



# BRANCHES



## PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

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

### July 2019

#### 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

#### JULY 7 WHOLE TONE

*Rev. Anthony Jenkins, Guest Speaker;  
with Jeri Holloway, Worship Associate*

In the spirit of Pride month (slightly belated), Rev. Anthony Jenkins will lead a worship service dedicated to Billy Strayhorn. Together we'll explore the pianist, composer, arranger, lyricist, and activist who was instrumental to the music (and life) of Duke Ellington. We'll also explore Strayhorn's lifelong commitment to freedom for humanity's whole, and the many challenges he faced along the way – being both black and openly gay.

#### JULY 14 T B A

*Rev. Rachel Christensen, Minister;  
with Samantha Evans, Worship Associate;*

#### JULY 21 T B A

*Rev. Rachel Christensen, Minister;  
with Tricia Most, Worship Associate;*

#### JULY 28 RE-IMAGINING SUNDAY

*Rev. Rachel Christensen, Minister; with Chris McCann, DMRE; and Worship Associate Paul Wester*  
Join us for another fun, participatory celebration.

*\*\*\*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.\*\*\**

**Visitors are welcomed every Sunday, so please invite a co-worker, the new family on your block, or an old friend.**

### Ministry at Paint Branch

Two teams are critical to providing ministry at Paint Branch, and their value is never more apparent than early summer when our Minister, Rev. Rachel Christensen is on travel and leave. People who served in these roles recount that time as some of their most meaningful contributions to Paint Branch and that it led to tremendous personal growth for themselves. Currently, both of those teams are seeking new members.

#### Pastoral Care Associates

We are looking for two people to become Pastoral Care Associates. If you are interested, please contact Rev. Rachel Christensen, Lynn Johnson, Jeri Holloway, or Kathy Bartolomeo. A Pastoral Care Associate (PCA) serves at the discretion of the minister and works closely with her to give pastoral care to PBUUC friends and members who have suffered a major loss, serious diagnosis, or serious illness or who have requested it. Pastoral care includes being present with a listening ear and providing comfort. PCAs make telephone calls and visits to hospitals, homes, assisted living, and nursing home/rehabilitation centers to talk with congregants. The PCAs also give a Meditation on Joys and Sorrows almost every Sunday as part of the service. During this time they read aloud the personal joys and sorrows submitted from the congregation. Being a PCA is a rewarding and fulfilling way to serve our PBUUC community.

#### Worship Associates

Are You Interested in Serving as PBUUC Worship Associate? The 2018-2019 PBUUC Worship Associates are working to fill two, three-year terms that start this summer. We are looking to identify and select candidates during July at the latest, as soon as possible. Once new Worship Associates are selected, we will schedule a team building and training session in mid-to-late August. Please feel free to reach out to any of us with questions, ideas, other topics or thoughts you might have. The current Worship Associates are Mary Tyrtle Rooker and Paul Wester (2016-2019); Samantha Evans, Jeri Holloway, and Ebeth Porter (2017-2020), and Tricia Most and Clark Ritz (2018-2021) or email us at [WorshipAssociates@pbuuc.org](mailto:WorshipAssociates@pbuuc.org)



## Table of Contents

<b>July Sunday Services</b>	<b>Page 1</b>	<b>Diversity / Anti-Racism</b>		<b>In and Around Paint Branch</b>	<b>Page 5</b>
<b>Ministry at Paint Branch</b>	<b>Page 1</b>	<b>Transformation Team (DARTT)</b>	<b>Page 4</b>	3rd Wednesday Lunch	Page 5
Pastoral Care Associates	Page 1	Next DARTT Meeting July 21	Page 4	Men's Fellowship Breakfast	Page 5
Worship Associates	Page 1	DARTT OpEd for July	Page 4	Community Justice Initiative	Page 5
<b>PBUUC Leadership Directory</b>	<b>Page 2</b>	<b>Social Action Committee</b>	<b>Page 4</b>	<b>Meeting House Art Exhibit</b>	<b>Page 5</b>
<b>Board of Trustees</b>	<b>Page 3</b>	<b>Finance Committee</b>	<b>Page 4</b>	<b>Legacy Fund</b>	<b>Page 5</b>
<b>Religious Exploration</b>	<b>Page 3</b>	<b>New Day Rising Anti-Racism Resources</b>	<b>Page 5</b>	<b>Long-Term Planning Survey</b>	<b>Page 5</b>
				<b>Note to Readers</b>	<b>Page 6</b>

## PBUUC Leadership Directory

### 🔗 Officers and Board of Trustees 2019-2020 🔗

email: [BoardOfTrustees@pbuuc.org](mailto:BoardOfTrustees@pbuuc.org)

