

THE BFUU COMMUNICATOR

Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists

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November 2021



Worship Service Sundays at 10:30 AM

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



November 7: Residual Religion

Rev. Marsh Agobert (he/him)

We think in terms of Religion or Science, Democrats vs Republicans, Good Guys and Bad Guys. This language is popular today. But what if the Buddhists are right and dualism is a major source of our suffering? Today

we will take a look at how our full-tilt rejection of religion has resulted in its being hidden in everything we do...even in our interpretations of science?

November 14: Move In the Hand:

Living Our Spirituality in Our Day-To-Day Lives

Doug Chambers (he/him) and Kathy Riehle (she/her), Worship Coordinators

What is the most special time of the day for you? What kinds of activities do we do everyday, and how we might make them part of our spiritual practice?

Today's service looks at how the Spirit of Life moves in our hands throughout all our days, giving shape to our lives through the tasks of the everyday. We will consider practices of praise, thanksgiving, awareness, intention, and petition which we might perform throughout our days.



November 21: Giving Life the Shape Of Justice: The Spirituality Of Working For Change

Stephanie Doucette (she/her), Worship Coordinator

The song "Spirit of Life" grew from the songwriter's linking of her spirituality and her work for social change. Unitarian Universalist spirituality calls us to participation and involvement, sustains us for living lives of truth and love, and nourishes our hope and our joy. We will explore our spirituality as expressed in our lives in the world.

November 28: Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights

Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles (she/her)

On the eve of the holiday, Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles describes the history of Hanukkah and this celebration in the time of the pandemic.



November Shared Plate Partner: Apache Stronghold

<http://apache-stronghold.com/about-us.html>

Apache Stronghold, San Carlos, Arizona, is a 501(c)3 nonprofit community organization of individuals who come together in unity to battle continued colonization, defend Holy sites and freedom of religion, and are dedicated to building a better community through neighborhood programs and civic engagement. Please read more about the work of Apache-Stronghold to save Oak Flat on [page 9](#).

Offerings are split 50/50 between BFUU and our shared plate partner. Pledge payments aren't a part of the plate

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*

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Michael Gardner, President
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 Jean Marie Stine
 David Makofsky (Alternate)
 Phoebe Sorgen (Alternate)
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Committees

Aesthetics (Subcommittee of B&G)
 Chair currently vacant
 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.



Using Your Words

We get certain words and phrases wrong. Sometimes this doesn't matter, but sometimes it makes all the difference, as we've come to learn. For example, I had a conversation with my son, who minored in linguistics at UC Santa Cruz, about the correct use of language.

He posited that language, particularly language rules, has always been used as a form of oppression. He noted the variety of pidgin language forms and demonstrated that I could easily understand what the speaker was communicating. He went on to say that there should be no judgment attached to any form of language and that language, which is in a constant state of change, need not be deemed a lesser form of communication *as long as it's understood*.

I tend to agree with his hypotheses until it comes to the matter of communicating more complex concepts. Specialized or additional plateaus of language are required to discuss technically progressive ideas in their areas. There are few everyday substitutes for the language to discuss quantum mechanics, mathematics, logic, or any sciences. In its extensive use of language, literature could not communicate specific human experiences and perceptions without the language that has developed over the millennia. Exposure to literature provides access to philosophy and many of the forms of more profound human thought. Additionally, and not trivially, one's inability to swim freely in the deep end of the language pool would limit one's capacity to play in that pool. IE. If one can't speak the languages of complex thought, one will have difficulty playing in those fields. The Moors and the Greeks created an excellent foundation for today's complex thinking.

Currently, our language is being restructured and redeveloped in intentionally designed ways to control and direct our thought. That is the job of language, through time. Given our current cultural state, this is carried out with very little oversight and few rules (of engagement, given our current cultural state.) Yet, it has become clear that this is currently being undertaken with great intention and to a specific effect. And in this sense, it is an unusual event. Question the language. Question what is being offered and use your perceptions, both rational and emotional.

Cleric's Corner (continued)

If you think this is an easy challenge, you do not hear this message.

