

THE BFUU COMMUNICATOR

Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists

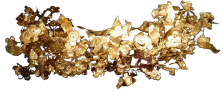
February 2018

Upcoming Sunday Services

Services at 10:30 a.m.

BLACK HISTORY / BLACK FUTURES MONTH

BFUU will honor Black History and Black Futures in all of our Sunday Services in February.



February 4: Installation of the New Poet Laureate

Rev. Elena Rose Vera, Worship Leader

Join us for a special BFUU tradition as we honor our new Poet Laureate! Community members will come together for a vibrant service full of poetry and song. Rev. Elena Vera, presiding, will share reflections celebrating the legacy of the poetic word, in its enduring beauty and its continuing power to refresh and sustain movements from Black liberation to immigrant civil rights. All are welcome--bring your own favorite verses to share at Fellowship Hour!

February 11: Covenants: Holy Promises We Make to Each Other

Claire Eustace, Guest Worship Leader

Unitarian Universalism is a religious movement based on covenant--holy promises we make to each other. Our covenants are based upon our history and influenced by covenants created in other powerful religious movements including African American churches. Each member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations covenants to affirm and promote the seven principles and to provide mutual trust and support to other member congregations. Many congregations create internal covenants to clarify how individuals would prefer to be together in community for mutual support. These holy promises help guide congregations in their work of building Beloved Community within and beyond themselves. This service will explore what it means to hold certain promises sacred.



February 18: Our Covenant

Rev. Marsh Agobert, Worship Leader

The two most important and deeply rooted statements of purpose for any UU congregation are the MISSION and the COVENANT. We Talk our covenant each Sunday as a repeated (perhaps on auto-pilot) piece of liturgy (can you recite the covenant alone, from memory?). Yet, we do not always Walk our talk. This is a seemingly small thing that will guide the course of our voyage together – either to cross a great water, or to rocky shores.

It's time we choose again.

February 25: Science for All National Science Day is Feb. 28

Joanna Foley and Jeff Palmer, Lay Worship Leaders

When the movie "Hidden Figures" came out, many viewers were amazed that the contributions of female African American mathematicians and engineers had been so vital to the American space program. "Hidden Figures" highlights the individual contributions of the three central women but also their strong support of each other and other African American workers at NASA. In a month when BFUU explores the meaning of covenant, this movie shows an implicit covenant in action. May their example join with all who are Celebrating Black History and Building Black Futures.



Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, and Mary Jackson, the real "Hidden Figures"
image: Beverly Golemba, NASA



Letter from the President

Clergy & Staff

Reverend Marsh Agobert, *Minister*

Reverend Elena Rose Vera, *Minister*

Reverend Earl Koteen,
Community Minister

Dr. Susan T. Mashiyama, *Music Director*

Deborah Hamouris,
Event Space Coordinator

Susan Macke, *Office Coordinator*

Ed Keating, *Facilities Manager*

Richard Sandling, *Custodian*

Board of Trustees

Doug Chambers, *President*

Elayne Ryder, *Vice President*

Nanci Armstrong-Temple

Michael Gardner

Jeff Palmer

Judith Granada-Dewey, *Treasurer*
(Alternate)

Elinor Roberts (Alternate)

Committees

Aesthetics Subcommittee of B&G
Joanna Foley, *Chair*

Building & Grounds Committee
Abbot Foote, *Co-Chair*
Ben Burch, *Co-Chair*

Caring Community
Kathy Riehle, *Chair*

Finance Committee
Ben Burch, *Co-Chair*
Abbot Foote, *Co-Chair*

Hospitality Committee

Membership Committee
Doug Chambers, *Chair*

Music Committee
Margaret Hurlbert, *Chair*

Personnel Committee
Kathy Riehle, *Chair*

Poetry Committee

Religious Education (RE) Committee
Sharon Colligan, *Chair*

Social Justice Committee (SJC)
Cynthia Johnson, *Chair*
Phoebe Sorgen, *Vice Chair*

Sunday Services Committee
Joanna Foley, *Chair*

Please read Nanci Armstrong-Temple's article (beginning opposite and continuing on pages 4 and 5.) I commend Nanci for writing this article and presenting this information once again to us all. We've talked about it for a long time and nothing has been done, so we're going to keep talking about it. I applaud Nanci for continuing and keeping it before us.

