



BRANCHES



PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

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

June 2016

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

JUNE 5 HOW DO YOU MEASURE A YEAR IN THE LIFE?

Dayna Edwards, Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration; with Rev. Evan Keely; Mike McMenamin, Worship Associate; and Special Music by the Children's Choir and UU4ix.

We will consider this important question from the musical RENT as we bring the year of Religious Exploration to a close.

Followed by Annual Congregational Meeting. See page 4 for additional information.

JUNE 12 CHOIR SUNDAY

PBUUC Choir led by David Chapman, Music Director and pianist; with Carol Carter Walker, Worship Associate
The Paint Branch Choir brings the message through music.

JUNE 19 AND LET THE EARTH REJOICE

The Rev. Evan Keely;
with Noel Monardes, Worship Associate
Joy and celebration are not only psychological states, they are spiritual practices.

JUNE 26 NIGHT OF POWER

The Rev. Evan Keely; with Will Snyder, Worship Associate; and Special Music by our horn trio.
The Islamic observance of Lailat al-Qadr has a message for all humankind.

Minister's Column

For the last four years I've been singing in a male quartet. We call ourselves **UU4ix**.

We hope that the visual aspect of the name invites curiosity, which in turn invites questions, dialogue and connection. Many times we've had conversations with others who've started with "How do you pronounce that?!" and from there gone on to connect through a shared love of music and singing. It's pronounced "you-euphorics" and it's a multi-layered play on words: we are all Unitarian Universalists (we and our families all participate in the UU Congregation of Fairfax, Virginia); with our music, we hope to bring euphoria, fun and joy, and to experience those things ourselves; there are, of course, four of us. (As for the "ix" - well, unconventional spellings seem to be hip nowadays.)

Singing with these wonderful guys — Rob Barnovsky, Mathew Taylor and Rob Creekmore — has been more than a hobby for me. Music has always been an integral part of my spiritual practices and my efforts to maintain physical and emotional well-being. We love the music — we sing spirituals, show tunes, rock, barbershop, folk music and who knows what else — but we also love the merging of minds and hearts that comes with doing something creative together.

My friends and I are excited to be providing the music for the PBUUC Sunday morning worship service on June 5 and to be giving a free concert at PBUUC on Saturday, June 18 at 7 pm as part of the Music at Paint Branch Series.

Evan — The Rev. Evan Keely, Interim Minister



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PBUUC Leadership Directory

Officers and Board of Trustees 2015-2016

email: BoardOfTrustees@pbuuc.org

Chair	Theresa Myrdon
Vice Chair	Liz Citrin
Vice Chair	Tess Morrison
Trustee	John Barr
Trustee	Mike McMenamin
Trustee	Marge Owens
Trustee	Ken Redd
Trustee	Carol Carter Walker
Secretary	Vacant
Treasurer	David Nation
Assistant Treasurer	Marilyn Pearl

Worship Associates

Carol Boston (2013-16)	Beth Charbonneau (2015-18)
Noel Monardes (2013-16)	Will Snyder (2015-18)
Van Summers (2014-17)	Sophie Bernheisel (youth WA)
Carol Carter Walker (2014-17)	

Pastoral Care Associates

Jeri Holloway
Lynn Johnson
Mike McMenamin
Will Snyder

We Care Coordinators

vacant

Chartered Committees & Task Forces

Arts Council	Pat Tompkins (Music)
Auction	Jane Trout (Visual Arts)
Budget Leadership Team	Marguerite & Van Summers
Buildings & Grounds	Kathi Yu
Capital Campaign	Lowell Owens
DARTT (co-chairs)	Peter Wathen-Dunn
	Carol Carter Walker
	Emma Sue Gaines-Gerson
Denominational Affairs	Don Gerson
Electronic Communications	contact church office
Finance	Patty Daukantas
Green Team	Erin Gebhart & Kathy Bartolomeo
Leasing (contact)	Church Office
Legacy Fund	Ken Montville
Membership	Anita Williams
Ministry	[contact Transition Team]
Nominating	Sabrina Jones (acting Chair)
Personnel	Jim Flaherty
Religious Exploration	Patricia Most
Site Improvement	Peter Wathen-Dunn
Social Action	Nancy Boardman
Stewardship	Chris Evans
Transition Team	Transition@pbuuc.org

