



BRANCHES



PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

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

October 2019

SUNDAYS at 10:00 am

Nursery Care in Room 6, 9:45 am—12:45 pm
Refreshments and Fellowship after the service
Adult Enrichment Hour, 11:45 am—12:45 pm
Childcare until 12:45 pm

OCTOBER 6 CARING CASES

Guest Speaker Rob Scheer, founder of Comfort Cases; with Chris McCann, DMRE; PBUUC's Sabrina Jones; Worship Associate Tricia Most; and the Choir
Guest speaker Rob Scheer, co-founder with his husband Reece of Comfort Cases that helps kids in foster care, will speak on his own time in the foster care system, fostering and eventually adopting his own children, as well as founding comfortcases.org. We will also collect donated items for Comfort Cases.

OCTOBER 13 RESTORING RELATIONSHIPS

Minister Rev. Rachel Christensen and Trustee Ebony Contreras with Worship Associate Samantha Evans
The Board has proposed a Covenant of Right Relations and a Destructive Behavior policy for consideration by the congregation. A shared understanding of expectations and increased awareness of how our actions impact others can help us maintain healthy boundaries and healthy relationships. Come explore these with us.

OCTOBER 20 HONOR OUR HERITAGE CELEBRATE OUR FUTURE

Paint Branchers Konrad Herling, Pat Tompkins, and Ebony Contreras with Worship Associates Polly Pettit and Jeri Holloway; the Chalice Dancers and the Choir
Paint Branch Unitarian Church was founded on Sunday, October 17, 1954, 65 years ago. Current members reflect on their years at Paint Branch as we as a congregation look to our future.

OCTOBER 27 SPOOKY SUNDAY

Rev. Rachel Christensen, Minister; with Chris McCann, DMRE; and Worship Associate Tricia Most
Join us for a multigenerational Halloween service, complete with costume parade. Trunk or Treat and potluck lunch immediately following. ****This is an All-Ages Celebration; children and youth are invited to stay in the Meetinghouse for the entire service. Nursery Care for the youngest is provided in Room 6.****

Minister's Notes

Dear Members and Friends,

It's Fall!

With the turning of the equinox, we have officially moved into fall—some days with new freshness in the air, and this weekend some chilly mornings are coming. For me it brings a new delight in the mornings as I enjoy the change in the weather and the physical signs of the shift. We planted a persimmon tree in the yard, and last year our only four persimmons up and disappeared one night. I am imagining the deer chomped them off. This year there might be ten or twelve persimmons turning yellow/orange. I hope we find we like them!



There are plans for some good things in the church. Leo Jones is taking the lead on planning and offering Adult Religious Education programs. The first is the four-week facilitated reading of the book White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism, which started September 29, and will continue through October 20. The second one is about our six sources, and will be offered October 27 – November 17 during Enrichment Hour. More offerings are in the planning stages and will probably begin again in January.

There will be a Halloween Dance in the Meeting House on October 26! Come and join the festivities – with music, dance and food.

And our DMRE Chris McCann has been approached by several people saying they would like to be involved in Religious Education. And how can they help?

All of these things – Adult RE and the congregational dance and interest in the children's RE program – are opportunities that have been around or events that have been part of this church in the past and are now being offered again. They are examples of new energy within the congregation for community, for creativity, and for contribution. These things are happening in spite of (or perhaps because of?) the fact that the congregation is facing challenges of relationship and boundaries in other areas of church. I am delighted, and see this energy as evidence of commitment to the church and our community. May we continue to build on our connections.

With joy,

Rev. Rachel minister@pbuuc.org
Paint Branch: Healing Hearts, Building Community,
Nurturing Spiritual Growth and Helping to Heal the World.