Some Help:

This entry is an extraordinarily uplifting and revealing interview on Freakonomics:

[How Can We Break Our Addiction to Contempt? \(Ep. 478\) - Freakonomics Freakonomics](#)

A Very lively discussion and has a full transcript for those who'd prefer to read the conversation.

Free your Mind and your A** will follow: An interview with Africa Brooke and Brittany King:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HvQsX6n0eyU>

Africa & Brittany's Full Conversation: <https://youtu.be/QIYgpbAPTtwo>

A Revealing Interview with Africa Brooke: <https://youtu.be/qU7iXtHTVtI>

The short version of the above interview with Afrika Brooke: <https://youtu.be/v8v7ueICWuU>

Greenpeace's past president, Patrick Moore, suggests a distinction between these identifiers (one a word and the other a phrase): **Science and The Science**.

A short excerpt from the Climate Science discussion: <https://youtu.be/hEOLKEc5eRM>

A complete discussion of Science and Climate Crisis: <https://youtu.be/E5K5i5Wv7jQ>

Greenpeace Co-Founder Dr. Patrick Moore's new book: 'Fake Invisible Catastrophes and Threats of Doom'

From Whence Our Values Come: Evolutionary Biology may help us understand our current behavior. A message from Gombe with Richard Wrangham, a biological anthropologist at Harvard:

https://youtu.be/YJF01_ztxwY

(This Interview contains a list of topics and their time location in the interview. Very helpful for accessing specific sections of the conversation).

Rev. Marsh

Regular Committee Meetings (via Zoom through Shelter In Place)

<i>Aesthetics</i> (subcom. of B&G) <i>Meets as needed</i> contact Aesthetics Committee	<i>Finance</i> <i>Meets as needed</i> contact Ben and Abbot	<i>Nominating</i> <i>meets as needed</i> contact Virginia Hollins-Davidson	<i>Social Justice Ministry</i> <i>1st Sunday 12:30 PM</i> contact Jeff Palmer
<i>Buildings & Grounds (B&G)</i> <i>Meets once per month,</i> contact Ben and Abbot	<i>Hospitality</i> <i>4th Sunday at 12:30 PM</i> contact Kathy Riehle	<i>Personnel</i> <i>odd months 3rd Thursdays 2:30 PM</i> Contact Kathy Riehle	<i>Social Justice (SJC)</i> <i>3rd Sunday noonish - after service</i> contact Phoebe, Gene, and David
<i>Caring</i> <i>4th Sunday at 12:30 PM</i> contact Kathy Riehle	<i>Membership</i> <i>4th Sunday at 12:30 PM</i> contact Doug Chambers	<i>Poetry</i> <i>Meets as needed</i> contact Frances Hillyard	<i>Worship Services</i> <i>1st Friday at 1:30 PM</i> contact Sharon Colligan
<i>Committee on Ministry</i> <i>meets as needed</i> contact Kathy, Jinky, and Steve	<i>Music</i> <i>2nd Monday 2:00 PM</i> contact Margaret Hurlbert	<i>Religious Education</i> <i>Meets as needed</i> contact Sharon Colligan	

BFUU Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting Reports

BFUU's Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting was held on Sunday October 10 via zoom. 24 members (including all Board members) and 4 guests were present. The draft minutes are here: [\[Draft\] Minutes: Oct 10 2021 Congregational Meeting](#). The Committee Reports can be accessed via that document, but are also reprinted in these pages. Thanks to all who participated!

Finance/Budget Report

The 2020-2021 fiscal year that ended this past June 30 was a financially precarious one for our fellowship, due to the pandemic. One of our main sources of income, the rentals to various outside groups, was practically nonexistent. The other income source, our arrangement with the New School, was cut in half, due to restrictions relating to the pandemic. In order to balance our budget and meet even our seriously reduced expenses, we ended up taking \$25,000 out of our building reserves. We were lucky: it could have been more. This is because we also benefited from a larger than necessary balance in our checking account which we reduced and used as another resource, plus we received around \$20,000 in grants from the federal government as pandemic aid. The other side of this was that the pandemic kept expenses down due to minimal building use and committee activities.

