



BRANCHES



PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

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

July 2012

SUNDAYS AT 10:00 AM

Families with young children are invited to sit in front for a better view until the Sing-away Song.

Nursery Care in Room 5 from 9:45-12:45

Refreshments and Fellowship after the service

Adult Enrichment Hour from 11:45-12:45

July 1

Baruch Spinoza and His UU God

Nancy Boardman with Ken Redd, Worship Associate and Audrey Andrist, Guest Pianist

Of the great philosophers in world history, Baruch Spinoza (1632-1677) may be the most Unitarian Universalist. He was an early advocate of free speech, democracy, and following the truth wherever it leads. When it comes to religion, Spinoza was the ultimate iconoclast. Daniel Spiro, who has coordinated the Washington Spinoza Society for the past ten years, will grapple with the teachings of this heretic, who has been called both an "atheist" and a "God-intoxicated" man. Dan will lead a further discussion of Spinoza during the enrichment hour after the service.

July 8

Paint Branch Music Service

Don Mitchell, Worship Associate and Audrey Andrist, Guest Pianist

Don Mitchell will lead this summer tradition. Some of the best vocal and instrumental talent Paint Branch has to offer. A Special Collection will be taken for Community Crisis Center, Inc., the Prince George's County non-profit organization that, among its many service offerings to county residents, coordinates Warm Nights with PBUUC (please see page 6).

July 15

Myths About the Middle East and Islam

*Theresa Myrdon with Carol Carter Walker, Worship Associate
Audrey Andrist, Guest Pianist*

In the wake of 9/11, Islamophobia rose in the United States. This irrational fear, anger, and prejudice against Arabs and Muslims is often based on misunderstandings and half-truths. Come learn a bit about the Middle East, the difference between Arabs and Muslims, and the core principles of Islam and how extremists have interpreted them to justify terrorism. Today is Signing Sunday—for those who are ready to join the Church, meet Charles Towe, Board of Trustees member, at the chalice after the postlude."

July 22

You and "Ethical Eating:" What's Right for You?

*Mary "Tyrle" Rooker, Teresa Meeks, Sandy Roberts, and Alice Tyler, with John Sebastian, Worship Associate
Audrey Andrist, Guest Pianist*

Confused by conflicting studies about which foods are healthful? What do "sustainable" and "humane" mean? Does it matter? Our personal experiences, combined with surprising scientific revelations and simple tips that expose common marketing tricks, can help you decide which food choices are right for you. Following the service is a special Reverberations Enrichment Hour with a variety of hearty, healthful foods, so bring your appetite for good food and greater understanding.

July 29

The Difference Between Knowing and Believing

*Celinda Marsh, with Marilyn Pearl, Worship Associate and
Audrey Andrist, Guest Pianist*

Celinda Marsh feels people of science and faith use these words interchangeably, but they are not really synonyms at all.

**TELL A FRIEND, CO-WORKER, OR NEIGHBOR ABOUT ONE GOOD THING THAT HAPPENED FOR YOU AT PBUUC
AND INVITE THEM TO COME WITH YOU ON A SUNDAY!**

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Note to Our Readers:

The **Leadership Directory**, now listed on the last page, will contain names only. For more contact information, please consult your Membership Directory. All submitted articles will contain phone numbers for contact if listed. You may choose to list your email address only as a point of contact.

Editorial Guidelines

- The deadline for submission of articles and other content to Branches is on the **20th day of every month**, except during the holidays. Mary Dancy is currently acting as coordinator of text and graphics for the newsletter.
 - * Articles should be submitted in their final form and content should be **250** words or less. Please submit the name of the author and any other contact information as necessary. **Reminder: Articles significantly over the 250 word limit may be returned to the author for re-editing.**
- The deadline for submission of articles and other content to appear in the Sunday Order of Service bulletin is **every Wednesday at 12 noon**.
 - * Articles should be submitted in their final form and content should be **120** words or less. Please include day, date, location, time, and contact information.

All deadlines are now on the web calendar. Go to www.pbuuc.org.

Scroll down to "This Week" and click on "More Upcoming Events."

Click on the Calendar grid to the left to advance to the next month.

The Minister's mUUsings...



Monday, June 18 - I write from the air, on my way to Phoenix, Arizona for the annual General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations, of which Paint Branch UU Church is a member. First, in the two days preceding GA, the ministers will meet for our Annual Meeting and a day of professional development and worship. The pilot just announced the temperature right now (4 pm their time) in

Phoenix: 104 degrees F!

With heat like that – no matter how dry – the deaths of people migrating across the Rio Grande and into the desert on our side of the border come as no surprise, yet they are horrific just the same. Why do people take that chance? What are their other options? What are our alternatives, as Americans, to the present immigration system? Are deaths of migrants in the desert, packed prisons, and deportations the necessary outcomes of the only system possible?