When I went to the GA in New Orleans, I learned that there had been a mass exodus of black people from Unitarian Universalism. This is a time when a lot of us are returning. It's an exciting time to be Unitarian Universalist for all of us and there is much work to be done by white people and Black people and other people of color.

Come to Regional Assembly and join us.

Sharing the message from our Pacific Western Regional Lead, Rev. Dr. James Kubal-Komoto: "Do yourself and your congregation a favor. Come to Portland. Get renewed. Get recharged. Get inspired. Register for PWR's 2018 Regional Assembly.

The early bird discount ends Wednesday, January 31, at 11:59 p.m. but don't delay! Register today at uua.org/pwr."

Please see pages 6 & 7 of this newsletter for more information about PWR Regional Assembly in Portland, OR, and UUA General Assembly in Kansas City MO.

Regular Committee Meetings

Aesthetics (Subcom. of B&G)
2nd Friday at 1:30 PM
in the Fireside Room

Buildings & Grounds
Meets once per month,
contact Ben Burch

Caring
4th Sunday at 12:30 PM
in Fellowship Hall

Committee on Ministry
Meets as needed,
contact Abbot Foote

Finance
Meets as needed
in the Fireside Room

Hospitality,
4th Sunday at 12:30 PM
in Fellowship Hall

Membership
4th Sunday at 12:30 PM
in Fellowship Hall

Music
(schedule is under discussion)
1st Sunday 12:30 PM
in Fellowship Hall

Poetry
Meets as needed
contact BFUU office

Social Justice
1st & 3rd Sunday 12:30 PM
in Fellowship Hall

Sunday Svc
1st Tuesday at 6:30 PM
in the Preschool Kitchen

Intention and Impact: Celebrating Black History/Building Black Futures Month

This month, which used to be called Black History Month, is also now called Black Future month. As a Blacktivist, I am specifically engaged in building a consciousness around reparations and knowledge about our history. I am also specifically engaged in ensuring the futures of our own kids, in this congregation, and in the wider world. And because I am concerned about our future and our past, I am immensely concerned about today.

As the parent of two Black children growing up in our congregation, and as I look at our Board President's two Black children, I want to know if we are building up a world that they can claim as their own.

What are we doing as a community, as a congregation, as an association, to ensure space for Black Lives? What are we doing to make sure that Black History is known and not erased in the shadow of the resurgence of white supremacy? What are we doing to ensure a future where Black children do not have to worry about work, or freedom, or their very lives? Will we live in a country where the state apparatus is not explicitly designed to destroy Black bodies? Will we live in a country where we unravel white supremacy and dismantle any economic system that depends on white supremacy for its very existence? Can each and every person in our congregation declare themselves a modern day abolitionist?

In this context, it may be good to have a brief conversation about intention and impact.

Our association is known to be largely white. (https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/unitarian-universalism-is-hella-white_us_58df276be4boca889ba1a611) We have a somewhat controversial Beloved Conversations curriculum, with an intention to have difficult conversations about and across race. <http://www.meadville.edu/faqs-collaborative/faqs-curriculum-catalogue/beloved-conversations/>

We have a regional system where all five of our regional heads are white folks. <https://www.uuworld.org/articles/critics-challenge-uua-hiring-practices>

We have a stated commitment to racial justice. (See Black Unitarian Universalists/BLUU) <https://www.uua.org/racial-justice>

But I ask you.

Are you, yourself, an abolitionist? Are you dedicated to the freedom of Black people? Do you know, as I was taught as a young Black UU, that our liberation is entwined and reliant, and that none of us are free until all of us are?

This piece was inspired because of a thing that happened in our own congregation. When it comes to impact and intention, we must learn to trust one another's good intentions and call out when there is a negative impact.

A couple of weeks ago, I had breakfast with some members of our congregation. I got to be a part of planning for a volunteer appreciation service, and we were excitedly looking forward to it. As



continues next page

Intention and Impact: Celebrating Black History/Building Black Futures Month (continued from page 3)

we were wrapping up our conversation and getting ready to leave, the white partner of our Black Board President turned to me and said ‘what’s happening for Black History Month?’ You see, the event we were planning was scheduled for the last weekend of February (which we moved to June), and we assumed it would correlate with a service on Black History/Black Futures and we wanted to make sure it would work.

