



BRANCHES



PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

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

January 2018

SUNDAYS at 10:00 am

Nursery Care in Room 6 from 9:45-12:45
Refreshments and Fellowship after the service
Adult Enrichment Hour from 11:45-12:45
Childcare until 12:45

JANUARY 7 OUR PROMISE OF COMMUNITY

The Reverend Rachel Christensen, Minister; with Carla Miller, DMRE; and Samantha Evans, Worship Associate
The way our world is speaking to each other is sure to deliver hurts and misunderstandings. How will we practice healthier ways to be in community?

JANUARY 14 PROMISE AND PRACTICE: MARTIN LUTHER KING'S VISION OF BELOVED COMMUNITY

Rev. Rachel Christensen, Minister; with Carla Miller, DMRE, Jeri Holloway, Worship Associate; and the Choir
A look at the promise of Kings words and vision, and how our practice has moved us closer to and been short of his vision.

JANUARY 21 WHO OWNS MY BODY?

Rev. Rachel Christensen, Minister; with Carla Miller, DMRE; Paul Wester, Worship Associate; and the Choir
The anniversary of Roe v. Wade. What has this Supreme Court Decision meant to us as a culture, as a country? [Followed by the Ministerial Start-Up workshop—see page 3 for more information on this important Congregational event.]

JANUARY 28 MEN AND PAINT BRANCH

Paint Branch Men's Group; with Carla Miller, DMRE; and William Snyder, Worship Associate
How do men come to join Paint Branch? Why are there twice as many women as men involved in Paint Branch groups and activities? What do men get out of sharing in church community as well as in the men's fellowship?

SNOW CLOSINGS: For Sunday service or other event cancelations, check our [website](#); [Facebook page](#); call the church at 301-937-3666 and choose option 9 from the church's VoiceMail system; or monitor the closings listings on [WJLA channel 7](#).

Notes from the Minister



This has been a big year for me.

I was ordained as a Unitarian Universalist minister, and searched for and was called by a congregation. I completed a year-long residency as a Chaplain in a hospital in Florida. On the last day of my residency, the moving van packed up our home of 30 years, and we moved with two cats to Maryland. We bought a house, and are learning that we can feel cozy, even when it is 30 out.

It has been a big year for you, too.

You entered into search and your Ministerial Search Committee read countless ministry records submitted by any number of ministers. They interviewed people by video conference, and invited several to visit Maryland for a pre-candidating weekend. And then they did it all again.

Me too. You knew that you might not “match” with a minister, just as I knew that I might not match with a congregation. But then we each interviewed each other, and we thought, hoped, that we had found our “match.”

I am getting to know you – individually, in groups and teams, and as a congregation. I am sharing worship with you, finding places of meaning and rituals of connection. I am privileged to hear your stories, your joys and your hurts, and to help you navigate painful moments in your lives.

As we look forward to next year, it, too will be a big year. This time we will do it together. I am grateful to be walking with you into this next “big year.” We will celebrate special days together. We will watch our children grow and welcome new members. We will have a successful stewardship drive during the month of March. We will have an Installation of your new Minister on May 6 (Save the Date!) We will continue to work on diversity, inclusion and relationships. We will have a Flower Ritual, laugh together, cry together, and perhaps picnic together.

May it be so.

Rev. Rachel

minister@pbuuc.org

Paint Branch: An inclusive religious community connected by love, spirit and service.

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PBUUC Leadership Directory

🌀 Officers and Board of Trustees 2017-2018 🌀

email: BoardOfTrustees@pbuuc.org

| | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Chair | Kate Brett |
| Vice-Chair | Carmelita Carter-Sykes |
| Vice-Chair | Eric Most |
| Trustee | Sonny Katz |
| Trustee | Kay McGraw |
| Trustee | Tess Morrison |
| Trustee | Jessica Sharp |
| Trustee | Marguerite Summers |
| Trustee | Kathi Yu |
| Treasurer | Louise Waugh |
| Assistant Treasurer | David Nation |
| Secretary | Carol Boston |
| Assistant Secretary | Jennifer Wright |

