

THE BFUU COMMUNICATOR

Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists
September 2019

Upcoming Worship Services

Services at 10:30 a.m.



September 1: We Are the Ones

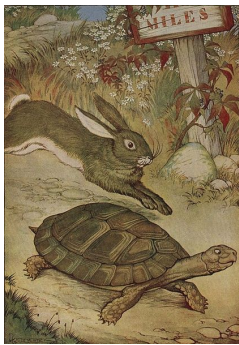
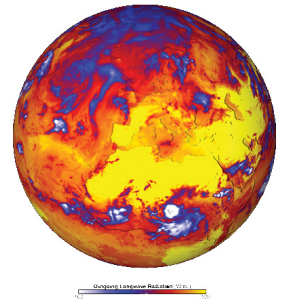
Rev. Emily Hartlief (she/her), Guest Worship Leader

“The pitcher cries for water to carry, and a person for work that is real” writes Marge Piercy. What is the work that is real for each of us? In this sermon, Rev. Emily will address the question of how can we take the long view on our work in the world— and hold on to hope— in these heated and complex times.

September 8: Rising to the Climate Emergency: What Can We Count On?

Joanna Macy (she/her), Guest Speaker

Joanna Macy encourages us to identify our strengths and tools for change as we face the challenge of the global climate crisis. The “Sunrise” group of activists will also send a representative to tell us a little about how they are building a mass movement of young people to stop climate change and create millions of good-paying jobs in the process.



September 15: “Be, Do, Have” In the Time of the Great Warming

Rev. Marsh Agobert (he/him), Worship Leader

Some processes must be undertaken in the correct order to work effectively. This is true for realizing our deepest convictions. What slows down our ability to make the necessary and timely adjustment in our rapidly changing environment? Could it be that we are doing it backward? Like the great Taoist and Buddhist warriors perhaps we should slow down and get this done faster. A minor adjustment yields a better result.

September 22: Waters of the World

Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles (she/her), Worship Leader

As we come together to celebrate our Water Communion, Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles considers the profound changes in all the waters of Planet Earth and the consequences for all life.



September 29: Hunt, Gather, Grow

Rev. Leela Sinha (ze/zir), Guest Worship Leader

What do you need? What are you good at getting? What are you good at creating? And where do you seek help? In these most tippy of pivotal times, the one thing we can't do is do it alone.



Clergy & Staff

Reverend Marsh Agobert (*he/him*), Minister
 Reverend Dr. Carrie Knowles (*she/her*), Minister
 Lincoln Statler, M.A.S.C. (*he/him*), Pastoral Care
 Dr. Susan T. Mashiyama (*she/her*), Music Director
 Deborah Hamouris (*she/her*), Event Space Coordinator
 Susan Macke (*she/her*), Office Coordinator
 Ed Keating (*he/him*), Facilities Manager
 Guy Colwell (*he/him*), Sexton
 Michael Simpkins, Jr. (*he/him*), IT Consultant

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 Ben Burch (*he/him*), Co-Chair
 Caring Community
 Kathy Riehle (*she/her*), Chair
 Finance Committee
 Ben Burch (*he/him*), Co-Chair
 Abbot Foote (*he/him*), Co-Chair
 Hospitality Committee
 Elinor Roberts (*she/her*), Co-Chair
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 Music Committee
 Margaret Hurlbert (*she/her*), Chair
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 SJM Task Force (Subcom of SJC)
 Jeff Palmer (*he/him*), Convener
 Worship Services Committee
 Joanna Foley (*she/her*), 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.

Cleric's Corner



Why We Just Can't Believe This is Really Happening!

The primary problem with the Apocalypse can be found in its original nature; that of a prophecy which is almost impossible to wrap our heads around, even if slightly less so at the time of its publication. It's a full-blown florid psychotic vision which contains a

colorful multi-headed dragon; an apparently disturbingly attractive hooker in attire that matches the dragon, creatures (among the simplest of the party's attendees) described as one like a lion, another like an ox, one with the face of a man, and one like an eagle. Oh, except that they were "full of eyes in front and behind" and each had "six wings"; and these four were the good guys. There's so much more, and for those of you who have had your fill of entheogen boosters (psychedelics), you can get a natural high, a reminder and maybe a little more by reading that last book with its early version of [Technicolor](#), [3D](#), and [4K](#).