I texted our Sunday services committee chair Joanna to check in about Black History Month services.



And that’s when I found out.

There were no Black History Month services planned.

Our Sunday services chair, being who she is, immediately sent a polite email asking worship leaders to include something about Black History in their services, and included some helpful suggestions as to how that might happen. I, being who I am, was unsatisfied by this response. I know it is imperative to confront white blindness, Black erasure, and white supremacist structures where they are. But this is my beloved

community. How do I confront this particular beloved and challenge them to do the work necessary to combat this erasure in our congregation?

I tried again. I leaned into the difficult conversations and meals and meetings and laughter and confidences we have had in the past. I trusted that she wants to do the right thing. That her allyship is a true commitment to Black Liberation, not just a pin that she wears. That she is an accomplice to Black liberation, not a performer. I trust her intention. And I called out her impact.

“Dear heart. This is a rift. I need you to hear me. The fact that you, and the 20 or so people who were planning this month of services, didn’t even think to center Black life is problematic at best. I shouldn’t have to be in the room planning worship services. Our commitment to racial justice does not rely on one person but on building a fabric that centers Black people and Black liberation. I need you to fix this.”

And our Committee Chair heard me. And she actively worked to rectify the situation in an immediate and accountable way. She understood that her intentions did not line up with her impact, and that work needed to be done.

Perhaps you’re thinking I shouldn’t have had to say anything. You are correct. I shouldn’t have had to. But. The thing happened. The thing where we live in a white supremacist heteronormative capitalist patriarchy. Not just a theoretical one, but a living, breathing structure that we all move through every day. And Joanna, and all of the folks who were planning their

services, forgot to dismantle white supremacy. They forgot that if you are not actively working to dismantle white supremacy then you are subconsciously working to reinforce it. It is in the air we breathe. It is in the clothes we wear. It is the structures within which we exist.

And because we live in a living, breathing beloved community, because we’ve laughed together and cried together and built



Intention and Impact: Celebrating Black History/Building Black Futures Month (continued from page 4)

together and marched together, because we worship together, we were able to lean into the difficult conversation and call all of our community to hear this message.

White supremacy is alive and well in Unitarian Universalism. We are part of the fabric of this nation, which is built on the legacy of slavery. We must dismantle it, or we are reinforcing it. We must be so brave we can face down the police, the government, our enemies, our friends. And, most of all, we must have the courage to face down our beloveds with care. With kindness. With principle. With love. With accountability that allows us to rectify the gap between our intention and our impact.

If we are to build Black Futures, we must first create a present that includes centering Black history, Black visibility, and Black liberation. We must make sure that our impact aligns with our intentions.

With accountability and towards beloved community,

Nanci Armstrong-Temple

BFUU Board Member

Blacktivist/Strategic Visionary/Catalyst

Twitter handle: @fraggle94



Help Wanted! RECORDING SECRETARY

The BFUU Board of Trustees generally meets once a month on the 4th Thursday. (November and December meetings are moved if in conflict with holidays.) Occasional Special Board Meetings may take place and would be included in Recording Secretary duties.

The Board of Trustees has a position open for a Recording Secretary.

Job duties each month include:

- 1) Finalize the Board Agenda one week before the meeting.
 - a) Save a copy of the final Agenda and send email with link to Board list.
- 2) Attend Board meeting
- 3) Record minutes
- 4) Send 1st draft minutes to Board members (list) within 24 hours
 - a) If corrections are suggested, confirm with Board members and incorporate
 - b) Send final draft to Board list
- 5) Clear shared Agenda and prep it for the next meeting

Requirements:

- 1) Experience in taking minutes.
- 2) Knowledge of Roberts Rules.
- 3) Experience with posting to Google Docs.
- 4) MUST be reliable & punctual.

Applications will be accepted beginning November 14, 2017 and until position is filled.

Please contact: Mike Gardner 510-548-5292 / e-mail: ngc6144@yahoo.com

BFUU Chalice Lighters!

Chalice Lighters is a UUA program which encourages individual members to extend the impact of our faith by making a donation of \$20 or more three times a year. The next call goes out on Feb. 5.



