



THE BFUU COMMUNICATOR

Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists

510-841-4824 office@bfuu.org www.bfuu.org

April 2023



Worship Service Sundays at 10:30 AM*

reading this offline? please email worshiponline@bfuu.org for link

April 2: Liberation Stories

Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb (she/her)

Join Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb as she shares liberation stories in honor of Passover, Easter, and Ramadan.



April 9: Easter: Love, Death, Grief and Hope

Rev. Dr. Caroline Knowles (she/her)

****IN PERSON Service, BFUU Fellowship Hall, 1924 Cedar Street****

Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles celebrates Easter—the time when the words of Jesus, his stories, his counsel speak to us and have the power to transform our lives.

April 16: Mitigating Climate Change

Rev. Jojo V. Gabuya (they/them)

Climate Change is one of this era's greatest moral challenges. It is inseparable from the core values of many faith traditions. Severe storms, changing seasonal conditions, and other climate changes impact social justice and peace advocacy. How can we as a people of faith help in mitigating climate change and create a healthier, safer, and more stable world for All?



April 23: Healing In Community: The Power of Music

Kaitie Ty Warren (she/they)

****IN PERSON Service, BFUU Fellowship Hall, 1924 Cedar Street****

Singing is good for you! It reduces stress, improves memory and gives your heart and lungs a workout... But the biggest benefit of singing is

when it is done in community with other people, which creates feelings of inclusion and belonging. In this service, we will explore how singing together supports not only the individual, but also the wellness of the community as a whole.

April 30: The Anthropocene Age: Saving Us from Us

Rev. Ben Meyers (he/him)

The clock is ticking on the fate of the Earth as we know it, set in motion by our own doing. Geologists suggest naming this current era "The Anthropocene Period," or The Age of Humankind since the future of the Earth is now, literally, in our hands. As stewards/partners of creation, how can we 'save ourselves from ourselves?' The Rev. Ben Meyers will lead a service encompassing wit, wisdom, and our Unitarian Universalist principles to explore a path forward. All are worthy, all are welcome.



Please see [page 3](#) for our Minister/Speaker bios.



Office: 1606 Bonita Ave Berkeley CA 94709
510-841-4824 office@bfuu.org www.bfuu.org

Clergy & Staff

Reverend Dr. Carrie Knowles, *Minister*
Reverend Tom McAninley, *Community Minister*
Lynn/Luna Orlando, *Recording Secretary*
Susan Macke, *Office Coordinator*
Veneé Call-Ferrer, *Event Space Coordinator*
Ed Keating, *Facilities Manager*
Shae Jewell, *Sexton*

Board of Trustees

Margaret Hurlbert, *President*
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Steve Ogden (Alternate)

Committees

Aesthetics (Subcommittee of B&G)
Chair currently vacant
Building & Grounds Committee
Abbot Foote, Co-Chair
Ben Burch, Co-Chair
Caring Community
Chair currently vacant
Committee on Ministry
Jinky Gardner, Chair
Finance Committee
Ben Burch, Co-Chair
Abbot Foote, Co-Chair
Hospitality Committee
Chair currently vacant
Membership Committee
Jeff Palmer, Convener/Chair
Music Committee
Margaret Hurlbert, Chair
Nominating Committee
Virginia Hollins-Davidson, Chair
Personnel Committee
Ben Burch, Convener/Chair
Poetry Committee
Frances Hillyard, Chair
Gene Herman, Poet Laureate
Religious Education (RE) Committee
Chair currently vacant
Social Justice Committee (SJC)
Co-Chairs Phoebe Sorgen and
Gene Herman
SJM Task Force (Subcom of SJC)
Margaret Hurlbert, Convener
Worship Services Committee
Melissa R, Co-Chair
Jeff Palmer, Co-Chair

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in The Communicator are those of individuals and are not necessarily those of BFUU, its officers, or its trustees.

President's Corner

Hi Everyone,

I am happy to let you know that our solar panels in the Fellowship Hall are up and running! This is so exciting, and thanks for all of the hard work by Ben Burch, Abbot Foote, Ed Keating and others for their help in getting the permits, etc. It is helping to fight Climate Change and saves us money as well!