Now, there have always been problems with communicating with seers and prophets. They usually speak in riddles and visions that, for some reason seem not to be of the common tongue of any era thus far. [Cassandra](#), the daughter of Priam and Hecuba (the royals of Troy) and also known as Alexandra, was given the gift of foretelling the future by Apollo, who turned out to be a masher. But when she said NO! he responded not by forcing the issue (what? He took her no to mean no!? Well, indeed he did... but not well) but by levying a curse such that no one would believe her. Basically, the same thing happened to Tiresias (of the Oedipal cycle) whose story we have previously recounted.

All this is to say, that no matter how many warnings one might receive regarding the dire nature we have created for our progeny, we are not able to suffer believing it to an extent necessary to change our fate...most likely...or maybe... OR perhaps we can't understand or otherwise properly hear the warnings so that we might believe in them; because of the curse. Maybe we hear it, as though in a "Watching my show right now, dear," trance. Maybe the curse does not affect the herald, but us, instead. Perhaps it is enervating. Perhaps it is perplexing. Perhaps it requires us to study the situation and argue about it until it's too late, etc. Or best of all, perhaps we create the feeling that it is too big to wrap our minds around – and thus we freeze like deer in headlights.

Cleric's Corner (continued)

For the most part, these days, once you know you've been cursed, you can set about banishing or unbinding that spell...with its torpor. But before you can help your neighbor, you must first put on the yellow mask. At the time one has the feeling that time is running out and I must rush and hurry, one must counterintuitively take more time and calmly, patiently make a modest plan and set it to work. The direst situations may be rectified by taking ONE baby step at a time. Panic is contraindicated. Many of us may need to start as far back as 'don't just Do something, Stand there! (I can vouch for that last one, as I with only two friends manage to deter a huge ecological disaster. Later for that tale.) Most of us may simply pick a group of partners who are already on the march. Pick someone whose process appeals to you or pick those souls who feel good to You (I can't emphasize how important teamwork can be in times such as these.) Fret over the efficacy of their process for a while if you must but don't get lost in your head...listen to your heart. Our heads got us into this – And those heads meant well. No blame here either...those heads were trying to make life easier and more fun. Yet every one of our undertakings will generate what economists call, "Unintended Consequences." If you feel unsettled in your choice, a new one will become apparent shortly. Don't be angry, get off your case, your parents' case and your siblings' cases. We have a tendency to blame which by and large does no good and most often increases and complicates the harm. We've spoken of this as well.

Dig deep, reach into your heart and forgive those you identify as the root causes of all your ills. The lessons of life are most often delivered with a free packet of challenge which (because of the rules of packaging) always seem to be bigger than the thing you ordered. By forgiving the most heinous behavior you free your attention toward creating what you want instead of squandering it on distraction. Use your anger to mobilize. Anger is one of the best get-off-your-duff forces in nature. But don't believe everything it tells you.

Here are a few perspectives to provide a glimpse at how varied your options. And remember, let go of the idea that you have to do it all. Even if you choose Not to join a group. If you take your unique approach sincerely and you accept your best counsel, you may

have some solace and solitude...but you will never be alone.

The Yellow Oxygen Masks:

Our Better Natures – Hidden Brain, Aug 12, 2019.

This one may be the Eco-Yellow Oxygen Mask!

Link: <https://www.npr.org/2019/08/12/750538458/you-2-0-our-better-nature>

Facts aren't Enough: The Psychology of False Beliefs – Hidden Brain, July 22, 2019.

Why you can't convince people with facts and reason. If you are of the Left... you gotta hear this one!

Link: <https://www.npr.org/2019/07/18/743195213/facts-arent-enough-the-psychology-of-false-beliefs>

People Like Us: How Our Identities Shape Health And Educational Success – Hidden Brain,

Link: <https://www.npr.org/2019/06/03/729275139/people-like-us-how-our-identities-shape-health-and-educational-success>

White Lies - NPR, May 6th through June 25th, 2019

In 1965 Rev. James Reeb was murdered in Selma Alabama. No one was ever held to account. Fifty years later two Alabama journalist return to the city where it happened, expose the lies that kept the murder from being solved and uncover a story of guilt and memory that say as much about America today as it does about the past.