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PBUUC Leadership Directory

🐉 Officers and Board of Trustees 2019-2020 🐉

email: BoardOfTrustees@pbuuc.org

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

🐉 Worship Associates 🐉

Elizabeth Porter (2017-20)	Polly Pettit (2019-22)
Jeri Holloway (2017-20)	Susannah Schiller (2019-22)
Tricia Most (2018-21)	Samantha Evans (Young Adult)
Clark Ritz (2018-21)	*Team Leaders

🐉 Pastoral Care Associates 🐉

Kathy Bartolomeo	Lynn Johnson
Jeri Holloway	Lynn Louison

🐉 Chartered Committees and Teams 🐉

Arts Council	Pat Tompkins (Music)
	Pat Tompkins (Visual Arts-ACTING)
Adult RE	Louise Waugh
Auction	Tricia Most
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	contact church office
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
	Peter Wathen-Dunn
New Entrance Design	Diana McFadden & Will Snyder
Nominating	Melissa Graham
Religious Exploration	Kathleen Bartolomeo
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	Cathy Helmold
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

Music Director & Pianist	David Chapman
Dir. of Multigenerational Religious Exploration	Chris McCann
Chalice Dancers Director & Choreographer	Sharon Werth
Church Administrator	Charles Bury
Affiliate Minister for Social Justice	Rev. Karen Lee Scrivo
Bookkeeper	Hannah Oshin
Administrative Assistant	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

Dear Congregation,

We just finished our 2019 Board Retreat. We had great weather, a lovely meeting place (thank you, Eric and Patricia Most for allowing us to meet in your home), delicious food, and a long list of issues to address. Our first order of business was to discuss being in covenant with each other. Becky Brooks, our facilitator, walked us through elements of a covenant that we could all agree to, to ensure that we felt we were entering a safe space—a place where we could speak and be listened to, reflect and not be judged, wonder out loud, and openly share our concerns about our work ahead without fear of censure. We talked about different kinds of challenges and how best to meet them, then we talked about the hoped-for future of our church.

On this high note, we next held our leadership elections. Janet Overton was elected Chair. Wendy Schlegel and Kathi Yu were elected Co-Vice Chairs. Our next task was to discuss some of the most important issues this new Board faces.

This is where the retreat got a little harder. The discussion turned to issues that have caused some consternation for several members of our Congregation. In fact, this new Board has been working to address some of these issues since our first meeting in July.

At the Congregational Meeting on June 2, 2019, Carol Carter Walker moved, and Leo Jones seconded, that the incoming Board appoint a small team of lay members to work with the Minister to find an appropriate mediator to address issues of communications protocols. Long-standing animosities had led to disrespectful interactions, and emails that many felt breached the bounds of respectful communications created anger, hurt, and frustration that resulted in three long-time members resigning from the church. Repercussions continue to have a detrimental impact on our community. The motion asked that a mediation mode be created to address underlying issues that have received less attention than some feel is warranted. The motion passed by a voice vote.

The Board has worked in conjunction with our Minister to create a list of people to work as that mediation committee. We can now announce that three of our top choices all agreed to work with Rev. Rachel in this endeavor, and the Board has appointed Deb Rubenstein, Evangeline Wells, and Paul Wester as PBUUC's Communications/Mediation Advisory Group. It is hoped that together they might work to create a mediation mode with a restorative element through which we can find a way to heal the anger, frustration, and hurt that still lingers.

In addition, since July, the Board has been working to develop a [Covenant of Right Relations](#) and a [Destructive Behavior Policy](#), two proactive governance documents that are intended to address breaches of covenantal protocols and destructive behaviors that could possibly occur in the future. We started with documents that other UU churches have used, then modified them to include restorative-practice elements and clear process steps, among other things. These documents offer us guidance

concerning how we treat and relate to each other within our church community to ensure that our church home is a safe space for deep discourse and honest reflection.

As we have announced in the ContinUUm, the documents will be provided to the Congregation for review both electronically and as paper copies. At our September meeting, we discussed how best to gain input (comments and suggestions) from the Congregation. Once you all have had sufficient time and opportunity to review and comment on them, the documents will be finalized by the Board and presented to you to approve or reject one or both documents. In the meantime, we will continue to provide updates on our progress through the ContinUUm and Sunday Bulletin Announcements.

A love for and firm commitment to our church is the reasoning behind creating these two separate systems: one is meant to address earlier hurts that are keeping us mired in the past, the other offers guidance for maintaining beloved relationships into the future. The mediation work will address the issues and behaviors that left some people badly hurt; the policies will be in place to address these same issues and behaviors in the future.

At the Retreat, we also talked about the need for more transparency into Board activities and better communication between the Board and the Congregation. We talked about working with committees, how best to publicize Board meeting minutes, the possibility of establishing different kinds of informal group meetings with members of the Board, and much more. Please stay tuned in to hear about these communication strategies as they are being developed.

