



BRANCHES



PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

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

February 2015

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.

FEBRUARY 1

WHAT THIS UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST BELIEVES

Guest preacher Rev. Dave Hunter, with Carol Carter Walker, Worship Associate; Dayna Edwards, Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration; and the Choir

Unitarian Universalists are creedless; beliefs aren't key for us; we're not required or expected to believe alike. But still people want to know what we UUs believe, and despite our protests, common beliefs are important for us. Our seven principles aren't enough. Rev. Dave Hunter is co-minister of the Unitarian Universalists of Gettysburg, PA. *Learn more about guest preacher on Page 5.*

FEBRUARY 8

ARJUNA, THE RELUCTANT WARRIOR

Rev. Russ Savage, with Genie Ahearn, Worship Associate; and Dayna Edwards, Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration

The Bhagavad Gita, a scripture sacred in the Hindu tradition, tells the story of the warrior Arjuna and his spiritual struggle with whether to resist evil or lay down his arms. Let us examine this ancient classic and see what it might teach us about struggles we face today. *Service to be followed by Congregational Town Hall Meeting.*

FEBRUARY 15

THE NAME OF GOD: SHOULD IT BE EXCLAIMED, RECLAIMED OR BURIED?

Guest speakers Haytham Younis, Dennis Skocz, Daniel Spiro and John Shook; with Bettie Young, Worship Associate; Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration; and the Choir

An imam, a traditional Christian, a progressive Jew, and an unabashed atheist talk about God. Followed by a Q&A and discussion period during Enrichment Hour. *Learn more about our guest speakers on Page 4.*

FEBRUARY 22

BECAUSE OF THEM WE CAN

Rev. Russ Savage and Dayna Edwards, Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration; with Carol Boston, Worship Associate; the Chalice Dancers; and the Children's Choir

In recognition of Black History Month, we examine the lives of contemporary African-American heroes such as Rosa Parks, whose courageous acts moved our nation forward. Because of their lives, we can more confidently move toward being a multicultural society. *This is a Signing Sunday (see below).*

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP TEAM: Two events will be scheduled regularly on the fourth Sunday of each month, unless there is a conflicting congregational event:

Signing Sunday, February 22. The Minister and a member of the Board of Trustees will be happy to greet anyone wishing to sign the Membership Book. They will be available by the chalice after the Sunday service, ready to welcome new members wishing to make this important commitment to our church community.

Meet the Minister, February 22. Rev. Savage and a member of the Membership Team will host a gathering of any visitors or friends who would like to find out more about PBUUC and our particular approach to Unitarian Universalism. This is an opportunity to have a personal conversation about our unique church and our many activities. These will be held in the Minister's Office in the RE Building after the service and after any new member signings.

Table of Contents

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|--|---------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| February Sunday Services | Page 1 | Religious Exploration | Page 6 | Reverberations: Speaking While Female | Page 8 |
| Message from Membership Cmte | Page 1 | Roots & Branches Class, Sat. Mar. 28 | Page 6 | DARTT February Meeting, Feb. 14 | Page 8 |
| PBUUC Leadership Directory | Page 2 | Social Action Committee (SAC) | Page 7 | In and Around Paint Branch | Page 9 |
| Ministers Page | Page 3 | Report from UULM-MD Meeting | Page 7 | TWedHUULK Goes Greek Feb. 18 | Page 9 |
| From Rev. Russ Savage | Page 3 | Other Activities Involving SAC | Page 7 | New England Regional Dinner | Page 9 |
| From Rev. Diane Teichert | Page 3 | Special Collections Update | Page 7 | Annual Women's Retreat Mar. 7 | Page 9 |
| Meet Our Guest Speakers | Page 4 | Upcoming SAC Meetings | Page 7 | On Exhibit in the MH | Page 9 |
| Board of Trustees Column | Page 5 | Stewardship Committee | Page 7 | "We Are One" Dance Rehearsals | Page 9 |
| Our Caring Community | Page 5 | Wider UU Universe | Page 8 | PBUUC Bookstore Returns | Page 9 |
| Wheel of Life | Page 5 | UU UNO Spring Seminars April 9-11 | Page 8 | Note to Readers | Page 10 |
| February We Care Coordinator | Page 5 | JPD Worship Arts Festival, Feb 21-22 | Page 8 | | |
| Legacy Fund Proposals Wanted | Page 5 | Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team | Page 8 | | |

PBUUC Leadership Directory

🌀 Officers and Board of Trustees 2014-2015 🌀

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Chair | Theresa Myrdon |
| Vice Chair | John Barr |
| Vice Chair | Melody Lawrence |
| Trustee | Liz Citrin |
| Trustee | Peter Dowling |
| Trustee | Wendy Schlegel |
| Trustee | Carol Carter Walker |
| Secretary | Shantida |
| Assistant Secretary | Tess Morrison |
| Treasurer | David Nation |
| Assistant Treasurer | Marilyn Pearl |

