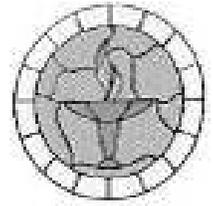




BRANCHES



PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

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

SEPTEMBER 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. Summer Fun, with multi-age activities for children ages 5 and older, continues until September 11.

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.

September 4

Poetry Service

Shantida, Worship Associate

For our final Summer Service, some published and amateur poets among us will share their musings in ways diverse and colorful, and the children will enjoy Summer Fun one last time.

September 11

Turning to Peace

Rev. Diane Teichert with John Sebastian and Ken Redd, Worship Associates

Erica Shadowsong, Director of Religious Exploration, the Choir and the Chalice Dancers

Plus a solo dance performance by Sharon Werth, Director of the Chalice Dancers

After Together Time, middle and high school youth are encouraged to remain for the duration of the service while younger children will gather in the RE Building for multi-age activities.

On the tenth anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, we pause to remember, probe for meanings in the world as it has become since, and affirm with story, music and dance humanity's yearning for peace. Bring relatives, friends or neighbors for this deeply inspiring commemoration.

September 18

Wade in the Water

Annual Ingathering Sunday - A Celebration for All Ages

Rev. Diane Teichert with Don Mitchell, Celinda Marsh, and all of the Worship Associates

Erica Shadowsong, Director of Religious Exploration, the Choir and the Chalice Dancers

Children and youth participate for the entire service – Nursery care is provided for the youngest.

Come to discover (or rediscover) the power of our stories – as we tell them, they become our collective story, one that draws in new folks and invites us all into a deeply joyful experience. Please bring a small amount of water representing your summer's most meaningful story (for newcomers or those who forget, pitchers of water will be available). A Special Collection will be taken for the UU Church of Brunswick, Maine (see page 8). After the service, visit the Opportunities and Activities Fair. Bring relatives, friends or neighbors on our opening Sunday!

September 25

The Power of the Unitarian Universalist Story

Rev. Diane Teichert with Marilyn Pearl, Worship Associate

Erica Shadowsong, Director of Religious Exploration

The Religious Exploration program starts today for pre-school through high school.

How do we narrate our history and theology - so that it has POWER to transform ourselves and the world? Newcomers are invited to the Minister's Office for conversation with her after the service.

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The Minister's mUUsings...

What is the word for coincidental events that are just too amazing to believe? Serendipity? Grace? The hand of God or the Goddess? The universe reassuring us of our place in the world? Mystery? For Sunday, August 14, I planned and led a worship service called “The Power of Our Stories,” for which the synopsis as printed in the newsletter was “What is your story? What is PBUUC’s story?” The stories told that morning were so powerful, I’ve decided to make “telling our stories” a theme for the year.

As I said in the sermon, “The stories we tell about ourselves and the deeper meanings of our experiences shape our identities and help us each become who we are called to be. They have great power. Our individual stories about our PBUUC experiences and their deeper meanings to us, if shared aloud, become our collective story – which shapes the identity of our congregation and helps us to become who we are collectively called to be. Story-telling is invitational. And it can be motivational.”

Two amazing serendipitous things happened in the August 14 service that showed the power of stories. First, the beloved former PBUUC members who were to be featured in Worship Associate John Sebastian’s Chalice Reflection, the story of his first Sunday visit to PBUUC, showed up for the service - totally unplanned and unexpected! Ed Kobee and Al Usack (life-partners whose commitment ceremony was celebrated at PBUUC sixteen years ago and who retired and moved away to Florida in 2003) hadn’t been back in quite a while; they didn’t know that John would be talking about them that morning; and, neither John nor I knew that they planned to attend worship on Sunday! Fortunately, they arrived early and we were able to tell them what to expect. When John asked, “What’s with the matching shirts?” they replied, “We’re celebrating our legal marriage – we got married in DC on Friday!” The first of many rounds of hugs ensued in the foyer as others began to arrive.



Photo by Shantida

The second amazing serendipitous event was that after briefly mentioning in one of my stories that I had been welcomed in my first year at PBUUC by a box turtle - my from-childhood-favorite-animal, which I never once saw in Massachusetts where I lived for 26 years - one was spotted after the service in the leaves below the deck just opposite the Meeting House main doors! As people gathered to look, it moved, and we realized there were two, one on top of the other!

Which may mean we will see some little box turtles in the near future! The story was mainly about how I knew for sure that I am deeply connected to this place when my least-favorite, most disliked animal (a possum) appeared outside my office window on June 29, the night I was finally doing the least-favorite, most disliked task of my job: assembling, categorizing, copying and tallying my receipts for professional expenses, which I had managed to put off for twelve months and was finally doing on the night before the last day of the fiscal year, the last permissible day for the treasurer to write a check without messing up his year-end report!