Interim Co-Chair	Ebony Contreras
Interim Co-Chair	Kathi Yu
Interim Vice-Chair	Noel Monardes
Trustee	Carol Boston
Trustee	Don Gerson
Trustee	Melissa Graham
Trustee	Eric Most
Trustee	Janet Overton
Trustee	Wendy Schlegel
Treasurer	Tess Morrison
Assistant Treasurer	David Nation
Co-Secretary	Carol Boston
Co-Secretary	Amy Parrish

### 🔗 Worship Associates 🔗

* Mary Rooker (2016-19)	Tricia Most (2018-21)
* Paul Wester (2016-19)	Clark Ritz (2018-21)
Elizabeth Porter (2017-20)	Samantha Evans (Young Adult)
Jeri Holloway (2017-20)	*Team Leaders

### 🔗 Pastoral Care Associates 🔗

Jeri Holloway  
Lynn Johnson  
Mike McMenamin

### 🔗 We Care Coordinators 🔗

Kathy Bartolomeo

VACANT

### 🔗 Chartered Committees and Teams 🔗

Arts Council	Pat Tompkins (Music)
	Pat Tompkins (Visual Arts-ACTING)
Adult RE	Louise Waugh
Auction	VACANT
Budget Leadership Team	Eric Most
Buildings & Grounds (co-chairs)	Lowell Owens & Peter Wathen-Dunn
Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team (DARTT) (co-chairs)	Carol Carter Walker
Denominational Affairs	Emma Sue Gaines-Gerson
	Don Gerson, Chair
	Bettie Young, cluster rep.
Electronic Communications	<a href="#">contact church office</a>
Endowment	Chris Evans
Finance	Elaine Shell
Green Team (co-chairs)	Moe Cunningham
	Kathleen Bartolomeo
Leasing	Joe Dever
Long-Term Planning	Ebony Contreras & Kathi Yu
Membership	Pat Behenna
Ministry	James Alexander, Muriel Morisey and Elizabeth Porter
	Diana McFadden & Will Snyder
Nominating	Melissa Graham
Religious Exploration	Don Henderson
Social Action (SAC)	Chris Evans
Stewardship	

### 🔗 Groups and Activities 🔗

Bookstore	Raman Pathik
Chalice Dancers	Sherry Mitchell
Children's Choir	Jeanne Judd
Choir	David Chapman
Coffee Coordinator	John Bartoli
Community Café	Alice Tyler
Food for Thought	Mary Rooker
Handcraft Circle	Ebeth Porter
Facebook Group	Ken Montville
Men's Group	Peter Wathen-Dunn
Mental Health Support Group	Alice Tyler
Mom's Group	Penney Hughes
Quest Discussion Group	Lowell Owens
Paint Branch Community Learning Center	Carmelita Carter-Sykes
Shamanic Journeying	Mary Rooker
Spirituality Circle	Amy Steiner
Sunday Sound & Facilities Volunteer Team	Keith Miller
Third Wednesday Lunch Club	Elaine Shell
Ushers	Lori Snyder
Warm Nights	VACANT
Webmaster	Mark Shute
Welcome Table Greeters	Anita Williams
Widowed Persons Support Group	Jeri Holloway
Women's Retreat Co-Leaders	Anne Hoover & Abigail Hanley

### Minister

The Rev. Rachel Rudd Christensen

### Minister Emeritus

The Rev. Richard Kelley

### Staff

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

<u>Music Director &amp; Pianist</u>	David Chapman
<u>Dir. of Multigenerational Religious Exploration</u>	Chris McCann
<u>Chalice Dancers Director &amp; Choreographer</u>	Sharon Werth
<u>Church Administrator</u>	Charles Bury
<u>Affiliate Minister for Social Justice</u>	Rev. Karen Lee Scrivo
<u>Bookkeeper</u>	Hannah Oshin
<u>Administrative Assistant</u>	Hannah Oshin
Sexton:	Al Addison
Child Care Providers:	Joy Washington
	Briana Workcuff

### Office Volunteers

Elizabeth Scheiman & Mary Massey (Alternating Tuesdays)	
Will Snyder (Wednesdays)	Janet Overton (Fridays)
Alice Tyler (Thursdays)	

## Board of Trustees

### Interim Co-Chairs Musings:

At the final meeting of this year's Board, we selected leadership to carry the Board through the transition to the new Board. We appreciate the good leadership and hard work of Kate Brett, as Chair, and Marguerite Summers, Vice-Chair. It will be difficult to fill their shoes. As they are moving off the Board, Ebony Contreras and Kathi Yu will serve as interim co-chairs. Noel Monardes agreed to be an interim vice-chair. We will serve as interims until the new Board is ready to select their new leadership.

