



BRANCHES



PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

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

October 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

OCTOBER 2 INTERESTING TIMES

The Reverend Evan Keely, Interim Minister; with Carla Miller, DMRE; Will Snyder, Worship Associate; the Chalice Dancers; and the Choir.
Reflections on the upcoming elections.

OCTOBER 9 A CLEAN HEART

The Reverend Evan Keely, Interim Minister; with Beth Charbonneau, Worship Associate
True knowledge of the self can be fraught with pain when we know we have fallen short of being our best selves.

OCTOBER 16 WHAT COMPELS US?

The Reverend Evan Keely, Interim Minister
Last spring, congregants were invited to participate in Compelling Conversations in which we explored together our hopes and dreams for our church's purpose and its future. What's next?

OCTOBER 23 BOXED IN - BEYOND CATEGORICAL THINKING

Amanda Schubert, BCT Workshop Facilitator; with the PBUUC Ministerial Search Committee
There is both safety and isolation in the boxes that define us; but are we brave enough to peer out of those boxes and explore our lives and our community on a deeper level? (Lunch and workshop to follow immediately after service. See this month's MSC article for more information.)

OCTOBER 30 WHAT ARE WE?

The Reverend Evan Keely, Interim Minister; with Carla Miller, DMRE
This season of the year, holidays and holy days like Samhain, All Hallows' Eve (Halloween), All Saints' and All Souls' invite us to reflect on the complexities of our identities, individually and communally. Everyone is encouraged to come in costume to this multigenerational worship 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 6.***

Minister's Column

Last spring, the whole congregation was invited to engage in what we called Compelling Conversations. What we learned from those encounters can be summarized succinctly:

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church is a religious community dedicated to unity with all that lives, being in caring relationship with one another, and building a more just and compassionate world in Prince George's County and beyond.

Our conversations highlighted the church's strengths and our sources of pride.

- The setting of the church in the woods and the unique architecture of the buildings were mentioned in every conversation as being not only treasures, but wholly unique features of this church.
- Social action is very important to our congregation.
- Creativity expressed through music and the visual arts are vital priorities for this congregation.
- We are deeply invested in a thriving Religious Exploration ministry and strongly committed to continuing to develop as a multigenerational community of faith.
- This church is a home of many deep, lasting friendships and is a place where we sincerely strive to welcome and care for one another. Personal sharing is a sacred value.
- We are cognizant of being the largest, most stable Unitarian Universalist congregation in Prince George's County.

We also explored the church's challenges and concerns.

- We are still seeking ways to maintain our facilities in a way that makes good use of our resources (our money and the time and effort of volunteers and staff).
- Like many churches, we make plans around a budget, but we do not always raise the funds that we wish to in order to fulfill our vision.
- Volunteer burnout continues to be a concern. There are many instances of individuals who fulfill multiple roles and/or of persons who continue to serve in the same capacity for extended periods.



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PBUUC Leadership Directory

☞ Officers and Board of Trustees 2016-2017 ☞

email: BoardOfTrustees@pbuuc.org

Co-Chair	John Barr
Co-Chair	Liz Citrin
Vice Chair	Carmelita Carter-Sykes
Trustee	Sonny Katz
Trustee	Mike McMenamin
Trustee	Muriel Morisey
Trustee	Tess Morrison
Trustee	Ken Redd
Trustee	Elaine Shell
Secretary	Erin Gebhart
Treasurer	David Nation
Assistant Treasurer	Louise Waugh

☞ Worship Associates ☞

* Van Summers (2014-17)	Mary 'Tyrle' Rooker (2016-19)
* Carol Carter Walker (2014-17)	Paul Wester (2016-19)
Beth Charbonneau (2015-18)	Abby Wester (2016-17)
Will Snyder (2015-18)	*Team Leaders

