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THE BFUU COMMUNICATOR

Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists

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

Summer 2023



Worship Service Sundays at 10:30 AM*

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



July 2: The Belonging of Everyone: Interdependence Day

IN PERSON Service, BFUU Fellowship Hall, 1924 Cedar Street

Rev. Ben Meyers (he/him)

Liberty, like nature, demands a relationship with us in order for it to continue to sustain us. What kind of relationship do we want our children

to have with liberty? What kind of relationship do we intend to have with it ourselves so that justice, equity and liberty belongs to everyone?

July 9: Happiness as a Way of Being

Rev. Jojo V. Gabuya (they/them)

What is happiness? Why is happiness important? How can we cultivate happiness as a skill? What are the fundamental elements of genuine happiness? How can we practice altruism and compassion, and bring

happiness to ourselves and others? Rev. Jojo V. Gabuya will help us answer these questions, by sharing their learnings from their Chief Well-Being Officer Training.



July 16: Prophetic Transformations: Miriam the Prophet Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb (she/her)

IN PERSON Service, BFUU Fellowship Hall, 1924 Cedar Street

Join Rabbi Lynn for her transformative approach to traditional stories about the ancient prophet whose liberation song is the earliest expression of the prophetic stream in biblical traditions, and still speaks to the struggle for justice in our own time.

July 23: Sally Ride - First Woman in Space

Rev. Dr. Caroline Knowles (she/her)

The splendid life of Sally Ride ended on July 23, 2012. Rev. Dr. Carrie reflects on the entry of women to the challenges of space.





July 30: Does Nature Suffice, or, Isn't the Universe Miracle Enough? Darlene Pagano (she/her)

IN PERSON Service, BFUU Fellowship Hall, 1924 Cedar Street

Our UUA Source #1. Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to

the forces which create and uphold life; If you can't accept a metaphysical "source of the forces which create...." from where then do you reliably experience transcending mystery and wonder?



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*Venee Call-Ferrer, *Event Space Coordinator*Ed Keating, *Facilities Manager*Shae Jewell, *Sexton*

Board of Trustees

Margaret Hurlbert
Ben Burch, Treasurer/Secretary
Jean Marie Stine
Phoebe Sorgen
Simone Chiodini
Christine Dickson (Alternate)
Tom Luce (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, 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.

BFUU Board of Trustees News

BFUU's Annual Meeting on June 11, 2023

The <u>October 2022 Minutes</u> were approved. Thanks to all who reported on Committees, Ministry, and current issues. Thanks also to those who voted for the Board.

Congratulations to our new and returning Board Members!

Simone Chiodini • Margaret Hurlbert Phoebe Sorgen • Jean Marie Stine • Ben Burch Alternates: Christine Dickson • Tom Luce

We thank you in advance for the good work you are willing and able to do to keep BFUU true to our mission and vision!

BFUU ANNUAL MEETING PART 2

Sunday July 9, 2022 at 12:30 PM

We will continue the Annual Meeting to address the tabled items: Item 2: Officers" presentations Item 4(c): Where Do We Go From Here?"

Please plan to join fellow members in community for the Part 2 of our Spring Meeting!



August Worship Services



Worship Service Sundays at 10:30 AM*

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

NOTE: Which August Worship Services will be in-person/hybrid and which, if any, via Zoom only is under discussion. Please see <u>www.bfuu.org/worship-service</u> for updates.



August 6: Where Do We Come From?: Unitarian Universalist History and Heritage in 2000 Words...Or Less! Rev. Ben Meyers (he/him)

People often wonder, "Where has Unitarian Universalism been all my life?"...or they ponder what to tell their family and friends when they talk about 'this religious community' they have been attending —not really

certain how to 'explain' the what/where/who/why/how of UU. Well, this sermon approaches 'where we came from' and where we are headed...IN ABOUT 2000 WORDS! Hold onto your hats, friends, this will be fun! Bring a friend!

August 13: Compassion-based Health and Healing

Rev. Jojo V. Gabuya (they/them)

What is really "normal" in health? How can trauma and stress, and the pressures of modern-day living affect our bodies and minds? Let us learn to untangle common myths on what makes us sick from renowned physician and author of the Myth of Normal Gabor Maté, who offers a compassionate pathway to health and healing — Body, Mind, and Spirit.