🌀 Worship Associates 🌀

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Genie Ahearn (2014-15) | Van Summers (2014-17) |
| Carol Boston (2013-16) | Carol Carter Walker (2014-17) |
| Jonathan Mawdsley (2012-15) | Bettie Young (2012-15) |
| Noel Monardes (2013-16) | |

🌀 Pastoral Care Associates 🌀

Jeri Holloway
Lynn Johnson
Mike McMenamin
Will Snyder

🌀 We Care Coordinators 🌀

Fran Caughey
Melody Lawrence

🌀 Chartered Committees & Task Forces 🌀

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Arts Council | Pat Tompkins (Music) |
| Auction | Jane Trout (Visual Arts) |
| Budget Leadership Team | Mark Shute |
| Buildings & Grounds | Theresa Myrdon |
| Capital Campaign | Lowell Owens |
| DARTT (co-chairs) | Peter Wathen-Dunn |
| Denominational Affairs | Carol Carter Walker |
| Electronic Communications | Emma Sue Gaines-Gerson |
| Ethnic Dinners | Don Gerson |
| Finance | contact church office |
| Green Team (co-chairs) | Marilyn Pearl |
| Leasing | Patty Daukantas |
| Legacy Fund | Penny O'Brien & Will Snyder |
| Membership | Church Office |
| Ministry | Ken Montville |
| Nominating | Polly Pettit |
| Personnel | Susannah Schiller |
| Religious Exploration (co-chairs) | Muriel Morisey |
| Site Improvement | Jim Flaherty |
| Social Action | Patricia Most & Elizabeth Porter |
| Sustaining Our Ministry | Peter Wathen-Dunn |
| Stewardship | Nancy Boardman |
| | SOM@pbuuc.org |
| | Mike McMenamin & Chris Evans |

🌀 Groups and Activities 🌀

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Bookstore | Carol Carter Walker |
| Bridge Group | Penny O'Brien |
| Chalice Dancers | Wendy Schlegel |
| Choir | David Chapman |
| Coffee Coordinator | vacant |
| Community Café | Jeri Holloway |
| Food for Thought | Mary Tyrtle Rooker |
| Handcraft Circle | Marj Donn |
| Facebook Group | Ken Montville |
| Marriage Enrichment | Don Fairfield |
| Mediation Program | David Haberman |
| Men's Group | Peter Wathen-Dunn |
| Men's Retreat | vacant |
| Moms of Young Ones | Renée Katz |
| Mystery Book Club | Kathy Kearns |
| Nature Spirituality Circle | Katherine Earle |
| 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 |
| Spirituality Circle | Amy Steiner |
| TWedHUULK | Marge Owens |
| Ushers | Esther Nichols |
| Warm Nights | Sabrina Jones |
| Webmaster | Mark Shute |
| Welcome Table Greeters | Pat Behenna |
| Widowed Persons Support Group | Jeri Holloway |
| Women's Group | Wendy Schlegel |
| Women's Retreat | Wendy Schlegel |

🌀 Office Volunteers 🌀

Elizabeth Scheiman (Tues), Will Snyder (Wed), Alice Tyler (Thur)

🌀 Staff 🌀

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

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Minister | Rev. Diane Teichert |
| Interim Caretaker Minister | Rev. Russ Savage |
| Music Director & Pianist | David Chapman |
| Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration | Dayna Edwards |
| Church Administrator | Sharon Werth |
| Administrative Assistant | Charles Bury |
| Bookkeeper | Alexis Saunders |
| Sunday Service/Building Managers: | Debra McCann |
| | Romeo Ndonfak |
| | Wyatt Rexach |
| Child Care Providers: | Beth Judy |
| | Jazmin Balbuena |
| | Milan Monardes |

Ministers Page

From Rev. Russ Savage:

Last month we celebrated the birthday of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This month we observe Black History Month. Next month will be the 50th anniversary of the 1965 March on Selma, AL—an event whose brutal police tactics moved public opinion in favor of the struggle for civil rights. Many UUs and others will be traveling to Selma and Birmingham to mark this important anniversary and to reassert the continuing need for action in the struggle for civil rights for all.

There's no doubt we have made much progress in civil rights since 1965. But we have a long way to go. The deaths of Michael Brown and Eric Garner at the hands of the police provide chilling evidence. Where are we when we don't even count the number of African American men who are shot and killed by police each year in our country? Where are we when 60 percent of our prison population is African American, while they represent only about 12 percent of the national population? Where are we when families are broken apart by outmoded immigration legislation and practices which we seem powerless to change? Where are we when gay or lesbian couples can marry in some states but not others?

As the year unfolds, let us resolve to continue the good work that PBUUC does to advance the civil rights of all those who are marginalized.

Russ

Rev. Russ Savage

Interim Caretaker Minister ICM@pbuuc.org



From Rev. Diane Teichert:

I am so deeply grateful for the love and support I have received from the congregation since my stroke on April 18th, and the gift of time and space given to me by you to experience this as a transition, as a time of recovery and waiting, rather than being rushed into a premature decision about when I return to work.