General Assembly this year will provide people like me with limited understanding of immigration issues, opportunities to learn more through both reflection and action. Speakers and workshops will focus on the legal, social, ethical and religious aspects, plus we will participate in service projects and join local organizations in actions of witness and protest.

This unitary focus is unusual for GA. Usually, some of its workshops and speakers are justice-oriented, but others are practical, organizational, theological, pastoral, or focus on the creative arts. However, rather than boycott Arizona in protest of its repressive immigrant-control laws and often violent police action, like other organizations with conventions scheduled for Phoenix, the delegates to General Assembly two years ago voted to honor the request of local immigrant rights groups to stand with them by coming to Phoenix as planned but eschewing “business as usual.”

I hope that we Unitarian Universalists in Phoenix will be effective and peaceful allies, and that we will be better informed about immigration as a moral issue when we return to our congregations.

I will be on Study Leave and then Vacation through the month of July until August 6. During this time, if you have a pastoral need, please get in touch with one of our Pastoral Care Associates: Lynn Johnson or Mike McMenimen (Will Snyder will also be out of town in July and we are still seeking one more woman to join the PCA's – if you are interested, talk to me, Lynn or Mike!). They will know how to reach the UU minister on call in an emergency.

I look forward to being with you in person in August!

Diane

Rev. Diane Teichert

minister@pbuuc.org or 301-937-3666



Religious Exploration



I am on vacation for the month of July, but will return August 1! The Summer Fun program, for (roughly) ages 5-10, is being coordinated by Tabitha Pierzchala and Karine Bouis-Towe. Child care will continue to be available on Sundays from 9:45 - 12:45 for ages infant to toddler. Have a wonderful summer, and stay cool!

Warmly,

Erica Shadowson

Director of Religious Exploration

Board of Trustees Column

- The 2012-2013 Board of Trustees (BOT) wants first of all to heartily thank Emeritae BOT Co-Chairs Bettie Young and Susannah Schiller for their heartfelt and incisive leadership of the BOT over the past two years. They will both be ongoing exemplars of how to do it right, and we are grateful for their example and their leadership, and for leading PBUUC through the first two years of a very difficult transition away from reliance on a single long-term renter. We will miss them both!
- We also wish to thank Peter Wathen-Dunn for his attention to minute detail in the documentary dimension of BOT business. His template for the creation of committee and team charters makes those creations almost effortless, and will continue to be the paradigm the BOT uses to evaluate the alignment of chartered organizations with the ministry and mission of PBUUC.
- Last but not least, the BOT also wishes to thank Mike Stark for his service as Treasurer over the past two years, and as Assistant Treasurer before that. Among his many outstanding contributions was making the numbers easier to digest for those among us who are math-challenged.
- We welcome Alice Tyler and Don Mitchell as new Trustees, and Marcie Washburn as our new Treasurer.
- As you heard at the Annual Meeting, the BOT is in the process of negotiating a rental contract with home-schooling cooperative Oshixay, and a final contract for the upcoming school year seems very likely in the short term. The BOT will of course continue to seek additional rentals.
- There was some confusion at the Annual Meeting as to our membership numbers. As promised, the BOT has sought clarity on these figures and found the following: Our precipitous membership drop, from 208 to 199, occurred after the BOT performed its annual review of membership and removed inactive members from the rolls, per usual procedure, in order to be sure our calculation for Fair-Share contributions to the Joseph Priestly District (JPD) and the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) was accurate. It turns out that our procedure resulted in inaccurate removal of some members who were in fact active. Adding back the mistakenly-removed members, and gaining new members over the past several months, has brought our official member count back UP to 198. The UUA website still lists our membership at 179, because that figure is updated only once a year. Hence the disparity in numbers that was discussed at the Annual Meeting. The BOT has implemented a careful new policy based on the By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation, which should prevent further mishaps.

(continued on next page)

BOT Column continued ~

- The Board of Trustees holds OPEN Executive Committee meetings and Board of Trustees meetings. Typically the Executive Committee meetings, at which the agenda for the Board of Trustees meeting is finalized, is held on the THIRD Tuesday of each month, and the full Board of Trustees meeting is held on the FOURTH Wednesday of each month (these dates change in June, November, and December). We welcome visitors: if you wish to request an item be added to the agenda, please let the Chair or one of the Vice-Chairs know no later than the Monday before the Executive Committee meeting, come to the Exec Com meeting; if you wish to observe or to speak to an item on the agenda, come to the BOT meeting itself. For more information about the experience of visiting the BOT meetings, see the following page on the PBUUC website: <http://www.pbuuc.org/bot/visitors.php>

I look forward to serving our beloved community as Chair of the 2012-2013 Board of Trustees, along with Don Gerson and Charles Towe as Vice-Chairs, and fellow Trustees Evangeline Wells, Alice Tyler, Don Henderson, Mark Shute, and Don Mitchell.