The sermon included opportunities for everyone to tell two of their own stories in pairs or trios. First, tell the story of a first impression of Paint Branch UU Church that made you feel welcome. Second, think of a later experience here that helped you know you would keep coming or told you that you belong here – or if such an experience has not happened to you yet, what do you imagine it would be like?

In telling our stories, we discover their power, find deeper meanings and create individual and collective identities, helping us become who we are called to be. Join me for a year of discovering the power of our stories!

And keep your eyes and ears, heart and mind open for the serendipities that might otherwise go unnoticed! Don't forget to be on the lookout for baby box turtles!

Looking forward to seeing you on Sundays starting September 11,

Diane

minister@pbuuc.org

Religious Exploration

Wind in the Sails

If there's anyone who understands Peter Pan and the lost boys' fervent assertion that they do not want to grow up, it's me. After all, I made up my own last name! *Hey, you can't do that! Can you? Why not?* I guess you could say that's been my attitude throughout life. Raised on stories of quirky individuals such as Peter Pan, Pippi Longstocking and Ramona Quimby, I suppose it was inevitable that I would grow up looking at the world as a playground of endless potential. Such is life, when a child's imagination and aspirations are valued and nurtured by her parents.

I've been very fortunate.

My parents gifted to their family the riches of their own diverse experiences. It was my mother, who is Puerto Rican, who raised me on the stories of her childhood, her struggles with an alcoholic veteran father and their poverty on the streets of New York. Somewhere in an old, now obsolete magazine that was owned by TIME, is a feature story about poverty populated with pictures of my mother at twelve and her brothers, sisters and mother. To meet her, you would never know; she is a survivor. My father, African-American, spent his childhood in a well-educated and ministry-oriented family on a Quaker homestead in Pennsylvania. He remembers the marches with Martin Luther King, Jr., and intimately understands the complicated struggle to define one's identity between the clashing pressures of Black pride movements and the need to conform to the society of the majority. I am not certain he himself could articulate it or is always aware of it. I do know that when I had to do it as a kid myself, it was much easier for me, not the least reason of which was a strong and uncompromising sense of self.

Music and the arts flourished in the home, and my younger brother and I were never short of inspiration. My mother's light voice sang happily throughout the house, and my father composed beautiful jazz and blues-influenced songs on guitar that we sometimes sang in the car on a longer drive. My parents read to me, and so I could not wait to read, and could not be stopped once I did. They instilled in me the values of a



fundamentally Christian household on the surface with the liberal sensibilities of the sixties underneath, and have graciously had the decency not to disown me when I confessed to being a “born again pagan” only a few years ago. Having grown up in a household which navigated along multiple paths at once, my sense of self was perhaps destined to take the form of a sort of global nomad, picking up both the perspectives of more than one cultural worldview as well as learning to express them in multiple languages of artistic expression.

When asked what drew me to the position of Director of Religious Exploration at Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church, it is hard to answer the question not because I don’t know the answer, but because I am all too aware of my own childlike, persistent infatuation with “exploration.” It’s said in one tradition that to whom much has been given, much will be expected. I guess you could say that I am aware I have been given much, and I would like to see cultivated in the children of the world that same sense of wonder, of possibility, and of assuredness in one’s own capacity to fall amongst the stars, as the saying goes.

As I sit in an office this summer that is so much more perfectly organized than I could ever have done myself, I am struck by the power of the covenant made between this congregation and my predecessor, Karen Scrivo, to reflect upon and then build, with purposeful deliberation, a continuing RE program that will nourish the vitality that is undeniably woven into the fabric of this wonderful church family. Already the emails have been flying. I have had the pleasure of meeting regularly with one of the chairs of the RE Committee, and am looking forward to our retreat at the end of August. Meanwhile, this year’s RE teachers and youth advisors have been coordinating with me to get together and share their aspirations and plans for the coming year. I had the wonderful honor of conducting my first Together Time for the August 14 service, during which I got to meet some of the children in the congregation as they molded bits of clay with some secret vision of what it might look like in the end.

The season is turning, and I sense that I am being caught up even now in the picking up of activity that will gather momentum and blossom into wonderful moments that will be harvested in the coming months. I can say already I am happy to be here, and I look forward to our time together.