Groups and Activities

Bookstore	Carol Carter Walker
Bridge Group	Penny O'Brien
Chalice Dancers	Wendy Schlegel
Choir	David Chapman
Coffee Coordinator	Liz Citrin
Community Café	Alice Tyler
Food for Thought	Mary Tyrtle Rooker
Handcraft Circle	Ebeth Porter
Facebook Group	Ken Montville
Marriage Enrichment	Don Fairfield
Mediation Program	David Haberman
Meditation Group	Cory Carter
Men's Group	Mike Stark
Moms of Young Ones	Jessica Sharp
Mystery Book Club	Kathy Kearns
Nature Spirituality Circle	Katherine Earle
Quest Discussion Group	Lowell Owens
Paint Branch Community Learning Center	Carmelita Carter-Sykes
Poetry Out Loud	Shantida
Shamanic Journeying	Mary Tyrtle Rooker
Simplicity Circle	Raman Pathik
Spirituality Circle	Amy Steiner
TWedHUULK	Elaine Shell
Ushers	Esther Nichols
Warm Nights	Evangeline Wells & Tess Morrison
Webmaster	Mark Shute
Welcome Table Greeters	Pat Behenna
Widowed Persons Support Group	Jeri Holloway
Women's Group	Wendy Schlegel

☞ Minister ☞.

The Rev. Evan Keely

🌀 Staff 🌀

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

<u>Music Director & Pianist</u>	David Chapman
<u>Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration</u>	Dayna Edwards
Director, Chalice Dancers	Sharon Werth
<u>Church Administrator</u>	Charles Bury
<u>Administrative Assistant</u>	Aisha White
<u>Bookkeeper</u>	Roy Friday, CPA
Sunday Service/Building Managers:	Romeo Ndonfak

Child Care Providers:

Office Volunteers

Elizabeth Scheiman (Tues), Will Snyder (Wed),
Alice Tyler (Thur), Janet Overton (Fri)

Board of Trustees Column

The Board elected John Barr to be co-chair with Theresa Myrdon for the rest of our fiscal year since Theresa needs to leave for Australia early in June. Liz Citrin and Tess Morrison will continue to act as co-vice chairs for the remainder of the fiscal year. Now that the weather has warmed up, movement is beginning on initial plans for the parking lot, stairs to the outdoor classroom and a new outer door to the RE/office building.

The Board approved three purchases through the Legacy Fund: a new kiosk (similar to the name tag kiosk) for pamphlets rather than having them on the tables. This will make life easier for those renting our facility for weddings, etc. to not have to remove and then try to replace them. Also approved was the purchase for an electronic screen to be placed in the lobby for announcements, etc. The third item approved was for a storage unit for the CLC's materials.

Of course, one of the Board's priorities during May was to draft a slate for the Ministerial Search Committee, which we have done (and it's a great one, thanks to all who applied!). The Congregation will see the slate in the mailing for the Annual Meeting, and will vote on the slate (among other votes) at the June 5th meeting.

Respectfully,

Liz Citrin & Tess Morrison,
Board Vice Chairs

June Board Meetings:

Thursday, June 9, 8 pm

Executive Committee (via Conference Call)

Saturday, June 18, 11 pm

Read-Aheads due to Board

(email: BoardOfTrustees@pbuuc.org)

Tuesday, June 21, 7 pm

Board of Trustees Meeting (Room 4)

End of Fiscal Year Reminder

This past March the Stewardship Committee asked us all to make pledges for the upcoming fiscal year 2016/2017. If you did so, thank you very much. This is your reminder that the current fiscal year, 2015/2016, ends on June 30, and the new one, 2016/2017 begins July 1. If you have not yet finished paying all of your 15/16 pledge, wish to do so, and ensure that it is accurately credited, try to pay it during June and indicate on the memo line of your check that it is for FY 15/16.

If you wish to pay ahead on your new fiscal year 16/17 pledge during June, but ensure that it is credited to you in the new FY and not being spent during the current FY, please indicate on the memo line that it is for FY 16/17. Note that fiscal years fall across two different calendar years and both must be listed for accuracy. If your memo line says only FY 2016, we have no way to know which one you mean. While pledge payments for multiple months can almost always be combined on the same check, please refrain from combining June and July, months which fall in two different fiscal years.

For those who pay their pledges monthly or weekly, putting the month you want each check credited to on the memo line, is sufficient (i.e., June 2016 or July 2016).

Confused? If you have any questions about this ask Treasurer, David Nation dave@davenation.com, or Asst. Treasurer, Marilyn Pearl buffalo_gal@verizon.net. Thank you for supporting Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church.

