



BRANCHES



PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

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

May 2020

**SUNDAYS at 10:00 am
ONLINE ONLY ***

Streaming info at bit.ly/TeamPBUUC

MAY 3 TEAM PAINT BRANCH

Rev. Rachel Christensen and DMRE Chris McCann;
with Worship Associate Elizabeth Porter
A Whole Church worship we intend to be a playful celebration of moments of delight. We hope you will join us and dress up for the service in something that makes you happy. I can imagine some Nats Tee Shirts, or a sparkly gown, or maybe a tiara. What would you wear?

MAY 10 A MOTHER'S DAY BOUQUET OF MUSIC

David Chapman, Music Director and Pianist;
Rev. Rachel Christensen, Minister; Jeri Holloway,
Worship Associate; and Special Music
Our Annual Choir Music Service in a New Virtual Format. Join us as we worship together with music and words featuring our prerecorded choir, choir reflections and special music. Send in a picture of the person most like a mother in your life.

MAY 17 DON'T BE AFRAID OF SOME CHANGE

DMRE Chris McCann;
with Worship Associate Samantha Evans
What exactly does change mean in a time of pandemic? What's changed for you recently, and what changes might you choose when life resumes? Let's explore!

MAY 24 THE GREAT DEPRESSION

Minister Rev. Rachel Christensen;
with Worship Associate Tricia Most
What are the things we can learn from the stories of the Great Depression?

MAY 31 COME TO PRACTICE

Rev. Rachel Christensen and DMRE Chris McCann;
with Worship Associate Polly Pettit
Who are we as Paint Branch? How do we live our values?

*** All services this month will be online only.** You will be able to watch and listen on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/PBUUC/> you can also join by Zoom video meeting with a computer or smartphone. Zoom information will be posted on the church website each week in the upcoming service description and in an online order of service in the News and Announcements section. If you don't have Internet access, call the church office to learn how to listen to the service on any phone.

Minister's Notes



Dear all,

This week we created our seventh worship service completely on Zoom. Number 7. We have been out of the church, out of our buildings since March 15, and I don't know when we might get back in for more than limited groups.

It has been a time calling for creativity, flexibility, and experimentation. You have each embraced our experiments with worship and community, and I am so grateful. There is a spirit of delight meeting the new ways we have been trying things, joy is connecting with each other, and willingness to be generous with your spirit and your resources. *Thank you.*

On this Sunday, May 3, we will present a Whole Church worship service called Team Paint Branch, and intend for it to be playful, celebrating moments of delight. I hope you will come and dress up for the service in something that makes you happy. I can imagine some Nat's Tee Shirts, or a sparkly gown, or maybe a tiara. What would you wear?

Sunday, May 10, is Mother's Day, and the annual Music Service. Would you like to send me a picture of the person who was most like a mother to you? The person, male or female, who most loved you into being you. We will include in a slide show during the service. Please email it to me. If you don't have a digital version of a picture, you can create one by taking a picture of the picture using your phone. The amazing things we can do these days!

Meanwhile, let's remember a few things. As the weeks go by, your situation may be changing. If you find yourself in need of some help, whether it is financial, or emotional support, or some physical assistance, please let us know. Email me at minister@pbuuc.org, or email our Pastoral Care Associates at pastoralcare@pbuuc.org.

If you are scheduling a zoom meeting for a committee meeting or a lunch event or a chance to get together with others, please let the office know at calendar@pbuuc.org. We will post it on our Calendar. That way people can be aware of what is going on, and may be inclined to get involved.

If you are getting tripped up by using Zoom or connecting to our weekly worship services, please let me know! We have coached many people through the process and helped them to connect. Maybe you are next!

The Pastoral Care Associates have been calling some people within our congregation, making connections and offering support. I know that you have been calling each other, too. This cannot happen too much. We each need to be checking in with each other, and we each need to receive those phone calls, too! Who's checking on you?

And lastly, know that this whole experience is unsettling. You do not need to be productive as if that is the only measure of your worth. It may be that the thing you need to do at this time is to be present - to the uncertainty, to the sorrow in the world, and take time to grieve. Take naps. Exercise. Be still, and know that you are loved.