☞ Pastoral Care Associates ☞

Jeri Holloway	Will Snyder
Lynn Johnson	
Mike McMenamin	

☞ **We Care Coordinator** ☞
vacant

☞ 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
	Carol Carter Walker
	Emma Sue Gaines-Gerson
Denominational Affairs	Don Gerson, Chair
	Bettie Young, cluster rep.
	contact church office
Electronic Communications	Patty Daukantas
Finance	Erin Gebhart & Kathy Bartolomeo
Green Team	Church Office
Leasing (contact)	Ken Montville
Legacy Fund	Anita Williams
Membership	[contact Ministerial Search Cmte]
Ministry	Sabrina Jones (acting Chair)
Nominating	VACANT
Personnel	REcmte@pbuuc.org
Religious Exploration	Peter Wathen-Dunn
Site Improvement	Janet Overton
Social Action	Chris Evans
Stewardship	Transition@pbuuc.org
Transition Team	

☞ Ministerial Search Committee - Search@pbuuc.org ☞

Jan Montville, Chair	Janet Overton
James Alexander	Elizabeth Porter
Jeanne Judd	Kathi Yu
Eric Most	

☞ Groups and Activities ☞

Bookstore	Raman Pathik
Bridge Group	Penny O'Brien
Chalice Dancers	Wendy Schlegel
Choir	David Chapman
Coffee Coordinator	Liz Citrin
Community Café	Alice Tyler
Food for Thought	Mary Tyrle Rooker
Handcraft Circle	Ebeth Porter
Facebook Group	Ken Montville
Meditation Group	Cory Carter
Men's Group	Peter Wathen-Dunn
Quest Discussion Group	Lowell Owens
Paint Branch Community Learning Center	Carmelita Carter-Sykes
Poetry Out Loud	Shantida
Shamanic Journeying	Mary Tyrle Rooker
Spirituality Circle	Amy Steiner
TWedHUULK	Elaine Shell
Ushers	Esther Nichols
Warm Nights	Evangeline Wells &
	Tess Morrison
Webmaster	Mark Shute
Welcome Table Greeters	Pat Behenna
Widowed Persons Support Group	Jeri Holloway
Women's Group	Louise Waugh

☞ Minister ☞

The Rev. Evan Keely

☞ Staff ☞

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

Music Director & Pianist	David Chapman
Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration	Carla Miller
Director, Chalice Dancers	Sharon Werth
Church Administrator	Charles Bury
Administrative Assistant	Aisha White
Bookkeeper	Roy Friday, CPA
Sunday Service/Building Managers:	Wyatt Rexach
	Quentin West
Child Care Providers:	Jazmin Balbuena
	Beth Judy
	Joy Washington

☞ Office Volunteers ☞

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

Minister's Column, continued

- Like many faith communities in America today, PBUUC perceives itself as a “greying congregation,” and there is a desire to equip and empower a new generation of UU leaders.

We spoke candidly of our hopes for the future.

- In every one of our conversations, the prospect of a capital campaign in the near future (e.g., within the next seven years) was discussed, often with enthusiasm.
- Many expressed the hope that we will have a full-time Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration in the coming years.
- Much excitement is invested in the search for the church's next settled minister.
- Many expressed a yearning for the church to have clearer goals so that the abundant energies of the congregation could be more focused. A unique and shared sense of identity and purpose is understood to be essential to this.
- We dream of being more of a presence in the community.

These conversations helped us see more clearly some of the tensions that exist in our congregation.

- In many of our conversations, we heard expressed a longing to see the church grow numerically. At the same time, the current size provides intimacy that we cherish.
- Congregants treasure the freedom to be creative and to feel empowered. At the same time, many expressed the hope that the next settled minister will be a dynamic leader.
- We value everyone and are committed to continuing to build a congregation that is authentically and joyously multigenerational, but many of our conversations and hopes are focused on attracting and retaining young people and young families. Persons of all ages in our community might find the saving message of Unitarian Universalism life-giving; how are we truly welcoming everyone, not just those whose presence might ease some of our anxiety?
- We continue to strive toward being a multicultural congregation and are still learning what that means. Committing ourselves, as we did this past June, to aligning the church with the Black Lives Matter movement is a new endeavor for us. We also continue to explore matters like different styles of worship and how that can be a vehicle through which our commitment to multiculturalism and inclusion can be authentically lived.
- We want to encourage the creativity and passions of everyone, but we wonder if we are trying to do more than is achievable or healthy for us. We yearn for both freedom and boundaries. How do we find the right balance?

