



# BRANCHES



## **PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH**

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

### **August 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.*

#### **AUGUST 2**

#### **THE WIDE UMBRELLA OF UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM**

*Tricia Most, Worship Leader; with Van Summers, Worship Associate; Dayna Edwards,*

*Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration; and special music by the New Way band*

All ages are invited to celebrate and 'listen creatively' as we hear Van Summers, Elizabeth Porter, Montana Monardes, Jessica Sharp, and Renée Katz tell and sing to us about where they are on their faith journeys. Music by the New Way band, Keith Miller, and Richard Johnston. Paint Branch's new Moyo Steel drum will debut. *\*\*\*This is an All Ages Celebration; children and youth are invited to remain in the Meetinghouse for the entire service. Nursery Care for the youngest is provided in Room 5.\*\*\**

#### **AUGUST 9**

#### **SINGING IN THE SPIRIT**

*Members of Voice Exchange: Amado Ohland, Beth Lyons & Taunya Ferguson;*

*with Bettie Young, Worship Associate*

Back by popular demand -- the members of Voice Exchange, including Paint Branch's own Beth Lyons, return to lead us in CircleSinging. Explore and experience the musical and spiritual as we sing, share, and discover the magic of co-creating community through song.

#### **AUGUST 16**

#### **BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS**

*Jonathan Mawdsley and Cory Carter, Worship Leaders; with Carol Boston, Worship Associate*

Join us for this special all-ages celebration of our animal friends and the many ways in which they enrich our lives. Well-behaved animal companions are welcome, as are photographs of animals, or stuffed animals that are special to you. The service will include opportunities for sharing our experiences with wild animals, working animals, and animal companions, as well as a short homily on "St. Francis for UUs."

*\*\*\*This is an All Ages Celebration; children and youth are invited to remain in the Meetinghouse for the entire service. Nursery Care for the youngest is provided in Room 5.\*\*\**

#### **AUGUST 23**

#### **BECAUSE OF HER, WE CAN**

*Dayna Edwards, Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration; with Carol Carter Walker, Worship Associate*

Let's take an interactive look at how civil disobedience from the 20th century can inform our justice work in the 21st century. We will re-examine the story of Rosa Parks in relation to our continued struggle for racial equity today. This is an all-ages service, children and youth are invited to remain in the Meeting House for the entirety of the service. *\*\*\*This is an All Ages Celebration; children and youth are invited to remain in the Meetinghouse for the entire service. Nursery Care for the youngest is provided in Room 5.\*\*\**

#### **AUGUST 30**

#### **DEAR VEGAN: PLEASE GO AWAY**

*Mary "Tyrte" Rooker; with Van Summers, Worship Associate*

It's common and natural for many non-vegans to react negatively to veganism. Many people feel reactive, defensive, or threatened in some way, often for reasons they cannot explain. Learn tips to get beyond this stage.

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## PBUUC Leadership Directory

### 🌀 Officers and Board of Trustees 2015-2016 🌀

Chair	Theresa Myrdon (a)
Vice Chair	John Barr (a)
Vice Chair	Melody Lawrence (a)
Trustee	Liz Citrin
Trustee	Mike McMenamin
Trustee	Tess Morrison
Trustee	Marge Owens
Trustee	Ken Redd
Trustee	Carol Carter Walker
Secretary	Vacant
Treasurer	David Nation
Assistant Treasurer	Marilyn Pearl

### 🌀 Worship Associates 🌀

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

### 🌀 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	Kathi Yu
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	<a href="#">contact church office</a>
Green Team (contact)	Marilyn Pearl
Leasing (contact)	Patty Daukantas
Legacy Fund	Marj Donn
Membership	<a href="#">Church Office</a>
Ministry	Ken Montville
Nominating	Janet Overton
Personnel	Susannah Schiller
Religious Exploration (co-chairs)	Sabrina Jones (acting Chair)
Site Improvement	Jim Flaherty
Social Action	Patricia Most & Elizabeth Porter
Sustaining Our Ministry	Peter Wathen-Dunn
Stewardship	Nancy Boardman
	<a href="mailto:SOM@pbuuc.org">SOM@pbuuc.org</a>
	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	Alice Tyler
Food for Thought	Mary Tyrtle Rooker
Handcraft Circle	Marj Donn
Facebook Group	Ken Montville
Marriage Enrichment	Don Fairfield
Mediation Program	David Haberman
Meditation Group	Cory Carter
Men's Group	Peter Wathen-Dunn
Moms of Young Ones	Jessica Sharp
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	Rene McDonald
Webmaster	Mark Shute
Welcome Table Greeters	Pat Behenna
Widowed Persons Support Group	Jeri Holloway
Women's Group	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.