Sincerely,

Erica Shadowson

Director of Religious Exploration



Pastoral Care Associates September On-Call Schedule 2011

If you or someone in your immediate family is hospitalized or if a PBUUC member or friend is dying or has died, or if you would find it helpful to talk about your faith, your church involvements, or the decisions, transitions, joys or sorrows in your life...please call Rev. Diane Teichert or a Pastoral Care Associate: Ethelyn Bishop, Lynn Johnson, or Teresa Meeks. Carol Boston and Deb

Rubenstein have stepped down as Pastoral Care Associates after many years of kind and thoughtful caring -thank you! We are grateful that Ethelyn Bishop has stepped up, and that Mike McMenammin will soon be our newest Pastoral Care Associate.

Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team (DARTT)

Reflections on General Assembly Part II

This summer, sixteen Paint Branchers attended our denomination's General Assembly in Charlotte, North Carolina, marking the 50th Anniversary since the Universalist Church of America and the American Unitarian Association joined to become the Unitarian Universalist Association. This month we hear from Carol Carter Walker, who attended her 19th General Assembly, and from Marge Owens, who attended for the first time.

Workshops Grounded in Justice and Spirituality.

When I was new to UUism, I attended workshops about 'how to do church' that focused on building membership, conducting a canvass, and recruiting volunteers. These topics are still available, but there are more that focus on enriching ourselves spiritually and attracting others through a deep understanding of how Unitarian Universalism leads us to take stands on the side of love against myriad forms of injustice in the world today. I'll tell you about two workshops that I found particularly enriching.



"Singing For Arizona: Introducing *Las Voces del Camino*" was offered by Diverse & Revolutionary UU Multicultural Ministries (DRUUM) and Latino/a Unitarian Universalist Networking Association (LUUNA). *Las Voces* is a Spanish language supplement to *Singing the Living Tradition*, and features about 25 Spanish songs and about 50 UUA hymnal songs translated into Spanish. UUA President Peter Morales found errors in the initial publishing and had the book re-edited and reissued. (Our August 7 Paint Branch worship service included *Unidos en el misterio* (Gathered Here) and *Cansada del Camino*

from *Las Voces*. Reverend Lilia Cuervo selected music appropriate for particular elements of a Worship Service, Marisol Caballero provided an historical perspective on the songs, and members of the UU Musicians Network led the singing. I was impressed by the collaboration demonstrated in this workshop and with the leaders' intention to prepare us not only for the 2012 'Justice GA' in Phoenix, but for the time when more Latinos come through our doors. Knowing songs from their culture and in their language is one way to get ready.

The "Lessons from the Thomas Jefferson Ball" workshop provided a good example of how we UUs can learn from our mistakes and create something positive out of a negative scenario. During planning for the 1993 GA held in Charlotte, NC (which is in the Thomas Jefferson District of the UUA), someone proposed a Thomas Jefferson Ball as one of the GA events. Publicity about the Ball encouraged folks to come dressed in costumes of the day. Shortly thereafter, one of the burgeoning lay leaders of color, a delegate to the 1993 GA who is now a UU minister, asked what would be appropriate for her to wear as a costume for 1793. Was she to come in chains? At the time, e-mail was merely a fledgling source of connection and FaceBook, My Space and Twitter did not yet exist, but word spread. Several of us from Sojourner Truth Congregation (an intentionally diverse UU congregation that existed from 1988 to 2002) were well aware of the controversy when we arrived at GA that year. People of color and white allies who protested the Ball at the hotel were threatened with arrest. This sad note in our history led to deconstruction of some of our most cherished myths about Thomas Jefferson, and to discussions at national and district levels about power and privilege and the need for almost constant vigilance in the fight against racism. The controversy also spurred at least three persons of color to pursue UU ministry and led (after three attempts) to a positive vote by the Thomas Jefferson District to change its name to the Southeast District. You can read more at <http://www.uuworld.org/news/articles/183151.shtml>

What I found most powerful about this workshop was that its leaders, who were at odds about how the Ball should be handled in 1993, came together in 2011 to make a unified statement about where we as UUs must stand.

~ Carol Carter Walker



The Exhibit Hall. The General Assembly Program book includes a list of profiles of the almost one hundred exhibitions to visit in Exhibit Hall, which doubled as the site of the Reception to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the UUA. I will mention some of the exhibits that I found particularly memorable.

There is a group called Partners in UU History and Heritage (www.uuhs.org), that helps people plan visits to Unitarian and/or Universalist congregations in Transylvania, Romania, the Philippines, Kenya, and villages in India. I was also impressed with a group called the Interfaith Alliance Foundation (www.interfaithalliance.org), whose mission it is to champion individual rights, promote policies that protect both religion and democracy and unite diverse voices to challenge extremism. They hold an inclusive conference every year in one of their member countries to celebrate religious freedom and promote their work. UUs for Justice in the Middle East (www.uujme.org) provides educational material on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict including free background literature on the 20th and 21st century conflicts. They also sell authentic Palestinian handicrafts to support some small businesses that earn much needed money for people in the refugee camps and villages.