Attending services starting in September, once a month was my way of beginning to test the water of returning to work. Would I feel overwhelmed, or agitated, or scared being here? Or welcomed, energized, or appreciated? I decided to feel my way, literally-- to go on how I actually felt, not on what I thought I should feel or was expected to feel. Each visit positively paved the way for the next.

After happily attending services here once a month in the fall, with Russ and the Committee on Ministry, I developed a series of what we are calling "steppingstones" for the winter months: On December 14th, I lit the chalice, walking to and from the altar table with the help of my cane, ankle brace and arm swing. On January 18th, I met with our youth group. On the 25th, I added my part to a sermon on transitions (this column is excerpted from that sermon and it is posted in its entirety on pbuuc.org). On March 8, for Com-

mitment Sunday, I will co-preach with Russ. On April 19 I will preach by myself.

If the steppingstones go well, if I feel good about myself and you feel good about me, I imagine preaching once each month through the summer, and IF it doesn't crowd out my work toward the full recovery of my left leg, foot, arm, and hand, maybe I will also assume one quarter of the other ministerial duties in the spring and summer months, leaving the rest to Russ.

Where will the steppingstones lead us? I do not know.

But I do want to tell you that, last winter, a year ago, I was feeling very burdened by conflicts here and heavy pastoral care responsibilities. I felt I was working more hours than I wanted, or was healthy, to be working. I developed a fantasy for the future: to share the job with another minister, preferably someone with a different set of life experiences from mine-- for example a man and/or a person of color and/or someone at least 25 years younger than I and/ or someone who is gay or lesbian. More diversity of ministerial leadership would support our intention to be a more multi-generational, multi-cultural congregation, more welcoming of GLBT, queer and questioning people; I would be less lonely and you would benefit from two different personalities and sets of skills and passions, each minister working half time.

So, my post-stroke vision has me working not more than 20 hours a week, sharing the position much like the co-ministries by which you've been served in the past. Except that your prior co-ministries were both married couples and I am already happily married... to someone who is not a minister!

However, I have successfully job-shared with someone who wasn't my spouse twice before, once prior to becoming a minister and once after. On the other hand, what I am able to do now in twenty hours is not nearly what I could have done in as many hours a year ago. Every task now takes me so much longer.

Also, I fully recognize that the congregation may not want a job-sharing ministry at this time in its history; and it is also possible that once we have traversed across these winter steppingstones, either you or I, or both, may decide that even sharing the job by this fall is an unrealistic expectation, due to my remaining disabilities, visible and invisible, from the stroke, especially if I am not cleared to drive again by then.

We, you and I, will learn from my steppingstones in this time of major transition in both my life and in congregational life. I hope it will be, for all of us, a time of active waiting and deeply reflective discernment, in "sacred space."

This is a time of discernment for me and for you- what and who are we called to be? What are we able to do and be? What does the world most need from me, from PBUUC?

Hoping to see you on my future
"Steppingstone Sundays,"

Diane,

Rev. Diane Teichert, Minister
revdteichert@gmail.com



Meet Our Guest Speakers

Our service on February 15, 2015 will present an interfaith panel discussing the topic: "*The Name of God: Should it Be Exclaimed, Reclaimed or Buried?*" The four panelists include an imam, a traditional Christian, a progressive Jew, and an unabashed atheist. There will be a Question and Answer session during Enrichment Hour. Several of the panelists will be selling their books in the Foyer during the coffee hour following the service.

Here is how the panel describe the program:

The panelists, as is apparent from their bios below, come from very religious backgrounds and will not be afraid to present their differences sharply and provocatively. Yet they have come together as a panel because they also share common ground. Notably, each panelist supports efforts to confront the extent to which religion has become a dangerously divisive force in our society. And they attribute much of this divisiveness to the failure of our religious and academic leaders to squarely address the topic of God. Clearly, the old cliché that "we all believe in the same God" no longer applies. Religious traditionalists and progressives may envision God in altogether different ways. Atheists argue that God is but a figment of our imaginations. And an increasing number of people in our society have grown bored with the whole topic. Our panel would like to change that fact by challenging their audiences to search their own hearts and minds and wrestle with the meaning of divinity. By bringing to light multiple perspectives in a dialogue that is respectful, yet lively, the panelists will not so much debate each other as serve as facilitators. Rather than striving to brainwash the audience with rhetoric, they hope to inspire those in attendance to deepen their own perspectives regarding the subject of God, which begins by better understanding one's own values and biases.

The Panelists

Haytham Younis is a Muslim teacher, lecturer and imam who has been involved in Islamic education for many years. An American of Syrian extraction, Imam Haytham went on to study Arabic and Islamic Studies at the Islamic University of Medina, Saudi Arabia, and resided there from 1990 to 2002. Imam Haytham exhibits a keen ability to communicate information about Islam in a clear and enjoyable manner to American audiences. Since returning to his native United States, he has been busy teaching, lecturing at schools and houses of worship, counseling prison inmates and others, delivering Friday sermons and leading congregational prayers in the greater Washington DC area. Imam Haytham is a co-founder of the Jewish Islamic Dialogue Society of Washington, an organization dedicated to bringing Jews and Muslims together in order that they gain better understanding of each other's religious traditions and in order to work together to promote justice and peace in the world.