[Interim Caretaker Minister](#)

[Music Director & Pianist](#)

[Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration](#)

Director, Chalice Dancers

[Church Administrator](#)

[Administrative Assistant](#)

[Bookkeeper](#)

Sunday Service/Building Managers:

Child Care Providers:

Rev. Russ Savage  
David Chapman  
Dayna Edwards  
Sharon Werth  
Charles Bury  
Alexis Saunders  
Debra McCann  
Romeo Ndonfak  
Wyatt Rexach  
Beth Judy  
Jazmin Balbuena  
Milan Monardes  
Alexis Saunders

## Ministers Column



### From Rev. Russ Savage:

It's hard to believe my time with PBUUC is over, but it is. I've conducted my last worship service, attended my last board and committee meetings, and cleaned my belongings out of the minister's office. This will be my last column for Branches.

My wife Trish and I were touched by all the kind words that were offered at the reception following my last worship service on July 12. The beautiful stained glass panel depicting the church building created by Susannah Schiller will be among our treasured possessions.

Our up-and-down year together has ended on a positive note, with clarity about the future for PBUUC. I was honored to be able to fill in when my seminary classmate Diane suffered her stroke, and I'm pleased to be succeeded by my colleague Rev. Evan Keely. I'm confident he will lead PBUUC into a bright future with your help and support.

Blessings.

*Russ*

Rev. Russ Savage,  
Interim Caretaker Minister  
[ICM@pbuuc.org](mailto:ICM@pbuuc.org)

## Our Caring Community

### WHEEL OF LIFE

Send healing thoughts to Deni Foster, whose daughter Shanti was injured in a car accident in Arizona. Jeri Holloway reports that Shanti is recovering satisfactorily and Deni is in Arizona with her. Flash a congratulatory smile to Noel Monardes, who recently had two eye surgeries to remove cataracts. Noel says he was able to read the entire eye chart without glasses, something he could not do for over 40 years!

—Rev. Russ Savage

### August'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 Wider Unitarian Universalist Universe

### The Power of Practice — Cheri Huber Returns to Unitarian Church of Harrisburg in 2015

We are always practicing something. If we practice regretting the past and worrying about the future, that is the experience of life we have.

If we practice the peace, joy, and well-being of the present moment, then that is the life we have. Awareness practice shines the light on our lives to help us see what we are practicing in each moment. Only then do we have the power to make a different choice!

The Mindfulness Meditation Group is very pleased to announce that once again Cheri Huber will speak at UCH. Again, this year Ashwini will join her. Join us this August in welcoming them again. Invite your friends and neighbors.

Cheri Huber has been a student and teacher of Zen for over 30 years. She is the author of 20 books including *That Which You Are Seeking Is Causing You to Seek*, *The Depression Book*, and *The Fear Book*, and *What You Practice Is What You Have*, a sequel to her widely read *There Is Nothing Wrong With You*. Her most recent title is *What Universe Are You Creating?: Zen and the Art of Recording and Listening* - a collaboration with Ashwini Narayanan. In 1983, Cheri founded the Mountain View Zen Center, and in 1987 she founded the Zen Monastery Peace Center in Calaveras County. She, Ashwini, and the monks at the Monastery conduct workshops and retreats at these centers, other places around the U.S., and internationally.

Ashwini Narayanan oversees the offering of practice through both of the above organizations, as well as, creating and facilitating retreats.

Join Cheri Huber and Ashwini Narayanan in exploring the power of practice in our life.

**Sunday August 30, 2015 at 2 PM in the UCH Sanctuary:**

**1280 Clover Lane, Harrisburg, PA 17113**

**Phone: 717-564-4761**

**No Tickets or Registration.**

**Reception and book signing will follow.**

**Donations to Living Compassion welcomed! Living**

**Compassion: [www.livingcompassion.org](http://www.livingcompassion.org)**



## Board of Trustees Column

Fellow Members,

Welcome to the 2015-2016 year at Paint Branch! This will hopefully be an exciting and energizing year for us.