🌀 Worship Associates 🌀

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| * Beth Charbonneau (2015-18) | Paul Wester (2016-19) |
| * Will Snyder (2015-18) | Elizabeth Porter (2017-20) |
| *Team Leaders | Jeri Holloway (2017-20) |
| Mary Rooker (2016-19) | Samantha Evans (Young Adult) |

🌀 Pastoral Care Associates 🌀

Jeri Holloway
Lynn Johnson
Mike McMenamain
Will Snyder

🌀 We Care Coordinators 🌀

VACANT

🌀 Chartered Committees and Teams 🌀

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

🌀 Groups and Activities 🌀

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

🌀 Minister 🌀

The Rev. Rachel Rudd Christensen

🌀 Minister Emeritus 🌀

The Rev. Richard Kelley

🌀 Staff 🌀

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

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Music Director & Pianist | David Chapman |
| Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration | Carla Miller |
| Director, Chalice Dancers | Sharon Werth |
| Church Administrator | Charles Bury |
| Administrative Assistant | Rico Jones |
| Bookkeeper | Roy Friday, CPA |
| Sunday Service/Building Managers: | Joel Yesupriya |
| Child Care Providers: | Howard Townsell |
| | Jazmin Balbuena |
| | Joy Washington |
| | Briana Workcuff |

🌀 Office Volunteers 🌀

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

Board of Trustees

From the Board Chair,

The end of the year is a good time to look back to see how things have gone. In my opinion, the Board of Trustees has worked very hard for the last six months and is doing a good job of listening, both to each other and to everyone in the congregation. We have instituted a new routine to our meetings to think about “big questions,” a suggestion that I obtained from a leadership training from the denomination this past fall. Please know that all the Trustees are trying to hear what you all want from church. We want to be aware of your thoughts, from small issues to big ones. Contact us, during coffee hour, meetings of various groups, or by calling or e-mailing any one of us.

When the BOT began this church year in July, we came in knowing that the fiscal health of the church was difficult to ascertain. The financial reports were hard to read, there were labels that made no sense, and some of the line items in the budget could not be interpreted. The newly constituted Finance Committee have asked many questions and have been working at answering every one of them. What we know is that we had a few unusual budget items, such as settling a new minister, and so we are in a lean year. The Finance Committee will be using the suggestions obtained during a process audit of our books to suggest changes for the Board to review. And we hope that our next Stewardship drive will be outstanding.

The Board hopes that everyone attends the **Ministerial Start-up workshop**, scheduled for January 21st right after service. A UUA consultant will be here to facilitate the workshop to talk about who we are, where we want to go, and how the minister will work with us to get there. The BOT is planning *no midyear congregational meeting* in the hope that you will attend this event.

If you ever have questions about what goes on at a Board meeting, review the agenda that is posted each month in the Announcement section on the front page of the PBUUC website. We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month from 7:15 pm – 9:15 pm. Come to a meeting if you are interested.

Kate Brett, Board Chair

The next regular BOT Meeting is January 16, 2017.

All read-aheads are due on January 9, 2017.

The BOT ExCom meeting is January 2, 2017.

The Startup Workshop for the new ministry will be Sunday, January 21, 2018—immediately following the service (see accompanying article)

Save the Date: Ministerial Start-Up January 21 Come one, come all! Come help with our Ministerial Start-Up workshop

Sunday, January 21, 11:30 am–4 pm in the Meeting House

I know, I know. We have already started!! Rev. Rachel has been in the house since August – why do we need a Start-up in January?

Now that we have gotten over our First Date jitters, and have begun to settle into this new way of being Paint Branch, this is a great time to get to know each other on a different level and to see what the shape of Paint Branch’s next chapter will really be. We will talk about the wonderful things that this congregation has done, and also about things that maybe we wish had gone differently. We will talk about how we got to where we are today, and where we want to be going next. And we’ll learn about each other in new and surprising ways.

After the Sunday service, we will gather with Rev. Megan Foley, our primary contact with the Central East Region, who will facilitate this conversation. Everyone is welcome! It will be wonderful to have many people stay and participate, those new to the congregation, and those who have been here almost forever. We want everyone. Those who are young adults, parents of young children, and those whose children may already be old and grey. We will provide lunch and childcare and comfortable seating.