In our Sunday worship service on October 16, the Transition Team and I will be sharing some reflections on these learnings.

Blessings,

Evan, The Rev. Evan Keely, Interim Minister

Membership Committee

You'll notice some new additions around the church foyer! With a generous grant from the Legacy Fund we have a nice new wood rotating rack to hold our newly printed PBUUC brochures and other materials about PBUUC. The goal is to make our lobby look cared-for, clean and tidy but with attractive hand-outs at the ready. We want the



tables under the interior windows to be “event-specific” space, or available for whatever event is taking place, whether it is a Sunday service, a memorial service, a concert etc. To make that easier we will be culling what's now on the tables to put into the rotating rack. Those materials should be:

- ◇ Related to Paint Branch UU Church or the wider Unitarian Universalist community
- ◇ Up-to-date, or timely

If you have materials to share for a Sunday service or event please take them with you before the foyer is readied for the next event.

We will also be displaying photos of our PBUUC community on a digital photo screen to be hung on the wall next to the kitchen. It will continuously rotate photos of Paint Branchers in a variety of activities e.g. church services, social action, music performances, religious exploration, and affinity groups, to name a few. Seeing all of the many ways that we involve ourselves and showing what we have to offer to visitors, or even a prospective minister, can be enlightening. We are hoping to share photos with the Ministerial Search Committee so if you have great cell phone shots from your latest church activity, please send them to search@pbuuc.org so that we can create a PBUUC photobank.

Input from anyone wishing to help keep the brochure rack and the photo display up to date would be most welcome. Contact membership@pbuuc.org.

Board of Trustees

The September board meeting was held Tuesday, September 20 with all but 2 in attendance. Our new DMRE, Carla Miller reported that Fall classes began September 11 with 16 youth in attendance, about half the full enrollment. We have teachers, but still need nursery volunteers and youth advisors. Please contact Carla if you are interested in helping out in this manner. Evan Keely noted in his Interim Minister's Report that he and the Transition Team will be leading worship on October 16 and will be presenting a summary of the Compelling Conversations session held this past spring and early summer. We hope to have a full congregation in attendance. Treasurer, David nation reported that PBUUC received a donation from the Bonnie and Peter Hurley Giving Account. *Thanks Bonnie and Peter!*

Elaine Shell and Muriel Morisey from the Board will be working with Janet Overton on the MSC along with Mark Shute, (our volunteer webmaster) to help update our website, updating materials and making it more manageable to navigate. The Board voted to continue our liability insurance with long time insurer Church Mutual (who covered for the fire.) Progress is being made on stairs to the outdoor classroom and entrance signage. BAG is planning a Church Beautification Day, Saturday, October 22. Bettie young was voted to be PBUUC's representative to the UUA Capital Cluster group for 1 year.

At our Retreat in August, Board Goals for the year were drafted, and these were approved at the meeting. The Goals are:

- ⌘ Fulfill Board of Trustees responsibilities with regard to the Ministerial Search Committee.
- ⌘ Improve communications within the Board of Trustees and information sharing with the PBUUC community.
- ⌘ Clarify leadership roles and decision making processes.
- ⌘ Pursue strategic plan (which potentially would include development of a capital campaign within the next five years).
- ⌘ Review, evaluate, and (as needed) establish charters for church committees and other entities.
- ⌘ Follow-up on application of processes and procedures that were first established by the 2015-16 Board.
- ⌘ Manage for financial sustainability. (Which may include directions to the Budget Leadership Team to develop plans for an audit or outside, independent evaluation of the church finances.)

A sub-group of the Board will develop specific and measureable actions that will be associated with each goal.