First, our Interim Minister, Rev. Evan Keeley, starts with us on August 1st. I'm meeting with him on Monday, August 3rd to pass down the Minister's keys and welcome him to Paint Branch.

An important part of this transition is the Transition Team. The Board appointed the team and is grateful to Don Gerson, Bettie Young, Shantida Joseph, Sarah Firestone, Kathi Yu, Carmelita Carter-Sykes, and Tricia Most for volunteering to serve in this capacity.

The Board voted to allow PG County onto the property to evaluate and present us with plans for mitigating storm water runoff. Expect to hear more from the Board and BAG on this item this year.

Finally, after much discussion, the Board decided not to elect officers until our retreat on August 15. This will allow us to engage in a thorough discussion of governance before holding the election. We will keep you posted on who is serving in what capacity.

I hope you have had a wonderful summer and participated in some of the summer services.

Thank you,

*Theresa Myrdon*

For the Board

## Denominational Affairs

### Report on the 2015 UUA General Assembly

This year's General Assembly of Congregations (GA) was held June 24-28 in Portland, Oregon. PBUUC attendees included Rev. Russ Savage, DMRE Dayna Edwards, DARTT Co-Chair and Board Member Carol Carter Walker, DARTT Co-Chair Emma Sue Gaines-Gerson, RE Co-Chair Tricia Most, and Denominational Affairs Chair, Don Gerson. We were in the company of 4,508 other UUs, including 1,769 onsite delegates and 275 youth. The GA is the high point in the year for Denominational Affairs for many reasons. For example, on Wednesday, June 24 we met with the Central East Regional Group (CERG) and learned a great deal about the progress of reorganization of the major components of the UUA from Districts (ours is the Joseph Priestley District) into regional groups such as the aforementioned CERG which would consolidate the JPD, Metro New York, Ohio-Meadville and St. Lawrence districts). We also got to meet with many, many fellow UUs who we usually connect with by email or telephone. The CERG regional gathering was fol-

lowed by the opening ceremony, which features the Banner Parade, a moving spectacle of banners from hundreds of UU congregations from throughout the US. Our banner, which usually hangs in the front of the sanctuary, was proudly carried by Carol Carter Walker, Don Gerson and Emma Gaines-Gerson. Pageantry over, the work began on Thursday.

Many things go on at a GA. Plenary sessions are where the business is conducted, and include reports from UUA components, discussions of ongoing major issues, introduction of new issues, and frequent votes. A major issue this year concerned adoption of a Statement of Conscience (SOC) on Reproductive Justice. We had just completed the third year of work on the Congregational Study Action Issue on Reproductive Justice and a draft SOC had been prepared by the UUA staff. At the GA, preparatory work is done in a Mini-Assembly where interested delegates (Don Gerson participated here) attempt to finalize the wording. This is finally brought to a plenary session where it is discussed and voted on by all delegates. After much discussion a slightly revised version of the SOC was unanimously accepted by the delegates. There are many, many workshops, which cover every aspect of interest to UUs and can be attended by anyone. All of us attended several workshops, and we would like to report on them to you. Another thing that goes on at a GA is presentation, discussion and voting on Actions of Immediate Witness (AIWs). We would also like to report on these to you. On Friday evening an award from the UU United Nations Office (UNO) was presented to PBUUC for our many years of service to that Organization. Since Marge Owens, our UUUNO Representative was not present, Emma and Don Gerson accepted it for Paint Branch. It is now in the Meeting House lobby. One evening is devoted to a Service of the Living Tradition. This is where Ministers completing various key phases of their careers are recognized, and it's a truly moving service. In addition, I must mention that there was a significant presence of youth at the GA. A highlight to every GA is presentation of the Ware lecture. These are very well recognized individuals, and the list of past lectures is eye opening. This year the presentation was by Cornel West, an extremely dynamic speaker who expounded his ideas on "Black Lives Matter." He received much applause and finished to a rousing ovation by the thousands of UUs present.

This article barely touches what happened at this year's GA. We plan to have a gathering in mid-September, to include our new Minister, and we will try to really let you know what happened, what the GA was like, and answer all of your questions. Watch for our announcement.

Don Gerson, Chair  
Denominational Affairs Committee

## Religious Exploration

Did you know that your very own Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration (DMRE) is in the Religious Education Credentialing Program offered by the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA)?

