



BRANCHES



PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

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

January 2016

SUNDAYS at 10:00 am

Nursery Care in Room 6 from 9:45-12:45
Refreshments and Fellowship after the service
Adult Enrichment Hour from 11:45-12:45
Childcare until 12:45

JANUARY 3 RHAPSODY IN (NEW)

Guest preacher Anthony Jenkins; with Carol Boston, Worship Associate; and Dayna Edwards, Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration
Anthony Jenkins (UUCs Intern Minister) will help to usher us into 2016 with a sermon lifting up forgiveness and renewal - not just in the new year, but in every new moment. He will dive into some of the revelations that unfolded for him inside a year-long chaplaincy internship at Johns Hopkins, and invite us to consider a practice of restorative release as a New Years resolution.

JANUARY 10 ADVENTURING

The Rev. Evan Keely; with Van Summers, Worship Associate; and Dayna Edwards, Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration
A new year is a good time to reassess our willingness to take risks for the things we most care about

JANUARY 17 MALADJUSTED

The Rev. Evan Keely; with Worship Associate Noel Monardes; and the Choir
We can't accept the status quo if it means tolerating injustice. Our challenge is to organize resistance and effect constructive change

JANUARY 24 OUR LIVES MADE WHOLE

The Rev. Evan Keely; with Beth Charbonneau, Worship Associate; Dayna Edwards, Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration
A great contribution of religious liberalism has been our insistence on teaching that human sexuality is a gift to be embraced with responsibility, justice and compassion.

JANUARY 31 QUESTION BOX

The Rev. Evan Keely; with Carol Carter Walker, Worship Associate; Dayna Edwards, Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration; and the Choir
One of the most important and highly valued aspects of our faith is our encouragement of one another's questions.

Minister's Column



PBUUC is the seventh congregation I have served as an intentional interim minister; in all of those congregations I have done what I've done at PBUUC: asked the Board to appoint a Transition Team, and then assigned to that team the task of arranging one-on-one encounters and "cottage meetings" with the interim minister. I'd like to sincerely thank PBUUC's Transition Team (Carmelita Carter-Sykes, Sarah Firestone, Don Gerson, Tricia Most, Shantida, Bettie Young and Kathi Yu) for doing an excellent job with this task. I have met with about fifty individual congregants one-on-one and participated in nearly a dozen cottage meetings. This has really helped me to understand the hopes, the pride, the love, the longings, the anxieties and the dreams that are part of congregational life.

I have been struck by how many congregants have asked me questions like, "When are you going to give us a report of what is happening at these meetings?" This is not a question I am usually asked. I can only speculate why this is happening. Part of the reason, I suspect, is that the phrase "cottage meetings" evokes in the minds of many PBUUC members and friends the recent memory of gatherings that were called by that same name, which served a very different purpose than the cottage meetings I have been attending this summer and fall; the former were part of a decision-making process, whereas the latter have been part of an information-gathering and insight-building process, mostly for yours truly.

I wonder if these questions I am getting reflect a frustration: Are we going to just keep talking about the things that we want to accomplish? I sense that many of the conversations of which I have been a part are new only to me. When I ask people what they would like to achieve during this time of intentional transition, I hear many things which, it is clear, have been discussed for some years.

We can't accomplish everything we wish to in only two years — actually a very brief period of time in the life of an institution — but what should give us courage is that if we can point to some genuine accomplishments during this transitional period, it could truly energize the congregation and lay solid groundwork for a new era of vitality and strength for this church. The good news is, that work has been underway from day one of this transition and shows every sign of continuing. I encourage every PBUUC member and friend to remain engaged in this process of envisioning a new future for the church, firmly grounded in a proud past but looking toward the years to come with renewed strength and hope.

