

THE BFUU COMMUNICATOR

Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists

September 2020

Until we can safely meet together in Fellowship Hall, our Worship Services and meetings are on [Zoom](#). Please check your ENews or send an email to worshiponline@bfuu.org for Worship Service or to the appropriate Committee Chair (page 6) for links, Meeting IDs & passwords or more information.

Upcoming Worship Services

Services on Sundays at 10:30 a.m.



September 6: Update on Migrant Community

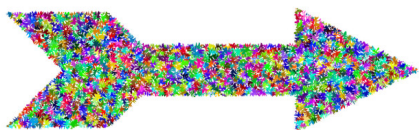
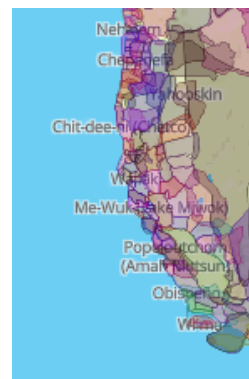
Patricia Contreras-Flores, Guest Speaker

Mutual aid for immigrants in this moment: front line stories shared about what is happening and how to support communities.

September 13: Celebrating the 13th Anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Evelie Delfino Sâles Posch (she/her/siya), Worship Facilitator

Look to our ancestors and we can discover our indigenous roots around the globe. Our world is rich with art, culture, music and spirituality to commemorate our ancient creation stories. Here in America is a link to find out what land we are on: native-land.ca. Please research and bring that information to share. If you feel called, set up an altar with items representing the Directions and Elements. Evelie will have surprise special guests joining our ceremonial-service.



September 20: The Great Transition Part Two

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

We, at BFUU, have an open conversation regarding the current “great revealing.”* There are areas of interest for most everyone. How the two most recent entries (the surge in Black Lives Matter and the viral pandemic) will come to impact our movement forward in time has yet to be determined. Yet we have been graced with a momentary pause to consider such questions. Where do we want to come out on the other side of this moment, and how can we make the most of it? What role can our small community play in this event? Part two: Given we don’t need to know how to do something before setting out to create or do it, what can we do to get where we want to be?

*Apocalypse: Greek apokálypsis revelation, equivalent to apokalýp(tein) to uncover, reveal.

September 27: Yom Kippur: The Day to Cast Away Our Sins

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

On the eve of Yom Kippur, Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles reflects on the Judaic tradition of atonement for our sins and the search for forgiveness. In today’s world, how do we understand and acknowledge sin and acts of repentance?





Clergy & Staff

Reverend Marsh Agobert, *Minister*
 Reverend Dr. Carrie Knowles, *Minister*
 Reverend Tom McAninley, *Community Minister*
 Deborah Hamouris, *Event Space Coordinator*
 Susan Macke, *Office Coordinator*
 Ed Keating, *Facilities Manager*
 Michael Simpkins, Jr., *IT Consultant*

Board of Trustees

Ira Armstrong, President
 Doug Chambers, Vice President
 Michael Gardner
 Ben Burch, Treasurer
 Judith Granada-Dewey (Alternate)
 David Makofsky (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
 Committee on Ministry
 Laura Knipmeyer, Convener
 Finance Committee
 Ben Burch, Co-Chair
 Abbot Foote, Co-Chair
 Hospitality Committee
 Kathy Riehle, Chair
 Membership Committee
 Doug Chambers, Chair
 Music Committee
 Margaret Hurlbert, Chair
 Personnel Committee
 Kathy Riehle, Chair
 Poetry Committee
 Frances Hillyard, Chair
 Marianne Robinson, Poet Laureate
 Religious Education (RE) Committee
 Sharon Colligan, Convener
 Social Justice Committee (SJC)
 Phoebe Sorgen, Cynthia Johnson,
 Gene Herman, and David Makofsky,
 Co-Chairs
 SJM Task Force (Subcom of SJC)
 Jeff Palmer, Convener
 Worship Services Committee
 Joanna Foley, 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.

Worship Services



Worship Service Team July 12: top: Lawrance, Paikea & Eva, Andy, Joanna; middle: Elinor, Doug & Kathy, Barbara, James; bottom: Ira X, Sharon, Stephanie Note: Rev. Ben Meyer's sermon was pre-recorded.