Yes, that's right, I am on the path to becoming a Credentialed Religious Educator with completion expected in the spring of 2017 (not as far away as it may seem). Now you may be asking, "what does that mean for Paint Branch?" It means you benefit from all of the training and reading I am required to do as part of this program. It means that you can feel confident that faith formation at PBUUC is following best practices in the field. It means that the congregation will remain on the cutting edge of what is happening in religious education. It means that I have access to an experienced mentor in the field that shares with me her vast wisdom and knowledge. Here is a link to the UUA's list of "Benefits to the Congregation" in relation to having a credentialed religious educator ([www.uua.org/careers/re](http://www.uua.org/careers/re))

This summer, I will be attending two Renaissance Modules in New Jersey as part of my training. Renaissance Modules are 15 hour training programs designed specifically for UU Religious Educators around the country. I am required to participate in at least four of these as part of the credentialing program. Last fall I went to a training called, "Who Are Our Neighbors" which counts as one of my four required courses. In August, I will be attending the Youth and Young Adult Ministry Renaissance Module and the Sexuality for Religious Educators Renaissance Module. In preparation of these modules, I am required to read hundreds of pages of text which are reshaping my understanding of both subject areas.

By the spring of 2017, I am expected to have a portfolio of work that covers eight required competencies and one elective competency: Administration & Volunteer Management, Human & Faith Development, Right Relations and Professional Ethics, Sexual Health, Six Sources of UU Inspiration, Systems and Conflict, UU Foundations, Worship and Multigenerational RE (as my elective). Additionally, I am required to read several books that relate to each competency. If you'd like to see the reading list, or read along with me, I am open to book discussions and the sharing of ideas. As you can see the competencies are quite comprehensive and the work required for each portfolio is no easy feat. The congregation is the direct beneficiary of the work I am required to show (think outdoor classroom proposal). In conjunction with competencies, I am also required to reflect on and show examples of how I do my work through an anti-racism/anti-oppression lens and a technology lens.

The UUA offers the credentialing program as a way to professionalize the work of religious educators. Committing to becoming a credentialed religious educator is a way to pub-

licly commit to the profession of religious education. As a congregation, supporting your religious educator in becoming credentialed is a way to publically declare your commitment to religious education in the UU community and beyond. Credentialed Religious Educators are honored and recognized at the UUA's General Assembly and at the Liberal Religious Educators fall conference.

I welcome any and all questions about my credentialing journey.

Yours in Faith,

*Dayna Edwards, M.A.*

Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration

[DRE@pbuuc.org](mailto:DRE@pbuuc.org)

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



### DARTT Hosts Second Brainstorming Session On Building Beloved Community At PBUUC Sunday, August 2 During Extended Enrichment Hour

All members, friends, and newcomers are invited to the extended Enrichment Hour from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm in the Meeting House. The sole focus will be brainstorming next steps in building Beloved Community at PBUUC. The July 5 Service, Reverberations, and follow up conversations indicated a readiness—even a mandate—to think about and develop next steps to implement our congregation's 2011 resolution to "... become an intentional multicultural community." This initiative cries out for congregation-wide involvement.

We look forward to seeing you on August 2.

### Sunday August 9: Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist (UU) Church's Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team Sponsors a Community Vigil on the Anniversary of Michael Brown's Killing in Ferguson, Missouri

The Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team is organizing a vigil Sunday, August 9 from 7 pm to 8:30 pm to commemorate the killing of Michael Brown and so many others and to commit/recommit to actions to stop the 'hatin.' Please be present at this opportunity for us to come together in love.

The vigil will be simple—readings, original writings, music, silence, and light.

An invitation is being extended to the local UU churches and neighboring churches mosques and synagogues.

Show up and stand in solidarity and remembrance.

If you would like to be part of the program, please contact [DARTT@PBUUC.org](mailto:DARTT@PBUUC.org) or Carol Carter Walker at 202.636.8138.

Carol Carter Walker, Co-Chair, DARTT

## Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team, cont.

### RACIAL JUSTICE GATHERINGS OUTSIDE OUR DOORS - AUGUST 2015

#### New Facebook Group, White Men Care, Established By Annapolis Church UU

Rusty Vaughan, one of the speakers at the DARTT-led service on July 5, 2015, has created a new Facebook Group called White Men Care. A quote from his FB page: "The intent is to bring white men who "get it," and those who don't yet but are open to change and understanding, to come together in conversation. Then... we will create solutions that white males can use to dissolve racism one step at a time in their spheres of influence." If you are interested, please sign up via Facebook. Rusty is a member of the UU Church of Annapolis, Coming To The Table, an organization of descendants of slave owners and slaves, and Black Lives Matter-Baltimore/Annapolis.