I love you. and I am yours. *Rev. Rachel*

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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	Sabrina Jones
Trustee	Eric Most
Treasurer	Tess Morrison
Assistant Treasurer	Will Snyder
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
Jim Flaherty	Lynn Louison
Jeri Holloway	

🔗 Chartered Committees and Teams 🔗

Arts Council	Pat Tompkins (Music)
	Pat Tompkins (Visual Arts-ACTING)
Adult RE	Chris McCann and Leo Jones
Auction	Tricia Most
Budget Leadership Team	Kathi Yu & Wendy Schlegel
Buildings & Grounds	Peter Wathen-Dunn
Diversity/Anti-Racism	Carol Carter Walker (a)
Transformation Team (DARTT)	Carolyn Byerly (Vice Chair)
Denominational Affairs	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
New Entrance Design	Peter Wathen-Dunn
Nominating	Diana McFadden & Will Snyder
Religious Exploration	Melissa Graham
Social Action (SAC)	Kathleen Bartolomeo
Stewardship	Chris Evans

🔗 Groups and Activities 🔗

Bookstore	Raman Pathik
Chalice Dancers	Sherry Mitchell
Children's Choir	Jeanne Judd
Choir	David Chapman
Coffee Coordinator	VACANT
Community Café	Alice Tyler
Community Learning Center	Carmelita Carter-Sykes
Creative Force Writers Group	Ebony Contreras
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
Offertory Counter Coordinator	Marilyn Pearl
Quest Discussion Group	Tess Morrison
Shamanic Journeying	Mary Rooker
SAC Special Collections Coordinator	Carmelita Carter-Sykes
Spirituality Circle	Amy Steiner
Sunday Sound & Facilities Volunteer Team	Keith Miller
Third Wednesday Lunch Club	Cathy Helmold
Ushers	Lori Snyder
Warm Nights	VACANT
Webmasters	Andy McIntyre
	Mark Shute
>Welcome Table Greeters	Anita Williams
Widowed Persons Support Group	Jeri Holloway
Women's Retreat	Anne Hoover

Minister

The Rev. Rachel Rudd Christensen

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 D. Bury, MBA
Affiliate Minister for Social Justice	Rev. Karen Lee Scrivo
Bookkeeper	Hannah Oshin
Administrative Assistant	Philip Browne
Sexton:	Al Addison
Child Care Provider:	Zoe Pappas

Office Volunteers

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

Board of Trustees

Dear Congregation,

Less than two months into the “new normal” and, in terms of reinventing and re-stabilizing, we, as a congregation, seem to be doing pretty well. Sunday services are well attended; the break-out rooms during Coffee Hour have been a success. Individually and as families, however, some of us are struggling. To everyone, we are here for each other. Reach out to friends and to church and non-church family if only to reaffirm that you are loved and valued. Affirmation will come when you let them know that you love and value them.

Despite difficult times, we continue to support our church. The Auction was more successful than expected. Special thanks to Tricia Most and Keith Miller for their phenomenal efforts in leading the Auction team, who all also deserve a round of applause. The Stewardship Campaign also yielded positive results, only 10 percent short of the pre-pandemic goal. Although it will be necessary to somehow cover the shortfall, that Stewardship was able to almost reach their goal is a testament to Chris Evans inspirational leadership and the Stewardship team’s hard work; that team also deserves heart-felt thanks and applause. Of course, none of that success would have been possible without your commitment. Considering what we’ve been through and the uncertainty of the future, applaud yourselves, too.

Although we cannot throw garlands in person during our Annual Meeting, we will, indeed, have an annual meeting on June 14. The Board decided to postpone the Annual Meeting until June 14 because more work is needed on the logistics for online voting. We will be voting new members onto the Board, the Legacy/Endowment Committee, and the Nominating Committee. NOTE: The Nominating Committee is currently seeking candidates for all open seats. If you are interested in helping your church by serving on one of the organizations named, please send a note to NomCom@pbuuc.org. If you are contacted by NomCom, please consider serving. We also need volunteers for the Finance Committee to replace people who would like to cycle off.