One of the most important tasks is onboarding the four new members of the Board. Carol Boston, Janet Overton and Melissa Graham were elected to serve three-year terms. Don Gerson was elected to serve the remaining year of Kay McGraw's term. We are planning a retreat so that we can learn about each other, find out why each of us decided to serve on the Board. We may be asking members of the congregation to make presentations to help us understand how the church functions.

There will be a lot of hard work in the coming year. At the June Board meeting, we agreed to contract with Ritter Norton Architects for design work to include replacing the deck, with options for an expanded scope of work, depending on what they learn from you about what you want from the building. This work will be in tandem with the long-term strategy planning.

The long-term strategy will be delegating the portion of the strategy that relates to the facility to the deck committee. However, we will still have decisions to make about what programs are important to us. We need to plan what we need to do to ensure that the members, family and friends of the congregation feel that the church is a welcoming and safe place.

Finally, we want to appreciate the hard work that Carmelita Carter-Sykes dedicated to the Board. She served as Co-Chair for part of her first year on the Board, and as Vice-Chair her second year. She was tireless in her efforts to make the church a better place.

- Ebony Contreras & Kathi Yu  
Interim Co-Chairs

### How can you help?

You can help Paint Branch by serving as Board of Trustees':

- ⇒ Secretary
- ⇒ Assistant Secretary
- ⇒ Assistant Treasurer

Contact: Ebony Contreras, Noel Monardes, or Kathi Yu

## Multigenerational Religious Exploration



Inspiration can take unexpected forms and come from the strangest of places, even places you've been or seen a million times. Maybe it's the frame of mind at a given moment that allows us to see something new in something familiar.

Anyone who has known me for any length of time knows that about a quarter of what comes out of my mouth is quotes from the TV show "Parks and Recreation". It's the best show ever made. Sweet and wise, filled with friendship, community and caring. I watch it on a continuous loop and I've seen the series all the way through more times than I can now count. My daughter and I are considering creating a podcast about it. As all things for me lead back to Unitarian Universalist religious education, I've been viewing the show through a UU lens.

There's a character on the show named Andy who creates a character called Johnny Karate, and a few viewings ago, I was brought to tears because Johnny Karate managed to synthesize my view on what should ideally happen in a religious education classroom: The 5 Karate Moves to Success.



- ⇒ Make Something
- ⇒ Learn Something
- ⇒ Karate Chop Something (in our case, not literally. This refers to either moving the body or undoing injustice)
- ⇒ Try Something New
- ⇒ Be Nice To Someone

Who knew that a goofy TV character could help me better understand how to serve UU children? The above list has found its way into a few teacher orientations I've lead and it's changed everything for the people in the classrooms, kids and teachers alike. That silly list provides a framework for kids (and adults) to live our principles in their bodies and minds. It helps them to do more than just SAY what they believe, it helps them to act on it in real and tangible ways, possibly every day and in any situation.

I invite everyone to try those five karate moves to success and come tell me about it. Also, if you've seen "Parks and Recreation", ABSOLUTELY come talk to me about that.

*Yours in strange inspiration,*

**Chris McCann**, [dmre@pbuuc.org](mailto:dmre@pbuuc.org)

Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration



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



### DARTT's July 21 Monthly Meeting Will Be A Retreat, No — An Advance!

DARTT is a formal committee, established in 2007 by the Paint Branch Board of Trustees, to facilitate the work of the Congregation in fully realizing its stated intention of becoming an intentionally multicultural congregation.

The focus of the July 21 meeting will be to plan programming for the year and to discuss and decide on governance moving forward. We will meet from 11:45 am to 1:15 pm in Room 4, Religious Exploration Building. Light snacks will be available to facilitate a productive extended meeting. Come participate in the discussion and decisions of this active Committee. **All are welcome.** Connect with us at [DARTT@pbuuc.org](mailto:DARTT@pbuuc.org)

Carol Carter Walker, Co-Chair, DARTT

## Social Action Committee

### Upcoming Special Collections:

Our July Special Collection will be for [Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice \(UUSJ\)](#). Their mission is to mobilize and amplify the voices of UUs as we seek to change the world through acts of love and justice. Priority issues are: Defending Democracy, Economic Justice, Environmental and Climate Justice, and Immigration Reform.