Evan

— The Rev. Evan Keely, Interim Minister
minister@pbuuc.org

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PBUUC Leadership Directory

🌀 Officers and Board of Trustees 2015-2016 🌀

email: BoardOfTrustees@pbuuc.org

Chair	Theresa Myrdon
Vice Chair	Liz Citrin
Vice Chair	Tess Morrison
Trustee	John Barr
Trustee	Mike McMenamin
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)	Beth Charbonneau (2015-18)
Noel Monardes (2013-16)	Will Snyder (2015-18)
Van Summers (2014-17)	Sophie Bernheisel (youth WA)
Carol Carter Walker (2014-17)	

🌀 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	Marguerite & Van Summers
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	contact church office
Green Team	Marilyn Pearl
Leasing (contact)	Patty Daukantas
Legacy Fund	Erin Gebhart & Kathy Bartolomeo
Membership	Church Office
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
Stewardship	Peter Wathen-Dunn
Transition Team	Nancy Boardman
	Chris Evans
	Transition@pbuuc.org

🌀 Groups and Activities 🌀

Bookstore	Carol Carter Walker
Bridge Group	Penny O'Brien
Chalice Dancers	Wendy Schlegel
Choir	David Chapman
Coffee Coordinator	Liz Citrin
Community Café	Alice Tyler
Food for Thought	Mary Tyrtle Rooker
Handcraft Circle	Ebeth Porter
Facebook Group	Ken Montville
Marriage Enrichment	Don Fairfield
Mediation Program	David Haberman
Meditation Group	Cory Carter
Men's Group	Mike Stark
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
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

🌀 Minister 🌀

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

Interim Minister

The Rev. Evan Keely

🌀 Staff 🌀

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

<u>Music Director & Pianist</u>	David Chapman
<u>Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration</u>	Dayna Edwards
Director, Chalice Dancers	Sharon Werth
<u>Church Administrator</u>	Charles Bury
<u>Administrative Assistant</u>	Aisha White
<u>Bookkeeper</u>	Kirti Patel
Sunday Service/Building Managers:	Romeo Ndonfak
Child Care Providers:	Wyatt Rexach
	Jazmin Balbuena
	Beth Judy
	Alexis Saunders

🌀 Office Volunteers 🌀

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

Board of Trustees Column

Fellow PBUUC'ers,

I hope you all have had a wonderful holiday season with your family and friends.

I often find myself at the end of the year taking a serious look at everything going on and deciding if it really fits my goals in life. It is very easy to add more and more things into a busy schedule and end up overwhelmed. So I take this time to ask, "Why am I doing this thing?" and "Should I keep doing it?" Inevitably, I end up dropping something (or many things) and returning sanity to my family's life.

I mention this as it feeds into the discussion the Board is currently having after meeting with Mark Ewert, UUA Stewardship Consultant, about a capital campaign. Mark was very helpful and we are so glad that we took an hour on Veterans Day to teleconference with him. We at PBUUC want to be proud of our building and our space, including our parking lot. However, one thing that came through clearly in meeting with Mark, was that a capital campaign (or any form of serious fundraising) requires a concrete, long-term strategic plan. For the Board, this has boiled down to a series of questions:

- ☞ Why Paint Branch? Why are our members here and not at one of the numerous other UU churches in the area?
- ☞ Why do we exist as a church? What is our purpose in joining in this community?
- ☞ What is the focus at Paint Branch?
- ☞ Don't be surprised if one of us asks you some variation on these questions.

As for business, the Board continues to discuss the continuing repairs to our deck with the Buildings and Grounds Committee. I've come to realize after 2 ½ years on the board that a wooden deck in Maryland's environment requires continual and frequent maintenance. We also continue to receive updates on Building & Grounds' meetings with the County regarding the parking lot. The Board, after a few months of searching, asked the Social Action Committee to purchase replacement rainbow flags and then work with Buildings & Grounds to have them permanently installed. Additionally, this month the Board was delighted to hear from the Auction Team on their lessons learned and final numbers (roughly \$26,000). We want to thank Van and Marguerite and their team for their hard work and the amazing job they did with the Auction this year!

Coming up for the Board is both our January retreat and the February Town Hall. In January, the Board will be discussing what is and isn't the business of the Board, what information we need to do our jobs and the best way to obtain that information, as well as discussing why PBUUC exists, why are we so busy as a congregation, what would it be like to have fewer activities with more focus, how can the Board foster sense of agency and capability, and how do we promote further healing and strengthening after the last two years. I expect that to be very in depth and enlightening discussion.

The Town Hall will be February 28th! This is later than usual for two reasons – first, we didn't want to hold it on Valentine's Day and Presidents Day Weekend, and second, we didn't want to hold it the same day as Stewardship Sunday. We're still working on the agenda for the Town Hall and will share that with you once it is finalized.

May we have courage to accept the new challenges that 2016 sends us while embracing the good in life.

