



BRANCHES



PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

March 2014

SUNDAYS at 10:00 am

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

Refreshments and Fellowship after the service

Adult Enrichment Hour from 11:45-12:45 - Childcare until 12:45

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

MARCH 2

SENSE OF WONDER AMID SIGNS OF DOOM

*Rev. Diane Teichert with Noel Monardes, Worship Associate
and Dayna Edwards, Director of Religious Exploration*

We honor Women's History Month by drawing from the life of Rachel Carson, who lived and worked locally, and is often credited with launching the modern ecology movement. Today is Signing Sunday – for those ready to make the commitments of membership, please meet the Minister and Trustee at the Chalice after the service.

MARCH 9

MIND, HANDS, HEART, AND SPIRIT: AN ALL AGES SERVICE FOR STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

Rev. Diane Teichert with Dayna Edwards, Director of Religious Exploration,

Worship Associate Bettie Young, the House Band, Adult Choir, Children's Choir and the Chalice Dancers

Shaped around our Chalice Lighting words, this service will help you to identify which of the four parts is "most you" and help us see that we all fit in and are needed. "All Ages" means that children and youth participate for the full hour, with more arts and activity than usual. The Stewardship "Helping Hands, Loving Hearts" luncheon will follow the service, to kick off our 2014-2015 financial pledge drive. See page 11 for details.

MARCH 16

PAY IT FORWARD

The Worship Associates with Dayna Edwards, Director of Religious Exploration

In this auction service, won by PBUUC member Paul Young, the Worship Associates discuss their perspectives on the "Pay It Forward" concept through personal reflections, spirit plays, and music.

MARCH 23

SENECA FALLS, SELMA, STONEWALL: CLAIMING OUR SOCIAL JUSTICE STORY

Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg with Bettie Young, Worship Associate,

Dayna Edwards, Director of Religious Exploration, and the Choir

President Obama's Second Inaugural Address memorably connected "Seneca Falls, and Selma, and Stonewall." We will explore how the connections among those social justice stories can inspire and inform our present and future UU work for social justice. Meet the guest preacher on page 7.

MARCH 30

ON CREATION AND CREATIONISM

Rev. Diane Teichert with Jonathan Mawdsley, Worship Associate, and the Choir

Today we begin a new "arc" in our worship year, focusing on the Earth, and will start with our own Judeo-Christian tradition and its - not one, but two - creation stories. Newcomers are invited for informal conversation with the Minister in her office from 11:30 to 12:30.

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PBUUC Leadership Directory

☞ Officers and Board of Trustees ☞

Co-Chair	Don Gerson
Co-Chair	Charles Towe
Vice Chair	Don Mitchell
Vice Chair	Alice Tyler
Trustee	Peter Dowling
Trustee	Melody Lawrence
Trustee	Theresa Myrdon
Trustee	Evangeline Wells
Secretary	vacant
Treasurer	David Nation
Assistant Treasurer	Marilyn Pearl

☞ Worship Associates ☞

Carol Boston (2013-16)	Ken Redd (2011-14)
Jonathan Mawdsley (2012-15)	Mary Wester (2013-16)
Noel Monardes (2013-16)	Bettie Young (2012-15)

☞ Pastoral Care Associates ☞

Jeri Holloway
Lynn Johnson
Mike McMenamin
Will Snyder

☞ We Care Coordinators ☞

Esther Nichols
Fran Caughey

☞ Chartered Committees & Task Forces ☞

Arts Council	Pat Tompkins (Music)
	Jane Trout (Visual Arts)
Auction	Mark Shute
Budget Leadership Team	TBD
Buildings & Grounds	Lowell Owens (Acting)
Capital Campaign	Peter Wathen-Dunn
DARTT (co-chairs)	Carol Carter Walker
	Emma Sure Gaines-Gerson
Denominational Affairs	Don Gerson (Acting)
Electronic Communications	TBD
Ethnic Dinners	Marilyn Pearl
Finance	vacant
Green Team (co-chairs)	Penny O'Brien & Will Snyder
Leasing	Church Office
Legacy Fund	Ken Montville
Membership	Polly Pettit
Ministry	John Bartoli
Nominating	TBD
Personnel	Jim Flaherty
Religious Exploration (co-chairs)	Tabitha Pierzchala & Elizabeth Porter
	TBD
Site Improvement	Nancy Boardman
Social Action	Raman Pathik
Spirit of Life Center	Mike McMenamin & Chris Evans
Stewardship	