We also shared our hopes for the PBUUC that will exist in 2040. We broke into three smaller focus groups for this exercise. When we regrouped to share our thoughts and explore common themes. The themes that emerged revealed a fairly unified vision of the church we hope will be. The Congregation would comprise about 250 members because that seemed like the most workable number for the space. The spaces—all of them, including basements and grounds—would be fully usable and accessible to everyone. The Congregation would be truly multicultural, fully reflecting the richness and diversity of the wider community within which we live. And the coffers would be full! There would be enough money to maintain all of the church's basic needs and even enough to allow for some more-frivolous wants. There was even a wish that PBUUC would be able to offer its own pre-K-to-5th grade UU school, turning out generations of scholars raised to embody and live out our UU principles. Please know that we are sincerely committed to working to secure our foundation as a Board in order to better serve you in developing our shared commitment to building a better church and a better world.

If you have questions about any of this, please write to bot@pbuuc.org or speak directly to a member of your Board of Trustees.

Janet Overton, Board Chair

MULTIGENERATIONAL RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

I am inspired this week by Greta Thunberg, 16-year-old Swedish climate activist. She arrived in the US to speak at the UN and in front of Congress about the dire need for action in the matter of climate change. She takes rooms full of adults to task. She does so passionately, boldly, without apology. She has been attacked by Fox news and by the current occupant of the White House. She seems to respond to the scorn with silence, because engaging the ridiculousness would scatter her focus, and she is singularly focused.

Have you also been inspired by Greta? By Malala Yousafzai? Emma Gonzalez and David Hogg? What other youth activists have you noticed? Have you noticed any in your midst? Did you know that among our children at Paint Branch there are those passionate about climate change, animal rights, poverty, homelessness, the rise of fascism in our country, racism, gun violence?

I have said before and will say again and again, I believe that this generation of children is here to save us all. And aren't we lucky that we get to participate in the care and nurture of these children as they go about the wise and generous work of changing the world? Aren't we lucky that we don't have to go any further than our own church to meet great young minds at work? Greta, Malala, Emma, David and all the kids who are working so hard to secure their, and our, futures, they're not doing it alone. They have around them adults that are willing to let them try, willing to let them explore, loving and caring for them as they do what seems impossible.

The kids at Paint Branch need, and deserve, no less. The children and youth at Paint Branch need ALL OF US to show up for them, to support and nurture them. They need ALL OF US to celebrate with them, grieve with them, let them know we care about the same things they do and then allow them to try, allow them to lead, allow them to show us the way. Please consider being an adult who shows up in a classroom to witness our children becoming who they are. Please consider attending a multigenerational service or event and get to know some of these bright humans. Please consider introducing yourself to a child and asking them what they're interested in and helping connect them to others with the same interests. Gretas and Malalas and Emmas and Davids are in our midst. Get to know them. I'm sure you'll be inspired.

Chris McCann, DMRE dmre@pbuuc.org

Comfort Cases Multigenerational Event—Donations Needed!

Comfort Cases comfortcases.org, an organization based in Maryland, provides needed supplies to children in the foster care system. We will be collecting supplies through October 13 in the Foyer.

We will be joined in worship by Rob Scheer, the founder of Comfort Cases, on October 6, and on October 13, Sabrina Jones and Chris McCann will be hosting a multi-generational Packing Party to pack the supplies we collect. We are in need of the following (please note that the organization requests that clothing items, blankets, stuffed animals, be NEW WITH TAGS and that personal care items/toiletries be unopened travel-size). Please direct questions to DMRE Chris McCann at dmre@pbuuc.org

Pajamas: infant-adult 2XL	Baby Bibs	Soap or Body Wash
Baby Blankets	Baby Washcloths	Stuffed Animal
Baby Shampoo	Board Books	Coloring Book & crayons
Baby Body Wash	Small Blanket	Books (child-teen)
Baby Lotion	Toothbrush (all sizes)	Deodorant
Diaper Wipes	Toothpaste	Journal/Pens/Pencils
Diaper Ointment	Shampoo/Conditioner	
Toddler-safe Stuffed Animal	Lotion	

Adult Religious Exploration

We are very happy to report that this fall PBUUC is introducing an exciting new Adult Religious Exploration (ARE) program. Classes, workshops, lectures, and other activities are designed to encourage all of us to learn, to question, and to become our best spiritual selves. Themes of the new ARE will include social justice, spiritual growth, understanding Unitarian Universalism, and other areas that will appeal to the head and the heart.