Link: <https://www.npr.org/podcasts/510343/white-lies>

Tweak the Vote – RadioLab, November 4, 2018

Link: <https://www.wnycstudios.org/story/tweak-vote>

Rev. Marsh



President's Corner



Song for the month: Come, Come, Whoever You Are (full version)

Community Partner for the year: Youth Spirit Artworks

Suggested reading: <https://www.teenvogue.com/story/fred-hampton-black-panthers-rainbow-coalition-poor-americans>

Dear BFUU,

As many of you know, I am a third generation Unitarian Universalist on my mom's side. I grew up in the first Unitarian

Church of Los Angeles, and my parents met because the Black Panther party, of which my dad was a member, used space at that church. And now I am, as far as my research has found so far, the first Black transgender Board President of a UU congregation.

What you may not know is that I am also the third generation of Board Presidents in my family. My maternal grandfather and grandmother and my mom were all, at some point, Board Presidents of the congregation I grew up in.

Most of you also know that I was arrested the day after I was elected to that position, after a party to celebrate Trans people, hosted by Transgender/ Intersex/Gender Variant Justice Project, or TGIJP, an organization dedicated to getting trans folks out of prisons and into supportive lives when they are released, and which BFUU has supported with a Sunday collection.

This last month I have been spending a great deal of time healing. My left arm still won't straighten and I am still suffering from the impacts of the concussion I received at the hands of the San Francisco police department. I am working with liaisons to the SF mayor to figure out how to make sure that Black and queer and poor folks are not impacted by violence in the way that I have been, especially this last month.

And this time has led me to be reflective.

Before my dad was in the Black Panther party, he was back and forth between prison and the military. The organization my parents created, with the support of that UU church, was first a

halfway house for men coming out of prison and then a jobs project which helped train folks to do energy efficiency construction (now called green building, then it was called 'weatherizing.')

Without that church's social justice and fundraising and commitment to community and principle, I might never have existed. And without the training from my dad and family about self-determination, I certainly would have been likely to take a similar path to my dad's before he found the BPP.

We at BFUU have done a lot of work to become the kind of congregation that we dream of. One that supports its members and makes a real difference in our surrounding community and in this crazy world we are living in.

With our commitment to Economic Justice as our congregational Social Justice Ministry, we are having conversations, making commitments, and acting in ways that have the potential to make big strides in our world. Despite our mistakes and missteps, and because we are learning how to admit when we are wrong or ignorant and willing to learn, we are building a congregation that loves alike, even when we don't think alike.

This isn't easy, or comfortable. But, in a world where we are realizing the huge missteps and shortcomings of liberalism, it is a good time for primarily white liberal congregations to be uncomfortable in their growing. Let us be uncomfortable together. Let us comfort each other as we learn to be in this new world. Let us be able to look ourselves in the eyes and know that we did all we could. And, on each and every day, let us love one another in our imperfections.

In community,

Ira X Armstrong

President, BFUU Board of Trustees

Worship Teams!



Worship Team August 18, 2019

l to r, back: Jeff, Tom Rudderow, Brett, Rabbi Jacqueline Mates-Muchin, Dr. Susan, Andy;
front: Christine, David



Worship Team August 11, 2019

l to r, Derrick Mustelier, Joanna, Doug, Jeff



Worship Team August 4, 2019

l to r, back: Lincoln, Doug, Dr. Susan, Andy;
front: Arlo, Clovice

We Practice What We Profess

“Let love be the spirit of this congregation and service its goal. This is our living covenant: to dwell together in peace, to seek the truths in life, and to help one another.”

We repeat these profound words together every Sunday. Let's take the next step to bring them into the daily reality of how we truly can dwell together in peace.

*The Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists intends to create an atmosphere for Sunday Services and other Fellowship events where all participants feel safe, respected and free from unwanted attentions.

*We take responsibility for past incidents where some individuals engaged in sexual harassment, committing a range of inappropriate behaviors of a flirtatious, romantic or sexual nature.