When 30% of any congregation sign up to become Chalice Lighters, that congregation becomes eligible to receive Chalice Lighter grants. These grants are to be used for transformational goals such as acquiring a meeting space, hiring a minister or RE person or financing the travel of members to Regional Assembly (April 27-29, Portland, OR) or General Assembly.

Some members of BFUU are already Chalice Lighters and more are encouraged to do so.

The Aesthetics Subcommittee of Buildings and Grounds plans to apply for a Chalice Lighter grant for its planned Memory Center in the foyer. This would memorialize beloved figures who have played a role in our congregation, such as Seon O'Neill and various ministers such as the Rev. Jeremy Taylor. To remember our legacy is to gain inspiration for our work in the present and the future.

More information at <http://www.pcdoua.org/programs/chalice-lighters/>

UU Women's Retreat

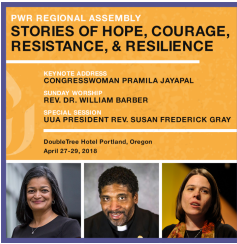
The annual Women and Religion PCD Women's Retreat is coming up on **March 8-11, 2018**. All self-identified women are welcome to join us for a calming respite from our busy lives. Usually held at a retreat center near Napa that was severely damaged in October by the wildfires, this year we will be meeting at the Anubhuti Center in Novato. Anubhuti is a contemplative retreat center run by Brahma Kumaris, the largest spiritual organization in the world led by women. It is housed in a group of historic buildings that were renovated by the sisters 7 years ago, and sits on top of a hill, surrounded by 1,600 acres of protected open space, water and a wildlife preserve, with spectacular views. Our retreat offers something for everyone: delicious meals; workshops for mind, body, and spirit; conversations with new and old friends; time for quiet contemplation; and a boutique, silent auction, and book swap. You can attend Saturday-only for \$50, Fri-Sun for \$250, or Thu-Sun for \$280. A \$50 discount on full weekends is available for first time attendees. All registrations and payments must be received by March 1.

More information: <http://womenandreligionpcd.org> or email Beverly Morgan <registrar@womenandreligionpcd.org>. This year, registration will be by MAIL ONLY, so you will need to print out the registration form, complete it and mail it in with your check to the address on the form. Invite a friend!

UU Women's Rights Facebook Page

Contact the office@bfuu.org if you'd like to be added to the UU Women's Rights Facebook page. It is a dynamic FB group of Unitarian Universalists gathered together to apply UU principles in support of women and women's issues. They provide an opportunity for UU's to connect with other UU's nationwide who are actively supporting women's rights. On the page, you can share your own or your congregation's actions both locally and nationally in support of Women's Rights -- especially photos of UUs in action! They encourage an open exchange of ideas and respectful dialogue. They strive to build community and covenant together. This group may also be used to post time-sensitive action alerts regarding bills/laws impacting women's rights requiring a rapid response. Please keep your posts on target: women and women's issues. This could cover various issues, such as equality, reproductive justice, trans and intersex health and rights, empowerment, healthcare and political activism. You may not solicit money on this page and administrators reserve the right to remove objectionable content. Looking forward to having this shared space as we continue our journey in supporting Women and Women's Rights!

2018 Pacific Western Region Assembly in Portland, Oregon



Pacific Western Region Assembly April 27-29, 2018 Register Now! **Double Tree Hotel, Portland, Oregon**

Stories of Hope, Courage, Resistance, and Resilience

Plan to join attendees from 185 PWR congregations as the four districts of the Pacific Western Region convene in Portland, Oregon, April 27-29, for the 2018 Regional Assembly. Three dynamic speakers will address the theme: Stories of Hope, Courage,

Resistance, and Resilience. The Rev. Dr. William Barber, a national figure in civil rights activism, will be in the pulpit for Sunday's worship service. Saturday's keynote speaker will be Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal, the first Indian-American woman to be elected to U.S. Congress. Jayapal has spent the last twenty years working internationally and domestically as a leading advocate for women's, immigrant, civil, and human rights. The Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, UUA president, will speak at Friday's opening ceremony. Frederick-Gray will share her vision for the future of the UUA and the wider movement.