White Fragility

Our first offering will be an examination of *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk about Racism*, by Robin DiAngelo. Paula Cole Jones will lead four sessions on Sundays, beginning September 29 and ending October 20. Each session will begin at 4 pm and end at 6 pm. In addition, there will be mid-week check-ins using Zoom, so you can connect by phone or your computer. See the flyer elsewhere in Branches. There is a registration fee on a sliding scale.

Sources

So much of our religious life is guided by the seven Principles that UU congregations pledge to affirm and promote. Less attention is paid to the six Sources that form the foundation of Unitarian Universalism. The Sources are: direct experience of transcending mystery and wonder; words and deeds of prophetic people; wisdom of the world's religions; Jewish and Christian teachings; Humanist teachings; and spiritual teachings of earth-centered traditions.

Leo Jones will facilitate four sessions on Sundays, beginning October 27 and ending November 17. (Please note: previous announcements incorrectly referred to six sessions.) We will meet from 11:30 am to 1 pm.

Generally, there are no fees for ARE activities, but donations are welcome. Hearty snacks will be served and childcare will be provided at each session. Registration for the Fall program on the Six Sources will end on October 13th. Seating will be limited!

To register, or for more information, contact Chris McCann or Leo Jones at are@pbuuc.org.

All the best! - Chris and Leo

New Day Rising

White Fragility Facilitated Reading Registration Is Still Open.

Registration is still open for the facilitated reading of Robin DiAngelo's book, *White Fragility*. There are four sessions: September 29, October 6, October 13, and October 20. You can sign up even if you cannot attend all four sessions. Go to <http://bit.ly/PBUUCWF> to register online.

The book will be available for \$15 after Service. The book is available whether or not you come to the Workshop. Contact the New Day Rising Team at NDR@pbuuc.org for questions or more information.

Join congregation members in reading and discussing *White Fragility*, published by UUA's Beacon Press, this fall.

♦ **The book:** *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People To Talk About Racism* by Robin DiAngelo, on the *New York Times* Bestsellers List for more than a year

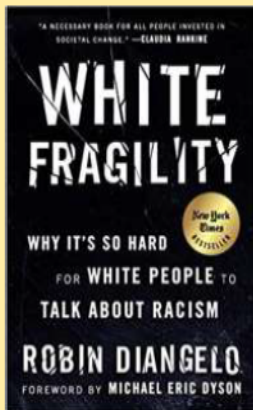
♦ **The discussion:** Meet in person at PBUUC from 4 to 6:30 p.m. for a facilitated book discussion with on these Sundays:

10/6, 10/13, and 10/20

The facilitator: Paula Cole Jones, UU Anti-Racism Consultant

Child care is available but must be requested in advance.

PBUUC acknowledges the Central East Region with appreciation for helping to fund this event.



Register at:
2019 09 White Fragility Discussion Seminar
<http://bit.ly/PBUUCWF>

Suggested contribution toward facilitation:

Sliding fee scale of \$20 to \$60. You may request a waiver for a \$10 fee as needed by contacting Minister@pbuuc.org.

Additional donations to help cover costs will be gratefully accepted.

Books are available for purchase for \$15.

Anti-Racism Resources for October

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

Podcasts:

Ta-Nehisi Coates on *On Being* with Krista Tippet <https://onbeing.org/programs/ta-nehisi-coates-imagining-a-new-america/>

Hidden Brain - A Founding Contradiction <https://www.npr.org/2018/11/26/670803601/a-founding-contradiction-thomas-jeffersons-stance-on-slavery>

Articles:

How I Came To View the American Flag As A Threat - Damon Young <https://time.com/5675803/america-flag-threat/?fbclid=IwAR1HoFtDBXeBFOz6PALjAppYCy3Yk9ba8Bx5pHxOHwIPmmwMCP7RoAStaHE>