Transition Team

WHAT DO WE VALUE?

If you haven't yet participated in a Compelling Conversation to help our congregation determine what we value, please sign up in the lobby for an afternoon discussion on Saturday, June 11 from 2 pm to 4 pm. If this date doesn't work for you, you will find an alternate sign up sheet that will allow you to name a better time for you. Or you can contact Rev. Evan Keely (703-864-5551, minister@pbuuc.org) or Tricia Most at 301-452-1366, patricia_most@msn.com to let us know how we can make it possible for you to participate.

Consider lending your voice to topics such as our Intentional Multiculturalism, our Multigenerationalism, or how our living faith tradition inspires, encourages, and grows us in strength and spirit. Consider what you think we do that will be appealing to our future members, a new settled minister, and a new Director of Religious Education? Please offer your contributions to questions such as: *What are we doing now that we must continue to do as a lived expression of our faith? What challenges do we face now that we can successfully address and how? What are you, personally, willing to do to affirm and promote the purpose of Unitarian Universalism?* Considering these questions together will help us define who we are and who we hope to be. Please be a part of the conversation!

Religious Exploration

As I write this, I feel a strange yet familiar mix of emotions that comes with transitions. This is the last Branches article I will write to you as the Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration at PBUUC. I am so happy, grateful, humbled to have worked at PBUUC for three full years. I am sad and nostalgic to leave this community where I have felt so connected.

I keep remembering the first time I dropped my oldest off to pre-school. I was so proud of the little person she had become and I knew that her teachers were caring, thoughtful people who would take good care of her. Yet, that didn't stop me from crying all the way home, wishing she was still snuggled in my arms, remembering all the things I should have told her teacher but had forgotten. Of course the congregation is not a group of children, however transitions that are necessary for growth have a way of sticking in your head.

Much like my relationship with my oldest child in those first few years, I have a sense that PBUUC and I have grown together and learned from each other. Together we experienced the difficulty of unexpected changes and we have become stronger. As I have learned more about what faith formation could look like in the 21st century, implementation of these ideas at PBUUC has only been possible with the support, help, and leadership of the Multigenerational Religious Exploration Team (MRE Team), the worship staff, and the many capable lay-leaders in the congregation. As a result of our collective hard work and willingness to try new things, the children and youth program is growing, which means the congregation is growing!

I am grateful to be leaving the program in good hands. The MRE Team is strong and capable. The DMRE search committee is diligently working to find a qualified and enthusiastic candidate. Our Interim Minister, Evan Keeley, has many years of experience in leading a search for a DMRE. Over the summer, we are in the process of hiring a temporary employee to teach RE to children ages 4 - 10. That means, we need only two volunteers for every Sunday over the summer – one for the nursery and one to assist in the RE classroom. Please continue to support our thriving program by devoting a few hours to our children this summer.

On Sunday, June 5, I will say goodbye to the congregation. We (you the congregation and me the DMRE) are ready for this transition but that doesn't mean we can't have all the feelings as we live through the transition. Let's experience all the feelings and part knowing we are stronger because of each other.

Yours in Faith,

Dayna,

Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration

Green Team

THE PBUUC GREEN TEAM BRINGS YOU A

Workshop / mini-retreat on **Active Hope**: *How to survive the mess we're in without going crazy.* Based upon the wisdom of Joanna Macy (author of Active Hope, and Coming Back to Life), this workshop will offer help in navigating the sometimes overwhelming change and devastation of our current era, what Joanna calls "the Great Unraveling." As we experience and acknowledge the losses to biodiversity and severe changes in seasonal rhythms, there is tremendous OPPORTUNITY FOR HOPE in our efforts to promote an alternative future - "the Great Turning" - toward sustainable, equitable, and life-enhancing ways of living. We CAN find resilience and resources to sustain us during these times. Even if you've discussed this subject before, you'll love this workshop! And people new to the subject are welcome also, of course.

Leader: Kolya Braun-Greiner had training under Joanna Macy herself. Kolya is an experienced group facilitator, teacher, and trainer. She has engaged in and promoted non-violent social change and advocacy for Native American land rights, nuclear disarmament, farm-workers, climate justice, and now watershed stewardship with Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake.

Sunday, June 12, 1 pm—5 pm

Light lunch (12:45 pm)

In the Kelley Room

NO CHARGE

To register: contact marjory.donn@verizon.net or any member of the Green Team with a clipboard during the Social Hour after church.