Stewardship at PBUUC

It’s now 2018 and we are revving our engines to kick-off our PBUUC annual campaign. The Stewardship Committee has planned a great slate of fun events starting with our Fellowship Dinner on February 24 at 6 pm. Please note this date has changed from last month’s announcement, but the fun and fellowship will remain the same. So motor on down to PBUUC for this multi-generational potluck dinner that will include entertainment from some very talented members. Childcare will be provided.

The Stewardship Committee also needs your help. We’re seeking 15 additional drivers, I mean volunteers, to serve as Visiting Stewards who will make some phone calls, attend one of the Stewardship events and ask for pledges from a few members. Volunteers can attend either high-speed training session on February 7 at 7 pm or February 11 during Enrichment Hour at PBUUC (and you won’t have to stand in line at the MVA). Consider saying “Yes!” when asked to volunteer or you can let Chris Evans know you are willing to serve at stewardship@pbuuc.org.

PBUUC members and friends will have three options to complete their pledge this year to include: 1) meeting one-on-one with a Visiting Steward; 2) attending one of four fun events such as the very popular stewardship breakfast; or 3) visiting the stewardship pit stop, I mean table, in the lobby after any Sunday in March. There may be a few hints in this article about this year’s annual campaign theme. Can you guess it?

Multigenerational Religious Exploration

The Word of the Year

A Non-Resolution for the New Year

New Year's resolutions are not my thing. My resolve dwindles before the 30-day trial gym membership expires, the beautiful blank book that was to be my daily gratitude journal sits empty on my nightstand. Still, I have this ongoing desire to be "out with the old and in with the new" and each turning of the year feels like an opportunity for renewal and improvement. Happily, I've discovered an alternative way to honor that inner yearning by choosing a guide word for the year. A life coach friend of mine introduced me to this idea about five years ago, and I've chosen one each January since.

My word of the year expresses a quality I want to bring more fully into my life. Each year, it plays out differently—the word itself, how often I refer to it and in what way, how meaningful it becomes, and how much change it motivates. Sometimes the word, like "courage" in a particularly rough year, becomes a mantra to which I cling each morning. And then, the year I chose "truth," the effect was nebulous, truthfully. Still, there were "moments of truth" that year, in which I grew a greater awareness of the process of discerning truth and the priority of remaining true to myself.

How to choose a word? There must be many ways, but mine has been to think about the traits of the kind of person I would like to be; aspects of self I wish to develop; and jot them down. I may be riveted on one word immediately. Or, I might circle three words, and let them percolate for a day or two while I toss them around. Or, even as I resist it, the word may choose me.

The latter seems to be true for me this year. The word "integrity" has come up in several different contexts recently. I am a little afraid of this one, to be truthful. It is challenging me to "walk the walk;" to live true to my values - to avoid over-compromising, and to make well-considered decisions. This accountability to myself makes me want to run the other direction screaming! Which may be exactly why this word, integrity, chose me.

How you apply your word, and hold it in your awareness, is up to you. Jot it on sticky notes to post near your mirror, on your calendar, on your laptop... take the time to medi-



tate upon it, journal about it, use it as a lens for daily reflections. The point is to keep your attention focused, drawing it back to the word from time to time so that it will develop

greater clarity and depth as the year unfolds. It is yours to explore what works for you; though as in most things, we get out of it what we've put in.

Which word might guide you into greater awareness, new choices, and perhaps, even, some transformation of consciousness and new ways of being in the world, over the course of the next year?

Carla Miller, DMRE@pbuuc.org

Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration

COMING SOON IN RE

Friday, January 5th, 4F's

Sunday, January 14th, Parent Orientation for Grades 4/5 OWL

Friday, January 19th, Congregational Birthday Party!



Happy Birthday

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19TH 6:30 PM—9 PM
ALL-CHURCH, MULTIGENERATIONAL BIRTHDAY PARTY!

Have you been missing our monthly UU birthday parties?

Let's ALL Celebrate At Once!

- Sit with your month-and season-mates!
- Sing silly songs! Play silly party games!
- Learn some UU history –Which famous UU's were born in your month?
- Eat birthday cake! (and the people said, Amen!)

