to 90 characters (3 rows, 30 characters each) to be engraved below the nominee's name.
- * The justification must receive endorsement signatures of at least 20 members of the church in good standing.

* There is a nomination fee of \$20 to cover the cost of engraving the plaque. Nominators may also choose to make a contribution to the legacy fund in honor of the nominee(s).

* Nominations must be approved by the Board of Trustees to ensure it meets the criteria above.

* Nominations should be delivered to the Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Mark Shute, Board Trustee

Financial Notes

Show me the Money, Part I

No, I dealt with stewardship campaign last month, so I will make no further pleas about pledges other than please make one so that we have an accurate basis of estimate for next year's budget.

What I mean by "show me the money" is just that. I intend to give an overview of how PBUUC's finances are organized. And since my "finance without numbers" talk worked at the February 27 town meeting, I will do so without numbers.

The main concepts to understand are a balance sheet and an operating budget. The operating budget works just like your household budget. Money routinely comes in, and money routinely goes out to cover expenses. In the case of the church, we don't have a paycheck, but we get income primarily from pledges, but also from rentals, fundraising events such as the auction, and many other smaller sources, where individuals have paychecks or pensions. But the idea is exactly the same.

The balance sheet is more interesting. The three parts are assets, liabilities and equity. And while I promised no numbers, I didn't make any promises about equations, so get ready; I have to use one and only one.

(continued next page)

ASSETS = LIABILITIES + EQUITY

For Part I, I will talk about the asset side of the equation. The asset side of the equation tells you where all the church's assets, both monetary and building, stand on a given date. For Paint Branch, the monetary assets are as follows:

- A checking account at PNC bank for operating funds
- An account at NASA Federal Credit Union, associated with our mortgage.
- A T. Rowe Price money market account. When cash flow is such we have cash on hand it earns higher return for the church.
- A Vanguard Money Market account reserved for Roland Bequest money.
- An account with the UU Common Endowment Fund with Legacy Fund money.

What are the Roland Bequest and the Legacy Fund? That's the subject for Part II next month. The building, grounds and furnishings are our only fixed assets.

This covers the operating budget and the assets side of the balance sheet equation. Next month's newsletter will discuss liabilities and equity. I will close this April edition of my column by thanking everyone for their generosity to the congregation.

Mike Stark, Treasurer
mstark@pbuuc.org

Legacy Fund News

- **Grants now available!** The Legacy Fund Committee is pleased to announce that the fund is in excellent shape due to recent gains in the stock market and continuing contributions from PBUUC members. The committee is now accepting applications for new grant recipients. Grants of up to \$3,000 will be awarded this spring. The application deadline is April 29, 2011. For more information or to request a grant application, please contact me at Liz_Citrin@verizon.net.

Liz Citrin

- **Cotts Farewell Brings Gift To The Church Legacy Fund.** Thanks to all of you who honored Ellen and Ron Cotts at their farewell on March 12. Seventy nine people from Paint Branch and Main Line churches, Riderwood Village and the Joseph Priestley District attended and/or made contributions. \$750.00 has been given in their honor to the Paint Branch UU Church Legacy Fund.

Carol Carter Walker

Stewardship 2011-2012
You can make a difference!

Our Stewardship Campaign is underway. Thank You to those who have already completed their pledge cards - **We are off to a very strong start!**

Your participation will make a difference. Every pledge, no matter how large or small, plays an important role in the life of our church community. We need everyone to be part of the process as we develop our budget for the coming fiscal year.

As you talk with your Visiting Steward we invite you to share your thoughts about Paint Branch and the future we are building together. We urge you to consider what Paint Branch means to you and how you can be a contributing member of this vibrant community. We welcome you participation with your time, talent and treasure. Every gift you share with us is multiplied many times over as we make our spiritual journey together.

Your pledge amount can always be adjusted if your circumstances change. Please take the time to consider Paint Branch and the part you can play in creating a strong caring community with a budget that allows us to fulfill our commitment to each other and the wider community.

If you have any questions or concerns you can contact us at stewardship@pbuuc.org.

Sherry Mitchell & Pat Tompkins
Stewardship 2011-2012 co-chairs

Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team (DARTT) News & Events

What Love Has To Do With It

We were asked to wear red to represent love on Friday, March 11, 2011, when we gathered in Annapolis for the House of Delegates' debate and possible vote on the *Civil Marriage Protection Act*. As I walked from the shuttle bus that morning, I saw a small, but noisy group of protesters shouting out in anger and carrying signs that said, "Marriage is One Man + One Woman." On the opposite corner was a larger, silent group of supporters, some hugging and greeting each other, many wearing red, some carrying signs such as "Marriage is about Love." At first, I wanted to shout back at the opposition. But since my first training prior to last Fall's election, the Equality Maryland staff have inspired and demonstrated kindness, politeness, warmth, enthusiasm, acceptance, inclusion and unfailingly positive behavior. Prior to the election, they instructed volunteers to refrain from engaging in arguments with people who refused to sign the yellow post cards to support 'same sex marriage' and 'anti-discrimination for transgendered people' by saying, "Thank you for voting. Have a nice day." Likewise, at the ongoing Monday night phone banks, we are taught not to engage with negative people and instead to simply say, "Thank you. Have a good night. Good-bye."

Sitting in the House Assembly gallery facing the 141 delegates gathered to debate the *Civil Marriage Protection Act*, I was among Paint Branchers, UUs from other congregations, Equality Maryland staff and many Marylanders. We were people of all ages, straight, gay, lesbian, transgendered, Black, White, and Latino, standing up together to applaud as we heard delegates talk about love and justice in their arguments in favor of the bill. Efforts to secure rights for gay, lesbian, and transgendered people in our state unites Paint Branchers with racially and culturally diverse people in our districts and communities. As we engage with our communities we are living our faith and practicing our UU principles.