August 20: New Beginnings: Creation from Around the World

Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb (she/her)

Some creation stories cannot be spoken. Others reflect the way society sees itself in relationship to the natural world. R. Lynn will share some stories to reflect upon about the Creation of the World.

August 27: Celebrating Women's Equality Day

Rev. Dr. Caroline Knowles (she/her)

Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles will report on the issues women have faced in the past, and the story of today.



Worship Service Leaders & Shared Plate Partners

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.

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.

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.

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.

Darlene Pagano (she/her)

I am a member of the Live Oak UU Fellowship in Alameda and have been on our Worship Team for over 14 years. Folks there are amused at having an atheist so enthusiastic about the state of our spiritual lives. Together we are making a marvelous harmony of our varied paths within our non creedal faith tradition.

July 2023 Shared Plate Partner: OLOC: Old Lesbians Organizing for Change

Old Lesbians Organizing for Change (OLOC) promotes Lesbian visibility, preserves "herstory", confronts social injustice, and provides support for lesbians in their later years. OLOC is comprised of an inclusive, multicultural rainbow of volunteers for Social Justice who use education and public discourse to confront ageism and other bigotry. They hold a rocking annual dance in our Hall!

August 2023 Shared Plate Partner: Task Force on the Americas

The Task Force on the Americas was founded in 1985 with the sanctuary movement around El Salvador, focusing on Central America in response to US government funded counter-revolution and terrorism. Since then, their scope has expanded to all of the Americas. The Task Force has long partnered with BFUU's Social Justice Committee and held inspiring events in our Hall. They publish a quarterly newsletter, an excellent source for accurate info on US meddling south of our border.

If you'd like to contribute to the collection plate you can do so directly via **PayPal**, by sending a check payable to "BFUU", 1606 Bonita Ave, Berkeley CA 94709, or by contributing on **our website**. Note that BFUU sends the share payments in the month after the plate share. If you'd like the shared plate partner to receive your donation more quickly, please donate directly to them via the link in the description above. Note that donations made directly to other organizations are not tracked by BFUU.

BFUU Worship Services



Worship Service Team June 18

top: Lawrance, Melissa, Andy; 2nd row: Jean Marie, Ardys, Frances; 3rd row: Ben, Virginia Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles; 4th row: Margaret, Barbara





Worship Service May 28 l to r: Rodney Frankin, Maw Shein Win, Melissa

Fun, Caring, Sharing, Community, Music -Worship!!!

Regular Committee Meetings

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 Thursday at 5:00 PM contact Worship Services

Social Justice Committee

Gratitude for Daniel Ellsberg!

We at BFUU are sad that hero Dan Ellsberg has passed, and deeply honored that he was a longtime BFUU friend and frequent speaker in our Hall. John Kiriakou, who blew the whistle on the C.I.A.'s torture program, dubbed him Godfather of whistleblowers. Over the 52 years since he evaded life imprisonment (thanks to Watergate) for having leaked the Pentagon Papers, Dan often engaged in NVCD for peace. He inspired and supported truth tellers Julian Assange, Ed Snowden, Tom Drake, Chelsea Manning, Jeffrey Sterling, Daniel Hale, Cynthia Cooper, Sherron Watkins, Coleen Rowley, and Ray McGovern. Dan's words enthralled. He also regaled us with magic tricks on our small stage, as well as his big magic on the world stage towards peace. How to best carry on his legacy? Despite media lies, seek and spread truth, support those who are prosecuted for doing so, do more for peace and to end risks of nuclear war.

Links included above:

John Kiriakou: https://consortiumnews.com/2023/06/21/john-kiriakou-the-godfather-of-

whistleblowers/

Julian Assange: https://assangedefense.org/take-action/

truth: https://consortiumnews.com/

prosecuted: https://consortiumnews.com/assange-hearing/

Warheads to Windmills for Peace, Planet, & Social Justice!

Social Justice Committee co-chair Phoebe Thomas Sorgen will lobby and protest in Washington D.C. in mid July with the <u>Alliance for Global Justice</u> and <u>Nuclear Ban.US</u>. Please ask Barbara Lee to meet with us and to co-sponsor Eleanor Holmes Norton's <u>HR 2775</u>. Capitol Hill: 800-826-3688 On Fri Aug 4, we will vigil at the <u>Livermore nuclear weapons Lab</u> West Gate, also <u>via zoom</u> with footage of Dan Ellsberg. Other anti-nuke <u>Actions</u> you may wish to take. Funds wasted on nuclear weapons are needed to solve the healthcare, housing, and climate crises. If we could create the political will, we could transition to 100% fossil-free energy, without nukes, by 2030. Stanford professor <u>Mark Jacobson</u> proved that doing so costs less than delaying and will save 7 million lives yearly. In D.C., Phoebe will also address US government interference in Latin American and other democracies.

Links included above:

Alliance for Global Justice: https://afgj.org/

Nuclear Ban.US: https://www.nuclearban.us/

HR 2775: https://www.nuclearban.us/lobby-days-in-dc/

Livermore Nuclear Weapons Lab: https://trivalleycares.org/2023/livermore-lab

via zoom: http://www.epicalc.org/

Mark Jacobson: https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/jan/23/no-miracles-needed-

prof-mark-jacobson-on-how-wind-sun-and-water-can-power-the-world

other: https://haitisolidarity.net/

Poetry Corner

Over the years I grope and sway. Where have I been? What is my offering?

Not wind or shame shifts who I am erases where I've been.

Mother, Father, I follow, brightness dims. Who have I been while not at home?

My pieces offer a puzzle the answer does not fit.

Frances Hillyard **BFUU Poet Laureate Emerita**

Transforming Hearts Collective FREE anti-bias video series

Things are still **really scary** right now for trans communities and our families.

Everyone in the BFUU community - visitors. friends, members, etc. is strongly encouraged to enroll for FREE to explore this series of videos, readings, and other dynamic resources in this series.

Contact the office - email office@bfuu.org or call 841-4824 ext 1 for information on how to enroll through BFUU for free.

For more ways to support trans, nonbinary, and intersex communities right now, don't miss the recently updated ways to take action from TRUUsT.

Community Voices





Pastoral Care/Small Group

Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles' in-person office hours in the BFUU Office are 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. She also hosts a small group, "Living Longer" on Zoom. For an appointment or to find out more, email Rev Carrie revcarrie@bfuu.org.

Upcoming Events





BFUU Monthly Open Mic – 2nd Fridays









Friday July 14 - 7:00 PM



Featured Artist: Bonnie Lockhart

Bonnie is a musician, feminist and activist living in the Bay Area of California. She is a founding member of Occupella, which grew out of the Occupy movement. She was a lead vocalist earlier with the group Red Star Singers. https://bonnielockhart.com/

Host: *Hali Hammer*

Musician/activist, retired Berkeley Unified school teacher.

Friday August 11 - 7:00 PM

Featured Artist: *Heaven Walker*

Heaven Walker, MA Philosophy and Religion (Women's Spirituality) is passionate about spirituality, social justice, and children's education. She is an ordained interfaith minister who is currently an elder, advisor, and teacher of the Starflower Congregation and the Director of Family Ministry and Lifelong Learning at UUCB. She has a broad range of experience in teaching, chaplaincy, social justice activism, activist theater, dialogue sessions, and

diversity training. Heaven sings with Evelie's groups Kismat-Mahal Chant Ensemble, Mahal EthnoFusion Music, & Myth and Magic, and at select UUCB Sunday services.

Host: Evelie Delfino Såles Posch

song writer, multi-instrumentalist, sound healer with the voice of an angel! https://evelie-sings.mystrikingly.com/

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: <u>bfuusjev-subscribe@lists.riseup.net</u>

BFUU Meetings & Events

Special Events

BFUU Open Mic on 2nd Fridays 7/14 & 8/11 at 7 PM in Fellowship Hall Sponsored by the BFUU SJC. Musicians, Poets, Magicians, Comedians, Storytellers, etc.: Sign-ups begin 6:30. Perform or just come to enjoy! Show time 7pm

BFUU Annual Meeting Part 2 on Sunday 7/9 at 12:30 pm on Zoom

We will continue the Annual Meeting to address the tabled items:

Item 2: Officers" presentations

Item 4(c): Where Do We Go From Here?"

Only BFUU members can vote, but all may attend the meeting!

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 7/27 & 8/24 at 3:00 PM BFUU BOT meetings are open to all!

Caring Committee Meeting with Ministers on 3rd Tuesday 7/18 & 8/16 at 11 AM Please contact Rev. Carrie at revcarrie@bfuu.org

Committee on Ministry Meeting 1st Thursday 7/6 & 8/3 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 3rd Sunday 7/16 & 8/20 after service (noonish) Please contact Phoebe at sjc@bfuu.org

Wisdom Circle 1st Tuesday 7/4 & 8/1 at 11:00 AM

Come one, come all! Join us for lively conversation. We may even solve some of the world's problems... or not. We'll have fun trying.

Worship Service Committee Meeting 1st Thursday 7/6 & 8/3 at 5:00 PM Please contact <u>worshipservices@bfuu.org</u>

some committees meet as needed - please see full committee list on page 3

Fellowship Calendar July 2023									
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat			
Please join us in Fellowship Hall or on Zoom on July 2, July 16, and July 30! Join us on Zoom for the July 9 and July 23 worship services. Whether in person or online or both, we welcome you! BFUU Open Mic Friday July 14 7:00 PM in Fellowship Hall									
2 10:30 am - FH +Z Worship Service*1	3	4 - HOLIDAY 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 7:00 pm BFUU Open Mic*	8			
9 10:30 am - Zoom Worship Service*1 10:30 am - Zoom BFUU Annual Meeting Part 2*1	10	11 1:00 pm Rev. Carrie office hours* 7:00 pm Choir Practice*1	12	13	7:00 pm BFUU Open Mic*	, 15			
16 10:30 am - FH +Z Worship Service*1 Noonish - after service SJC Meeting*1	17	18 Caring meeting with ministers* 1:00 pm Rev. Carrie office hours* 7:00 pm Choir Practice*1	19	20	21	22			
23 10:30 am - Zoom Worship Service*1	24	25 1:00 pm Rev. Carrie office hours* 7:00 pm <u>Choir</u> <u>Practice</u> *1	26	3 pm BFUU Board of Trustees Mtg*1	28	29			
10:30 am - FH +Z Worship Service*1	31	July Wors	hip Services Fellows	s Zoom-only are noted if Zoon hip Hall and on Z ee locations will b	m-only (Zoom) Joom (FH+Z)	or in BFUU			

Fellowship Calendar August 2023										
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat				
		1 11:00 am Wisdom Circle*1 1:00 pm Rev. Carrie office hours* 7:00 pm Choir Practice*1	2	3 2:00 pm COM Meeting* 5:00 pm WSC Meeting*	4	5				
6 10:30 am Worship Service*1	7	8 1:00 pm Rev. Carrie office hours* 7:00 pm Choir Practice*1	9	10	7:00 pm BFUL Open Mic*	J 12				
13 10:30 am¹ Worship Service*¹	14	15 Caring meeting with ministers* 1:00 pm Rev. Carrie office hours* 7:00 pm Choir Practice*1	16	17	18	19				
20 10:30 am Worship Service*1 Noonish - after service SJC Meeting*1 Communicator Deadline	31	1:00 pm Rev. Carrie office hours* 7:00 pm Choir Practice*1	23	3 pm <u>BFUU</u> Board of Trustees Mtg*1	25	26				
10:30 am Worship Service*1	28	1:00 pm Rev. Carrie office hours* 7:00 pm Choir Practice*1	30	31		BFUU Open Mic ay August 11 7:00 PM llowship Hall				

Please Plan Ahead: Direct links to meetings/registration have ¹ after the link.

Other links send an email to the meeting organizer – please allow time for a reply.

If you have questions, please email office@bfuu.org or call the office at 510-841-4824 ext. 1.

* Fellowship event 1 meeting link

Which August Worship Services will be in-person/hybrid and which, if any, via Zoom-only is under discussion. Please check www.bfuu.org/worship-service for updates.

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 SEPTEMBER COMMUNICATOR:

August 20, 2023 at 11:00 AM

Please email office@bfuu.org with submissions.

Address Correction Requested

Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists 1606 Bonita Ave. Berkeley, CA 94709