☞ Groups and Activities ☞

Bookstore	Carol Carter Walker
Bridge Group	Penny O'Brien
Chalice Dancers	Wendy Schlegel
Choir	David Chapman
Coffee Coordinator	Charles Towe
Community Café	Esther Nichols
Food for Thought	Mary Tyrtle Rooker
Gift Card Sales	Vacant
Handcraft Circle	Marj Donn
Listserv & Facebook Group	Ken Montville
Marriage Enrichment	Don Fairfield
Mediation Program	David Haberman
Men's Group	Peter Wathen-Dunn
Men's Retreat	Michel Léger
Moms of Young Ones	Renée Katz
Mystery Book Club	Kathy Kearns
Nature Spirituality Circle	Tabitha Pierzchala
Quest Discussion Group	Lowell Owens
Paint Branch Community Learning Center	Carmelita Carter-Sykes
Poetry Out Loud	Shantida
Shamanic Journeying	Mary Tyrtle Rooker
Simplicity Circle	Raman Pathik
SINKS and DINKS	Kathy Kearns & Jan Montville
	Amy Steiner
Spirituality Circle	Marge Owens
TWedHUULK	Esther Nichols
Ushers	Sabrina Jones
Warm Nights	Mark Shute
Webmaster	Carol Carter Walker
Welcome Table Greeters	Wendy Schlegel
Women's Group	Wendy Schlegel
Women's Retreat	

☞ Staff ☞

Please contact the Church Office at 301-937-3666 for Staff listed.

Minister	Rev. Diane Teichert
Music Director & Pianist	David Chapman
Director of Religious Exploration	Dayna Edwards
Youth Coordinator	vacant
Director, Chalice Dancers	Sharon Werth
Church Administrator	Charles Bury
Administrative Assistant	Alexis Saunders
Bookkeeper	Debra McCann
Sunday Service/Building Managers:	Donovan Bynes
	Wyatt Rexach
Child Care Providers:	Beth Judy
	Jazmin Balbuena

The Minister's mUUsings...

As the congregation shared its love to the many, more than usual, among us who have suffered this past month, we saw what a “community of care” really looks like. It looks like holding each other “in the light of love.” It looks like open hearts. It looks like prayer. It looks like cards, calls, rides, visits and meals. And it looks like loving each other, even as our hearts ache for those at the center of our concern.

I remember nearly 25 years ago, after my father had suffered what looked like a heart attack, which turned out to be caused by a brain tumor, which turned out to be caused by colon cancer... at some point before it all took his life at age 61, I asked him if his brushes with death had changed what he believed about what happens when we die? He said, “No, but it changed what I think about our church [Presbyterian, in which he was a respected lay leader]: I found out that it really IS the caring community we say it is. Look at all the support your mother and I have received...”

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church IS the caring community we say it is. AND it can be more than it is.

So, I want to ask you to increase your financial support of that community as you make your pledge for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. Whether it is a small increase, or a big one – perhaps to a half or whole tithe (5% or 10%) – it WILL be appreciated!

If we raise more money, and IF the way it is allocated in the budget was up to me (which it isn't), I would use it to:

Extend the duties, hours and salary of our Director of Religious Exploration to move toward our vision of a Multigenerational RE Program, increasing meaningful opportunities to create a “sense of community” among people of different generations and making better use of the ever-evolving social media communication methods favored by young parents (and others) these days.

Move toward meeting our full “Fair Share” obligation to our regional Unitarian Universalist body (the Joseph Priestley District - \$28/PBUUC member or \$5,600) and to our national Unitarian Universalist Association, \$60/member. Both bodies magnify our congregation's voice and impact in the world and also provide excellent resources to help PBUUC achieve its congregational goals. PBUUC has a long, proud history of being Fair Share to both organizations; let's resume it!

Increase the allocation to building maintenance. Even though ministers are supposed to focus on the spiritual and programmatic aspects of congregational life, I love our buildings and I see how we struggle to maintain and upgrade them.

Improve our sound and audiovisual capabilities in the Meeting House. We need to replace our speakers, and I'd like headset microphones, a more manageable screen, and recording capability for the purpose of posting audio and video to the PBUUC website and Facebook page.

This is my “wish list” for PBUUC. What is yours? Will you increase your pledge? I did.

I hope to see you on Sundays,

Diane

Wheel of Life



Our hearts are aching for Esther Nichols who suffered a home invasion on Friday evening of February 21. She will appreciate cards and notes, and possibly phone calls and visits. Also, please reach out to the other elders of our congregation who live alone, who may take this news especially hard. If reading this is the first you are hearing about it, please know you can contact me or Pastoral Care Associates Lynn Johnson, Jeri Holloway, Mike McMenamin, or Will Snyder for support.