All the best!

Michael Léger

Chair, Board of Trustees

Social Action Committee (SAC) News

SAC's Three Priority Recommendations Supported at June 10 Annual Congregational Meeting

Paint Branchers showed their strong support for Maryland's marriage equality legislation which will be a referendum vote on November 6; they supported an expanded community outreach program through our *Spirit of Life Center* to have its offerings include tutoring, mentoring, and English/Spanish instruction for families and organizations in our area; and they reaffirmed a commitment to incorporating the Paint Branch goal of being an intentional multicultural congregation into SAC activities.

Nancy Boardman made a short presentation to the congregation about why SAC recommended these three issues as high priority social justice activities for Paint Branch to focus on this coming church year. She noted they had been supported in a unanimous vote by SAC at its May 19 meeting for presentation to the congregation at its annual meeting. Those present at the annual meeting had a form on which to indicate their support or not for these three priorities. The forms were turned in at the end of the meeting to Genie Van Pelt. When counted, all twenty-eight supported both the Maryland Marriage Equality referendum vote and an

expanded community outreach through the *Spirit of Life Center*! And twenty-seven supported the SAC continued commitment in its activities to the goal of Paint Branch being an intentional multicultural congregation. Thanks to Paint Branchers for their important support to these social justice issues! Now comes continued social action together to make them happen!

At the annual meeting, Paint Branchers who vote in Maryland also signed pledges to support marriage equality legislation and to vote for the Dream Act – both of which will be referendum issues in the November 6 election.

Thanks to Carmelita Carter-Sykes who has agreed to be the coordinator for the new outreach for tutoring, mentoring, and English/Spanish language instruction in our expanded community outreach through the *Spirit of Life Center*. The congregation was reminded to read the annual report for a summary of the SAC's many activities throughout the church year: monthly special collections, community café, marriage equality activities, as well as some immigration activities this year and outreach to High Point High School. It's been a busy year for SAC! Thanks to all for your support!

(continued on next page)

SAC continued ~

Mark Your Calendars For Saturday, September 29 For the Social, Racial, and Earth Justice Kick-Off!

Join us at this important annual gathering as the Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team (DARTT), the Green Sanctuary Team, and the Social Action Committee host a stimulating and exciting day for Paint Branchers. You'll learn more about the activities of each of these important Paint Branch teams from speakers and break-out sessions where you'll be able to help look ahead and plan the year's activities. You will also be able to indicate where your interests lie for social justice activities.

Plans are to gather in the Meeting House in the morning, have lunch together and then move to the RE Building for the afternoon – with child care provided for the whole day. More details will follow as planning is done over the summer by these three teams. But for now – please remember to put Saturday, September 29 on your calendar – as we live our UU values in social justice causes!

*Submitted by Nancy Boardman, Chair
Social Action Committee*



Special Collections Report

Thanks to the generosity of those present at the June 3 Choir Sunday Service, a stunning total of **\$1,748.00** was received in our extraordinary special collection! The funds collected will help with unbudgeted expenses related to bringing in guest musicians to perform in the absence of David Chapman. David has been absent due to illness since March of 2012 and his return date is yet to be determined.

Special Collection for July 8

A special collection will be taken on Sunday, July 8, at the PBUUC Music Service. Donations collected will go to help support the year-round services that Community Crisis Services, Inc. (CCSI) provides to those in need in Prince George's County, Maryland. Most of you will remember

Warm Nights which is operated through CCSI and in which PBUUC participates during the holiday season. But CCSI provides other critical services such as a crisis hotline, homeless services, protective services, and community education and outreach. Your gift will provide valuable support to CCSI's ongoing efforts. Checks may be made payable to: **Community Crisis Services.**

SAC will be enjoying some time off for the summer. Regular meetings will resume on Saturday, **September 15, from 10am to 12 noon**, in Room 1 of the RE Building. However, some summer meetings may be set for planning purposes for the Annual Social, Racial, and Earth Justice Kick-Off. Notification by email will be sent when meeting date/s have been determined.

Enjoy the summer!



Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team (DARTT)

Come to DARTT's monthly planning meeting on **Tuesday, July 3** at 7:30 pm in Room 1, Religious Exploration Building. There will be time for personal reflections on our congregation's journey toward intentional multiculturalism. We will finalize plans for DARTT programming for the church year. Our first project will be a facilitated discussion of the book, *The New Jim Crow* by Michelle Alexander.