I tended the tables for the UU United Nations Office (which just this year formally became a part of the UUA) for two hours. This gave me a chance to tell visitors how Adlai Stevenson, a life-long Unitarian and the first US Ambassador to the UN, asked the American Unitarian Association to help unite congregations around the United States to learn about and support the new United Nations. And I also took the opportunity to list the amazing number of issues the organization is currently

involved with. Many visitors to the UU UNO exhibit said they hoped to tell their home congregations about the Queen Mothers of Ghana, who have raised a generation of children orphaned by AIDS and other endemic diseases and who now receive help from the UU UNO to pay school fees and supplies for the ever-increasing number of orphans. In April 2011, the Supreme Queen attended the UU UNO seminars in New York City. As one of the Queens walked down the busy sidewalk with UU UNO Director Bruce Knotts, Ghanaians who recognized her, bowed to her, causing a short traffic jam of pedestrians.

A note of warning about the Exhibit Hall: The UUA Bookstore there is a dangerous treasure for any credit card-carrying visitors!

~ Marge Owens



Some of the Paint Branchers who attended GA this year: Marcie Washburn, Emma Sue Gaines-Gerson, Don Gerson, Marilyn Pearl, Nancy Boardman, Lowell Owens, Rev. Diane Teichert, Bill Clarke, June Clarke, Tricia Most, Jane Hudson, and Marge Owens.

Social Action Committee News (SAC)



American Red Cross Blood Drive October 16

On Sunday, October 16, Paint Branch will host a blood drive for the American Red Cross during Enrichment Hour, lasting until 4 o'clock. Our church was recruited for this important event by the Greater Potomac Red Cross regional office, and the Social Action Committee was glad to help. Room arrangements are still being decided, but the drive will definitely be held in the RE building.

Volunteer donors will be asked to sign up via email or in the lobby during Coffee and Conversation following September services. Blood donation takes between 15-20 minutes. Donation times will be available for sign-up on a first-come, first-serve basis, with some donors possibly having to return to church in the afternoon for their scheduled donation time. For a successful drive, the Red Cross would like to collect at least 20 units of blood, so we are hoping everyone will help us reach that goal and then some! This drive is also open to the public, so please ask any friends or family if they would be interested in donating along with you. This is a wonderful – and free! – way to give to our surrounding community and live our UU values.

Please contact Jessica Sharp with any questions or for more information at 443-766-0894 or SAC@pbuuc.org.



Second Annual Social Action Kick-Off!

The Social Action Committee, along with DARTT and the Green Team will hold a kick-off event on Saturday, October 29. A similar event was held last fall with the goal of choosing two high-priority issues to work on; the issues that received the highest votes that day were Marriage Equality and Outreach to neighboring High Point High School.

The purpose of this year's event will be to flesh out ideas on how the committees, with congregational support, can best work on these goals in light of the renewed focus on creating an intentionally multicultural community with emphasis on immigration issues and diversity efforts.

Opening remarks will begin at 10 am in the Kelley Room, after which there will be a series of speakers who are community leaders and experts on the various issues being discussed. Lunch will be served in the Meeting House, then attendees will split into break-out groups for more in-depth discussions. Following the break-out session, each group will report back to the plenary with their best ideas, which will then be voted on by the larger group.

The Social Action Committee hopes that many members and friends of our congregation will attend so we can best gauge the enthusiasm and ideas of the larger church, rather than just the opinions of the committee members. Please save the date for this important event!



September 18 Special Collection for Unitarian Universalist Church Brunswick, ME



In the early morning hours of June 6th our sister Unitarian Universalist Church in Brunswick, Maine, experienced a devastating fire at the rear of their sanctuary. Their minister, Rev. Sylvia Stocker, and shocked members of their church and community stood outside and watched as fire fighters worked for many hours to put out the flames that enveloped their sanctuary. Though their spirits are undaunted, our friends in Brunswick need our help to rebuild and return to their church home. Please consider a donation to the **Brunswick UU Fire Fund**.

Special Collections Update

The Social Action Committee is thankful to the community of PBUUC for their generous donations for the special collections that were held in July and August of this year:

Date	Recipient	Amount
July	Beacon House	\$300
August 14	Capital Area Food Bank	\$463

We welcome the involvement of the PBUUC Church community in making suggestions for special collections. If you would like to make a suggestion, please send your information to Mary Dancy at mdancy63@gmail.com.