Peter Wathen-Dunn and John Bartoli had surgery on February 19 and February 20, respectively. As of this writing on February 24, John is still in the hospital though doing well, but Peter is home and appreciates calls and perhaps visits (and if you would like to take him a meal, which will be needed through March while he is incapacitated, please contact Fran Caughey, We Care Coordinator for February and March).

Our hearts go out to Chuck Bury, Church Administrator, whose mother died February 26. Please hold him and his family in the light of love. His home address is in the directory should you want to send a card.

Meg Waugh is happy to be home from the hospital finally and nearly bounded up the deck to the Meeting House on Sunday, February 23, apparently her usual indomitable self!

Jim Dietz will likely be home from rehab by time you read this, but will be requiring more home support than when he entered. Please be in touch.

Many have asked for support during the Meditations on Joys and Sorrows during February. While not appropriate to repeat them here, if you were present, please try to remember to reach out to those people with a kind word or note.

- Rev. Diane Teichert

Board of Trustees Column

The Co-Chairs Column, March 2014:

Ahh February, just the sound of that month makes you feel cold, and indeed snow and cold did dominate this past month, interspersed with a few days that felt almost like Spring. The snow on our parking lot and deck required attention, and got it. But once it was removed, the parking lot mud clearly showed the need for the re-surfacing that we have been talking about for some time now. February had its high points as well. The Community Learning Center is on a roll. Student enrolment increased, and it looks like we have a real winner in serving our Community, a real focus of PBUUC.

Another successful event was our February 9 Town Hall Meeting. There were many items discussed including the Lay Leadership Covenant, the Fair Share Collection (UUA and JPD), the Budget Leadership Team (BLT) process overview, and updates including Site Improvement, the Committee on Ministry, the Paint Branch Community Learning Center, and 60th Anniversary Planning. Following the meeting was a question and answer session but if you were unable to attend please direct any questions or clarifications to the email addresses below or contact any board member.

The Meeting was well received and there are few points we want to note. The Fair Share Collection had remarkable results, in that nearly all present wrote a check for the Fair Share amount of \$87, with several donating even more. The total collection was \$5,142, and we are really delighted that we can send this amount to the UUA and the JPD for a portion of our Fair Share. We had no *a priori* expectation of the support for this collection but the amount collected and the overall enthusiasm give a clear signal of how important support for the larger organization is to our congregation. While we remain short of full Fair Share status we hope to return to funding our share from the annual budget, as we have historically done. This will have to come from Pledge Donations to the Stewardship Campaign, but more about that later.

Another outcome of the Town Hall Meeting, is an effort to make the Lay Leadership Covenant a living part of our community by reading it aloud at the beginning of meetings at Paint Branch. Most of you will hear these words repeated many times in the coming weeks and months. The Covenant is still a draft document and we are open to modifications and suggestions.

The Budget Leadership Team has been formed, and has begun its work. Budget requests are due by Sunday, March 2. Please get those requests in as soon as possible.

And finally, the kick-off for the Stewardship Campaign has been held. Financially speaking, this is the most important Campaign in the Church year. The regular pledge contributions are the lifeblood of our Church. All that we do that is based on our Budget is dependent on the level of these contributions. Please think hard about how much our Church depends on the level of your contribution.

Charles Toue & Don Gerson
Board of Trustees Co-Chairs

Staff Changes

Just when I think that we have a stable staff and I should schedule a Staff Retreat, something changes! This time it was the resignation, effective immediately, on February 5 of the Youth Program Coordinator, Khadijah Ali-Coleman. Our Director of Religious Exploration, Dayna Edwards, has filled in on necessary tasks since then. She and the RE Committee discussed the opening at their retreat on February 22. The opening will be posted.

Meanwhile, Church Administrator Chuck Bury has been advertising a Building Manager opening (we prefer to have three at any given time), and expects to interview soon. If you know someone who would be interested, please ask them to contact Chuck immediately.

Rev. Diane Teichert, in my capacity as Head of Staff

Our Caring Community

The We Care Coordinator for March is Fran Caughey (pronounced Caw'-ee), who also served as WCC in February and was very busy doing so! If you or a congregant you know is in need of rides, meals, cards or visits, please **contact Fran at 301-766-9648**. In April, Melody Lawrence will try her wings as a We Care Coordinator.

Also, thank you to Alan Hedin for volunteering to set us up with lotsahelpinghands.com so that our We Care program can operate on-line for those who prefer to express their needs or their ability to help out that way. We are therefore looking for one more We Care Coordinators who have on-line capability, to join Esther Nichols and Fran Caughey who do not. Please let me know if you are interested in that!