Listening to the debate, I saw that the overwhelming majority of public observers in the gallery rose to their feet and applauded after delegates spoke in favor of the bill. I counted how many spoke in support and how many spoke in opposition to the bill. When fourteen delegates had spoken, the debate was exactly even. Those opposed to the bill cited religious ideology, said that marriage was meant for one man and one woman, and seemed to speak from fear, anger, and resentment. A number of African American delegates spoke in favor of the bill, but some who opposed the bill recalled atrocities imposed upon African Americans and claimed that this bill did not address civil rights since no crosses were being burned on people's lawns. Finally, the tie was broken and the majority of delegates spoke in favor of the bill. The 16th speaker summarized the arguments she heard from those who expressed fear that the bill would condone marriage to a toaster, an android, or a cat. Her point was that the delegates were providing no legal reasons for opposing the bill.

Love and justice were the themes of those who spoke in favor of the bill. A white male told about his daughter asking why someone she knew had two mothers and his wife responded: "Because they love each other." One of the seven gay and lesbian delegates described her relatives' love and acceptance of her same sex marriage relationship. Another delegate contrasted the anti-gay messages she heard from church hierarchy with her personal process of "listening to God's voice" in messages such as "Love. Do not judge. Be not afraid." One woman delegate turned toward all the delegates around her as she spoke of being a lesbian and said to her colleagues, "See me. Know me." She said she loved every one of them, regardless of their current stance on this bill.

It seemed to me that the opposition had been largely silenced, unable to protest against love. Because of the apparent momentum, I was baffled when the 32nd speaker moved to have the *Civil Marriage Protection Act* sent back to the Judiciary Committee. Now we concentrate our efforts to pass the *Gender Identity and Anti-Discrimination Act* in the current legislative session.

(continued next page)

Working with the Equality Maryland people inspires me through their example of unfailingly positive behavior, warmth, acceptance, determination, enthusiasm and courage. The absence of snide remarks is particularly impressive in view of the venom expressed by the opposition, for example, during the senate hearings on the *Civil Marriage Protection Act*. It has also been enormously exciting to see so many Paint Branchers engaged in this work! Securing civil rights for gay, lesbian and transgendered people is transformational work that encourages us to act from the best in ourselves, to live our UU principles, and to work side by side with people of all races, ages, religions, and sexual orientations. It is not unusual to hear young volunteers on Monday Phone Bank Nights exclaim with enthusiasm about how 'awesome' Unitarian Universalist Churches are. And it is, indeed, awesome to connect with our community, practicing our faith as we stand up for love and justice. Hope to see you on Monday Phone Bank Nights and lobbying in Annapolis!

Tricia Most, Co-chair, DARTT

Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team (DARTT) Agenda Setting And Planning Schedule For April

DARTT's next planning meeting will be Tuesday, April 5, at 7:30 pm. Please submit your agenda items to dartt@pbuuc.org or by contacting Tricia Most or Carol Carter Walker by no later than Tuesday, March 28. This will allow ample time to prepare and publish an agenda in advance. Please also use dartt@pbuuc.org at any time to provide feedback, ideas and suggestions for DARTT programming, emphases, etc.



Looking For Some Enrichment and Fun This Summer?

Attend a UU camp or conference! Check them out on-line or find brochures in the Foyer of the Meeting House. Some programs are intergenerational and others are age-specific.



The closest one is a terrific (and very welcoming of newcomers!) week of programming for all ages in age-specific groupings and intergenerationally. Many PBUUCers attend. It's called UUMAC (UU Mid-Atlantic Community) and it's held from July 17 - 23, 2011 DeSales University in Center Valley, PA. Visit: www.uumac.org.

Next closest is SUUSI, the weeklong Southeast UU Summer Institute in Radnor, VA, from July 17-23. (www.suusi.org).

Farther away, there are three Camp and Conference Centers in New England:

- Rowe in Rowe, MA (<http://www.rowecenter.org>);
- Ferry Beach in Saco, ME (<http://www.ferrybeach.org>);
- and Star Island, off the coast near Portsmouth, NH (<http://www.starisland.org>).

Our own Rev. Teichert has been invited to be the Minister of the Week at Star Island for the Life on a Star Family Conference II from Saturday, August 20 to Saturday, August 27.

These camps and conferences are wonderful ways to experience an intentional UU community, make new friends and rekindle old friendships, and grow as UUs in fun and deep ways!

Social Action Committee News (SAC)

Marriage Equality – Disappointment - and Determination to Win in the Future!

Paint Branchers, in strong partnership with Equality Maryland and other UU congregations joined thousands of Marylanders in supporting and lobbying time and time again for the Maryland *Civil Marriage Protection Act*. And it came so close to passing! It was only at the last step, on Friday March 11, when on the floor of the Maryland House of Delegates the bill was recommitted to committee as a strategic move – being short only one or two votes from enactment we were told.



But we are more committed than ever to its passage! And plans are already being made for how we'll continue in this cause of justice and equality

for same sex couples to marry. For example our Monday evening phone bank will continue at Paint Branch with Equality Maryland - as we contact supporters to plan future strategy and thank legislators for their support of marriage equality this year. And clergy and lay leaders are considering a strategy for how to connect with the socially conservative clergy in Prince George's County. Additionally we are still lobbying for passage this session of the *Gender Identity Anti-Discrimination Act (HB 235)*. This bill will prohibit discrimination in the areas of employment, housing, and credit - with such anti-discrimination protections in current law specifically extended to transgendered citizens – who are not now legally protected from such discrimination.

After all of the calls, e-mails, letters, rallies, and lobbying done by Paint Branchers For Marriage Equality, we in the Social Action Committee are so proud of all of you! Last October at the Social Action Kick-off, when this issue was voted as one of our top two priorities for this church year, you showed how much you really meant it! Keep that spirit alive and well - as we look ahead to victory for same sex marriage in the near future.