~ Nancy Boardman, Jessica Sharp, and Mary Dancy

Green Team News



UUA Certifies PBUUC as a Green Sanctuary

PBUUC's Green Sanctuary Accreditation was accepted by the UUA, meaning that we have met all the requirements to be named an official Green Sanctuary. Our Congregation demonstrated how we integrate thoughts and actions about the environment in our services, pre-K-12 and adult religious exploration, social action, and sustainable living. Specifically, the letter stated:

"With this letter, the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations, Office of Congregational Stewardship Services is honored to formally recognize Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church as an Accredited Green Sanctuary.

We appreciate your thorough documentation of your Green Sanctuary activities. Descriptions of each activity helped us to understand how much you have accomplished. You have succeeded in integrating the Green Sanctuary program goals into the ongoing life of your congregation through the many

projects you have carried out. Your application offers strong evidence of the positive environmental consciousness that has developed in your congregation, resulting in new behaviors and new lifestyle choices by members individually and by the congregation as a whole. We were especially inspired by your legislative work in Maryland. You now have a great foundation for continuing action in the future."

So, we can now celebrate being recognized as a Green Sanctuary. I would like to thank all who contributed to the many events and projects that led to this point in PBUUC history.

Being the chair of PBUUC's Green Sanctuary Team over the past three years has given me great appreciation of how green PBUUC has been for many years and confidence that such actions will continue. I also learned how rich PBUUC is – not in terms of money, but in terms of a congregation full of energetic, collaborative, and talented people eager to work together.

Also, according to the program, a Green Sanctuary congregation has the ongoing commitments to:

- Live out its commitment to the Earth by creating sustainable lifestyles for its members as individuals and as a faith community.
- Be committed towards creating a religious community that has a fundamental bottom-line commitment to living in harmony with the Earth.

I am confident that Karine Bouis-Towe, Penny O'Brien and other PBUUCers will carry the torch onward. For further information about the Green Sanctuary program, see the website: www.uua.org/leaders/environment/index.shtml.

~ Jennifer Robinson



Food/Film/Fun Potluck Saturday, October 1, 5:00 – 8:00 pm

What is "hydrofracking"? It is a process gas companies use to fracture rocks to release natural gas. Problems that result from this procedure are

occurring in Garrett County, MD, Pennsylvania, and some Western States. Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley has issued an executive order to stop the drilling until more studies are completed. In response to information from the UU Fellowship of Cumberland, a Food/Film/Fun informational evening potluck has been arranged for **Saturday, October 1**, in the Meeting House from 5:00 to 8:00 pm. We urge everyone to attend and learn about this environmental issue. Put it on your calendar, NOW.

Sustainability tip (from Jennifer Robinson): Summer is a great time of year to buy local food and challenge yourself with a Hundred Mile Diet meal. The Hundred Mile Diet means consuming a diet consisting of food harvested from within a 100 mile radius. This is an easy proposition. Check out www.mda.state.md.us/md_products/farmers_market_dir.php to find a nearby farmer's market or marylandbest.net to find local products such as wine, dairy, meat and seafood. Local food is full of flavor, harvested at its nutritional peak, and is a great contribution to our local economy - a further reminder about the UU ethical eating issue. Would you contribute a few hours of your time to clean up our air and combat the climate crisis? All told, air pollution from coal-fired power plants kills tens of thousands of Americans every year. The human cost isn't part of the bottom-line for giant utility companies. Offshore wind farms can power the entire east coast with clean, renewable energy. Right now, we are one step closer in New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia.

Lore Rosenthal of the Greenbelt Climate Action Network is working with CCAN to gather petition signatures in support of Offshore Wind Energy in certain critical areas of Prince George's County. Most of the events involve working at a table, at Farmers Markets, the PG County Fair, etc. Lore is only asking for a 2-hour time commitment. To volunteer, email or call Lore Rosenthal, lore@simplicity-matters.org or 301-345-2234 and she will let you know about the next scheduled event.

~ Penny O'Brien

Help Lease Our Space

The church needs your help to spread the word that it has attractive, affordable space for long-term lease to non-profit organizations. (We are limited to non-profits because of our zoning.) Ideally we would like to enter into a long-term arrangement for full-time use of the lower level classroom and reception space in the Religious Exploration (RE) Building.

We also want to contract with non-profit organizations for recurring, intermittent rental of our upper level RE classrooms, Kelley Room and Hospitality Room as long as these uses do not conflict with church programs.

The rates for long-term or recurring, intermittent use of our space will be substantially discounted from the rates for one-time rentals for weddings, parties, meetings, etc, shown on our website.