In addition, a Board Covenant was approved as follows:

BOARD OF TRUSTEES COVENANT 2016 - 2017

AS TRUSTEES WE:

Embrace our responsibilities as Trustees

- ❖ We seek to serve the highest good of the Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church.
- ❖ We uphold Unitarian Universalist Principles.
- ❖ We work to ensure the church's financial stability, to the best of our abilities.
- ❖ We trust that we are all committed to the best interests of the Church and the wider community.
- ❖ We set appropriate, realistic and measurable goals for the Board and activities of the Church.
- ❖ Our decisions reflect available relevant data and facts.
- ❖ We hold ourselves and each other accountable for our commitments to undertake specific actions on behalf of the church.
- ❖ We ensure ample opportunity for meeting participants to be heard.
- ❖ Our oral and electronic communications show respect for each other's abilities and trust in each other's good intentions.
- ❖ We share written materials in time for Board members and others involved in Church decision-making to read them prior to taking action based on such materials.
- ❖ We address and resolve conflicts directly, openly and in a timely manner.

Engage actively in the life of the Church

- ❖ We attend church services regularly.
- ❖ We support the church financially through our own annual pledges.
- ❖ We encourage and support events and activities outside of Sunday worship that enrich our church community.

Practice self-care

- ❖ We take care of our emotions, health, time, capabilities, and finances.
- ❖ We let others know if we cannot complete a task.
- ❖ We are willing to ask for, and accept help.

October Board Meetings:

Saturday, October 15, 11 pm
Read-Aheads due to Board
(email: BoardOfTrustees@pbuuc.org)

Tuesday, October 18, 7 pm
Board of Trustees Meeting (Room 4)

Ministerial Search Committee

BEYOND CATEGORICAL THINKING

Greetings from the Ministerial Search Committee! I first want to thank you all for completing your surveys and lending your voices to the cottage meetings and individual interviews. Your participation will help guide and inform MSC decisions over the coming weeks and months.

Now that the information gathering portion of the search is coming to a close, we are turning our attention to the Beyond Categorical Thinking workshop. Every congregation in search goes through this workshop in order to ensure that we find the best possible match for our community.

Some questions you may be asking yourself...

- ≈ Will the new minister hear me?
- ≈ Will my concerns and needs be met?
- ≈ Will the minister understand what I'm living with?
- ≈ How will the community respond to our minister?

In answering these questions, a picture of the "ideal minister" (categorized by age, gender, gender identity, nationality, physical ability, race, and sexual orientation) may come to mind. With this picture in place, it can be easy to unintentionally exclude ministers who fall into certain categories. At times, as we get caught up in comparing candidates to our "picture," we can even forget what it is we hoped for in a minister in the first place.

On Sunday October 23, from noon to 3pm, PBUUC will participate in the Beyond Categorical Thinking (BCT) workshop offered by the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), for congregations involved in the search for a new minister. The PBUUC Ministerial Search Committee invites and encourages all congregational leaders, members, and friends to participate in this workshop.

The Beyond Categorical Thinking program is designed to promote inclusive thinking and help prevent unfair discrimination in the search process for a new minister. This program includes a Sunday morning service with BCT workshop facilitators, immediately followed by lunch and a three hour workshop. It's a long day, but an important one. In the workshop, we will:

- * Consider the hopes, expectations, and concerns we have for a new minister
- * Learn more about the ministerial search process, and

* Explore how thinking categorically about people sometimes interferes with choosing the best candidate.

Come on Sunday October 23, directly after service to have some lunch and to participate in this UUA-sponsored workshop, to be held in the Meeting House, led by Amanda Schuber, UUA facilitator, with the PBUUC Ministerial Search Committee. We specifically invite PBUUC's Youth to join us, and of course, childcare will be provided for those youngest among us.

The selection of a minister is very important to the future of our church. The Beyond Categorical Thinking workshop is another opportunity for everyone in our congregation to be a part of that process.

Ebeth Porter

On Behalf of the Ministerial Search Committee

Wheel of Life



Good people,

I am very saddened to report that Jane Trout, a long-time member of the Paint Branch Church community, died late last week. Her generous, kindly spirit and her many contributions of time and caring to the church community will be sorely missed.

A memorial service honoring Jane will be held at the church on Saturday, October 8 at 4pm.

Yours in our faith,
Rev. Evan Keely

The PBUUC Chalice Dancers



Come Dance with Us!

The Chalice Dancers are actively seeking new members. Rehearsals are Saturday mornings at 9:30. All that is required is a desire to move and learn in community with others.

