

# BRANCHES



# PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

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

# August 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

#### **AUGUST 7**

#### **CLEANSING AND WORSHIP**

Sarah Shannon-Firestone, Worship Leader, with Noel Monardes, Worship Associate Many religions discuss the importance of cleaning our physical space in order to prepare ourselves spiritually for a new start. We have been working hard to prepare ourselves mentally and emotionally for this fresh start. Let's prepare our physical space as well. Leading up to August 7th, we will have poster boards with a variety of activities on them displayed in the Foyer. Please sign up for an activity because many hands make light work.

#### AUGUST 14

### FROM OPENING TO ENDGAME

The Reverend Evan Keely, Interim Minister, with Van Summers, Worship Associate Chess can teach us a great deal about how to live.

#### AUGUST 21

## Send Me!

The Reverend Evan Keely, Interim Minister, with Carol Carter Walker, Worship Associate When we feel a sense of calling, the only way to be true to ourselves is to say yes.

#### **AUGUST 28**

## THE SENSE OF WONDER FLOWING \*

The Reverend Evan Keely, Interim Minister;

with Beth Charbonneau, Worship Associate; and the Chalice Dancers. Learning is hard work, and it goes on throughout life. That's also cause for celebration. \*\*\*This is an All Ages Celebration; children and youth are invited to remain in the Meetinghouse for the entire service. Nursery Care for the youngest is provided in Room 5.\*\*\*

#### SEPTEMBER 4

## BREAD AND ROSES

The Reverend Evan Keely, Interim Minister, with Will Snyder, Worship Associate One of the great advances of modern civilization is a shift in attitudes toward labor, seeing it more and more as imbued with dignity. But there is still more work to be done to give labor its due.

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Music Director & Pianist

Director, Chalice Dancers

Administrative Assistant

Sunday Service/Building Managers:

**Church Administrator** 

Child Care Providers:

**Bookkeeper** 

Denominational Affairs Electronic Communications Finance Green Team Leasing (contact) Legacy Fund Membership Ministry Nominating Personnel Religious Exploration Site Improvement Social Action Stewardship Pat Tompkins (Music) Jane Trout (Visual Arts) Marguerite & Van Summers Kathi Yu Lowell Owens Peter Wathen-Dunn Carol Carter Walker Emma Sue Gaines-Gerson Don Gerson **contact church office** Patty Daukantas Erin Gebhart & Kathy Bartolomeo **Church Office** Ken Montville Anita Williams [contact <u>Ministerial Search Cmte]</u> Sabrina Jones (acting Chair) Jim Flaherty Patricia Most Peter Wathen-Dunn Nancy Boardman Chris Evans

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

Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration Carla Miller

David Chapman

Sharon Werth

Roy Friday, CPA

Wyatt Rexach

Quentin West

Beth Judy

Jazmin Balbuena

Joy Washington

Charles Bury

Aisha White

## **Board of Trustees Column**

This month was the first official Board meeting with our new Trustees (Carmelita Carter-Sykes, Sonny Katz, Muriel Morisey and Elaine Shell) as well as our new Secretary, Erin Gebhart. All were welcomed and the Board members received their binders containing pertinent documents for Board members.. David Nation, Treasurer, gave a quick lesson in reading Financial Statements and took questions. Financially speaking, the church ended our Fiscal Year (June 30) \$4,648.85 in the red.

Jan Montville, the Ministerial Search Committee liaison to the Board went over steps needed to be taken by the Board in the next few months as part of their preparations for our search and calling for a settled minister next summer. The Search Committee had three requests of the Board/Congregation: 1) Update the Website so that potential candidates will have a positive, current picture of Paint Branch UUC, 2) Spiff up the premises inside and out. You never know when a local potential candidate may want to just drive by. 3) Improve our signage on Powder Mill Rd. We expect that the Congregation will be fully engaged and enthusiastic, as is the Board, to enhance our attractiveness to ministerial candidates!

The Board voted on a governing structure for this year consisting of two Board Co-Chairs and one Vice Chair. John Barr and Liz Citrin will be co-Chairs and Carmelita Carter-Sykes will be the Vice Chair. The Board will continue to meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 7pm in room 4 of the RE building. The Executive Committee (composed of the Chairs, Vice Chair and Minister) will set the agenda the first week of the month. The annual Board Retreat will be September 10.

BAG reported that we are working on the permit for the stairs from the deck to the outdoor classroom and hope to have that completed by September. The outer door for the RE building is being requested, the parking lot lights now work and detailed engineering plans for the parking lot pavement project are in progress.

