



# BRANCHES



**PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH**  
*Affirming and promoting the inherent worth and dignity of every person since 1954*

**December 2012**

**SUNDAYS AT 10:00 AM/CHRISTMAS EVE AT 4:30 AND 8:00 PM**

**December 2**

**Our Fourth Source: Jewish and Christian Teachings**

*Rev. Diane Teichert and Bettie Young, Worship Associate*

How do we Unitarian Universalists draw meaning from the Biblical Scriptures, and what meanings do we draw? Today is Signing Sunday, for those who wish to sign the PBUUC Membership Book.

**December 9**

**Darkest Sun, Darkest Moon – Holiday Choir Service**

*PBUUC Choir with David Chapman, Music Director and Pianist  
Rev. Diane Teichert and John Sebastian, Worship Associate*

This annual favorite features a variety of holiday pieces, including a favorite Hanukkah song that gives rise to the homily and we will introduce Kwanzaa in the Together Time.

**December 16**

**Widening the Circle: the Role of Hospitality**

*Rev. Diane Teichert with leaders of the Membership Matrix and Ken Redd, Worship Associate*

Being hospitable is taking new forms at PBUUC, with intentionality and generosity. Newcomers are invited for informal conversation with the Minister in her office from 11:30 to 12:30.

**December 23**

**All Ages Winter Solstice Service: The Death of Light**

*Featuring a Dramatization by Erica Shadowsong, Director of Religious Exploration  
The All Ages Holiday Choir, with Rev. Diane Teichert, and Jonathan Mawdsley, Worship Associate  
\*\* Children and Youth remain in the Sanctuary for the hour, but nursery care is provided in Room 5 \*\**

In our story from Norse mythology, a debate rages over the favoring of light over darkness, life over death, beauty over ugliness, and what is popular versus what is not. We will find out if there is, indeed, anything redeemable about the death of light. Please bring warm items for the Mitten Tree.



**December 24  
4:30 pm**

**Two Christmas Eve Candlelight and Carol Services  
All Ages Service with Living Nativity**

*Rev. Diane Teichert and Erica Shadowsong, Director of Religious Exploration  
With Worship Associate Montana Monardes, the PBUUC Youth Singers, and Chalice Dancers*

The Christmas Story will unfold in a spirited, no-rehearsal nativity pageant. Wear your own barn animal, angel, shepherd or magi costume, or one of ours, or just watch and be enthralled.

**8:00 pm**

**On This Night**

*Rev. Diane Teichert, with Carol Carter Walker, Worship Associate, the Choir and Chalice Dancers*

Come, hear, carols familiar and carols new, stories old and stories true. Sense the peace settling in around us on this dark night “where our hearts are open, love is born again.”

**Special Collection to Serve the Homeless - See Page 6**



**December 30**

**Kwanzaa**

*Carmelita Carter-Sykes with Carol Carter Walker, Worship Associate, and the Chalice Dancers*

The service will feature traditional music, drumming and 'family talk' followed immediately by the Kwanzaa Sharing Feast (RSVPs are welcome via [DARTT@pbuuc.org](mailto:DARTT@pbuuc.org)). See page 6 for details.

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### Note to Our Readers:

**SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES FOR BRANCHES:** All submissions for inclusion in Branches should be submitted by email to: [branches@pbuuc.org](mailto:branches@pbuuc.org).

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 announcements and other content to appear in the Sunday Order of Service bulletin is **every Wednesday at 12 noon**.
  - \* Announcements should be submitted in their final form using the Times New Roman font, 12 point size, 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](http://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...



These wise words by the poet William Blake are set to lovely music as Hymn #17,

*Man was made for joy and woe;  
And when this we rightly know  
Through the world we safely go.  
Joy and woe are woven fine,  
A clothing for the soul divine.  
Under every grief and pine  
Runs a joy with silken twine.*

one of my favorites in *Singing the Living Tradition*. The tune and the words often come to me as I stand by the Chalice on Sunday mornings and watch you silently light a candle for your joy or your sorrow. I like for us to take our time in doing that: for me to hand you the candle only when the person before you has completed setting theirs in the sand, and for me to hold you in my heart as you light yours and set it in the sand. This may slow down the process, but it feels right to me. "Clothing for the soul divine" cannot be finely woven in great haste!