White Supremacy Has Never Been Fringe - Gene Demby https://www.npr.org/sections/codeswitch/2019/08/10/749202273/white-supremacy-isnt-emerging-from-the-fringes-its-part-of-americas-core?fbclid=IwAR28ySHbYzmfCxPwPhBBV_82Yc-Y_3rag_TuyFPBjCzLTmmh9VwAn6IV4-o

https://www.npr.org/sections/codeswitch/2019/08/10/749202273/white-supremacy-isnt-emerging-from-the-fringes-its-part-of-americas-core?fbclid=IwAR28ySHbYzmfCxPwPhBBV_82Yc-Y_3rag_TuyFPBjCzLTmmh9VwAn6IV4-o

Books:

The Clapback: Your Guide to Calling Out Racist Stereotypes - Elijah Lawal

Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race - Reni Eddo-Lodge

If you have a recommendation that you would like to be considered for this monthly list, please send it along to DMRE Chris McCann at dmre@pbuuc.org

Beyond White Fragility: Courage for Racial Justice & Collective Liberation.

Leader: Chris Crass Cost: \$10 for lunch

Saturday, November 9, 2019: 9 am—4 pm UU Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton, VA This interactive workshop is led by social justice educator, author, and organizer Chris Crass, who has been a keynoter and workshop leader at national and regional UU gatherings. He is a leading voice in the country calling for and supporting white people to work for racial justice. Whether you've been active for decades or a few days, this is an opportunity to develop a stronger culture of inspiration, resilience, and courage for racial justice. While one of the focuses for the workshop is on white people working for racial justice, the overall focus of the workshop is on how we can build stronger racial justice values and action in our congregations and communities. The workshop is for all who want to do this work. Register at tinyurl.com/uucf-chris-crass

—Recommended by DARTT



Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team (DARTT)

DARTT Meeting Schedule:

DARTT's typical meeting time is the third Sunday from 11:45 am to 1 pm. Due to schedule conflicts, the September 15 meeting was cancelled. The meeting schedule for the rest of the calendar year is now: Tuesday, October 15, 7 pm. May be in person or via Zoom videoconferencing. Meeting venue will be confirmed in next week's Continuum and Bulletin.; Sunday, November 24; and Sunday, December 15 at 11:45 am.

DARTT Goes to the Theater: August Wilson's

Jitney Arena Stage Friday, October 11, 8 pm. Pulitzer and Tony winner August Wilson wrote about 100 years of African-American life in all its complexity and sweetness, based in Pittsburgh's Hill District where he grew up. DARTT has garnered a limited number of tickets at a discounted price of \$62.80 for orchestra seating on Friday, October 11. Please contact carolcarterwalker@earthlink.net to reserve your tickets ASAP. **Payment must be made by Sunday, October 6.**

DARTT Call to Service: Service Worship Leader & Feast Coordinator Needed for 11th Annual Kwanzaa Service

DARTT will coordinate the 11th Kwanzaa Service and Feast at Paint Branch. It will take place Sunday, December 29. We are recruiting Volunteers to be the Worship Leader(s) and Feast Coordinator(s). If you'd like to know more, or volunteer, please connect with DARTT at dartt@pbuuc.org.

DARTT OpEd: Growing Up White on a Cotton Farm in the Segregated South by Elizabeth Brister Franks, Harrisonburg, VA

This month's OpEd column is written by a friend of Alice and Bob Tyler, who heard about the column and submitted this piece.

I was born in 1938 in Blytheville, Arkansas, in the northeast corner of the state. My Dad was a farmer. The workers on the farm were black and lived on the farm, but our relationship was definitely not equal. My parents were addressed as "Miss Margery" and "Mr. Vernice." Even black elders called me "Miss Elizabeth." When they came to our house, it was through the back door. A black person never sat in the front passenger seat even when no one else was in the car. It was simply not acceptable for blacks and whites to travel together unless the black people were working for the white person.

I remember very vividly the two water fountains in the shoe department at the local J. C. Penney's Store—"White" and "Colored." At the gas stations the restrooms were "Men," "Women," and "Colored." I played with black children who lived on the farm, but when they were at our house and we ate, we sat at my little table on the back porch. If a black laborer was doing work around our house, my mother gave them lunch, but it was outside on the porch or inside after we ate. I remember blacks sitting in the back of the bus and a different car on the train. I remember the separate waiting rooms in bus and train stations.