If you have leads, please send them to lease@pbuuc.org or call (301) 937-3666. If you have places in your community or workplace to post a flyer, they are available in the Meeting House Foyer. If you want to talk about possible leads, contact Leasing Team members Brenda Anna, Melody Lawrence, Jonathan Mawdsley, Susannah Schiller, Becky Sheehan or Carol Carter Walker.

In and Around Paint Branch



Buildings and Grounds News

Phantom of the Steeple

You may remember that last fall, the steeple was once again worked on to keep rain out during severe storms. But this time, instead of just caulking the corners and the edges as has been done previously, CPL Contractors was hired to redo the soldering and to install a brace around each window pane to prevent flexing and rain seepage.

Two weeks ago, a group was in the meeting house during a driving rainstorm. Not a single drop of water came into the room!

David Chapman, (who has cleaned up puddles at Paint Branch for the last 8 years), was so flabbergasted that he couldn't play the piano for 15 minutes! Neither his sheet music nor the piano got wet.

Thanks to all those who helped make this improvement happen.

Church Beautification Day!

Mark your calendar now for
Saturday, September 10!

The Building and Grounds Committee plans a major push to improve looks of the buildings and grounds **in one day**. The next time you come to church, look at the buildings with the eyes of a visitor or a potential renter.

We will need lots of volunteers to make the necessary major improvements to secure property rentals. Updates will be provided as they become available.

~ Paul Young, Chair
Building and Grounds Committee



Find Your Corner of the Sky

**At the annual PBUUC
Opportunities and
Activities Fair**

Ingathering Sunday:
September 18
11:30 am – 12:30 pm

Ingathering is a time for new beginnings! Come and discover the VIBRANCY of life at Paint Branch! Find out what we do in small-groups in our Beloved Community, and learn what you can do to enrich your life in the community and to enrich the community itself, how to nurture and serve (or change!) the world.

Peruvian chicken on the menu for September TWedHUULK

Jeri Holloway has found and tested the menu and prices at a new-to-us restaurant: "Sardi's" in Beltsville. The Third Wednesday Handy UU Lunch Klub will meet on Wednesday, September 21, at 1:00 pm to try the charcoal broiled chicken or other items from the long menu. Prices are reasonable.

Directions: Driving south on Rte. 1 (Baltimore Ave.), shortly before you see the Department of Agriculture campus on the right, you will see Sardi's on the right, at 10433 Baltimore Ave. If you see Sunnyside Ave. on the left, you have gone too far!

If you are able to join us please contact Marge Owens at lowellandmarge@verizon.net or 301-345-1572. If you need a ride we will do our best to arrange that.



Greenbelt Labor Day Festival

Come and celebrate Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Friday, September 2, through Monday, September 5. This week-long event will include many activities such as amusement rides, carnival games, live bands and entertainment, art and photo contests, Greenbelt Idols Competition, and much more! Start planning your weekend at

www.greenbeltlaborday.com.



Second Annual Men's Retreat in October

Come join other Paint Branch men in our second Annual Men's Retreat. It all starts Friday night, September 30 (7-9 pm) and continues on Saturday, October 1, 9 am to 4 pm). Share your selves and your stories with other men in discussion and

workshops on topics gathered from our weekly Enrichment Hour meetings during August and September. Come Friday night, come Saturday during the day, or come both days. Light lunch will be provided Saturday. For more information, please contact Peter Wathen-Dunn at 301-233-5360 or peter.wathen-dunn@ed.gov or Michael Lèger at 240-460-3887 or michaellegerlpc@yahoo.com.

~ John Bartoli



Next Ethnic Dinner ~ How You Can Help ~ A Little, Some, or a Lot!

Regard this as the Ethnic Dinner Opportunities and Activities Fair presentation (i.e. – plea for help). What constitutes helping with Ethnic Dinners may need some clarification. It can occur on several different levels, and you may participate at whichever level is comfortable for you, as much as you like, for however many dinners you wish.

Level one - buy a ticket and come to the dinners. Ticket sales produce income for Paint Branch, and the more people who participate, the more fun the dinner and the better the proceeds. If you also purchase a beverage at the bar, and visit the leftovers sale the next day, it's all good! Bring a friend or two, and it's even better!

Level two - help with one or two of the tasks. If you're coming to the dinner anyway, why not? Enjoy cooking? We provide recipes and advice, and reimburse you for the ingredients. Not a cook? Come early to set-up, tend the door, help with the bar, or stay later and help clean up, operate the dishwasher, or wash tablecloths. These dinners can't happen without volunteers helping in all these ways, and the more who do so, the less any one person must do. You pick what you do, which dinner you do it for, and whether you continue to help at other dinners, or not. No pressure, but the fact is, the more often you perform any task, the easier it gets.