When no one else waits in line, I light one last candle. Recently it occurred to me that you probably don't know why I always light a last candle. It represents all the joys and sorrows that remain unspoken and for which candles have not yet been lit. That last candle signifies that some joys and sorrows are too dear or too uncertain to acknowledge yet, even wordlessly.

On the Sunday of our wonderful All Ages "From This We Live" Thanksgiving Service, so many people – adults and children – wanted to light candles that my supply had to be replenished by a Worship Associate (and a larger dish of sand was also needed but was not available). The candles were too close together, their flames were melting adjacent candles, and the shallow sand could not support so many, so a few fell over.

Children were unable to set their candles in the sand themselves; even adults struggled to do so. Still, nobody gave up on lighting a candle and returned to their seat. How, I wondered, will I get the last candle into the sand?

I lit the last candle, decisively plunged it between the flames, and pushed it firmly into the sand. It was accomplished quickly enough that I did not get burned. I was reminded of how, as a child, my mother showed me that pulling a band-aid off a sore was much less painful if I grabbed a corner and yanked it off than if I slowly peeled it away. Usually it is preferable to decisively suffer a second of pain than fearfully suffer a prolonged agony, when we have the option.

The winter holiday season is especially a time when joy is interwoven with grief, yet we are expected (or expect ourselves?) to participate in the merriment as if that is all there is to our lives at the moment. Don't withdraw! I hope that you will find on Sunday mornings in December (indeed, in any month) a community of healing and hope, helping and rejoicing.

Fondly,

*Diane*

***Informal Gathering for Newcomers***

***With the Minister Sunday, December 16  
in Her Office from 11:30 to 12:30***

**Contact Rev. Teichert at [minister@pbuuc.org](mailto:minister@pbuuc.org)**

## Wheel of Life



A memorial service for Frank McDonald, husband of Rene McDonald, was held on Saturday, November 17 and Rene thanks everyone who helped to make it a "perfect tribute."

Our hearts go out to Carol Boston, whose father died on October 24 in Minnesota, and her family.

Our congratulations to John Barr and Susan Campbell who were wed on Saturday, October 6 in Baltimore.

Ruth Lates, wife of the late Larry Lates, is recovering from hip surgery at Hill Haven Nursing Home across the street from PBUUC and welcomes visitors and cards.

Also, both Bert Donn (Marj Donn's husband) and Skip Anna (Brenda Anna's husband) coincidentally had surgery at Doctor's Hospital on Monday, November 19. Cards should be sent to them at their respective homes for delivery by family members to hospital or rehab center as appropriate.

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**Wheel of Life** continued

If 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 at [301-937-3666](tel:301-937-3666) or at [781-676-0097](tel:781-676-0097) if urgent.

If you are in need of practical assistance (such as rides, meals, visits, or phone conversation), please contact [Esther Nichols](#), the We Care Coordinator for **December**, at [301-864-2068](tel:301-864-2068).

## Religious Exploration

“In order to nurture our children’s spirituality, we must first find a way to nourish our own.”

- Michelle Richards, *Tending the Flame*

### The Chalice at Home

Dear PBUUC family;

As I write this column, I find that my thoughts are turning often to the question begged by the quote above. In October, I had the rich experience of traveling to Williamsburg, VA, for the LREDA Fall conference, an annual gathering of UU religious education professionals. One of the workshops I attended was called “Rooted in the Sacred: This do we affirm to share with one another.”

In this workshop, we examined ways that we can support our families and parents in bringing their faith home, as well as learning from them ways in which they already do so. We saw a rich panoply of pictures sent in by families all over the country, depicting family altars, bookshelves, décor and other ways in which their UU faith is present in their home. We got together and shared ways in which we ourselves as couples, parents and families of all kinds create space for the sacred and living out our faith and principles. It was quite a smorgasbord of creativity!

In September, when we conducted our teacher orientation, I put out a questionnaire to find out what topics volunteers

would most be interested in seeing presented in workshops, if any, that were offered to them to help with their own enrichment as part of their religious education ministry. Among the topics I suggested, I found that the overwhelming trend was an interest in UU parenting resources and overall ministry to children’s spiritual development, as well as special needs and character.