Some farmers did cheat the black laborers and sharecroppers. I believe, however, that my Dad was fair about wages and glad when the sharecroppers made some money.

When I was growing up, I didn't ever question this system. It was just the way it was. My family did not use the "N" word. My dad may have in some situations, but I don't believe he did around home. My mother and her family never did, and it was impressed on us that the correct word was "colored."

At the time of the Supreme Court Decision Brown vs Board of Education, I was in the 10th grade. I still was not questioning the system, and I remember asking my aunt who was a teacher if she thought we would have "colored" children going to school with us. She said that was why the superintendent was making improvements to the "colored" schools rather than succumb to desegregation. She also reported that the superintendent had asked a black teacher if she would want her children to go to school with whites. Of course, the teacher replied that she would not want them to go where they were not welcome. Later, I would realize that the teacher's job would have been in danger if she had said yes. In an area where blacks (except for undertakers, ministers, doctors, and dentists) were beholden to whites for jobs, they told whites what they wanted to hear.

My time in high school went by with no desegregation efforts in our town. During that time, the school district in Hoxie, Arkansas, was the first one to desegregate. A lawyer, who my husband and I would meet a few years later, was the attorney for the plaintiffs. His name was all over the papers in Arkansas and yet when he had coffee with other lawyers he said they talked about the weather and anything else but the Hoxie School case.

In 1957, when Central High School in Little Rock was desegregated and troops were sent there, I was a freshman at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. That is where I had my first equal contact with black people. There was only one black student in my literature class and the rest of my classes were white.

The University was open to black students. However, the dorms were segregated by gender and race. Black men had to live off campus. The dorm for black women was an old house right next to the freshman women's dorm. There were probably no more than 8 or 10 black women students on campus. I later learned that the conditions were inadequate in comparison to the white dormitories.

Almost immediately upon my arrival on campus, I became very active in the progressive Wesley Foundation (the United Methodist Campus Ministry). There were two black Colleges in the state, the Methodist school and the state school Arkansas AM&N. Students from those schools came to state Methodist Student Movement meetings and regional conferences and the Wesley Foundation Directors were progressive. Those experiences provided my first interracial experiences and I began to question the system. I went home at the end of that year with a changed attitude and it was very difficult to fit into that segregated environment in which I had grown up.

During the busy season of the summer when the people on the farm were chopping cotton, I frequently drove some to the fields. I hadn't figured out how to deal with calling them by first names and having them call me "Miss Elizabeth." I guess I was not ready to rock the boat, so I went on as usual.

At the end of the summer, the real awakening came at a regional Methodist Student Movement Conference in Oklahoma. I had a car and had driven from northeast Arkansas to Oklahoma. At the conference, there were a number of black students attending and the African-American Reverend Jim Lawson, who would become well known for his work in Nashville with students who were planning to sit in at lunch counters. There was a young black woman from Little Rock at the conference, and I gave her ride back to Little Rock.

At home, I told Mother what I had done. She told me that I must not ever do that again. She threatened to take my car away and stop paying for college. I'm sure she did not tell my dad. We never spoke of it again, but I continued my interracial activities.

Finance Committee

By the time you read this, Hannah Oshin, our Bookkeeper, has likely completed the adjustments to our financial database required by our auditor to transition to Generally Accepted Accounting Practices (GAAP). These amounted to moving some accounts into different categories that are considered more appropriate for GAAP purposes. Most of the changes are on our Balance Sheet. Hannah is validating each change with the result documented by the auditor. Hannah will also implement a “thirteenth month” End-of-Fiscal-Year close-out process normal to GAAP. This is formalizing our end-of-year process and adding a few features we had not completed in the past under cash-basis accounting (e.g., depreciation). All the above means that our FY20 Fiscal Year start will eventually be in accordance with the 95% GAAP compliance we committed to do.

A draft PBUUC Finance Manual should be available on a table in the church lobby each Sunday starting in October. Please contact me if you would like a current soft copy sent to you (elaine@greville.net). Also in this binder will be the current monthly Treasurer Reports (Income/Expenses and Balance Sheet). The reports will facilitate questions about how much money remains for various purposes and activities during FY20. Our intent is to have current Treasurer Reports on the Foyer table each week.