All are welcome. Please share your ideas. If you can't come, please send your input to dartt@pbuuc.org.

Submitted by Carol Carter Walker, Co-Chair
Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team

Green Team News



Stay **GREEN** this summer. Energy Savings Reminders: Part of our Green Sanctuary commitment includes continuing action and awareness of what being green means. This includes not only our church, but also our habits and lifestyle at home. In the spring time when the weather is comfortable, it's so easy to forget our energy saving habits, like turning off lights, not letting the water run, and more. Please, consciously remember the simple savings steps, and maybe you'll find another one. Saving energy is saving money.

And let's not forget sustainability, that balance between environmental goals and the limits of our natural resources. Food for thought: are we (the world population) living beyond the carrying capacity of the planet?

*Submitted by Penny O'Brien
Co-Chair, Green Team*

In and Around Paint Branch



Church Office Welcomes Two New Staff Members

A warm welcome is extended to the two new PBUUC staff members, Debra L. McCann, Bookkeeper and Chuck Bury,

Administrative Assistant.

Debra McCann started with PBUUC on June 19. Debra has thirty years of business experience and currently works for a computer company as an Administrative Assistant. She also serves as the bookkeeper for her church. She may be reached by email at bookkeeper@pbuuc.org.

Chuck Bury joined the PBUUC staff on June 20 and he is the new Administrative Assistant. Many know him as a member of the PBUUC Building Manager's Team. Chuck will share his wealth of administrative skills with PBUUC. Although not a member at PBUUC, he enjoys the Sunday services and church events. He may be reached by email at adminasst@pbuuc.org.

~ Rev. Diane Teichert

Photography Exhibit in Meeting House for Summer

Our new photography exhibit is by Jim Tetro who has been a professional architectural photographer in the Washington, DC area for about twenty years. In the last five years or so, he has embraced the digital media with much enthusi-

asm and it is what he uses exclusively for his professional and personal work.

His photographs will be at PBUUC through Labor Day weekend. We hope you enjoy them.

~ Submitted by The Visual Arts Committee

TWedHUULK at Blow Fish on July 18

On Wednesday, July 18, at 1:00 pm the Third Wednesday Handy UU Lunch Klub will eat at a new place in the Maryland Farms Shopping Center, **BLOW FISH**. It had a glowing review in the Gazette newspaper (and Emma Sue's beautician highly recommended it). They also serve dishes other than fish and seafood. Prices are reasonable and there is plenty of parking.

If you are able to join us and especially if you can give a ride to someone, please let Marge Owens know before July 14, when we head for the beach.

Contact Lowellandmarge@verizon.net or 301-345-1572. After that please call Emma Sue Gerson on 240-293-6570. **Directions:** Take Cherry Hill Road north of Powder Mill Road, as if you are heading for Riderwood. The MD Farms shopping strip center will be on the left about 6 blocks north of Powder Mill Rd. The Blow Fish restaurant has a large sign.

~ Submitted by Marge Owens

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In And Around Paint Branch continued**HAITIAN ETHNIC
DINNER REFLECTIONS**

After selecting Haiti as the theme for the May 19 Ethnic Dinner, we encountered

a surprise when we began the research. The library had no cook books specifically on Haiti. Their computer said a book called "A Taste of Haiti", owned by another library, hadn't been seen for 3 years. Some Caribbean cook books didn't even list Haiti in the index; most of those that did, just mentioned it in the text, but had no uniquely Haitian recipes. This is even more of a problem due to the fact that, in addition to recipes, the ethnic cook books are usually our primary source of information on the country, food and culture. So, we resorted to Caribbean cook books and the internet, and hoped we could find enough recipes to construct a menu and information to present.

Only a few people attended the menu meeting. Kathi Yu, who currently works in Haiti told us of four dishes which she called "Gotta haves". We cobbled together a menu which seemed adequate, but most dishes needed more research and some testing to see if they would work. Here was another surprise. There were 4 possible entrees; we wanted 3. I tried them all and found the Shrimp & Avocado Salad, Oxtail Stew and Gryots (pork) to be so amazingly good that the chicken dish, which was only very good, was eliminated. I brought some samples to the ticket table and while people liked what they tasted, in the end, fewer than 40 bought tickets. Special thanks to Muriel Morisey & Peter Wathen-Dunn who couldn't attend, but donated the cost of two tickets, Diane Teichert and Truett Briggs (a friend of Marilyn Pearl) who each also donated the cost of a ticket in addition to their own, and Carmelita Carter-Sykes, who couldn't attend after purchasing a ticket.