The Board (in the person of Muriel Morisey, our Hope Christian Academy liaison) is finalizing arrangements for the summer lease.

Respectfully,

August Board Meetings:

#### Tess Morrison, Board of Trustees

Thursday, August 11, 8 pm Executive Committee (via Conference Call) Saturday, August 13, 11 pm Read-Aheads due to Board (email: BoardOfTrustees@pbuuc.org) Tuesday, August 16, 7 pm Board of Trustees Meeting (Room 4)



## The Wider Unitarian Universalist Universe

#### UUJEC Survey Respondents Indicate Tax Reform as Priority Issue for Social Change. UUJEC Board plans to support Survey Requests



In an April 2016 survey of largely Unitarian Universalists (UU) conducted by Unitarian Universalists for a Just Economic community (UUJEC), over 60% of respondents named progressive tax reform as their top priority issue to work on for social justice. This made progressive tax change the most cited area where respondent were interested in working for change. The second most cited issue was Money in Politics as 45% of respondent cited it as one of their priorities.

The survey was conducted by UUJEC in April with over 250 subscribers and a 25% response rate. Over 80% of respondents belonged to a UU congregation.

In responding to questions about UUJEC, respondents appreciated the focus UUJEC had on economic issues, its organization of conferences, the UUJEC web site and newsletter as well as presence at the GA. Respondents also requested UUJEC to organize more local conferences and make more materials available for congregations to use for education and training on economic issues. Organizing more "hands on" activism was a key request.

Respondents mentioned many areas where they are already active. Raising the minimum wage, supporting efforts to reduce money in politics and fighting against homelessness and racism were the most frequently cited. To help these efforts, respondents asked for more communication between congregations, sharing of successes, best practices and leading more action.

In response to these requests, the board of UUJEC developed a plan for the coming year. The highpoint of the plan is a spring 2017 Conference in Washington, DC where participants will learn about tax issues, exchange best practices and be able to meet with lawmakers to discuss progressive solutions. The board also proposed several task forces: one on taxation, one on corporate power and one for further work on the escalating inequality CSAI. Please go to our Web site if you are interested in joining us in Washington and /or working on a task force. The UUJEC board also committed to communicate more frequently with members and set up a web where it will be easier to communicate between congregations. [Michael Teasdale, Co-Chair UUJECreprinted from UUJEC Summer Newsletter 2016 newsletter@uujec.com

## **Religious Exploration**

#### From the incoming DMRE, A Note of Introduction

Dear friends,

Many of you already know me, Carla Miller, as a previous member and DRE at Paint Branch. I am delighted to say that, through some surprising synchronicity of this UU universe, I will be returning to your wonderful community to serve as your Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration! For six of these past years, I served as the Director of Lifespan Religious Education at the UU Congregation of Columbia, MD. These have been years of great personal and professional growth, but I found myself in great need of a break, and chose to extend my world beyond UU congregations for a breather.

This 2015-2016 school year I have been teaching in a Head Start program in Baltimore City, my own personal "gap year!" It has broadened my understanding of our culture, and proved to be a valuable time of discernment.

I return to RE with a renewed passion for this unique and precious role. As I began my search for a new position in Religious Exploration, I learned of the opening at Paint Branch! And so my journey brings me full circle, to a place I already hold dear.

Much joy and sadness has happened in my life in this time, changing personally and professionally, with what I like to think is a deepening of self, skills, and faith identity. Paint Branch has also experienced joys and deep sorrows, changes and challenges. Your remarkable resilience, commitment and sense of vibrant community truly seems to have grown as well. Along the way, newcomers, especially new young families, have entered have joined your multigenerational religious exploration ministry.

I can hardly wait to get to know you all as you are now! I am eager to work and play together in Paint Branch's Multigenerational Religious Exploration Ministry, building on the great work done here at PBUUC by each of your recent DMRE's. I am moved and energized as I begin (again) as the Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration at PBUUC!

> - in community, Carla Miller dmre@pbuuc.org

**RE ANNOUNCEMENTS:** 

**Summer Registration for Religious Exploration** classes is now available online at, http://tinyurl.com/pbuucreg. Please register now- so that we can better prepare for September. Classes begin on September 11, the Sunday following Labor Day.

**Come join our teaching team in Religious Exploration!** We still have openings for RE volunteers, primarily as assistants, for the upcoming church-school year. Both youth and adults are encouraged to volunteer, and even once a month is a great help. Volunteering in RE is a growth experience for you, too, as you expand your connections in our multigenerational community, and grow your UU faith. Speak to Carla Miller, DMRE; <u>dmre@pbuuc.org</u>, 301-937-3666. We warmly welcome your participation!