*Undesirable behaviors can be perpetrated by persons of any gender or sexual orientation and also can be directed towards persons of any gender or sexual orientation. We all need to look out for each other.

*We encourage anyone who feels distressed by another's inappropriate behavior towards themselves or others to bring these actions immediately to the attention of BFUU's Pastoral Care Providers or Board members. If you prefer to describe what offended you in writing, there is a cigar box for your note back by the coffee cups. Your written comment—signed or unsigned—may name the offender or not.

*We recommend that all members, friends and visitors recognize that social expectations about how people relate to each other are changing. Please attune yourself to emerging understandings of respectful behaviors.

*A workshop in the near future will encourage everyone to learn the importance of consent as we work together to build beloved community and to live in covenant with each other.

Board of Trustees

Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists

July 16, 2019

From BFUU By-Laws

E. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP: A Member's name shall be removed from the Fellowship's membership roll and the membership terminated:

1. When the Member dies; or,
2. Upon written request by the Member to the Secretary of the Board or the Church administrator; or,
3. When the Member has a period of inactivity of one year, after review and decision by the Minister(s) and membership committee. When feasible, the Member will be given 30 days' advance written notice before termination of membership status; or,
4. After a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board to remove the Member, for actions that threaten the well-being of the congregation.

General Assembly Report Back

As this year's delegate to General Assembly, I mainly focused on attending workshops. With so many workshops going simultaneously, attention was given to those of most concern to our congregation. As in many congregations, our fellowship has been concerned with obtaining funds in order to provide services, particularly for those who are disabled. Several sessions with the leaders of the accessibility and funding ministries revealed the following information:

Grants are awarded through four Funds with distinct priorities and guidelines:

- **Fund for Unitarian Universalism**
- **Fund for UU Social Responsibility** Makes grants to projects that increase UU involvement in social responsibility.
This Fund has four special grants programs, each of which has unique application guidelines and application processes:
 - Congregation Based Community Organizing
 - Actions of Public Witness
 - Statewide Action Networks (specific link is being updated)
 - Get Out the Vote (currently included in Statewide Action Networks)
- **Fund for International Unitarian Universalism**
Makes grants to strengthen Unitarian / Universalist organizations or projects working internationally. This Fund accepts applications **ONCE A YEAR** postmarked by March 15. If the 15th falls on a weekend, the deadline is the following Monday.
- **Fund for a Just Society**
Makes grants to nonprofit organizations addressing issues of social and economic justice. Grants are given to projects that use community organizing to bring about systemic change.

Also discussed was our own UU go-fund-me, called Faithify.

These are open to all UU organizations. More information can be found on their respective websites.

More important outcomes at the General Assembly, of course, were the production of a three-year **Statement of Conscience** on "Democracy Uncorrupted" and three **Actions of Immediate Witness** regarding support for those immigrating and seeking asylum, the right of boycott, and the green new deal. Details of these recommendations can be found in this summer's issue of UU WORLD (pp. 46-49.)

Judith Granada-Dewey

*Many local activists and concerned citizens are planning to participate in the Global Climate Strike on **Friday Sept. 20**. On the current map for the event, there are two locations and times listed in the East Bay:*

Laney College, Main Quad, 900 Fallon St., 10 AM

UCB, Sproul Plaza, 11 AM

More may be added. Here's the link:

https://act.globalclimatestrike.net/thanks/join-september-climate-strike/?action_id=18286269&akid=.52017.oeFjqA&ar=1&rd=1

Report on the 2019 UU Musicians' Conferences

From Our Music Director:

This summer, during the fourth week of July, I went to Denver to attend the conference of the Association for Unitarian Universalist Music Ministries (AUUMM). I was able to go because of a generous scholarship awarded by the AUUMM as well as support from the BFUU Board for professional development. It was an exhausting but amazing journey where I met UU music leaders from around the country, sang in a choir made up of more than 100 of these fabulous singers, took courses in music technique, and learned about building and managing music programs as well as UU history and philosophy. I even managed to rent a harp that I played during a recital, and also at the Sunday service held in the beautiful sanctuary of the First Universalist Church of Denver where the conference was held.

