



BRANCHES



PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

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

November 2020

MINISTER'S NOTES



SUNDAYS at 10:00 am

ALL SERVICES ONLINE ONLY

Streaming on Zoom at <http://zoom.us/j/92362530337>

Online Orders of Service Available at

<http://www.pbuuc.org/news/>

If you don't have Internet access, call the church office at 301-937-3666 for instructions on how to listen to the service on any phone.

NOVEMBER 1 REMEMBERING INHERENT WORTH

Rev. Rachel Christensen, Minister; with Polly Pettit, Worship Associate; Special Music and the Chalice Dancers
We are deeply divided in this country. How can we create relationships across this divide? Can we find a way to create personal connections? *** Remember to set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night, October 31, 2020 ***

NOVEMBER 8 POST ELECTION

Rev. Rachel Christensen, Minister;
with Worship Associate Clark Ritz

Come together as we reflect on the process and the outcome of the election this year.

NOVEMBER 15 TAKE A FLYING LEAP

Guest Speakers Mary Rooker and Julie Joseph;
with Worship Associate Susannah Schiller

Most of us feel that we have to compromise and settle for incremental changes when deep personal and institutional changes are needed. We tend to do what's "comfortable" instead of doing what's needed to adequately deal with the crisis. What do you think you will have to give up personally to make the world more equitable? If we believed it was already "past midnight," would our behavior change? Would we need to take a flying leap when facing a chasm?

NOVEMBER 22 GRATITUDE

Rev. Rachel Christensen, Minister;
with Worship Associate John Barr

NOVEMBER 29 BLUE HOLIDAYS

Rev. Rachel Christensen, Minister;
with Worship Associate Ebony Contreras

The holidays for many of us carry expectations and traditions—things that say Family or Celebration for us. This year, our holidays may be very different, and may be difficult.

Election Day Is Coming

I have several thoughts for you as we go forward in the next few days.

There is a vigil planned for Monday night, Election Eve, from 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm, along 16th Street from the White House to Silver Spring. This is being sponsored by many of the churches along 16th Street. You can go anywhere along 16th Street to join the vigil. Bring your own candle, your own mask, and be sure to remain 6 feet apart. Please do notglom together to give hugs - respect social distancing.

Secondly, there is a movement called *Joy to the Polls*. I encourage you if you have an hour or a day to bring Joy to the Polls. Consider taking snacks, coffee, maybe a frisbee or balloons to the people who are standing in line at the polls, now through election day. Help to make this a celebration of Democracy in this nation, one of hope and action and heart. Don't forget your masks.

Thirdly, I will open a Zoom room on Tuesday and Wednesday from 5 pm until 9 pm, for us to gather, breathe, pray, share time together. If I am not in the room, say hello—I may be able to come be with you from the kitchen! This link is for both Tuesday and Wednesday: <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/99752440272> I hope to see you there!

I am in touch with colleagues in the DC area, and we are talking about how to communicate with each other and with our congregations, if we are called to show up in different ways: In providing support, in calling for action, in attending an event, perhaps being called to go to a place. I will let you know if we are needed, if we are being asked to help. I am holding so much hope, so much love, so much uncertainty.

I saw a great video about resilience that invited us to notice our body sensations to tell us that we are carrying greater stress or anxiety than usual. You can move yourself to greater equanimity by doing some very simple things with intention like breathing, or drinking a glass of water, while focusing on the sensations.

Push against a wall, or touch the furniture, or reach down and touch the earth. Notice the colors in the room. It is a technique that grounds you in the here and now, and you might notice your breathing slowing, your heart rate calming, and your spirit settling. Take care of yourself.

