



BRANCHES



PAINT BRANCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

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

JUNE 2010

JUNE 2010 SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10:00 AM

*Services and RE classes are followed by Fellowship
and then Enrichment Hour from 11:45-12:45 for which child care is provided*

JUNE 6

MUSIC IS IN THE AIR

*David Chapman, Music Director, and the PBUUC Choir, with Tish Hall, Worship Associate,
Children go straight to RE classes*

THE LAST TIME TO ENJOY THE CHOIR BEFORE WE BREAK FOR THE SUMMER!

David has put together an exciting, eclectic program with something for everyone. The music will include a reprise of *Climbin' Higher Mountains* with soloist Ebeth Porter (if you missed it the first time around, you surely don't want to miss it this time!), the very intricate and witty *My Spirit Is Uncaged* by Paul Rardin (text by Walt Whitman), the heartbreakingly beautiful arrangement of the Jewish Melody *Bashanah Haba'ah*, and the poignant *Love Is...* (text by e. e. cummings), featuring violinist Brenda Anna. Rev. Diane Teichert will be preaching at the UU Church of Silver Spring, as a "sabbatical swap" in which the UUCSS minister will preach at PBUUC during Diane's first sabbatical.

JUNE 13

ROOTS AND WINGS: CELEBRATING RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

*Karen Lee Scrivo, Interim Director of Religious Exploration, with Abby Crowley, Worship Associate,
and the Religious Exploration Classes
Children are present for the entire service*

Join us for this multi-generational celebration as our religious exploration classes share the highlights of their year and we honor those making transitions from childhood to youth and youth to young adult. Nursery care will available for our youngest members. *Stay for the Annual Congregational Meeting following the service.*

JUNE 20

WHAT DOES OUR FUTURE HOLD

*Don Henderson, Worship Associate
Quest book discussion group, with Fred Teal, Lowell Owens, and Quest members*

Chris Martenson in his "Crash Course" seminar series says that he holds three fundamental beliefs:

- The next twenty years are going to be completely unlike the last twenty years,
- It is possible that the pace and/or scope of change could overwhelm the ability of our key social and support institutions to adapt, and,
- We do not lack any technology or understanding necessary to build ourselves a better future.

Chris Martenson believes that the economy, energy and the environment hold the keys to the future of humanity. Come and explore with us the challenges we will need to confront in the next two decades.

JUNE 27

UNITARIANS AND UNIVERSALISTS OF WASHINGTON DC

Dr. Bruce T. Marshall, guest speaker, with Tish Hall, Worship Associate

It is difficult to understand and know who we are, and who we can be, if we don't know who we have been. That's the premise of my book, *Unitarians and Universalists of Washington, DC*, recently published by Arcadia Press. This is a photo-history of the almost 200-year history of our faith in this area. In this service, I'll share that story through archival photos. Copies of the book will be available for sale after the service.

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The Minister's mUUsings...

Do you remember the mini-town hall meetings held by your Board of Trustees back in December and January regarding Reclaiming Our Space in the RE Building after the departure of the Paint Branch Montessori School?

At those meetings, excitement and energy grew as we brainstormed ways to use the newly liberated space. Well, the opportunity to put that excitement and energy to use is upon us!

The "Move-Out" is headed by Muriel Morisey and Abby Crowley, working with our office staff, to identify which furnishings are ours and press upon the tenants the terms of the lease, which commits them to be out by June 18. If you were involved in refurbishing the building after the 2004 fire, and made purchases, please contact Church Administrator Daniel Everitt, Muriel or Abby.

So, the space should soon be empty and ready for our sprucing up, refurbishing, and re-decorating! A "Move-In" team is now forming of people to organize that effort (for which there is an adequate budget) over the summer months, so please contact Vice Chair Bettie Young if you are happy to help (301-490-4957 – bettyyoung@hotmail.com).

(If you have read thus far, thank you! The first five people to call the church office and leave a message on my line (301-937-3666 x 1) saying "Hi, this is (your name) calling to tell you that I read your June Branches article" will get a small chalice for your home use.)

Beyond the "Move-In" is the question: how shall we use our newly liberated space? At the town hall meetings, I recall the energy around ideas such as giving it a UU identity for our own children, youth and adult RE programs; using it to serve (and get to know) our nearby neighbors, such as with an arts studio or summer day camp; hosting a GLBT-friendly youth program; developing it as a retreat site; and renting out a couple rooms as a 24/7 rental (whose space we would not use for our own programming).

It's not clear yet how the congregation will choose which of the brainstormed ideas to put into action, in what order, when and how, but I am sure we will move forward!

To the end of getting to know our neighbors, I and two members of our Diversity Anti-Racism Transformation Team (Tricia Most and Kweli Powell) recently met with Principal Michael Brooks of High Point High School, which is less than a mile north of PBUUC on Powder Mill Road. It was a most favorable meeting. He welcomed the congregation's involvement in quite a number of ways. Of all the ideas that came up, two struck me as good ways to start: staffing tables at their Career Night with our members willing to talk with students about their line of work and providing community service opportunities for students (possibly in conjunction with DARTT's plans for us on MLK Day?). Stay tuned!

Hoping to see you on Sundays,



Rev. Diane Teichert

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

We were pleased to welcome six new members, who signed the Membership Book since December 6th, in the New Member Recognition Ceremony on Sunday, May 23: Carlton Bronner, Fran Caughey, Alicia Montgomery, David & Rebecca Nation and Rebecca Sheehan. It is an honor and a joy to welcome them! Anyone who wishes to sign the Membership Book is warmly invited to speak with the Greeter, Minister, or Membership Committee Chair Carol Boston.