Speaking for your SAC Co-Chairs, Nancy Boardman and Jessica Sharp, we were so honored when our newly appointed SAC liaison to the Board of Trustees, Rene McDonald, informed us that at the Board of Trustees meeting on February 23, they voted to acknowledge our leadership as chairs of SAC in the struggle to win approval of Gay Marriage Rights in Maryland by flying the *Standing on the Side of Love* banner at our entrance sign to Paint Branch as soon as possible. And as we all now see – it flies there proudly declaring our faith's dedication to this highest of moral principles. In response Jessica and I wrote a response that Rene wanted to have in Branches to share with you.

While we thank you as SAC Co-Chairs for this recognition, in truth we are walking in the footsteps of so many other amazing UUs who for years have dedicated themselves to this struggle for GLBT marriage equality. We are fortunate indeed to be SAC leaders at just the historic time when all those wonderful efforts are being realized. I think of our ministers and their principled stand to not be agents of the state for civil marriage until it exists for all persons. And Tish Hall comes immediately to mind for all she has done over the years for this social justice issue. And our wonderful Paint Branchers who voted in October to make this one of the two top social justice issues this year. They have been with us in body and spirit at rallies and lobbying in Annapolis on this issue. They've been on the phones too, at our recent phone bank. They lift our spirits and inspire us in this work of faith and justice. So thank you for this very special news and your recognition of SAC's leadership this year for marriage equality! It will be wonderful to see this banner flying at Paint Branch, and soon have same-sex religious and civil marriages conducted at Paint Branch.

It will be so!!

Nancy Boardman, Co-chair, SAC

High Point High School Job Fair Participants Needed!

High Point High School's Senior Guidance Office will hold its first annual Job Fair the week of April 11. This is a fair specifically geared towards those students who will not be going to college, but instead entering 'The World of Work'. Guidance Counselor Alisa Briggs says of many of the senior class, "When you ask them what they're doing after high school, they say 'I'm going to work at Taco Bell.' Or Chik-Fil-A or McDonald's. And those jobs are certainly valid, but not in the long term. We want to give them something more substantial to strive for, such as a trade or a skill they can learn on the job and then take with them, so when it's time to pay rent or buy a car or support a family they can do so. Anything to get them thinking outside the fast food sphere."

Speakers will gather to talk to students, one on one and one at a time, at the school from 9 am to 1 pm. Paint Branchers who work in fields or have information on jobs that may be secured without a college degree are invited to participate – please! Please contact Jessica Sharp at 443-766-0894 or sac@pbucc.org with your interest.

On Corporate Influence in Politics: What can be said?

The recent events in Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio and Indiana, especially a 'prank' phone call between WI Governor Scott Walker and a man he thought was billionaire campaign donor David Koch, have awoken people to the real-world effects of corporate influence on our democracy. What's possibly even more amazing is that people are finally coming together in large numbers to oppose it! In the last month there have been three rallies attended by thousands – literally, thousands! – of people, two in Annapolis and one in Washington, DC, all protesting the same general concept of corporations enjoying more influence in our government than human beings.

(continued next column)

At Paint Branch we have done our part, holding a successful public education forum in early February, followed by a planning meeting for different advocacy groups in March. Stay tuned for information on how you can be a part of the next day of action, which is tentatively scheduled for Tax Day, which Friday, April 15.

Special Sunday Collections:

- **Extraordinary Collection on April 3:** Following Japan's recent devastating earthquake and resulting tsunamis, the UUA has been in contact with our religious partners in Japan and has created the Japan Relief Fund to support the recovery efforts. On Sunday, April 3, please join with Unitarian Universalists throughout the US in contributing to the **UUA's Japan Relief Fund**.
- The Special Collection for April will take place on Earth Day, which is on **April 17**. The **Chesapeake Climate Action Network (CCAN)** is a 501(c)(3) organization with a corporate charter in Maryland. (CCAN) is dedicated exclusively to fighting global warming in Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, DC by building and mobilizing a powerful grassroots movement to call for state, national and international policies that will put our area on a path to climate stability.
- The May Special Collection, held on **May 15**, will benefit **CROP Hunger Walk**, which strives to provide food aid to those in need. Ted Farrar, Director of the Church World Service and CROP Walk for the Greater Mid-Atlantic Region, will be on hand to give more information about CROP and its beneficiaries. See page 17 for more information.

"Refusing to Be Enemies" Film

The Social Action Committee, the Spirituality Circle and the America in 2016 Book Discussion Group will offer this moving video during an extended Enrichment Hour on April 17, beginning at 11:30 am in Room 4. Come experience what happens when American women - some Jewish and some Islamic - share their stories from the heart about the situation in Israel and Palestine. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call Marj Donn at 301-474-1353.

UUSJ support for GLBT Youth

On Saturday, May 7, support LGBT Youth at a Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice (UUSJ) program at the Chalice House - Cedar Lane UU Congregation. The Program is from 1 to 5 pm at 9601 Cedar Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814. The keynote speaker will be Linda Goldman – an educator, therapist and author who wrote, “Coming Out, Coming In: Nurturing the Well-Being and Inclusion of Gay Youth”. Additionally four workshops will be offered with each registrant able to attend two workshops. A flyer will be coming out soon. In the interim you can contact Cynthia Snavely, the UUSJ administrator, for more information at 301-588-1951 or go to the UUSJ website at www.uusj.org.