Joyfully,

Rev. Rachel minister@pbuuc.org

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PBUUC Leadership Directory

🔗 Officers and Board of Trustees 2019-2020 🔗

email: BoardOfTrustees@pbuuc.org

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Chair | Melissa Graham |
| Vice Chair | Janet Overton |
| Vice Chair | Wendy Schlegel |
| Trustee | Carol Boston |
| Trustee | Ebony Contreras |
| Trustee | Moe Cunningham |
| Trustee | Sabrina Jones |
| Trustee | Margaret McClellan |
| Trustee | Carol Carter Walker |
| Treasurer | Tess Morrison |
| Assistant Treasurer | Will Snyder |
| Secretary | Amy Parrish |
| Assistant Secretary | Andy McIntyre |

🔗 Worship Associates 🔗

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Tricia Most (2018-21) | John Barr (2020-23) |
| Clark Ritz (2018-21) | Ebony Contreras (2020-23) |
| Polly Pettit (2019-22) | Diana McFadden (2020-23) |
| Susannah Schiller (2019-22) | Nori Myrdon-Ward (Youth) |

🔗 Pastoral Care Associates 🔗

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Kathy Bartolomeo | Lynn Johnson |
| Jim Flaherty | Lynn Louison |

🔗 Chartered Committees and Teams 🔗

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Arts Council | Pat Tompkins (Music) |
| | Pat Tompkins (Visual Arts-ACTING) |
| Adult RE | Leo Jones |
| Auction | Tricia Most |
| Budget Leadership Team | Kathi Yu & Wendy Schlegel |
| Buildings & Grounds | Peter Wathen-Dunn |
| Diversity/Anti-Racism | Carmelita Carter-Sykes, & |
| Transformation Team (DARTT) | Ebony Contreras, Co-Chairs |
| Denominational Affairs | Don Gerson, Chair |
| | Bettie Young, cluster rep. |
| | contact church office |
| Electronic Communications | Chris Evans |
| Endowment | Elaine Shell |
| Finance | Moe Cunningham & |
| Green Team (co-chairs) | Kathleen Bartolomeo |
| | Joe Dever |
| Leasing | Ebony Contreras & Kathi Yu |
| Long-Term Planning | Pat Behenna |
| Membership | James Alexander, Muriel |
| Ministry | Morisey & Jennifer Wright |
| | Peter Wathen-Dunn |
| New Entrance Design | Carmelita Carter-Sykes (ACTING) |
| Nominating | Katherine Darlington |
| Multigenerational Religious | & Tricia Most, Co-Chairs |
| Exploration Team (MRET) | 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 | 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 | Keith Miller |
| 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 |
| | Anita Williams |
| | Jeri Holloway |
| | Anne Hoover |

Minister

The Rev. Rachel Rudd Christensen

Minister Emerita

Rev. Diane Teichert

Affiliate Minister for Social Justice

Rev. Karen Lee Scrivo

Staff

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

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Music Director & Pianist | David Chapman |
| Dir. of Multigenerational Religious Exploration | VACANT |
| Chalice Dancers Director & Choreographer | Sharon Werth |
| Church Administrator | Charles D. Bury, MBA |
| Bookkeeper | Hannah Oshin |
| Administrative Assistant | Philip Browne |
| Sexton: | Al Addison |

Office Volunteers

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

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Hello Member and Friends of Paint Branch,

This month I am going to use my column to share with you an updated policy for holding in-person outdoor events at Paint Branch. Please reach out to Chuck Bury if you wish to schedule an event that meets the following guidelines.

Background: PBUUC groups have requested use of the Glen for PBUUC Events. After discussion, the Continuity Committee believes the Glen or parking lot, and only the Glen or parking lot, can be used for PBUUC Events. We have excluded the Deck as a gathering location because we do not believe there is sufficient space for individuals to maintain the required physical separation.

For reference: a PBUUC event has been defined by the Board as an event that takes place indoors or outdoors on church property but does not include events carried out by tenants or renters subject to written signed agreements stating their obligations under PBUUC policy and applicable law and regulations. Events that take place away from church property are not PBUUC Events unless organized and directed by a paid member of the church staff.

Following are the guidelines for Outdoor-only PBUUC Events:

- 1) No other Event or Rental is scheduled on PBUUC buildings or grounds at the same time. Scheduling an Event must be done through the Church Office to confirm they are the only Event on that date and time.
- 2) There is no access permitted to any PBUUC buildings for any reason including restroom usage.
- 3) The Event may have no more than fifteen attendees.
- 4) All attendees must wear masks and remain six feet apart at all times.
- 5) A primary and alternate contact must be sent to the Church Administrator prior to the Event. A list of all attendees with their contact information must be kept by the primary and alternate contact for two months after the Event.