Level three – join the Ethnic Dinner Committee and/or come to Menu Meetings. We don't have elections, term limits, telephone trees or even frequent meetings, but we do need some creative thinking and decision making. Which themes to pick, what dates for the dinners, what dishes to put on the menu. For the latter we sometimes do "research" by going to an ethnic restaurant - a tough job, but someone has to do it! Most decisions are reached via email among the members. Menu meetings are the *only* meetings – usually one month before each dinner, and they are open to anyone interested in creating the menu for that particular dinner, member or not.

If you enjoy the dinners and want to help support them, pick any of the above and get involved. Why let others have all the fun? For more details, contact Marilyn Pearl, 301-805-1218, or email buffalo_gal@verizon.net.

Now, here's your chance! The next dinner is **Saturday, October 22, at 6:30 pm** and will feature the City of Brotherly Love – Philadelphia. The Menu Meeting is Sunday, September 25, during Enrichment Hour. Come, bring ideas, suggestions, recipes, maybe even samples. Ticket sales will be October 2 through October 16.

~ Marilyn Pearl



Save the Date: Annual Meeting of JPD Women & Religion



The annual meeting of the Joseph Priestley District Women & Religion will take place September 30 – October 2, 2011, at Bishop Claggett Center in Buckeystown, MD. The theme for the meeting is *A Taste of Cakes: A Celebration of the*

Feminine Divine Revisiting the Cakes for the Queen of Heaven. The mission of JPD Women & Religion is to explore one's authentic self, and to promote

gender equity in one's own life, daily relations, and in society. More information is available on the website at www.claggettcenter.org or www.jpdw.org.



Marriage Enrichment Groups (MEGs) Workshop

Marriage Enrichment Groups (MEGs) will take place on Saturday, November 5, from 7-10 pm in the Kelley Room. Ongoing MEGs are invited to an evening to process their year-long study of *Intimacy and Desire* by David Schnarch. Local leader couples will facilitate the discussion and evaluation. All MEGs, whether they have undertaken the study or not are urged to attend, including the MEGs from PBUUC and Silver Spring UU Church. For further information, contact Don Fairfield at 301-552-4330.



Something for Everyone— The 2011 Paint Branch UU Church Auction

The 2011 Church Auction is on!!! The annual auction is

set for Saturday, November 12, beginning at 4:00 pm with the opening of the Silent Auction and ending at 9 after Dinner, Live Auction and Entertainment. The Auction is a great opportunity for fun, food, fellowship and fundraising. Auction revenues are the Church's second largest source of funds, second only to our Annual Stewardship Campaign.

Penny O'Brien, Theresa Brown Shute and Carol Carter Walker are your Auction Mavens for 2011, taking the reins from Jan Montville, Auction Maven Supreme for the past two years.

Jonathan Mawdsley will recruit the 'on air' talent for the Live Auction. John Sebastian will honcho the back office operation that tallies up all of the winnings and winners. David Chapman will be in charge of entertainment. Want to be in on the fun? Here's what you can do to make the 2011 Auction a success!

VOLUNTEER

Please pitch in. We need many people to help with making and soliciting donations from members, friends and businesses, staffing the Silent Auction, Children's Cash and Carry, proofing, publicizing, etc., etc, etc. This community builder is a great place for newcomers and old timers to meet. New this year: We are looking for an already established PBUUC group to bid for the major task of selling tickets, setting up, decorating the Meeting House, preparing and serving the dinner and cleaning up afterwards. This is a major undertaking, but the group gets to keep one-half of the proceeds from the Dinner for its activities.

DONATE

What generous service or precious item can you give? Dinners, tours, theater tickets? Can you or your employer donate a gift certificate? Do you patronize a business that can donate a gift or service? We'll have Donation Forms available beginning September 4 to make it easy for you to provide this information.

ATTEND

This is the most fun of all! This year's theme, **"Something for Everyone"**, means just that. We'll have big ticket items, of course: vacation get-aways, paintings, commissioned work by the Minister, Chalice Dancers, the Choir, but we plan to have modestly-priced events like movie nights at the church, dinners, crafts, that will fit most budgets.

Dinner, including vegetarian and vegan options will be available at modest cost. Child care and children's programming will be provided from 4 until 9 pm.

Watch upcoming Sunday Bulletins, Branches, the church website and special flyers for more information. To get more information, provide early donations, volunteer, please e-mail us at auction@pbuuc.org

See you November 12! Save The Date Now!