Before the meeting itself, there were two days of courses for the UUA Musicians Leadership Certification Program (MLCP) that I attended and for which I did the requisite reading and assignments beforehand. I found the information quite interesting and illuminating, and would like to share some of it with you. I learned that about 20 years ago, the UUA was re-structured to formally recognize music as a ministry, so that music directors are now considered co-equal professionals with ministers and religious educators. This means that music leaders who practice ministry don't only consider how to perform music well, but they also think about how to help people nurture their spirituality through music, help them express their deepest held convictions, and help people learn and connect with each other through music.



To me, using music to nurture spirituality and build community has always been of central importance to me as a UU musician and music leader, and so I was very interested in the conference workshops. Some explored how to use music in creative ways so that spoken messages and music support each other and create a more beautiful and powerful spiritual service. You may have noticed some new songs and approaches to music that I've introduced at recent services at BFUU.

The culmination of the conference was performing several pieces at the Denver church's Sunday service that we learned from the African-American composer himself, Mark Miller. Singing amongst a company of amazing singers and musicians under the high, round ceiling of the spacious First Universalist sanctuary, light streaming down onto us from the skylight, the room resounded with glorious music. When we ended the run-through of the first spirited number, "What Does the Lord Require of You," Mark, a devout Christian, turned to us and said in a very pleased voice, "Well, I know you all are Unitarians, but I have to say, that was a religious experience!"



After the Sunday service, we made our way to a detention center in Denver and sang social justice songs. We were not allowed to enter the facility but had learned that if we sang towards a particular wall, the detainees would be able to hear us through the windows there. Then we headed our separate ways home, myself towards Berkeley, my head full of ideas about how music can help us move towards more beloved community, and keeping in mind something a speaker had said during a talk that each of us is "loved, worthy, and could also use a little work."

– Dr. Susan

Poetry Corner

The nowhere that is here

Fleeting moments revisit me
 from a foggy past
 Sudden overpowering revelation
 of the sweetness of life
 known, unknown, remembered, forgotten
 of scenes so indescribably sweet, so poignant
 they took my breath away
 overcame my soul with brushstrokes
 swift, overriding everything tangible
 all attempts to assign neat words

Those moments so fleeting,
 so swift yet whole,
 so deep yet wide,
 so powerful yet fragile

Yes, fragile, as if trying to hold onto them
 would make them disappear
 as quickly as they came
 from out of the nowhere
 into the here of now
 the now of never
 the never of disbelief
 of doubt
 of uncertainty
 of fear that they might never
 appear again
 to overtake the finite self
 and transform it into
 a drifting, shapeless cloud

The everywhere
 that is nowhere
 is here
 but will not stay.

Marianne Robinson
BFUU Poet Laureate

YSA, B&B, & BFUU

These days, BFUU is in love with [Youth Spirit Artworks](#). YSA is a local “green” art jobs and job training program committed to empowering unhoused and low-income youth.

It was founded in 2007 by Sally Hindman, a local housing activist who teaches “Liberation Art” at Starr King School for the Ministry. YSA’s latest project is the Tiny House Village which will offer hope and housing for local young people who greatly need both.

This ambitious project brings together young people and volunteers from participating congregations such as BFUU to build small houses for individual



occupants. These dwellings will be clustered on a site to create a community of Tiny Homes.

What exactly does a Tiny Home look like?

Recently, 4 BFUU youths and four elders decided to find out by taking a field trip to YSA’s headquarters on Alcatraz. They viewed an attractive orange and teal prototype of a Tiny House and asked questions of Mary, the director of YSA’s art program. The visit



concluded with a tour of the center’s Gallery where BFUU visitors bought tote bags, t-shirts and jewelry from the youth-created art.

Another way in which BFUU is supporting YSA’s building project with donations of food for the hard-working builders. Several bags of Humus, peanut butter and other non-perishables were dropped off.

Youth Spirit Artworks, Bike & Build, & BFUU



In addition, the Sunday Service offering plate on 8/11 collected \$341 to support the building project.

BFUU is just one of many organizations which are supporting YSA's work. The

Fellowship also welcomed an out-of-town supporting organization for YSA on the weekend of Aug. 16-18. **Bike & Build**, a national organization for young housing activists, came to Berkeley to spend their days working on the YSA project and their nights in sleeping bags on the floor of BFUU's Connie Barbour Room.