If you would like to get a taste of what is involved without any commitment, consider dancing with us for one of the Christmas Eve candlelight services or for the Kwanzaa Service on January 1. Please contact Sharon Werth for additional information (sbodul@comcast.net; 301-343-9869). All are welcome!

Religious Exploration

Peeking in on the Religious Exploration Classes for Children and Youth

Those of you who are sitting in worship on Sunday mornings may be curious.. “What happens in the Religious Exploration classes at PBUUC?” As DMRE, I am fortunate to be able to peek in on each class. Let me share a peek with you! I see rapt faces, captivated by a story. Next door, children with their hands raised look eager to share their responses to the story of the day; and some more personal sharing of their own experiences. I hear their clear voices while the other children and the teachers turn toward them, listening attentively.

Something catches my eye in the room across the hall... our junior youth are waving the sparkling, colorful magic wands they’ve created in the “Harry and U.U.” Harry Potter-based class. They are casting spells to change life for the better. Along with the senior youth, they are also learning about the very real problems of illiteracy, and planning for a book drive.

Then I smell pizza wafting through the doorway of Room 1. (Yes, even at 10:30 am, teens are happily eating ‘za!) The youth are gathered in a circle with their advisors, checking in about their own experiences as school begins. The conversation shifts into issues of illiteracy, and the inequality of learning opportunities in many vulnerable communities. Their book drive is one small step toward providing access to books.

In sum, what happens in our R.E. classes?: Young people sharing thoughts, listening to one another with interest and compassion, get silly and laugh, create unique, “magical” projects and reflect on issues of justice and such big ideas of faith as compassion, justice, and equality. Our teachers are every bit as engaged in sharing and listening, being silly and serious, reading and reflecting as are the youth. Together, they gather as one to create their own sacred space and spiritual community through the common bond of being and ever-becoming U.U.’s.

What happens in PBUUC’s RE classrooms? On Sunday mornings, I catch glimpses of the transformative process of faith development, which will shape the hearts and consciousness of these young people throughout their lives. There’s a lot going on over here in R.E.! More than meets the eye.

Carla Miller
dmre@pbuuc.org

Glen Gathering and PBUUC October Birthdays Celebration, October 9th, 11 am

Beginning this month, we will be combining our monthly Glen Gatherings with the monthly Paint Branch Birthday celebration to create one big party for all! Everyone is encouraged to attend, and if you have an October birthday, please accept our special invitation to join the gathering! While we sing happy birthday to our own PBUUC folks, we also learn about some amazing famous UU's who share this birthday month, too. Adults can visit while children play, and a pizza lunch will be served, with fruit and cupcakes, for a requested donation of \$5 per person or \$10 per family. (Free to October birthday celebrants, of course!)

Youth Pancake Breakfast, October 23rd; after service

The PBUUC Youth will be serving a delicious pancake breakfast immediately after service on October 23rd, to feed all before the Beyond Categorical Thinking workshop begins.



Trunk or Treat! October 30th, Noon—2 pm

A Halloween celebration for the whole congregation! Dress up your car, bring some treats, and pass out candy to the children of PBUUC and the community. Children, youth and adults are all invited to come in costume to our multigenerational service this morning, and to trunk-or-treat.

Save the Date! Religious Educator Start-Up; “Giving Thanks” Potluck, November 18th

Bring a favorite Thanksgiving dish to share, and join us in giving thanks for PBUUC’s Religious Exploration ministry to all ages. All are invited to this congregational event, to celebrate our RE ministry for all ages; and to support the transition to new DMRE, Carla Miller. This event is sponsored by the Central East Region of the UUA

Women’s Group

Join us for a guided tour of the Permanent Exhibition at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

On October 1, 2016, the Women’s Group is sponsoring a guided tour of the Permanent Exhibition at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. We will meet at 9:30 am on the 15th street side of the Museum on the plaza with the sculpture. The Holocaust Museum is accessible by metro – use the Smithsonian stop (independence Street exit, not the National Mall). Anne Merrill, Associate Creative Director in Marketing at the Museum will lead us on a guided tour. Please sign up here: <http://tinyurl.com/Oct1MuseumTour>

We can only take 15 people on this tour, and it is recommended for age 14 and up. Please sign up each person individually. After 15 people, I will start a wait list. Contact Christine Sonnabend for more information text 240-535-5066 or email cls.sonnabend@gmail.com. (Please no phone calls until September 12, 2016, as I will be out of the country.)

