



# BRANCHES



## PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

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

**April 2017**

### **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

### **APRIL 2 HARI OM**

*The Rev. Evan Keely, Interim Minister and Gita's Dream; with Mary Rooker, Worship Associate; and Carla Miller, Director of Multicultural Religious Exploration*  
Gita's Dream (a.k.a. Gita and Christopher Zember) will lead us in a session of kirtan, an ancient tradition of devotional chanting.

### **APRIL 9 MIRIAM'S TIMBREL**

*The Rev. Evan Keely, Interim Minister; with Will Snyder, Worship Associate; and the Children's Choir*  
Reflections on Passover, which begins on April 11.

### **APRIL 16 THE SONG OF MARY MAGDALENE**

*The Rev. Evan Keely, Interim Minister; with Carla Miller, DMRE; Van Summers, Worship Associate; the Chalice Dancers; and the Choir*  
Easter Sunday reminds us that out of devastating loss can come inextinguishable hope.

### **APRIL 23 "AND STILL I RISE" 12TH ANNUAL DANCE SERVICE**

*The Paint Branch Chalice Dancers, directed by Sharon Werth. Guest dancers include The Erika Thimey Dance & Theater Co. and The Adat Shalom Dancers. With Carol Carter-Walker Worship Associate.*  
What hard times have you faced and how do you rise above them? Yes - "Hard times require furious dancing" – Alice Walker

### **APRIL 30 \*TBA\***

*TBA with Worship Associates Paul Wester and Beth Charbonneau; and the Children's Choir*  
Please check our website and ContinUUm emails for the sermon topic .

### **Minister's Column**



I often like to think of Unitarian Universalism as a field that is nourished with water drawn from many wells. Like many Unitarian Universalists, in my own spiritual life, I draw from many sources.

On the first Sunday of the month, it will be a great honor and a joy to welcome Gita and Christopher Zember, a wife/husband team of spiritual leaders who are practitioners of bhakti yoga as Gita's Dream Kirtan (<http://bit.ly/2n55udP>). These gifted souls will lead us in a session of sacred chanting. I visit their yoga studio in Sterling, Virginia as often as I can and always come away revived.

The second Sunday in April we'll be pondering Passover, which begins at sundown this year on April 10. Although I do not have a Jewish heritage, earlier in my adulthood I celebrated Passover with friends for many years — indeed, my home was often where our Seders were hosted. My friends and I spent weeks preparing our own Haggadah (the book that contains the liturgy) and many hours cooking. At the Seder itself, it wasn't at all unusual for us to be up well into the wee hours, eating, singing, sharing reflections and memories, and exploring the ancient tale of the exodus of Israel from enslavement in Egypt — a narrative which, like so many abiding stories, continues to resonate in innumerable ways, generation after generation.

The third Sunday of the month is Easter. I love to explore the ancient chronicle of the resurrection of Jesus. Although I have always viewed this powerful story as metaphor rather than through the lens of a literal interpretation, it seems all the more relevant today as the forces of exclusion, mistrust, fear, oppression and hate seem to be gaining momentum in our country and throughout the world, casting a pall of despair and anxiety over all of us who love freedom and strive for inclusion and compassion. Easter's timeless message of an indestructible love defying the powers of subjugation and violence can be a much-needed clarion call to all of us to never give up the fight for a kinder and more just world.

The fourth Sunday will be the Dance Service, and we can count on the Chalice Dancers and their extraordinarily gifted director, Sharon Werth, to provide an uplifting and liberating experience for all of us to share in.

The Ministerial Search Committee plans to hold the first Sunday of candidating week on April's final Sunday. All in all, if we bring open minds and hearts, we can expect to find uplift, challenge and enrichment as we worship together this month. - *Evan*

The Rev. Evan Keely, Interim Minister [minister@pbuuc.org](mailto:minister@pbuuc.org)

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## PBUUC Leadership Directory

### 🌀 Officers and Board of Trustees 2016-2017 🌀

email: [BoardOfTrustees@pbuuc.org](mailto:BoardOfTrustees@pbuuc.org)

Co-Chair	Carmelita Carter-Sykes
Co-Chair	Liz Citrin
Vice Chair	Tess Morrison
Trustee	John Barr
Trustee	Sonny Katz
Trustee	Ken Redd
Trustee	Elaine Shell
Secretary	Erin Gebhart
Treasurer	David Nation
Assistant Treasurer	Louise Waugh