Dennis Skocz, PhD, is an Adjunct Professor of Philosophy at the University of the District of Columbia and Northern Virginia Community College. A career diplomat for some 30 years, Dennis now works as a consultant in political-military affairs and strategic planning. Dennis received his doctoral degree in philosophy, specializing in contemporary European philosophy. He is active in numerous philosophical societies and widely published in academic journals. A practicing Catholic, Dennis looks to religious experience and I-Thou encounter of the human and divine, as the basis of religious thought and affiliation. For him, religion is a "thick" web of relationships to God and our fellow human beings, and thrives when rooted in the rich and complex narratives of religious traditions. Dennis' thoughts regarding Christianity have been enriched by his study of Hindu religious practice and expression as a Fulbright scholar in India and then when he traveled throughout South India during his assignment to the U.S. Consulate General in Madras/Chennai.

Daniel Spiro wears many hats. He is the author of *Liberating the Holy Name: A Free-Thinker Grapples with the Meaning of Divinity* (Cascade Books, July 2014), as well as two novels of ideas, *Moses the Heretic* (Aegis Press, 2008) and *The Creed Room* (Aegis Press, 2006). He is a co-founder and the coordinator of two dialogue societies – the Washington Spinoza Society, a discussion group sponsored by the Goethe-Institute Washington, and the Jewish-Islamic Dialogue Society of Washington. He is a Zionist who is active in working for peace in the Middle East and has been a member of multiple groups devoted to peace between the Israelis and Palestinians. In addition, Daniel has published works on the role of religion in the public schools and the philosophy of education, and he regularly blogs under the name "Empathic Rationalist." When not pursuing his love of philosophy and religion, Daniel works as a full-time lawyer who specializes in investigating and litigating against corporate fraud.

John Shook, PhD, is a scholar and professor living in the Washington, D.C. area. He is research associate in philosophy and instructor in science education for the University at Buffalo. He is also President of Partners for Secular Activism, an educational nonprofit offering online classes of interest to the secular side of life at secularactivism.org. Since 2006, he has worked for several secular and humanist organizations, including the Center for Inquiry, the American Humanist Association, the Humanist Institute, and the Institute for Humanist Studies, and for several years he was President of the Society of Humanist Philosophers. John has authored and edited more than a dozen books about science, pragmatism, naturalism, ethics, politics, and religion and has published articles in various academic journals and magazines. His most recent book is *The God Debates: A 21st Century Guide for Atheists and Believers (and Everyone in Between)*, and he also edited a volume of William James's writings on pragmatism and a volume of Paul Kurtz's writings on skepticism.

Meet Our Guest Speakers, continued

Reverend Dave Hunter, Guest Minister for February 1



The Rev. Dave Hunter and his wife, Rev. Kerry Mueller, although officially retired, are in their third year as co-consulting ministers for the Unitarian Universalists of Gettysburg. From 2006 to 2011 they were co-ministers of the UU Fellowship of Fayetteville, Arkansas. Dave and Kerry live in Berwyn PA and are members of the Main Line Unitarian Church, in Devon PA. Dave is a graduate of Princeton University, the Harvard Law School, and, in 2003, Wesley Theological Seminary. From 1975 to 2000, Dave was an attorney in the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Board of Trustees Column

We've started a new year. I'm not convinced this arbitrary changing of the date is useful for anyone other than historians. Heavens know it takes me more than a few weeks... months to remember to write the correct year. And changing the year doesn't change all that is going on around our Church Community.

We are a busy congregation. I look at the Church calendar in wonder and awe at all that is going on from Auction Dinners to DARTT to Multigenerational Events to Choir to JPD Cluster Meetings to Museum Tours to the numerous spiritual discussion groups to name just a few. With so much going on, I don't want to ask, but I must.

There is a Congregational Town Hall scheduled for February 8, from noon – about 2 pm. Members and Friends of PBUUC, it is important that you attend. We will be discussing the Budget Process, Board vision, and Ministerial Transition - what decisions the Church needs to make regarding the future of our ministry. This is part of a discussion that the Board and Committee on Ministry hope you will take part in.

Additionally, we're still working on getting the new doors installed on the Meeting House, revising our policy handbook, and ensuring that committees are active. We've had extensive conversations about leasing, personnel, and communication policies. There is so much going on that I admit I can't keep track of it all. That's why we have a Board – multiple people to track multiple items. But we have two open seats. There are six months left; can you help us out?

I hope you all had a wonderful Holiday Season and are staying warm this winter.