Thank you to all who completed the We Care Survey on-line or printed on blue paper and distributed on Sunday, December 15th! Thanks to Allison Hughes, we now have a beautiful spread sheet with an up-to-date list of who is willing to be asked to do what – cards, calls, rides, meals, visits and helping with memorial service receptions.

Rev. Diane Teichert– 301-937-3666 – minister@pbuuc.org

Religious Exploration

For an entire Saturday, the RE Committee spent the day together, bonding, sharing, exploring opportunities and planning for the next church year. As we commiserated over homemade breakfast, lunch and sweet (and healthy) snacks we discussed the parts of our religious exploration that are working and the parts that need fine tuning. We meditated and visualized what would make our RE program top-notch. Then we took our visualizations and put them into a plan. All agreed that we need to re-envision how we address the needs of children, youth, and young adults learning and living in the 21st Century, and we need to continue to hold true to the priorities articulated by the congregation at my start up.

Spirit Play and the consistent nursery-care staff were among the top items, we agreed, which are working well for children, parents, and facilitators. The consensus was that improvement needs to happen in the Middle and High School programs. In 2014-2015 we are going to be trying some innovative and exciting program changes. As the details of these changes are worked out, we will share them with you. Of course, we will keep our beloved programs, OWL, COA, and Neighboring Faiths. However, the way they are implemented will change. Sunday morning for the Middle and High School will be a time to apply current best-practice learning strategies that will engage the youth and allow us to meet our goal of developing young people who are religiously, ethically, and morally literate and also have strong critical thinking skills.

Additionally, the way the RE Committee is structured also changed. You may be thinking, "This is internal RE Committee stuff and doesn't impact me." Yet, it may impact you. We are moving to a portfolio structure for our committee, meaning each member of the committee focuses on one or two areas of expertise or personal strength. The portfolios are: Volunteers and Appreciation, Youth Liaison and Service Projects, Curriculum, Children's Choir and RE worship liaison, Events, Outreach and Budget. You may want to consider offering your strengths and taking the lead on one of these portfolios. Our hope is that by dividing the tasks, committee membership will be less daunting and allow people to find spiritual fulfillment by sharing one of their strengths with the RE program. Interested in taking on a portfolio? Contact our Volunteer committee member, Tricia Most.

My favorite moment in our RE Committee retreat was when one of the members blurted out, "This is such an Imbolc activity!" The rest of us looked at her, perplexed. The committee member went on to explain that Imbolc was a Neo-Pagan holiday tied to spring cleaning and preparation for the upcoming year. Her observation of our activity being tied to an ancient Celtic tradition was fascinating to me. It is wondrous to me that even when we aren't aware of it, some cycles pull at us and just feel "right." These cycles are ancient and renewing at the same time. These cycles tie us to our ancestors even as we plan for future generations.

Yours In Faith,

Dayna Edwards.

Director of Religious Exploration



In March the Pre-K through 5th grade Spirit Play classes are exploring the Blue Rainbow Promise: Believe in your ideas and act on them.

Here is a prayer that corresponds to the Blue Rainbow Promise:

"Be ours a religion..."

Theodore Parker

Be ours a religion which, like sunshine, goes everywhere;
its temple, all space;
its shrine, the good heart;
its creed, all truth;
its ritual, works of love;
its profession of faith, divine living.

Summer Services

Planning for Summer Services Is Right Around the Corner: Come Let Your Light Shine!

The snow may still be on the ground, but your Worship Associate team is thinking ahead to summer services. This year, we'll hold two planning sessions during Enrichment Hour to gather your ideas and put together a stimulating, engaging schedule for summer worship.

Whether you've already got a fully developed service you can't wait to deliver... or you are mulling over the kernel of an idea that you might possibly want to share, we hope you'll join us. The first planning meeting will be held during Enrichment Hour in the Kelley Room on Sunday, March 23; the second one will be on Sunday, May 4, also during Enrichment Hour in the Kelley Room.

Lay-led summer services are an important tradition at Paint Branch. They give our many talented members and friends a chance to share their interests and talents while our minister is away on study leave and vacation. In recent years, we've enjoyed services about a full range of topics, from aging to ethics, addictions to nanotechnology. Various interest groups have often stepped up to lead services, and we again hope for a great combination of individual and group-led efforts. As always, Worship Associates will be assigned to each service to keep things running smoothly, and Music Director David Chapman is happy to assist with music selections.

Summer's coming! Please join us for the first planning meeting on March 23. Can't wait until then? Can't make the meeting? Send an e-mail describing your possible topic to bettieyoung@hotmail.com or carolboston@verizon.net

Budget Leadership Team

Do you have feedback for the 2014-2015 Budget?