**Teacher Orientation** for all Children's and Youth Religious Exploration volunteers will be held on Sunday, August 28, following service. All teachers and assistants should attend, whether this is your first year or your tenth. This opportunity to prepare and plan with your teaching team is essential to a great year!

## Social Action Committee (SAC) News



#### **PBCLC Call for Teachers**

We will be starting up our award winning Community Learning Center again this fall. Please consider teaching English clas-

ses in our Community Learning Center. In this way you can help our immigrant neighbors improve their lives as they improve their English. People who have done it can tell you it is personally rewarding, a way to serve our church, and a great way to implement our UU principles in our own neighborhood. **Training is Saturday, September 10, 2016.** 

Sign up in the Foyer after Sunday services. Contact: Carmelita Carter–Sykes <u>cartercarmelita@aol.com</u> or 202-236 8783.

#### SPECIAL COLLECTIONS NEWS:

July 31 Special Collection for Capital Pride Alliance CAPITAL PRIDE ALLIANCE provides support, education, outreach and advocacy for lesbian,



gay, bisexual, transgender, queer (LGBTQ) individuals and their allies, through programs, services, celebrations and resources. Even though LGBTQ Americans have made a great deal of progress on many fronts, other areas lag behind. For example, same-sex couples now have many legal benefits afforded by marriage, but there are still states where LGBTQ citizens could face discrimination at work, home, school, and elsewhere.

#### August Special Collection?

If you know of an organization that could be a recipient of a PBUUC special collection in August, please contact the SAC Special Collections Coordinator, Carmelita Carter-Sykes, at <u>cartercarmelita@aol.com</u> or 202-236-8783.

## Ministerial Search Committee

#### Greetings, from the Ministerial Search Committee!

It's only been a few weeks since our initial meeting, but we are already working hard in the search for our new settled minister. You may not have noticed it just yet, but there is a flurry of behind-the-scenes activity underway. Here's the thing - we're not interested in having this process happen "behind the scenes." When we are a little further along in our timeline, and we start getting into the "who," the "where," and the "when" of pre-candidating, then yes, that will all need to be confidential. But until then, we want to remain as transparent as possible. If you have a question about what we're doing, why we're doing it, or what we'll be working on next... just ask. We will be happy to answer any of your questions to the best of our abilities.

The detailed, step-by-step checklist, which will help guide us through this process (along with all the other information included in the Resource Guide For Ministerial Search Committees), can be found on the UUA website http://www.uua.org/careers/ministers/ transitions/150364.shtml . All are welcome to view these

materials and we encourage you to do so.

We've already been able to check a few items off the list, the first few of which were completed by the Board of Trustees and culminated in the election of the MSC at the Annual Meeting this past June. Since then, the MSC has had our initial meeting with our Ministerial Search Representative (MSR) to review the aforementioned checklist. We've also held our two-day retreat, which was facilitated by our MSR. During the retreat, we shared a meal (or three) together, discussed our next steps, and chose the primary roles each of us will serve going forward. It was a productive couple of days and really served to get us off on the right foot.

The MSC members and their corresponding roles are listed here:

Jan Montville	Chair		
Ebeth Porter	Secretary		
Eric Most	Treasurer		
Janet Overton	Packet Editor		
James Alexander	Survey Coordinator		
Kathi Yu	Arranger		
Jeanne Judd	Reference Checker		

A basic outline of our next major steps, up through November of 2016, is as follows:

 Gather information from the congregation through surveys, interviews, group meetings, etc. and analyze the results.

- Work together with the Board of Trustees to prepare a compensation packet and draft a ministerial agreement.
- Schedule neutral pulpit arrangements with nearby congregations. The MSC will visit these pulpits in late winter so that we will have the opportunity to observe prospective ministerial candidates in action.
- Hold "Beyond Categorical Thinking" congregational workshop.
- Prepare a Congregational Record, which will provide prospective ministers with an overview of who we are and what we're looking for in a minister, in a very condensed format.
- Prepare a Ministerial Packet, which is essentially a bigger and better Congregational Record. The Ministerial Packet is extensive and will provide a more indepth look at our church. It will include the analyzed results of all the information we gathered from the congregation, and the draft ministerial agreement with compensation packet. It will also include our church history, pictures of our grounds, activities, members, and friends, and much more.
- Complete the online Application for Minister and submit the associated documents (Congregational Record and Ministerial Packet) to the UUA.