Theresa Myrdon
Chair, Board of Trustees

Our Caring Community

WHEEL OF LIFE



We mark with sadness the death of PBUUC member Doug Sutherland. Doug died on January 8 following a period of illness. Condolences to his

daughter Karen Donovan and family. A memorial service will be held February 15th. Lynx notes the death of Tom Napier Collins, innkeeper of the Rehoboth Guest House, where he was known as "Mr. Rehoboth Beach." Emma Sue Gaines-Gerson and Don Gerson enjoyed a holiday visit of their grandson Michael, whose Asperger's Syndrome is sometimes difficult, but the visit was a positive experience. Peter Wathen-Dunn and Muriel Morisey enjoyed a visit from their son Andrew during the holidays. Septuagenarian Shantida is grateful to the many PBUUC octogenarians who inspire him to age gracefully. Carol Carter Walker is glad to see friends from Sojourner Truth Congregation when they visit PBUUC. She also notes that her grandson has just turned 13, and "is about to embark on one of life's adventures, the teen years." Kate Earle is joyful that she started a new job in Baltimore, but asks for healing energy since she injured her ankle in a slip on the ice. Mary Tyrtle Rooker is glad that her cat, Tiger, has recovered from an infection and the side effects of antibiotics. Chuck Bury expresses sorrow at the passing of a friend, Laurie Dietz. Evangeline Wells expresses sorrow about the deaths of Michael Brown, Eric Garner, and others who have died unnecessarily in recent months. Kate Brett reports that it is now seven months since their daughter Cara went into residential treatment; they are hoping she soon starts to embrace a desire to make changes. Jennifer Robinson is waiting for a new job because of delays in getting a security clearance; waiting is the hardest part! Don Munro reports that John Holbrook is in Adventist Hospital. Lucette Smoes reports she turned 75 on January 18. Happy Birthday, Lucette! —Rev. Russ Savage

February's We Care Coordinator is Fran Caughey.

Please contact her if you, or a PBUUCer you know, is in need of meals; rides to church or medical appointments; visits; or cards. You can call her at 301-776-9648.

The Legacy Fund has \$3500 to give to worthwhile PBUUC projects! The requirements are that the project be of value to the PBUUC community; that the project be outside of normal Church operating expenses; and that the project be completed in the 2015-2016 Church fiscal year. The deadline for proposals is March 31, 2015. Please contact Ken Montville at Ken@mdsuburbs.com for the Project Guidelines and Proposal Forms.

Religious Exploration

As we approach the 50th anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery marches and events unfold in the #BlackLivesMatter movement, I have been thinking a lot about resistance and rebellion. My mind has been swimming in questions: How are the Ferguson and the Occupy movements of the early 2000's different from the Civil Rights movement of the 1960's? What can I do, realistically, as a mother and person of faith? Do protests even make change? Do acts of resistance *have* to be public and documented on social media? To date, I have no easy answers to these questions.



So you can imagine my excitement when I listened to an episode of *On Being with Krista Tippett* recently and the topic was, “The Inner Life of Rebellion.” I encourage you to listen to it, because there is so much within the show on which to reflect. (Here is the link: <http://bit.ly/1BRg2xF>)

What I would like to focus on for today, is a quote from Tippett’s interview with Parker Palmer and Courtney Martin. Parker Palmer is a renowned author and Quaker theologian that identifies as part of the Baby-Boomer generation. Courtney Martin is a self-described Millennial at the age of 35, blogger and author of the book, “Do It Anyway: A New Generation of Activists”. When asked about how to make sense of the complexity doing the work of rebellion, Palmer states, “I think that **one of the most important things that needs to happen right now** is if I may say so — by at [sic] your invitation being modeled right here, which is **inter-generational community.**”

Palmer goes onto to say that the inner work of rebellion requires both chutzpah and humility: the chutzpah to speak your truth and the humility to recognize that you don’t have all of the answers. He tells listeners and the live audience that he shared a reflection with Courtney Martin and some of her Millennial peers, when he invited them to be a part of his non-profit.

“And I remember saying to them, you may remember this, Courtney, at one point I said, you know, at age, what was I, 70 at the time, 75 now. I said, ‘I feel like I’m standing somewhere down the curvature of the earth. I cannot see the horizon that you folks see, where you’re standing higher on that curvature. I need your eyes, and I need your ears, and I need

you to tell me what it is you’re seeing, because that same horizon is coming at me, even though I don’t know it.’”

The statement quoted above took chutzpah, yes. It also took an inordinate amount of humility to admit that though he’s “figured out a lot of stuff,” in his 75 years, there is much that he doesn’t know that younger generations do know. Intergenerational community works when it is robust in both “chutzpah and humility.” In a chaotic and complex world, it is an act of rebellion for two generations to simply sit down together and really listen, (not just wait for your chance to talk) because here’s the thing: Millennials and Gen-Xers, the Baby-Boomers know really cool stuff that you don’t; and Baby-Boomers, the younger generations know some really cool stuff that you don’t. Living in intergenerational community is an act of rebellion against the status quo which seeks to keep us divided and labeled, communicating only in our own silos.

The ultimate message of the *On Being* episode, “The Inner Life of Rebellion,” is that by attempting to live in our own wholeness we are rebelling. My take away for our congregation is that by participating in our multigenerational events, however benign they may seem, we connect across generations, we live into our own wholeness and ultimately disrupt the status quo. We resist. We rebel. Consider this an invitation to rebel against the status quo and connect in a meaningful way to someone who identifies as part of a different generation.

