

# THE BFUU COMMUNICATOR

Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists

April 2021

BFUU  
**zoom**  
Worship Service

Donate to BFUU



**Sundays at 10:30 AM\***

offline? email [worshiponline@bfuu.org](mailto:worshiponline@bfuu.org) for links

## April 4: Can We Agree – To Disagree?

*Rev. Marsh Agobert (he/him)*

We are about to engage in controversial while non-combative, and yet constructive, Conversation. While I have been gently and subtly gesticulating toward the message of communicating with those with whom we disagree, a grand opportunity for such has arisen; right here at home in BFUU. How, you may ask, does this address speaking to “The Other?” Well, we Fellows are perfectly capable of being our own Other. We know how to disagree— now let's take the next step and learn how to do so in a highly productive fashion. Practice makes perfect.



## April 11: Trees Are Us: A BFUU Poetry Service

*Frances Hillyard (she/her)*

Today let's take some time to savor creative expressions of wonder, awe and joy from people you care about but might not know as well as you think you do. Join in exploration through poetry and music, our place in the interdependent web of all existence.

## April 18: Create Your Own Religion

*Paikea Melcher (she/her)*

Paikea Melcher, lifelong BFUUser, will reflect on the value of our liturgical traditions, and ask each of us to consider three steps in spiritual creativity.

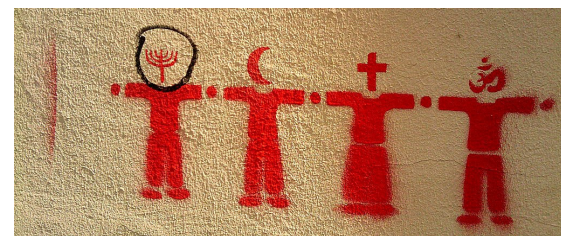


image: [murdelta on Flickr](#)



## April 25: Do We Parent Our Pet—Or Is the Pet Our Parent?

*Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles (she/her)*

Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles weighs in, on this National Pet Parent Day, on the power of pets on our life and our lifespan, and how they help in this time of the pandemic.



## Cleric's Corner

### Clergy & Staff

Reverend Marsh Agobert, *Minister*  
 Reverend Dr. Carrie Knowles, *Minister*  
 Reverend Tom McAninley, *Community Minister*  
 Deborah Hamouris, *Event Space Coordinator*  
 Susan Macke, *Office Administrator*  
 Ed Keating, *Facilities Manager*  
 Shae Jewell, *Sexton*

### Board of Trustees

Michael Gardner, *President*  
 Margaret Hurlbert, *Vice President*  
 Ben Burch, *Treasurer & Secretary*  
 Judith Granada-Dewey  
 David Makofsky (*Alternate*)  
 Phoebe Sorgen (*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  
 Jinky Gardner, Steve Ogden, Kathy Riehle  
 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*  
 Nominating Committee  
 Virginia Hollins-Davidson, *Chair*  
 Personnel Committee  
 Kathy Riehle, *Chair*  
 Poetry Committee  
 Frances Hillyard, *Chair*  
 Gene Herman, *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  
 Sharon Colligan, *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.



## Here Comes the Sun

Here's one thing brought but left unsaid at the service of March 14th (the day before the Ides of March.) In hindsight, I think you might appreciate it.

Music is the art of patterns in time; dance is the art of patterns in time and space. Music and dance can bring about ecstatic enlightenment as no other art forms can. There is a point when, in some forms of music, in some performances, the musician ceases to create patterns in time and begins to reflect the variety of patterns in space. In the music-dance ritual of ancient China, where ancestors were invited back to dance and sing, the music and dance, so in tune with the rhythms and shapes of the great flux, could weave itself through the barriers of time and reach into the past. Joined with their reappeared ancestors in transcendent enjoyment of the same music, the participants were united with the One and All. Consider these things with the thought that music is our path.

The I Ching (Reifler translation) –

Adapted by Rev Marsh Agobert

I try to leave you with something to view or read relevant to a part of the current congregational conversations. I thought I would leave room for what I hope will be a center of focus for most of us during this Spring cycle of our year. This is the time that I would usually offer a small group or two for the extra boost that we naturally get from this time of year. Instead, I will support and participate in the “Transforming Hearts - Watch Parties and Chats.” This is, of course, the Anti-bias course that many BFUUers have been talking about. We've found an anti-bias activity that seems to be wonderfully matched with our Fellowship souls. This is genuinely heart, mind, and eye-opening. I sincerely hope you will, each and everyone join us in at least the first session.