Of those who were there, almost all helped in some way. Special recognition goes to two newcomers attending their first Ethnic Dinner. Charlene Bloedorn helped with set-up and Sarah Cherry with clean-up. Mike Stark researched and found Caribbean beer and some French varietal wines, set up the bar and oversaw set up of the room. He and his friend, Sonia Meredith tended the bar while Don & Beth Henderson and Truett Briggs assisted with set up. Carol

Carter Walker tended the door. Cooks included Tricia Most, Adeline Wilcox with assistant, Otilie, Wendy Schlegel, Cathy Helmold, Don Gerson (even though he couldn't attend) Don Mitchell, Marge Owens, Marilyn Pearl, Jeri Holloway, Sabrina Finlay, Karine Bouis-Towe, and Penny O'Brien. Building manager, Chris Eby operated the sound system and oversaw clean up. Helping with clean up were Penny O'Brien, Genie and Tina Van Pelt, Paul Richards, Patty Daukantas, her friend Nick Wizorek, Don & Sherry Mitchell, Jane Trout, Don Ahern, Marge & Lowell Owens, Wendy Schlegel & husband Don Moore, Leo Jones, Sabrina Finlay, Fenwick Yu, Mike Stark, Cathy Helmold, Carol Carter Walker, Don Munro (on dishwasher duty), Truett Briggs, and Marilyn Pearl.

This dinner netted only \$499.50 even with the extra donations. It's unclear if low attendance was due to date or theme, but we hope it improves at the next dinner, October 20. We don't yet have a theme, so are soliciting suggestions. A list of the 60 dinners we've done so far can be provided upon request.

After October we are considering some changes. *There will be no February dinner*; the month is too fraught with unpredictable and uncontrollable weather and scheduling conflicts. We may have just two dinners – October & May, or move February's to March and May's to July. Any opinions, suggestions? Contact Marilyn Pearl at 301-805-1218 or buffalo_gal@verizon.net.

~ Submitted by Marilyn Pearl

Food for Thought: UU Values and Sustainable Food

This month, I'm sharing a sermon from the UUA's Ethical Eating *Worship Resource Supplement* (p. 21). "Food for Thought: UU Values and Sustainable Food," is from Vicky Talbert, Bradford Community Church Unitarian Universalist, Kenosha Wisconsin,

June 22, 2007. I edited it a bit to shorten it, but it's still a great summary of all the issues.

Some of you can remember the 50's and 60's when, once a week, your mother would don her shirtwaist and make her way to the A&P. How did she choose her groceries? In our New
(continued on next page)

In And Around Paint Branch continued

England family, far from the fertile valleys of California, proximity was a huge factor and choices were limited. I didn't have an avocado until I was 20 and certainly not a mango. Cost counted when our parents made out the grocery list, as did cultural and family habits and, perhaps religious practices.



Some parents were ahead of their time, so nutrition may have been in the equation, too.

How things have changed! Today, food is abundant. We can get almost any food, from almost anywhere, in any season. It seems a grocery shopper's paradise, the land of plenty. But at what cost? People are beginning to recognize that the true cost of food is far greater than what we pay at check out. For many of us, what and how we eat is part of our spiritual practice, a moral or religious act.

Where does our food come from and how is it produced? Is it grown with pesticides or herbicides? What about the polluting runoff from fertilizer and manure? How much does corporate agriculture degrade our planet, and what food choices best protect our environment? Are the farm workers paid a fair wage? What are their living conditions? How are the animals treated? In what conditions are they raised, and do they suffer? How does a meat-based diet compare with one that is plant-based?



Is water diverted from local usage to irrigate crops to feed food animals? If the food was grown in another country, were local people displaced from their land? How have their lives and culture been disrupted so that food could be raised to feed us? What food choices best meet our ethical obligation to reduce emissions that contribute to climate change? What about fair trade and workers' rights? What justice issues relate to corporate agriculture's use of the land of indigenous peoples? And the biggest question — how will we feed the world if we continue our unsustainable eating patterns?

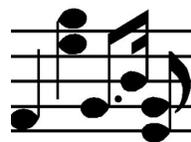
Choosing our food may not be so easy – if we want to live in right relationship with Earth and all its inhabitants. The grocery store may not be that glorious paradise after all. So how do we choose? Of course!! Our principles will guide us. Much attention has been given to our 7th principle. We know that industrial-

ized agriculture as it now exists flies in the face of this principle and threatens the interdependent web. It causes massive pollution, reduces biodiversity, and destroys land integrity at an alarming rate.

But let's not overlook how our other principles fit into the equation of ethical, compassionate, and sustainable food choices. When we consider the inherent worth and dignity of every person, how can we ignore the family in a poor village in Asia whose culture has been degraded with their land when it was taken over by a multinational corporation to produce wheat for snacks for us? What about the migrant workers here who are exposed regularly to dangerous pesticides and then can't get medical care? Recent research confirms what many people know instinctively— that animals think, feel, and have complex social relationships — and suggests that the worth and dignity of those beings is as inherent as they are for human beings. Should we not extend this principle to them?