Sadly we will not be voting on the new build designs, as originally planned. That will have to wait until after we hold our Next-Steps Weekend to help us structure our Capital Campaign. This will be happening, so please stay tuned.

At the April Board Meeting, among work items addressed was our long-standing commitment to housing homeless people during Warm Nights. SAC, the overarching group responsible for Warm Nights, proposed donating the funds budgeted for Warm Nights to Community Crisis Services, Inc. (CCSI), the coordinators of Warm Nights. Given the dire need this pandemic has created, the Board voted in favor of this magnanimous gesture.

An item we were not all in agreement on was a hypothetical one—i.e., acceptance of government Paycheck Protection Program Funds if awarded to us. Concerns included disagreement with a religious organization taking money from a government entity and concern that our accepting funds could mean another entity more in need of the money would re-

ceive less or nothing. After all voices were heard on the matter, the vote was 5 to 4 in favor of accepting funds if they are offered.

Another item addressed was authorization of a Continuity of Community Committee for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis. Their charge: to support and foster the Congregation, and research and advise the Board on when and how to reopen PBUUC based on guidelines from the state, WHO and CDC, and UUA; and explore options to maintain and enhance our church community through a variety of activities.

The work continues. Be well and stay safe.

- *Janet Overton*, Chair



Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team (DARTT)

WHO WE ARE: DARTT was chartered by the Board of Trustees in 2007 to facilitate the congregation's commitment to becoming a multicultural beloved community. DARTT meetings are open to members, friends, and visitors. We sponsor programs, workshops, services, and other activities in support of our mission. We also are a vessel for concerns about matters related to race, ethnicity, and gender concerns in our midst.

WHEN/HOW WE GATHER: DARTT has moved its meetings in time and space. Our typical meeting has been in person on the third Sunday of the month, right after Service, during a time we call Enrichment Hour. Since March, we've been meeting virtually on Wednesday evenings. Our May meeting will be Wednesday, May 20, from 7 to 8:30 pm via Zoom. We'll publish the Zoom access information and the Agenda the week before the meeting in the Bulletin and Continuum.

HOW WE OPERATE: DARTT now has the positions of Chair, Vice Chair, Immediate Past Chair, and an Advisory Group of up to three members as part of its Leadership Advisory Group. Carol Carter Walker is the Acting Chair; Carolyn Byerly is Vice Chair; Carmelita Carter-Sykes and Bettie Young are members of the Leadership Advisory Group. We are still recruiting for the positions of Chair, and one member of the Leadership Advisory Group. Please connect with DARTT if you would like to nominate yourself or others. DARTT has recently established written policies for DARTT-sponsored events and who may vote at meeting.

WHAT WE ARE UP TO: Watch this space in upcoming months for news about new programs: Welcoming Congregation Renewal, the 8th Principle Project, and a Book Club featuring minority authors.

DARTT is asking Paint Branchers to submit a thought piece on some aspect of anti-oppression/anti-racism for the DARTT Column in the monthly Branches. This year, we have had powerful pieces by members and friends/ cohorts of members. The deadline for submission is generally the 20th of the preceding month. The usual length is between 200 and 600 words. If you are interested in writing an OpEd, let us know.

(For more information please connect at dartt@pbuuc.org)

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MULTIGENERATIONAL RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

I saw an article today that some people are thriving in quarantine. Good for them, I say! I won't begrudge a good thriving. I will admit to small moments of thriving, but mostly I'm restless and dealing with loose ends. I must remind myself several times daily exactly what day it is. I have to intentionally check myself when I find myself pacing around the house. And it's odd, because I had initially anticipated myself thriving. You wouldn't know it judging by Sunday mornings that I am famously introverted to the point of being a hermit. Never leaving the house?! I was born for this! So much time to think, read and write, and plan for how we can keep improving religious education. So much time to innovate with no more commute! It turns out, however, that more often than I'd care to admit, I cannot access higher thinking for any prolonged period of time. My innovation muscle is tested enough just learning the new technology to keep things running at their most basic level. And my tendency to be a hermit? Who knew how vital my frequent trips to the grocery store and the library were to my sense of sanity and purpose! My time in the car on my way to work, my two days a week in the office and the sense of collegiality simply sharing space provided. So yeah, I think thriving may be a bit ambitious on my part. For now, I'll happily take the moments of thriving and allow myself the space and time to simply adjust, to rest, sometimes to pace the house. Thriving or not or anywhere in between, I hope you're allowing yourself some grace, some grieving, some small moment of peace. Stay home. Stay connected.