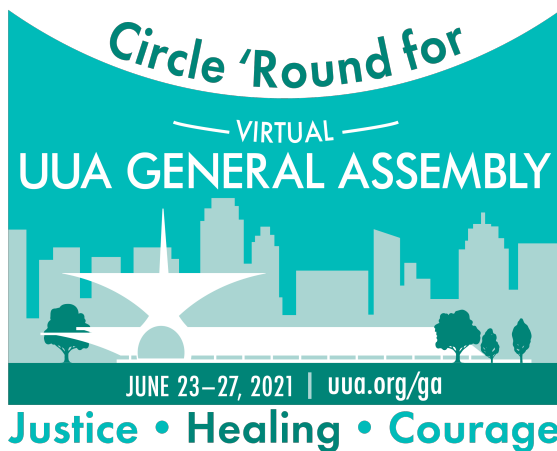
## Cleric's Corner (continued)

OK...one bonus, purely as a defense against the Tsunami of lies and false information that continues to abound:

[Fake science news: 6 tips to debunk misinformation online \[from https://apple.news/AaTIS80s8Q9WKLIWALv1m6Q\]](https://apple.news/AaTIS80s8Q9WKLIWALv1m6Q)

Here Comes The Sun: The Vernal Equinox, March 20<sup>th</sup> 2021 09:37 UT...Northern Hemisphere.

Rev. Marsh



### General Assembly (GA)

**100% Virtual Event! June 23-27, 2021**

**Open to the public:** General Sessions, Service of the Living Tradition, Synergy Bridging Worship and Sunday Morning Worship will be streamed live and publicly accessible; no registration is required to view.

**Registered Attendees:** Access to all workshops, performances, lectures, and events listed in the GA Program. Registrants will have exclusive access to a chatroom, recordings of previous streams, and dedicated support.

**Doug Chambers and Kathy Riehle** are our BFUU delegates!

### Connect with local Bay Area UU's!

Bay Area UU Meetup meets every other week, and they've started a new practice of focusing on anti-racism efforts being conducted by the various congregations of the Bay Area. There will still be space for people to ask questions and get support for other matters. More details, including notes from prior meetings, can be found here: <https://www.uusf.org/sfbauumeetup>

### 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 and Abbot](#)

#### *Caring*

*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 12:30 PM*  
contact [Kathy Riehle](#)

#### *Committee on Ministry*

*meets as needed*  
contact [Kathy, Jinky, and Steve](#)

#### *Finance*

*Meets as needed*  
contact [Ben and Abbot](#)

#### *Hospitality*

*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 12:30 PM*  
contact [Kathy Riehle](#)

#### *Membership*

*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 12:30 PM*  
contact [Doug Chambers](#)

#### *Music*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Monday 2:00 PM*  
contact [Margaret Hurlbert](#)

#### *Nominating*

*meets as needed*  
contact [Virginia Hollins-Davidson](#)

#### *Personnel*

*3<sup>rd</sup> 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*

*1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 12:30 PM*  
contact [Jeff Palmer](#)

#### *Social Justice (SJC)*

*3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday noonish - after service*  
contact [Phoebe, Gene, and David](#)

#### *Worship Services*

*1<sup>st</sup> Friday at 1:30 PM*  
contact [Sharon Colligan](#)

## *Board Report*

Hello BFUU Community:

The BFUU Staff and Board are planning “Watch and Discuss” sessions using the wonderful anti-bias series from the “Transforming Hearts Collective.” These classes emphasize the interrelationship of our trans-gender community with our society as a whole: acceptance, denial, opposition and oppression. The classes become an even more powerful tool for us by illustrating the intersection of racism, sexism and other form of oppression to trans-gender oppression.

We are very excited to recommend these classes and are planning a number of small group watch-and-discuss meetings in April. Let us know that you wish to participate by contacting Rev. Marsh via text to 707-557-5707 (preferred) or emailing revmarsh@bfuu.org or Mike Gardner ngc6144@gmail.com.

For the Staff and Board, Mike Gardner.

How to enroll in the TRANSFORMING HEARTS COLLECTIVE sessions.