Because of these experiences and those shared among the gathering of my colleagues, I am feeling encouraged that there is an opportunity here to look at ways to help nourish ourselves in the whole PBUUC family, and think about ways that the religious exploration that takes place here can continue throughout the week, organically and seamlessly, beyond just the rush to our beautiful buildings on Sunday. As the months continue, I hope to explore with you some possibilities for building on this interest, including looking at offering workshops for families that look specifically at living UU at home. I hope very much for your continued input and interest as I work to create space for this in our religious exploration program. As our thoughts turn to gratitude during this month of December, I am grateful for the sharing of nourishing experiences and ideas that is our continual spiritual communion at PBUUC!

Blessed be,

*Erica Shadowsong*  
Director of Religious Exploration



## Board of Trustees Column



Happy Holidays, Paint Branch!

This is the dark time of the year when we celebrate the power of LIGHT. December is the month when Buddhists celebrate the enlightenment of the Buddha, Jews celebrate the miracle of light being sustained in the



Temple, Christians celebrate the birth of the light of LOVE into the darkness of oppression, Africans and African-Americans celebrate the light of fellowship, cooperation, and justice, and Pagans and Wiccans celebrate



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## BOT continued



the Winter Solstice, the turning of the Wheel of the Year toward the months of increasing sunlight.

As PBUUC closes out its calendar year, we have much to celebrate as well. At Thanksgiving, the week I am writing this, I am very grateful for many things happening in our Beloved Community: I am grateful to Ken Jenkins and Maryellen Martinez for their generous gift of the house Ken was living in until earlier this year. I am also profoundly grateful to Ken Montville for shepherding us through the process by which we received and sold the house; Ken's services were offered gratis and his generosity is much appreciated! The sale of the house brought close to \$60,000 into the financial resources of PBUUC. In November, the BOT will begin discussing the prudent uses of this resource. It's a pleasure to have such a discussion on the agenda, and as always I invite Paint Branchers to speak with any Trustee to share thoughts on this question.

I am grateful for the fine work that our Church Administrator, Barbara Morton, has done for us in her time here. Barbara's professionalism as well as her friendly attention to detail has led to efficiency and effectiveness that has made the Board's job so much easier as we have carried out the business of the Church. I wish Barbara all the best in her professional pursuits!



I am also grateful to be welcoming Chuck Bury as our new Church Administrator. Chuck will complete his training with Barbara in the second and third week of December, and will be interviewing candidates for his position as Building manager at the same time. In January, he, and we, will turn our attention to the hiring of an Administrative Assistant to fill the shoes that Chuck is leaving.

I am grateful for the dedication and energy of the Auction Committee and the Paint Branchers who volunteered to assist the committee in putting on the 2012 Church Auction and raising more than \$20,000 for the Church, despite personnel setbacks that initially made likely the necessity of postponing the Auction until Spring 2013.

I am grateful for the ongoing processes being shepherded by the Site Improvement Committee (SIC), chaired by Karine Bouis-Towe. The SIC event on November 18 was another

invitation to PBUUC Congregants to give their input into the Site Improvement processes of design and planning. The schematic drawings by Landscape Architect and Ecologist Tina Schneider will be on display in the Meeting House Lobby and online, offering both hands-on and virtual means of giving feedback to the SIC and Tina as the Phase I design is completed in the run up to the next SIC meeting in mid-February. Look for an email announcement about how to find and use the online resources to give your feedback.

And I am grateful for the leadership of Diane Teichert, Nancy Boardman and the Social Action Committee, and the countless passionate Paint Branchers who led our efforts in support of Marriage Equality and the Maryland Dream Act, both of which passed despite concerted efforts on the part of those opposed to them. I am grateful to belong to a Religion, the principles of which make the support of these two ballot initiatives a natural spiritual imperative.

As we head into the season of celebration of the light, I am grateful for all of these ways in which this little light of ours has been strengthened to shine.

The Board of Trustees holds OPEN Executive Committee meetings and Board of Trustees meetings. Typically the Executive Committee meeting, at which the agenda for the Board of Trustees meeting is finalized, is held on the THIRD Tuesday of each month, (usually in the Minister's Office), and the full Board of Trustees meeting is held in Room 4 of the RE Building on the FOURTH Wednesday of each month. We welcome visitors: if you wish to request that 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, or 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>.