### 🌀 Worship Associates 🌀

* Van Summers (2014-17)	Mary Rooker (2016-19)
* Carol Carter Walker (2014-17)	Paul Wester (2016-19)
Beth Charbonneau (2015-18)	Abby Wester (2016-17)
Will Snyder (2015-18)	*Team Leaders

### 🌀 Pastoral Care Associates 🌀

Jeri Holloway  
Lynn Johnson  
Mike McMenamin  
Will Snyder

### 🌀 We Care Coordinators 🌀

vacant

### 🌀 Chartered Committees and Teams 🌀

Arts Council	Pat Tompkins (Music)
Auction	Emily Conover (Visual Arts)
Budget Leadership Team	Marguerite & Van Summers
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
	Emma Sue Gaines-Gerson
	Don Gerson, Chair
	Bettie Young, cluster rep.
	<a href="mailto:contactchurchoffice">contact church office</a>
Electronic Communications	Patty Daukantas
Finance	Erin Gebhart & Kathy Bartolomeo
Green Team (co-chairs)	<a href="#">Church Office</a>
Leasing (contact)	Ken Montville
Legacy Fund	Pat Behenna
Membership	[contact <a href="#">Ministerial Search Cmte</a> ]
Ministry	Sabrina Jones (acting Chair)
Nominating	VACANT
Personnel	<a href="mailto:REcmte@pbuuc.org">REcmte@pbuuc.org</a>
Religious Exploration	Peter Wathen-Dunn
Site Improvement	Janet Overton
Social Action (SAC)	Chris Evans
Stewardship	<a href="mailto:Transition@pbuuc.org">Transition@pbuuc.org</a>
Transition Team	

### 🌀 Ministerial Search Committee - [Search@pbuuc.org](mailto:Search@pbuuc.org) 🌀

Jan Montville, Chair	Janet Overton
James Alexander	Elizabeth Porter
Jeanne Judd	Kathi Yu
Eric Most	

### 🌀 Groups and Activities 🌀

Bookstore	Raman Pathik
Bridge Group	Penny O'Brien
Chalice Dancers	Wendy Schlegel
Children's Choir	Allison Hughes & Jeanne Judd
Choir	David Chapman
Coffee Coordinator	Liz Citrin
Community Café	Alice Tyler
Food for Thought	Mary Rooker
Handcraft Circle	Ebeth Porter
Facebook Group	Ken Montville
Meditation Group	Cory Carter
Men's Group	Peter Wathen-Dunn
Quest Discussion Group	Lowell Owens
Paint Branch Community Learning Center	Carmelita Carter-Sykes
Poetry Out Loud	Shantida
Shamanic Journeying	Mary Rooker
Spirituality Circle	Amy Steiner
TWedHUULK	Elaine Shell
Ushers	Esther Nichols
Warm Nights	Evangelina Wells & Louise Waugh
Webmaster	Mark Shute
Welcome Table Greeters	Pat Behenna
Widowed Persons Support Group	Jeri Holloway
Women's Group	Louise Waugh

### 🌀 Minister 🌀

The Rev. Evan Keely

### 🌀 Staff 🌀

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

[Music Director & Pianist](#)

[Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration](#)

Director, Chalice Dancers

[Church Administrator](#)

[Administrative Assistant](#)

[Bookkeeper](#)

Sunday Service/Building Managers:

Child Care Providers:

David Chapman

Carla Miller

Sharon Werth

Charles Bury

Sade Ayinde

Roy Friday, CPA

Joel Yesupriya

Jazmin Balbuena

Beth Judy

### 🌀 Office Volunteers 🌀

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

## Board of Trustees

### Board update from Town Hall Meeting:

#### Financial Process Review:

- Contracted with Gelman, Rosenberg & Freedman, CPA's
- Will review internal controls over:
  - ◊ Deposits and payments
  - ◊ Payroll
  - ◊ Cash handling and bank reconciliations
  - ◊ Accounts receivables
- Will review the policies, procedures and accounting for:
  - ◊ Accounts receivables
  - ◊ Endowment, designated and pass-through funds
  - ◊ Fixed assets (building, depreciation, reserve)
  - ◊ Budget setting