CONGREGATIONAL DIRECTORY UPDATE

Please note in your directory: Ken Redd has changed his email address to Kerredd01@yahoo.com.

Summer Services ~ Coming Attractions!

The *Paint Branch Worship Associates*, producers of countless outstanding lay-led **Summer Services**, are proud to announce their play list for the 2010 season! You may look forward to 12 spectacular offerings, ranging from important issues for serious consideration, to intellectually stimulating topics, to light, but talented entertainment. Stars include established PB favorites, bright, promising newcomers, and exciting guest speakers! There is something for everyone, including any friends and neighbors you may wish to invite. Even if it means cancelling your vacation or holiday weekend plans, you won't want to miss a single service! Add this line-up to your calendar now!

June 20 – Members of the Quest Boo Discussion Group discuss the “Crash Course” video concerning the 3 E's: Economy, Environment, Energy, and how they relate to each other.

June 27 – Rev. Bruce Marshall, currently serving at Riderwood and Davies Memorial UUC, will speak on “Washington DC's UU History”, with a display of archival photos.

July 4 – Our commitment to social justice makes “Lobbying a Spiritual Practice.” This service is led by Tish Hall.

July 11 – We focus on the other creatures with which we share our planet and even our homes, as Jim Flaherty and Michael Leger conduct a “Blessing of the Animals”.

July 18 – Rob Boston, known to us for his tireless work on separation of church and state, will tell us “What We Can Learn from the Religious Right”.

July 25 – The bounty of summer will be celebrated by new member Tabitha Pierzchala in an observance of “Lammas, the First Harvest.”

August 1 – As Paint Branch considers our relationship with the surrounding community, Tricia Most, Brenda Anna and Kweli Powell explore “Significance of Place,” of being here at this time.

August 8 – Penny O'Brien explores the ethical use of an essential resource asking, “Who owns the water? Is it a public commodity or a human right?”

August 15 – We hold our annual “Poetry Reading” service with John Bartoli officiating.

August 22 – “What's for Dinner?” How are our food choices related to social justice, health, and even climate change? Paint Branch's Green Team will focus on ways we might interpret and practice Ethical Eating.

August 29 – Worship Associates and choir members Tish Hall and Don Mitchell proudly present a showcase of PBUUC's musical talent.

September 5 – we wind up the Summer Services season with the ever popular, Paint Branch's own, Leo Jones, challenging us all with “Not for the Faint of Heart.”

SUNDAY SERVICE / BUILDING MANAGER NEEDED!

Would you like to make some additional cash and provide a vital service to your congregation? Consider becoming a Sunday / rental events manager. These managers prepare and maintain the Meeting House for use during Sunday Services, as well as provide assistance to rental clients before, during and after a rental event – including room set-up and breakdown, stocking bathroom supplies, basic cleaning, assisting with audio/visual equipment and building security.

We offer a competitive wage and flexibility in hours. Individuals considering this position should be able to lift at least 20 pounds, have their own transportation, be available on Sunday mornings, have some weeknight and weekend availability, and be willing to be on an emergency contact list for our security alarm system, (for which there is separate financial compensation.) Familiarity with sound systems is a plus, but not required, and training will be offered. A full job description is available at the church office. Contact Daniel Everitt, Church Administrator, at 301-937-3666 for more information.

Notes from the Board Chair

Each June, the members of Paint Branch UU Church gather for the church's Annual Meeting. One of the highlights of this meeting is the election of new members of our Board of Trustees. The Board is our church's only elected governing body; it has key responsibilities for the church's finances and works closely with the staff and minister to support the operations and programs of the church. Board service is not all hard work, however; there are usually summer and winter retreats and occasional Board lunches where we get to know each other and have fun.

Any member in good standing is eligible to serve on the Board. At a minimum, service on the Board means attending monthly Board meetings, participating in the Congregational and Annual meetings, and working closely with one or more of the committees or groups within the congregation. Terms of service on the Board typically last three years, and there is no obligation to become the chair or serve in another leadership position unless one really wants to.

Right now, the Nominating Committee, under the capable leadership of Kate Brett, is actively looking for candidates who are willing to serve on the Board of Trustees for the new church year that begins July 1, 2010. If you have not previously served on the Board, or even if you have served many years ago, I hope that you will take a moment to think about the possibility of Board service for this coming year. The Nominating Committee is looking to fill five vacant Trustee positions and my understanding is that several of these critically important volunteer positions are still open.

Having now served on the Board for three years, I have come to believe that every member of this church ought to consider serving at least one term on the Board of Trustees. Each of us has unique talents and gifts to share with the congregation, and each of us brings a unique and valuable perspective on the issues facing the church. Serving on a Board also provides great opportunities for personal and professional growth in areas such as leadership development, conflict resolution, finance and budgeting, and organizational management. I sincerely hope that you will consider serving on the PBUUC Board of Trustees this coming year.



Jonathan Mawdsley, Board Chair

ANNOUNCING THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – SUNDAY, JUNE 13, 2010, IN THE MEETING HOUSE, FOLLOWING THE 10 AM SUNDAY SERVICE.

Topics to be addressed at the Annual Meeting include:

- * presentation from the Budget Leadership Team on the 2010-2011 church budget,
- * update on "Reclaiming our Space" and what we are doing to close the budget gap,
- * report from "Healthy Congregations" workshop series,
- * elections for open Trustee positions and other leadership positions.