MD United for Peace & Justice Conference



The Annual Conference of Maryland United for Peace and Justice will be held on Saturday, April 30. It will run from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm at Saint Camillus Roman

Catholic Church at 1600 Saint Camillus Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20903-2598. For more information, go to <http://www.mupj.org/>

Many Paint Branchers will likely remember when we hosted this uplifting and important Peace and Justice conference a few years ago! This year SAC is again a co-sponsor of the conference – which is entitled “*Encouraging the Language and Practice of Peace and Justice*”. We will have a table at the conference, managed by our own Marj Donn. And soon we will have brochures about the conference to share with you. It will be time very well spent to attend! The keynote speaker will be Bishop Eugene Sutton, the first African-American Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland, followed by interesting workshops, a wide variety of tables with materials and representatives from different peace and justice groups, and a delicious vegetarian lunch too. We hope to see many of you there!

Social Action Committee Meeting Dates and Times through June.



We meet on Saturday mornings from 10 – noon in Room #1 of the RE Building. We could use and welcome new members!! Please join us as we live out our UU

values in social justice causes. We recently changed our meeting dates from the 2nd to the 3rd Saturday morning of the month. Our new meeting dates on Saturday are:

- APRIL 16,
- MAY 21,
- AND (for now) JUNE 18.

Currently no SAC meetings have been scheduled for July and August. (We’ll see. We’ll likely need some planning meetings for the fall during those summertime months.)

***Justice in the life
and conduct of
the State is
possible only as
first it resides in
the hearts and
souls of the
citizens.***

Plato

Green Team News



We are getting closer to our goal of applying for Green Sanctuary status. Jennifer Robinson is circulating a draft of our application describing the Green Team accomplishments. If you are interested, ask any Green Team member about it.

Upcoming Events

- The pace of Green Team activities is accelerating with the warming of spring. Plans include working with Youth Religious Exploration on a garden project, learning about and building a compost bin, further study of the Anacostia Watershed of which we are a part.
- Spring ephemeral wildflowers show their delicate blossoms before trees leaf out. Join Alan and Becky Hedin and Penny O'Brien for a walk on or near the Paint Branch Church grounds to discover these native treasures on Sunday, April 10, during the Enrichment Hour! Meet on the deck at 11:45 am. You will want to wear flat-heeled shoes. All ages may join the walk. The Green Team has planned this glorious way to prepare for Rev. Teichert's special Earth Day service the following Sunday.
- You are urged to join the Paint Branch Green Team, Anacostia Watershed Society, Sierra Club, and the Maryland Native Plant Society for one or two hours on Saturday, April 30, starting at 11 am to help remove several of the worst invasive species from nearby Little Paint Branch Park. The day includes natural history and special features of the park, methods and reasons for the project to control the spread of invasives. Native flowers and other plants will be identified as we work to rescue them. Gloves and tools will be provided. Our objective is to remove the invasive plants to allow native plants to grow back.

Meet at the Beltsville Community Center parking lot. From church go north on Powder Mill Road. Turn right on Cherry Hill and then left on Sellman Road and left at the park entrance just before a creek. There are full indoor toilet facilities. Bring a bag lunch from home, while we sit, meet community members and learn about the project. The Green Team encourages your participation in this cooperative community effort. Contact Alan or Becky Hedin for additional information.

- Earth Day at nearby Riderwood Village is a real celebration with a line-up of speakers, films, and exhibits from April 18 - 22. Monday evening, April 18, Brent Blackwelder, President Emeritus of Friends of the Earth, will speak about the future of energy and transportation at 7:30 pm. On Friday naturalists from Watkins Nature Center will share tips on the way they care for injured wildlife, and Joan O'Rourke from Brookside Nature Center will demonstrate ways to create container gardens. Paint Branch members are especially welcome to attend any of the events. Older children are encouraged to come. You can preview the programs at the following web address: <http://www.riderwoodlife.org/events/earth-days>. For the full schedule or directions contact Becky Hedin or Penny O'Brien.

Penny O'Brien
Green Sanctuary Team



In and Around Paint Branch

Transylvanian Ethnic Dinner: Breaking The February Curse!

February is always a challenge for Ethnic Dinners – fewer days, two holidays, cold and dark. Plus, for every dinner, we require four consecutive weekends in which no weather events prevent getting to church – the three Sundays on which we sell tickets and recruit volunteers, plus the day and evening of the dinner. The odds of that in February – well, remember last year?



Determined to do four dinners this fiscal year, we kept February 2011 in the schedule. But, what theme? For October we considered Mexico or Transylvania, picking

Mexico because it was not only their bicentennial, but also Day of the Dead. So, Transylvania was still available, but without the Halloween connection. Then we learned 2011 is the 50th anniversary of the merger of the Unitarian and Universalist churches, and Transylvania is where Unitarianism began. In December, Shielah Kast, wife of Maryland Senator Jim Rosapepe, former US ambassador to Romania (where Transylvania is) came to speak during Enrichment Hour. I asked her about food and she offered to obtain information and loan us some CDs of Romanian music. These kinds of coincidences can't be ignored, so this dinner had to feature Transylvanian (Hungarian & Romanian) food, and Anti-Trinitarian (Unitarian) history with a few Dracula (vampire) touches thrown in for fun.

Weather, date & attendance? The “snowmageddon” we feared didn't happen, but the day before the dinner (planned for cold weather) the temps reached the mid-70s, the day of the dinner brought gale-force winds which sparked brush fires and closed I-95. It was Presidents' Day weekend, and only 60 people had signed up as of the Sunday before, but despite all this, more than 70 attended the dinner, including 8 children!