Did you know that you can Donate Stocks/Bonds as Pledges? PBUUC has an E-Trade account into which you can transfer stocks or bonds, which are then counted as non-taxable donations. The donation does not count as income when taken from an IRA, 401K or TSP account and donated to the church. Likewise, the appreciated value of stocks donated from other investments. Talk to the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Stewardship Committee or Church Administrator to get the specifics. The stocks/bonds will be sold/redeemed shortly after receipt at the office and the resulting value will be entered as a pledge donation. You do need to tell the office to expect the transfer!

For everyone who does Amazon purchases, please consider logging into Amazon using [AmazonSmile](#), which will result in a donation of .5% of the value of your purchases sent monthly to PBUUC. Register during your first [AmazonSmile sign-in](#) and specify PBUUC as your charity of choice. We received \$54 last month, and we can increase that amount with more people remembering to sign-in this way.

Elaine Shell, Finance Committee Chair

Legacy Fund

Legacy Fund Frequently Asked Questions

What is the PBUUC Legacy Fund? The current Legacy Fund was created by a Board of Trustees resolution in 1998. The Legacy Fund is a separate financial account that is managed by the Endowment Committee. Gifts are designated for the Legacy Fund as part of bequests, in memory of someone, or to honor a life event. The Endowment Committee is committed to the principles of socially responsible investing with the goal of growing the Legacy Fund for future generations. Each year the Endowment Committee solicits input from the congregation and makes recommendations to the Board of Trustees on how some of the Legacy Fund investment income can be used to support the mission of the congregation.

How much money is there, and how is the Legacy Fund invested? Over \$166,000 has been donated specifically for the PBUUC Legacy Fund since its inception, including \$6,355 donated in the past year. All of this money is invested in the [Unitarian Universalist Common Endowment Fund](#). The PBUUC Legacy Fund has grown in value to nearly \$230,000 as of June 30, 2019. The Unitarian Universalist Association manages over \$193 million in combined endowments on behalf of its member congregations in accordance with our shared principles and purposes and promotes socially responsible actions across the investment portfolio.

How much of the Legacy Fund has been used and for what purposes? To date, about \$17,500 in Legacy Fund investment income has been distributed. Individual grants ranging from \$100 to \$2,500 have been approved by the Board of Trustees over the past seven years to support the community ministry initiative, buy new equipment for the church, and provide scholarships for General Assembly attendees. In 2019, two grants of \$1,800 each were approved for the coming year to hire consultants to train PBUUC church members on multicultural competency for facilitating difficult conversations and to support the purchase of a new kitchen stove/oven that meets caterer standards.

What can PBUUC members do to support the Legacy Fund? First, anyone can designate a gift to the Legacy Fund as either a bequest or a separate donation in addition to your regular pledge or plate offering. Second, members can submit a grant proposal to the Endowment Committee before the end of March each year that proposes how Legacy Fund investment income can be used to support the mission of the congregation. Third, you can volunteer to serve on the Endowment Committee, which consists of five members including the Board Chair and four members who are elected by the congregation for three-year terms at the PBUUC annual meeting.

If you have other questions about the PBUUC Legacy Fund, you can submit them to legacyfund@pbuuc.org

Chris Evans, Endowment Committee Chair

In and Around Paint Branch

Creative Force Writer's Group will meet Sunday, October 27 during Enrichment Hour in Room 4.

Learn about our core principles and goals in a supportive, encouraging atmosphere. What writing project are you currently working on? Do you have a writing project you want to start, but have not? All styles are encouraged (essay, poetry, fiction, non-fiction, diary entries, meditations, short prose). Come join us! For more information, contact ETaraS1@yahoo.com

- Ebony Contreras

The next Third Wednesday Lunch at 1 pm on October 16 will be at The Greek Village, 13476 New Hampshire Ave, on the corner of Randolph Road and New Hampshire Avenue in Silver Spring. This is a pleasant place with an affordable Greek menu that we have enjoyed several times in the past. Please let me know if you will be able to attend: chelmold@verizon.net or 301-250-0505 (c).