BFUU served an early breakfast to the 20 Bike & Build visitors on 8/18 and learned more about their work in support of sustainable housing around the Bay Area and across the country. The next morning, the B & B'ers pedaled off to San Jose to work on their next sustainable housing project.



The exchange of visits between BFUU and YSA goes both ways. Sally Hindman and 4 YSA participants joined in the Fellowship's anniversary celebration on July 13. And on September 29, art works from YSA young people will go on display in Fellowship Hall.



Poem from Poppa Gene

Un be live a ble

Gene B. Herman

Berkeley 8/7/19

We have this con dude

Yelling

N

Screaming

N

Twitching

Not one word

About

Weapons of War

Every twitch way

Keep them out

Killin

Send them back

All

Murderers

Those

Brothers

Rapists

Gangsters

Sisters

Sons

this agent orange

spewing his racist white supremacist shit

all over the land...

Papas

Daughters

NOW dead

Mamas

Grandfathers

there dead

Abuelas

dead

dead

dead

Mental Illness

Yes

PTSD

Yes (real or gaming)

BUT

BUT

BUT

all over this land

Don the Con now twitching

Weapons of War

Bad White Supremacist

Are

Naughty White Supremacist

Working as designed

What a hypocrite

KILL KILL KILL KILL KILL

A god damn

BAN AK 47s

Punk ass

And

MF

All semi-automatic weapons of war.

Hyp

And prosecute the hypocrite

o

Send him to jail

crite

Do not pass GO(P).

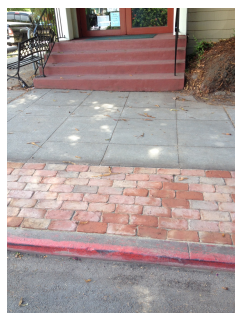
Regular Committee Meetings

Aesthetics (subcom. of B&G) 2 nd Friday at 11:30 AM in Fellowship Hall	Finance Meets as needed contact Ben Burch or Abbot Foote	Personnel 3 rd Thursdays 2:30 PM Mike Gardner's house	Social Justice Ministry (subcom of SJC) 1 st Sunday 12:30 PM in Fellowship Hall
Buildings & Grounds (B&G) Meets once per month, contact Ben Burch or Abbot Foote	Hospitality 4 th Sunday at 12:30 PM in Fellowship Hall	Poetry Meets as needed contact Frances Hillyard	Social Justice (SJC) 3 rd Sunday 12:30 PM in Fellowship Hall
Caring 4 th Sunday at 12:30 PM in Fellowship Hall	Membership 4 th Sunday at 12:30 PM in Fellowship Hall	Religious Education Meets as needed contact Sharon Colligan	Worship Services 2 nd Tuesday at 10:00 AM in Fellowship Hall
Committee on Ministry meets as needed contact Abbot Foote	Music 2 nd Monday 2:00 PM Fatapples (1346 MLK)		

Special Notices



Doug Chambers
Chris Macy



On The Verge!

Did you notice the Cedar St. planting strip (also called a verge) is now newly laid brick? Thanks to Ed Keating & crew, and BFUU Buildings and Grounds Committee for making it safer to get to BFUU!



Featured BFUU Events



The Fellowship Hall (1924 Cedar St) is accessible by a ramp on the Bonita Avenue side of the Hall, and has a T-Loop system to enhance audio for those with hearing aids. The Preschool Room is only reservable by BFUU groups and is accessible on the ground level of our Religious Education Building (1606 Bonita Ave). At this time the Connie Barbour, Fireside, and Benjy Rooms are not wheelchair accessible.

Boundaries and Sexuality in the time of #MeToo

Tuesday September 3 at 12:30 PM till 2:00 PM in Fellowship Hall

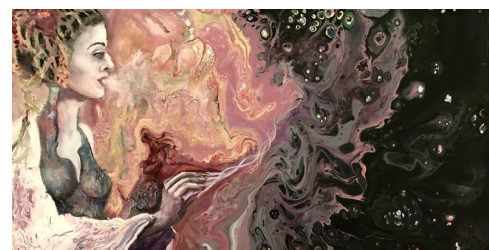
In this workshop designed for men, males, and those who identify, we will create a “judgment-free space” to explore the world of healthy sexual boundaries, to examine and reflect on how males in our society are encultured to reinforce sexism, misogyny, sexual force, and homo/transphobia. This workshop is for any encultured male-identified person who needs non-judgmental help processing the movement of #MeToo and to help us become better allies.