- Christine Sonnabend



The Wider Unitarian Universalist Universe

Request for Stories:

How Unitarian Universalism Changed My Life

Skinner House Books announces a call for short, personal stories about how Unitarian Universalism dramatically changed the course of people's lives. These will be collected into an anthology and published as a book, edited by Rev. Meg Riley, senior minister at the Church of the Larger Fellowship. This collection will show through real-life stories the ways that Unitarian Universalist (UU) congregations and UU theology, community, and justice making can transform us. Many introductory books about Unitarian Universalism provide heady explanations of UU history and theology. But this anthology would show the felt impact of the faith on real people through their personal testimonials. The stories may be characterized by, but are not limited to, phrases such as, "The love of this community brought me back from a place of despair," "I thought churches didn't accept LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) people until I discovered Unitarian Universalism," and "Unitarian Universalism saved my life." We believe that Unitarian Universalism changes the lives of all who are committed to it, but for this book we're looking for the stories that show Unitarian Universalism tangibly and dramatically changing the course of a life.

Taken together, these personal narratives will introduce Unitarian Universalism to readers and demonstrate its transformative potential. The stories may be published anonymously at the author's request, though the editor and publisher of the book will know the author's identity.

Stories should be between 750 and 3,500 words in length. Submissions should be sent by November 15, 2016 to: Betsy Martin (bmartin@uua.org)

Skinner House Books

24 Farnsworth St. Boston, MA 02210-1409

UUUNO Gala in NYC

The UU United Nations Office is holding a gala celebration at the Arlington UU Church on Friday, October 21, at 6 pm. Car pools will be arranged by Marge Owens (lowellandmarge@verizon.net or 301-345-1572). Bruce Knotts, the Director of the office, will be down for this event and will let us in on the efforts and successes of recent months. For the first time, Bruce has been successful in persuading committees he sits on to include language in international agreements guaranteeing rights for GBLTQ people. This is worth celebrating. For those who received an invitation already, do not be alarmed about the Registration Fee. Our congregation has for many years been a significant supporter of this important part of our denomination's work.

Cedar Lane UU Church (CLUUC),
Sunday, October 9, 2016, 10 am.

Robert Skinner, the Director of the United Nations Information Center in Washington D.C. (and the UN Secretary General's representative to the United States) will address a Forum in the CLUUC Chalice House from 10:10 am to 11 am. Information will be provided on, and a collection taken for, the UU-United Nations Office. For more information, contact mgkpberg@gmail.com

Beyond Boundaries: Controversies, Frontiers, and Growth in Unitarian Universalism.

Convocation 2016 -- Twin Cities, October 27-30. Join us for a rich gathering of ministers, scholars, students, and all others who cherish the history, heritage, and future of Unitarian Universalism. The program will include presentation of new research, panels/workshops, performances, exhibits/posters, as well as an award-winning sermon and hymn. Full details and online registration: uuconvo.org

Save the Date: Friday, October 28, 7:30 pm
Diwali: Festival of Lights at Cedar Lane UU Church

Spirituality Circle



Spirituality Circle is a safe place to share about our spiritual journeys. We are a participant led group. Please join us in Room 4 during Enrichment Hour on Sunday, October 2nd, to help plan what we want to share and experience about spirituality in the coming months. We will have our regular check-in, etc. and then do the planning. Newcomers are always welcome! For more information, contact Amy Steiner at 301-890-9072.

Buildings and Grounds—BAG

Beautification Day: Saturday, October 22, 9 am – 2 pm

All are invited to join in the beautification of the meetinghouse, RE building, church grounds and parking lot. Come for as much or little time as you can to improve the beauty and utility of our surroundings. We need your help. Pizza at noon. Contact person Lowell Owens, Chair of Buildings and Grounds committee.





Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team

October. ADORE's (A Dialogue On Race & Ethnicity) Next Focus: A Book Discussion

ADORE is planning a book discussion as its next focus. The two books under consideration are *Between The World And Me*, by Ta-Nehisi Coates and *The Third Reconstruction*, by Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II.