Several workshops will be offered during Saturday's programming. If you prefer, you may opt to participate in a local social justice activity. Full details about workshops and the social justice activity will soon be posted on the Pacific Western Region website (www.uua.org/pwr).

All four districts of the Pacific Western Region will hold concurrent annual meetings on Saturday afternoon. Meeting materials and delegate information will be distributed in February/March.

Regional Assembly registration is open on the Pacific Western Region website (www.uua.org/pwr).

The Portland DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, site of the Regional Assembly, is offering discounted room rates through March 29. If you book directly, use the group code, UU8. Details are on the PWR website

PWR staff is working hard to keep registration costs low. An Early Bird adult registration fee will be available through January 31 and fees for young adults, youth, and children will be discounted.

2018 UUA General Assembly in Kansas City, Missouri



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

UUA General Assembly June 20-24, 2018 **Kansas City Convention Center, Kansas City, Missouri** **Registration will open on March 1**

All Are Called

Grounded in a deep belief that we are all prophets, Unitarian Universalists ask, "How can we faithfully meet the demands of our time?" The call to witness and act for justice in our society and in the world is clear. So, too, is the call to examine our structures and practices, dismantling and transforming those which fail to recognize the full humanity of all people and to honor the interdependent web of life. Join us in Kansas City as we dive deeply into questions of mission for our Unitarian Universalist Association, for our congregations and communities, and for each of us as individuals. Together, we'll ask:

Who and how are we called to be at this time, individually and collectively?

How are we called to act and to live?

How does our Unitarian Universalist legacy strengthen us in living out our mission? In what ways does our legacy present challenges and impediments to answering our call?

The call of our faith has a place for each of us. Join us in Kansas City to build courageous, collective leadership with tools, skills and connections.

Community Voices

We're marching again

Look at this kaleidoscope—
 people in motion
 all colors, all ages
 in ones, twos, groups
 —shifting, changing, regrouping
 whole families
 infants in strollers
 young children holding older children's hands
 high school kids in '90s attire
 —rings in lips and noses
 —dredlocks blonde, brown and red
 young adults like I've never seen before
 people in all shades of red, brown, black and pale
 gray-haired veterans of other marches
 two young girls singing a parody on "America"
 young kids on the sound truck up front
 random individuals starting up chants
 dogs avoiding grid holes along Muni tracks
 drums and drummers guiding our steps
 beating out rhythms to march and move to
 —rings in lips and noses
 —dredlocks blonde, brown and red
 colors of clothes and flags and banners
 hastily made signs saying
 Stop the Bombing!
 Impeach Clinton for war crimes!
 US Out of the Middle East!
 Free Mumia Abu Jamal!
 Free Leonard Peltier!

People need housing, not bombs!
 citizens in their cars honking
 in their windows waving
 in their stores smiling

The people are in the streets again
 look out, Washington
 superpowers take heed
 politics is people and
 this is where the people are
 not in the Pentagon
 or the White House
 or the board room
 we're here, in the streets
 and we're marching again!

Marianne Robinson, December 1998



Elinor Roberts
 Marge Turngren

Sunday Service Worship Teams



December 31, 2017 Kwanzaa
 Rev. Marsh, Nanci, Simone, Richard,
 Andy, Doug, Virginia, Kathy, Elinor



January 14, 2018
 Through the Looking Glass
 Dr. Susan, Andy, Doug, Virginia,
 Christine, Brett

View From Rooms@bfuu.org



Back in 2015, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. BFUU staff and members were so supportive of my recovery that y'all held my job for me after four months of being on disability! During that time, I did what I knew how to do -- I wrote songs about it. "1 in 8" is all that music, plus stories of who & what I encountered, ending with a successful outcome. Please come celebrate the release of our recording.