On behalf of your 2012-2013 Board of Trustees: Don Gerson and Charles Towe, Vice Chairs, and Trustees Evangeline Wells, Alice Tyler, Don Henderson, Mark Shute, and Don Mitchell, I wish you all the best as we head into the Winter Holiday Season!



*Michel Léger, Chair, Board of Trustees*

## Social Action Committee (SAC) News

### Affirmative Vote for Civil Marriage Protection Act and Maryland Dream Act in November Election!

Special thanks to Paint Branchers for your strong support for these two Maryland election referenda! The inspiring sermons, yard signs, buttons, sign-up sheets, and one-on-one conversations guides all helped to shape the outcome of the vote. Thanks again for your support. Your involvement will have a positive impact for many of our fellow Marylanders for years to come. Let's celebrate!

### Special Collections Update

On Sunday, **October 28**, a special collection was taken to support the work of the Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office (UU-UNO) to bring LGBT, peace, climate change, and womens' and childrens' rights issues to the attention of UN delegates. The total collection was **\$552!**

On Sunday, **November 18**, a special collection was taken to benefit **Guest at Your Table** which fosters understanding and awareness of the human-rights work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC). A total of **\$695** was collected in cash and checks. Also, Guest at Your Table boxes were handed out by PBUUC youth to members and friends to take home as a reminder for the holidays to share our blessings with our "guests". Guest at Your Table boxes will be collected in January and the cash will be converted to a check to be sent to UUSC.



### Christmas Eve Special Collection for Warm Nights/Community Café



Please be as generous as you are able...

The entire plate collection during the two Christmas Eve services will go toward financial support for our annual Warm Nights food and shelter program held in January in the Meeting House and to our continuing participation in the monthly Community Café operation which helps to provide a hot meal to those in need.

**Next Social Action Committee (SAC) Meeting, Saturday, January 26, 2013 at 10:00 in Room #1 of the RE Building**

**CASA de Maryland is still looking for volunteers** to help undocumented DREAM students fill out their applications for Deferred Action at Clinics on Sunday **December 2** from 10am – 4pm. For information and clinic locations, please contact Rommel Sandino - Youth Organizer Department of Community Organizing at **301-431-4185**. For more info on Deferred Action, check the CASA website at: [www.casademaryland.org/get-involved-mainmenu-102/dream-deferred-action](http://www.casademaryland.org/get-involved-mainmenu-102/dream-deferred-action).

## Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team (DARTT)

### Kwanzaa Service and Sharing Feast December 30, 2012!



As the weather turns colder, we welcome warm-hearted gatherings and celebratory worship services. This year we will continue our intentional community **Kwanzaa** tradition with a worship service and sharing feast on **December 30**, the last Sunday of the year. The **Worship Service** will feature the Chalice Dancers, traditional music, drumming and 'family talk' immediately followed by the **Kwanzaa Sharing Feast**.

We welcome RSVPs to let us know what favorite African, African-American, or Southern dish you wish to bring or to receive recipe suggestions (or purchasing ideas if you are not inclined to cook or bake). RSVP by emailing [DARTT@pbuuc.org](mailto:DARTT@pbuuc.org) or by phoning **301-452-1366**. Before the rush of holiday activities, put **December 30** on your calendar. Even if you don't know yet what you will bring to the sharing feast, your advance RSVP will help us plan seating and logistics and we can follow up with you about meal information.

### DON'T FORGET!

### Annual Fundraiser for Bowie State University Scholarship Saturday, December 1!

Hosted by Goodloe Memorial UU Congregation in honor of Reverend Don Speed Smith Goodloe, the fundraiser will benefit an endowed scholarship at Bowie State University. See flyers in the Meeting House Lobby for detailed information.

## Welcome New Members

Please welcome our newest members, Beth and Chris Brittan-Powell, who signed the Membership Book on September 30. Beth and Chris met while attending graduate school at the University of Maryland, College Park. They have three sons: Jack (14), Sean (10) and Henry (9), who are enrolled in our RE Program. They are happy to have found a spiritual home at Paint Branch, and already feel deeply connected to the church community.



Submitted by Renée C.M. Katz

## In and Around Paint Branch

### Intergenerational Holiday Choir!



All singers from age 10 -100 are invited to join a fun choir that will be singing for the **December 23** Sunday Solstice service.