DARTT envisions a three-part discussion once a month, beginning in October and ending in December. Participants would be expected to attend all three sessions. The chosen book would be available in early October for purchase after Sunday Service. Please contact Carol Carter Walker or Emma Sue Gaines-Gerson, Co-Chairs, DARTT, in person or at DARTT@PBUUC.org by no later than Monday, October 2, to:

- Sign up for the book discussion;
- Vote for your preferred meeting time;
 - Sundays from 4 to 6
 - Sundays from 7 to 9
 - First, second or fourth Tuesdays from 7 to 9

October. UU Church of Silver Spring Hosts UU Gospel Workshop, Saturday, October 15, 10 am to 4 pm

The UU Church of Silver Spring, our closest UU neighbor, is hosting its annual gospel workshop on Saturday, October 15. The theme is healing. It is being led by David Smith, musician extraordinaire, from 10 am to 4 pm. The Workshop is free, although donations to support the program will be gratefully accepted. There is a \$10 fee to order lunch.

David Smith is a musician extraordinaire. He gives traditional UU hymns, spirituals and contemporary music a gospel sensibility. He is Executive Director of Music at the 1800-member All Souls Unitarian Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma, the largest in our denomination. David served as music and worship leader for the 2013 UUA General Assembly in Louisville, KY where he had newly-fellowshipped ministers dancing down the aisles in their clerical robes. You'll be in for a unique musical experience.



Register at:
<https://uucss.givezooks.com/events/david-smith-residency-2016>

November. Poinsettias Return To Paint Branch For 2016 Holiday Season

DARTT will once again work with Behnke Nurseries to bring poinsettias to Paint Branch. Last year, poinsettias returned to Paint Branch after a hiatus of several years. Poinsettias will be available beginning in mid-December to decorate the Meeting House, your house or for gifts. Order forms will be available in early November.



August. Paint Branch Represented at August 28 Moral Revival Rally

This is a picture of Marj Donn, Carol Carter Walker, and Bettie Young at the Moral Revival Rally led by Rev. Dr. William Barber in Washington, DC in August. UU clergy and laity were well represented at the event. In the words of Bettie Young, "The Moral Revival Rally was a wonderful experience for me. Partly it was the inspiration of the speakers and the joy of the music. Partly it was the contagious excitement of being in a huge crowd of people united in their passion for justice. To me it was a very moving combination of powerful "big church" rally and comfortable down-home gathering with like-minded friends."

Social Action Committee—SAC

PBUUC's Social Action Committee returns to its regular monthly meeting schedule. We meet on the third Saturday of each month in the Kelley Room. Contact SAC@pbuuc.org for more information.

Upcoming Social Action Committee Meeting Schedule:

Saturday, October 15th at 10 am

Saturday, November 19th at 10 am

Saturday, December 17th at 10 am

SAVE THE DATE: WARM NIGHTS WEEK 2017

Our week for Warm Nights next spring will be Sunday afternoon April 9th through Sunday morning April 16th.

In and Around Paint Branch



PBUUC Auction: Saturday November 5th

The 2016 PBUUC Auction: "A Night in the Big Apple" will be held on Saturday evening, November 5th.

We need your donations of events, services, and tangible items of value very soon (preferably by Sunday, October 9). Please provide the details of your donations at: <http://pbuuc.org/auction/donate> and register for the Auction at: <http://pbuuc.org/auction/register>

Paper donation forms are also available – in the Auction 2016 Forms box in the Foyer of the Meeting House. You can also register at the door on the night of the auction. Auction@pbuuc.org

Music Notes for October and November

Music at Paint Branch opens its fall series on Sunday October 9 at 4 pm with "Music Gets Us Through Turbulent Political Times" featuring Deni Foster and Friends. They will perform a program of music from Bach to Bernstein. Paint Branch musicians Deni Foster and Allison Hughes will perform along with guest musicians Dick Berg, Julie Ponting and the Sailing Madrigal Group.