"1 in 8" songs & stories from the heart

CD Release Concert 2/3/18, 8pm The Back Room 1984 Bonita Ave., Berkeley

With Deborah Hamouris, singer/songwriter; Mimi Fox, guitar; Dan Feiszli, bass; Michelle Goerlitz, Percussion

Breast cancer happens to 1 in 8 women annually. It happened to us, 2 women musicians, sister-survivors. Each of us wrote music as an antidote to the host of challenges to our bodies in the name of healing. **1 in 8 is a story in song.** From country to jazz, folk to funk, there are songs and stories of lessons, wonder and small miracles. This music tells a personal tale, inspiring to anyone who has survived such challenges. "Powerful vignettes, masterfully woven & delivered."* "Delightful, humorous, with many textures of the recovery experience."*

For details & tickets go to: <https://backroommusic.com/>

www.mimifoxguitar.com www.djhamouris.com www.one-in-eight.com

All the best,

Deborah Hamouris, Event Space Coordinator



*Audience reactions

Featured BFUU Events

Transition Berkeley's Seventh Anniversary Potluck Dinner and Film



CALL of the FOREST

Thursday February 1, 2018 6:30 - 9:00 PM

6:30 pm Potluck Dinner

7:15 pm: Film

Transition Berkeley invites you to a potluck dinner and film marking our seventh anniversary! Come help us celebrate and bring your visions for Transition Berkeley's future. How can we best inspire our community to action?

The beautiful film **CALL of the FOREST - The Forgotten Wisdom of Trees**, features scientist and author Diana Beresford-Kroeger a renowned world visionary. She takes us on a journey from the sacred sugi and cedar forests of Japan to the great boreal forest of Canada explaining the legacy of old growth forests and their role in protecting and feeding the planet. She shows us that when we improve our profound connection to woodlands we can restore our spirit, our health and our planet.

Please bring a vegetarian plastic-free dish to share for the potluck dinner at 6:30.

This event is sponsored by Transition Berkeley, and the Social Justice Committee (Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists). The film is provided courtesy of Alisa Rose Seidlitz and Stephanie Thomas.

Historic Fellowship Hall, 1924 Cedar Street, Berkeley, CA 94709. Wheelchair accessible.

Suggested Donation: \$5 - 20 to cover event costs. No one turned away for lack of funds.

Featured BFUU Events

Irish Dance

Friday, February 2 at 7:30 pm in the Connie Barbour Room



To bring more dance and music fun to BFUU, there will be an Irish dance with a lesson beforehand. Come cut a rug and dance a lively jig or reel! Live music will be by the band Cularan, where some of the musicians are former members of the Elderberries band.

7:30 pm Lesson

8 - 10 pm Dance

\$5-20 sliding scale

FREE for BFUU members and friends (though contributions to help support the band are appreciated.)

No one turned away for lack of funds

Sponsored by the BFUU Music Committee

The Crisis At KPFA & The Pacifica Network, “Making Sausage” Democracy And A National Alternative Multi-Media Network

Sunday, February 18 at 6:30 PM in Fellowship Hall – 1924 Cedar St.

Public Forum Opens at 6:30 PM Event Starts at 7:00 PM



KPFA and Pacifica have recently been threatened with bankruptcy and the possible closure of the stations and network. The financial crisis at Pacifica has been ongoing for many years. This forum will look at the present crisis and the views of those who want bankruptcy or a loan. It will also discuss the failure of Pacifica and the stations to bring new listeners, become a multi-media platform, and meet the needs of millions of people who want a

vibrant national and international alternative media – a media network that would provide a voice to counter the growing rise of racism, fascism, xenophobia, sexism and the threat of world war with the bashing of Russia, North Korea, Venezuela, and China.



Speakers:

Maria Gilardin, TUC Radio

Frank Sterling, KPFA Apprentice Program & Full Circle

Jeff Blankfort, Founder of “Save KPFA” and Host of Host KZYX&Z Takes on The World 90.7, 91.5

Janet Kobren, KPFA LSB and former Pacific National Board Member

Steve Zeltzer, KPFA WorkWeek Radio and KPFA LSB Staff Representative

Pedro Reyes, KPFA Host of Setting The Standard and Late Night Hype

For further information, call (415) 282-1908.

Sponsored by KPFA WorkWeek and the BFUU Social Justice Committee

Recurring/Ongoing BFUU Events



T'ai Chi & Qi Gong with Gene Herman

Mondays, 4-5 PM in the Connie Barbour Room— 1606 Bonita Ave.

Wednesdays, 3-4 PM in the Connie Barbour Room— 1606 Bonita Ave.

This practice improves health and well-being at any age.



Beginner Ukulele Classes

Mondays, 6:30-8 PM in the Preschool Room – 1606 Bonita Ave.