We will meet on Sunday, **December 2, 9 and 16** for 20-30 minutes during the beginning of Enrichment Hour.

This is a perfect short time commitment for those who would enjoy singing in a choir (3 rehearsals plus singing at the service).

You may talk to the Music Director, David Chapman at any time or just show up on **December 2**.

## Annual PBUUC Holiday Party!

Please join us for the Annual PBUUC Holiday Party on Saturday, **December 8** from 4-8 pm.

We will have craft projects for ALL AGES and we will be decorating the church as we go!

Please join us for chili and corn bread starting at 5pm. The RE Committee is organizing the event this year. If you would like to volunteer to lead a craft or make a pot of chili please contact committee member: Karine Bouis-Towe [ktowema@yahoo.com](mailto:ktowema@yahoo.com) or **202-547-7053**.



### DANKESCHOEN, UND ZEHR GUTE!

I've said it before, "Paint Branchers love their Oktoberfests!" This was proven once more as two individuals suggested it separately, the Ethnic Dinner Committee unanimously endorsed it and we, once again, offered it as this fall's Ethnic Dinner. This is not only the first theme to be done 3 times as an Ethnic Dinner, but the Ethnic Dinners were, in fact, inspired by the success of the series of 5 or 6 annual Oktoberfests back in the 80s.

So, a tip of the *Tyrolean Hute* for all our *wunderbar* volunteers. Special mention goes first to Lee Dudek. He attended the menu meeting and volunteered while there to cook two dishes – the oxtail soup and chicken stew. It's uncertain if he knew it then, but the day of dinner was also the day of the church cleanup which he organized, oversaw and worked on. He nonetheless produced two huge pots of food for the dinner, but perhaps due to exhaustion, was unable to attend. Can we clone him?

Others who helped plan this menu were Cathy Helmold, Jeri Holloway, Marilyn Pearl and Doug Sutherland, with Mike Stark and Marcie Washburn popping in to make suggestions. The theme gave Mike a chance to shine with his bar selections of German *wein, bier und schnops*. He was assisted at the bar by Sonia Meredith. Set up was done by Chuck Bury, Ethelyn Bishop, Richard Coté, Becky & Dave Nation, Diana Whetherby and friends, Penny O'Brien and Jane Trout.

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**In and Around Paint Branch** continued

Ethelyn Bishop tended the door. She was also one of our volunteer cooks, as were Alice Tyler, Marcie Washburn, Adeline Wilcox, Cathy Helmold, Don Gerson, Marilyn Pearl, Doug Sutherland, Melody Lawrence, Tricia Most, Jeri Holloway, Teresa Meeks, Lee Dudek, Karine Bouis-Towe, Jane Trout, Penny O'Brien, and Kathy Kearns. Clean-up, under the direction of building manager, Chuck Bury, was efficiently done by Andy Myrup, Elizabeth Yanowitch, Nancy Boardman, Cathy Helmhold, Marilyn Pearl, Alice Tyler, Kathy Kearns, James Alexander, Nicole, Tricia & Eric Most, Diana McFadden & friend Brian, Tina Van Pelt, Marcie Washburn, Becky & Dave Nation, Penny O'Brien, Colin McCoy, Noel Monardes, Nancy Spande, Mike Stark, Sonia Meredith, Richard Cote, and David Chapman.

Thanks also to Alice Tyler and a friend of Jeri Holloway's who provided some recorded German music and to the unknown folks who took home and laundered tablecloths. And of course, *vielen dank* to all 72 people who came (including 5 children), those who purchased leftovers the next day, and all the cooks who graciously waived reimbursement. This dinner netted **\$959.50**.

On other kitchen related matters, a note of thanks to Jeri Holloway who purchased a set of very nice flatware from an estate sale and donated it to PBUUC. She and I sorted through all we had, disposed of some of the worst and added the new. We also sorted the spoons into table/soup spoons and teaspoons.

The new cabinets have been there for a while (Ron Cotts made them) and have become catchalls for a lot of stuff. I had asked for them so we could purchase and store drinking glasses, and stop buying plastic ones for every event. Ron told me the shelves are in the basement of the Meeting House. Has anyone seen them?