Chris McCann, DMRE

NEW DAY RISING

Anti-Racism Resources for May

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.

ARTICLES:

- ✦ Stop Blaming Black People for Dying of Coronavirus: <https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2020/04/race-and-blame/609946/>
- ✦ It's about racism, not race, when coronavirus hits communities of color hard: <https://www.tampabay.com/opinion/2020/04/15/its-about-racism-not-race-when-coronavirus-hits-communities-of-color-hard-column/>

BOOKS:

- ✦ [Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the US](#) by Lenny Duncan
- ✦ [Whistling Vivaldi: How Stereotypes Affect Us and What We Can Do](#) by Claude M. Steele

MOVIE: [White Savior: Racism in the American Church](#) ([streaming on Amazon Prime](#))

The next Adult Religious Exploration (ARE) offering is a discussion on Sunday, May 31, of Rachel Carson's groundbreaking book, "Silent Spring." Considered an inspiration to generations of environmental activists, the 1962 book details the dangers of pesticides, spurring changes to the laws affecting the air, land and water. Carson was named as one of the 25 Most Influential Women of the Twentieth Century by [Time Magazine](#). The discussion will take place via Zoom during Enrichment Hour. Registration is required. Send an email to are@pbuuc.org to register or ask any questions.

Coming Sunday, June 14, is "On Humanism," a talk and discussion led by Rob Boston, a senior adviser for Americans United for Separation of Church and State. The event will be held online via Zoom during Enrichment Hour. No registration is required. If you have any questions feel free to email us at are@pbuuc.org.

STEWARDSHIP

This "Come Together" Annual Campaign is winding down and we are short of our goal for church year 2020-2021. As I write this we have received over \$283,000 in pledges from nearly 100 donors. This is amazing considering that we had to postpone all of our planned "Come Together" events. Unfortunately, the pledges to date are about \$36,000 less than the total pledges made just a year ago. Some of this is due to loss of members over the past year but some is also due to financial uncertainties caused by COVID-19. Hopefully with time most of this uncertainty will dissipate and we will continue to accept new pledges over the next several months as things return to normal. Please send us an email at stewardship@pbuuc.org to let us know when you can make a new pledge, if you are able to increase your pledge, or need to change your pledge anytime in the coming year. Thank you!

Chris Evans, Stewardship Committee Chair

DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS

General Assembly 2020: There WILL be a UUA General Assembly (GA) this year, Wednesday, June 24 to Sunday June 28, 2020, but with a MAJOR difference, it will be a totally VIRTUAL event. While we all will miss the comradery of thousands of fellow UUs, there will be no traveling, no hotel rooms, everything will be online from home. That's obviously also true for delegates. As true for the last several years, we are entitled to four official delegates who will represent PBUUC at the GA. If you are interested in being a delegate, please contact me at donauldger-son@yahoo.com. Also, please visit the UUA website at <http://uua.org/ga/> to get more information about the GA and learn what the duties and expectations of delegates are. It is also possible to attend the GA virtually. The fee is \$150 for both attendees and delegates. Delegates are elected at the PBUUC Annual Meeting in June. A slate of nominees will be chosen from those who contact me and indicate their desire to be a delegate. Be certain to submit your name and indicate your desire to be a delegate by May 20, 2020.

- *Donald Gerson, Chair, Denominational Affairs*



Come Together!

Thanks for a Successful Auction!

As I write this, I am feeling extremely appreciative of so many people who have contributed in all sorts of ways toward a successful auction during a stressful time of pandemic-required physical separation.

My first thank you goes to our savvy and hard-working Church Administrator, Chuck Bury, who sent me a compare-and-contrast list of possible auction software packages and plans. His analysis included the fact that the previously-rented software had far fewer features, had never been updated, and cost more than the Auctria package plan I subsequently chose. Within minutes of the decision, Chuck submitted the contract and set up the initial website. (Anyone who knows of my technical challenges is aware that I could never have accomplished this so efficiently!)