Hearings on the Preliminary Budget will be in the Kelley Room:

- ◇ Sunday, April 6 11:30 am – 1 pm
- ◇ Wednesday, April 16 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
- ◇ Sunday, April 27 11:30 am – 1 pm

These hearings will be open to all. Any person or group wishing to speak must sign-in and will be given a 5-8 minute block of time in the order of arrival. Should anyone require additional time, they must wait until everyone on that day's sheet is done and use the time remaining (in 5 minute blocks).

Committee on Ministry

Ministry: The Central Activity of Any Congregation

The Committee on Ministry (COM) is getting ready to sponsor in March an online survey (with paper copies for those who want them) asking questions about the ministry of our church. Then on April 13 and 27, we will hold focus groups for discussion of survey results and what ministry means to each of us.

We strongly believe that "ministry is the central activity of any congregation:"

"And since it is clear that a congregation's ministry depends on much more than the work of a single individual, it is logical to assume that the assessment of a congregation's ministry must include more territory than the minister's 'performance.'" (See the UUA website: ["Assessing Our Leadership: Promoting Effectiveness in Congregational Leadership."](#))

With this expansive view, in the focus groups we will ask questions like: "In what ways is this church different from how it was 5 years ago? How has the Minister contributed to this change? How has the Congregation contributed to this change? "

Are you excited to see what these conversations will show? I know we are! Be on the lookout for information on how to access the online survey in March and/or attend the focus groups in April.

The Committee on Ministry (COM) serves to nurture the ministry and the spiritual health of the congregation. The COM encourages direct and constructive communication among the members of the congregation and between the congregation and the minister. There are three members of the COM who are appointed by the Board of Trustees. The COM meets monthly with our minister, Rev. Diane Teichert. Current members are John Bartoli, Chair, Susannah Schiller, and Leo Jones.

We encourage anyone with comments, suggestions, or praise for our ministry to contact one of the members or send Email to com@pbuuc.org.

John Bartoli, Chair

Meet the Guest Preacher

On March 23, we welcome the Rev. Dr. Carl Gregg to the pulpit while our minister preaches at the UU Church of Rockville, in a multi-congregational pulpit swap. Rev. Gregg holds a Doctor of Ministry and a Diploma in the Art of Spiritual Direction from San Francisco Theological Seminary, a Master of Divinity from Brite Divinity School in Fort Worth, TX, and a Bachelor of Arts in Religion and Philosophy (cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa) from Furman University, Greenville, SC. Carl was married in 2007 to Magin LaSov Gregg. They have two cats (Kol Nidre and Shamash Chaim) and two dogs (Dobby Templeton and Scout "Boo Radley"). He has been the minister of the UU Congregation of Frederick, Maryland since July 2012.



Meet Our New Member



Pat Behenna

Pat Behenna joined Paint Branch UU Church on September 15, 2013 after a decade or more of visiting from time to time. Some of the things that drew Pat to Paint Branch and UUism after 35 years as a Presbyterian were the church's emphasis on acts as opposed to spending more time on dogma, and the conviction of the inherent worth of every individual. She also appreciated the church's focus on our responsibility as a community and as individuals to work toward peace and justice in our country and globally.

Pat is active in RESULTS, an organization which seeks to alleviate the worst aspects of poverty across the globe. A member of the Friends of the Laurel Library, she helped bring the civic-education program Great Decisions to the library. This program of the Foreign Policy Association stimulates discussion of foreign policy issues. This month Pat is serving as a reader of grant applications for an organization that supports grassroots projects that empower women and girls in developing countries. Pat loves to sing and has already joined the choir as an alto! Welcome to Paint Branch, Pat!

Submitted by Renée Katz

Getting to Know UU

A class for newcomers
wanting to know more about
Unitarian Universalism and PBUUC

Saturday, April 5 from 1 – 4 pm
With our Minister and Lay Leaders

SAVE THE DATE – SIGN UP IN MARCH

Light refreshments will be served - Childcare will be provided if requested by March 23.

Social Action Committee (SAC) News

With the Maryland General Assembly in session in Annapolis – the time for advocacy and action is here. And Paint Branchers have been doing just that! In late January six of us attended the annual meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland. (UULM-MD) It was attended by about 90 people from 15 Maryland UU congregations. There we heard excellent speakers, such as State Senator Jamie Raskin, focus on priority issues of increasing the minimum wage; supporting Free and Fair Elections through calling for a constitutional convention to stipulate that corporations are not people and money is not speech - thereby overruling the US Supreme Court's Decision in Citizens United; climate change in Maryland, such as continuing by legislation the moratorium on fracking; and enacting transgender civil rights protections. Breakout groups then planned actions to support these priorities.