#### Board Processes:

- Your Board has faced several challenges this year—communications, priorities, time
- Retreated with CER Rep Megan Foley for help in addressing these things
  - ◊ Consent Agenda, routine matters approved in block, allowing more time for substantive items. Trying it out in a limited fashion this month.
  - ◊ More in-person discussions among members, less email.
- Additional meetings for special topics
  - ◊ Such as Conflict Management.
- Outside process observer at Board Meetings
- Leadership training

April Board Meetings:

**Wednesday, April 5, 6:30 pm**  
Executive Committee (RE Bldg)

**Wednesday, April 12, 11 pm**  
Read-Aheads due to Board  
(email: [BoardOfTrustees@pbuuc.org](mailto:BoardOfTrustees@pbuuc.org))

**Tuesday, April 18, 7 pm**  
Board of Trustees Meeting (Room 4)



**WE CARE:** After suffering a fractured leg from a fall on the ice in March, Cathy Helmold reports she has now been transferred to Sanctuary at Holy Cross, where she will be until early April. "I will

have several hours of PT Daily so that I will be strong enough to use crutches in my house." Send cards to Cathy c/o: Sanctuary at Holy Cross Rm 229A, 3415 Greencastle Rd, Burtonsville MD 20866.

## Ministerial Search Committee

### Greetings from the Ministerial Search Committee!

Pre-candidating is OVER! An incredible amount of work went into preparing for and successfully executing the pre-candidating phase of the search and I am very happy to say that we are done. We do not yet have a candidate, but hopefully there will be an announcement soon.

Now that pre-candidating is over, you may start feeling like there's nothing much to do until Candidating Week kicks off in late April, but au contraire! There is still plenty we can do while we wait! I know that many of you have spent a good deal of time and energy on the cleaning up and decluttering of our facilities. We thank you for all your hard work and ask that you continue in those efforts.

Take a look at our space through a visitor's eyes... Is it clean? Is it welcoming? Are there any areas that could use some extra love and attention? If we all ask ourselves these questions, and do what we can, when we can, I'm sure we can show our Candidate how warm and inviting our space truly is.

I've sent out a few announcements through the ContinUUM about the schedule for Candidating Week. I'm going to go out on a limb and say that by the time this Branches article comes out, that schedule will be mostly full - but hey, what do I know? If you or your committee/affinity group would like to schedule and host a "Meet the Candidate" event, either in your home or at the church, please let us know. As always, we can be reached at [search@pbuuc.org](mailto:search@pbuuc.org).

Last, but certainly not least, only PBUUC MEMBERS can vote on whether or not to call our next minister. If you are currently a FRIEND of the congregation and you want to be able to cast a vote, you'll need to sign the membership book no later than two weeks PRIOR to the congregational meeting, which is currently scheduled for May 7th, 2017. We want as many voices as possible to be heard on this important decision, so we hope to see you there.

**Ebeth Porter**—On behalf of the Ministerial Search Committee

## Denominational Affairs

### Registration Is Open for the 2017 General Assembly (GA) In New Orleans.

GA is the annual meeting of our denomination. Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through use of the democratic process. There are many things to do virtually every hour of the day, beginning Wednesday, June 21 and ending Sunday, June 25.

Go to [www.uua.org/GA](http://www.uua.org/GA) to get a panoramic view of 2017 GA programming, book a hotel, register, apply for financial aid, and volunteer.



## Multigenerational Religious Exploration



**4 F'S** = **F**ood, **F**un, and **F**aith on the First and Third Fridays of Each Month, beginning May 19th (the third Friday in May).

### NEW MRE Programming for All Ages!

**"4 F's" will gather on 2 Fridays each month from 6 pm - 9 pm**

**FUN-** A social, multigenerational evening event!

**FOOD-** Share a good dinner and drinks.

**FAITH-** An opening worship circle and a variety of other workshops – like DRAMA, Social Justice and Science explorations.

**On FRIDAYS-** THE FIRST AND THIRD FRIDAYS OF THE MONTH, beginning **May 19th**.

**This exciting new program of Fun, Food and Faith includes:**

- ≈ Dinner, Social action opportunities like postcard writing
- ≈ A Multigenerational Worship Circle
- ≈ Choices of Workshops:
  - \* Story- usually paired with an art activity
  - \* Artistic Expression
  - \* Discussion Group
  - \* Ritual or Spiritual Practice
- ≈ And a rotation of other engaging workshops such as Drama, Science, and Film.