JOIN THE PBUUC LIST SERV



Would you like another easier way of keeping abreast of activities and news here at PBUUC? You are encouraged to join the PBUUC list serv, a low volume email service that allows you to receive information and updates on a regular basis. Send an email to Ken Montville, the list serv moderator, at ken.montville@remax.net. You will then receive an invitation to join the list serv group. Follow the directions and you will soon be getting all the latest information about PBUUC activities.

Ken Montville, moderator

Religious Exploration News

Our Seventh Unitarian Universalist Principle talks about the interdependent web of which we are all part. Often, I think of it in terms of our relationship to the earth. But it also applies to our relationships with one another. We cannot afford to ignore people, cultures or traditions that are different than our own. We are all part of the web of life.

I've been thinking more about this aspect of our interdependent web since attending a thought-provoking training for religious educators on Multicultural Religious Education last month, led by Natalie Fenimore, the Director of Religious Exploration at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax. Some of you may know her as a past DRE here at Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church.

Multicultural Religious Exploration is not just about race and ethnicity but also about gender, class and physical abilities. It helps us take in the views and perspectives of others, eradicates stereotypes, broadens our own cultural perspectives and helps others hold on to who they are and understand and accept others, Ms. Fenimore said.

James A. Banks, a major theorist in Multicultural Education, says, "The goal of Multicultural Education is an education for freedom that is essential in today's ethnically polarized and troubled world. It promotes freedom, abilities, and skills to cross ethnic and cultural boundaries to participation in other cultures and groups. It should help people develop the knowledge, attitudes, and skills to participate in a democratic and free society. At its heart, Multicultural Education is "education for social justice."

It also helps prepare us and our children for the diverse world in which we live, where the minority population of the United States is expected to rise to 42 percent of our population by the year 2050, according to U.S. Census Bureau projections.

During the training, we talked about the importance of knowing the stories, both personal and institutional, of who we are, and the need to pay attention to the silences, noticing who's left out, ignored, or avoided, in our lives and the lives of our congregations.

We also talked about the need to engage in critical reflection on the insights of the stories uncovered and the silences heard. We were also reminded that diversity brings not only a new richness but can also engender some grief and anxiety that we need to find ways to talk about.

PBUUC's Diversity and Anti-Racism Transformation Team, known as DARTT, has already done and continues to do a lot of transforming work on diversity and I look forward to working with them as we move forward during this interim period for religious exploration.

Some of the ways that we can send the message that diversity is welcomed, honored and affirmed in our RE program include:

- examining our RE materials for biases including those relating to race, sexual orientation, physical ability, gender, age and class,
- analyzing books and stories we use to ensure they accurately reflect the realities of a multicultural society,
- including stories and songs from many cultures and many traditions,
- ensuring diversity is reflected in our teaching teams, committees and choice of guest speakers,
- posting pictures and posters that represent a variety of races, cultures, families and ethnicities,
- dealing with differences are identified and dealt with in a positive way,
- communicating to our children and youth that we can work to change unjust situations, and,
- making social justice projects, especially community-based ones, an important part of our RE program.

I welcome your thoughts and ideas on creating a multicultural religious exploration program and encourage you to join in this important work.



Karen Lee Scrivo
Interim Director of Religious Exploration

RE ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR JUNE

SUMMER FUN SUNDAYS – During the summer, our regular Sunday morning Religious Exploration classes take a hiatus. From June 20 through September 5, we will again be offering the Summer Fun program of stories, crafts, outdoor activities and games for children during the Sunday morning service hour. Nursery care will also be available during this time for our youngest members. If you'd like more information, have an idea, or would like to lead or assist one Sunday, please stop by the RE table in the foyer after services or contact RE Chair, Sarah Michailof at minnesarah@yahoo.com.

CALLING ALL TEACHERS – If you enjoy working with children and would like to make a difference in their lives, we are looking for teachers for the 2010-2011 church year. We have openings for all age levels. Please stop by the RE table in the foyer after services or contact Interim DRE Karen Lee Scrivo at [ldre@pbuuc.org](mailto:idre@pbuuc.org).

Financial Notes

I am both sad and pleased to say that this is my last FINANCIAL NOTES article. For the past five years, I have been honored and privileged to be your Treasurer. It has been a great pleasure for me to do this work. (Money is easy for me - but don't ask me to cook a meal or teach Church School.) But no one should continue in the same position for too long and five years is enough. So, on July 1, Mike Stark will become your Treasurer and I will find other ways to contribute to PBUUC.

Over the five years, I have attended virtually every Board meeting and I have had the chance to observe the dedicated people who have given time, talent and attention to all aspects of PBUUC. Through thick and thin, they have carried on and made the hard decisions; from dealing with the aftermath of the fire in my first year, to terminating the lease for the Montessori School in my last year (a courageous and right decision, given current and potential problems of the school).

I have also seen and benefited from the dedicated work so many people do for the congregation. Some of it is largely unseen. John Bartoli keeps track of the Scrip and buys new cards when they are needed. Elizabeth Scheiman, Will Snyder, Becky Nation, Julie Dahmer and Rene McDonald work in the office to answer the phone and do a million small tasks that need doing to keep us humming along. Penny O'Brien always comes early and stays late to help out in the kitchen. These tasks are important to us all, yet they largely go unnoticed. So I am proud to be a part of this church and proud to call many of you friends.