Mike Stark oversaw set-up of the room and bar. Don Gerson obtained the Hungarian wines, and Mike's friend Sonia Meredith helped tend bar. Set-up was done by Tricia Most, Jeri Holloway, Richard Coté, and Mary Dancy. Cooks included Ethelyn Bishop, Jeri Holloway, Cathy Helmold, Don Gerson, Mary Dancy, Rene McDonald, Tricia Most, Marcie Washburn, Karine Bouts-Towe, Adeline Wilcox, Teresa Meeks, Melody Lawrence, Carol Boston, Sylvia Lagerquist, and Don Mitchell. With only two dishes to prepare (thank you!), I was able to tend the door. Marge Owens made coffee. Music was provided by Shielah Kast and David Chapman who found some Gypsy music! Building Manager Chuck Bury operated the sound system and oversaw clean up with help from Kathi Fenwick and Brian Yu, Richard Coté, David Chapman, Rob and Carol Boston, Jennifer Grant, Bryon Coté, Nancy Boardman, Cathy Helmold, Muriel Morisey, Peter Wathen-Dunn, Adeline and Otilie Wilcox, Don Gerson, Emma Sue Gaines-Gerson, and Marilyn Pearl. Carol Carter-Walker arranged for on-site child care. Donald Munro came early and assumed full responsibility for loading and running the dishwasher multiple times throughout the entire evening.

So, take that February! Despite your best (worst) efforts, the dinner prevailed! Earning \$881, it was not only a very successful dinner, but for February, it was awesome!

What's next? On May 14 we will hold our fourth dinner in the 2010-2011 fiscal year to make up for having only two in each of the previous two years. To make this yet one more in this series of exceptionally successful dinners, we need a great theme and a large number of attendees and volunteers. Put the date on your calendar now, invite some friends, and help pick a winning theme. We need that theme NOW in order to plan the menu by April 17. Suggested so far (from the headlines) are Japan (tricky for an Ethnic Dinner) and Egypt (limited choice of dishes), or others such as Indonesia/Malaysia/SE Asia or some US city or region. Do you prefer one of these, or can you suggest something else? Contact Marilyn Pearl, 301-805-1218 or buffalo_gal@verizon.net by April 10.

Marilyn Pearl, Coordinator

April Update: The PBUUC Head and Heart History Group (H3G) –

Significant progress has been made for H3G since last month's introductory article! For instance, the mentioned covenant-style monthly reading group on the history and context of the Buddha held its introductory meeting on Sunday, March 13. Furthermore, in light of the fact that (as mentioned last month) the initial inspiration for H3G was rooted in my interest in increasing congregational enthusiasm for the 'need to co-construct and continually update our ever-unfolding church history', I'm pleased to announce that this month, important steps have been taken along those lines! Specifically, foundational planning has occurred with respect to initiating our anticipated monthly 'History and Fellowship Gatherings' (HFGs), during which all are welcomed to 'attend and listen to or share reflections on various personal experiences of our church's past'!

This year's HFG meetings are now slated to take place every second Friday evening of the month and will focus on personal PBUUC experiential-stories related to growth in the following virtues:

- April 8 - Courtesy
- May 13 - Nobility
- June 10 - Courage
- July 8 - Cooperation
- August 12 - Trustworthiness
- September 9 - Openness
- October 14 - Optimism
- November 11 - Forbearance
- December 9 – Discernment

The above virtues were chosen from a grab bag on Sunday, March 13, by 9 year old PBUUCer, Ottilie Wilcox. The deck from which she chose contains approximately 100 virtues that tend to be uplifted in a myriad of spiritual traditions (including Christianity, Islam, the Baha'i Faith, Hinduism, etc.). It was purchased from an online business called 'The Virtues Project'.

In December, another young PBUUCer will be asked to select our 'Virtues of Focus' for 2012. For more details on the HFG monthly events, please feel free to look up and/or join our Facebook page entitled 'PBUUC History and Fellowship Gatherings (HFGs)'. For details on other H3G initiatives, please email headhearthisory@pbuuc.org.

Kweli Powell, coordinator

Spring Church Work Day scheduled for Saturday, April 23, 9 am to 4 pm

There's a lot to clean up, paint up and fix up. Please come anytime between 9 am and 4 pm that day, (flexible times) and help, as there's a job for everybody from working on the deck to painting to cleaning. All ages are welcome. Enjoy the comradeship of friends and the satisfaction of working with your hands. Lunch is around noon. For more information, please contact me at kissmycubicle@gmail.com or 301 440 0612. Thank you.

Paul Young, Chair, Buildings and Grounds

Paint Branch Church Leasing Team has expanded charter for rental of Religious Exploration Building space

The Board of Trustees has broadened the charter of the Leasing Team to find long-term recurring renters for unused space as well as fulltime tenant(s) for the Lower Level, Religious Exploration Building. You can help in this critical initiative by sending us any leads you may have for tenants and any suggestions for e-mail lists and other venues to market the space. You can talk to any member of the Leasing Team: Brenda Anna, John Bartoli, Nancy Mandelkorn, Becky Sheehan and Carol Carter Walker; or send your information and questions to lease@pbuuc.org.

Carol Carter Walker

**General Assembly 2011:
A Meeting of Congregations
Wednesday, June 22, to
Sunday, June 26, 2011
Charlotte, North Carolina
<http://www.uua.org/ga>**

Want to feel the power and support of being in community with thousands of Unitarian Universalists? Want to have wonderful worship with glorious music and inspiring messages, invigorating discussions about social justice and social action? Want to strategize with folks on the issues of our time and place? Equal marriage. Immigration. Diversity. Youth involvement.

Consider going to General Assembly (GA) this year. The costs involve getting there; registering for the assembly; and staying there. Kayak.com is a website that can provide you with daily alerts for the lowest air fares. A typical air fare is around \$200 round trip. The registration is \$300 until May 1, but you may be able to waive part/all of your registration by being a volunteer. Volunteer applications are due by March 31. You can go the [uua.org/ga](http://www.uua.org/ga) website to get information about volunteering, home hospitality and shared housing that can reduce your costs.