### Why Create a Whole New Program?

4 F's offers a variety of exciting opportunities to explore our liberal faith together as one community. Here we can plunge into interesting topics and concepts, as well as friendly and meaningful intergenerational relationships.

This congregation has difficulty finding a shared moment outside of worship, and a shared focus across our variety of smaller groupings as well.

The community has long yearned to bridge the RE Building/Meeting House divide. Teachers don't make it to coffee hour; parents can't swing the Enrichment Hour; youth are less-than-enthusiastic about Sunday mornings, and Glen Gatherings are inaccessible to too many of us.

We envision the 4 F's program gathering energy into a whole-church, cross-committee, cross-program collaboration. Workshops and activities can draw on the interests and activities of a variety of groups and individuals in the congregation.

### HOW will we accomplish all this?

4 F's will offer thematically-based learning; with each theme developed over 4-8 weeks to bring depth and breadth to our search for truth and meaning.

The theme of our first Spring/Summer session is "The Great Mystery... Source/Spirit/Which Many Call God."

The opening story, In God's Name, by Rabbi Sandy Sasso, offers several "names" of God. Each week, activities focus on one of these aspects of the Mystery- for example God as Source, God as Love, and God as Unity. The book discussion will be based on The History of God, by Karen Armstrong.

Stories, spiritual practices, art, drama, science and all-ages films engage us in the many aspects of the Great Mystery. All activities are open to the participation of all ages and generations of our congregation.

The MRE Team is excited to be offering **4 F's** gatherings filled with **Fun, Food and Faith Development** for ALL.

### IT'S TIME!



**Time to Register** your child for Religious Exploration – please do this for all children, nursery through age 18, no matter how often you may attend PBUUC, for your child's safety. This is also very helpful to the accuracy of our records and budgeting in RE.

Register your child at <https://tinyurl.com/PBUUCRE-17-18>

**And Time to Volunteer to Teach!** Or assist in our RE program. We invite the support and participation of the entire congregation in our ministry to children and youth. As MRE is thriving and growing in both numbers and energy, **this is an exciting time** to become actively involved! Please speak to **Carla Miller, DMRE**, [dmre@pbuuc.org](mailto:dmre@pbuuc.org) and/or **Melissa Graham** to learn more. Volunteer to teach at <https://tinyurl.com/RE-Teach-PBUUC>

**NOW is also the time to join the planning team for Adult Religious Exploration.** Our Multigenerational Religious Exploration ministry is forming an Adult Religious Exploration Team. If you are excited about a revitalized Adult RE program, please contact Carla Miller,



[dmre@pbuuc.org](mailto:dmre@pbuuc.org) or Louise Waugh, [louisemwaugh@hotmail.com](mailto:louisemwaugh@hotmail.com), to learn more.



**UU Multigenerational Camps** are part spiritual retreat, part learning, part multigenerational community-gathering, and all-around fun! Are you intrigued by the possibility? Ready for a new, fun, UU experience? Registration is online now for all UU summer camps and conferences.

I will be Children's Director this year at **UUMAC**, our closest UU Camp at DeSales University, Center Valley, PA, July 9-14, 2017. Learn More and REGISTER at [www.uumac.org/wordpress/uumac-2016/](http://www.uumac.org/wordpress/uumac-2016/) Don't miss this opportunity for a UU summer retreat for the whole family!

*Carla Miller*, [DMRE@pbuuc.org](mailto:DMRE@pbuuc.org)

Director of Multigenerational Religious Exploration



## Social Action Committee

Describing immigrants as illegal is legally inaccurate. Being in the U.S. without proper documents is a civil offense, not a criminal one, and

using the term illegal immigrants criminalizes people rather than their actions. Nevertheless, millions of hard-working, law-abiding, tax-paying individuals living in America are being referred to as illegal immigrants in the media, in political speeches, and in everyday conversations. And, thanks to the present administration, these people are now being treated as criminals. Many live in fear that their families, their lives will be torn apart at any moment. Some are already living that reality.