Men's Fellowship Breakfast at TJ's Restaurant. Our next Men's Fellowship Breakfast will be 10AM Saturday, October 12 at TJ's Restaurant, our usual 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

Service Recordings. Recordings of portions of the Sunday services, and occasionally other events, are put on the PBUUC website. To find them, go to <http://pbuuc.org/sermons/archive.php> or click on "Sermon Archive" on the PBUUC home page just below the description of the upcoming service. Included are the Call to Worship, Chalice Reflection, Sermon, Closing Words, and similar spoken worship components. We need a volunteer to help with this process. You don't currently need to be on the Sound Team to help. If you might be interested, please contact keithanddebra@verizon.net. It takes about 1.5 - 2 hours per service after some practice, half of which has to be done at the sound equipment and the rest of which can be done on a computer at home. It seems formidable at first since there are many steps, but takes less time to do than to explain.

Keith Miller, PBUUC Sound Team



Halloween Dance, Saturday, October 26th 8-11. Tickets will go on sale after church on Sunday, October 6th. Music by "Twist and Shout" with our own Rene Katz. If you would like to be on the committee

and help with this fun event contact Lynn Louison at 301-706-5394 or getnsyncpt@gmail.com

Community Learning Center

It Takes a Village—

To Have a Successful Community Learning Center

This semester, the Paint Branch Community Learning Center (CLC) begins with a record 46 adult learners and 9 toddlers and kids in childcare. This could not happen without the work of the staff, and members and friends, who distributed flyers, set and reset rooms, maintained accounts, managed childcare, registered and tested students, collected payments, and trained and became teachers for the 16-week semesters.

Since the CLC began in 2012 by vote at a Congregational Meeting, sponsorship by the Social Action Committee, and a startup grant from the church's Legacy (Endowment) Fund and UUs for Social Justice, there have been 315 students from a variety of backgrounds. Congratulations to the Paint Branch Community!

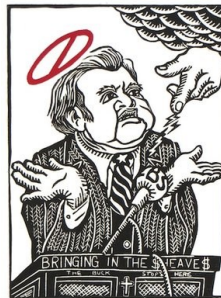
Carmelita Carter-Sykes, PBCLC Coordinator

Buildings and Grounds

Coming Up —our annual fall beautification/clean-up/fix-up day on Saturday October 26. Help make our buildings and grounds more inviting to everyone. Come anytime between 9 am and 2 pm. Pizza at noon. Tasks for everyone. Signup sheet will be provided.

Lowell Owens and Peter Wathen-Dunn,
Buildings and Grounds committee Co-Chairs

Meeting House Art Exhibit



The Arts Council is pleased to be hosting an exhibit by [Norman Strike](#). Mr. Strike is a founding member of the [Washington Area Printmakers' Gallery](#) located in Georgetown. His prints have received numerous awards in group exhibitions and are in the Permanent Collections of the Library of Congress, [The National Museum of Women in the Arts](#) and the [Baltimore Museum of Art](#). You will have an opportunity to meet and talk with Mr. Strike at an Artist Reception on Sunday, October 13.

Art as Worship, Worship as Art

"We Can't Keep Quiet"

Sat., Nov. 16 – Workshops

Sun., Nov. 17 – Service*



"Out of Time", detail, J. Axtmann

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church
3215 Powder Mill Road | Adelphi, Maryland

We invite you to discover the singer,
dancer and visual artist in you through art...

Join us to tap into your inner strength, share your voice, and move forward together through Workshops in Choral, Visual and Movement Arts

Inspired by Milck's song **I Can't Keep Quiet**

ART: Explore through color, shape and line what YOU WANT & NEED to say!!!

Led by Joanna Axtmann

CHORAL: Speak out about what matters to you. We will make this activist's anthem our own.

Don't keep quiet!

Led by Allison Hughes

MOVEMENT: We can't keep still....anymore

*Led by Peggy Hoffman,
Josephine Nicholson &*

Sharon Werth

Workshops are multigenerational. Children age 10 and older are welcome

Workshop Leaders information on back of flyer

Saturday, November 16, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Lunch & snacks will be served/vegetarian option available

***Sunday, November 17, 10:00 am Worship Service**

(Workshop participants are invited to attend and participate)

Workshop Fee (incl. lunch & childcare):

\$50 - \$35/PBUUC Members & Friends - \$30/Senior, Students & Youth

Register at <https://pbuuc.breezechms.com/form/ArtAsWorship>

Sponsored by The Chalice Dancers and The Paint Branch UU Arts Council

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.