Sincerely,

Theresa Myrdon,
Board Chair

January Board Meetings:

Thursday, January 7, 8 pm

Executive Committee (via Conference Call)

Saturday, January 16, 11 pm

Read-Aheads due to Board

(email: BoardOfTrustees@pbuuc.org)

Tuesday, January 19, 7 pm

Board of Trustees Meeting (Room 4)

Stewardship

Can you imagine attracting the best and brightest candidates for our next settled minister? Can you imagine rewarding our hard-working staff with the pay and benefits that fully reflect our values? Can you imagine having the floors gleam when you come into the church? Can you imagine having a full range of Multigenerational Religious Exploration programs? Many social action activities to join in?

These can be part of our future. All it takes is the bold commitment of the congregation. So, mark your calendar for Commitment Sunday on February 21st. We will ask for everyone to step up and pledge to keep Paint Branch the vibrant church that it is. Look for more information in the coming weeks as we build excitement for our annual campaign.

Religious Exploration

12/20/15

As I write this there are about five days before Christmas and thus five days left to my spiritual practice of #uuadvent. Below is a sample of the weekly reflections I have been doing on my blog:

www.25daysofpreparation.tumblr.com. Join me there as I chronicle my journey of advent.

Day 20: Reflection

Several people who are joining me in this spiritual practice have commented on how good it feels to have more space. As I look around my living room, I am struck by how much more "space" the Christmas season occupies. There's a tree, decorations, stockings, Nutcrackers, little ceramic snowmen and penguins, a stuffed gingerbread man that plays "Grandma Got Run Over By a Reindeer" when you press his palm, and so on. I am not complaining about the extra things. Each piece has a story. For example, my stocking was knit by my great-grandmother when I was one year old. I love each of the extra pieces in our house that remind my family and me that this is a special, sacred time. This #uuadvent practice has made me more aware of the human impulse to nest, to keep nature close, and to be cozy in the darkest days of the year. I am aware of how important it is to make space and clear room for the sacred to enter our life. What would I have done if I had not cleared room for Christmas to enter?

On Friday, I felt tuned-in to the rhythms of my family and our human need for space in our schedule to have downtime. Instead of bustling about collecting knickknacks, I intentionally chose to be still and remember that this spiritual practice is meant to be fun and joyful; it is meant to be held lightly. I took a break. Instead, I was the patient in the pretend doctor's office of my four year old. I listened to my nine year old tell me the plot of the lasted 39 Clues book she is reading. I cared for my husband who had a back-ache and needed some extra TLC. The knickknacks enjoyed one last day in my home before I created more empty space in my house.

Saturday, I collected my knickknacks for the thrift store and gave away praise. I filled the empty spaces in our conversations with praise for my nine-year old. I decided to focus on showering her with praise because I know how powerful my praise can be to her right now as she finishes her time as little girl and enters into tween-hood.

We only have five more days left to this spiritual practice. This week, I will ponder where I can make more space in my life: more space for praise, more space to grow, more space for the holy.

Yours in Faith,

Dayna.

Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration

In and Around Paint Branch

On January 3rd **Spirituality Circle** will present an opportunity for self-discovery, self-inquiry. Whether you choose to share your answers to The Self-Inquiry Spectrum Survey which we will privately take during our time together or to keep them to yourself, you may find the exercise revealing to yourself of insights and helpful questionings. Shantida will facilitate. Privacy is respected. We meet in Room 4 during enrichment hour.

The Third Wednesday lunch group

Be sure to put Wednesday, January 20 at 1 pm on your calendar for the next TWedHUULK lunch. We will try the Koi [Asian cuisine](#) restaurant at 12046 Cherry Hill Rd in Silver Spring. More information in upcoming Bulletins and ContinUUs.

Everyone is invited. Please contact Elaine Shell at 301-776-4271 or 301-602-0590 or Elaine@Greville.net; or just surprise us and come if you can come at the last minute.



Meet Our Guest Speaker

Our Guest Speaker for Sunday, January 3, Anthony Jenkins, is currently serving as the intern minister (half time) at UUC. He is a native of Washington DC, and has also called PA, VA, upstate NY, and southern MD home. He holds a B.A. in Music (Performance) from Morgan State University, and has made his living as a freelance bassist in the Baltimore/DC metropolitan area for the last 16 years. Presently, he is pursuing his Masters of Divinity at Meadville Lombard Theological School in Chicago, IL; he has also served as an intern chaplain at Johns Hopkins Bayview Hospital.