"It's my party and I'll cry if I want to..."

"A very merry un-birthday, to you...!"



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR CHILDREN'S CLASSES

**Spirit Play for Prekindergarten and Kindergarten:**

The PreK and Kindergarten Spirit Play stories this month focus on themes of cooperation and friendship- as well as the

classic winter story for young children, The Snowy Day. We will work together on cooperative art projects in keeping with the theme.

Grades 1, 2 & 3 PokUUmōn & A World of Wonder:

“Enough Stuff” is the very seasonally appropriate post-holiday lesson in the younger elementary class! What to do with all the excess stuff we have, and to reduce, reuse and recycle. The rest of this month the class explore different spiritual qualities as they are found in nature, such as “Creativity in Nature” and “Joy in Nature.”

**Grades 4-6 Harry & UU: A Social Justice Curriculum , Part 2**

The Harry Potter class focus is gender equality and the role of power in gender roles. Wow! Could this be more timely -as our young people wonder about #MeToo “hashtag: me too”? We'll discuss gender expectations and expressions. We'll also explore the depictions and roles of women in Christianity, and our own UU history of leadership and activism for gender equality.

FEBRUARY- OWL for Grades 4/5 is almost here! 6 Sunday sessions, **February 4th-March 11th**, with lunch at 11:30 am and class from noon-1:15 pm.



Parent conversations will be held during

class time to support parents as their children's primary religious and sexuality educators. Elementary OWL is grounded in the themes of **Respect, Relationship, and Responsibility**. We'll explore puberty, peers, pre-dating and dating, online and electronic use; masturbation, sexual orientations, and gender identities- all in age appropriate ways. You won't find these important discussions in most schools!

Please tell friends, especially parents of boys. We would like a better gender-balance. Parent orientations will be held on **January 14th** following service. All parents are *required* to attend one of these sessions.

January 5th Faith, Food and Fun Potluck, Adult RE Small Group Discussion, and Games Night

Come join your PBUUC friends as we regather after the holidays for a fun and social evening, with meaningful discussion and games for those who enjoy a lighter social activity. Please sign up to bring a dish or to help out with the dishes during and after the event. <http://bit.ly/PB-4Fs>

PBUUC News and Notes

Have you noticed our new thermostats?

PEPCO has installed new programmable thermostats throughout our buildings, to help us maintain comfortable temperatures when we are using the space, and not to heat or cool the spaces when we don't need to. In addition, there are now two thermostats in the Meeting House Sanctuary. This is because the thermostatic control of the two units serving the meeting house are now separated, and will function better. All these new thermostats are programmed so that on-site intervention will be needed less often. Our intention is to be both financially and environmentally responsible, and heat occupied spaces to 68° in the winter, and cool them to 76° in the summer. If you are someone who wants to know how to adjust the thermostats, please let us know! Training on the thermostats is available. Just ask Chuck or one of the Building Managers.

Paint Branch Events and Facebook and the Calendar

Are you on a committee or team that schedules meetings or events? We would like them to be on our master Church Calendar and on Facebook. This helps us in so many ways. It helps us to reduce conflicts in the use of our space. It helps our entire church community know what it going on. It helps to welcome and include others – members and non-members. And it helps the community at-large, outside the group of Paint Branch, know that we have things happening. So, help us out by posting your event in our Facebook Group. Identify one person on your team or committee to do this on a regular basis:

⇒ Go to PBUUC's Facebook Group Events listing:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/PBUUC/>

⇒ Click the blue “Create Events” link:

[+ Create Event](#)

⇒ Fill in the details (include a picture or graphic if you have one) then click the blue “Create” link to save.

[Create](#)

If you are Web-Challenged or nervous about trying this, contact Chuck or Rico in the church office for a little training. They can walk you through it in a few minutes. You can also ask them to share the event on the church's Facebook Page to broadcast it to people outside the PBUUC community. Try it this week! Post an event today!

To get on our Church Calendar, send an email to calendar@pbuuc.org with your event information, the time of the event and information about additional time you might need for set-up. If you don't see it on the calendar by the end of the week, send another note to the email address, in case it got missed somehow. Thanks!!



Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team

Still Time to Submit Personal Testimony to the UUA

The Board of Trustees of the UUA appointed a Commission on Institutional Change last Spring. The Commission is charged with long-term cultural and institutional change that redeems the essential promise and ideals of Unitarian Universalism. Its focus is an analysis of structural racism and white supremacy within the UUA.

The Commission wants to hear from all of us because oppression hurts everyone including those who appear to be its beneficiaries. Here are the personal testimony guidelines.

The Commission on Institutional Change requests personal accounts and stories about how racism has affected individuals and groups within Unitarian Universalism at the personal, institutional, or systemic levels. It is seeking to document incidents that occurred between individual Unitarian Universalists, within a congregational or Associational setting, or as a result of white-centeredness embedded within the greater Unitarian Universalist culture. Within this context, the Commission asks you to respond to the following questions with specific examples:

- ◆ In what ways have you or your group or community been hurt by current racist and culturally biased attitudes and practices within Unitarian Universalism?
- ◆ In what ways have we, as a faith community, been living outside of our values and commitments?

No information provided will be shared with attribution without the prior consent of the author.

How to Submit Your Testimony

Submissions—written, audio, or video format—in response to this set of questions will be accepted through **January 31, 2018**.

Audio Submissions: MP3 format is best.

Video Submissions: MP4 format is best.

Written Submissions: Please use this convenient form: [Word: http://bit.ly/UUAword](http://bit.ly/UUAword) or [PDF: http://bit.ly/UUAPDF](http://bit.ly/UUAPDF) which contains the questions listed above.

To submit your testimony, save the file to your computer, and then upload it via this secure link: [Submit Your Story: http://bit.ly/UUASubmit](http://bit.ly/UUASubmit)

Please direct any questions about this process to testimony@uua.org

Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team (DARTT) to Meet Tuesday, January 9 from 7 pm to 9 pm

The Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team (DARTT) was established as a Church Committee in 2007. DARTT works with the Minister, Board, Committees, and members to facilitate the church's 2011-stated goal of becoming an intentionally multicultural congregation. All are invited to all of our meetings—members, friends, and visitors. We have a special invitation to our next meeting on Tuesday, January 9, from 7 pm to 9 pm in Room 4, of the Religious Exploration Building. We will be preparing plans for a launch of our program year beginning in March. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. Our plans include movies, after-church sessions on interracial/inter-ethnic matters and sponsorship of workshops and panels with outside groups that will advance our agenda.

DARTT Recommends:

Jubilee Anti-Racism Training At All Souls Church Washington, DC January 12-14. Complete Scholarship Available

Jubilee Training teaches what is involved in nurturing a multicultural community and how to work against racism in all of its forms. Do you wish to deepen your understanding of how race and ethnicity play out in our institutions and our daily lives? The Workshop requires a weekend commitment. Former attendees say it is worth every minute.

WHEN: Friday, January 12 (6 pm - 10 pm); Saturday, January 13 (9 am - 9 pm); Sunday, January 14 (8:30 am - 5 pm).

WHERE: All Souls Church, Unitarian, 1500 Harvard St, NW, Washington, DC 20009.

FEE: \$160 per participant (includes cost for professional trainers, meals, and materials). You can register online by going to cer.uua.org, clicking on events and then clicking on Jubilee on January 12. You can also obtain more logistical and programmatic details about the Workshop. If you want to use the DARTT-offered scholarship, please contact Carol Carter Walker, co-Chair, DARTT.

SAC Special Collection Martin Luther King Sunday

The Unitarian Universalist Association has recommended that congregations take up collections to benefit the Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism effort. Therefore PBUUC's Social Action Committee Special Collection for January 2018 will be for Black Lives of UU (BLUU). Black Lives of UU provides information, resources and support for Black Unitarian Universalists and works to expand the role and visibility of Black UUs within our faith.



Social Action Committee

Thank you, Paint Branch!

