



BRANCHES



PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

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

August 2017

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

AUGUST 6

THE TIME IS NOW!

PBUUC member *Tricia Most*; with Worship Associate *Paul Wester*; and a Congregational Dance led by the *Chalice Dancers*
Recent controversies over hiring practices in the UUA led to a transformational General Assembly (GA), every session of which served as an orientation for re-envisioning our faith. *Tricia Most*, an onsite delegate from Paint Branch, will present her perspective on this GA. *** All Ages, including Children, are invited to join the *Chalice Dancers* for this service. We will be offering the simple version of 'We Are', early in the service. Adults and children are needed to create a truly multigenerational group to fulfill the song's message of "we are one." Some of you have joined us for this piece before. It is EASY to follow along, with a short rehearsal. We will meet before the service on Sunday morning at 9:15 for the rehearsal. If you like, you may join us at our Saturday rehearsal August 5 at 9:30 am as well. Please email *Sharon* to RSVP your participation - sbodul@comcast.net ***

AUGUST 13 REFLECTIONS ON GOD AND OUR UU FAITH

PBUUC member *Melissa Graham*

with Worship Associate *Van Summers*

In the book *A History of God* by *Karen Armstrong*, the author explores how the monotheistic religions have fashioned the idea of God over time to suit the changing needs of their followers. Exploring these changes during the book group at 4F's has helped me come to a more comfortable relationship with the concept of God, one that clearly reflects my UU journey. Join me and other book group members as we reflect on how ideas in *A History of God* resonate with our UU experience.

AUGUST 20

SMALL DISCOVERIES

Rev. *Rachel Christensen*; with Worship Associate *William Snyder*
Big changes in our lives are often marked by small discoveries that lend texture and understanding to our journeys. This will be Rev. *Rachel Christensen's* first sermon at Paint Branch as our newly called minister.

AUGUST 27

ENTERING INTO COMMUNITY

Rev. *Rachel Christensen* and the Worship Associate Team;
with *Carla Miller, DMRE*

What are the promises we make to each other as we form and re-form and strengthen the community that is Paint Branch? What does it mean to make these promises?

Board of Trustees' Column

The BOT met on July 18, 2017. All of the newly elected members were in attendance: *Kate Brett*, *Kay McGraw*, *Eric Most*, *Jessica Sharp*, *Marguerite Summers*, and *Kathi Yu*. Continuing members present were: *Carmelita Carter-Sykes*, and *Tess Morrison*.

Additionally *Louise Waugh*, later appointed Treasurer, was also in attendance. There were three members of the Congregation present. *Carmelita Carter-Sykes* led the meeting. The BOT decided to temporarily use the structure of two Co-Chairs and one Vice Chair with *Kate Brett*, *Carmelita Carter-Sykes* and *Jessica Sharp* in these roles.

At its retreat on August 19, 2017 with the new minister *Rachel Christensen*, and *Megan Foley* of the Central East Region as a facilitator the BOT will make a final decision on structure and Executive Committee members.

There was an orientation for members of basic policies and procedures. The BOT approved the June 20, 2017 minutes; the appointments of *Louise Waugh* as Treasurer and *Dave Nation* as Assistant Treasurer; the appointment of *Tess Morrison* as Acting Secretary: keeping the meeting day as 3rd Tuesday and changing the regular meeting time to 7:15 to 9:15 pm; and Guidelines for Visitors to BOT Meetings

There was discussion of the new Draft Process Review letter we just received; finding auction leaders; BOT members signing up to be liaisons or points of contact for church committees; signing up to be Trustee on Deck this church year, the HCA lease, and a new database to improve communication.

↪ The next regular BOT Meeting is August 15, 2017.

↪ All read-a-heads are due on August 8, 2017.

↪ The BOT ExCom will meet on August 7, 2017.