Since then rallies, lobbying, and hearings have taken place where we have been present. As a leading example - our own minister, Rev. Diane Teichert, is the chair of the UULM-MD's Task Force on Protection of Transgender Civil Rights. In this capacity she testified on February 4 before the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee on the Fairness for All Marylanders Act of 2014. This would extend anti-discrimination laws in the areas of housing, credit, employment, and public accommodations to transgender Marylanders. Then on February 17 we joined Rev. Teichert for the Lobby Day and Rally for Trans Equality in Annapolis – with Nancy Boardman, David Chapman, Marj Donn, Lynn Johnson, Shantida and many other UUs there too - as we heard Governor O'Malley support this legislation before we went off to meet with our state legislators. And importantly on Sunday, February 9, Paint Branchers signed 40 cards to their legislators supporting this legislation too. On a different issue, on Tuesday, February 11, Nancy B. and Marj Donn attended the rally on Free and Fair Elections in Annapolis where Senator Raskin spoke before visits to the legislators that day.

In March, hearings will continue – with many focused on climate change issues as well as transgender equality. A busy and important time for UU advocacy at the state level for issues of importance to our denomination!

News Items from Nancy Boardman – SAC Chair
Tel: 301-982-3450 or SAC@pbuuc.org.



Special Collections News

The January collection for our own Community Café netted \$619. Our Paint Branch people, under the leadership of undefeatable Esther Nichols, prepare lunch every single month on the 4th Tuesday in the Hyattsville area. This money, along with some that the Board of Trustees was able to add to the budget for it, will pay for the ingredients and for the other items needed to serve. A big thank you to the BOT and to everyone who contributed. See Esther if you'd like to help by preparing and/or serving food.

A Special Collection for Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice (UUSJ) in the National Capital Region on Sunday, March 30 includes a visit by its Executive Director Rev. Dr. Terence Ellen – followed by an Enrichment Hour with him too. UUSJ is a regional partnership of UU congregations, individuals, and UU affiliated organizations committed to giving a voice to our UU religious principles and values. It was founded in 2000, and works with other issue-based and interfaith groups on environmental, immigration, LGBT rights and wealth divide issues. It has also recently begun to focus on advocacy on Capitol Hill to amplify our UU voices at the national level. SAC is very happy to welcome Rev. Ellen to our Paint Branch Sunday service, and hopes many of you can join him during the Enrichment Hour on March 30 for an interesting and stimulating gathering!

Special collections coming up:

April 13: Zero Waste Prince George's/Community Research
May 4: Crop Walk/Church World Service

Next Social Action Committee (SAC) Meeting:

Saturday, March 15, from 10 am to 12:30 pm
in Room 1 of the RE Building

Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team



The Wider Unitarian Universalist Universe

Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team News

The Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team's (DARTT) mission is to facilitate the full implementation of the multicultural resolution approved by the Congregation at its 2011 Annual Meeting, through a variety of experiences and events designed to transform ourselves into anti-racist, anti-oppressive beings.

The resolution:

"To more fully realize our Unitarian Universalist Principles, we, the Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church community, declare ourselves an Intentional Multicultural Congregation. Therefore, we commit ourselves, the Board of Trustees, staff, committees, affinity groups and lay leadership to inclusive actions to transform all aspects of congregational life in ways that affirm our multicultural identity as the foundation of the church's strength."

Reverberations Returns

Last summer, after a Summer Service led by Janet Overton based on National Public Radio's Race Card Project, DARTT hosted a series of Reverberations, after-service discussions facilitated by Muriel Morisey and Peter Wathen-Dunn, about some specific aspect of personal experiences relating to racial and cultural identities. These sessions were well-attended and resonated with the congregation. DARTT intends to re-launch the monthly series beginning next month. Watch upcoming Bulletin, Listserv and Facebook announcements for more information. We will be recruiting new facilitator teams for these sessions.

Leadership Changes

DARTT has been trying a new system of Leadership: a small Core Group that rotates in two-person teams in facilitating meetings. At its March meeting, DARTT decided to continue this system. DARTT also appointed Emma Sue Gaines-Gerson and Carol Carter Walker, as DARTT Co-Chairs for the rest of this church year.

New Meeting Time

DARTT wants to see more people at its meetings. So, beginning in March, we will meet on Saturdays during the day. We believe that this change will make meetings more accessible for more members. Specific meeting announcements will be in upcoming Bulletins.