For this fiscal year, 2021-2022, things are still quite uncertain, due to the role of the Delta variant. Outside rentals are still restricted and very limited, and the New School apparently can still only manage about half the rent they were paying before the pandemic. Things could change in a few months, or maybe not. As we are expecting some significant deferred expenses in the Buildings & Grounds area, and in other areas, some more reserve withdrawals will likely be necessary. Our present budget is still very tentative, as it was based on the expectation that increases in both our income streams would be forthcoming soon. The seemingly alarming projected deficit of \$60,000 in our 2021-22 budget seemed doable in the light of that assumption. Some serious reevaluation of our expenses moving forward may be required, as it is now unclear when our income will return to anything near its pre-pandemic level.

Ben Burch, Treasurer and Co-Chair

Hospitality Committee Report

Nothing to report at this time, this committee will be active once the Fellowship reopens. We need a volunteer to co-chair this committee along with Kathy.

Kathy Riehle, Chair



Membership Committee Report

Doug and Rev Marsh work together on this committee, nothing current to report at this time.

Doug Chambers, Chair

Caring Committee Report

This committee meets monthly with our ministers to review Pastoral Care.

We also continuously send cards to our congregants for appropriate occasions, as well sending gifts to those in hospitals or serious illnesses.

We encourage that you let me know of anyone's illness, the passing of a family member of any of our congregants, etc.

Kathy Riehle, Chair

BFUU Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting Reports

BFUU Reopening Task Force Report

The BFUU Reopening Task Force is convened by Ben Burch and consists of Board of Trustees President Mike Gardner, Worship Chair Sharon Hwang Colligan, Kathy Riehle as Co-Chair of Caring, Personnel, and Ministerial Relations, Doug Chambers as Chair of Membership, Deborah Hamouris as Building Use Office Staff, and Susan Macke as Administrative Office Staff.

We originally convened in April 2021, in hopes of planning a reopening in relation to California's initial June 15 reopening date. While we did implement a very limited reopening for some building users (a Twelve Step group or two) on July 1, by mid-July it had become clear that the Delta Variant had changed the situation, and we were not comfortable continuing with a more general reopening plan. With sadness, we agreed we should watch and wait until at least January of 2022.



We also came to realize that BFUU Sunday Worship, for a variety of reasons, is likely to be the last thing to return to in-person meeting, rather than the yearned-for first event to signal a “return to normal.” We will monitor scientific, government, and UUA news, but also expect local cultural comfort with other meetings first: grocery stores, committee meetings, theaters, and in particular, choir rehearsals.

Reasons for this include: protecting aging and vulnerable congregational members; the open/public nature of a church service; the uniquely “mandatory” or all-community nature of a church service; the smaller/unstaffed nature of BFUU vs some other congregations; and the central importance of communal singing to our shared worship experience.

In addition to the above, we have discussed the plausibility of implementing some form of “hybrid” congregational life in the future, and will continue to monitor options as this historic pandemic evolves.

BFUU members with questions about possible building use should contact Deborah Hamouris. Questions about Sunday Services should go to Sharon Hwang Colligan.

Submitted by **Ben Burch**, BFUU Reopening Task Force Chair

Committee on Ministry Report

Members: Jinky Gardner, Kathy Riehle, Steve Ogden, Doug Chambers

This committee meets once a month (first Thursday) with a rotation of our ministers meeting with us. When meeting with Rev Tom, our Community Minister he updates us on his involvement with various organizations in which he represents BFUU.

This committee is always open for discussion with any member of BFUU if they have a concern with any minister or another member of the congregation. As well as addressing any concerns any of our ministers may have. Goes without saying all discussions are in the strictest of confidence.

Respectfully submitted by **Kathy Riehle**

BFUU Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting Reports

Social Justice Committee Report

In loving memory of Dolores Helman who was a valiant and creative social justice hell raiser!