Allison Yu, a 12 year old prize winning pianist presents a program of music by Bach, Chopin and Mozart on Sunday, October 23 at 4 pm. Allison is a student of San-Qing Lu Bennaman. One of her recent awards was the Junior Category of The 3rd Catholic University of America Piano Competition which was a bronze medal.

Steven Cui, age 10 will perform on Sunday, November 13 at 4 pm. Save the date!

All of these recitals are free but donations are greatly appreciated. Receptions will follow with an opportunity to visit with the artists. Plan to attend and support the musical arts at Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church.

- Jeri Holloway

TWedHUULK

The Third Wednesday lunch group (TWedHUULK) will meet October 19 at 1 pm at Siri' Chef's Secret in Greenbelt. The restaurant that has been a our December tradition is going out of business and we want to enjoy their excellent Thai cuisine once more before they leave.

Everyone is welcome. The address is 5810 Greenbelt Road in Greenbelt, several blocks west of Beltway Plaza. Contact Elaine Shell for more info: 301 776-4271 or elaine@greville.net.

- Elaine

MAHALO PAINT BRANCH!

Ka hakaka ana is Hawaiian for challenge, and Paint Branch's Luau on August 20 developed into almost as much of challenge as trying to say *ka hakaka ana*! It required too much planning to be ready in time for a July date. We wanted August 13, but the MH floor was being refinished that week, and when we moved it to August 20, we conflicted with a pre-scheduled auction dinner. The second Sunday of selling tickets and recruiting volunteers was overwhelmed by church clean-up activities. So few tickets had been sold and cooks signed up, we considered cancelling until more people responded the following week. Then, the evening of the luau, the MH floor still wasn't dry, so we had to switch buildings, and do a lot of improvising and running between the MH kitchen and the Kelley Room. Despite an earlier start time and activities to accommodate children, very few came. But there were notable successes as well, and many people to thank for helping it all happen.

There are some who deserve a *Nui Mahalo* (very big thank you). Marguerite Summers was an enthusiastic supporter of doing the luau from the first suggestion and took charge of overseeing decorations and set-up in addition to making one of the dishes and giving me a ride to church when my car was laid up. Chalice Dancers Sharon Werth, Abby Crowley, Sherry Mitchell and Kathy Wallens delighted us with their reprisal of the *Mahlo Hula* they originally performed for the Ethnic Dinner Luau in 2011. Anita Williams assumed the task of making a name tag for everyone with their first name in Hawaiian and handed them out at the door. Chuck Bury borrowed additional decorations from a friend, made the essential Kalua Pork, even wrapping it in a banana leaf for additional authenticity, helped with set-up, and functioned as building manager for the entire evening. Others doing set up included Van Summers, Anita Williams, Keith Miller, Debra Street. Carol Carter Walker tended the door, Mike Stark and Sonja Meredith did their usual stellar job of bar-keeping mixing up Lava Flows, and dispensing other tasty libations. Don Gerson took photographs of all the activity and food. Cooks in addition to Marguerite and Chuck included Cathy Helmold, Kathi Yu, Marilyn Pearl, Tess Morrison, Elaine Shell, Louise Waugh, Margaret McLellan and Jeri Holloway.

Clean up, instead of being done in 2 rooms, this time had to be done in and between 2 buildings, and included taking down and stowing decorations. Those who worked hard to accomplish this included Tess Morrison, Marguerite and Van Summers, David Chapman, Mike Stark, Sonja Meredith, Anita Williams, Carol Carter Walker, Chuck Bury, Marilyn Pearl, Cathy Helmold, Keith Miller, Debra Street, Jeri Holloway, and probably others I didn't see because we were working in different buildings.

Mahalo also to the 99 people who attended, to those cooks who waived reimbursement, and to all those who celebrated the 57th anniversary of Hawaii's statehood the following day, by obtaining Hawaiian food at the leftover sale, and leaving generous donations. This dinner netted \$845.

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 **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 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

“More Upcoming Events.” Click on the Calendar grid to the left to advance to the next month.

EMAIL: CHURCHADMIN@PBUUC.ORG

WEBSITE: WWW.PBUUC.ORG

(301) 937-3666

ADELPHI, MD 20783-1030

3215 POWDER MILL ROAD

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