~ Submitted by Mary "Tyrle" Rooker
Ethical Eating Support



From David Chapman...

In the Music Director's Annual Report
2012 in May I wrote:

"The love, support, rides to the hospital, soups and cards (sometimes as many as ten a day!) which came pouring in during these past 4 months have been wonderful. Before this illness, I had never experienced such pain (and for hours at a time!), nor felt such low points. The constant loving care I received from Paint Branch kept a smile on my face and joy in my heart. I loved this place before I got ill, but now I think I love it even a little bit more.

(Proud to be) Your Music Director, David Chapman"



One month later in June, members and friends of Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church pulled out all the stops and made sure that a fundraiser and concert event for me, entitled Listen To The Music, was the most over-the-top, successful, love-filled David Chapman fest that, even in my wildest dreams, I couldn't have imagined. My best friend, Michelle Howard-Hanson, spearheaded this whole thing,

(continued on next page)

In And Around Paint Branch continued

but the amazing Paint Branchers gave tirelessly of themselves, a majority of individuals taking on multiple hats, in order to ensure that this fundraiser would be the unmitigated success that it has been. I still can't believe how Paint Branch "came through" during the incredibly successful piano fundraiser and gala concert of 2010. It's only two years later and this whole experience has shown me that you are the most generous, loving people I have ever known. I also can't believe how fortunate I've been to have found Paint Branch. I've been here almost 10 years and I've loved every minute of it.

~ David

**LAST BUT NOT LEAST:
A WARM THANKS FROM REBECCA BIRNIE**

Dear Friends -

Thank you for the lovely send off: The Fabulous Cake, The delicious finger foods and punch, The flowers, The photo of the church, The lovely chalice pendant, A great selection of knitting books, and THE SONG of the Archives! But most of all thank you for all of the kind words.

It was wonderful to be surrounded by great people who have become warm friends. I don't think that you know how deep my roots are here at Paint Branch. My parents joined in the early 1960's and my siblings were in the youth group led by the Harts. I was mostly away at college, but remember attending Sunday services in the Kelley Room. So it is one of those magic circles that take place in life that I should be your Administrative Assistant for these past seven years as well as the Bookkeeper for the past two and half years. It has been a pleasure.

I am not disappearing altogether – I will be around occasionally to finish up work on the church archives and you might find me on a fourth Sunday with the knitting circle. I am listed in the Church Directory – let's stay in touch.

Love,

Rebecca



Have Yourself a UU Summer!

Attend a convivial UU workshop, conference or camp!

Opportunities for children, youth, adults and/or families on many topics exist around the country. Check out <http://www.cu2c2.org/> for a full listing or visit the display in the Meeting House Foyer. Some offer separate weeks for men, for women, for GLBT people; many offer programs focusing on nature, music, art, drama, spirituality, theology, and/or UU history. Camping is an option at some.

The closest is UUMAC, a week-long summer camp for all ages; it is very welcoming to first-time attendees, and you will see there other PBUUC folks. Visit this website <http://www.uumac.org/>.

Going up the East Coast, and open year-round, Murray Grove is on the New Jersey shore; Rowe Camp is on a lake in rural Massachusetts; Star Island is reached by ferry from Portsmouth, NH; Unirondack in New York's Adirondack Mountains; and Ferry Beach is in Saco, Maine. Each has its own character and traditions, but whichever you choose, you will return home rested and renewed, having made new friends and learned more about what it means to you to be a Unitarian Universalist!

Submitted by: Rev. Diane Teichert





The Wider Unitarian Universalist Universe

Marriage Equality in Maryland: What You Need to Know

Date: Wednesday, July 18, 7:30-8:30 pm

Venue: Encore Theatre at Riderwood Village

Program: An Opportunity to Discuss Marriage Equality and the Referendum in November with:

- ~ Matthew Nelson and Kip Beardsley, a couple wanting to get married.
- ~ The Boucher/Johnson family seeking legal protection.
- ~ Rev. MacArthur Flournoy, a member of the Marylanders for Marriage Equality Campaign.

Time for questions and discussion led by Barbara Hankins, Moderator, LWV.

Sponsored by the following Riderwood Village Organizations:

Democratic Club
League of Women Voters
PFLAG
Unitarian Universalists at Riderwood

“8”: A Play that demystifies the debate around marriage equality

The **UU Legislative Ministry of Maryland** is co-sponsoring a production of the play "8" about California's battle over the marriage equality proposition, Proposition 8. We hope that you will be able to publish the information below in your congregation's newsletter.