Once all of those tasks are completed, the MSC can move on to the "Open for Business" phase of the search process, starting in January of 2017. This phase will include making initial contact with interested ministers, which would then be followed up by interviews and precandidating. Once we've found the right fit, we'll invite one candidate out to spend the week with us here at Paint Branch. If he or she agrees, then this person will preach twice – for two consecutive Sundays – and make him or herself available throughout the week for discussions. Immediately following the second service, we will hold a congregational meeting to vote on his/her candidacy. We'll provide a more detailed timeline as we get closer to this phase of the search.

The MSC is excited to have the opportunity to find Paint Branch's new minister. I have no doubt that with your full participation and support, we'll find the best possible match to help us move forward in a shared vision for our future.

> Ebeth Porter On Behalf of the Ministerial Search Committee



## Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team

### ADORE (A Dialogue On Race & Ethnicity) III Attracts 30 Paint Branchers. Same/Different Exercise Resonates

Thank you to:

- all who attended the July 24 ADORE III Session during an extended Enrichment Hour, including five Board of Trustee members
- the planners, James Alexander, Pat Behenna, Sabrina Jones, and Carol Carter Walker
- Janet Overton and Emma Sue Gaines-Gerson who bought food and drink for the luncheon and to Tricia Most and the mysterious donor for their delicious vegan dishes
- Lynn Johnson and Mike McMenamin who provided a needed pastoral care presence during the Session
- Wyatt Rexach, Building Manager, who transformed the space from worship, to lunch, to workshop—and back again
- those who just pitched in to help set up, serve and clean up

As we plan additional ADORE sessions, we need your feedback on past sessions and ideas for upcoming ones. Talk to the facilitators or e-mail us at <u>DARTT@pbuuc.org</u>.

#### Jubilee II, UU-Focused Anti-Racism Training Date At All Souls, Unitarian, Washington, DC, Friday, September 16, 2016 - 6:00 pm to Sunday, September 18, 2016 - 5:00 pm

This 2 ½ day workshop is open to members of any congregation in the Joseph Priestley District. Church leaders are especially encouraged to attend.

Agenda Topics Include:

- The history of racism and resistance to racism in the Americas
- Defining racism
- The effects of racism on people of color and on white people
- Dismantling racism
- Claiming and shaping an anti-racist identity
- Racism in the UUA

Registration fee is \$160, including meals. Paint Branch's Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team (DARTT) is offering \$60 each for three scholarships to facilitate attendance. For more information or to register, go to <a href="http://bit.ly/Jubilee16Reg">http://bit.ly/Jubilee16Reg</a>. Many UUs who have attended this course have said that it is the most powerful experience to help them wake up.

#### Let's Join The Black Lives Matter Banner Vigil at River Road Friday, August 19

One of the speakers at our July 24 Service, After The Banner, was Vonna Heaton, a member of River Road UU Congregation. She spoke about their experiences with hanging a Black Lives Matter banner and on some of the other actions that followed. One of them is a regular vigil on the road leading to the Church. The next one will take place Friday, August 19 from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. She has invited us to join them. Let's turn out in support of our UU neighbor. River Road is at 6301 River Road, Bethesda, MD.

Contact the Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team (DARTT) at <u>DARTT@pbuuc.org</u> if you need a ride or can give one.

# FORWARD FOGETHER. NOT ONE STEP BACKI

## Rev. Dr. William Barber II Bringing His Moral Revival to Washington, DC Sunday, August 28 from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

The Rev. Dr. William Barber II is the architect of the social justice movement that gained national acclaim with its Moral Monday protests at the North Carolina General Assembly in 2013. He was a keynoter and presenter at the 2016 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). The UUA Beacon Press has just published his latest book, <u>The Third Reconstruction: Moral Mondays</u>, <u>Fusion Politics</u>, and the Rise of a New Justice Movement.

Dr. Barber is embarking on a national tour "The Revival: Time for a Moral Revolution of Values" to redefine morality in American politics and challenge leaders of faith and moral courage to be more vocally opposed to harmful policies that disproportionately impact the poor, people who are ill, children, immigrants, communities of color, and religious minorities. Dr. Barber will bring his revival to Washington, DC on Sunday, August 28 from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. There will also be a Moral Monday event the next day, Monday, August 29. Sister Simone Campbell, leader of the "Nuns on the Bus," and a featured speaker at the 2015 General Assembly, will accompany him.

Watch upcoming Bulletins/ContinUUms for more information.

## **Ethical Eating**

**Friday, August 5, 2016, 6:15 pm to 9:15 pm—Recent Findings in the Prevention and Treatment of Chronic Disease**. First Friday Free Film & Food Series, 804 Larch Avenue, Takoma Park, MD.