Our Caring Community

We try to keep in touch by sharing joys and concerns. This month we helped welcome baby Margaret Joy born to Theresa Myrdon and her husband Miles Ward. Big sister Nori joins in this joyous occasion as well as Theresa's mother. We celebrated the new arrival by preparing and delivering a meal or covered dish. We are grateful to: Linda Daly-Lucas, Raman Pathik, Rene McDonald, Alice Tyler, Tish Hall, and Jennifer Robinson for preparing and delivering the meals.

If you have a need that we can meet, give us a call. There are a couple new vacancies on our We Care Committee; do join us! Caring and sharing enriches our lives. Please call Jeri Holloway at 301-982-0758 or Esther Nichols at 301-864-2068.



The Wheel of Life

A memorial service for Pat Zimmer, who died in June, will be held on Sunday, September 18, at 1:30 pm. The place is

the Riderwood Village Chapel. Rev. Bruce Marshall will officiate. All are invited to attend.

Theresa Myrdon and her husband Miles Ward are sharing the joy of the birth of Margaret Joy, who was born August 15 around 2 pm, joining big sister Nori who is four years old. Maggie weighed 9 pounds 8 ounces and is 21 inches long. The family is doing fine.

Our hearts go out to Jan Montville and Marilyn Pearl whose mothers died this summer.

We received a request from an inmate at NCBI who is looking for a Unitarian Universalist correspondent, via either email or snail mail, either

of which could be forwarded to you so that you do not have to use your own address. If you might be interested, please contact the minister for more information.

New Church Administrator

Late-breaking, exciting news: as Branches went to press, we received word that the Board of Trustees approved the hire of Barbara J. Morton as our new Church Administrator. She will start on September 6.

In the meantime, Rebecca Birnie is serving the congregation in the role of Acting Church Administrator (and Administrative Assistant and Bookkeeper). Please continue to use churchadmin@pbuuc.org for Sunday Bulletin and newsletter announcements as usual.

September Branches Guest Editor

Mary Dancy is the guest editor for this issue of Branches.

This just in...

Congratulations to Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Frederick!

You are invited to join the Unitarian Universalist Church of Frederick, MD, as they celebrate their 50th anniversary on September 17 and 18. Rev. Bill Murry will be guest speaker on Saturday, September 17, at 4:30 pm and Rev. Dr. Richard Speck will deliver the morning sermon at 11:00 am, followed by a reception on Sunday, September 18. More information is available on the website at www.frederickuu.org.

PBUUC Leadership Directory

☞ Staff ☞

Minister Rev.	Diane Teichert	301-937-3666
Music Director and pianist	David Chapman	301-937-3666
Director of Religious Exploration	Erica Shadowsong	301-937-3666
Religious Exploration Assistant	Kweli Powell	301-937-3666
Acting Church Administrator/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
	Chris Eby	301-789-7217
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 Gerson	240-293-6570
Vice chair	Michael Léger	301-589-6808
Trustee	Don Henderson	301-977-1186
Trustee	Mark Shute	301-442-6312
Trustee	Charles Towe	202-547-7053
Trustee	Peter Wathen-Dunn	301-270-2391
Trustee	Evangeline Wells	301-422-3614
Secretary	Melody Lawrence	301-379-3864
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 Coordinators - September ☞

	Jeri Holloway	301-982-0758
	Esther Nichols	301-864-2068
	Iris Peabody	301-593-4095

☞ 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	Celinda Marsh	520-609-2217
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	Ken Redd	301-486-4631
Leasing Team	Carol Carter Walker	202-636-8138
Marketing Team		TBD
Ministry	Peter Dowling	301-589-3025
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	Sherry Mitchell	301-776-2359
Visual Arts	Jane Trout	301-572-2898
We Care Network	Jeri Holloway	301-982-0758

☞ Groups and Activities ☞

Auction	Carol Carter Walker	202-636-8138
	Theresa Shute	301-442-6312
Bridge	Penny O'Brien	301-586-9005
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
Handcraft Circle	Marj Donn	301-474-1353
Head Heart History	Kweli Powell	301-275-6360
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	John Bartoli	301-275-6226
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

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ADELPHI, MD 20783-1030

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Branches Deadlines:

- **October Edition – Tuesday, September 20**
- **November Edition – Thursday, October 20**

Bulletin Announcement Deadlines**Every Wednesday at 12 noon**

120 words or less – include day, date, location time, and contact information of someone who can be reached with questions.

**All deadlines are now on the web calendar. Go to www.pbuuc.org
And click on “calendar” for the latest deadlines, events, activities and more!**