The next person we all need to thank and to whom I feel immense gratitude and indebtedness is, of course, Keith Miller. Keith has been so amazingly gracious and patient about my technical frustrations, and has never once insulted me about these challenges. When I followed his suggestion to move my laptop closer to my router, it actually worked, even though I wanted to blame my beloved husband's newly purchased computer video game for the unreliability of my Auctria connection. Throughout our time of working together, Keith has exemplified UU values of acceptance, compassion and kindness even while working hard on other projects including, but not limited to, providing minutes to the Board of Trustees, updating our online worship service recordings, and working on the Budget Leadership Team. (Even though I am publicizing Keith's amazing patience and diligent conscientiousness, I also need to ask readers not to additionally burden him by asking him to do more stuff.)

A large group of people, including our minister, Rachel Christensen, Board of Trustee members Kathi Yu, Melissa Graham, and Wendy Schlegel, previous auction chairs Tess Morrison and Carol Carter Walker, Stewardship Committee Chair Chris Evans, and the Live Auction Night volunteers Sonny Katz, Clark Ritz and Ebeth Porter initially gathered for a Zoom meeting to develop plans to reimagine the Live Auction. We decided to hold a Zoom Pilot Online Auction Event Sunday, March 29 at 4 o'clock to attract people to bid on the online catalog. Since it worked, we held subsequent Online Auction Events on April 5, 19 and the final one on April 26, after which all online bidding was closed.

I have a number of performers to thank. Allison Hughes and Arun Ivatory sang and played guitar from their backyard, Jessica Sharp sang a Paint Branch-atized ver-

sion of "If I had a Million Dollars" a cappella, Renee Katz sang "Mercedes Benz" and "Brave." Many thanks to Sharon Werth's Zoom flexibility and creativity. She began with a "Come Together" welcome dance and for our third session, a poem was created with words and movement that served to promote bidding on the Chalice Dancers' Performance donation for the action (which yielded \$1,000 revenue for the church). Joining her was poem reader, Sonny Katz, and dancers Reena Bernards, Abby Crowley, Jennifer Grant (joining via Zoom from Florida), Anne Hoover, Marion Johnson, Sherry Mitchell, Karen Scrivo, Ken Shilling, Alba Tirado, and Kathy Wallens. Another performer, modeling Alice Tyler's handmade Terrapin costume complete with turtle shell, was Janaki Katz.

My Zooming Auction team members were very generous with their time, attending rehearsals and working throughout four live online auction events. (They may not have realized when they originally volunteered, just how labor intensive their effort would be since we didn't know then that the Auction had to be re-imagined!) So please express your appreciation to Sonny Katz (whose whole family got involved in the auction), Keith Miller, Clark Ritz, and Ebeth Porter.

I am very appreciative of all the many wonderful donations we received from Paint Branchers and donors from beyond our congregation. Many people were instrumental in making the online auction bidding fun and successful. Quite a few donors allowed themselves to be 'on camera' from their homes describing their donations, creations, and services. Viewing a Live Auction held in our sanctuary and responding to an auctioneer by silently raising a paddle is quite different than the very social, participatory online auction events of this Spring. Keith Miller provided regular updates about the progress of bids, which encouraged competition and protestations when individuals were outbid. Participants bantered, bragged about their bidding prowess, enthused about donations, laughed together, and made the events fun.

When I volunteered to run the Auction for this fiscal church year, I had never been involved in the administration of a previous auction. Despite the pronounced protestations of unhappiness (euphemistically speaking) about the idea that online bidding would take the fun out of an Auction Night, we were able to use the Auctria Software's capabilities for a series of surprisingly fun and successful Zoomed online auction events. The online auction catalog, including the "Donate Now" option, yielded income of \$23,749.28 to add to the \$3,013 we netted from the November Auction Holiday Fair. So the total "Come Together" Auction revenue for fiscal year 2019 – 2020 is \$26,762.28. Sincere thanks to all for the many ways you contributed to the success of this fundraiser for our beloved church.