An estimated 90% of type 2 diabetes, 80% of heart disease and 70% of cancers are entirely preventable. Find out how with dietitian Brenda Davis. Non-vegans are welcome, but please bring a vegan dish. Some fruit or a simple salad with dressing on the side always works. Come with a dish between 6 and 7 pm, or just arrive at 7 for the film. Quick food demo at 6:30. Film produced by the Vegetarian Society of Hawaii. For more info, see <u>http://</u> www.shamanicspring.com/food.html. Contact Mary "Tyrtle" at 301-891-1288.

## In and Around Paint Branch



#### TWedHUUlk

Our TwedHUULK destination this month is The Greek Island Grill on New Hampshire Ave. north, just before Route 198 on the left. (15410 New Hampshire Ave.

<u>Silver Spring, MD 20905</u>)

The menu is Greek and American and I think the food is good. It's a nice size so it should be pretty quiet for us. We will meet at the usual time, 1 pm on Wednesday, August 17. Contact Elaine Shell 301-776-4271 or <u>elaine@greville.net</u> for more info or if you need a ride. I hope to see you there.

– Elaine

#### **Spirituality Circle Picnic**

Spirituality Circle will have a Summer Picnic Outing on Sunday, August 14 from 12 to 6 pm at Seneca Creek State Park. The Spirituality Circle meeting and sharing will be a part of this event. The topic for discussion will be "The family and friends who have positively influenced our spiritual lives." Pictures and story sharing are encouraged. There will also be games, songs and a lake walk. The cost for the Spirituality Circle Summer picnic will be \$12 for an individual plus one and \$20 per family. The park entrance fee is \$3 per person. For more information, contact Margaret Stricklett at margaret@margaretstricklett.com or you can call Amy Steiner @ 301-890-9072. Looking for individuals interested in helping shampoo our Meeting House chairs. The Building and Grounds committee are going to formally redo the Meeting House floor the week of August 8-13 in the evenings. I will be shampooing chairs and would love some help! Day or evening. Shampoo machine(s) will be available if we know how many will be helping when. Please contact Tess Morrison: 301-445-0819 or tmorriso@illinois.edu (feel free to leave your name and number and I'll return call if unable to answer the phone!) Many Thanks! - Tess

#### ALOHA! LUAU! MAHALO

The best way to enjoy the tropical weather we experience in the summer is to take advantage of it and attend a Luau! Paint Branch will hold one on Saturday, August 20, starting at 5:30 pm. If you've been to Hawaii, you will love this; if you have never been, this will either make up for that or prepare you for some future trip. We are working hard to make this an all-ages fun event with some special activities for the kids.

Some plans are still a work in progress, but we promise authentic food, music and beverages. We will have hula dancing, grass skirts, tropical décor, leis, and name tags with your Hawaiian name. This will be a party with a capital P which stands for Polynesian Pacific Paradise, Pele, Presidential birthplace, Pupu Platters, Pulled Pork, Pineapple, and Poi! What's not to like? Well, maybe the poi, but if you're going Hawaiian, you have to try a little poi, so we'll try to have some.

What do you have to do to enjoy this festive event? Clear your calendar for Aug. 20<sup>th</sup>. Find your Hawaiian shirt, grass skirt, or mumu (proper attire is mandatory!). Invite some friends. Buy your tickets following Sunday services on July 31, August 7 or 14 (\$15 per adult, kids 4-11, \$7.50, 3 and under are free). Volunteer to help with set up and decorating at 4 pm, to hand out name tags, to provide recorded Hawaiian music, to cook (we'll supply the recipes and reimburse your expenses), to help at the bar, to take photos, or to clean up. We're waiting to hear from RE staff and parents of young kids regarding activities for them. We're also looking for some tweens, teens or young adults to be special greeters for about a half hour at around 5:00. We guarantee this will all be more fun than work. It's possible even some of the work will be fun.

Oh yes! If any of you have an in with Lono the rain god, please encourage him to visit elsewhere that day!

Contact Marilyn Pearl at 301-805-1218 or <u>buffa-</u> <u>lo\_gal@verizon.net</u> with any questions, suggestions, reservations or offers of help. *Mahalo.* 

#### 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: <u>branches@pbuuc.org</u>.

**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 <a href="mailto:bulletin@pbuuc.org">bulletin@pbuuc.org</a>. Content should be 120 words or less. Please try to keep announcements <u>one paragraph</u> 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.

РАІИТ ВЯАИСН UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH 3215 Роwder Mill Road Adelphi, MD 20783-1030 (301) 937-3666 Мевзіте: www.pbuuc.org Email: <u>Churchddmin@pbuuc.org</u> Email: <u>Churchddmin</u>@pbuuc.org