Friday April 11 and Saturday, April 12

2014 Joseph Priestley District Assembly *A People So Bold*

Featuring Keynote Address:

Kindling Hope in a Difficult World by

Rev. Kathleen McTigue

UU College of Social Justice

17 Interactive Workshops covering many topics of interest – many different offerings. Be sure to have this list handy during the registration process or have the numbers corresponding to your workshop choices written down before continuing.

ACE Conference Center
309 Manor Road, Lafayette Hill, PA

Full Conference Brochure: <http://goo.gl/AlwOsH>

Online Registration: <http://goo.gl/8rshdO>

Goodloe Memorial UU Church Fundraiser for Bowie State University Scholarship: Saturday, March 29

Dr. Kevin Maxwell, CEO of the Prince George's County Public Schools, will be the keynote speaker at a benefit for a scholarship at Bowie State University being held at Goodloe Memorial UU Church. The scholarship honors the Reverend Don Speed Smith Goodloe, after whom the congregation was renamed in 2004.

The evening will begin with a reception at 6:30. The program will begin at 7 pm. Paint Branch members and friends have been steadfast in their support for this Goodloe annual fundraiser. Rev. Goodloe was the first principal of the Maryland Normal and Industrial School, now Bowie State University, from 1911 - 1921 and the first African American graduate of Meadville Theological School, now Meadville Lombard Theological School.

In and Around Paint Branch



ETHNIC DINNERS

The next Ethnic Dinner will be Saturday, March 22, at 6:30 pm, and feature the cuisine of Russia. That was simple! The rest, not so much! Where will the cuisine come from in space and time? Will it be Tsarist Russia, Soviet Russia, or “modern” Russia? Will it be just the area around “tropical” Sochi, all of Russia including frigid Siberia, or Russia and some of the former Soviet Bloc? By the time you are reading this, most of that will have been decided at the February 23 menu planning meeting. What are your Russian favorites? Stroganov, blini, borsch, Sochi’s Catchapuri, Kulebiaka, Baba au rhum, or are you just in it for the caviar and vodka? If you are afraid of spicy food, you’d have a hard time finding any here. You can see the menu when you purchase your ticket (adults, \$15, kids, half-price) and volunteer to help, all accomplished at the Ethnic Dinner table in the lobby immediately following Sunday services on, March 2, 9, and 16.

If you are a newcomer to Paint Branch who received a coupon for a free Ethnic Dinner ticket and this is the dinner you’d like to use it for, here’s how that works. Bring your coupon to the ticket table on any of those Sundays and exchange it for your ticket. We want to know your name and count you among those attending the dinner so we’ll have enough food for all. If you’d like to know more about the dinners, ask Marilyn Pearl (contact information below) or any Paint Brancher who’s been to one.

We do need cooks of course. Don’t let the foreign names scare you off! This is basically typical European cooking. Even if you don’t know the dish, the ingredients will be familiar. We will give you the recipes and reimburse your expenses. But, beyond cooks, we also need folks to come early at 5 pm, put out the tables & chairs, and set the tables. Around 6, we will need someone to tend the door, people to help the cooks in the

kitchen or make coffee, and donations of Russian music. This can mean loaning us DVDs of classical music by Russian composers, Russian folk music or dance music, even contemporary music, vocal or instrumental. Or it can be some tech-savvy person downloading a varied selection on his/her electronic gadget, to play through our sound system. Last, but by no means least, we need folks to stay after dinner and burn some calories helping to clean up. Often only one person signs up for this task (thank you Nancy!), but we obviously need many more who frequently need to be guilted into it. Set-up happens in one room. Clean-up must happen in two rooms. The Meeting House must be transformed, under the building manager’s direction, from a dining room into a sanctuary for the next morning. The kitchen requires putting leftovers in the refrigerator, loading & running the dishwasher multiple times, putting clean dishes away, and generally having the kitchen usable for the coffee people the next morning. Further cleaning in the kitchen will happen during the leftover sale the following day, but food storage and starting the cleaning process that evening are essential. And finally, tablecloths and dish towels need to be laundered. If several people each take one load, no one has to do more.

Do you have a church-shy friend you’d like to introduce to Paint Branch? Here’s a non-intimidating way. If you first bring them to a dinner, they may later, be more receptive to coming to a service. If you don’t know if you can come or can’t buy a ticket right away, please make a reservation and pay at the door. We’d rather you make a reservation and not come, than show up without one, and risk us running short of food. Contact Marilyn Pearl, 301-805-1218 or buffalo_gal@verizon.net.

Khorosho Appetit!