~ Tricia Most

DARTT *continued from page 3***DARTT Recommends:**

Emma's Revolution is an American folk music and social justice activist duo, consisting of songwriters Pat Humphries and Sandy Opatow (a.k.a. "Sandy O"). Named after activist Emma Goldman, the group has performed at protests for peace, women's rights, labor rights, environmental protection, and other progressive causes. They have appeared at many, many UU gatherings all over the country. On Sundays May 3, 10, and 17, at 4 pm, they will be teaching one of their songs. You can go to enews@emmasrevolution.com to get Zoom and chord instructions if you are a player. It is free, but donations are requested to sustain this work.

Racial Justice Activities in the Region. <http://bit.ly/RJlist> This link will take you to the Monthly Racial Justice list of meetings, events, etc., in support of racial justice in the MidAtlantic Region. The list is compiled by Lynda Davis, a member of Coming To The Table, an organization of former slaves and slaveholders working toward racial reconciliation. Lynda has been a guest speaker at Paint Branch, and is a member of the UU Congregation of Columbia, MD. — Carol Carter Walker, Acting Chair

Wheel of Life

An on-line Celebration of Life for John Holbrook will be held on Saturday, May 9 at 2 pm Eastern time. His family would be honored if you would join them on-line to remember John's life.

There will be time during the service to share your reflections of your friendship with John. In order for us to plan for this on the Zoom platform, please let Rev. Rachel know that you would like to speak. Send her an email at minister@pbuuc.org. You may submit a written reflection to be read during the service if you prefer.

The service will be held using Zoom. You can join via your computer, your smart phone using the one-tap mobile, or any telephone for the audio link. If you have never used Zoom before, we encourage you to connect to this Zoom link the day before, so you are confident that it will work for you.

An Order of Service for the Celebration will be available at the Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church website in the days before the event. pbuuc.org

Topic: John Holbrook Celebration of Life

Time: May 9, 2020 2 pm Eastern Time

Zoom Meeting: <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/99965301181>

One tap mobile: +16468769923,,99965301181# US (NY)

Or call in from any phone for audio: +1-301-715-8592
Meeting ID: 999 6530 1181

In and Around Paint Branch

From the Nominating Committee: PBUUC needs you! You are needed to help choose our leaders to serve our community in these critical times. Four members are needed for the Board of Trustees, one member for the Legacy Fund, and three members for the Nominating Committee. To suggest a candidate or indicate your own interest now contact John Bartoli, Carmelita Carter-Sykes or Diana McFadden or email them at nomcom@pbuuc.org — Thank you.

Men's Fellowship Breakfast not at TJ's Restaurant.

Our next Men's Fellowship Breakfast will be back at the usual 2nd Saturday: 10 am Saturday, May 9. For obvious reasons, we can't meet in person, but have your breakfast at home and share video online via Zoom of yourself eating it. Come share food and conversation. This event is sponsored by the Paint Branch Men's Group. For more info including Zoom link, contact: mensfellowship@pbuuc.org.



Homework Help! If you're interested in the possibility of helping our kids with their homework, email Chris at dmre@pbuuc.org and let me know

what subject(s) you're willing to help with. Then I'll work on matching up families and volunteers. — Chris

Sunday, May 3: Quest Discussion Group will meet at Zoom.com at 11:45 am to discuss the book, *Behave, The Biology of Humans at Our Best and Worst* by Robert Sapolsky. This week we will be reading Chapter 4. All are welcome to join us. Please contact Tess Morrison at tmorriso@illinois.edu for the entrance code and Password so that you may join us and be added to the list serve. For more information, please contact Tess Morrison at tmorriso@illinois.edu.

Protect Our Right to Vote

On April 7, near the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, hundreds of thousands of Wisconsin voters risked their lives in long crowded lines to vote. We must not repeat this in November 2020. Take action now! Go to the UU's for Social Justice Action Alert Page <http://uusj.net/wp1/action-alert-protect-your-right-to-vote/> to call or email your members of Congress and demand that the next round of COVID-19 funding contains the necessary \$2-4 Billion that states need so we can all vote safely. For more information contact UUSJ at advocacy@uusj.org or Pat Behenna.

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.