The UUA is a strong advocate for UU churches serving as sanctuaries. Megan Foley, UUA's regional representative, recommended that area UU churches work within a regional network being created by Sanctuary DMV (District, Maryland, and Virginia). Sanctuary DMV works in partnership with PICO National Network, a federation of faith-based community organizations. Since 1972 PICO has successfully worked to increase access to health care, improve public schools, make neighborhoods safer, and redevelop communities by equipping community leaders with the skills to rally their neighbors to address common concerns, research possible solutions, and work with public officials and private businesses to put those solutions into effect. Local PICO federations, like Sanctuary DMV, then provide leadership training to neighborhood residents and congregation members through pragmatic and practical adult education tools.

On March 13, Tina Van Pelt and Janet Overton attended a meeting convened by Sanctuary DMV at All Souls Unitarian. According to Sanctuary DMV, more than 200 area churches of all denominations and more than 800 individuals have signed on to do sanctuary work. On a night with a winter storm predicted, about 200 people showed up for "train-the-trainer workshops" intended to inform participants about the ways congregations can offer sanctuary to people in need. The workshops covered "Know Your Rights," rapid response, accompaniment, hosting/supporting, and advocacy and provided a generalized look at what is involved. More rigorous training will be offered in the next few months.

### Ways Congregations Can Offer Sanctuary

- ✧ Being a sanctuary church does not necessarily mean hosting a family or an individual. Sanctuary can also take other forms. As a church and as individuals we can:
- ✧ Accompany people to ICE check-ins and legal hearings
- ✧ Hold "Know Your Rights" trainings
- ✧ Set up Rapid Response networks of people to show up during ICE raids to bear witness
- ✧ Support churches or other institutions that do provide physical sanctuary
- ✧ Advocate for humane and just policies related to the treatment of immigrants.

After the meeting at All Souls, church representatives were asked to reconvene according to their geographical location. For Prince George's County, six congregations (including Adelphi Friends) agreed to work together to learn and provide training in the various aspects of sanctuary. Of the PG group, none could provide housing but all agreed to get trained or try to recruit people to be trained.

For PBUUC, participation as a sanctuary means, initially, exposing ourselves to information to help us help those in need, providing information to allow people to better help themselves, and offering space for classes, training, meetings, and solace. In terms of hosting, our participation means supporting other churches and organizations that are hosting immigrants.

Sanctuary DMV is working with other area organizations, including CASA de Maryland, that offer training and classes in how best to legally assist people who need help addressing immigration issues. SAC and DARTT are working together with the PG County Sanctuary DMV network to recruit trainers and provide space for training. We urge everyone interested in helping with the sanctuary effort to attend upcoming training sessions and classes offered here at Paint Branch or any of our network congregations.

—Janet Overton, SAC Chair [SAC@pbuuc.org](mailto:SAC@pbuuc.org)

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SAC meeting, Saturday, April 15, 10 am to noon.** The primary topic this month will be sanctuary and how it could work at PBUUC. Join us as we work for justice, equity, and compassion in human relations. Help us focus our social justice lens on the issues we as a congregation feel are most important. Live your social justice passions. Join us April 15 in Room 4 in the RE Building. For more information, send an email to [SAC@pbuuc.org](mailto:SAC@pbuuc.org)

**Stand Up for Healthcare Justice Conference - Monday, April 3-Wednesday, April 5, at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 301 A St SE, Washington, DC.** The rising tide of economic inequality cannot be stemmed if the Affordable Care Act is dismantled. In April, UUs will converge on DC to challenge the administration's plan to weaken access to affordable healthcare and worsen economic inequality. Justice advocates Sister Simone Campbell, Bishop Douglas Miles, and author Chuck Collins will inspire us to take action as we speak directly to decision makers on Capitol Hill. Fee: \$150 all 3 days; \$55 for a single day (Monday or Tuesday). Registration: <http://uujec.com/ReversingInequality> For more information, contact Elizabeth at [info@uusj.org](mailto:info@uusj.org) or 202-600-9132

**Beloved Community Interfaith Network.** The next meeting of the Beloved Community Interfaith Network, Prince George's County will be Tuesday, April 18, 7 pm-9:30 pm, at the Hyattsville Mennonite Church, 4217 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, MD 20782. For more information, please contact Marge Owens at [lowellandmarge@verizon.net](mailto:lowellandmarge@verizon.net)