↪ BOT Retreat will be August 19, 2017

Carmelita R. Carter-Sykes

BOT Interim Co-Chair

The church needs members to serve as:

♦ SECRETARY of the Board of Trustees

♦ FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Contact: *John Bartoli*, nomcom@pbuuc.org

Carmelita Carter-Sykes. BOT Interim Co-Chair

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PBUUC Leadership Directory

🌀 Officers and Board of Trustees 2017-2018 🌀

email: BoardOfTrustees@pbuuc.org

Interim Co-Chair	Kate Brett
Interim Co-Chair	Carmelita Carter-Sykes
Interim Vice-Chair	Jessica Sharp
Trustee	Sonny Katz
Trustee	Kay McGraw
Trustee	Tess Morrison
Trustee	Eric Most
Trustee	Marguerite Summers
Trustee	Kathi Yu
Treasurer	Louise Waugh
Assistant Treasurer	David Nation

🌀 Worship Associates 🌀

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

🌀 Pastoral Care Associates 🌀

Jeri Holloway
Lynn Johnson
Mike McMenamin
Will Snyder

🌀 We Care Coordinators 🌀

VACANT

🌀 Chartered Committees and Teams 🌀

Arts Council	Pat Tompkins (Music)
Adult RE	Emily Conover (Visual Arts)
Auction	Louise Waugh
Budget Leadership Team	VACANT
Buildings & Grounds (co-chairs)	Celinda Marsh
By-Laws Review	Lowell Owens & Peter Wathen-Dunn
Capital Campaign	Muriel Morisey
Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation	Peter Wathen-Dunn
Team (DARTT) (co-chairs)	Carol Carter Walker
Denominational Affairs	Emma Sue Gaines-Gerson
	Don Gerson, Chair
	Bettie Young, cluster rep.
	contact church office
Electronic Communications	Patty Daukantas
Finance	Erin Gebhart & Kathy Bartolomeo
Green Team (co-chairs)	Church Office
Leasing (contact)	Ken Montville
Legacy Fund	Pat Behenna
Membership	[contact Board of Trustees]
Ministry	John Bartoli
Nominating	VACANT
Personnel	REcmte@pbuuc.org
Religious Exploration	Janet Overton
Social Action (SAC)	Chris Evans
Stewardship	

🌀 Groups and Activities 🌀

Bookstore	Raman Pathik
Bridge Group	Penny O'Brien
Chalice Dancers	Sherry Mitchell
Children's Choir	Allison Hughes & Jeanne Judd
Choir	David Chapman
Coffee Coordinator	VACANT
Community Café	Alice Tyler
Food for Thought	Mary Rooker
Handcraft Circle	Ebeth Porter
Facebook Group	Ken Montville
Meditation Group	Cory Carter
Men's Group	Keith Miller
Mental Health Support Group	Alice Tyler
Quest Discussion Group	Lowell Owens
Paint Branch Community Learning Center	Carmelita Carter-Sykes
Poetry Out Loud	Shantida
Shamanic Journeying	Mary Rooker
Spirituality Circle	Amy Steiner
TWedHUULK	Elaine Shell
Ushers	Esther Nichols
Warm Nights	Tess Morrison & Louise Waugh
Webmaster	Mark Shute
Welcome Table Greeters	Pat Behenna
Widowed Persons Support Group	Jeri Holloway
Women's Group	Louise Waugh

🌀 Minister 🌀

The Rev. Rachel Rudd Christensen

🌀 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	Sade Ayinde
Bookkeeper	Roy Friday, CPA
Sunday Service/Building Managers:	Joel Yesupriya
	Howard Townsell
Child Care Providers:	Jazmin Balbuena
	Joy Washington

🌀 Office Volunteers 🌀

Elizabeth Scheiman (Tuesday)
Will Snyder (Wednesday)
Alice Tyler (Thursday)
Janet Overton (Friday)

Multigenerational Religious Exploration

Exploring a World of Wonder with Pokemon??? Really??? & Potter

This coming year in Religious Exploration, Paint Branch's first through third grade children will be creating their own "PokUUmmon" creatures as they explore the natural world. This, along with our continuing engagement in a Harry Potter theme with our fourth to sixth grade group, is an experiment in introducing popular themes into our religious exploration.