Dignity Players, Bay Theatre Company, the Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis, and the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland will present a staged reading of Dustin Lance Black's new court room drama "8" based on transcripts and interviews from the federal case for marriage equality. "8" demystifies the debate around marriage equality by chronicling the landmark trial of Perry v. Schwarzenegger. Join us on **Sunday, July 22 at 6:00 p.m.** at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis as Dignity Players and Bay Theatre bring this remarkable new play to the Annapolis area.

A reception and Q&A with representatives from the Maryland General Assembly, Equality Maryland, Marylanders for Marriage Equality, Standing on the Side of Love, and Maryland Faith for Equality will follow the performance.

\$10 Admission. All proceeds benefit American Foundation for Equal Rights, the organizational sponsor of the federal lawsuit for marriage equality. For tickets or reservations, please visit www.dignityplayers.org or call (410) 266-8044 ext. 127.



5th Annual Social Justice Awards Call for Nominations Deadline Extended to July

31

To celebrate the accomplishments of those working for social justice, Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice (UUSJ) of the National Capital Region, invites nominations for its 5th Annual Social Justice Awards. The awards recognize those who inspire, support and express effective social action – those deeply committed volunteers who are the heart of the social justice movement in the National Capital region.

UUSJ calls for the following awards annually: Collaboration, Journey Toward Wholeness and Affordable Housing. We rotate the other awards every other year. e.g., Ministers Award, and introduce new awards as appropriate. This year's new award is Emerging Leader to encourage new leadership in social justice.

We hope that you will share the attached announcement to ensure that recognition is proposed for our colleagues. To make a nomination for an award, please complete and email the nomination information to the Awards Committee at csnavely@uusj.org. Nominations must be received **via email** no later than noon July 31, 2012.

Individuals and groups selected for their contributions to social action will be presented awards at the UUSJ Annual Gala on Sunday night, October 14, 2012.

Application is here [uusj_2012_awards_nomination_final\[1\]](#)

For upcoming dates of Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice events, please click on the following link: <http://uusj.net>.



Spirit of Life Center

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church
3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi, MD 20783
Web: www.pbuuc.org Phone: (301) 937-3666

Spirit of Life Center is the place for the neighborhood community to come together to experience, learn and enjoy simple activities through a variety of classes and workshops. Join us to explore and grow your own spirituality, health, and community through an open and accepting environment of friends.

Meditation Workshop: by Lynn Johnson/David Howard/Raman Pathik. Saturday 9.30am-11.00am. Understand yourself and gain inner clarity and use the power of your Imagination to create what you want in your life.

(Suggested donation \$5.00/ requested.)

Laughter Yoga-mix Class: by Tina McCloud. Saturday 9.30am-10.30am. A fun and gentle yoga mix of breathing, poses, stretches, meditation, and laughter therapy. All physical levels are welcome, as we are able to modify any limitations (mat, floor, wheel-chair) or skill levels. No experience necessary. (Suggested donation \$10/class or \$32/4 classes.)

Quality of Life Workshop: by Raman Pathik. Saturday 11:00 am-12:30 pm. Explore the meaning of quality of life for you and develop a blueprint to implement better habits that will improve balance in your life. Experience how to connect with your true self, nature, your family, your community, your finances, your body, health and the world. (Suggested donation \$5.00 requested.)

The Artist in You Circle: by Jane Trout. • Hiatus until the fall • Artists of all levels are invited to work in an open studio. Inspiration and encouragement from fellow artists, an opportunity to explore your own inner artist and maybe an occasional field trip to a museum or show. Artists will provide their own materials and clean up. (Suggested donation \$5.00 requested.)

Zumba Class: by Shawna Webster. Saturday 11.00am-12.00pm. An exhilarating, effective, easy-to-follow, Latin-inspired, calorie-burning class that's moving millions of people toward joy and health. Suggested donation \$10/class or \$32/4 classes.)

Dancing Within Class: by Sharon Werth. Thursday 6.45pm-7.45pm. The Dancer in You! Discover the movement that is in your body. Let the dance of your inner spirit out! No experience necessary. Please note day change. (Suggested donation \$10/class or \$32/4 classes.)

Try a six week commitment to improve your Quality of Life and cultivate new habits: Donations of \$150.00 for all: Quality of Life Workshop (6 sessions), Meditation Workshop (6 sessions), Laughter Yoga Mix or Zumba or Dancing Within Classes (6 sessions), and Simplicity Circle Workshops (6 sessions).