The first-time enrollment procedure is a bit squirrely, so if you experience any problems, please contact a Board member for help. The next time you enter a class, you will go directly to it.

### o **This is the Coupon Code for Congregation Members**

Our unique coupon code is: BERKELEYUU

Everyone who is part of our fellowship community, now and in the future, can use this coupon code, BERKELEYUU, to individually enroll in the course using the instructions below—we've purchased access for our entire congregation for the life of the course.

### o **Instructions to enroll:**

- Go to the course page (<https://transforming-hearts-collective.teachable.com>)
- Scroll to the **bottom** and select the \$400 option (nearly all the way to the bottom! You won't have to pay anything.
- Click “Enroll”
- On the next page click the red text “Add Coupon” **VERY IMPORTANT!**
- In the box that appears, enter BERKELEYUU and click “Apply” (the total will be adjusted to FREE)
- Continue with enrollment
- A rather lengthy Survey follows – be patient – Mike

Note that this coupon code can be used only by our congregation. Please do not publicize it publicly or post it online. There are a limited number of people who can use it, but if it stops working at any point we will contact the Collective and will increase the quantity.



## *Worship Service Teams!*



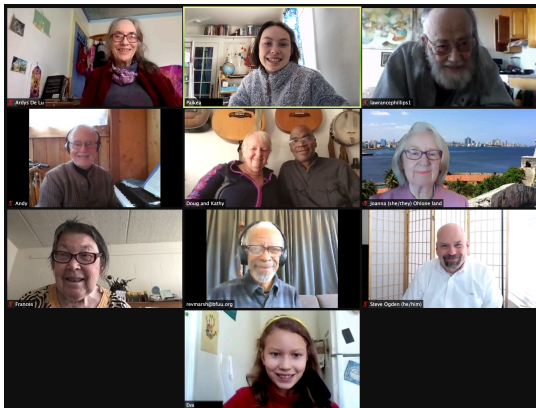
### **Worship Service Team February 21**

top: Eva, Paikea, Andy; 2<sup>nd</sup> row: Tom, Dr. Yanick Louis-Lindquist, Lawrance; 3<sup>rd</sup> row: Kathy & Doug, Ardys, Joanna; 4<sup>th</sup> row: Margaret



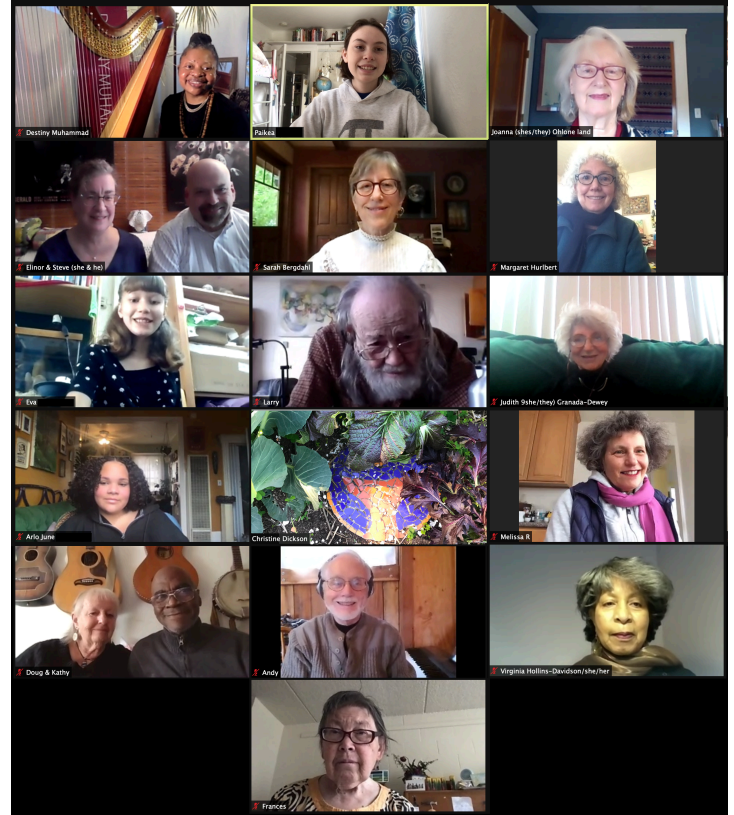
### **Worship Service Team February 28**

top: Frances, Paikea, Elinor & Steve; 2<sup>nd</sup> row: Andy, Margaret, Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles; 3<sup>rd</sup> row: Joanna, Eva, Kathy & Doug; 4<sup>th</sup> row: Melissa, Ardys