Despite pandemic restrictions slowing us down somewhat, the BFUU Social Justice Committee continues to support democracy, climate justice, a Green New Deal (thanks to Gene Herman!), and safety/peace for all people, whether in Palestine, Afghanistan, Iraq, Cuba, or here at home, whether immigrants or refugees or citizens of all genders, races, and abilities.

Most of us have taken the wonderful Transforming Hearts training. We encourage people to indicate what pronouns they use by putting those pronouns after their name on Zoom (and on nametags when meeting in person again.)

Tom Luce ably shepherded our endorsement of an 8th UU principle in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement and towards ending all oppression, and he has also led re Haiti.

Via petitions, letters, and donations, we join the UU Service Committee in calling for an effective, democratically elected government in Haiti after years of neglect, coups, government by decree, gangs running whole neighborhoods with kidnappings and murders, and the recent earthquake pushing impoverished people further into the ground with lack of food, water, and sanitation.

We join Virginia Hollins-Davidson and Tom

McAninley in supporting the Poor Peoples Campaign. We encourage participation in its national March and Assembly on June 18, 2022 in D.C. Tom has also done excellent work for the Tiny House Village for homeless youth and kindly gave us two inspiring tours.

For health/safety here in Berkeley, we continue calling for local control over wireless telecom equipment. With 11,000 pages of evidence proving harm, the Environmental Health Trust and Children's Health Defense won a recent legal victory against the Federal Communications Commission whose obsolete wireless radiation limits are dangerously high.

We support whistleblowers and reporters. With Alice Walker and Noam Chomsky, our friend Dan Ellsberg (a frequent BFUU speaker) co-authored a Newsweek article supporting Julian Assange. With another group, SJC sent Dan congratulatory flowers in gratitude for that and for, at age 90, recent truth-telling re nuclear war risks, daring the Justice Dept to arrest him under the Espionage Act.

Some of us will march for wimmin's right to choose on Oct 2, when there'll be nationwide marches.

We endorse Berkeley's TOPA, Tenants Option to Purchase Act. Some of us worked against the recall of California's governor. Success!

Respectfully submitted by **Phoebe Anne Thomas Sorgen** (she/they), SJC facilitator

Election Results: **Welcome Nominating Committee Members!**

Karen Dewald
Judith Granada-Dewey
Gene Herman

Virginia Hollins-Davidson
Melissa R
Marge Turngren

BFUU Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting Reports



Buildings & Grounds Committee Report

Just prior to the pandemic, we purchased the solar panels and storage batteries for our long-planned solar installation on the roof of our Fellowship Hall. The installation of these materials have been delayed, for various pandemic-related and bureaucratic reasons, for almost a year and a half. However, very recently, our project was finally permitted by both the City of Berkeley, and PG&E. As a result, the installation should finally proceed within the next couple of months. We have about \$17,000 in a special account to help pay for this installation, and can withdraw any additional needed funds from our Building Reserves.

Last FY (2020-2021), we were quite frugal in our buildings expenses, and only spent about \$7,600 on Buildings and Grounds expenses. There will clearly be some deferred maintenance issues this year. Besides the solar installation, the south face of the RE Building will be needing a paint job, as well as several window repairs or replacements. We will also be looking at getting an electric heat pump for the RE Building, to facilitate getting BFUU off the use of natural gas. This technology will be installed in such a way as to provide some cooling as well as heating, an innovation which may prove valuable in the face of extreme heat events in the future.

At present, we have enough in our building reserves to handle the expenses that will likely be incurred with these projects (including the solar work) and other things that might arise. However, we need to remain aware that we are also relying on these reserves to fund any shortfall in our general operating expenses. If our income levels do not return to pre-pandemic in the next year or so, we may be faced with some very difficult financial choices.

Ben Burch, Co-Chair

Personnel Committee Report

Members: Kathy Riehle-Chair, Doug Chambers, Virginia Hollins-Davidson, Ben Burch, Mike Gardner

This committee meets every other month on the 3rd Thursday of the month.

We are charged with writing policies where and when appropriate and on request of the Board or a committee.

We complete annual evaluations of our office staff, our Sexton and recommend increases in wages which we then submit to the Board for final approval.