Everything you need to know to get started on the friendly, portable uke! All ages welcome; Kids

Under 9 Are Requested to Learn With a Parent. \$40/month; \$15/class drop-in; 50% off for BFUU members and friends. Contact Susan Mashiyama (music@bfuu.org) for more information.



BFUU Choir Practice

Wednesdays at 7-8:30 PM (except 1st Wed. of each month) in Fellowship Hall – 1924 Cedar St.

We practice songs for the Sunday services, learning melodies, and working on musicality.

During the first part of the evening, we focus on choir numbers with harmonies. From about 8 pm on, we practice the hymns we'll lead on Sunday. Everyone is welcome to join

in for fellowship and to be able to sing more confidently and joyously on Sundays. Please invite your friends and neighbors. There's no pressure to sing in the choir on Sundays. These gatherings are something BFUU offers as a service to build community.

Orientation for Newcomers

Sunday, February 4 at 12:15 PM (after service) in the lobby of Fellowship Hall – 1924 Cedar St.

The Rev. Elena Rose Vera conducts an orientation for newcomers after service on the first Sunday of each month in the Fellowship Hall lobby. All are welcome, whether or not you are considering membership.

Elders Circle

Tuesday, February 6 at 11 AM in Fellowship Hall – 1924 Cedar St.

The BFUU Elders Circle meets at 11:00 AM on first Tuesdays in Fellowship Hall.



The Hardly Strictly Acoustic Jam

Friday, February 9 at 7 PM in Fellowship Hall—1924 Cedar St.

Join us for BFUU's new jam session format. Come sit in our circle, share music,

songs, poetry, excerpts from your new book, jokes and stories. We welcome all entertainers and entertainees to fill the Hall with performance, connection, and appreciation for all forms of art.

Suggested donations of \$5 – \$20 No one turned away for lack of funds! Volunteers appreciated!

BFUU Second Sundays Potluck*

Sunday, February 11 after service (12:30 PM) in Fellowship Hall— 1924 Cedar St.

Come one, come all! Whether you have a dish to share* or not, we invite you to join us as we break bread in the spirit of loving community. If you can, please help us set up tables and chairs before and put them away afterward. In between, join in the bounty provided by members and friends. Members, friends, neighbors, and the wider community are welcome!

**If you bring a dish, please also bring a printed list of all ingredients so those with allergies, interactions and dietary restrictions can enjoy the dishes they can eat and avoid those they can't eat.*



Recurring/Ongoing BFUU Events

Pastoral Care

Tuesday, February 13 and Tuesday, February 27 at 2 - 6 PM in the Ministers' Office

Rev. Elena Vera will be offering open office hours for discussion and pastoral care at BFUU. She will also be available for pastoral meetings and visits by appointment. If you would like to schedule a time, please get in touch via RevElena@bfuu.org or contact the Caring Committee (caring@bfuu.org.)



BFUU Writers Groups - no animals

Sunday, February 11 and February 25 at 12:30 PM in the Preschool Room – 1606 Bonita Ave.

Wheelchair accessible. Beginners welcome! People only - our current organizer is allergic to animals so none will be allowed in the room. Our writers group is for all levels and all genres. After a 7 min. writing exercise, we write for an agreed upon period of time. Then we read our work aloud and give each other positive feedback.



Uke Jam

Friday February 16 at 7 PM in the Preschool Room – 1606 Bonita Ave.

BFUU holds a uke jam once a month for those who want to experience more music in their lives. First time players are welcome and if you need to borrow a ukelele, let us know because we might be able to loan you one. If you have questions or want to let us know you're attending, please send your name and email address to jeffpalmer123@comcast.net for details on next meeting. Otherwise, please just drop in and join us! Welcome!

BFUU Board Meeting

Thursday, February 22 at 7:15 PM in Fellowship Hall – 1924 Cedar St.

Other Community Events held at BFUU



Women & Song, a women's singing group

Directed by Deborah "DJ" Hamouris

February 8 & 22, 7 - 8:30pm in the Preschool Kitchen, 1606 Bonita Ave.