### **Worship Service Team March 7**

top: Ardys, Paikea, Lawrance; 2<sup>nd</sup> row: Andy, Kathy & Doug, Joanna; 3<sup>rd</sup> row: Frances, Rev. Marsh Agobert, Steve; 4<sup>th</sup> row: Eva



### **Worship Service Team March 14**

top: Destiny Muhammad, Paikea, Joanna; 2<sup>nd</sup> row: Elinor & Steve, Sara Bergdahl, Margaret; 3<sup>rd</sup> row: Eva, Lawrance, Judith; 4<sup>th</sup> row: Milo June, Christine, Melissa; 5<sup>th</sup> row: Kathy & Doug, Andy, Virginia; 6<sup>th</sup> row: Frances



### **Worship Service Team March 21**

top: Lawrance, Paikea, Elinor & Steve; 2<sup>nd</sup> row: Eva, Kathy & Doug, Andy; 3<sup>rd</sup> row: Ardys, Pastor Jacqueline Duhar, Melissa; 4<sup>th</sup> row: Joanna

## Poetry Corner

### Celebrate a life well lived – Dolores R. Helman

Thanks for all you do.

Ah let me count the ways...

There's nurturing...most important the mother nurses haman in the house

Healthy cooking, cleaning...always cleaning

And laundry...don't ever forget the laundry

Then there is the spiritual caring soul

And then there is the political

Most definitely political...way way out in left field

And grandchildren

mostly the little ones

mentioned first.

And the list goes on

and on

and on.....

OMG...don't forget dance and tap and ballet

and blues and swing and salsa

the sauce - mild

the dance-hot 'muy caliente'

To my very special soulmate

Let me tip tap toe on outahere

Gene B. Herman, BFUU Poet Laureate

Oct 1, 2013 - Berkeley



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We will be sharing the video of Dolores' Memorial Celebration in the [Dolores Helman ~ In Memoriam Facebook group](#) and by request when it is ready. The beautiful slide shows shared by granddaughters Becky and Wendy are already posted. Email [office@bfuu.org](mailto:office@bfuu.org) for more info.



## Circle of Life

Syl Scherzer's only son, Joel Scherzer, age 51, died suddenly in his Oakland hotel on January 20<sup>th</sup>. Syl shared that he voted for Pres. Joe Biden & lived to see that victory! He loved music and nature. Syl is asking for gifts in honor of Joel be made to BFUU and show in the memo line: Solar Project in memory of Joel Scherzer. The fund so far has \$100. Syl thanks all for your kind words & cards.

No memorial service is planned at this time.

## Poetry Corner

### HOPE

Egg-tooth

crack the tight shell

open to fresh air.

Poems grow.

Smiles blossom in the street:

love and food, freedom and respect.

We greet each other, strong, healthy, gentle,

confident that the words we spill

like seeds, ripen into grass

to feed next season's flight.

Frances Hillyard

BFUU Poet Laureate Emerita

## Community Voices

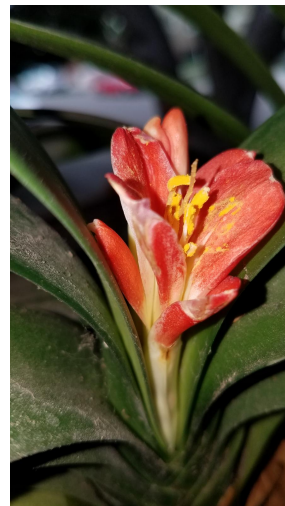


*Jean Lieber*

### CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!!

The Fellowship, the Board, our Staff and every other aspect of the BFUU community would like to send our love, congratulations and deep appreciation to **Elaine Miller**, BFUU's Bookkeeper. In April is Elaine's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of working and keeping our books in order! Her loyalty and commitment to the finer details of the task of bookkeeper for the past 10 years are amazing.

Thank you, Elaine, for all the work that you do for BFUU.



### **Clivia miniata**

We asked last month if anyone knew the name of the plant Jim Beatty gave to Karen. The answer, with 75% probability is Clivia miniata, the Natal lily or bush lily!