So far, Nancy Boardman, Don and Emma Sue Gerson, Marilyn Pearl and Carol Carter Walker are planning to attend. Others may join us. Go to <http://www.uua.org/ga/> for more information. If you plan to go and would like to be a delegate, please contact Don Gerson, Chair, Denominational Affairs Committee (DAC).

**Nature Spirituality Circle
Wicca 101 classes**

The Nature Spirituality Circle is continuing to sponsor a Wicca 101 classes. Starting in April we will meet on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month during Enrichment hour. On April 10, we are going to focus on the basic elements of magick. Is it real? Is it just psychological? How does it work? The April 24 class will focus on meditation techniques and basic energy work. For more information, please contact Tabitha Pierzchala at 301-592-0294.

Art Gallery News

The current exhibit of Fabric Art is by Rhoda Taylor. She tells us,

I have been working with fabric and fibers most of my life (making clothing, crocheting, knitting, embroidering, and cross-stitching). In 2002, following retirement from my career as a university professor of biology, I began taking quilting classes and started making quilted wall hangings and other small pieces. In 2007, I joined the Fiber Arts Guild of Pittsburgh. Interaction with Guild members and a number of workshops through the Guild and the Pittsburgh Society for Contemporary Craft taught me new techniques and gave me the inspiration and confidence to make my own fabrics and design my own works of fabric art. Several techniques that I utilize are hand dyeing, bleach discharge, and rust-printing to pattern my own fabrics. I am delighted with the results.

One of the most exciting things to me is ironing the wet dyed, discharged or rusted fabrics and seeing the wonderful patterns develop serendipitously! It is then a challenge to design artistic works to use these fabrics, and I often combine my own resist discharged, hand dyed, and rust-printed fabrics with commercial fabrics that are complementary to the colors and patterns that I have produced.

This exhibit will be on display through Wednesday, April 20. If you have any specific questions you may contact the artist at vwmret@zoominternet.net. General questions may be addressed to me at 301 572-2898 or jd_trout@msn.com.

Jane Trout



As a prelude to the Jewish celebration of Pesach, or Passover, PBUUC members, friends, and guests are invited to attend and participate in a traditional Seder exhibition in the Meeting House on Sunday, April 17 at 5:00 pm



On Pesach we celebrate the liberation of the Jews from Pharaoh in Egypt over 3000 years ago, and its narrative is the centerpiece of the book of Exodus in the Bible.

Vanessa Landau, who will be the spiritual leader of

the Seder, tells us, “Having been raised in an observant Jewish home and having been named in Hebrew for this holiday, I cherish Pesach. Its celebration in my youth was always an elaborate performance of preparation and observance with a genuine sense of connection to heritage and meaning. The timely and timeless reminder that Pesach afforded me reflection: What experiences of oppression and liberation have shaped us, both as individuals and as a society? From what must we still claim liberation?”

Pesach is one of three holidays on the Jewish calendar that traditionally involve a pilgrimage to Israel. It is also one of the richest in historical significance and one of the most delicious! Do you know why we call the holiday Passover? Do you know why we eat matzo (unleavened bread)? Do you know why we set a place at the table but leave the seat empty? If you are curious to know more about Jewish customs and enjoy a holiday meal, please plan to join us. In addition, the occasion readily involves the participation of children.

This will be a partial potluck event, and recipes will be available for you to contribute dishes to this fun event. We must have a head-count and funds to purchase the food that the Committee will provide.

Therefore, reservations and tickets are required—\$5 for adults, \$2 for teens, and free for children 12 and under. Help with set-up and clean-up is requested. Tickets sales, help sign-up, and potluck options—including recipes—will take place during coffee hour in the Meeting House lobby after Sunday services.

For further information or answers to questions, please contact Vanessa Landau at 301-742-2084 or Don Gerson at 240-293-6570. Other members of the Passover Seder Planning Committee are Emma Sue Gaines Gerson, David Haberman, and Reverend Diane Teichert.

CROP Walk

The CROP Walk 2011 will be on May 1 around Lake Artemisia. The CROP Special Collection will be on May 15. Twenty five percent of our donations will support Help By Phone, a local non-profit organization that provides food for families in emergency need in our neighborhoods. Church World Service sponsors CROP Walks across our nation. Food is provided to national and international hunger emergencies such as earthquakes and tsunamis. Farmers receive modern farm training that they can better feed their families.

“The global food squeeze is largely an uncovered story. For now high prices and short supplies have enriched American farmers with exports and imports soaring. If nature and technology don’t restore a better balance, the consequences for human suffering and potential conflict could be fearsome.”

Robb Samuelson, Washington Post.

You can help. Give generously to CROP.

Esther Nichols

Music at Paint Branch Concert Series

The Arts Council of Paint Branch presents wonderful concerts in our beautiful space. Mark your calendars for future exciting and free concerts in the Meeting House.

- Friday, April 29, will feature Audrey Andrist, pianist. Audrey has given several recitals at Paint Branch and has been a substitute pianist on Sunday mornings. Her playing is magnificent and always receives excellent reviews. The concert will begin at 7:30 pm with a reception following.
- Sunday, May 8, will feature the Millennium Ensemble providing a variety of instruments and music. The concert will begin at 5 pm and a reception will follow.
- Sunday, May 22, will feature Michelle Howard-Hanson, soprano and our own Allison Hughes, mezzo soprano. It will feature the music of Pergolesi, Mozart, Mahler, Strauss, and Massenet. The concert will begin at 4 pm.

Please support the arts; attend these concerts and bring friends and relatives.

Jeri Holloway

Religions of Origin Summer Service

An upcoming summer service calls for an appreciation of the religions of origin that Paint Branchers represent. Too often we modify what does not seem to fit with the UU notions of theology. We adapt or dilute the original religious thought. Indeed, many of us are UU precisely because we have rejected our religions of origin. But are we a faith community that rejects all faiths... or are we a faith community that embraces all faiths?