Yours In Faith, *Dayna Edwards*,

Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration

ARE YOU NEW TO PBUUC?

Come to *Roots and Branches of PBUUC*

A class for newcomers and anyone wanting to know more about Unitarian Universalism and Paint Branch

Saturday, March 28, 1 pm - 4 pm

In the RE Building

You will learn about the journey of Unitarian Universalism: from its long-ago roots to how it evolved in the United States as it is today – in relation to your own personal religious journey, with ample time for getting to know other participants and their journeys.

You will hear a short history of how PBUUC came to be and what makes us a unique community. You will get to know a few of our own congregation’s leaders as they describe how the church is organized. And you will learn how to get involved according to your interests, passions, gifts or personal goals - in activities that sustain the congregation, serve the community, or change the world.

Please reply to rootsclass@pbuuc.org or call the office at 301-937-3666.

A sign-up sheet is also in the church foyer.

Childcare may be possible if requested by March 20

Social Action Committee (SAC) News

UU Legislative Ministry of Maryland's Annual Meeting Focuses on Key Social Justice Issues for Action in the Coming Months. On January 17th eight Paint Branchers attended this important annual meeting where priorities and action plans were made. Task forces were set up to follow through on these plans as the Maryland General Assembly begins its 90-day session that goes until mid-April. The key issues covered included climate change (working for 40% clean power generation in Maryland by 2025), economic justice (focusing on paid sick leave for employees), campaign finance reform (having Maryland support a constitutional convention of the states to overturn *Citizens United*), and criminal justice issues (eight bills were discussed, including employment related measures for ex-offenders). Paint Branchers divided up between the groups discussing these issues to cover them all and report back recommended actions to SAC, the Green Team, and DARTT. Paint Branchers who attended were Nancy Boardman, Don and Emma Sue Gerson, Ahmar Khan, Esther Nichols, Marge and Lowell Owens, and Sandy Roberts.

SAC members Nancy Boardman and Rene McDonald also attended a January 10 Town Hall Meeting of District 22 Senator Paul Pinsky; and SAC members Nancy B., Marj Donn, and Marge Owens were also at the January 19 annual reception in Annapolis given by the District 22 delegation of Sen. Paul Pinsky and Delegates Anne Healy, Tawanna Gaines, and Alonzo Washington. At each of these gatherings MD legislative issues were discussed which informed Paint Branchers attending more about them.

Other Activities Involving SAC. Updates on special collections, warm nights, adult English classes at PB's Community Learning Center, an updated social justice brochure, and a new contact with *Habitat for Humanity* for possible Paint Branch involvement are also on the agenda. As is a new book group with an economic justice focus that will start soon as we read and share ideas about *Billionaires' Ball – Gluttony and Hubris In An Age of Epic Inequality*. Thanks to Marge Owens for recommending this book and having copies for sale in the lobby after Sunday Services.

Special Collection for February 2015

Community Café is scheduled for Sunday, February 22

Volunteering at Community Café has been a Paint Branch tradition for over thirty years. Paint Branch members prepare and serve a chili lunch to a varying number of hungry guests at a Hyattsville church on the fourth Tuesday of every month. Please help meet the cost of feeding this growing number of hungry guests! Over the recent years, the cost exceeds the church budget to reimburse the volunteer cooks for supplying the ingredients, so please give generously. Coordinators: Esther Nichols and Alice Tyler.

Upcoming Social Action Committee (SAC) Meetings:

Saturday, February 21, 10 am – 12:30 pm
in Room 4 of the RE Building

Saturday, March 21, 10 am – 12:30 pm
in Room 4 of the RE Building

Stewardship Committee

PBUUC is home to many activities, many groups, many voices. We are stewards of a stretch of wilderness next to the Beltway. We are a community that looks after one another. How do we do this? We commit ourselves to giving our time to attend Sunday services, serve coffee. We commit ourselves to giving our talent by singing in the choir, or dancing with the Chalice Dancers. We commit ourselves by giving to pay for salaries, programs, and maintenance for our buildings.

How do you give time, talent and treasure to PBUUC? You might be a teacher for Religious Exploration. You might cook for one of the ethnic dinners -- or clean up after! Maybe you helping on one of our many committees or maybe you are an usher. Maybe you are waiting for someone to ask you how you can contribute. The Stewardship Committee is looking for someone like you to serve as a visiting steward.

PBUUC will kick off the annual Stewardship Campaign with a luncheon immediately following the March 8th Sunday service. Members and friends will be gathering around to learn about how they can support the future programs of the church. They may have questions about the church, they may have questions about our finances or how they can give. The Stewardship Committee needs people to be available to answer some of the questions, and to accept their financial commitments. Of course, not everyone who wishes to pledge will be able to attend Commitment Sunday. The Stewardship Committee would like to have volunteers to call on these people to talk about their financial commitment to PBUUC.

Want to learn more? Attend one of the Stewardship Orientation Workshops either on **Wednesday, February 11 from 7:30 - 9:30 PM** or the following **Wednesday, February 18, also from 7:30 - 9:30 PM**. You will learn about how you can be part of this year's campaign. You will have an opportunity to decide at the conclusion of the session whether you would feel comfortable assuming one of the visiting steward roles. If you are uncomfortable either choice you will be under no further obligation.