I imagine some of you; parents and elders alike, are questioning skeptically, "What on Earth does any of this have to do with developing a strong U.U. faith?" and "Aren't we getting a little carried away with pop culture here?"

1. *What on Earth do Pokemon and Potter have to do with developing a strong U.U. faith?*

Our theme in R.E. for 2017-2018 is Learning from our Sources. The curriculum we are using as our base for the first-third grader class is "A World of Wonder," based in the exploration of nature, connects with three sources; the sense of awe and wonder, the guidance of reason and results of science and the earth-centered traditions. A PokU-Ummon overlay will add the four elements of many earth-centered traditions as we group cards into the families of earth, air, fire, and water. It is also clear that this curriculum is ideal for Paint Branch's wonderful woodsy setting, with an age group that is filled with curiosity and appreciation of the natural world.

Harry Potter, or *Harry & U.U.*, we learned last year, was a deeply meaningful learning engagement with social justice themes. This year, as we continue and expand this curriculum, we will incorporate the stories from Christian and Judaic sources, with themes of Love and Justice. And, we can still engage our young people in the service projects and the spells and potions they loved throughout the past year!

2. *Aren't we getting a little carried away with the pop culture?*

If "getting carried away with pop culture" means sacrificing our children's faith development, learning and growth, then no. We in MRE are committed to the children's faith development.

If, on the other hand, you are asking if we are highly attuned to providing fun, contemporary themes that will engage children and strengthen the chance that they attend regularly, then, Yes! We are all about it.

Pokemon (actually, PokUUmmon) and Potter it is, for a fun and meaningful faith development experience this year in our children's religious exploration ministry.

RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Next Food, Fun, & Faith Friday



4F'S

Join Us! First Friday in August, August 4, theme-based RE for All, 1st & 3rd Fridays 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm.

Our theme is The Great Mystery-That Which Many Call God

- ◇ **Story:** Old Turtle seeing God from individual perspectives
- ◇ **Activity:** Making things with natural materials
- ◇ **Book Discussion:** The History of God, Armstrong; **All are welcome for good conversation- whether or not you have read the book.**
- ◇ **Dinner: 6:30 PM FOR DINNER/7:30 PM ACTIVITIES BEGIN**

Come to enrich your faith, families, friendships, and thus, our UU community. Invite a friend!



SUMMER RE "Love Will Guide Us," A Summer of Love!

Our children need you for some fun summer Sundays.

Assistant Needed: August 13, August 20 and September 3.

Lead Teacher Needed: August 20 (Carla is away – this one is important) and September 3. If you do not teach during the regular year, please consider teaching or assisting for one summer session. Speak to Carla Miller, DMRE, dmre@pbuuc.org or sign-up online at <https://tinyurl.com/PBUUCSummer>

Our Whole Lives (OWL) for Junior High at UU Church of Silver Spring this Fall

The UU Church of Silver Spring will include our Paint Branch youth, grades 7-9, in their Junior High "OWL" class. The Jr. High OWL course will be offered at 11 am on Sundays, mid-October through mid-April. It will also involve a sleepover or two at UUCSS. **Please Register Now**- they may need to cap the class at some point and your child may not be able to participate. Parents should also plan to be involved as volunteers in any support roles outside of the classroom. Since we are not contributing to the teaching staff or cost of the program directly, let's plan to contribute in any other way we can as their guests. For more information see the UUCSS website <http://uucss.org/children/whole-lives-owl/> and register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GPYNRGV>

Paint Branch RE will be offering OWL for grades 4/5 this year, for eight sessions in late winter / early spring.