Art Soiree: Lightbringer, the art of Sylvia Brallier

Saturday September 14 at 3:00 -5:00 PM in Fellowship Hall

Join us for wine & cheese while viewing our current art exhibit, displayed through the end of September. “Lightbringer” is a retrospective art exhibition showing the evolution of Sylvia’s style through the lens of the Spiritual Warrior – one who comes to this world to embody Spirit in order to bring about positive transformation for culture and nature. Sylvia will speak briefly about her work, take questions and lead a gallery tour. Light refreshments will be served.

Tickets at [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com). Sponsored by the BFUU Aesthetics Subcommittee.



Introducing the Launch of the BFUU’s Ushers Guild!

Sundays September 15 and September 22, at 9:30 AM AND at 12:30 PM in Fellowship Hall

Do you have a passion for hospitality? Does welcoming people and making them feel at home mean a lot to you? Do you want BFUU to grow and thrive for years to come?

In this pre-and-post service workshop, we will create a sacred time to learn the art and craft of sacred hospitality and to use this ministry to welcome newcomers, people of color, the LGBTQI community, and especially those who are pulled towards the life of Unitarian Universalism. This will be a “lay ministry training” with the end result of commissioning a team of dedicated lay ministers of hospitality for BFUU.

All are welcome to attend but we are looking for (6) six people to sign a shared ministry agreement and thus spearhead this ministry of radical hospitality. Interested parties should commit to attending at least two (2) of the above workshops either before or after the Sunday service.

Featured BFUU Events



Film: Paris to Pittsburgh

Tuesday September 24 from 6:30 - 9:00 PM in Fellowship Hall
Inspiring stories of local, private sector, and community leaders across the U.S. who are continuing to take action to transition to a clean energy economy—regardless of federal inaction.

Bring your family, friends and neighbors and join us!

Free event. Donations ranging from \$5 to \$50 for BFUU's Solar Roof will be gratefully accepted during registration, and at the door.

RSVP: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/film-from-paris-to-pittsburgh-tickets-66526144489>

No one turned away for lack of funds.

Hosted by BFUU's Social Justice Committee and Ministry. Sponsored by Interfaith Power and Light www.interfaithpowerandlight.org in partnership with Bloomberg and Radical Media.

Weekly BFUU Events



Qi Gong & T'ai Chi with Gene Herman

Mondays, 4-5 PM in Fellowship Hall

Wednesdays, 3-4 PM in Fellowship Hall

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

Ministerial Office Hours with Rev. Dr. Carrie

Tuesdays from 2 PM - 6 PM in the Ministers Office

Contact Rev. Dr. Carrie at revcarrie@bfuu.org for an appointment. You can also leave a voicemail for Rev. Carrie on ministerial as well as pastoral care subjects at 510-841-4824 x2.

Ministerial Office Hours with Rev. Marsh

Wednesdays from 10 AM - 3 PM in the Ministers Office

Contact Rev. Marsh at revmarsh@bfuu.org for an appointment. You can also leave a voicemail for Rev. Marsh on ministerial as well as pastoral care subjects at 510-841-4824 x2.



BFUU Choir Practice

Wednesdays at 7-8:30 PM in Fellowship Hall

We practice songs for the worship services, learn melodies, and work on musicality and harmonies. Everyone who practices with us is invited to sing with the choir at the front of the hall on Sundays, but no pressure! Everyone is also welcome to just join in on

Wednesday practice for fellowship and/or to be able to sing more confidently and joyously in the congregation on Sundays. Please invite your friends and neighbors. These gatherings are offered by BFUU as a service to build community.

Monthly/BiMonthly BFUU Events

Orientation for Newcomers

1st Sunday - September 1 after service in the lobby of Fellowship Hall

There is an orientation for newcomers after the service on the first Sunday of each month. All are welcome, whether you are considering membership or not.