## Weekly Meetings

**BFUU Choir Practice** on Wednesdays at 4:00 PM

Choir members practice songs for worship service and fun!

Please contact Margaret at [muscom@bfuu.org](mailto:muscom@bfuu.org)

**Rev. Dr. Carrie's Reflection and Connection** on Tuesday afternoons

Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles invites BFUU members and friends to join her in a series of small meetings on zoom.

Participation is limited. Email Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles at [revcarrie@bfuu.org](mailto:revcarrie@bfuu.org) and let her know of your interest.

**Transforming Hearts Watch Parties and Chats** Wednesdays at 9:00 AM and Fridays at time TBD

Watch the Transforming Hearts anti-bias training videos together online Wednesday mornings and discuss the intriguing and eye-opening topics together in community on Friday afternoons. You can join the conversation whether or not you have started the trainings - *your view is unique and important!* We just ask that you watch that week's episode before participating in the conversation about it. We plan to start watching session 1 on Wed 3/ 31, and discussing it on Fri 4/2, then move through the next videos in order (ie. watch session 2 on Apr 7 and discuss on Apr 9, etc.). We need six participants to sign up in order to start the discussions.

[Register for Watch Parties](#) or send Rev. Marsh **text to 707-557-5707** (preferred) or [revmarsh@bfuu.org](mailto:revmarsh@bfuu.org).

[Register for Chats](#) or email Deborah at [rooms@bfuu.org](mailto:rooms@bfuu.org), or call 510-841-4824 ext 3

**Worship Service** on Sundays at 10:30 AM

All are welcome to attend Worship Service!

Please contact Sharon at [worshipservices@bfuu.org](mailto:worshipservices@bfuu.org)

## Monthly Meetings

**Board of Trustees Meeting** 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday 4/22 at 7:00 PM

BFUU BOT meetings are open to all!

**Committee on Ministry Meeting** 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday 4/1 at 2:00 PM

This committee is a communication channel between the ministers and the community.

Please contact Kathy, Jinky, and Steve at [COM@bfuu.org](mailto:COM@bfuu.org)

**Elders Circle** 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday 4/6 at 11:00 AM

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. Please contact Rev. Marsh by text to 707-557-5707 (preferred) or email [revmarsh@bfuu.org](mailto:revmarsh@bfuu.org).

**Hospitality, Membership, and Caring Committees Meetings** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 4/25 at 12:30 PM

Please contact Kathy at [caring@bfuu.org](mailto:caring@bfuu.org)

**Men's Group** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 4/8 at 7:00 PM

We invite all men to this group. Our goal is to encourage each other as we build community.

Please contact [Jeff Palmer](#).

**Music Committee Meeting** 1<sup>st</sup> Monday 4/2 at 2:00 PM

Questions? Please contact Margaret at [muscom@bfuu.org](mailto:muscom@bfuu.org)

**Personnel Committee Meeting** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 4/15 at 2:30 PM

Please contact Kathy at [personnel@bfuu.org](mailto:personnel@bfuu.org)

**Social Justice Committee Meeting** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday 4/18 after service (noonish)

Please contact Phoebe at [sjc@bfuu.org](mailto:sjc@bfuu.org)

**Social Justice Ministry Meeting** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 4/4 at 12:30 PM

**Worship Service Committee Meeting** 1<sup>st</sup> Friday 4/2 at 1:30 PM

Please contact Sharon at [worshipservices@bfuu.org](mailto:worshipservices@bfuu.org)

\*\*\*some committees meet as needed - please see committee meeting list on page 3\*\*\*