Who would like to help me find them, paint them and the insides of the cabinets, and purchase about 100 each of 2 different sized glasses – smaller for bar drinks and larger for water glasses? IKEA has some of both which stack well, 3 or 4 high. Other suggestions are welcome. Contact Marilyn Pearl **301-805 1218**, or by email at [buffalo\\_gal@verizon.net](mailto:buffalo_gal@verizon.net).

**Photography Exhibit in Meeting House**

The 25 photographs by longtime PBUUC member, Douglas Bolt, have been on display in the Meeting House since November 24. The theme of the show, "Many Faces of Nature," includes scenes from around the world and close to home in Beltsville. Almost all of the pictures, captured in DLSR format, have been framed by Doug.

If you would like to meet the photographer you are invited to a reception at the Meeting House on **December 16** from 2 to 4 p.m. Doug's photos will be on display through Sunday, **January 10**. If you are interested in purchasing some of his work, please contact Doug at **301 937-3112** or by email at [dbolt@boltassociates.com](mailto:dbolt@boltassociates.com).

Submitted by Jane Trout  
Visual Arts Committee

**Lunch at Chef's Secret  
December 19 at 1:00 pm**

The Third Wednesday Handy UU Lunch Klub is keeping our December tradition of eating together at the Thai/American place on Greenbelt Road next to Pearl Vision, just west of Beltway Plaza shopping center. We will have a relatively quiet separate room. Anyone who can join us on this Wednesday before Christmas is requested to contact Marge Owens on [lowellandmarge@verizon.net](mailto:lowellandmarge@verizon.net) or **301-345-1572**. Anyone who needs a ride or can provide a ride is also asked to let us know.

**What is the Grocery Gift Card (Scrip) Buying Program?**

We sell grocery gift cards (sometimes called "scrip") in the foyer every Sunday after the service. Gift cards are available for Giant, Greenbelt Co-Op, Shop-Rite, Shoppers, and Weis. Most are sold in \$50 and \$100 denominations.

Why buy them?

These cards are a great fundraiser for the church. You pay the value of the card and get that value at the store. The church earns between 3-5% for each card sold. If you shop at these stores anyway, it would benefit the church if you

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**In and Around Paint Branch** continued

purchased the cards before shopping. In addition to your personal shopping, there are many other ways you might consider using scrips:

- Shopping for an auction meal
- Shopping for a recipe for an ethnic dinner
- Shopping for snacks for the RE program
- Shopping for meals and/or recipes for any church function (Kwanzaa, Juneteenth, Auction, Enrichment Hour, Warm Nights, etc.)
- Holiday (or anytime) gift shopping (we usually carry smaller denominations for Giant during the holiday Season)

If you have questions about scrips, please contact John Bartoli at [john.bartoli@verizon.net](mailto:john.bartoli@verizon.net).

*Submitted by Sabrina Findlay*

**Aging Well to the End: Two Part Workshop**

**First Session: Sunday, January 13**

**11:45 to 1:30pm**

**Bring a snack!**

How can people prepare for aging, related disability, and caregiving?

We will focus on the capacities, rather than the deficits, of older adults, and how to find balance, joy, and purpose in the challenging role of caregiver.

You will learn about living wills, health care and financial powers of attorney, and how to communicate about one's wishes with family and others involved.

Led by Deb Rubenstein, Paint Branch UU Church member and former Pastoral Care Associate who is a clinical social worker and attorney with eighteen years of experience working with older adults and caregivers, and Rev. Diane Teichert.

**STAFF CHANGES UNDERWAY**

Please welcome Eriall A. Steiner as our new Religious Exploration Assistant. She began her employment on November 27 with Director of Religious Exploration Erica Shadowsong as her Supervisor. The position is for 8 hours

per week, some of which are on Sunday mornings and the balance mid-week during the day. Eriall will be assisting the DRE administratively. We know her through PBUUC member Sabrina Finlay. She is a graduate of Oklahoma State University and has worked for non-profits as both staff and volunteer.