#### Rally To Unlock the Vote In Maryland

Thursday, August 6, 5:30 pm to 8 pm

McKeldin Square (Pratt & Light Streets, Baltimore. Then short march to the Thurgood Marshall Statue at Pratt Street & Hopkins Place)

On August 2, 1965, President Lyndon Johnson signed into law the federal Voting Rights Act, the landmark law that dramatically expanded and protected the voting rights of African Americans. Fifty years later, nearly 40,000 Marylanders-- the great majority of whom are African American and mostly Baltimore residents-- continue to be barred from voting due to past criminal records. Earlier this year, the Maryland General Assembly passed legislation to reinstate the vote to all former prisoners living in our communities. This historic victory for voting rights passed by an overwhelming margin in the legislature, but Governor Hogan vetoed this legislation (SB340/HB980) on May 22.

#### Stop Police Terror Project DC Rally & March in memory of Mike Brown and other police terror victims. Saturday, August 8, 7 pm.

African American Civil War Memorial  
Shaw/U Street METRO (Green Line—10<sup>th</sup> Street Exit)  
Washington, DC

August 9th will mark one year since 18-year-old Mike Brown was shot and killed by police officer Darren Wilson in Ferguson, Missouri. Mike Brown's death, and the subsequent non-indictment of the officer that killed him, resulted in a shock-wave of marches, rallies, shut downs and die-ins all across the country. The recent deaths of Sandra Bland in Texas and Kindra Chapman Alabama, both at the hands of police, show the need to show that we will not stand for the ongoing brutalization and killing of Black people in America. Join Stop Police Terror Project DC on Saturday, August 8th at the African American Civil Memorial to rally and march in the memory of Mike Brown and other victims of police killings past and present.

#### Jubilee

Friday, August 21, 6 pm to Sunday, August 23, 5 pm  
Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church,  
9601 Cedar Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814

This 2½ day workshop uses exposition and interaction to explore the historical development and power dynamics of racism, the social construction of racial identity, and an analysis of three manifestations of racism—individual, institutional, and cultural.

Cost: \$150 per participant. DARTT will offer \$50 stipends up to four Paint Branch attendees. Everyone, especially current and aspiring congregational leaders are urged to attend. You may also apply to the JPD for financial support. Children's programming/care available. More details and registration form at: <http://lb.cm/CedarLaneJubilee>

#### Town Hall Meeting on Law Enforcement Officers Bill Of Rights (LEOBOR) organized by the Maryland General Assembly's Public Safety & Policing Workgroup.

Monday, August 24, 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Joint Hearing Room, Legislative Services Building  
90 State Circle, Annapolis, MD

This is part of a series of town hall meetings being held by the special Maryland General Assembly Public Safety and Policing Workgroup. This workgroup will have a say in what legislation gets paid attention to. So we need to make sure they hear from many people all over our state about how important it is to amend LEOBOR. Look for more information from Kerridwen Henry on the Black Lives Matter Facebook Page. Go there for updates and carpooling hookups. Kerridwen is a member of the UU Columbia Congregation and a leader in the Baltimore Black Lives Matter group.

#### UU Racial and Social Justice Summit: Journey Toward Wholeness Continues—The Black Lives Matter Movement Sunday, August 29, 2015, 10 am to 3 pm

UU Church of Arlington, Activity Room  
4444 Arlington Boulevard, Arlington, VA  
Unitarian Universalists (clergy, lay leaders, members, & friends) who feel called to live and work for the truth that Black Lives Matter are invited to gather for this summit. Our racial justice work is fundamentally rooted in our Unitarian Universalist faith, and our time together will be an expression of that. We hope that at least two representatives from every UU congregation within commuting distance will participate. Large groups are encouraged to register as soon as possible. We will learn and share about the work for racial justice that has already been started, and about how UUs can position ourselves to be effective partners in continuing this work. The fee of \$20 includes lunch. DARTT will provide a full stipend for up to five Paint Branchers who want to attend. Registration and other details at: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1452918268361501/>

## Social Action Committee (SAC) News



**The Event:** The Washington area's 2nd annual Immigration Film Festival, sharing immigrant experiences through informative, entertaining movies.