Multigenerational Religious Exploration Announcements (continued)



SAVE THE DATES -Teacher Orientations for the 2017-2018 RE Year

PBUUC RE Teacher Start-Up, Sunday, August 27 11:30 am—1:30 pm

Maryland Regional UU Teacher Orientation, “UU Are the Changemakers.” Saturday, September 16, 8:45 am - 1:15 pm with lunch. The training will be held at River Road UU Congregation, 6301 River Road, Bethesda, MD. **Register at tinyurl.com/UU-Changemakers**

Our First Day of the New Church-School Year Will Be Sunday, September 10. Multi-Generational Ingathering is scheduled for September 17, 2017. We will start the week before Ingathering rather than the week after since Ingathering is late this year.

HELP WANTED

PBUUC is seeking a Nursery Childcare Provider to care for our youngest children, ages 2 months-3 years; for approximately 12-15 total hours per month. The typical schedule is:

Two Sundays per month:

9:30 am —12:30 pm in the church nursery

1:30 pm—3:30 pm for the Community Learning Center, with a wider range of ages.

One or two Friday evenings per month: 6:30 pm—9 pm. Hourly pay is \$14.07. Must be age 18 or older with childcare experience. Early Childcare Provider Certification and Red Cross First Aid for Infants and Children preferred but not necessary. We will pay for Red Cross certification if needed; applicant must be willing to complete the training. Please contact Carla Miller, DMRE, at 410-707-9611 or dmre@pbuuc.org.

Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team



Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team (DARTT) To Host ‘Mini-Advance’ on Tuesday, August 8, from 7 pm to 9 pm. DARTT is hosting a two-hour **Advance** (not Retreat) on Tuesday, August 8 from 7 pm to 9 pm, Room 4, RE Building. We want to draft a plan for the year, to be finalized and refined in discussions with our new Minister, Rev. Rachel Christensen. We’ll be taking a look at our governance structure, budget, charter, meeting frequency, and programming priorities. A detailed agenda has been published in the August Branches, our monthly newsletter. All will have the opportunity to comment whether or not they are able to attend the Advance. Questions? Comments? Please send them to dartt@pbuuc.org

In and Around Paint Branch

Quest Book Discussion about to begin a new book Join us Sunday, August 6 to help choose it

Quest Discussion Group will meet in Room 1 during Enrichment Hour to discuss titles for a new book to read. For more information contact Lowell Owens lowellandmarge@verizon.net.



TWedHUULK August 16 at Fratelli's in Cheverly



It's been awhile since we visited the [Fratelli Italian restaurant in Cheverly](#) just off the Baltimore-Washington Parkway Landover Road exit. They have lots of space, it's quiet, parking is good. This is Marg Donn's favorite Italian place and she may come to our luncheon. The address is 5820 Landover Road, Cheverly, MD 20784.

So save the date and time. If you need a ride, let Elaine at TwedhUULK@pbuuc.org or 301-602-0590 know or make contact with your regular driving contact.

Mental Health Support Group

Have you or a loved one or a family member had issues with mental health? Are you interested in learning about mental health? Did you know there is no treatment for mental illness without the mentally ill person's consent; unless they are endangering themselves or others? In Prince George's County Maryland the mentally ill person who commits a crime is protected by law from incarceration. They are released from the courtroom; often to the street. Did you know that the mentally ill are one of the most discriminated groups of people in society?