In the summer service, we will NOT be speaking from our own experience of our religions-of-origin but from the perspective of what we inherit from OTHERS' religions-of-origin. If you have limited exposure to others' religions, be not concerned. Contributors will meet to discuss their knowledge of their religious heritage, and YOU will be asked to express how that heritage (theology, traditions, etc.) impacts your "free and responsible search for truth and meaning."

The summer service will take place on Sunday, July 31, 2011. Please consider how you may contribute to this rare opportunity. Contact Vanessa Landau at 301-742-2084 at your earliest convenience.

TWedHUULK to Sample the Buffet at Gah Rham Again

On Wednesday, April 20, at 1:00 pm the Third Wednesday Handy UU Lunch Klub will return to the Gah Rham Korean restaurant for the all-you-can-eat buffet. It is located in Beltsville at 5027 Garrett Ave., just past Behnke's Plants and Flowers on the left as you drive north on Route 1 (Baltimore Ave.). Garrett Avenue, also on the left, is a short street and the Gah Rham is close to Route 1. A feature of the buffet is a wide selection of meats and veggies ready to cook on the grills built into the tables or customers can opt for ready-to-eat buffet items or a variety of sushi/sashimi.

If you can join us please contact Marge Owens at lowellandmarge@verizon.net or 301-345-1572, or just show up. The restaurant will be quiet and serene by the time we meet there. If you are able to offer a ride to one of our regulars in Riverdale, let us know that, too.

Wheel Of Life

- ❖ Our hearts go out to Deb Rubenstein whose mother died recently.
- ❖ Cards, calls and visits are appreciated by Jane Trout who is in rehab at Riderwood after her recent hospitalization.
- ❖ We rejoice with Tricia and Eric Most who, after five days of difficult waiting, heard from their daughter Nicole in Japan that she is safe and, as of the newsletter deadline, was making plans to leave Japan via either China or Korea.
- ❖ Marjorie Moore, who was an active member of Paint Branch in the 1960s and 1970s and taught Sunday school during that time, died recently in hospice. Her memorial service will be held in Riversdale Mansion during Easter week. If you wish more information call Deni Foster ([301-474-3912](tel:301-474-3912)).

Paint Branch Bookstore Open Sunday, April 3

The Bookstore will be open right after service on the first Sunday in April. There are books for kids and adults to build your library or for gift giving. Your purchases help add to the church's income.

Carol Carter Walker and Liese Wright are the current volunteers.

With Gratitude:

- ❖ From Nicole Most writing via email to Rev. Teichert from Seoul, Korea:

I will admit I was somewhat overwhelmed to see the huge out-pouring of love and support from Paint Branch when I was finally able to access the Internet from the hotel yesterday. I have always known that we have a wonderful and loving church community but it is still quite a sight to behold! Thank you again for all of your help!

(Nicole, daughter of Tricia and Eric Most, was teaching English in a middle school in Japan at the time of the earthquake, tsunami and nuclear power. She was out of touch for several worrisome days, and since then was able to leave Japan).

- ❖ From Ellen Cotts:

Thank you for the farewell from the church – the party on Saturday and the cake on Sunday. It is good for us to hear that we are appreciated. We will miss the community here. Thanks for making it better each year.



12-Day Human Rights Trip to Israel/Palestine, including East Jerusalem and the West Bank

July 16 – 27

**Sponsored by Unitarian Universalists
for Justice in the Middle East
Led by Don McInnes, immediate past
President of UUJME, his 4th UUJME
Human Rights Trip**

Join the tour for an extraordinary and unforgettable experience. Meet with Palestinian and Israeli peace activists and political leaders, Israelis from both ends of the political spectrum, and members of Hamas and Fatah.

Visit one or more Jewish settlements and the separation wall/ fence and experience checkpoints. Visit:

- East Jerusalem, including the Old City and Western Wall,
- the Dome of the Rock,
- the Al Aqsa Mosque, and,
- the Church of the Holy Sepulchre

Spend two nights in Palestinian homes and tour several West Bank cities as well as Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa, Nazareth, and the Galilee area. Provide moral support for those working on the ground for a just peace, then return energized and informed to work more effectively for a just peace from here.

Estimated cost \$2,400, including comfortable hotel rooms with private bath, ground transportation, guide, meals, gratuities, and trip leader fee. Does not include air fare or transportation to and from airport in US or in Tel Aviv.

For more information and/or to join the trip contact Don McInnes at 617-661-9000 or don@3mlaw.com. For more information about UUJME, visit <http://www.uujme.org>.

We Care Coordinators

for April are Iris Peabody, 301-593-4095; call for cards, phone calls, meals, etc., and Elizabeth Scheiman, 301-731-2874, call for rides to appointments, etc.

PBUUC Leadership Directory

☞ Staff ☞

| | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------|
| Minister | Rev. Diane Teichert | 301-937-3666 |
| Music Director and pianist | David Chapman | 301-937-3666 |
| Interim Religious Exploration Director | Karen Lee Scrivo | 301-937-3666 |
| Religious Exploration Assistant | Kweli Powell | 301-937-3666 |
| Church Administrator | Daniel Everitt | 301-937-3666 |
| Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper | Rebecca Birnie | 301-937-3666 |
| Director of Chalice Dancers | Sharon Werth | 301-937-3666 |
| Sunday Service/Bldg. Mgrs: | Chuck Bury | 301 799-2535 |
| | Jesse Crowley | 301-345-2663 |
| Child Care: | Kamini Wickramaratne | 301-937-3666 |
| | Beth Judy | 301-937-3666 |