I leave you in somewhat of a financial bind. The budget this year is currently at a deficit. If you have not paid up your pledge, I hope you can do so promptly. We need to save all our reserves to meet the challenges of the next few years.



Next year will be even more difficult with the departure of the Montessori School. The Budget Leadership Team (BLT) has worked hard on the budget and the Board will be finalizing it soon. There is a possibility that we will pay off a part of our mortgage principal. If we can do this, it would have the effect of reducing our budget obligations for many years into the future. \$1,000 paid now not only reduces our mortgage by \$1,000, it saves an additional \$780 in interest costs over the life of the mortgage - a double whammy if you will. This in turn allows us to put our resources where they matter - into programs.

I know you will be in good hands with Mike. He is smart and quick and he is resigning most of his other church work to take this on. I know he will do a great job. Mike, it's all yours!

In Faith, *Ellen Cotts*

Social Action Committee (SAC) News

UU UNITED NATIONS OFFICE TRAINING FOR ENVOYS AT RIVER ROAD ON JUNE 5

Want to know how you can get involved in international issues and help Paint Branch people of all ages participate in world events? On Saturday, June 5, an introductory training day is being held at the River Road UU Congregation in Bethesda, from 10 am to 4 pm. Contact Marge Owens if you are able to attend with her. lowellowens@comcast.net or 301-345-1572.

BEST EVER UNITED NATIONS INTERGENERATIONAL SEMINAR: REPORT FROM NEW YORK CITY



Picture a room that looks out on the UN headquarters; flags of all the member states are blowing in the wind; the room is full of over 200 UUs. Half of them are high school and early college students; the other half are older. And

half of both age groups are from the US, while the others are Canadians. Even if none of the scheduled speakers showed up there would be constant good discussions of the topic for this year's Intergenerational Seminars: "Ethical Aspects of a Climate Treaty." People come prepared every year, especially the younger crowd.

The first day of presentations was predominantly an overview of the science of climate change, given by two senior investigators from Rutgers University. The second day we had a panel of UN officials who had prepared working papers for the negotiators at the Copenhagen Treaty Conference in December 2009. They left us with the view that a satisfying amount of progress was made on extremely thorny issues. Lowell and I have gone to at least four of these seminars. I hope I can get to at least ten more.

Marge Owens

FRED TEAL'S MESSAGE AT THE APRIL SAC MEETING

Fred is now a media consultant for the Chesapeake Climate Action Network (CCAN) and is asking for all of us to forward news items or event announcements to him at ftealjr@yahoo.com. He has information about the legislation that passed in this session; some that did not pass; what the Governor is expected to sign, etc. Watch for a letter writing table after a Sunday service soon.

CAPITAL PRIDE PARADE AND FESTIVAL



If you would like to stand in solidarity with the area GBLT community, and have a good time, mark your calendar for the annual parade on Saturday, June 12, beginning at 6:30 pm. To get information on where to

meet, contact Elizabeth Fogarty at eafogarty@aol.com. Decorate your bicycle, wave your rainbow flag, celebrate! There are always Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopal, and Jewish Congregations, as well as other UU churches. Paint Branch should be there, too.

The next day, on Pennsylvania Avenue near the East Wing Art Museum, from 11 am to 6:00 pm, there will be booths with all kinds of information and various kinds of outstanding food. Contact Elizabeth Fogarty for information about where the UU booth's location or contact Tish Hall at lbhall@comcast.net, or Marge Owens at lowellowens@comcast.net.

A LETTER FROM ARIZONA

The Minister of the UU Congregation of Phoenix, Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, is asking all of us to express our support for those who are resisting the draconian laws recently passed and signed in Arizona. A large rally was planned for May 29th that included a coalition of immigrant groups, faith communities, and local organizations. The President of the UUA, Rev. Peter Morales, participated. Rev. Gray asks that we let our Representatives and Senators in Congress as well as our Governor, know that we do not support "police state tactics" as she put it.

*Marj Donn
(SAC NEWS - continued next page)*

**NETWORK OF SPIRITUAL
PROGRESSIVES
HOLDS NATIONAL CONFERENCE
IN WASHINGTON, JUNE 11-14**

Join liberals and progressives at a national conference which will develop strategies for the Obama years that will move us towards creating a more caring society, both for each other and for our earth home. Believing we need to redefine "progress" as moving towards a society focused not on maximizing profits but on generating love and kindness, and supporting ethical, caring and environmentally sensitive behavior, this conference will take those values and consider how to apply them to new directions for our country. A small group of PBUUC members have been attending the monthly NSP meetings and have read Rabbi Lerner's books and articles. His ideas are eminently practical and seem so obvious when the context is supplied that we wonder why anyone has reservations. The meetings are generally the fourth Wednesday of the month in Room 1 of the Religious Exploration Building.

Resisting the corporate takeover of American society is another conference theme - with a call for the *Environmental and Social Responsibility Amendment* to the U.S. Constitution. It would require corporations with incomes of over \$100 million per year to demonstrate their environmental and social responsibility to a jury of ordinary citizens every five years in order to maintain their corporate charter. Electoral reform is also needed to reduce the power of money in politics - especially in light of the Supreme Court's recent decision in *Citizens United* - which opened the door to unlimited spending by corporations in our elections.

Other issues to be discussed at the conference include immigration reform and an end to the harassment of immigrants, Middle East peace - focusing on a settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and countering the idea of tax-cutting for the rich and protection for corporations with a vision of a society founded on love and caring.