After 5 years as a bassist in the 257th Army Band (DC), Anthony now serves as a 2nd Lieutenant (Chaplain Candidate) with the 29th Combat Aviation Brigade at Aberdeen Proving Ground. He is a mystic, a metaphysician, a Reiki I, and an astrology student of 24 years. Anthony and his beloved bride, Sarah, currently reside just outside of Columbia in the town of Highland.

Our Caring Community

January'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.

Meet Our New Member

Born and raised in Silver Spring, **Ebony Tara Scurry Contreras** grew up at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Silver Spring and visited Paint Branch UU Church from time to time before joining on May 24, 2015. She was expecting her second child and was drawn to the Religious Exploration program at PBUUC. Ebony is an author, and adjunct professor of human resources, sociology, and business. She's a local career management expert and enjoys teaching others how to craft resumes, interview for jobs, manage their careers and be happy. She is now Creative Director at a sanctuary spa in Wheaton called Curación Nails, Body, and Success Sanctuary. "Curación" means "healing" in Spanish. The spa specializes in natural nail care, massage, and life/career coaching. They just cel-

ebrated their grand opening this past October! Ebony's husband John, who is a general contractor (commercial and residential renovation) is from Guatemala. They have two children: Amethyst, who is two and a half, and Onyx, who is six months old. The family has two cats named Xena and Gabriel, who are brother and sister. Ebony enjoys collecting mineral stones, reading and creative writing. She loves "Double Stuff" Oreo cookies, and eats some form of Oreo every day! Welcome to Paint Branch, Ebony!



The Wider Unitarian Universalist Universe

The UU United Nations Seminars are Calling

We UUs have been participating in the work of the U.N. since its first year. Our very effective staff sits on various committees of special interest to our congregation members. The location of the UU United Nations Office in a building across the street from the U.N. Headquarters in NYC makes it easy for steady participation. It's also where the annual intergenerational seminars are held. This year the dates are Thursday, April 7 through Saturday, April 9. Youth from juniors in high school to early college age come a day early, on Wednesday, April 8, in order to plan the details of the preparation of the recommendations to be incorporated in a U.N. official Committee recommendation. It is expected that, as usual, about half of the participants will be youth. Also, it is expected that, as usual, half of the youth and older participants will come from Canada. Both of these elements add substantially to the work of this seminar. In past years, very knowledgeable and inspiring speakers and demonstrators of related work for each year's theme have been scheduled often including young poets, musicians, and a variety of artists.

The theme this year will be **"Colors of Inequality: Cost and Consequences."** Income inequality and racism will be examined as they impact on various themes of injustice and on actions which have proved effective in reducing inequality in some parts of the world.

It is not too early for adults to make arrangements for housing. Inexpensive rooms are available at the YMCA in walking distance of the UN, as well as hotels that are listed as "moderate priced." Youth bring sleeping bags and stay at a nearby large UU church. One of the UU churches near the UN owns a residence that houses 4 families. This goes fast so call now if you are interested. For more information contact Marge Owens (lowellandmarge@verizon.net) or Steve Bernheisel (stevenbernheisel@gmail.com).

Plan ahead for the New Year.

The UU Legislative Ministry of Maryland is having the annual kick-off meeting at the Annapolis UU Church on Saturday, January 23. Registration starts at 8:30. Coffee and bagels will be available and a light lunch will be served in early afternoon. Speakers will be legislators who are on committees targeted to deal with bills we are interested in. One of the issues will be assistance in dying as it is a denomination-wide issue of emphasis this year. Those attending will vote in their interest groups to determine how we will spend our resources in the 2016 session of the General Assembly. Affordable Housing may be added to the list as well as other issues UUs are eager to see taken forward this year.