Annual Congregational Meeting

SUNDAY, JUNE 5 AT NOON

All are welcome. Only members may vote. The major items on the Agenda will be:

- Approval of the Ministerial Search Committee slate.
- Discussion of the proposed 2016-2017 annual budget.
- Election of Board, Nominating Committee, and Legacy Fund members.
- Vote On Placement Of Black Lives Matter banner On Church Property.

Members have received a formal notice in the mail. If you are unable to attend, but wish to vote, you may do so by Proxy. You may pick up a Proxy Form from the Church Office Thursday and Friday from 9 am to 4 pm, or in the Meeting House Foyer on June 5. You must sign the Form and give it to your designated Proxy before the Meeting. Members may execute only one proxy.

A light lunch will be served shortly after the Sunday Service ends. Childcare will be provided.



Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team

Guest column By Van Summers, excerpted from his May 8 Chalice Reflection on American Patriotism, Exceptionalism, and the UU First Principle, topic commissioned by 2015 Auction winner Carol Carter Walker.

In the last few years Marguerite and I have started doing some travel outside of the U.S. Nothing all that impressive, but we've started.

On a recent trip, we joined a group of about 30 other U.S. travelers on a tour of Italy. That's when I learned there were Americans who couldn't understand wanting to ever leave the U.S., ever, even briefly. When we met the group, it turned out only four or five of us were men and about 25 were women, many of them married women whose husbands were not along. Several of these women told us that their husbands had no interest in seeing the world outside of the U.S. Two of them said their husbands much preferred staying home and going hunting.

The history of America that I was taught as a child was certainly one of American exceptionalism, beginning with our founding documents claim about the self-evidence that all men were created equal. Never mind that the documents were written by slave owners and that "all men" referred to white males who owned land. Another part of the exceptionalism I was taught related to our destiny as a country and our special role in God's plan. That story of our manifest destiny did not include all of the dark details of how that came to be.

A verse from the 1980's song "The Last Resort" by The Eagles sums this up pretty well I think, the lines say that:

*"We satisfy our endless needs
And justify our bloody deeds
In the name of destiny
And in the name of God"*

I'm not denying my great good fortune in being born American. But that's easy for me to say because my good fortune was not just in being born American, but having had the foresight to be born into all of the favored groups, I'm white, I'm male, I'm heterosexual, and the life situation I was born into made it very likely that I would get an education. It's easy for me to view America as exceptional given how it has treated me. But any ability on my part to consider the experience of others immediately calls this thinking into question.

In this presidential election year we have a candidate whose theme is "Make America Great Again" and one who replies that America has never stopped being great. An argument, it seems, about American Exceptionalism. Is America exceptional? Did it used to be? I think where you stand on this question depends on where you sit.

Perhaps America is exceptional in how thoroughly convinced it seems to be that it is exceptional.

Next Paint Branch ADORE (A Dialogue On Race and Ethnicity) Session Tuesday, June 14 from 7 pm to 9 pm

The next ADORE session will focus on identifying and overcoming barriers to deeper interactions with others—within and outside of the Paint Branch community. It will be held Tuesday, June 14 from 7 pm to 9 pm in the Kelley Room. Watch upcoming Bulletin/Continuum announcements for more details. All members and friends of the community are welcome.

DARTT Recommends:

Black Lives Of Unitarian Universalists (BLUU) To Host Online Forum On "A National Conversation On Race," a 2016 Proposed Congregational Study/Action Issue On The General Assembly Agenda

BLUU is hosting an explicitly Black online forum on Monday, June 6 at 9:00pm EDT discuss the 2016 Proposed Congregational Study/Action Issue (CSAI): "A National Conversation on Race. (GA) All Black UUs are invited to participate in this forum moderated by BLUU Lead Organizer Kenny Wiley and CSAI author Debra Greenwood.

This is the link to the Proposed CSAI: <http://goo.gl/2zQMik>

VISIT BLACKLIVESUU.COM/CSAI-2016/ FOR FULL DETAILS.

Hear/Here, Art Exhibition In Historic Anacostia, Washington, DC, June 3 to July 16.

Omolar Williams McCallister is an Atlanta-bred artist, cultural organizer, and educator now living and working in Washington DC. She is also a leader of Black Lives Matter-DC. Some of us have been led by her during two of the 2015-2016 UU Racial & Social Justice Summits. Her work will be part of *Hear/Here*, an exhibition by four young artists who have joined activism with their artistic practices.