You will receive a phone call in a week or so to answer any questions you may have. Or, if you prefer, you may contact Mike McMenamin at mikemcmenamin@msn.com or Pat Tompkins at candgptom@msn.com.



The Wider Unitarian Universalist Universe

UU UNO Spring Seminars April 9-11 in New York City

Now is the time to start considering how you could get yourself to NYC in April. The annual Intergenerational Seminars of the UU United Nations Office take place across the street from the U.N. Headquarters, where the flags of every member nation fly every day – a beautiful sight.

This year's topic, which will lead into a series of international conferences over the next four years, is *International Criminal Justice: From Punitive to Restorative*. All people who are juniors or seniors in high school or in the first two or so years of college are invited to attend along with a more or less equal number of adults over college age. Attendees come from nearly every state in the U.S. and nearly every Province in Canada. Many people from Paint Branch have attended over the years. Students bring sleeping bags and camp out at the large UU church a subway stop away from our meeting place. There is a fee which covers several meals, registration, and materials. There is a possibility of some scholarship funds but arrangements should be made in advance through the UU UNO.

Please visit the UU UNO Spring Seminar website for specific details or talk to Marge Owens at 301-345-1572 or lowellandmarge@verizon.net. Others who have attended in recent years are Steve Bernheisel and his daughter, Sophie;

Jeanne Judd and Chris Evans and their daughter; Nancy Boardman; Rene McDonald; Marge and Lowell Owens and their granddaughter, Maureen; Penny O'Brien; Esther Nichols and her husband Les, who were the liaisons to the UNO for Paint Branch for many years. Our Interim Minister and later member, Rev. Dr. Virginia Knowles, was on the UNO Board for several terms.

Last year the topic of the seminars was *Rights of Indigenous People*. A principal speaker turned out to be a man who grew up as a member of Paint Branch but moved away and became a college professor and author of many books about native Americans of the northeast region. Dr. Evan T. Pritchard's list of relevant books include "No Word for Time", "Bird Medicine, the Sacred Power of Bird Shamanism", "Native New Yorkers" and many others. He is a professor at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, NY. What a surprise when he stood up to give his first talk.

The (relatively) moderately priced hotels book up early. Some adults stay at a nearby YMCA, which also books up very early. So February is none too early to make your reservation if you think there is any chance you might be able to go to this very interesting series or any part of it. You could always cancel later. A very pleasant and inexpensive way to get to NYC is by Bolt Bus. By making your reservation early, some riders get a round trip from Greenbelt or other starting points for as little as \$10. The price goes up as the days prior to a trip roll by.

2015 JPD WORSHIP ARTS FESTIVAL "WORSHIP WIDE"

Overcoming Barriers to Spiritual Community

February 20-21, 2015

UU Congregation of Fairfax, VA

Join other laypersons and religious professionals from UU congregations around our district for this annual celebration of powerful UU worship! Workshops address the theology, theory, and practice of UU worship, with the goal of broadening our communities beyond boundaries we may not even have realized we had drawn!

Sharon Werth, assisted by Paint Branch Chalice Dancers, will be leading a movement workshop: Explore how movement can be a spiritual vessel for you and your congregation. You will learn how simple gestures can involve your congregation in kinesthetic experiences and enhance your services. Moving choirs can become part of your congregation's spiritual experience, consisting of 3 or 30 "dancers". You will also learn a group dance "We Are One" that will be a part of the closing service (Participation is optional.) Let us move beyond the barriers of sitting, and into the wonders of movement.

"You cannot find a single ancient mystery in which there is not dancing..." - Andrew Lang

Festival Registration is OPEN! <http://lb.cm/2015WAF>

If you have questions, contact David M. Glasgow, Festival Coordinator jpdwaf@davidmglasgow.com.

Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team



PBUUC Women's Group & DARTT Jointly Present Reverberations on "Speaking While Female" Sunday, February 1

The Women's Group and DARTT will jointly present a Reverberations Session during Enrichment Hour on Sunday February 1. Renee Katz and Carol Carter Walker will co-facilitate a session on the intersection of sexism and racism, using the themes expressed in the recent New York Times article, *Speaking While Female*. All are welcome!

Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team (DARTT) Next Meeting Saturday, February 14 from 2 to 4 pm

DARTT's next meeting will be Saturday, February 14, from 2 to 4 pm in Room 4, Religious Exploration Building. DARTT's major focus is to create a safe space for members of the PBUUC community to talk about issues of race and ethnicity by personal sharing; and by sponsoring services, events, and activities designed to facilitate the congregation's implementation of its intentional multiculturalism resolution. All are welcome. If you can't attend, but have ideas or suggestions, please send them to DARTT@pbuuc.org

In and Around Paint Branch

Ready for Greek Food in Style? Wednesday, February 18 at 1 pm

The Third Wednesday Handy UU Lunch Klub will meet this month at the Greek Village Restaurant for a quiet, delicious, reasonably priced meal. It is located in the shopping center at the intersection of Randolph Rd. and New Hampshire Ave.