TWedHUULK at Italian Inn

Wednesday, March 19, at 1 pm

All are invited to join us for lunch at this venerable Italian restaurant located across from Capital Plaza just a block from the Annapolis Road exit from the Baltimore Washington Parkway. It sits up on the hill and has a large sign consisting of a cartoon chef holding “Italian Inn.”

The restaurant was established in 1961 and is still operated by the same family. The address is [6221 Annapolis Road, Hyattsville, MD](http://www.italianinn.com). If you need a ride, or can give a ride to someone else, please contact Marge Owens at 301-345-1572 or lowellandmarge@verizon.net.

In and Around Paint Branch, continued

MUSIC NOTES

Music at Paint Branch presents "Musical March Madness"!!

There are three FREE concerts in the month of March. James Stern, violin and Audrey Andrist, piano brought us wonderful music on Sunday, March 2. They performed works by Leos Janacek, Josef Suk, Olivier Messiaen and Beethoven. The Stern/Andrist Duo was a special event: the 50th (Golden) concert on the Music at Paint Branch series. We hope you were able to attend!!!

Sunday, March 16 at 4 pm brings Deni Foster, piano and flute, Richard Berg, recorder, clarinet and harpsichord, and Heather Brown, soprano. They are presenting music by "M" composers or with titles beginning with "M". There will also be a madrigal group performing on this annual concert.

Saturday, March 29 at 7:30 we will host Frank Wiens, pianist in a program yet to be announced.

Frank Wiens is a European piano colleague of Audrey Andrist who will be touring in the Washington, DC area in March. We are honored to be presenting him at Paint Branch.

Jeri Holloway, Arts Council

STEWARDSHIP: "Helping Hands, Loving Hearts"

The annual Stewardship Campaign kicks off at Commitment Sunday on March 9. We hope everyone can join us as we celebrate this year's theme of "Helping Hands, Loving Hearts". After the worship service, the Stewardship Committee will host a no-cost luncheon of soup and sandwiches where you will have the opportunity to make your annual financial commitment for the 2014-2015 church year. Please let us know if you are coming for the luncheon by sending an email to RSVP@pbuuc.org.

If you can't make it to Commitment Sunday, a visiting steward will be contacting you to discuss your pledge. Please welcome them and the opportunity to talk about your hopes and dreams for PBUUC. If you have any questions about Stewardship at Paint Branch, please don't hesitate to contact us.

*Mike McMenamin & Chris Evans
Stewardship Committee Co-Chairs*

VISUAL ARTS



"Boat Lines and Boat Hulls"

photographs by Frances Borchardt

March 6 – April 13, 2014 Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church presents "Boat Lines and Boat Hulls," an exhibit of abstract maritime photography by Frances Borchardt from March 6 through April 13, 2014. The series examines details often overlooked in the daily life in maritime communities.

Boat Lines captures form, color and line of reflections that existed for an instant of the water's surface. Paired with images of dock lines, photographed at the same time, which begs comparisons to their owner's personalities. Some mooring lines were tightly wound while others suggest an utter disregard for their purpose.

Boat Hulls are pictures of the undersides of boats placed on Marine jack stands to weather the winter months. Drawn by the color, texture, shape, and shadow cast on the weather-beaten hulls, these are straight views paired with detail shots.

Frances Borchardt's work has been shown at Maryland Federation of Art and Quiet Waters Park in Annapolis, Artists Gallery of Columbia, The Art League in Alexandria, and River Gallery in Galesville. She is a founding member of the Muddy Creek Artist Guild that promotes South Anne Arundel County artists.

If you are interested in purchasing one of her photographs please contact her at 410 867-0078 or feborchard@aol.com.

Jane Trout, Arts Council

Note to Our Readers:

The Church Administrator is responsible for the production of the newsletter.

SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES FOR BRANCHES: All submissions for inclusion in Branches should be submitted by email to: branches@pbuuc.org.

The Leadership Directory, (on page 2 of this issue), will contain names only. For more contact information, please consult your Membership Directory or call the Church Office at 301-937-3666. All submitted articles will contain phone numbers and/or email addresses for contact if listed. You may choose to list your email address only as a point of contact, and if requested, an email specific to individual PBUUC committees, groups, or teams can be created.

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.
- 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**.
- **Sunday Bulletin announcements** should be submitted in their final form, and content should be **120** words or less. Please try to keep announcements one paragraph with a clear headline or topic sentence. Please include day, date, location, time, and contact information. Announcements should be PBUUC related, non-PBUUC events must have explicitly stated UU connection.

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.

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

EMAIL: CHURCHADMIN@PBUUC.ORG

WEBSITE: WWW.PBUUC.ORG

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