Elders Circle

1st Tuesday - September 3 at 11 AM in Fellowship Hall

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

Board President Ira Armstrong Office Hours

2nd & 4th Tuesdays - September 10 & 24 at 1:30-3:30 PM in the RE Office

Please contact Ira via email BOTIra@bfuu.org to make an appointment.

BFUU Men's Group

1st Thursday - September 5 at 7-9 PM in Fellowship Hall

We would like to invite all men to a Men's Group on the first Thursday of the month. Our goal is to encourage each other as we build community. Hope to see you there next time.



The Hardly Strictly Acoustic Jam

2nd Friday - September 13 at 7 PM in Fellowship Hall

Join us! Come sit in our circle, share music, songs, poetry, excerpts from your new book, jokes and stories. We welcome all entertainers and fans to fill the Hall

with performance, connection, and appreciation for all forms of art.

Sponsored by the BFUU Membership Committee.

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

BFUU Second Sundays Potluck*

2nd Sunday - September 8 after service (12:30 PM) in Fellowship Hall

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 for those with differing food tolerances.*



BFUU Writers Group

2nd Sunday - September 8 at 1 PM in the Preschool Room - no animals

Wheelchair accessible. Beginners welcome! Our Writers Group includes all levels – beginners to advanced, and all genres – including fiction, short story, poetry, etc. After a 7-minute writing exercise, we write for an agreed-upon period of time. Then we read our work aloud and give positive feedback.

Monthly/BiMonthly BFUU Events



Uke Jam

3rd Friday - September 20 at 7 PM in the Fireside Room

BFUU holds a uke jam 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!

BFUU Board Meeting

4th Thursday - September 26 at 7:15 PM in Fellowship Hall

Vintage Invasion Old Fashioned Dance Party

4th Friday - September 27 at 7 PM in Fellowship Hall



7 – 8 pm Beginning waltz lesson

8 – 10 pm DJ dance party

10 – 11 pm Dance to live music!

Full of waltz songs new and old, swing dance, and other ballroom dances

\$10, \$6 students with ID No one turned away for lack of funds. Class free with dance

www.ViDanceParty.com Sponsored by the BFUU Music Committee

Other Community Events held at BFUU



The Fellowship Hall (1924 Cedar St) is accessible by a ramp on the Bonita Avenue side of the Hall, and has a T-Loop system to enhance audio for those with hearing aids. The Preschool Room is only reservable by BFUU groups and is accessible on the ground level of our Religious Education Building (1606 Bonita Ave). At this time the Connie Barbour, Fireside, and Benjy Rooms are not wheelchair accessible.



Our Revolution East Bay (9/1/19)

Meetings are held at BFUU on the first Sunday of each month from 4-6pm in the Connie Barbour Room. Doors open at 3:45 PM

Pizza will be provided and feel free to bring something to share!



Women & Song, a women's singing group (9/12 & 9/26)

Directed by Deborah "DJ" Hamouris

2nd & 4th Thursdays 7 - 8:30pm in the Preschool Kitchen

Women & Song is looking for a few good women to sing & laugh with us! At each rehearsal we learn songs & rounds, including some originals. If you can hold your own on a round and read a bit of music, join us! \$20-\$10, sliding scale Reserve your space: 510/910-2574 or deborahj@djhamouris.com



Mountain Dulcimer Jam (9/21) with Deborah Hamouris

Third Saturdays from 2:30 - 4:30 PM in the Preschool Kitchen

NO-TAB JAM!! Bring tunes you know by heart to share/teach/lead with the group. DJ will help you lead.

Donation of \$5-\$20, sliding scale. No one turned away for lack of funds.

Email djh@berkeleydulcimergathering.com

* 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

Deborah Hamouris - Event Space Coordinator

Phone: 510-841-4824, ext. 3

Office Days: Tue, Wed & Fri

Email: rooms@bfuu.org

Susan Macke - Office Coordinator

Phone: 510-841-4824, ext. 1

Office Days: Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri

Email: office@bfuu.org

SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER *COMMUNICATOR*: September 20

Please email newsletter@bfuu.org with submissions.

Address Correction Requested

Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists

1606 Bonita Ave.

Berkeley, CA 94709

Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists

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