# Fellowship Calendar April 2021

| Sun                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Mon                                                 | Tue                                                                                                              | Wed                                                                                                                                        | Thu                                                                        | Fri                                                                                                                                   | Sat       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Please Plan Ahead:</b> Direct links to meetings/registration have <sup>1</sup> or <sup>2</sup> after the link. The remaining links send an email to the meeting organizer. If you send an email, please allow a few days for them to reply.<br><br>If you have questions, please email <a href="mailto:office@bfuu.org">office@bfuu.org</a> or call the office at 510-841-4824 ext. 1. |                                                     |                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                            | <b>1</b><br>2:00 pm <a href="#">COM Meeting*</a>                           | <b>2</b><br>1:30 pm <a href="#">Worship Svcs Committee Mtg*</a><br>Time TBD<br><a href="#">Transforming Hearts Chat</a> <sup>*2</sup> | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>4</b><br>10:30 am <a href="#">Worship Service</a> <sup>*1</sup><br>12:30 pm <a href="#">SJM Mtg</a> <sup>*1</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>5</b><br>2:00 pm <a href="#">MusCom Meeting*</a> | <b>6</b><br>11:00 am <a href="#">Elders Circle</a> <sup>*1</sup><br><a href="#">Reflection &amp; Connection*</a> | <b>7</b><br>9:00 am <a href="#">Transforming Hearts Watch Party</a> <sup>*2</sup><br>4:00 pm <a href="#">Choir Practice</a> <sup>*1</sup>  | <b>8</b><br>7 pm <a href="#">BFUU Men's Group*</a>                         | <b>9</b><br>Time TBD<br><a href="#">Transforming Hearts Chat</a> <sup>*2</sup>                                                        | <b>10</b> |
| <b>11</b><br>10:30 am <a href="#">Worship Service</a> <sup>*1</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>12</b>                                           | <b>13</b><br><a href="#">Reflection &amp; Connection*</a>                                                        | <b>14</b><br>9:00 am <a href="#">Transforming Hearts Watch Party</a> <sup>*2</sup><br>4:00 pm <a href="#">Choir Practice</a> <sup>*1</sup> | <b>15</b><br>2:30 pm <a href="#">Personnel Committee*</a>                  | <b>16</b><br>Time TBD<br><a href="#">Transforming Hearts Chat</a> <sup>*2</sup>                                                       | <b>17</b> |
| <b>18</b><br>10:30 am <a href="#">Worship Service</a> <sup>*1</sup><br>Noonish - after service <a href="#">SJC Meeting</a> <sup>*1</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>19</b>                                           | <b>20</b><br><a href="#">Reflection &amp; Connection*</a><br><br><b>Communicator Deadline</b>                    | <b>21</b><br>9:00 am <a href="#">Transforming Hearts Watch Party</a> <sup>*2</sup><br>4:00 pm <a href="#">Choir Practice</a> <sup>*1</sup> | <b>22</b><br>7 pm <a href="#">BFUU Board of Trustees Mtg</a> <sup>*1</sup> | <b>23</b><br>Time TBD<br><a href="#">Transforming Hearts Chat</a> <sup>*2</sup>                                                       | <b>24</b> |
| <b>25</b><br>10:30 am <a href="#">Worship Service</a> <sup>*1</sup><br>12:30 pm <a href="#">HMC-Hospitality, Membership and Caring-Cttees Mtgs</a> <sup>*1</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>26</b>                                           | <b>27</b><br><a href="#">Reflection &amp; Connection*</a>                                                        | <b>28</b><br>9:00 am <a href="#">Transforming Hearts Watch Party</a> <sup>*2</sup><br>4:00 pm <a href="#">Choir Practice</a> <sup>*1</sup> | <b>29</b>                                                                  | <b>30</b><br>Time TBD<br><a href="#">Transforming Hearts Chat</a> <sup>*2</sup>                                                       |           |

\* denotes Fellowship event

<sup>1</sup> denotes meeting link

<sup>2</sup> denotes meeting registration

<sup>2</sup> meetings requiring registration may be cancelled if the minimum participant requirement isn't met

## *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 CLOSED - We are working from home**

### **BFUU OFFICE STAFF**

Deborah Hamouris - Event Space Coordinator

Phone: 510-841-4824, ext. 3

Working Days: Tue, Wed & Fri

Email: [rooms@bfuu.org](mailto:rooms@bfuu.org)

Susan Macke - Office Coordinator

Phone: 510-841-4824, ext. 1

Working Days: Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri

Email: [office@bfuu.org](mailto:office@bfuu.org)

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR February *COMMUNICATOR*: April 20**

Please email [newsletter@bfuu.org](mailto:newsletter@bfuu.org) with submissions.

## **Address Correction Requested**

**Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists**

1606 Bonita Ave.

Berkeley, CA 94709

Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists

Office: 1606 Bonita Ave., Berkeley, CA 94709 | Fellowship Hall: 1924 Cedar St., Berkeley, CA 94709

T: 510-841-4824 | E: [office@bfuu.org](mailto:office@bfuu.org) | [www.bfuu.org](http://www.bfuu.org)