Worship Service Team July 19 top: Andy, Paikea & Eva, Joanna, Lawrance; 2nd row: Frances, Barbara, Margaret, Melissa; 3rd row: Doug, Gael, Rev. Marsh, Sharon; Bottom: Doug & Kathy, Margaret #2, James



Worship Service Team July 26 top: Lawrance, Eva & Paikea, Kathy & Doug, Rev. Carrie; 2nd row: Margaret, Andy, Frances, Joanna; 3rd row: Barbara, Melissa, Sharon, Doug, Margaret

Worship Services



Worship Service Team August 2 top: Barbara, Paikea & Eva, Andy & Gael, Joanna, Margaret & Jeff; 2nd row: Kathy & Doug, Lauren, Andy, Lawrance, Reggie; 3rd row: Virginia, Ira X, Melissa, MamaDiarra, Sharon; Bottom: Doug, Jeff



Worship Service Team August 9: top: Joanna, Paika & Eva, Andy, Kathy & Doug; middle: Elinor and Steve, Edward, Frances, Clovice; bottom: Melissa, Ira X, Sharon, James



Worship Service Team August 16 top: Frances, Paika & Eva, Andy, Joanna, Margaret; 2nd row: James, Ed, Barbara, Doug, Elinor & Steve; 3rd row: Lawrance, Doug, Melissa, Maureen, IraX; Bottom: Sharon, Margaret
Note: Rev. Marsh Agobert's sermon was pre-recorded.

BFUU Garden Update

The BFUU Garden

The crookneck squash and strawberries were planted by Christine and harvested by Joanna.

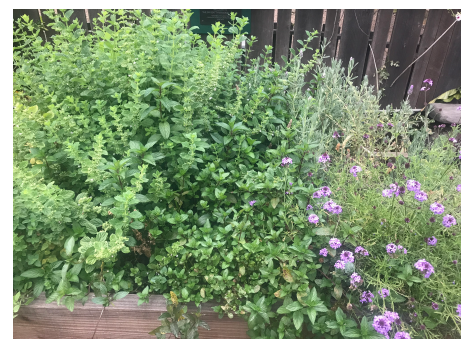


The chard is growing and the mint is spreading. Mint is prolific, so if you're nearby, feel free to harvest some!



The medicinals and aromatics are filling the planter boxes with luxurious green and delicate purple. And did I mention that there is mint to spare?

It's lovely in iced tea! Doesn't that sound refreshing? Come pick some!



Community Voices



Across the country UU's are expanding the coalition of people prepared to overcome voter suppression and #votelove in 2020.

In addition to your local work, UU the Vote is planning national days of action every other week from now to election day. If you've been wondering what you can do, forming a team to participate and putting the national phone banks on your calendar is an easy next step.

In Florida, we're partnering with New Florida Majority Education Fund to reach hundreds of thousands of Florida voters. Over one hundred Florida UUs have been phonebanking for the last three weeks, ahead of the state attorney and sheriff primary elections, talking to thousands of voters about police violence against Black people and the need for systemic change. Now we need to bring in UU reinforcements from around the country as we head toward the general election and talk to voters broadly about the stakes in 2020.

In Wisconsin, we joined Wisconsin Voices - a statewide coalition of over 65 organizations committed to progressive values and expanding the electorate by building power in communities that have been divested from & targets of voter suppression through elections and year-round organizing. We'll flank the work of WI Voices partners and fill in gaps - phonebanking priority voters who might not be part of their other organizations' base.

The next phonebank is September 22nd from 7-9 PM ET (4-6 PM PST.) Please sign up [here](#)! You'll see sign ups there for all the upcoming phonebanks too.

This is an all hands on deck moment! Please sign up and help us recruit more volunteers. You can forward this message, send people the sign up links, send it to your lists, post in your newsletters, and share the sign up links on Facebook. We have a goal of gathering 500 UUs and friends to make



Doug Chambers

Chris Macy

Betsy Nachman

Be Part of the National Call-in Days to Voters in Wisconsin and Florida

Every other week until election day, UU's from across the country are making non-partisan calls together to register, mobilize, and persuade voters in 2020.