**What's New:** The FilmFest's all-volunteer team just launched a 30-day crowdfunding campaign on Indiegogo, and we need your help.

**What To Do:** Click below to learn more about the FilmFest and why your contribution counts, plus the perks that go along with your fully tax-deductible gift and the matching fund that will double it. <https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/immigration-film-festival/x/8112842#/story>

**And Then:** Join us October 22-25 for the FilmFest featuring 26 films at 16 locations, post-film discussions and a red-carpet gala.



## PAINT BRANCH COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER

*"I can change the world with my own two hands..." Ben Harper*

The PBCLC will start up again this September offering English language classes to our adult immigrant neighbors. This term

we will also be giving practical information about living in the U. S. (law, housing, jobs, finances, U.S. culture...). Can you help in this effort?

This year the Paint Branch Community Learning Center will begin its third year and its fourth term of English language classes. This community outreach program will continue to allow the Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church to carry out its' goal of being an intentionally multicultural congregation, and to continue to work toward one of the Unitarian Universalist Association's social justice priorities of immigration justice.

Over the three 16 week terms since we began in January of 2013, we have registered 71 adults from 11 countries in Central and South America, Africa and Asia. We have trained thirty PBUUC members, friends and others to be teachers. Consider joining us in this effort as a teacher, assistant, registrar, childcare provider, administrator, or occasional speaker on living in the United States. It's fun and very rewarding!

**Training is on Saturday September 12, 2015 and classes start on Sunday September 20, 2015.**

**You can change the world with your own two hands. Contact Carmelita Carter-Sykes [cartercarmelita@aol.com](mailto:cartercarmelita@aol.com) or (202) 236-8783 or sign up in the Meeting House lobby.**

**Next Social Action Committee (SAC) Meeting:**  
Saturday, September 19th, 10 am – 12:30 pm  
in Room 4 of the RE Building

## August Special Collection for UUUNO

August's special collection, on the 23rd, will be for the Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office, which has represented UUs in matters before the UN since the UN's inception and which sponsors an adult and youth seminar every April that some of our members have attended.

## Green Team

### Help the Earth: Update Your Lobby Skills Participate in Grandparents Climate Action Day

Wednesday, September 9 and Thursday, September 10 in Washington, DC. [Registration](#) Deadline: August 15; Lobby Group Leaders Deadline: August 5 (There is no onsite registration.) Fee:\$79, \$35 with a scholarship  
Co-sponsored by the UUs for Social Justice in the National Capital Region ([UUSJ](#)) [Flier](#)

Advocate for our environment! Whether you have never visited a legislator's office or you are an old hand at it, the [Grandparents Climate Action Day](#) program offers you the opportunity to learn and update your lobbying skills. On Wednesday, not only will you be inspired by the keynote addresses by James Hansen, of Columbia University's Earth Institute, and Lynne Twist, author of *The Soul of Money*, you will also receive lobbying training from the Citizens Climate Lobby. On Thursday (Lobby Day), advocate for [new energy policies](#) that address climate change and would provide economic benefit to our country.

If you want to be a lobby group leader, register by August 5 and participate in a special webinar training in August. UUSJ hopes that those who receive this training will continue to lead advocacy groups to the Hill as part of future UUSJ advocacy activities. Can't attend? Sign the petition urging Congressional Action. For more information contact: UUSJ Administrator Rev. Cyn Snavelly: [info@uusj.org](mailto:info@uusj.org) / 202-600-9132 / [www.uusj.org](http://www.uusj.org).

## Women's Group

Ladies, join the Women's group on Saturday, August 22, from 10 am to noon in the Kelley Room for a discussion of [The Red Tent](#) led by our own DRE, Dayna Edwards. Author Anita Diamant uses the minor character Dinah from the Bible's book of Genesis to weave a fascinating story of the customs of the time and the ways women cared for each other in their male dominated society. Come even if you have not finished the book. You won't be sorry to have spent some time with this daughter of Jacob and sister of Joseph whose life was not wholly unlike our own.

Child care will be provided if you notify us by Wednesday August 19 at 5 pm so we have time to reserve a child care provider. For additional information or to request child care please contact Wendy Schlegel t [301-649-4976](tel:301-649-4976) or [waschlegel@gmail.com](mailto:waschlegel@gmail.com).

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](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.**

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