Speakers include an array of well known and respected progressives such as Bill Moyer, David Korten, Congressmen Keith Ellison, Dennis Kucinich, Rabbi Michael Lerner, Rev. Brian McLaren, Sister Joan Chittister, and Jeremy Ben-Ami from J Street - along with many others. Flyers about this important national conference are in the church lobby. Our Paint Branch Social Action Committee is proud to support the Network of Spiritual Progressives. And welcomes its Maryland Chapter which has been meeting at Paint Branch monthly since the last NSP national conference was held at All Souls Unitarian Church in Washington D.C. a few years ago. SAC members hope that many Paint Branchers will join them in volunteering for and attending this important national conference. It will be held on Capitol Hill at the Lutheran Church of the Reformation at 212 East Capitol Street between June 11-14.

For more information, please visit www.spiritualprogressives.org/conference or call [510-644-1200](tel:510-644-1200). Registration information is available and there is a sliding fee scale according to income, with volunteers for the conference having reduced fees. You can also contact Nancy Boardman, PBUUC Member and NSP member at nancyboardman3@gmail.com or 301-982-3450.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

On Sunday, May 16, Paint Branchers contributed \$475 to the UU Legislative Ministry of Maryland. On Sunday, June 6, there will be a special collection for Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice, our local social justice organization. Upcoming beneficiaries include CROP /Church World Service for Hunger, Waterkeepers Alliance and the Rainbow Youth Alliance, a ministry to GLBT and questioning youth of the UU Church of Rockville.



Denominational Affairs

UUA BOARD OF TRUSTEES ASK 2010 GA DELEGATES TO VOTE TO MOVE 2012 GA FROM PHOENIX

The UUA Board has approved a resolution to ask 2010 General Assembly (GA) delegates to vote to withdraw from Phoenix for the 2012 GA. PBUUC's Denominational Affairs Committee will be asking the congregation to instruct our delegates on either voting their conscience or to vote for or against the resolution.

The UUA Board's action comes in response to the passage of an Arizona law cracking down on illegal immigration which many fear will lead to increased racial profiling and civil liberties violations.

According to the UUA Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer, the UUA would be subject to penalties of up to \$615,000 if it cancels its contracts with Phoenix hotels after June 15. According to the resolution the 2010 GA delegates will consider, this money would be offset by funds raised by UU congregations, although it is unclear how the resolution would raise this money—or the “equal or greater amount” it also pledges to raise to support public witness efforts in Arizona—without cutting funding for other UUA programs and services.

Trustees opposed to a boycott cite the need to stand in solidarity with the people of Arizona; the importance of honoring commitments; and the likelihood of harming the hospitality industry, which employs many of the people potentially affected by SB1070.

Trustees favoring a boycott said that the UUA would be standing with other groups that are boycotting the state. (Just before the meeting, the National Council of La Raza, the largest national Hispanic civil rights and advocacy organization in the country, called for a boycott of Arizona. They were joined by the Asian American Justice Center, the Center for Community Change, the League of United Latin American Citizens, and the Service Employees International Union, among others.) A boycott would also be a way of asserting UU values in the world, and would avert the possibility that UUs coming to the conference might be targeted.

Reaction to the UUA Board of Trustees not making the decision has also been mixed, with some castigating the UUA Board for tossing the difficult decision into the hands of delegates who may not be fully informed or prepared to vote and who may not have time to solicit their congregations' input. Others applaud the UUA Board for involving a wider range of voices in this significant vote.

Please go to www.uua.org and type in 'Phoenix' for more information about this important matter.

LAST CALL FOR PAINT BRANCH UU CHURCH DELEGATES TO UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY (GA)

Please contact Don Gerson, Chair; or Carol Carter Walker, Member, Denominational Affairs Committee, if you'd like to be one of our five lay delegates to the 2010 GA June 23-27 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Your name must be submitted to the Congregation's Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 13. So far, the proposed delegates are: Nancy Boardman, Marj Donn and Carol Carter Walker.

UUA TO TAKE FINAL VOTE ON STATEMENT OF CONSCIENCE ON PEACEMAKING

The major formal social justice business at the 2010 General Assembly will be discussion, modification and a final vote on Peacemaking. Programs and workshops will be conducted on Ethical Eating, a Congregational Study/Action Issue, headed for a final vote in 2012.

Please go to www.uua.org and type in “Commission on Social Witness” for more information and the statements and the process.

Carol Carter Walker



Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team (DARTT) News & Events

LEARNING TO TWO-STEP

[In this column Jessica Sharp writes about a specific experience that took place in November of 2006 during her yearlong cross-country road trip.]

It was just like a movie. There were names like Two-Step and Crazy Freddie. There was Zydeco music and cold beer in a dark room. And there was me.

I knew going in that I would be out of place, but I did it anyway. After 11 months on the road I had gotten used to being an enigma, as unfamiliar faces usually are in America's smallest towns. But when I walked into T. Willie's Bar and Lounge, however, I wasn't just unfamiliar. I was white.

Baldwin, Louisiana is a nearly all-black village 90 miles west of New Orleans, so I planned on getting some strange looks. But beyond that, I had no answers. Would they be nice to me? Would they kick me out? Would they say mean things?



You know that moment in a movie where a lot of activity is going on, then someone walks in or says something and there's a "record scratch" sound, followed by everyone freezing and staring? Well, it was like

that, except in real life. Glasses stopped clinking. Beer bottles were suspended in air mid-sip. So I smiled, pretended not to notice, and ordered a Miller Lite from the old woman behind the bar. She handed it to me wordlessly.