Starting this month (April) we will be having two in-person hybrid services each month, on the second and fourth weeks of the month. We welcome you to join in person or on Zoom. Thanks for all of the hard work by Melissa and Jeff for helping arrange for speakers.

Cheers,

Margaret Hurlbert
President, BFUU Board of Trustees



BFUU Worship Service Team



Worship Service Team March 5, 2023

top: Steve, Frances, Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb;
2nd row: Ardys, Margaret, Barbara, Ben;
3rd row: Lawrance, Virginia, Melissa

Worship Service Leaders March 2023

April 2: Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb (she/her)

Lynn Gottlieb is Rabbi Emerita of the Congregation Nahalat Shalom in Albuquerque, NM. Now a resident of Berkeley, CA, Rabbi Lynn engages in multifaith, intergenerational and multicultural organizing in solidarity with racial, indigenous, gender justice and Palestinian liberation struggles as she teaches joyful spirituality, storytelling, ceremony, and ritual arts.

April 9: Rev. Dr. Caroline Knowles (she/her)

Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles describes herself as a recovering psychologist and recovering attorney, who graduated from Starr King in 2011 and was ordained to UU ministry in 2013. Along with providing pastoral care at BFUU and preaching at Bay Area churches as a guest speaker, she writes poetry, short stories, and is working on a memoir.

April 16: Rev. Jojo V. Gabuya (they/them)

Reverend Jojo V. Gabuya is a Filipinx non-binary/transgender interfaith minister, Blessed Tomorrow Ambassador, and a diversity and inclusion leader. They are practicing the Dao philosophy and Veganism to create a healthier, safer, and more stable world for ALL.

April 23: Katie Ty Warren (she/they)

Katie Ty Warren is a community song leader and community builder. She is the founder and co-director of the Living Room Choir ANEW in El Cerrito, which aims to build community through music. Katie writes and creates visual art in addition to her work as a community song leader. She has developed voice work for folks with Parkinsons, and a Simple Harmonies class for babies. Katie teaches private lessons upon request.

April 30: Rev. Ben Meyers (he/him)

Rev. Ben Meyers is a resident of Oakland, and serves as a Hospice Chaplain and Spiritual Care Provider for Bridge Home Hospice patients and their families in Alameda County. His ministry spans 28 years: half of that time as a parish minister and half as a social justice/community minister. He is the proud father of two sons and loves spending as much time as possible with his two-year old grandson. His passion is working with faith-based communities throughout the country to accelerate the adoption of clean energy--especially solar--as a moral imperative.

Regular Committee Meetings (via Zoom through Shelter In Place)

Aesthetics (subcom. of B&G)

Meets as needed

contact [Aesthetics Committee](#)

Buildings & Grounds (B&G)

Meets once per month,

contact [Ben and Abbot](#)

Caring

meets as needed

contact [Caring Committee](#)

Committee on Ministry

meets as needed

contact [Jinky Gardner](#)

Finance

Meets as needed

contact [Ben and Abbot](#)

Hospitality

meets as needed

contact [Hospitality](#)

Membership

meets as needed

contact [Jeff Palmer](#)

Music

meets as needed

contact [Margaret Hurlbert](#)

Nominating

meets as needed

contact [Virginia Hollins-Davidson](#)

Personnel

Meets as needed

Contact [Ben Burch](#)

Poetry

Meets as needed

contact [Frances Hillyard](#)

Religious Education

Meets as needed

contact [RE Committee](#)

Social Justice Ministry

meets as needed

contact [Margaret Hurlbert](#)

Social Justice (SJC)

3rd Sunday noonish - after service

contact [Phoebe and Gene](#)

Worship Services

1st Friday at 1:30 PM

contact [Worship Services](#)

Community Voices



Happy Birthday!

Ben Burch

Sharon Hwang Colligan

Wyndy Knox Carr

Jean Marie Stine

Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles Office Hours

Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles holds in-person office hours **in the BFUU Office on Tuesday afternoons from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM.**

Please note that Rev. Carrie will be in the BFUU Office, but we are not allowed to use the restrooms on the ground floor of the RE building while New School is in session.