We are also pleased to announce that Charles (Chuck) Bury will assume the position of Church Administrator to follow Barbara Morton whose last day of employment will be Friday, December 21. The position is 32 hours per week and reports to the Minister. Chuck will start a period of training on Tuesday, December 11. In addition to being a life-long Unitarian Universalist and his familiarity with PBUUC, as our longest-serving Building Manager (seven years) and as Administrative Assistant since last June, Chuck brings experience in IT solutions, supervision, and office management. He is academically trained as an MBA and worked as a Federal Auditor for seven years in the 1990's for the US Department of Education - Office of Inspector General (OIG) in the Philadelphia Office.

As a result of hiring Chuck as our Church Administrator, we are looking to fill his Building Manager position as soon as possible and his Administrative Assistant position in January. If you know of anyone who would be interested in either position, please have them contact Barbara Morton. Please note that members of PBUUC are not eligible for staff positions.

*Rev. Diane Teichert, Minister and Head of Staff  
Michel Leger, Chair, Board of Trustees*

**PAID POSITION OPENING**

PBUUC currently has an opening for a Building Manager. The Building Manager has custodial, sound system and customer relations duties, and is responsible for opening and closing the Meeting House and the Religious Exploration building on Sundays on a rotating basis.

The Building Manager must also be available to work rental events. If you or someone you know is interested in the part-time position, please contact the Church Administrator at [churchadmin@pbuuc.org](mailto:churchadmin@pbuuc.org).



## The Wider Unitarian Universalist Universe

### Thanks and an Invitation from the UU Legislative Ministry of Maryland (UULM-MD)

“We want to express our thanks and our gratitude for the tremendous support that UU individuals and congregations have given to the UU Legislative Ministry of Maryland (UULM-MD) as we worked to pass Question 6 (marriage equality) and Question 4 (the DREAM Act) on November 6.

With your help, Maryland became the first state to end marriage discrimination against same gender couples and pass a version of the DREAM Act by popular vote. (Maine and Washington State also passed marriage equality and Minnesota defeated a constitutional amendment that would have banned marriage equality.)

Since its inception in 2005, UULM-MD has worked for marriage equality and you have made a difference in this victory. You have been tireless in your efforts and your financial contributions through individual donations and memberships, special collections, and fund raising events have been vital in enabling us to do this work.

We want to add a special thanks to the Rev. Lisa Ward (UU Fellowship of Harford County), who has served as UULM-MD's LGBT Task Force Chair throughout this long journey and to the Rev. Diane Teichert (Paint Branch UU Church), who joined Lisa as Co-Chair of UULM-MD's Marriage Equality Referendum Group. We are grateful for their extraordinary leadership and support for equality.

UULM-MD's DREAM Act Referendum group was led by the Rev. David Carl Olson (First Unitarian Church of Baltimore), Steve Buckingham (Goodloe and UULM-MD Vice-Chair), and Don Chery (UULM-MD Board and River Road UU Congregation). Since the DREAM Act was a new priority in 2012 for UULM-MD, we thank them for their leadership and ability to make a difference by speaking out for fairness for young people who want to continue their education in Maryland.”

---Betty McGarvie Crowley and Jan Bird, UULM-MD Co-Chairs  
---Margery Knight, UULM-MD Coordinator

### Cancellation Notice (see below)

You Are Invited!

The UULM-MD Board of Directors

and

Don Chery and the Reverend Ginger Luke

Invite You to a

UULM-MD Victory Celebration of the historic victories  
that occurred with the passage of Questions 4 and 6 on

Sunday, December 9, 2012

5:00-6:00 p.m.

at Their Home in Bethesda

Casual Dress

Light Refreshments Will Be Served

RSVP by Wednesday, December 5 for directions and more  
information

[info@uulmmd.org](mailto:info@uulmmd.org) or 410-266-8044, ext. 111

(This is a private home, so car-pooling is suggested.)

**Postponed until early 2013**

Many of you may have received this invitation, but, unfortunately, this event had to be postponed due to crush of holiday events and activities.

Please plan to join UUs from around Maryland for a celebration at a future date in 2013. If you would like to help in organizing this celebration, please contact us at [info@uulmmd.org](mailto:info@uulmmd.org).

### Murray Grove News Update

Murray Grove Retreat and Renewal Center: The only UU Retreat Center in the Mid-Atlantic Region is open year-round for your UU gatherings and family retreats. UU groups are our priority - please book your 2013 retreats ASAP!