Just when I was starting to think that I would leave without making any new friends, he came over.

"I'm Leroy!" he said brightly. "What are you doing here?"

I laughed. "Just hanging out. I'm Jessica, I'm a travel writer."

"That's cool, baby, that's cool!" We chatted for a few minutes, during which everyone in the room seemed to take a deep breath and go back to normal. "You like music?" he asked, and I nodded. "Two-Step! Turn them speakers on and let's show this girlie how to dance!"

A Curtis Mayfield look-alike in suspenders and a straw hat turned on some modern Zydeco with a hip-hop beat, and Leroy began to twirl me around the 'dance floor,' which was really just any space not taken up by a barstool or a table.

"Like this, Jess, yeah, that's right!" As we passed other patrons he introduced me. "This here's Janie. And this is Old Roger."

An older gentleman cut in on our dance with awkward steps. "And this is Crazy Freddie," Leroy said, handing me off. Then he whispered in my ear, "No, really, he's crazy. Don't get upset about a word he says, he's just touched in the head." So as Crazy Freddie mumbled to me about how he was going to marry me, the little cracker, the little cracker, I just laughed and tried to keep up with his steps.

"You have to stay all night," everyone told me. "Leroy gonna be DJ'ing some *down-home* music tonight! You stayin'?"

"Of course!" I said. "I wouldn't want to be anywhere else."

They gave me directions to a motel, told me to "check in and hurry back, we 'bout ta feed ya!" and then filled me full of sweet oysters and shrimp po'boys upon my return. Later that night, after we had all danced for hours, Two-Step told me, "You a good girl. You come on back sometime."

I just smiled. I had my answers.

DIVERSITY DIALOGUES

*Honoring the Inherent Worth and Dignity
of Every Person*

NOTE: There will be no June Diversity Dialogues due to the Congregational Meeting on June 13.

Sunday, July 11, 11:45, Enrichment Hour

The next Diversity Dialogues will be in July and we are excited to be able to devote so much lead time to our next topic. The Diversity Dialogues focus on short articles or essays as a starting point for deep conversation. Links to the selected article(s) are provided here in Branches and are posted on the Paint Branch website (pbuuc.org).

The topic for July is based on the article "Black college students get a lesson in cyber-racism" which can be found at on the following website: <http://www.thegrio.com/opinion/black-college-students-get-a-lesson-in-cyber-racism.php>

This article includes not only findings about how the anonymity of the internet may be fostering racism, but touches on the Harvard law student, who wrote an email message to a few of her classmates proclaiming her belief that blacks are "less intelligent on a genetic level" than whites and the fact that young adults have been hosting and attending "gangsta" themed parties where white students mock black culture.

Taking time to read the articles in advance allows the group to share the same information and facts about the topic at hand in addition to sharing from their own personal experiences. The above article in particular has additional links to resources and helps build a strong understanding of the topic at hand.

We meet during Enrichment Hour on second Sundays and we welcome all to join in as we engage our minds and our hearts in exploring and sharing both the challenges and the opportunities of personal and collective transformation to embrace diversity in all its forms. Join us on a journey toward wholeness.

Please contact Cynthia Robinson (crr@pipeline.com, 202-215-1054) or Theresa Brown Shute (tbshute@gmail.com, 301-455-8418) for more information.

DIVERSITY/ANTI-RACISM TRANSFORMATION (DARTT) TEAM MEETS TUESDAY, JUNE 1

All are welcome at the DARTT meeting on Tuesday, June 1, at 7:30 pm in Room 1 of the Religious Exploration Building. DARTT meets on the first Tuesday of each month to plan activities for personal and institutional transformation. This is your opportunity to share feedback and new ideas. If you can't join us, please send your input to dartt@pbuuc.org.

JOURNEY TOWARD WHOLENESS FILM SERIES CONTINUES ON SUNDAY, JUNE 27



The Diversity/Anti-Racism Transformation Team will screen a film and host a discussion on Sunday, June 27 during an extended Enrichment Hour from 11:45 am to 2:15 pm. Child care and snacks will be provided. Donations are greatly appreciated.

The film selection will be announced in upcoming Sunday Bulletins and on the PBUUC listserv. It will be chosen to advance our personal and congregational journey on the road to deconstruction of racism.

Other News and Notes

CANCELLATION NOTICE:

The Music Together Montgomery Classes, originally scheduled for this summer, will not be offered as was planned.

PREVENTIVE HEALTH SCREENINGS

Life Line Screening is renting space from PBUUC in order to offer preventive health screening for the local community. The screenings will be offered, in prices ranging from \$119 to \$149, on Wednesday, June 16, at the PBUUC meeting house. The screenings can test for stroke risk, vascular disease, and bone density. Call 1-888-653-6441, or visit www.lifelinescreening.com, for more information and to pre-register.

In and Around Paint Branch

ETHNIC DINNERS: MARYLAND ETHNIC LOCAVORE DINNER MENU PLANNING MEETING ON SUNDAY, JUNE 27

This year's *May* Ethnic Dinner will be in *August*! Some time ago Jeri Holloway suggested we do Maryland. Good idea! Last year, the Green Team's Jennifer Robinson, suggested we do a locavore dinner. I told her, "That's not ethnic", but then put the two together and realized, it's not ethnic; it's ethical, and how much more locavore can we get than Maryland? So, Ethnic Dinners and Green Team will work together to produce a **Maryland Locavore** Dinner. It will be on August 28 (peak of harvest & crab season), and will be earlier in the day so children can attend.