\$20-\$10, sliding scale

Women & Song are looking for a few good women to sing & laugh with us! At each rehearsal we learn traditional and contemporary songs & rounds, including some originals. Women & Song has been meeting regularly for over a decade and welcome new singers. If you can hold your own on a round or maybe read a bit of music, you're welcome!

Reserve your space! 510/910-2574 or deborahj@djhamouris.com

Dream Group

Monday, February 19, 9:30am-4:30pm in the Fireside Room– 1606 Bonita Ave.

The Reverend Meg Whitaker-Greene, LMFT, will lead a Dream Group. The Rev. Meg is a graduate of the Marin Institute of Projective Dream Work founded by Kathryn Taylor and the Rev. Dr. Jeremy Taylor. Dr. Jeremy Taylor was ordained by BFUU in 1976 and passed away on January 3rd, 2018. Cost: \$65 per person, please bring a bag lunch. Limit 20. Register by writing Meg megwhitakergreene@gmail.com

Fellowship Calendar February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 11:45 am AA Meditation 7 pm Transition Berkeley film, "Call of the Forest"*	2 7 pm Soul Motion 7:30 pm BFUU Irish Dance*	3 9 am ASCA 6 pm Augustine Fellowship
4 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal* 10:30 am Sunday Service* 12:15 Newcomer Orientation* 12:30 pm SJC Mtg* 12:30 pm MusCom* 8 pm AA Mtg	5 4 pm T'ai Chi/ Qigong* 6 pm Tai Chi Chuan 6:30 pm Soul Motion 6:30 pm Beginning Ukulele Class*	6 7:30 am Augustine Fellowship 11 am Elders Circle* 6:30 pm Sunday Svcs Cttee Mtg* 7 pm AA Men's Mtg	7 3 pm T'ai Chi/ Qigong* 7 pm NA Men's Mtg	8 11:45 am AA Meditation 7 pm Women & Song	9 12 pm Aesthetics Subcttee Mtg 7 pm The Hardly Strictly Acoustic Jam*	10 9 am ASCA 6 pm Augustine Fellowship
11 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal* 10:30 am Sunday Service* 12:30 pm 2nd Sunday Potluck* 12:30 BFUU Writers Group* 8 pm AA Mtg	12 4 pm T'ai Chi/ Qigong* 6 pm Tai Chi Chuan 6:30 pm Soul Motion 6:30 pm Beginning Ukulele Class*	13 7:30 am Augustine Fellowship 2 pm Pastoral Care* 7 pm AA Men's Mtg	14 3 pm T'ai Chi/ Qigong* 7 pm NA Men's Mtg 7 pm Choir Practice*	15 11:45 am AA Meditation	16 7 pm Uke Jam*	17 9 am ASCA 6 pm Augustine Fellowship
18 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal* 10:30 am Sunday Service* 12:30 pm SJC Mtg* 7 pm The Crisis at KPFA* 8 pm AA Mtg	19 9:30 am Dream Group 4 pm T'ai Chi/ Qigong* 6 pm Tai Chi Chuan 6:30 pm Soul Motion 6:30 pm Beginning Ukulele Class* Presidents Day BFUU Office Closed	20 7:30 am Augustine Fellowship 7 pm AA Men's Mtg 11 AM March Communicator Deadline	21 3 pm T'ai Chi/ Qigong* 7 pm NA Men's Mtg 7 pm Choir Practice*	22 11:45 am AA Meditation 7:15 pm BFUU Board of Trustees Mtg*	23	24 9 am ASCA 6 pm Augustine Fellowship
25 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal* 10:30 am Sunday Service* 12:30 BFUU Writers Group* 12:30 Hospitality, Caring and Membership Mtg* 8 pm AA Mtg	26 4 pm T'ai Chi/ Qigong* 6 pm Tai Chi Chuan 6:30 pm Soul Motion 6:30 pm Beginning Ukulele Class*	27 7:30 am Augustine Fellowship 2 pm Pastoral Care* 7 pm AA Men's Mtg	28 3 pm T'ai Chi/ Qigong* 7 pm NA Men's Mtg 7 pm Choir Practice*	The BFUU Office will be closed on Presidents Day Monday February 19		

* denotes Fellowship event

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 HOURS

Monday - Friday: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

BFUU OFFICE STAFF

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SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR NEXT *COMMUNICATOR*: February 20

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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