Murray Grove made it through super storm Sandy in fairly good shape. The staff and buildings are fine. We had a few close calls with fallen trees narrowly missing buildings, our sign is down and our power was out. Fortunately, we are now open and ready for you!

For information, contact:

Murray Grove Retreat and Renewal Center by email at:

[murraygrove@murraygrove.org](mailto:murraygrove@murraygrove.org) or [www.murraygrove.org](http://www.murraygrove.org)



## Spirit of Life Center

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church  
3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi, MD 20783  
Web: [www.pbuuc.org/solcc/](http://www.pbuuc.org/solcc/) 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.

**CHAKRA TA'I CHI Class with SEVA Stress Release:** by Lynn Johnson. **1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday. 9:30 am-10:30 am.** Chakra Ta'i Chi is a gentle yet powerful centering series of movements created by Aminah Raheem and based on Ta'i Chi Chuan. It is designed to open the chakras, the energy centers of the body, and to align the soul, body, emotions and mind. Chakra Ta'i Chi is stress reducing and calming. The class will begin with the SEVA Stress Release acupressure protocol of Soul Lightening International for deep relaxation. (Suggested donation \$10/class or \$32/4 classes)

**Meditation Workshop:** by Raman Pathik. **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday. 9:30am-11:00am. Breath as a guide.** Another way of looking at your breath is as a spiritual light house to guide you back to the present moment. The goal of meditation is to allow you to spend as much of your life in the present as possible, instead of the future or the past; staying on the path of the now is the road that leads to happiness. (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)

**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)

**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)

**Simplicity Circle Workshop:** by **Simplicity Matters Earth Institute. TBD**

Simple living is about making conscious choices about what you do with your time, your money, and your energy. Simple living is about mindfulness, not deprivation. Simple living is about focusing your energies on what you personally consider important, and improving your quality of life as a result. 7 sessions following the book (\$22.00 for book) (Suggested donation \$5.00 requested)

**Dancing Within Class:** by Sharon Werth. **Thursday 6:30 pm-7:30pm.** 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)



## PBUUC Leadership Directory

### ☞ Staff ☞

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

Minister	Rev. Diane Teichert
Music Director & Pianist	David Chapman
Director, Religious Exploration	Erica Shadowsong
Religious Exploration Assistant	Eriall A. Steiner
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
	Eric Welkos
Child Care:	Beth Judy
	Marina Miguel

### ☞ Officers and Board of Trustees ☞

Chair	Michel 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  
Mike McMenamin  
Will Snyder

### ☞ We Care Coordinators ☞

Esther Nichols  
Jeri Holloway  
Allison Hughes  
Gloria "Genie" Van Pelt

### ☞ Worship Associates ☞

Claire Boston (2011-12)  
Celinda Marsh (2011-14)  
Jonathan Mawdsley (2012-15)  
Montana Monardes (2012-15)  
Ken Redd (2011-14)  
John Sebastian (2010-13)  
Carol Carter Walker (2010-13)  
Bettie Young (2012-15)

### ☞ Committees ☞

Adult Religious Education	Michel Léger *
Arts Council	Pat Tompkins
Budget Leadership Team	Mark Shute
Buildings & Grounds	Lee Dudek
DARTT (co-chairs)	Tricia Most
	Carol Carter Walker
Denominational Affairs	Don Gerson *
Finance	Shantida
Green Team	Penny O'Brien
	Will Snyder
Legacy Fund	Ken Montville
Leasing Team	Church Office
Membership	Polly Pettit
Ministry	Wendy Schlegel
Nominating	Jonathan Mawdsley
Personnel	Will Snyder
Religious Exploration	Tabitha Pierzchala
(Co-chair)	Matt Elliott
Site Improvement	Karine Bouis-Towe
Social Action	Nancy Boardman
Spirit of Life Center	Raman Pathik
Stewardship	Sherry Mitchell
Visual Arts	Jane Trout
<b>*Temporary</b>	

### ☞ Groups and Activities ☞

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

**PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH**

**3215 POWDER MILL ROAD**

**ADELPHI, MD 20783-1030**

**(301) 937-3666**

**WEBSITE: [WWW.PBUUC.ORG](http://WWW.PBUUC.ORG)**

**EMAIL: [CHURCHADMIN@PBUUC.ORG](mailto:CHURCHADMIN@PBUUC.ORG)**

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