Any concerns regarding any employees comes before this committee for evaluation of the issue and discussion.

Since COVID, both Deborah and Susan have been working from home, and thanks to them they keep BFUU up and running; could not do so without them.

There is nothing current to speak of at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Riehle, Chair and Staff Supervisor

BFUU Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting Reports



Report: Poor People's Campaign + Youth Spirit Artworks



Please note: this report was submitted before October 10, so some comments refer to the past.

Dear BFUU Board, Colleagues, and Congregation:

My work with the Poor People's Campaign and Youth Spirit Artworks has been very fruitful and inspiring.

I continue to convene the Faith Leaders Working Group of the Bay Area of the Poor People's Campaign. We meet every 2 weeks.

A major current issue is that the Apache Stronghold is caravanning from Arizona to the Bay Area from about October 19th to the 22nd. Here is the link to their planned activities:

<california@poorpeoplescampaign.org>. We anticipate about 40 people coming to our area and we need hosting and hospitality for this welcomed group. Email me if you are able to offer either or both: tommcan@sbcglobal.net. Also there will be opportunities to support this Native American group by attending the events listed in the link above.

There are many other events with PPC partners in the Bay Area. Again check the newsletter linked above.

The Poor People's Campaign will have a March and Assembly for Poor and Low Wage Workers in Washington DC on June 18, 2022. We are looking for members and friends to volunteer to join this historic event. We also seek financial support for impacted people from our area to attend and testify at this event. There will be much more information as we get closer to the event.

Youth Spirit Artworks (YSA) is very busy doing very compassionate work, including the Tiny House Village. The Village is open and the residents are very busy with workshops on career paths and several are working or attending community college. I'm on the board and we have a very motivated and cooperative group of board members.

I gave a tour to a couple members of BFUU and I'll be happy to give more as there's an interest. I'll email the board and Susan in the office when I schedule another tour, which generally lasts from 30 to 45 minutes. My tours are only on Saturdays, because the Village is occupied and Saturdays are a day for volunteers and visitors.

I'll be attending the Congregational Meeting this Sunday and will be available to answer any questions you may have. *(see note above)*

Blessings on us all!

Rev. Tom McAninley,
BFUU Community Minister

BFUU Worship Services Update



**Worship Service Team
October 17**

<top: Ardys, Paikea, Kathy & Doug, Cheryl; 2nd row: Eva & Stephanie, Lawrance, Margaret, Virginia; 3rd row: Melissa, Barbara, Ben, Frances; 4th row: Andy, Judith, Luna



**Worship Service Team
October 3**

<top: Lawrance, Paikea, Frances; 2nd row: Kathy & Doug, Margaret, Andy; 3rd row: Elinor & Steve, Melissa, Luna; 4th row: Rev. Marsh Agobert, Sarah



**Worship Service Team
September 26**

< top: Steve, Paikea, Lawrance; 2nd row: Andy, Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles, Kathy & Doug; 3rd row: Barbara, Melissa, Margaret; 4th row: Luna, Frances, Virginia



**Worship Service Team
October 10**

<top: Cheryl, Paikea, Andy, Frances; 2nd row: Kathy & Doug, Elinor & Steve, Barbara, Margaret; 3rd row: Eva, Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles, Melissa, Virginia; 4th row: Sarah

Our November Shared Plate Partner: Apache Stronghold!

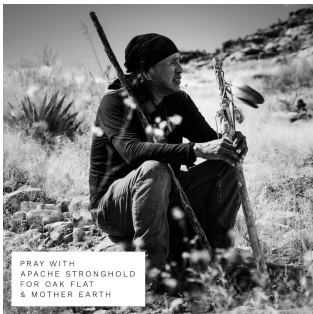


photo by Steve Pavey, courtesy of Apache Stronghold

BFUU's November shared plate partner, Apache Stronghold, has captured headlines because of their battle to save Chi' chil Bildagoteel, also known as Oak Flat, a sacred site for the Apache people, as well as for many other Native Americans. The Apache Stronghold says, "This is a place that has special significance—a place where we can pray, collect water and medicinal plants for ceremonies, gather acorns and other foods, and honor those that are buried here. We have never lost our relationship to Chi' chil Bildagoteel, though the U.S. government, at times in our history, has imprisoned us on Reservations and not allowed us to come here."