RSVP for the Next Phone Bank

calls in August and September. If everyone recruits 1-2 or even more people we can make and surpass that goal. People understand what a crucial moment we are in, in Florida, Wisconsin, and in our nation.

We hold the phonebanks on Zoom so that we are able to make our phone calls together. We gather in, get oriented, trained in the first 30 minutes or so of the phonebank, make our calls together, and debrief and celebrate our results at the end of the session. Working this way is fulfilling, faithful, and fun as we build solidarity and power for change.

In faith & hopefulness,

Susan Leslie

Unitarian Universalist Association
Congregational Advocacy & Witness Director
Organizing Strategy Team

PS each call to a voter costs .042 cents. Would you [donate \\$10](#) to reach the next 250 voters today?

Poetry Corner



My Garden

My lovely garden

I love my garden

The flowers

The herbs

The veggies

They are like my babies

My children

They return my love

I take care of them

I feed them – compost and fertilizer

I weed them – prune them when necessary

All plants love being watered

I make sure that no harm comes to them

They give me beautiful flowers

Delicious tomatoes, peppers & chard

Lovely aromatic thyme, basil or lemon verbena

No so big a secret

I give them much nurturing

Definitely I do not abuse them, never ever no abuse

Thank you garden

I love you mulchly.

Listen to silence:

Wind in trees uttering
silken syllables

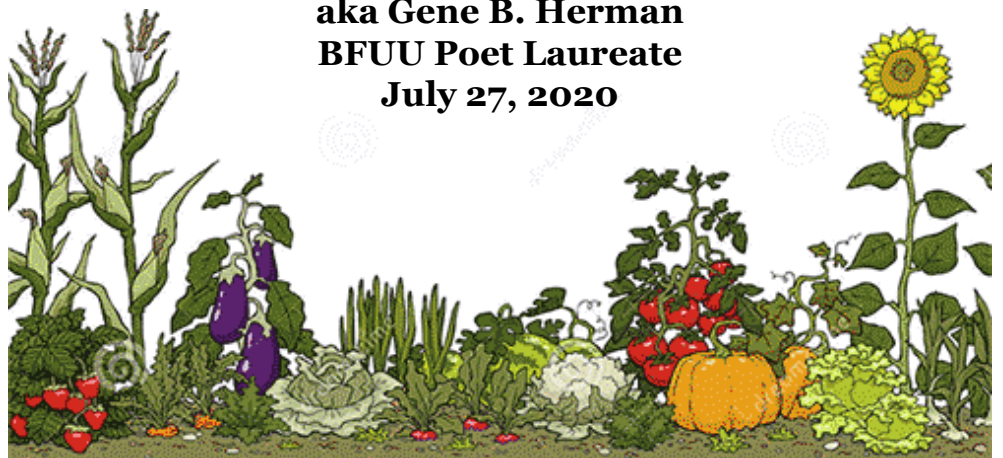
Silence:

the trees' word
for happiness

by Frances Hillyard
BFUU Poet Laureate Emerita

*this poem was read at the
Worship Services Committee
Meeting*

**Poppa green gene
aka Gene B. Herman
BFUU Poet Laureate
July 27, 2020**



View From Rooms@bfuu.org



On 3/17/20, the view from my office changed. This is true for many of us, now, as we shelter-in-place (SIP) and do our jobs remotely. It has been quite the adjustment in perspective, too. What does an employee whose job is to manage facility schedules do when those facilities are closed to the public? The answer is to look to the future and preserve our resources.

Childcare and summer camps providing care for workers are permitted to operate under Berkeley's SIP order. Starting in June, the New School ramped up to re-open on July 1st for families of first responders and essential workers. And Seele's Stars, a kids performing arts camp, took up residence in our Hall

for 2 weeks, giving some relief to the restrictions for families of participating children. Both the preschool and the camp are restricted to a "pod" of 12 children. Cleaning & disinfecting are required throughout the day as well at the end of each session. This required custodial assistance!