Please note: This means no one can use the parking lot or Glen for an event during Silver Oaks hours of operation.

Again, if your group wishes to use these guidelines, please be in contact with Chuck Bury at churchadmin@pbuuc.org for information about available times.

Thank you,

Melissa Graham, Board Chair

Fall aUction 2020



LIVE 2020 Autumn Auction on Sundays, November 8th & 15th at 4 pm

We are all needing more fun, more community and less stress in our lives. The 2020 Autumn Auction catalog shows ways we can share fun, food, and information with generous contributors offering their talents for bid in support of our church. Join into LIVE 2020 Autumn Auction events to hear humorous songs, heart-warming dances, and to spend some time with your Paint Branch friends. Those of us who can, donate in the ways we can because we love the community we continue to create together!

In the 2020 Autumn Auction catalog, there are a number of vacation weeks – including one that allows you to choose your own location! If you hurry, you may be able to win some native plants to attract butterflies, birds, and bee pollinators to improve our ecosystem. Our UU drive to embrace diversity is celebrated in a beautiful hand-made rainbow quilt available for the highest bidder. Or maybe you would prefer to display a smaller quilt that you can design yourself (item #716), Hike while socially distanced, take outdoor exercise classes, landscape to benefit wildlife (“For the Birds!”), learn about Pagans and Nature Spirituality (“Witches and Faeries and Bears, Oh My!”), bid on supplies to protect and transport your tablet (Items #601 & 602), play games on line, watch films together virtually. Bid on some playful or serious painting classes or on some meditative Mandala drawing. Watch and learn about Irish dancing, get help with your math homework, bid on a ceramic tea pot or a beautiful sushi serving set or on some lovely handmade necklaces or some scenic photographs for your home or office (maybe that is the same location?). For this auction, Marj Donn knit some sparkly mittens and Moe Cunningham crafted some very artful chalice candle holders out of amazingly colored woods. Choose a sermon, worship theme, choir, dance performance or the music for an entire worship service!

Delightful savory and sweet vegetarian and omnivore food is being offered for delivery or to enjoy together while seated at widely-spaced apart outdoor tables (one per household), and in some cases, to enjoy via zoom dining. Bid to win three months of homemade soup and bread! Generous donors are offering classes on how to prepare their specialties. And there are donations of bread, pies, and cookies for delivery each month for a year! For the holidays, bid on Thanksgiving pies, pumpkin-shaped sugar cookies, a Yule Log Cake, or stock up on beautiful fabric gift bags. Forget about trying to be cheerful when you are stressed-out and indulge, instead, in a “Wine and Whine Party!”

The 2020 Autumn Auction includes a “Paddle Raise” with the goal of raising \$6,000 to **Enhance Paint Branch's Online Presence** through the purchase and installation of two professional, remote-control, pan, tilt, and zoom cameras as well as to pay for professional services to improve our website. A thermometer at the bottom of the website home page illustrates donation progress toward the \$6,000 goal. Here's the website address: <https://charityauction.bid/2020AutumnAuction>

Take a look at the catalog and get inspired to offer your own creative ways to share what you can. Two children in our congregation have made donations to share their talents. You can, too! This year making donations is easy – just email Patricia_Most@msn.com or phone her at 301-452-1366. The Zoom address for all the Sunday 4 PM Live Auction Events is: <https://zoom.us/j/8767968992?pwd=RXhCNWkwOXFDYjNpNXBlak9KQlhHQTo9>
Passcode: pbuuc

Each Live Auction is different, so plan to attend them all – including on **November 8, and November 15 at 4 pm**. Thanks for supporting our Paint Branch community!

FAMILY WORSHIP

Please Check the ContinUUm Weekly for Updates to Zoom into Our Fun, Informative, Informal 4 o'clock Saturday Family Worship!