Look in the foyer for information about the UU United Nations Office Intergenerational seminars. Upper classmen in high school and undergrads in college are invited to attend these excellent 3 ½ day annual meetings along with an equal number of adults from Canada and across the U.S. And it's a chance to have a New York City experience! Accommodations go fast and adults need to make reservations asap. Young people are expected to bring a sleeping bag and camp out at the large UU church just a short subway ride away from the U.N. Headquarters. Many meals are provided and inexpensive places for lunch are plentiful. Go on line and see who is going from other area UU congregations this year. Talk to Steve Bernheisel and Sophie for more information. Or call Marge or Lowell Owens @ lowellandmarge@verizon.net. The topic this year is "The color of Inequality Around the World." An International conference sponsored by the U.N. is planned on this topic for 2018. We will have a chance to prepare a statement to be forwarded to the U.N. Planning Committee. The UU UNO Director, Bruce Knots is very adept at working with committees and getting our point of view thoroughly aired. He is a former U.S. Foreign Service Officer.



Social Action Committee (SAC) News

Welcome to the new year - and important times for our social justice work together! Please plan to attend our next SAC meeting on Saturday morning, January 16th from 10 - 12:30 in Room 4 of the RE Building. After not meeting in December because of the holidays, we will be looking ahead to plan our upcoming activities. These include helping out at the Capital Area Food Bank with religious exploration folks, having a speaker on wage stagnation, and encouragement to attend the annual legislative meeting of the UU Legislative Ministry of Maryland on Saturday, January 23rd at the UU Church of Annapolis from 8:30 - 1:30 We can arrange car-pools for Paint Branchers. Also a reminder that the special collection in January will benefit the International Rescue Committee (IRC) that aids refugees. We'll also get updates on our support for the Housing Initiatives Partnership, Habitat for Humanity, and Paint Branches Community Learning Center and its English Classes. And more too! Please do join us on Saturday morning, January 16th for this important social justice work.

SAC Chair,
Nancy Boardman
SAC@pbuuc.org

Field Trip to Celebrate H.I.P.'s Newly Completed Passive House

The first home that will take no energy from the grid was shown in an open house on December 1. Several members of the Social Action Committee dropped in, along with a crowd of local leaders in the energy efficient construction trades. The home takes the place of a house destroyed in a devastating fire two years ago that involved three fatalities. It was a very big drag on the spirits of the neighborhood and the Mayor had tried various ways to have the shell removed. It is now the most attractive house in the neighborhood and will be sold to a family at market value. The non-profit, Housing Initiatives Partnership, based in Hyattsville, now in its 30th year, has offered individual family- and group housing-related counseling to people in Prince George's and Montgomery Counties for many years. It is hoped that one of these families will be able to acquire this lovely house. It is located at 5424 Addison Road, Fairmont Heights. The Director and two Assistant Directors are all members of UU congregations, just by coincidence. Director Maryann Dillon has spoken at Paint Branch and led a workshop a year ago. Two years ago a group of PBUUC members toured several large facilities renovated or built by H.I.P.; the Artists' Apartments on Route One in Hyattsville, and a beautiful Senior Apartments building in Cottage City.

Special Collections

Refugee Help is Critical!

The Special Collection for January will be for the International Rescue Committee on Sunday January 24. Please make checks out to International Rescue Committee.



Founded in 1933, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) is a global leader in emergency relief, rehabilitation, protection of human rights, post-conflict development, resettlement services and advocacy for those uprooted or affected by violent conflict and oppression. The IRC is a critical global network of first responders, humanitarian relief workers, healthcare providers, educators, community leaders, activists, and volunteers. Working together, we provide access to safety, sanctuary, and sustainable change for millions of people whose lives have been shattered by violence and oppression. The IRC is on the ground in 42 countries, providing emergency relief, relocating refugees, and rebuilding lives in the wake of disaster.

Thanks, *Rene McDonald*

Coming up:

- ❖ in January - the International Rescue Committee (IRC) that aids refugees,
- ❖ In February - the Capital Area Food Bank, and
- ❖ in March - UUs for Social Justice (UUSJ) in the local area.

- *Marj Donn*

Social Action Committee (SAC) Meeting Schedule:

Here are the Social Action Committee (SAC) monthly meeting dates through June 2016. As usual they fall on the third Saturday of a month - from 10 - 12:30 in Room 4 of the RE Building.

- ❖ Saturday morning, January 16, 2016
- ❖ Saturday morning, February 20, 2016
- ❖ Saturday Morning, March 19, 2016
- ❖ Saturday Morning, April 16, 2016
- ❖ Saturday Morning, May 21, 2016
- ❖ Saturday Morning, June 18, 2015 (tentative)

Social Action Committee (SAC) News Cont.

Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team (DARTT)



PAINT BRANCH COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER NEEDS TEACHERS FOR NEXT TERM

If you have ever considered taking a turn at teaching English classes in our

Community Learning Center now is the time to do it. Helping our immigrant neighbors improve their lives as they improve their English is personally rewarding and is a way to serve our church. Also it is a great way to implement our UU principles in our own neighborhood.

We are asking everyone to consider serving even those with children since we do offer childcare.

Kudos to these PBUUC members and friends who have served as teachers, assistants, or substitutes: James Alexander, Nancy Boardman, Jim Behenna, Carmelita Carter-Sykes, Carol Carter Walker, Emma Sue Gaines Gerson, Lynn Johnson, Kim Keyes, Melody Lawrence, Mea Little, Keith Miller, Janet Overton, Bekki Ow-arhus, Debra Street, Louise Warner, and Kathi Yu

Please sign up in the Foyer, or contact Carmelita Carter-Sykes at cartercarmelita@aol.com or 202-236-8783.

Training is on January 16, 2016. Classes start on January 24, 2016.

DARTT Will Facilitate Two Meetings in January

Members, friends, and newcomers will have two opportunities to continue the discussion of next steps for implementation of the 2011 congregational resolution on becoming an intentional multicultural congregation. The focus will be on further discussion of posting a Black Lives Matter banner on church property, and the congregational work around that action.

Tuesday, January 12, 2016 — 7 pm to 8:30 pm, Room 4, Religious Exploration Building; AND

Sunday, January 24, 2016 — 11:30 am to 12:45 pm, Meeting House Sanctuary

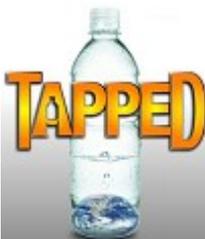
DARTT will be distributing print and electronic copies of resource materials and minutes of past meetings by January 3. Got questions, comments or other feedback?

Contact dartt@pbuuc.org.

Paint Branch To Host Joseph Priestley District Black Lives Matter Summit Saturday, January 30, 2016

JPD Racial and Social Justice Consultant Paula Cole Jones will be convening the third Unitarian Universalist Black Lives Matter Summit At Paint Branch UU Church on Saturday, January 30. UUs from local congregations will be here to provide and share information. More details will be forthcoming in upcoming Bulletins and ContinUUs. Meanwhile, SAVE THE DATE.

Green Team



The Green Team is meeting on January 10. We will watch a movie titled "Tapped: A

Short History of Bottled Water Scams." It is documentary from the team that made "Who Killed the Electric Car" about the bottled water industry, water safety, and more of things you did not know. The film has won many awards.

Thanks,
Kathy Bartolomeo

Excerpts from Twelve Days of COP21 for Our Climate Moment/um

During the Paris Climate Conference, known as the Conference of the Parties (COP21) United Nations Office (UU-UNO) delegates and other UUs posted daily Reflections. The complete series can be found on the UU Ministry for the Earth website: <http://goo.gl/HlxnvK> but here are entries on WATER:

Day Three – December 2: —"What are humans but a clever way

that water has found of going beyond the reach of rivers?" – *Adapted from Loren Eiseley*

Day Seven – December 6: —"Water does not resist. Water flows. When you plunge your hand into it, all you feel is a caress. Water is not a solid wall, it will not stop you. But water always goes where it wants to go, and nothing in the end can stand against it. Water is patient. Dripping water wears away a stone. Remember that, my child. Remember you are half water. If you can't go through an obstacle, go around it. Water does." – *Margaret Atwood*

Day Eleven – December 10: —"The sea can do craziness, it can do smooth, it can lie down like silk breathing or toss havoc shoreward; it can give gifts or withhold all; it can rise, ebb, froth like an incoming frenzy of fountains, or it can sweet-talk entirely. As I can too, and so, no doubt, can you, and you." – *Mary Oliver*



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, a pbuuc.org 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 **64th 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 included in the ContinUUm weekly email.
- **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. Up to one paragraph more may be added for use in the ContinUUm weekly email.

All deadlines are now on the web calendar. Go to www.pbuuc.org. Scroll down to “This Week” and click on

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 EMAIL: CHURCHADMIN@PBUUC.ORG
 Check here if you no longer wish to receive this mailing and return to PBUUC