The Spirit of Life Center offers a summer camp special for families during July and August on Saturdays 9:00AM – 1:00 PM

Adults can choose from the following activities:

- * Quality of Life workshop (6 sessions) 11:00am- 12:30pm
- * Meditation workshop 9:30am-11:00am
- * Laughter yoga mix class 9:30-10:30am
- * Zumba class 11:00am-12:00pm
- * Simplicity circle workshop (6 sessions) 11:00am-1:00pm
- * Child care for babies and toddlers. 9:00am-1:00pm

Older children can choose from the following activities:

- * Laughter yoga mix class 9:00am-9:30pm
- * Story telling class 9:30am-10:30pm
- * Nature walk class 10:30-11:30am
- * Zumba class 12:00-12:45pm
- * Breathing Meditation Workshop TBA

Suggested donation of \$150.00 each month for the whole family or \$40.00 each week for the whole family.

Individual classes and workshops are available at a suggested donation of \$10.00/class and \$5.00/workshop.

Pre-registration requested.

PBUUC Leadership Directory

☞ Staff ☞

Please contact the Church Office at [301-937-3666](tel:301-937-3666) for Staff listed.

Minister	Rev. Diane Teicher
Music Director & Pianist	David Chapman
Director, Religious Exploration	Erica Shadowsong
Religious Exploration Assistant	Kweli Powell
Church Administrator	Barbara J. Morton
Administrative Assistant	Chuck Bury
Bookkeeper	Debra McCann
Director, Chalice Dancers	Sharon Werth
Sunday Service/Bldg. Mgrs:	Chuck Bury
	Jesse Crowley
	Chris Eby
Child Care:	Kamini Wickramaratne
	Beth Judy

☞ Officers and Board of Trustees ☞

Chair	Michael Léger
Vice chair	Don Gerson
Vice chair	Charles Towe
Trustee	Don Henderson
Trustee	Mark Shute
Trustee	Evangeline Wells
Trustee	Alice Tyler
Trustee	Don Mitchell
Trustee	Vacant
Secretary	Melody Lawrence
Treasurer	Marcie Washburn
Asst. Treasurer	Marilyn Pearl

☞ Pastoral Care Associates ☞

Lynn Johnson
Teresa Meeks
Mike McMenamin

☞ We Care Coordinators ☞

Esther Nichols
Jeri Holloway
Allison Hughes
Iris Peabody
Gloria ("Genie") Van Pelt

☞ Worship Associates ☞

Claire Boston (2011-12)
Celinda Marsh (2011-14)
Don Mitchell (2009-12)
Marilyn Pearl (2011-12)
Ken Redd (2011-14)
John Sebastian (2010-13)
Carol Carter Walker (2010-13)

☞ Committees ☞

Adult Religious Education	Michael Léger *
Arts Council	Pat Tompkins
Budget Leadership Team	Mark Shute
Buildings & Grounds	Paul Young
DARTT (co-chairs)	Tricia Most
	Carol Carter Walker
Denominational Affairs	Kweli Powell
Finance	Kate Brett
Green Sanctuary	Penny O'Brien
	Karine Bouis-Towe
Legacy Fund	Ken Redd
Leasing Team	Church Office
Membership	TBD
Ministry	Wendy Schlegel
Nominating	Jonathan Mawdsley
Personnel	Will Snyder
Religious Exploration	Alice Tyler
(Co-chairs)	Matt Elliott
Social Action	Nancy Boardman
Spirit of Life Center	Raman Pathik
Stewardship	Sherry Mitchell
Visual Arts	Jane Trout
*Temporary	

☞ Groups and Activities ☞

Archivist	Rebecca Birnie
Auction	Carol Carter Walker
	Theresa Shute
Bookstore	Carol Carter Walker
Bridge	Penny O'Brien
Chalice Dancers	Wendy Schlegel
Choir	David Chapman
Coffee Coordinator	Raman Pathik
Community Café	Esther Nichols
Ethnic Dinners	Marilyn Pearl
Facebook Page	Ken Montville
Handcraft Circle	Marj Donn
Head & Heart History	Kweli Powell
Marriage Enrichment	Don Fairfield
Mediation Program	David Haberman
Men's Group	Peter Wathen-Dunn
Moms of Young Ones	Renée Katz
Mystery Book Club	Kathy Kearns
Nature Spirituality Circle	Tabitha Pierzchala
Quest Discussion Group	Lowell Owens
Poetry Out Loud	Shantida
Shamanic Journeying	Mary Tyrtle Rooker
Simplicity Circle	Raman Pathik
Spirituality Circle	Amy Steiner
TWedHUULK	Marge Owens
Ushers	Esther Nichols
Warm Nights	John Bartoli
Webmaster	Mark Shute

PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

3215 POWDER MILL ROAD

ADELPHI, MD 20783-1030

(301) 937-3666

WEBSITE: WWW.PBUUC.ORG

EMAIL: CHURCHADMIN@PBUUC.ORG

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