☞ Officers and Board of Trustees ☞

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Co-chair | Susannah Schiller | 301-776-1887 |
| Co-chair | Bettie Young | 301-490-4957 |
| Vice chair | Don Henderson | 301-977-1186 |
| Vice chair | Michael Léger | 301-589-6808 |
| Trustee | Patty Daukantas | 301-486-1949 |
| Trustee | Tim Illig | 410-707-6678 |
| Trustee | Rene McDonald | 301-779-1643 |
| Trustee | Mark Shute | 301-442-6312 |
| Trustee | Peter Wathen-Dunn | 301-270-2391 |
| Secretary | Anita Wagner | 703-401-7230 |
| Assistant Secretary | | TBD |
| Treasurer | Mike Stark | 301-441-2473 |
| Assistant Treasurer | Marilyn Pearl | 301-805-1218 |

☞ Caring Community ☞

Pastoral Care Associates:

- Carol Boston 301-585-4183
- Lynn Johnson 301-890-1852
- Teresa Meeks 301-774-8151
- Deb Rubenstein 301-891-2071

☞ We Care Coordinator - March ☞

Esther Nichols 301-864-2068

☞ Worship Associates ☞

- Abby Crowley 301-345-2663
- Tish Hall (co-leader) 301-681-1457
- Donald Mitchell 301-776-2359
- John Sebastian 301-589-6808
- Shantida (co-leader) 301-593-0417
- Carol Carter Walker 202-636-8138

☞ Committees ☞

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Adult Religious Education | | TBD |
| Arts Council | Pat Tompkins | 301-474-3858 |
| Buildings & Grounds | Paul Young | 301-490-4957 |
| DARTT (co-chairs) | Tricia Most | 301-445-2821 |
| | Carol Carter Walker | 202-636-8138 |
| Denominational Affairs | Donald Gerson | 240-293-6570 |
| Finance | Kate Brett | 301-931-9024 |
| Green Sanctuary | Jennifer Robinson | 301-906-9966 |
| Legacy Fund | Liz Citrin | 410-531-6319 |
| Ministry | Muriel Morisey | 301-270-2391 |
| Nominating | Jonathan Mawdsley | 301-982-4520 |
| Personnel | Will Snyder | 301-219-2870 |
| Religious Exploration | Sarah Michailof | 301-277-1467 |
| (Co-chairs) | Sonny Katz | 301-890-1599 |
| Social Action | Nancy Boardman | 301-982-3450 |
| (Co-chairs) | Jessica Sharp | 240-280-2582 |
| Stewardship | Pat Tompkins | 301-474-3858 |
| (Co-chairs) | Sherry Mitchell | 301-796-2359 |
| Visual Arts | Jane Trout | 301-572-2898 |
| We Care Network | Jeri Holloway | 301-982-0758 |

☞ Groups and Activities ☞

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Auction | Jan Montville | 301-464-6298 |
| Beacon House | Nathan Rummel | 301-776-8551 |
| Bridge | Ellen Cotts | 301-572-3983 |
| Chalice Dancers | Jennifer Grant | 240-426-1277 |
| Choir | David Chapman | 301-937-3666 |
| Coffee Coordinator | Raman Pathik | 301-890-9072 |
| Community Café | Esther Nichols | 301-864-2068 |
| Ethnic Dinners | Marilyn Pearl | 301-805-1218 |
| Friends & Family Social | Raman Pathik | 301-890-9072 |
| Golf Club | Tim Illig | 410-707-6678 |
| Handcraft Circle | Marj Donn | 301-572-4679 |
| Marriage Enrichment | Don Fairfield | 301-552-4330 |
| Mediation Program | David Haberman | 301-498-7086 |
| Men's Group | Peter Wathen-Dunn | 301-270-2391 |
| Mystery Book Club | Kathy Kearns | 301-277-3211 |
| Nature Spirituality Circle | Cory Carter | 301-982-4520 |
| Quest Discussion Group | Lowell Owens | 301-345-1572 |
| PB Facebook Page | Tish Hall | 301-681-1457 |
| (Co-coordinators) | Ken Montville | 301-464-8367 |
| Poetry Out Loud | Shantida | 301-593-0417 |
| Shamanic Journeying | Mary Tyrtle Rooker | 301-891-1288 |
| Simplicity Circle | Raman Pathik | 301-890-9072 |
| Spirituality Circle | Amy Steiner | 301-890-9072 |
| TWedHUULK | Marge Owens | 301-345-1572 |
| Ushers | Esther Nichols | 301-864-2068 |
| Warm Nights | Stewart Speaker | 301-891-2071 |
| Webmaster | Mark Shute | 301-442-6312 |
| Women's Empowerment | Vanessa Landau | 301-742-2084 |
| Women's Retreat | Tish Hall | 301-681-1457 |

PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

3215 POWDER MILL ROAD

ADELPHI, MD 20783-1030

(301) 937-3666

WEBSITE: WWW.PBUUC.ORGEMAIL: CHURCHADMIN@PBUUC.ORG

Check here if you no longer wish to receive this mailing
and return to PBUUC

Branches Deadlines:

- **May Edition – Wednesday, April 20**
- **June Edition – Friday, May 20**

A few new (and some old) emails appearing in this edition:

| | |
|---|--|
| Board Chairs | boardchair@pbuuc.org |
| Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team (DARTT) | dartt@pbuuc.org |
| Denominational Affairs | denom@pbuuc.org |
| Green Team | greenteam@pbuuc.org |
| Heart and Head History Group | heartheadhistory@pbuuc.org |
| <u>Death of Josseline</u> reading group | Josseline@pbuuc.org |
| Leasing Team | lease@pbuuc.org |
| Social Action Committee | sac@pbuuc.org |
| Stewardship Campaign | stewardship@pbuuc.org |

**Does your committee or event need its own pbuuc.org email address?
Contact the church administrator to get one set up for the new year!!!**