## Social Action Committee, continued

**Are You on SAC's Email Alert List?** A few years ago SAC instituted an easy way to hear about and take action on many justice-related issues. That alert network is still active and now includes environmental issues. For instance, you can choose to receive a message about global warming once a week or once a month. Usually the message gives you the opportunity to send an already composed message to one of your legislators, perhaps joining a country-wide effort. Occasionally the message is to a commission that is asking for public comment. Joining is easy and you can always choose to pass, by not sending the message. If you're ready to join or want more information, please email [marjory.donn@verizon.net](mailto:marjory.donn@verizon.net)

**SAC also recommends:** Dynamic Community Governance in Greenbelt. Saturday, April 1, Father Edwin John, United Nations recognized for his work in India bringing neighborhoods together through the use of Dynamic Community Governance, is coming to Greenbelt on April 1, on his way to the UN. Join us in the Greenbelt Community Center, 2-4 PM, for an inspiring talk followed by questions and answers 4-5 PM. Free and no registration necessary. If you have questions contact Aileen at [aileen@dynamic-governance.org](mailto:aileen@dynamic-governance.org)

## Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team



### Next Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team (DARTT) Meeting Tuesday, April 11, 2017

The next DARTT Planning Meeting will be Tuesday, April 11, from 7 to 9 pm in Room 4 of the RE Building. Please e-mail [DARTT@pbuuc.org](mailto:DARTT@pbuuc.org) or see Emma Sue Gaines-Gerson or Carol Carter Walker to place items on the Agenda. This meeting is open to all members and friends of the PBUUC community.

### DARTT Recommends:

The Diversity & Inclusion Committee of Riderwood Village is presenting two films as part of a film festival. All Paint Branchers are invited.

Thursday, April 6, 2pm. Bronx Princess is about a young woman whose parents are from Ghana. She lives in the Bronx with her mother and visits her father who is serving as the chief of a community in Ghana. It is a coming of age story.

Thursday, April 13, 2pm. Barack Obama: Made In Hawai'i is about our 44th President and how growing up in Hawai'i influenced who he is today. Some of you have seen this at PBUUC or at a smaller gathering in 2016.

Both performances will be shown at 2:00 pm in the Encore Theater, Terrace Level, Lakeside Commons Community Building, Riderwood Village, 3140 Gracefield Road, Silver Spring, MD.

## Meet Our Guest Speakers

Gita's Dream is a Kirtan group led by Gita Zember and her husband Christopher. They enjoy chanting as much as possible with friends in the VA & DC area and sometimes gets to FL and OH & MI to chant too. Gita has brought her love of chanting to her private lessons with children with special needs, adults wanting to dive deeper into yoga and meditation, schools, yoga studios, festivals, the Inaugural Yoga Ball 2013, Shensara Yoga Festival, Yogaville, yearly Tour with Swami Gurusharanananda and brought DC its first DC Kirtan Fest in 2012. Money raised at these kirtans is donated to girls in India that have been rescued from the red light districts where Gita is starting special programs.



## Budget Leadership Team

### PBUUC 2017-2018 Budget Update

The Budget Leadership Team, fondly known as "the BLT," has the job of developing the operations budget for the upcoming church year, July 1 to June 30. The BLT works with committee chairs, affinity group leaders, staff, and officers to develop a budget to present to the congregation for review and discussion and then to the Board of Trustees for final approval. The Board appoints members representing the Board, Finance, Stewardship, and members-at-large. The Treasurer is an *ex-officio* member.

E-mails have been sent to congregational leaders and staff, asking for budget needs, wishes, and dreams. Budget requests were due to the BLT at [BLT@pbuuc.org](mailto:BLT@pbuuc.org) Friday, March 24. There is one hearing remaining—on Sunday, April 2, during Enrichment Hour—when anyone in the PBUUC community has the opportunity to ask questions and provide ideas about the budget as it is being developed.

Celinda Marsh, *Chair*

Tess Morrison, *Note Taker*

Carmelita Carter-Sykes, *Member*

Patty Daukantas, *Member*

Deron Lovaas, *Member*

Carol Carter Walker, *Member*



## In and Around Paint Branch

### Update on Black Lives Matter / Standing on the Side of Love Banner

The banner was vandalized mid-week, then cut from its grommets and removed on Saturday, March 25.

A replacement is already ordered and on its way. Thank you to the two donors whose generous gifts have covered virtually all of the cost of replacement. A police report has been filed on this banner and the previous thefts and vandalism of our rainbow flags. These incidents are being reported as hate crimes. Stay tuned.