Tip: Randolph Road is Cherry Hill Road extended, so we can start from anywhere near the church, follow Cherry Hill Road and arrive at the shopping center, our destination. This place has white table cloths and lovely china. If you need a ride or can give a ride to someone please contact Marge Owens on 301-345-1572 or lowelland-marge@verizon.net

ETHNIC AND REGIONAL AMERICAN DINNERS SELECTS AN AMERICAN REGION

Assuming everyone has purchased a 2015 calendar by now, and is wondering when the next Ethnic Dinner is (the last one was in October), get out that calendar and a pen. It will be Saturday, March 28. Yes, we know this is the February issue of *Branches*, but February is a short month and kick-off for the dinner begins March 1 with a menu planning meeting during Enrichment Hour. Don't tell anyone, but sometimes enticing samples are available at this meeting.

We haven't done a regional American dinner since October 2011, so it's time to come home! After tossing around several possibilities, leaning one way and then another, the Ethnic Dinner committee finally, sort'a agreed on New England. But with a twist. Yes, we'll do the clam chowdah you all seem to love so much, and probably a few other iconic dishes, but part of our discussion was about also exploring other, perhaps more recent influences in New England cuisine. One we considered is the large Portuguese community in and around Fall River, Massachusetts. So, we are open to hearing anything that those of you familiar with this region can suggest. Rev. Diane, are you listening? If any of you have any ideas, suggestions, recipes, etc., please bring them to this meeting. If you can't attend, get them to Marilyn Pearl *before* March 1.

Sunday Bulletin announcements beginning in mid-February, and the March issue of *Branches*, will keep you posted on developments as they occur. Ticket sales and volunteer recruitment will be at a table in the Foyer each Sunday from March 8 through March 22. Meanwhile, think about what you can do to help. Any ideas for New England related music? Know any discount sources for lobster? Can you think of any friends you may want to invite? We have 2 months to plan and prepare one really wicked dinner!

Questions, ideas, want to volunteer? Contact Marilyn Pearl, 301-805-1218 or buffalo_gal@verizon.net.



**NOURISH
YOUR SPIRIT**

this day of women sharing their talents and selves with each other. We can even explore ideas for monthly meetings and a summer women-led service!

All are welcome. There is a suggested donation of \$20 to cover our food and supply costs. Childcare will be provided. Please look for your friendly Women's Group planning team in the lobby after Sunday services for information and registration, or contact:

Anne Hoover, 301-384-8578, aehoover@hotmail.com or
Wendy Schlegel, 301-649-4976, waschlegel@gmail.com

On Exhibit in the Meeting House

Our exhibit for February and March is by the Maryland Art League, one of the oldest arts organizations in Maryland. The artists taking part will display an eclectic array of pastel, acrylic and photographic pieces, both local and international.
Jane Trout, Visual Arts Committee

"We Are One" a Dance for All!

All are invited to join the Chalice Dancers in a VERY SIMPLE version of "We Are One" for the service on February 22. Attending two of the suggested rehearsals would be all that you need. Your options are after the service (11:15) February 8th, 15th, the end of Chalice Dancer rehearsal (10:15) February 7th or 14th. It would also work if you attend the JPD Worship Arts Festival on February 21st, for this version will be taught at the workshop and will be a part of the closing service at the Festival. See <http://davidmglasgow.com/jpdwaf/flyer.pdf> Please contact Sharon Werth if you are interested, or have questions – sbodul@comcast.net or 301-343-9869.

Our Bookstore Opens February 1

All The Paint Branch UU Church Bookstore is open the first Sunday of every month. On February 1, we'll be featuring three books, two for adults and one for children: *The Selma Awakening: How the Civil Rights Movement Tested and Changed Unitarian Universalism* by Rev. Dr. Mark Morrison-Reed; *With a Little Help from Our Friends: Creating Community as We Grow Older* by Beth Baker; and *Anne Frank and the Remembering Tree* by Sandy Eisenberg Sasso. Stop by and browse our existing inventory or place an order from the UUA Catalog.

Women of Paint Branch!

The PBUUC Women's Group will hold our annual retreat on Saturday, March 7 from 8 am – 5 pm here at Paint Branch. We'll nourish our bodies and spirits with a wide variety of workshops, delicious food, and plenty of time to be together. We'll be creative or contemplative, move or be quiet, learn something new or share ideas and thoughts. Come join in

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 **200—600** words. Please submit the name of the author and any other contact information as necessary. **Reminder: Articles significantly over the 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 received by the deadline will be sent to all email recipients of Branches.
- **Sunday Bulletin announcements** should be submitted in their final form to bulletin@pbuuc.org. 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 an 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.

PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
 3215 POWDER MILL ROAD
 ADELPHI, MD 20783-1030
 (301) 937-3666
 WEBSITE: WWW.PBUUC.ORG
 EMAIL: CHURCHADMIN@PBUUC.ORG
 Check here if you no longer wish to receive this mailing and return to PBUUC