Once again, Paint Branchers went out of their way to provide a merry Christmas to the children of Beacon House. Thank you on behalf of all the members of SAC. Following is a message from Kevin Hinton, CEO/Executive Director of Beacon House, who also said thank you:

Thanks to you and your congregations for all of the gifts and gift cards you have provided to our students this year. . . . Our students and staff were blown away by both the range of presents that your collective generosity made possible and the efforts made to make the holiday gift wishes of individual children come true. Katrina, the member of our team . . . , found herself on the brink of tears on more than one occasion as she observed all the presents. . . . On behalf of our entire staff, thank you for everything you have done to support our students this holiday season.

Next SAC Meeting: Saturday, January 20 at 10 am in Room 4 of the RE Building. Contact SAC@pbuuc.org

The Wider Unitarian Universalist Universe



Our Famous UU for January:



Olympia Brown (January 5, 1835-October 23, 1926) dedicated her life to opening doors for women. Among only a handful of women to graduate from college, she received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Antioch in 1860

and three years later became the first woman graduate of a regularly established theological school: St. Lawrence University. She was ordained a Universalist minister, the first woman to achieve full ministerial standing recognized by a denomination. As a young minister, she took an active role in the women's suffrage movement and was one of the few original suffragists who lived to vote in the 1920 presidential election.

In her later years she spent summers at her lakeside home in Racine and winters in Baltimore with her daughter Gwendolen, who taught Greek and Latin at the Bryn Mawr School there. She died in Baltimore at 91 and was buried beside her husband in Racine's Mound Cemetery.

At the time of her death, The Baltimore Sun captured the independence, fearlessness and passionate commitment to justice of the Reverend Olympia Brown by stating; "Perhaps no phase of her life better exemplified her vitality and intellectual independence than the mental discomfort she succeeded in arousing, between her eightieth and ninetieth birthdays, among the conservatively minded Baltimoreans."

(Bio from UU Dictionary of Biography uudb.org)

In and Around Paint Branch

Meet the Minister

Are you new to Paint Branch? Come meet with Rev. Rachel in her office during Enrichment Hour at 11:45 am on Sunday, January 14. Childcare will be provided. Questions? Ask Rev. Rachel or the Welcome Table Greeter. There's a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Table.

Roots and Branches of Unitarian Universalism Class

Are you new to UU? Would you like to know more about Paint Branch, Unitarian Universalism, UU history, and the meaning of the UU Principles? If your answer is YES, please join Jessica Sharp, Harry Schomberg, Rev. Rachel Christensen, and others on **Saturday, January 20, from 10 am to 1 pm in Room 4**. We'll have light refreshments. Day care can be provided if you let us know ahead of time. **Come join us for a lively morning discussion.** Please contact Jessica or Harry at rootsclass@pbuuc.org for more information or to sign up. There is also a sign up sheet on the Welcome Table in the Foyer.

New Exhibition in Meeting House Features

Paintings of Dennis R. Herschbach.

Our new exhibition in the Meeting House features the paintings of Dennis R. Herschbach. Dennis is a retired faculty member in the School of Education at University of Maryland in College Park, where he taught for more than 40 years. He is currently studying painting at UMD. A reception for the artist will be held Sunday, January 7 after the service. All are welcome.

Music at Paint Branch—February 4th

Elizabeth Field, violinist and Steven Silverman, pianist, will present the first recital of our series on Sunday, February 4, 2018 at 4 pm. The program will feature the composers Mozart, Mendelssohn and Beethoven. (Heads up: David Chapman will present a solo piano recital on Sunday February 25 at 4 pm.)

Thank You to the 2017 Poinsettia Team!

Ethelyn Bishop, Carol Boston, Chuck Bury), Marie Gore, Jeri Holloway, Kathy Kearns, Elizabeth Scheiman, Shantida Lori Snyder, Will Snyder Alice Tyler, Carol Carter Walker, and Joel Yesupriya. Thanks to these members of the Paint Branch UU Church Community, the Meeting House was decorated with poinsettias December 17 through December 31. They were responsible for accepting delivery, setting up, taking orders, daily tending, and responsible disposal of the remaining plants. Thank you also to those who purchased the plants to take home or left them to decorate the Church. Next year, we plan to improve the process by: offering plants twice: early in December and later in the month and having an order form which generates a receipt.

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.

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