Our August Special Collection will go to [Everytown for Gun Safety](#). Everytown is a movement of Americans working together to end gun violence and build safer communities. Gun violence touches every town in America. Nearly six million mayors, parents, first responders, teachers, survivors, gun owners, students and everyday Americans have come together to make their own communities safer. Together, they are fighting for the changes that we know will save lives.

## Finance Committee

### "Alexa—Donate to Paint Branch UU Church!"

How easy is it to donate to PBUUC? As easy as saying the above sentence. Alexa and Amazon Pay make it easy to donate by just using your voice. Your donation is processed using the information already stored in your Amazon account. We are also working on adding ways to donate through PayPal and Facebook.

## DARTT OpEd for July

This month's Op-Ed Column is the sermon from the closing Worship Service from the 2019 UUA General Assembly in Spokane, Washington. The Sermon is "In This Delicate Turning" by the Rev. Marta Valentin. Read it at <http://uua.org/ga/off-site/2019/worship/Sunday> or watch it at <https://ytcropper.com/cropped/eS5d13873264ea7> Below is an excerpt:

*As a Latina with skin in the game for thirty years, I observe the changes our faith tradition is undergoing, and note that those not paying attention continue to perpetuate old narratives like: "Nothing has really changed it just looks different." "People are withholding their money because they don't like the direction we've taken." Now remember these "people" are Unitarian Universalists who are living out the seven principles, maybe even an eighth one day. These are not random people who receive a letter in the mail requesting support from the UUA. They are included in whatever version of "we" is being upheld. They are people who love and are loved. They may have taught our youth, taken care of our babies or our sages. Whose inability to deal with open conflict has led to more conflict. Who refuse to understand how their lack of engaging the work causes micro-aggressions to spill out of them, like unexpected spit in the faces of people who look or talk, or act like me. Who hang on to the supreme whiteness of being, at all costs, and who have not been able to grasp that there is poison in the proverbial water we are all swimming in.*

*This is a complicated picture, yet despite all of this, you, the faithful gathered when much of what would happen was uncertain. As religious folks, our presence together gives life and potential to new actions. It takes this same faithfulness to jump into the concept of "we" and your presence is an affirmation that you too are in pursuit of this Power of We, because the power of a community is deeper and stronger than the power any individual can have. It's a matter of what defines that power, and I like the kind that has "we" embedded in it.*

*The power of a real community gives us plenty of hands to take down the pieces of white supremacy we are dismantling and helps to hold the structure in place while the new is being built. In this process I hold out for what we may want to keep. In the same way that not everything is all good, not everything is all bad either. But the only way to uncover what has worth and value and is crucial to maintain is to go on an expedition. We are called to be archeologists of our collective hearts and delicately sift through the blood-soaked rubble.*

*It is time now, for this great, delicate turning that we find ourselves in. For decades, we Black, Indigenous and People of Color have spoken many times about how exclusionary our faith can be, even as Unitarian Universalism swears, we are the most inclusive. We have all said hard and harsh things to one another in pursuit of that better, truly equal, truly just, life-saving world we know can exist for ourselves and for seven generations to come. And we are all so tired. All of us know it can be better. All of us know it must be better. But are all of us willing to be better? Trying is no longer good enough. My colleague Sofia Betancourt spoke this truth last year: "... we can never be the bearers of love and justice that the world so desperately needs if the foundation that sustains us is still perpetuating the very problems we long to solve."*

## July Anti-Racism Resource List

As part of the New Day Rising group's commitment to expand anti-racist education at Paint Branch, we are compiling monthly lists of resources. Books, podcasts, videos, articles, songs, something for everyone! Please choose at least one item each month to engage with. You'll be glad you did.

### Websites:

<http://www.racepowerofanillusion.org/> companion website to film *Race: The Power of An Illusion*  
[https://vimeo.com/newsreeldigital/vod\\_pages/sort:videos/format:detail](https://vimeo.com/newsreeldigital/vod_pages/sort:videos/format:detail) website that offers streaming documentaries to rent. Pages and pages  
 The Root [theroot.com](http://theroot.com) is a website devoted to Black news, opinions, politics and culture. You can find articles like [White Supremacist Propaganda on the Rise on US College Campuses](#) or [We Dream a World: Black & Queer in Milwaukee](#).

### Books:

[How To Be Less Stupid About Race](#) by Crystal Marie Fleming  
[Raising White Kids](#) by Jennifer Harvey

### Podcast:

Our National Conversation About Conversations About Race <https://www.showaboutrace.com/> (this show is no longer being made, so the link is an archive)

### Songs:

[Wake Up Everybody](#), Harold Melvin and The Blue Notes  
<https://youtu.be/7pspe1JS7XQ>  
[We Gotta Pray](#), Alicia Keys <https://youtu.be/ReK4t3Pfdpo>

## In and Around Paint Branch

**The Third Wednesday 1 pm Lunch Group** will be going to [Seibel's](#) restaurant in Burtonsville. We have been here a couple of times before. The crab deviled eggs and stuffed mushrooms are fabulous. [Seibel's is at 15540 Old Columbia Pike](#), Burtonsville, MD 20866 301-421-1897. Contact Elaine Shell for questions 301-776-4271.