Fortunately, we had hired a new Sexton/custodian, Shae Jewell, right when SIP started. She arrived in June, got some training, cleaned out the custodial closets, and started off running. We are so fortunate to have her, with years of experience running camps, both in Marin and the Sierras. Shae's good humor, organization, and custodial skills have been a boon to us at a crucial time. We have worked together to create and execute the necessary plans for keeping the kids safe and their environment healthy. "It's good to have a purpose, again," she said. Since New School is now also using the Hall Monday-Friday, Shae has her work cut out for her.

And my view? You can see it in this photo! I've created my home video studio, as all my dulcimer teaching is online, now. As I write, I'm preparing to teach at my 2nd virtual dulcimer festival this year, with over 200 students to encounter via zoom 8/28-30. My classes through TheFreight.org have helped me come into the digital age, with my 3rd session starting in September.

I wish each of you a safe and fruitful Fall, and the comfort of home, this season.



All the best,
Deborah Hamouris

Regular Committee Meetings (via Zoom through Shelter In Place)

Aesthetics (subcom. of B&G)

Meets as needed

contact [Joanna Foley](#)

Buildings & Grounds (B&G)

Meets once per month,

contact [Ben Burch or Abbot Foote](#)

Caring

4th Sunday at 12:30 PM

contact [Kathy Riehle](#)

Committee on Ministry

meets as needed

contact [Laura Knipmeyer](#)

Finance

Meets as needed

contact [Ben Burch or Abbot Foote](#)

Hospitality

4th Sunday at 12:30 PM

contact [Kathy Riehle](#)

Membership

4th Sunday at 12:30 PM

contact [Doug Chambers](#)

Music

2nd Monday 2:00 PM

contact [Margaret Hurlbert](#)

Personnel

3rd Thursdays 2:30 PM

Contact [Kathy Riehle](#)

Poetry

Meets as needed

contact [Frances Hillyard](#)

Religious Education

Meets as needed

contact [Sharon Colligan](#)

Social Justice Ministry

1st Sunday 12:30 PM

contact [Jeff Palmer](#)

Social Justice (SJC)

3rd Sunday 12:30 PM

contact [Phoebe Sorgen](#)

Worship Services

2nd Tuesday at 10:00 AM

contact [Joanna Foley](#)

Fellowship Calendar September 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 11 am Elders Circle ^{*1} Reflection & Connection [*]	2 6:30 pm Choir Practice ^{*1}	3	4	5 1 pm Worship Service Rehearsal [*]
	6 10:30 am Worship Service [*] 12:30 pm SJM Mtg [*]	7 2:30 PM Think Tank (T3) Meeting [*]	8 10 am Worship Svcs Cttee Mtg [*] Reflection & Connection [*]	9 6:30 pm Choir Practice ^{*1}	10 7 pm BFUU Men's Group [*]	11 12 1 pm Worship Service Rehearsal [*]
13 10:30 am Worship Service [*]	14 2:00 pm MusCom Meeting 2:30 PM Think Tank (T3) Meeting [*]	15 Reflection & Connection [*]	16 6:30 pm Choir Practice ^{*1}	17 2:30 pm Personnel Committee [*]	18	19 1 pm Worship Service Rehearsal [*]
20 10:30 am Worship Service [*] 12:30 pm SJC Meeting ^{*1} Communicator Deadline	21 2:30 PM Think Tank (T3) Meeting [*]	22 Reflection & Connection [*]	23 6:30 pm Choir Practice ^{*1}	24 7 pm BFUU Board of Trustees Mtg ^{*1}	25	26 1 pm Worship Service Rehearsal [*]
27 10:30 am Worship Service [*] 12:30 pm HMC-Hospitality, Membership and Caring-Cttees Mtgs ^{*1}	28 2:30 PM Think Tank (T3) Meeting [*]	29 Reflection & Connection [*]	30	Please Plan Ahead: Many of the links on this calendar are to send an email to the meeting organizer. The direct links have ¹ after the name. If you send an email, please make sure the meeting you'd like to attend is in the subject line, and allow at least a day for them to respond. If you have questions, please email office@bfuu.org or call the office at 510-841-4824 ext. 1.		

* denotes Fellowship event ¹ denotes meeting link

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

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Berkeley, CA 94709