With two committees and a dual theme, this one may require a little extra planning, so on Sunday, June 27, we will hold a menu planning meeting during Enrichment Hour following the service. Ethnic Dinner committee people, Green Team people and anyone else with a recipe or suggestion are urged to attend. We want historic and traditional Maryland dishes and any other dishes which can be prepared with locally raised food, in season the end of August. If you can donate produce from your garden, let us know so we can include it when planning the menu. If you have any ideas for involving the children, or activities or special dishes for them during the dinner, we want to hear from you. Contact Marilyn Pearl at buffalo_gal@verizon.net or Rene McDonald, 301-779-1643, rm.opal@verizon.net.

HEARING ON PROPOSED CHURCH BUDGET, SUNDAY, JUNE 6, DURING ENRICHMENT HOUR

The Budget Leadership Team (BLT) invites you to a question and answer session on its proposed budget for the upcoming church year on Sunday, June 6 during Enrichment Hour in the Kelley Room. Child care will be provided. This will be an opportunity for you to preview the proposed budget in advance of the discussion at the Congregational Meeting on June 13. Feedback from the BLT Hearing and the Congregational Meeting will inform the Board's decision on the budget for 2010-2011. See you at the Hearing! *Carol Carter Walker, Chair, BLT.*

GREEN SANCTUARY TEAM NEWS



Twenty-five percent of the UU Churches either have Green Sanctuary status or are working towards it for their congregations. That is great evidence that we UUs are practicing what we preach.

- The Green Sanctuary Team is on course with its projects, and more activities are in the planning stages. You won't want to miss the Locavore Ethnic Dinner in August (see preceding article). The young people in RE will participate more actively in the recycling, including the recycling of cardboard and corrugated boxes.
- The campaign to sign up members for wind generated electricity through PEPCO or BGE will run through July 31. Save money and possibly earn money for PBUUC. Wind energy rates are lower than standard rates. Each kilowatt hour of standard electricity creates 1.2 lbs of CO2. For more details, contact Fred Teal at 301-774-8151 or at ftealjr@yahoo.com.



"BRANCHES" IS GOING GREEN!

In an effort to promote good stewardship of our environment and our church financial resources, the Board has decided to send the newsletter primarily via email starting with the July Issue. Each person in a household who wishes to receive the newsletter electronically will need to submit a separate email address. Sign up in the Meeting House Foyer, or fill out the form appearing in the Sunday Bulletin or send an email to the church office with your name and email address by Sunday, June 13. A limited number of paper copies will still be printed for those members who lack access to a computer. Please call the church office at (301) 937-3666 to request a printed copy.

(more news next page)

WEAVING THE WEB: GOODBYE, FAREWELL AND AMEN

This is my last column as Webmaster, as I will become your Treasurer on July 1. I recruited Mark Shute at last year's Involvement Fair, and he agreed to take over, as it conveniently followed his May 2010 graduation – yay Mark! I have already recruited Will Snyder to serve as the liaison to the office staff and volunteers, if you are interested in working on the Web site contact Mark at mshute@umd.edu.

In other Web news, the Legacy Fund awarded a grant to revamp the Web Site. This will involve installing a modern content management system and revamping the site to reflect the message the church wishes to convey to the wider world. This effort will start with the Mark Shute "Webmastership."

It is important to note that bringing in Web consultants can help us identify what we want and install it, and that this is necessary, but far from sufficient. If we want the web site to reflect the living church rather than an admittedly prettier late 2010 snapshot, we will need the entire congregation to participate both in updating content and identifying new features to install as technology evolves.

I will be one of those congregants, as I have ideas for how I want to use the Web to convey finance-related information to the congregation, and possibly help out the social action / Interweave area. But as of 1 July, all the kudos, ideas, questions, and feedback should be directed at Mark.

Mike Stark

PUBLICITY & OUTREACH COMMITTEE NEWS: ORDER YOUR PBUUC T-SHIRT !



The Publicity and Outreach Committee has started taking pre-orders for the new PBUUC t-shirt. Tell us your size and color preference and you are guaranteed a shirt at the June Congregational Meeting! The T-shirts only cost \$15.00 each with profits going to fill the budget gap as we Reclaim our Space! See Kathy Kearns (kkearns@hotmail.com) or Theresa Brown Shute (tbshute@gmail.com) for details.

ART GALLERY NEWS

Our guest artist for May 29 through July 11 is Shari MacFarlane, a member of the UU Congregation of Fairfax. Ms. MacFarlane's paintings have a strong abstract, expressionist appearance but hold a style all their own. Vibrant layers of color, sometimes adding collage papers, charcoal, and oil pastel lines to a water media base, create lush textural surfaces. Painting intuitively, she explores the relationship between her spirit and the evolving art. To see more, visit her website at sharimacfarlane.com. "If you would like further information or to purchase one of the paintings please contact Ms. MacFarlane at 703-849-8290 or sharimacfarlane@verizon.net."

WEDNESDAY LUNCH CLUB TO MEET JUNE 16 AT MAMA LUCIA'S

The Third Wednesday UU Hyattsville area Lunch Klub will meet June 16 at 1:00 pm at Mama Lucia's Italian restaurant in the College Park shopping center at Baltimore Avenue (Route 1) and Cherry Hill Road (across from the IHOP). This large homey place is reputed to have very excellent pizza, as well as a huge menu of standard and more unusual authentic Italian dishes. If you are able to join us, please contact Marge Owens at lowellowens@comcast.net or 301-345-1572 so we will know how many reservations to make.