Hear/Here will be at the Honfluer Gallery from June 7 to July 16. The Gallery is supported by a nonprofit dedicated to the revitalization of Historic Anacostia. It is at 1241 Good Hope Road, SE, Washington DC 20020. (202) -631-6291 or arts@archdc.org. Omolar will lead a Workshop, *Claim Your 'Hood*, June 52 from 6 to 8 pm. If you're interested in a field trip, contact dartt@pbuuc.org

Year End Celebration For Racial Justice Warriors & Workers, Friday, June 9 from 7 to 9 pm at Cedar Lane UU Church.

All racial justice warriors and workers are invited to a year-end celebration and potluck to be fueled and inspired for the next steps on the journey. It's Thursday, June 9 from 7 to 9 pm at Cedar Lane UU Church, 9601 Cedar Lane, Bethesda, MD.

Social Action Committee (SAC) News

HABITAT Volunteer Day

ATTENTION: The Habitat for Humanity Rally at PBUUC in Support of Black Lives Matter, Scheduled for June 25, Has Been CANCELLED. Please note that the event, billed as a combined volunteer day and rally, to be hosted by SAC, Membership, and DARTT, has been cancelled. An issue developed with regard to the point at which Black Lives Matter representatives were asked to become engaged in planning the event. Ultimately, it was decided the issue could not be resolved within the time frame available, so the event was cancelled.

Habitat will, however, move forward with an Interfaith Build on June 25th at the build site, 6014 67th Place Riverdale, Maryland, from 8:30 am until 1 pm. This will be followed by an Interfaith Forum at the build site from 1:30 pm until 3 pm. For more information or to get involved, contact Todd Gray, Faith Relations Manager, at 301-990-0014 ext 32 or Todd.Gray@HabitatMM.org.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS NEWS:

On Sunday June 5th, a special collection will be taken for the Fahs Collaborative. A project of Meadville Lombard Theological School, the Fahs Collaborative offers resources to support multigenerational worship through its "Fahs Sunday" program and in return for creating these innovative resources, asks for congregations to "share the plate." The proceeds go toward developing new resources and supporting innovative practices in faith formation. For more information, or to make an online donation, visit www.thefahscollaborative.com

While no Sunday Special Collection was done in April, the MRE Seder held on April 30 collected \$130 that was donated to the refugee resettlement charity HIAS.org.

Fall Special Collections

The Social Action Committee will be choosing recipients for the special collections for September, October and November 2016 at its' next meeting on June 18, 2016 at 10am. If you have a cause you'd like SAC to consider come out to the meeting which will be in room 4 to make your case, or email Nancy Boardman at SAC@pbuuc.org

Social Action Committee (SAC) Meeting Schedule:

Final SAC monthly meeting for the church year. Held in Room 4 of the RE Building at 10 am.

❖ Saturday Morning, June 18, 2015



The Wider Unitarian Universalist Universe

NPR Interfaith Voices Live Radio Event to include UUA President Candidate

Friday, June 3rd - Noon - 2:30 pm

@ The Hub Ballroom at George Mason University
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
FREE and Open to the Public
Free Food, Musical Guests ...

Hosted by Maureen Fiedler; guests include Father Gerry Creedon; Reverend Alison Miller; Dr. Maria Dakake; Emma Green, a writer for The Atlantic Monthly

Hosted by the George Mason Campus Ministry Association and the Unitarian Universalists of Northern Virginia

Is Religion a Problem or a Solution?

Join Maureen Fiedler of NPR's Interfaith Voices Radio as she records her program at George Mason University. Beginning with the question, "Is Religion a Problem or a Solution in your Life?" - Maureen hopes to engage college age people as to why fewer of them claim no affiliation with traditional religious institutions.

Guests will include Father Gerry Creedon, former head of Catholic Charities and a leader in VOICE; Dr Maria Dakake, a Muslim and head of GMU's Religious Studies Department; Emma Green, a young Jewish writer for the Atlantic; **and Rev Alison Miller, candidate to be the next president of the Unitarian Universalist Association.**

There is also a Free Lunch, musical guests, and more! Bring your family and friends so we can have a good audience for this event.

CUUPS Convocation 2016

Join UU Pagans from across the country this August 26-28 in Salem, MA for the first CUUPS Convocation in a decade!



Titled "Awakening Our Tribe," there will be ritual and music and special guest speakers Shirley Ranck, John Beckett, Byron Ballard, CUUPS President Amy Beltaine, and Gypsy Ravish. Organizers are working hard with local businesses to provide special deals for convocation-goers. For more information and to catch the early bird special, register at <http://couup.roundtablelive.org/event-285450>.