## ♪ ♪ Music at Paint Branch ♪ ♪

**“Music at Paint Branch” returns for the spring 2017 season with many exciting recitals!**

**Sunday, April 2 at 4 pm** features **STRATA**, a trio with James Stern – violin, Nathan Williams – clarinet, and Audrey Andrist – piano. They will perform works by Max Bruch, Libby Larson, Aram Khachaturian, and Jean Francaix. STRATA performed last year at Paint Branch and the audience was thrilled with their skillful artistry. Audrey Andrist often serves as substitute pianist for summer services. Andrist and Stern, husband and wife duo combined with their longtime friend Nathan Williams provide us with so many musical treats.

**Sunday, May 7 at 4 pm** brings a return performance by pianist Steven Silverman. Mr. Silverman presented a recital entitled “Schubertiade,” in 2015 and we look forward to his return to Music at Paint Branch.

**Sunday, May 14—Concert canceled.**

**Friday, June 9 at 7:30 pm** brings Paint Branch UU Church member, *soprano* Allison Hughes, who will be presenting the works of several talented local composers, all of whom will be present to talk about their music.

All of the above recitals are free, but donations are happily accepted. Receptions follow each of the programs with the opportunity to meet and greet the performers.

## Warm Nights Week

**IS SUNDAY, APRIL 9 – APRIL 16, 2017**

Paint Branch has been participating in the Prince George’s County Hyperthermia Program offering a “Warm Nights” Homeless Emergency Shelter week organized by Community Crisis Services, Inc. (CCSI) since 1993. Sign-up sheets will be in the lobby beginning in March for all kinds of volunteer opportunities from cot set up and take down at the beginning and end of the week to cooking, serving, and spending a night in the kitchen. Do you have an old, large suitcase that you no longer need? Many of our guests could use a large suitcase for their clothes. More news to follow. Evangeline Wells and Louise Waugh are coordinating our efforts this year.



## The Wider Unitarian Universalist Universe

### JAZZ! JOY! JUSTICE!

Experience and Explore the Intersection of Art and Activism, where the spirituality of creativity meets social justice.

Joy is an act of Resistance. \$15 person/\$40 limit per family—Childcare available for ages 11 and under.

Poetry may include strong language.

April 1, 2017 4:45-6:15 pm Artists’ Reception

6:30-8 pm Celebration! with Jazz Music, Poets, and Dancers:

Windmill Jazz Collective

Anya Sammler-Michael

SPIRIT Dancers from Covenant

Baptist United Church of Christ

Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria, VA

### UUA President—Meet the Candidates!

Hear Candidates For UUA President/Attend Leadership Day Workshop Saturday, April 1. This year, delegates will have a chance to vote for the first woman president of the UUA. All three candidates are women.

∞ The Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

∞ The Rev. Alison Miller

∞ The Rev. Jeanne Pupke

You can hear the candidates directly on Saturday, April 1 from 10 to 11:30 am at Cedar Lane ULU Church, 9601 Cedar Lane, Bethesda, MD. The Candidates Forum is free. For \$20, you can stay for all of the activities of the Central East Region Leadership Day, including lunch and choice of one afternoon workshop. Register at: <https://uua.wufoo.com/forms/p1xkrzuz1sa4eko/> It will also be live-streamed to locations throughout the Central East Region and available afterwards on video.

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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.**

## Stewardship

There are just a few more weeks to go in our “Giving With Gratitude” annual campaign for 2017-2018. So far, the response from the congregation has been terrific. As I write this on March 20th, we have received over \$254,000 in pledges, with many members increasing their commitment from last year. But we still have about 35 households to go and we will need everyone’s help to meet our goal. Please agree to make your pledge when your Visiting Steward contacts you, or you can stop by the Stewardship Table in the lobby after Sunday services.

To celebrate the end of this year’s campaign, the Stewardship Committee will host an enhanced coffee hour with special food and drink on Sunday, April 16th. We hope everyone can be there to celebrate the generosity of our entire community. If you have any questions about our Annual Campaign you can talk to any committee member (Chris Evans, Harry Schomberg, Will Snyder, Pat Tompkins, or Anita Williams) or drop us a line at [stewardship@pbuuc.org](mailto:stewardship@pbuuc.org)



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