Appointments can be “drop-in,” but also can be requested by email to revcarrie@bfuu.org.



*From our friends at
Transforming
Hearts Collective*

Things are really scary right now for trans communities and our families, so we are sending love to all of you who are personally impacted by the exponential rise in hate and anti-trans legislation. It means a lot to be part of UU communities that are committed to fighting for trans lives.

We’ve added new and updated resources for almost every session. Please check out our updated and expanded [Additional Resources](#) page.* Among other things, we’ve added an entire section of myth-busting resources related to the recent rise in anti-trans rhetoric.

For more ways to support trans, nonbinary, and intersex communities right now, don’t miss this recently updated round-up of [ways to take action](#) from TRUUS.T.

Love,

Rev. Mykal and Zr. Alex

*if you click on a course link and get a “lecture content locked” page, click the red text “you’ll need to login” (not the “enroll” button) and log in. If you haven’t taken the course, BFUU offers free enrollment! Contact BFUU office@bfuu.org 510-841-4824 ext. 1 for further information and/or instructions to enroll free.

All of who you are is sacred. All of who you are is welcome.



Living Longer Small Group!

Are you interested in weighing the actions and plans, the ups and downs for our lives as we face the prospect of living longer than we once imagined? As the pandemic fades, Americans are living longer in good health. For men, the average life expectancy is 77, and it’s 81 for women, but the 10 oldest living Americans are 112 to 115 years old! Reverend Dr. Carrie Knowles is forming a small group concerned with “Living Longer—the Blessings and Challenges of Aging.” The group will meet on Zoom. Rev. Dr. Carrie will be contacting those interested in joining this group to determine the best day of the week and best time of the day.

If you want to join this group, please email revcarrie@bfuu.org.

Community Voices



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PITTSBURGH • JUNE 21 - 25, 2023
BFUU Call for Delegates!

2023 UUA General Assembly

June 21 - 25, 2023

online or in-person in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

BFUU is seeking two delegates to attend the UUA General Assembly in Pittsburgh, PA. Attend online or in-person.

Please contact any Board Member - Margaret Hurlbert, Ben Burch, Jean Marie Stine, Mike Gardner, Phoebe Thomas Sorgen, Gene Herman, Steve Ogden - if you are interested in being a delegate! Some financial support is available for delegates, if needed.

General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Participants worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. BFUU is only allowed two voting delegates, but anyone may attend GA.

GA is a wonderful opportunity to make deep connections with your fellow UU's near and far. Worship, network, and celebrate at services, workshops, meals, meetings, ceremonies, etc.

[Registration](#) for GA is open now and rates are reduced for most attendees before May 15.



Marilyn Naparst photo by Sara Diamond

For all who knew Marilyn Naparst

Social Justice Com friend & ally!

Memorial Service on Prince St.

2pm Fri April 14, 2023

If you come, prior RSVP required:

<http://evite.me/chW9F78W2m>

Poetry Corner

POEM CAT

Cheetah
arrives without warning
lithely twins to favorite branch

turns on a stretch
yawns hunger
sniffs the wind

Cheetah
runs across open spaces
dragging her shadow

Under the moon she is
regally occupied

In the morning dew her careful
footprints describe journeys

Frances Hillyard

Social Justice Report Back

Eye Witness in Nicaragua - Thriving Example of an Alternative to Capitalism



Phoebe to left of teens who are learning skills to reduce risk of abuse. Delegate Erica Caines on right. Delegate Mukasa behind. From the US, he coined the term “Black Power” and fought with the Sandinistas decades ago.