In and Around Paint Branch

Membership Committee selects new Chairperson

Anita Williams, the newest member of PBUUC (she signed the book May 22!) has agreed to become the new Chair of the Membership Committee. In the brief time Anita has been attending PBUUC, she has become an indispensable asset to our community. She has served on the Stewardship, Auction, and Membership Committees, has volunteered with Ethnic Dinners, sings in the Choir, works as a Greeter, and much more. Her organizational skills and cheerful personality will serve all of us well as she takes on this latest role. Welcome, Anita, and thank you. (Janet Overton will be moving from Membership to chair SAC.)



TWedHUULk

Mark your calendar for June 15! TWedHUULk this month will be at Chevy's, a TexMex restaurant in Greenbelt. This place is pretty large with easy parking. Because we're typically later than the routine lunch-goers, I'm hoping we will avoid any issues with noise.

Chevy's is at 7511 Greenbelt Rd, in the Greenway Shopping Center just east of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway.

If you come south on the Parkway, turn right at the light on Greenbelt Rd., make a right onto Greenbelt Rd and then a left at the next light into the shopping center. Chevy's is to the right of the entrance lane into the shopping center, so make a hairpin turn to the right at the stop sign.

Coming north on the Parkway, and coming west on Greenbelt Rd, the restaurant is on your right just inside the shopping center as above.

If you need a ride, please let me know. Everyone is welcome. Come and enjoy conversation with other PBUUC people!

Elaine Shell 745-776-4271 (h), 301-602-0590 (c)

Pollinator Study Returns to PBUUC

Paint Branch will again be participating as a survey site in a University of Maryland study of local pollinating insect species. Once or twice a month you may spot a volunteer sitting near some of our plantings in the church parking lot with a clipboard. The statistics they collect will help researchers understand the importance of native pollinator species in the face of dwindling commercial bee populations.



ALOHA! LUAU ANYONE?

In July 2005 the Ethnic Dinner committee selected Hawaii as a theme and prepared an authentic luau. It may have lacked the Imu pit, coconut palms, surfboards, and a Pacific sunset, but it was one of the most elaborate, fun, family-friendly dinners ever, and debunked the myth that nothing happens at Paint Branch in the summer. Ethnic Dinners are over with, but we still enjoy coming together and tasting food we rarely prepare at home, so there's no reason to stop doing that. Raising some additional funds in the process is also a plus. All good reasons for another luau this summer!

That first one featured many things which rarely occurred at other Ethnic Dinners. We started earlier in the day so families with young kids could attend, provided some alternate food for kids, and played the video "Lilo & Stich" for them in another room. Girls in grass skirts stood along the deck greeting all comers with an "Aloha" and flower lei. All the buffet tables had grass skirt trims and banana leaf mats. All attendees wore Hawaiian shirts or similar attire, and a flower-bordered name tag was made for each person with their first name in Hawaiian. The bar featured a variety of tropical libations, some with little umbrellas. Former member Kathleen Davis taught hula dancing to the Chalice Dancers. After performing for us, they invited others to join them up front and learn a simple hula. About 40 people did so! We had many other decorations to lend tropical notes to the event, and I still have most of those stored at home. The cuisine, as usual was as authentic as possible, including Pupu platters, the Imu Kalua Pig prepared by a native Hawaiian, lots of fresh pineapple, and poi for whoever dared to try it. Since then, I spent 2 weeks in Hawaii this past December and came home with new ideas, recipes, a lot of macadamia nuts and some real Kona coffee.

Having done it once and still having all these ideas and recipes will make it easier to do again, either just the same or different. I can provide all the notes, recipes, and decorations from that 2005 dinner to be used again or not, plus a few new ones. I don't want to be in charge, so hope others can take the lead on such things as plans for the kids, hula dancing if we include it, name tags if we want them, menu planning, publicity, decorations, etc. If different teams take charge of different parts, there'll be minimum work for everyone.

I'm presently on another grand-kid trip, but will return June 6. We have determined a date, Saturday, August 20. Now, we need to start hearing from volunteers and begin planning. In the meantime, send along any thoughts, ideas, or volunteer to help, and I'll get back to you when I return. Mahalo!

Marilyn Pearl 301-805-1218, buffalo_gal@verizon.net.

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.
- **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.

PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
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