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84569580347?pwd=aUkzMVpMcTM4Y09RNy91RjZUQlhZZz09>

Meeting ID: 845 6958 0347

Passcode: 443670

One tap mobile +13017158592,,84569580347#,,,,,0#,,443670#

October 31: Kathy Darlington will lead us with Grandpa's Ghost Stories and a virtual Halloween Party. Attendees are encouraged to wear costumes, funny hats, mismatched clothes, or to use virtual filter costumes on zoom.

November 7: Karen Donovan will lead Family Worship with an autumn leaf project. Attendees are advised to collect leaves in advance of the Family Worship. Karen will teach us how to preserve our leaves and how to use them to create a costume mask and other projects. (Completed leaf projects can be shared next week.) This Family Worship will feature the stories "Leaf Man" and "We're Going on a Leaf Hunt."

November 14: Books and Cooks with Grilled Cheese and Tomato Soup recipes featuring the story "Onions are Medicine." Leaf Projects from the previous week can be shared during this Family Worship.

November 21: Discussion of the "Mythology" of the first Thanksgiving, Colonization of the Americas, and Relations with the Native Peoples.

November 28: Spend time with your family to honor the Thanksgiving Spirit.

December 5: We will introduce and explore the proposed 8th Principle of Unitarian Universalism. This principle was drafted by Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism (known as BLUU). It reads: We covenant to affirm and promote Journeying toward Spiritual Wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.

December 12: Books and Cooks with a recipe for pretzel cookies using chocolate and sprinkles featuring the story "Olaf's Frozen Adventure." We will talk about Family Traditions.

December 19: Winter Holidays: We will discuss winter holidays across many cultures and religions and the celebration of Light in the Darkness. We will celebrate Darkness as a thing of beauty.

December 26: Spend time with family in honor of the Christmas spirit. (Sunday's December 27th worship service will be an All Ages Observance of Kwanzaa.)

Tricia Most, MRET CoChair

Diversity/Antiracism Transformation Team (DARTT)



This Space Reserved for Your OpEd

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. 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, please contact Carmelita Carter-Sykes at cartercarmelita@aol.com and Ebony Contreras at etaras1@yahoo.com.

(DARTT) Announces New Co-Chairs

Carmelita Carter-Sykes and Ebony Contreras were elected Co-Chairs of DARTT at its October Meeting. The new Co-Chairs will be sharing leadership duties. Please contact them at cartercarmelita@aol.com and etaras1@yahoo.com.

The new Co-Chairs are looking forward to working with the Paint Branch community to carry out the mission and purpose of the Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team. They are requesting that communications to DARTT be sent to both of them at the same time.

The rest of the Leadership Team remains: Carolyn Byerly, Vice Chair; Carol Carter Walker, Immediate Past Chair; and Eldritch and Bettie Young as the Leadership Advisory Council.

DARTT has worked on governance issues for several months. A Nominating/Governance Workgroup developed a list of duties of the Chair/Co-Chair positions, recommended a shared leadership model, developed a list of questions to be sent to candidates, and made recommendations to DARTT for the candidates to fill these leadership positions.

Congratulations, Carmelita and Ebony!

Social Action Committee

SAC Special Collection for November 2020

The SAC Special Collection recipient for Sunday, November 22, 2020 is the Prince George's County Mutual Aid. This is a multi-racial, grassroots organization made up of PG County, MD residents who volunteer their time and energies to care for other PG County residents. PG Mutual Aid volunteers distribute goods like warm clothes and coats, \$5 Metro cards, hygiene products, food and water. They also distribute money and their skills within the PG community. You can make your donation on their GoFundMe page at : <https://www.gofundme.com/f/8z2y6-prince-george039s-county-mutual-aid-fund> or using the CashApp smartphone app to: \$pgmutualaid Thank you.