I was honored to be a delegate on an Alliance for Global Justice trip to Nicaragua in January. Having noticed that media in the US malign Nicaragua similarly to Cuba, Venezuela, etc. (and having previously traveled to those countries), I had suspected that the current Sandinista government wouldn't be as bad as portrayed. I was surprised to witness how much that “good government” has accomplished: universal free healthcare (even for visiting foreigners), free education preschool thru grad school, drastic reduction in poverty and maternal mortality, everyone housed, infrastructure such as road paving and a bridge connecting the coasts, #7 in the world for gender equity, 50+% of legislators female,

almost all paid work unionized! A Self-Employed Workers Union includes domestic workers, street and market vendors, motorcycle taxis, childcare providers, poets and artists! In how many other countries is the hard work of a street vendor protected and respected?

The police helped the people thwart a 2018 violent coup attempt which was funded by the US. 222 instigators were arrested, tried, proven guilty of serious crimes, yet granted amnesty on condition of no further crimes or attempts to overthrow the government which had been re-elected by 73%. They broke their amnesty terms so were re-arrested and deported to the US where those criminals were called political prisoners.

Nicaragua handled the pandemic well. Its economy (43% co-ops and family businesses who get interest free loans and free training) grew by 10+% in 2021, but US sanctions DO hurt.

The Delegation report: www.tinyurl.com/NicaBrig

We met with legislators and people from many walks of life including “peasant revolutionaries” in women's agro-ecology cooperatives. To talk with more people, I stayed a week longer, traveling solo. My day by day account: www.tinyurl.com/mputdm95

Biden recently repeated Trump's lie that Nicaragua is a threat to the US. It's only the “threat of a good example.” Hands off Nica! To help Nicaraguans' struggle against imperialist intervention, please sign this:

<https://afgj.org/sign-today-statement-affirming-nicaraguas-sovereignty-and-achievements>

Sincerely, Phoebe Thomas Sorgen



Minister of Women in front of Sandino's portrait, looking like she's wearing his famous hat

BFUU Upcoming Events



Please Join Us at The BFUU to Sing with Kaitie Ty Warren!

April 23rd Sunday 10:30am at BFUU Fellowship Hall

Kaitie Ty Warren (she/they) is a Bay Area-based songleader, teacher, writer and performer. Kaitie Ty Warren's own vocal journey has taken her through decades of theatre work, singing, speech and public performance. Passionate about creating joyful experiences through music, Kaitie uses simple yet beautiful harmonies in her songs to build bridges within communities and bring people together. In 2015 she founded Living Room Choir, which survived the move to Zoom through the pandemic and recently re-opened as Living Room Choir ANEW, co-led by Sara Stutz. Kaitie has also developed voice work for folks with Parkinsons, a Simple Harmonies class for babies and their grown-ups, and teaches private and small group lessons upon request.

KaitieTyWarren.com

TheLivingRoomChoir.com



BFUU Monthly Open Mic – 2nd Fridays



BFUU OPEN MIC

Fri April 14 - 7:00 PM

**Musicians, Poets, Magicians, Comedians, Storytellers, etc.:
Sign-ups begin 6:30. Perform or just come to enjoy! Show time 7pm**



Featured Artist: Hali Hammer

Award-winning singer/songwriter. A founding member of Occupella which plays at political rallies/causes. Bass player and vocalist in Jump-In which performs "folk & oldies." The ReSisters, trio performing political parodies. The Hali Hammer Band performs her originals, plus those of Randy Berge (guitar) and Paul Herzoff (harmonica.) <http://www.halihammer.com/wp/>

Host: Phoebe Thomas Sorgen

Activist/organizer. Former opera singer. Teaches/coaches vocal technique, etc. in private lessons and group classes at Berkeley Adult School.

BFUU legendary Fellowship Hall

1924 Cedar Street (at Bonita Ave)

**One block east of MLK Way, Wheelchair Access on Bonita
Windows open for covid safety so DRESS in WARM LAYERS!**

Stay home if you think you might be contagious.

BYO potluck refreshments (optional)

Suggested donation \$10–\$20 No one turned away. Volunteers needed!

Sponsored by BFUU Social Justice Committee www.BFUU.org

To get low volume Social Justice announcements/alerts, email: bfuusjev-subscribe@lists.riseup.net

BFUU Events and Meetings

Weekly Meetings

BFUU Choir Practice on Tuesdays at 7:00 PM

Choir members practice songs for worship service and fun!

Please contact Margaret at muscom@bfuu.org

Rev. Dr. Carrie Office Hours on Tuesdays 1:00 -5:00 PM in BFUU office

Email Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles at revcarrie@bfuu.org to schedule an appointment.

Worship Service on Sundays at 10:30 AM

All are welcome to attend Worship Service!

Please contact worshipservices@bfuu.org for committee information.

Monthly Meetings

Board of Trustees Meeting 4th Thursday 4/27 at 3:00 PM

BFUU BOT meetings are open to all!

Caring Committee Meeting with Ministers on 3rd Tuesday 4/18 at 11 AM

Please contact Rev. Carrie at revcarrie@bfuu.org

Note that Caring Committee also meets with Hospitality and Membership on 4th Sundays.

Committee on Ministry Meeting 1st Thursday 4/5 at 2:00 PM

This committee is a communication channel between the ministers and the community.

Please contact Jinky at COM@bfuu.org

Elders Circle - please see Wisdom Circle below

Social Justice Committee Meeting **NOTE:** 1st Sunday 4/2 after service (noonish)

(usually 3rd Sunday, just changed for April 2023 - will be via Zoom)

Please contact Phoebe at sjc@bfuu.org

Wisdom Circle 1st Tuesday 4/4 at 11:00 AM

Come one, come all who are young at heart! Age does not matter! Join us for lively conversation. We may even solve some of the worlds problems... or not. We'll have fun trying.

Worship Service Committee Meeting 1st Thursday 4/6 at 5:00 PM

Please contact worshipservices@bfuu.org

some committees meet as needed - please see full committee list on [page 3](#)

Fellowship Calendar April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div> In-Person Worship Services Sundays April 9 & April 23 10:30 AM in BFUU Fellowship Hall and Zoom </div>						<div> BFUU Open Mic Friday April 14 7:00 PM in Fellowship Hall </div> 
2 10:30 am Worship Service ^{*1} Noonish - after service SJC Meeting ^{*1}	3	4 11:00 am Wisdom Circle ^{*1} 1:00 pm Rev. Carrie office hours* 7:00 pm Choir Practice ^{*1}	5	6 2:00 pm COM Meeting [*] 5:00 pm WSC Meeting [*]	7	8
9 10:30 am Worship Service ^{*1}	10	11 7:00 pm Choir Practice ^{*1} 1:00 pm Rev. Carrie office hours*	12	13	14 7:00 pm BFUU Open Mic*	15
16 10:30 am Worship Service ^{*1}	17	18 Caring meeting with ministers [*] 1:00 pm Rev. Carrie office hours* 7:00 pm Choir Practice ^{*1}	19	20 Communicator Deadline	21	22  Earth Day
23 10:30 am Worship Service ^{*1}	24	25 1:00 pm Rev. Carrie office hours* 7:00 pm Choir Practice ^{*1}	26	27 3 pm BFUU Board of Trustees Mtg ^{*1}	28	29
30 10:30 am Worship Service ^{*1}	<p>Please Plan Ahead: Direct links to meetings/registration have ¹ after the link. The remaining links send an email to the meeting organizer – please allow a few days for a reply.</p> <p>If you have questions, please email office@bfuu.org or call the office at 510-841-4824 ext. 1.</p> <p>* Fellowship event ¹meeting link</p>					

Spiritual Growth and Social Justice in the Heart of Berkeley

Building character, enriching spirits, promoting community, and serving humankind through spiritual growth and social action.

BFUU OFFICE by appointment - we are working from home

BFUU OFFICE STAFF

Venee Call-Ferrer - Event Space Coordinator
Phone: 510-841-4824, ext. 3
Email: rooms@bfuu.org

Susan Macke - Office Coordinator
Phone: 510-841-4824, ext. 1
Email: office@bfuu.org

SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR MAY COMMUNICATOR:

April 20, 2023 at 11:00 AM

Please email newsletter@bfuu.org with submissions.

Address Correction Requested

Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists

1606 Bonita Ave.

Berkeley, CA 94709

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