**Men's Fellowship Breakfast at TJ's Restaurant.** Our next Men's Fellowship Breakfast will be 10 am Saturday, July 13 at TJ's Restaurant, our old location, in the Calverton Shopping Center, just up the road from PBUUC. Come share food and conversation. The food is good, and the conversation goes wherever you want it to go. This event is sponsored by the Paint Branch Men's Group. We intend to hold these breakfasts every second Saturday of the month. For more info contact: [mensfellowship@pbuuc.org](mailto:mensfellowship@pbuuc.org)

### Learn more about the Community Justice Initiative

You're invited to attend the next Steering Committee meeting, which will be on Tuesday, July 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the minister's office. We will be discussing what we've learned from the initiative so far and next steps.

## Meeting House Art Exhibit

The Visual Arts Committee is pleased to present paintings by Claudia Olivos. Claudia is an artist and founder of OlivosARTstudio. As a Priestess of the Goddess, she channels Her energies via intuitive paintings of the Divine Feminine. Claudia spends her time traveling with her dog Snoopyito between Santiago, Chile and Washington DC where she resides with her best friend and fellow artist, Sergio, and their son Julian. You will have an opportunity to meet Claudia at an artist reception in July. A list of the individual pieces as well as Claudia's contact information is available in the back of the Meeting House.



## Legacy Fund News

The Endowment Committee received three grant proposals from the congregation in 2019. Based on a review of the merits of each proposal, the Endowment Committee recommended and the Board approved allocation of \$3,600 in income from the Legacy Fund to grant recipients as follows: 1) a grant of \$1,800 to the New Day Rising Group for the purpose of hiring qualified consultant (s) to train PBUUC church members on multicultural competency for facilitating difficult conversations around race, ethnicity, and other related matters; and 2) a grant of \$1,800 to the PBUUC Kitchen Committee towards the costs to purchase and install a new Meeting House Kitchen Stove/Oven that meets caterer's standards. Questions about making a donation to the Legacy Fund, adding PBUUC to your estate planning, or the general operations of the Endowment Committee can be submitted to [legacyfund@pbuuc.org](mailto:legacyfund@pbuuc.org)

## Long-Term Planning

**SECOND CHANCE** Long-term Strategy Committee Survey: The team is conducting a quick survey of the whole congregation, members, friends, family and children. Having a long-term strategy will make us more accountable to each other. Also, creating a long-term strategy is necessary to avail ourselves of resources of the chalice lighters. Unfortunately, we did not receive enough surveys to consider the results, and so are asking once again. You can complete the survey questions and send the questions to either Kathi Yu at [kathiyu@gmail.com](mailto:kathiyu@gmail.com); or Ebony Contreras at [etaras1@yahoo.com](mailto:etaras1@yahoo.com)

These are the three questions:

1. What do you find appealing about Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church?
2. What works well at Paint Branch?
3. Describe your attainable vision for Paint Branch in 2025.

### Note to Our Readers:

The Church Administrator is responsible for the production of the newsletter.

**SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES FOR BRANCHES:** All submissions for inclusion in Branches should be submitted by email to: [branches@pbuuc.org](mailto:branches@pbuuc.org).

**The Leadership Directory**, (on page 2 of this issue), will contain names only. For more contact information, please consult your Membership Directory or call the Church Office at 301-937-3666. All submitted articles will contain phone numbers and/or email addresses for contact if listed. You may choose to list your email address only as a point of contact, and if requested, 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](mailto:bulletin@pbuuc.org). Content should be **120** words or less. Please try to keep announcements one paragraph with a clear headline or topic sentence. Please include day, date, location, time, and contact information. Announcements should be PBUUC related; non-PBUUC events must have an explicitly stated UU connection. 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](http://www.pbuuc.org). Scroll down to “This Week” and click on

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

PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH  
3215 POWDER MILL ROAD  
ADELPHI, MD 20783-1030  
(301) 937-3666  
WEBSITE: [WWW.PBUUC.ORG](http://WWW.PBUUC.ORG)  
EMAIL: [CHURCHADMIN@PBUUC.ORG](mailto:CHURCHADMIN@PBUUC.ORG)