Election Day Vote Centers in Prince Georges County

Showplace Arena 14900 Pennsylvania Avenue Upper Marlboro MD 20772
 Pavilion at Univ. of MD Xfinity Ctr. 8500 Paint Branch Dr College Park MD 20740
 Bowie Gymnasium 4100 Northview Drive Bowie MD 20716
 Wayne K. Curry Sports and Learning Center 8001 Sheriff Road Landover MD 20785
 Southern Regional Tech & Rec Complex 7007 Bock Rd Fort Washington MD 20744
 Laurel High School 8000 Cherry Lane Laurel MD 20707
 Southern Area Aquatic & Rec Complex 13601 Missouri Ave Brandywine MD 20613
 Suitland Community Park School Center 5600 Regency Lane Forestville MD 20747
 Accokeek VFD Training & Activity Center 16111 Livingston Rd Accokeek MD 20607
 DuVal High School 9880 Good Luck Road Lanham MD 20706
 Kentland Community Center 2413 Pinebrook Avenue Landover MD 20785
 Baden Community Center 13601 Baden-Westwood Road Brandywine MD 20613
 Bladensburg High School 4200 57th Avenue Bladensburg MD 20710
 Bowie High School 15200 Annapolis Road Bowie MD 20715
 Bowie State University - James Gym 14000 Jericho Park Road Bowie MD 20715
 Cedar Heights Community Center 1200 Glen Willow Dr Capitol Heights MD 20743
 Central High @ Forestville 7001 Beltz Drive Forestville MD 20747
 Charles H. Flowers HS 10001 Ardwick Ardmore Road Upper Marlboro MD 20774
 Crossland High School 6901 Temple Hill Road Temple Hills MD 20748
 Deerfield Run School Community Center 13000 Laurel-Bowie Rd Laurel MD 20708
 Dr. Henry A. Wise, Jr. High School 12650 Brooke Lane Upper Marlboro MD 20772
 Eleanor Roosevelt High School 7601 Hanover Parkway Greenbelt MD 20770
 FedExField 1600 Fedex Way Landover MD 20786
 Frederick Douglass High School 8000 Croom Road Upper Marlboro MD 20772
 Friendly High School 10000 Allentown Road Fort Washington MD 20744
 Glenn Dale Community Center 11901 Glenn Dale Road Glenn Dale MD 20769
 High Point High School 3601 Powder Mill Road Beltsville MD 20705
 John E. Howard Community Center 4400 Shell Street Capitol Heights MD 20743
 Largo High School 505 Largo Road Upper Marlboro MD 20774
 Largo/Kettering Comm. Ctr. 431 Watkins Park Dr Upper Marlboro MD 20774
 Northwestern High School 7000 Adelphi Road Hyattsville MD 20782
 Oxon Hill High School 6701 Leyte Drive Oxon Hill MD 20745
 Parkdale High School 6001 Good Luck Road Riverdale MD 20737
 Peppermill Community Center 610 Hill Road Landover MD 20785
 Potomac High School 5211 Boydell Avenue Oxon Hill MD 20745
 Rollingcrest/Chillum Community Center 6120 Sargent Road Hyattsville MD 20782
 South Bowie Community Center 1717 Pittsfield Lane Bowie MD 20715
 Suitland High School 5200 Silver Hill Road Forestville MD 20747
 Surrattsville High School 6101 Garden Drive Clinton MD 20735
 Temple Hills Community Center 5300 Temple Hill Road Temple Hills MD 20748
 Westphalia Community Center 8900 Westphalia Road Upper Marlboro MD 20774



The Wider Unitarian Universalist Universe

The Davies Concert Series is pleased to announce its upcoming 2020-21 Season (see below). Mark your calendars and plan to join us! And, "Like Us" on Facebook (Davies Concert Series) where this schedule has just been posted.

All concerts begin at 4 pm East Coast Time US, and will be virtual. The line-up consists of the following performances. More details on each will be provided closer to the performance.

- * **Sunday, November 29, 2020** -- Violist Osman Kivrak and Friends
- * **Sunday, January 31, 2021** -- CAAPA - The Coalition for African Americans in the Performing Arts
- * **Sunday, March, 2021** -- Folk Musician Lynn Hollyfield
- * **Sunday, April 1, 2021** -- Pianist Brian Ganz and the Sunrise Quartet

Thanks,

The Davies Concert Series Board

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.