Come join us for discussion and support for people who are affected by these challenges, during Enrichment Hour on the second Sunday of each month. We meet in Room 4 of the RE building. Contact: Alice Tyler 301-935-5279 / Bobalice2@msn.com ; or Marge Owens 301-345-1572 / lowellandmarge@verizon.net ; or Louise Waugh 301-474-5229 / louisemwaugh@hotmail.com



Social Action Committee

SAC Announcements

SAC meeting Saturday, August 19, 10 am to noon (the fourth Saturday in August). Please come and help us focus PBUUC's social justice lens on the issues we as a congregation feel are most important. Join us as we work for justice, equity, and compassion in human relations. Live your social justice passions. Remember: August 22 in Room 4 in the RE Building. For more information, send an email to Janet at SAC@pbuuc.org

Paint Branch Community Learning Center Needs Teachers For Fall 2017



Our award winning Community Learning Center will be starting English classes again this fall. Please consider teaching an English class to help our immigrant neighbors improve their lives as they improve their English. People who have done it before can tell you it is personally rewarding, a way to serve our church, and a great way to implement our UU principles in our own neighborhood. Training is September 9, 2017. Classes start in late September. Sign up in the Foyer on Sundays.

Thanks!
Contact: Carmelita Carter-Sykes 202-236-8783 or cartercarmelita@aol.com

Community Café needs your help!

This is a program supported by many Prince Georges County churches that provides meals to those who need assistance in reaching their nutritional needs; the homeless, low/no income, day laborers, etc.

PBUUC participates in this program on the 4th Tuesday of each month by cooking and serving lunch at a local church. This is a gratifying activity that provides a venue for socializing as well as fulfilling our UU Principles.

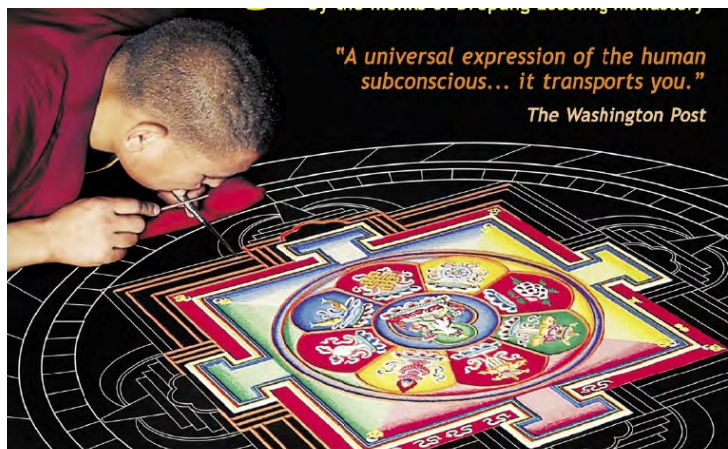
Our guests are very appreciative and help in every way they can. We could really use a few more people, especially for making the chili. The ideal is for the cooks to have time-off at least every other month.

If this is something you feel you would enjoy participating in, please contact any of the Community Café group, or Alice Tyler 301-935-5279, Bobalice2@msn.com



The Wider Unitarian Universalist Universe

Tibetan Buddhist monks from Drepung Loseling Monastery will construct a Mandala Sand Painting from August 23 to 27, 2017 at Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church in Bethesda, MD. Millions of grains of sand are painstakingly laid into place in this ancient spiritual art form in order to purify and heal the environment and its inhabitants. The monks will also participate in Sunday worship at 10 am on August 27. At 2 pm that Sunday, we will also have our closing ceremony and processional to Rock Creek, to immerse the sand from the mandala. All are invited.



UUA President elected at GA:

The Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray began her six-year term as president of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) in June 2017. As president of the Association, she is responsible to the UUA Board of Trustees for administering staff and programs that serve its more than 1,000 member congregations. She also acts as principal spokesperson and minister-at-large for the UUA.



Towson Unitarian Universalist church is hosting an adult Con for UU's and those interested in UU's. It is September 29-30. (Flier: bit.ly/TUUCflier registration form: bit.ly/TUUCreg) A place to stay Friday night with a TUUC host family, and lunch and dinner Saturday are included. Also included is childcare for all ages for the length of the Con. We would love to have members from your congregation join us. If you have questions contact Kat Moseng at katmoseng@yahoo.com or 610-417-2083.

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. **Short announcements to be read by the Worship Associate during the Sunday Service are also due then.**
- **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

PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH