

THE BFUU COMMUNICATOR

Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists

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

October 2023



Worship Service Sundays at 10:30 AM

BFUU Fellowship Hall 1924 Cedar St, Berkeley CA & on Zoom

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



October 1: Banning Books = Banishing Lives

Rev. Ben Meyers (he/him)

Book Banning is once again on the rise, this time with a vengeance against marginalized and woke people: this sermon is a spiritual response to these acts.

October 8: Toward the Beloved Community of Unitarian Universalism

Rev. Kevin Mann (he/him/siyá)

The late civil rights activist John Lewis called us to: "Not get lost in a sea of despair and to never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble." Week after week, year after year, Unitarian Universalists gather to build the Beloved Community that centers Black, Indigenous, People of Color, fosters collective liberation, and reminds us that we are not alone in our quest for life saving liberal religion. Come and get in good trouble with me!



October 15: Dance as Religion: Uniting the Sacred and Secular

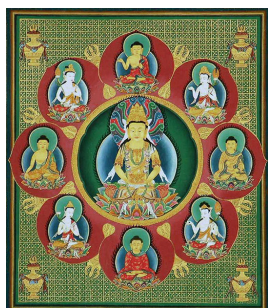
Rev. Jojo V. Gabuya (they/them)

Some of us practice dance as religion. More people of varying ages, genders, beliefs, races, and statuses crowd at the dance halls weekly rather than sit in church pews on Sundays. Scholars in the field marvel at how it is common for people nowadays to perceive dance and religion as mutually exclusive activities. Dance unites the sacred and secular.

October 22: What a Fish Knows

Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles (she/her)

Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles offers a fresh look at fishes in their remarkable diversity and beauty. These creatures conduct courtship rituals and develop lifelong bonds, they plan and hunt cooperatively, use tools, curry favor, deceive one another, and punish wrongdoers.



October 29: Buddhist Approaches to Just Peace

Rev. Kosho Finch (he/him) **Special Zoom-only Worship Service**

The Buddha's teaching is often regarded as inward looking practice, disconnected from world affairs and concerns. However since its inception it has taken a quiet role in guiding societies and leaders to finding alternatives to past forms of government and encouraging peace among people. In this talk Rev. Finch will survey from ancient times to modern social justice movements influenced by Buddhist thought, and share how the Buddhist teaching is uniquely positioned to assist us in achieving just peace for our communities.

Please see [page 2](#) for our shared plate partner information and [page 3](#) for 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*
Ed Keating, *Facilities Manager*
Shae Jewell, *Sexton*

Board of Trustees

Margaret Hurlbert, *President*
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Phoebe Thomas 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

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

Dear Fellowship,

It is with much sadness that I announce that Susan Macke, our Office Coordinator, is planning to retire from her job on October 30, 2023. We will miss her dearly, for she has been a mainstay for our Fellowship for the last nine years. She has been kind, diplomatic, patient, and very hard-working, and has gone out of her way to be helpful at every turn. I don't know how we could have kept the Fellowship running the last few years, with all of the changes we have gone through, without her. But, I am happy for her, and I hope that she has a wonderful, relaxing time in her retired life. She deserves it! Thank you Susan, for all that you have done for our Fellowship!

Venee Call-Ferrer will also be leaving her post as our Events Space Coordinator. She will be missed as well. Thanks so much, Venee, for all that you have done to get our rentals going again after the pandemic. We wish you well in your new job.

Margaret Hurlbert
BFUU Board President

Shared Plate Partner

for the month of October 2023:

Maui Strong Fund via The Hawai'i Community Foundation (HCF)

<https://www.hawaiicommunityfoundation.org/strengthening/maui-strong-fund>

The Maui Strong Fund is providing financial resources to support the immediate and long-term recovery needs for the people and places affected by the devastating Maui wildfires. HCF is working in close collaboration with state and county leaders, nonprofit organizations, and community members to get an understanding of the quickly evolving priorities.

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.

Worship Service Leaders

Rev. Kosho Finch (he/him)

Rev. Kosho Finch is the head minister of the Henjyoji Shingon Buddhist Temple in Portland, Oregon. Originally from Detroit Michigan, Rev. Finch studied International Relations and East Asian Languages at Michigan State University. His language studies led to him to live and work in northeastern China after graduation. While there he encountered his first Buddhist teacher, a Tibetan Lama teaching in secret. That Lama encouraged him to move to California to pursue his interests in the Buddhist teachings. In 1999, he began his study of Shingon Buddhism, under the tutelage of Rev. Seicho Asahi at the Northern California Koyasan Temple in Sacramento. He took novice ordination in 2000, and final ordination in 2006 in Japan. He later attended Willamette University College of Law, graduating with a Juris Doctorate. He has since served as a minister with the Koyasan Shingon Buddhist Mission of Hawaii. He is currently working on his masters thesis in religion with a focus on Buddhism and Government.

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. Rev. Jojo is currently training as an InterPlay Leader: Unlocking Body Wisdom. They are also participating in the Empowering Faith Leaders Program, which addresses Addiction and the Overdose Crisis.

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.

Kevin Alan Mann (he/him/siyá)

Kevin Alan Mann serves as a Chaplain with Sequoia Hospice. As a Queer Unitarian Universalist whose parents immigrated from the Philippines, Kevin's ministry is rooted in centering people from the margins and growing solidarity towards the Beloved Community. He received his Master of Divinity and Social Change from Starr King School for the Ministry in 2016 and completed his Chaplaincy Residency at California Pacific Medical Center in 2018. Kevin serves on the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization's Diversity Advisory Council and was recently ordained by the First Unitarian Church of Oakland on October 1st, the first day of both Filipino American and LGBTQ History Month.

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.

Poetry Corner

Medusa, your hair
hisses the words
out of my mouth
into silence;

Your stone eyes
hardened certainty,

Your inner rage
Earth's molten core.

The hair at the back of my neck
rises and begins to writhe.

Frances Hillyard
BFUU Poet Laureate Emerita

Community Voices



Happy Birthday!

*Simone Chiodini
Paikea Hwang Colligan
Stephanie Doucette
Abbot Foote
Michael Gardner
Gene Herman
Tom McAninley
Lis Schultze-Allen
Brett Torres*

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.

Kevin Mann invites the BFUU Community to his Ordination at First UU of Oakland and on Zoom on Sunday October 1 at 4:00 PM.

The ordination will mark the first day of both Filipino American History Month and LGBTQ History Month and will feature an ALL ASIAN AMERICAN UU team of worship leaders.

Please join Rev Jonipher Kwong, the Rev Leslie Takahashi, Rev Arman Pedro, Rev Joseph Santos-Lyons, Rev Cathy Chang, Rev Joan Javier-Duval, Rev Micah Ma, and Rev Sangye Hawke at this ordination. Music by Aria Querubin, Evelie Delfino S  les Posch and Mahal EthnoFusion Music Myth and Magic.

Please Register here: bit.ly/uurevkey

If you are able, please donate to help underwrite the costs of the ordination: bit.ly/giveuurevkey

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](#)

Upcoming Events



BFUU Monthly Open Mic – 2nd Fridays



BFUU OPEN MIC

Friday October 13 at 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: George Palen

George Palen, a high school teacher, has been playing music, mostly on four stringed instruments, since he was five years old. In 2019 he took up the ukulele and started writing songs influenced by the folk and blues traditions.

Host: Gianna Ranuzzi

Gianna Ranuzzi created and organized the Berkeley World Music Festival for its duration from 2004-2019.

**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 mindfully!

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 Meetings & Events

Special Events

BFUU Open Mic on 2nd Friday 10/13 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

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 10/26 at 3:00 PM

BFUU BOT meetings are open to all!

Caring Committee Meeting with Ministers on 3rd Tuesday 10/17 at 11 AM

Please contact Rev. Carrie at revcarrie@bfuu.org

Committee on Ministry Meeting 1st Thursday 10/5 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 3rd Sunday 10/15 after service (noonish)

Please contact Phoebe at sjc@bfuu.org

Wisdom Circle 1st Tuesday 10/3 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 10/5 at 5:00 PM

Please contact worshipservices@bfuu.org

some committees meet as needed - please see full committee list on [page 4](#)

Fellowship Calendar October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:30 am - FH+Z Worship Service ^{*1}	2	3 11:00 am Wisdom Circle ^{*1} 1:00 pm Rev. Carrie office hours [*] 7:00 pm Choir Practice ^{*1}	4	5 2:00 pm COM Meeting [*] 5:00 pm WSC Meeting [*]	6	7
8 10:30 am - FH+Z Worship Service ^{*1}	9	10 1:00 pm Rev. Carrie office hours [*] 7:00 pm Choir Practice ^{*1}	11	12	13 7:00 pm BFUU Open Mic [*]	14
15 10:30 am - FH+Z Worship Service ^{*1} Noonish - after service SJC Meeting	16	17 Caring meeting with ministers [*] 1:00 pm Rev. Carrie office hours [*] 7:00 pm Choir Practice ^{*1}	18	19	20 Communicator deadline	21
22 10:30 am - FH+Z Worship Service ^{*1}	23	24 1:00 pm Rev. Carrie office hours [*] 7:00 pm Choir Practice ^{*1}	25	26 3 pm BFUU Board of Trustees Mtg ^{*1}	27	28
29 10:30 am - Zoom Worship Service ^{*1}	30	31 1:00 pm Rev. Carrie office hours [*] 7:00 pm Choir Practice ^{*1}				

Please Plan Ahead:

Direct links to meetings/registration have ¹ after the link.
Other links send an email to the convener – 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 ¹meeting link



BFUU Open Mic

Friday October 13
7:00 PM
in Fellowship Hall



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

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 November COMMUNICATOR:

October 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