ENRICHMENT HOUR BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP: 2016: A NOVEL OF AMERICA AND THE WORLD

What do you think life will be like in the year 2016? Join a summer discussion group which will feature a book entitled 2016: A novel of America and the World, written by Marj Donn, a member of this congregation. This group will meet from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm on 12 Sundays beginning July 4. Please see the web calendar for meeting locations. If you don't yet have a book, contact Marj at 301-474-1353.

PBUUC LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

❧ STAFF ❧

Minister	Rev. Diane Teichert	301-937-3666
Music Director and pianist	David Chapman	301-937-3666
Interim RE Director	Karen Lee Scrivo	301-937-3666
Rel. Exploration Asst	Kweli Powell	301-937-3666
Church Administrator	Daniel Everitt	301-937-3666
Administrative Asst/Bookkeeper	Rebecca Birnie	301-937-3666
Dir. Chalice Dancers	Sharon Werth	301-937-3666
Sunday Service/Bldg. Mgrs:		
•	Chuck Bury	301 799-2535
•	Jesse Crowley	301-345-2663
•	Jon Washburn	301-384-5156
Child Care	Kamini Wickramaratne	301-937-3666

❧ OFFICERS AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES ❧

Chair	Jonathan Mawdsley	301-982-4520
Vice Chair	Carol Carter Walker	202-636-8138
Vice Chair	Bettie Young	301-490-4957
Trustee	Tim Illig	410-707-6678
Trustee	Ken Montville	301-464-8367
Trustee	Susannah Schiller	301-776-1887
Trustee	Peter Wathen-Dunn	301-270-2391
Trustee	VACANT	
Trustee	VACANT	
Secretary	Anita Wagner	703-401-7230
Assistant Secretary	John Sebastian	301-589-6808
Treasurer	Ellen Cotts	301-572-3983
Assistant Treasurer	Mike Stark	301-441-2473

❧ CARING COMMUNITY ❧

Pastoral Care Associates:		
•	Carol Boston	301-585-4183
•	Raman Pathik	301-890-9072
•	Deb Rubenstein (Lead)	301-891-2071

❧ WE CARE COORDINATOR FOR JUNE ❧

Elizabeth Scheiman 301-731-2874

❧ WORSHIP ASSOCIATES ❧

- Abby Crowley 301-345-2663
- Tish Hall 301-681-1457
- Don Henderson 301-977-1186
- Donald Mitchell 301-776-2359
- Marilyn Pearl 301-805-1218
- Shantida 301-593-0417

❧ BRANCHES ❧

Copy Editor	Daniel Everitt	301-937-3666
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❧ COMMITTEES ❧

Arts Council	Julie Dahmer	301-890-7807
Budget Leadership	Carol Carter Walker	202-636-8138
Buildings & Grounds	James Alexander	301-277-3211
DARTT (co-chairs)	Tricia Most	301-445-2821
	Carol Carter Walker	202-636-8138
DIV Team	Tim Illig	410-707-6678
Denominational Affairs		
	Donald Gerson	240-293-6570
Finance	Don Henderson	301-681-4033
Green Sanctuary	Jennifer Robinson	301-906-9966
Legacy Fund	Liz Citrin	410-531-6319
Membership	Carol Boston	301-585-4183
Ministry	Muriel Morisey	301-270-2391
Nominating	Kate Brett	301-931-9024
Personnel	Will Snyder	301-219-2870
Publicity & Outreach	Kathy Kearns	301-277-5211
(co chairs)	Theresa Brown Shute	301-455-8418
Religious Exploration	Sarah Michailof	301-277-1467
Social Action (convener)		
	Pat Malik	301-772-1477
Stewardship (Canvass)		
	Pat Tompkins	301-474-3858

❧ GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES ❧

Auction	Jan Montville	301-464-6298
Beacon House	Nathan Rummel	301-776-8551
Bridge	Ellen Cotts	301-572-3983
Chalice Dancers	Jennifer Grant	240-426-1277
Coffee Coordinator	Raman Pathik	301-890-9072
Ethnic Dinners	Marilyn Pearl	301-805-1218
Golf Club	Tim Illig	410-707-6678
Handcraft Circle	Marie Gore	301-572-4679
Marriage Enrichment	Don Fairfield	301-552-4330
Men's Group	Peter Wathen-Dunn	301-270-2391
Nature Spirituality Circle		
	Cory Carter	301-982-4520
Quest Discussion Group		
	Lowell Owens	301-345-1572
Shamanic Journeying		
	Mary Tyrtle Rooker	301-891-1288
Spirituality Circle	Amy Steiner	301-890-9072
TWedHUULK	Marge Owens	301-345-1572
Ushers	Esther Nichols	301-864-2068
Writers Group	Ann Bolt	301-774-1960

PAINT BRANCH**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH****3215 POWDER MILL ROAD****ADELPHI, MD 20783-1097.****(301) 937-3666****WEBSITE: WWW.PBUUC.ORG****EMAIL: CHURCHADMIN@PBUUC.ORG**

**Check here if you no longer wish to receive
this mailing and return to PBUUC**

SAVE THESE IMPORTANT DATES:

- **JUNE 6TH – ENRICHMENT HOUR:
BUDGET LEADERSHIP TEAM HEARINGS**
- **JUNE 13TH – ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING FOLLOWING THE SUNDAY SERVICE**

Branches Deadlines:

- **July Edition – Friday, June 18**
- **August Edition – Tuesday, July 20**