Oak Flat is currently federal land within the Tonto National Forest. In December, 2014, AZ Senators John McCain and Jeff Flake slipped a land exchange rider into the "must-pass" national Defense Authorization Act Bill. The Bill included the Oak Flat land exchange, which gave multinational mining company Resolution Copper the national park area to build one of the world's largest copper mines and the largest in North America. The mine is slated to permanently decimate Oak Flat, and leave a hole, ugly, smelly, and larger than the Eiffel Tower.

Apache Stronghold was in The Bay Area in October for a hearing on their case in the 9th Circuit Court aiming to stop the land grab. By the time you read this, there might be a decision. We hope the court decided/will decide in favor of Apache Stronghold. Nevertheless, we can trust that they will continue the fight to protect the land for all of us. Will we let them fight alone? Will we support them in the battle to save the land, save the environment so that we all have a future?

Special to the Communicator Part I

Are you following the emerging national conversation around the need for new views of American history in public spaces? Some statues have been removed—particularly of Confederate leaders—but the effort is far broader. Historians and activists are seeking ways to spotlight marginalized people whose stories up to now have been erased from history.

The Mellon Foundation, one of America's leading philanthropies, is offering a quarter of a billion dollars in grants over the next 5 years to groups which seek to better reflect the nation's diversity in public spaces. Here one BFUU member reports on her involvement with a "new view of history" project in North Carolina.



An Update from Joanna Foley

As y'all may remember, I retired as Worship Services Chair and gratefully passed the leadership to Sharon Hwang Colligan. The WSC gave me a lovely chalice pendant (left) and a farewell bash in Doug and Kathy's backyard. I hope to move closer to our grandchildren in Southern California, but my actual departure is uncertain. Still showing up in our Zoom room most Sundays, I enjoy BFUU services more than ever.

Meanwhile, I'd like to share about a racial justice project which I began in the summer of 2020. Surely you remember—and probably took part in— the widespread protests following George Floyd's murder by Minneapolis police. That's when public representation of symbols of white supremacy became the focus of demands for change.

Millions of people were dismayed that slaveholders across the country are still commemorated in public spaces. I was doubly dismayed. My great-great-great-grandfather was an enslaver who is represented by one of those statues.

So I wrote an [Op Ed piece](#) in August 2020 for the News & Record in North Carolina. Referring to the statue of Major Joseph Winston that stands in a national military park there, I asked, "Should the statue of my ancestor in Greensboro come down?" Of course, he's not the only slaveholder who is honored in that park so I was implying an even broader question.



My Op Ed led me to a series of lively chats with local people in North Carolina. Government employees! Volunteers at the park! Distant relatives I had never met before! Local activists! There was a wide range of opinions. Take the offending statues down? Keep them but use as educational tools? Add more monuments? Many people began to question what can be done when statues at a particular location no longer represent current community values.

In these conversations, some folks said, "We may oppose statues of slaveholders standing in public spaces. But what do we actually support?" That's the sort of question that Rev. Marsh would ask. As Mother Theresa said when asked why she didn't attend anti-war rallies, "I would be glad to take part in rallies for peace."

I visited this military park in Greensboro in 2013. From viewing the 28 statues and monuments there, I would never have known that any African Americans troops fought in this historic battle (March 15, 1781). In fact, Black soldiers were represented in one regiment from Virginia, two from Maryland and local militia units.

But they're not represented at all in the public statuary there. What whitewashed view of history does this send to the students and adult visitors who regularly come for educational visits? Greensboro, a city where the population is 41% Black, is located in Guilford County with 33% African Americans.

It became my project to work with Greensboro groups and individuals to help create a more truthful view of the site's history. That might take the form of creating a new monument to honor African American combatants. Or it could include erecting a commemorative mural similar to the ones which Edythe Boone, our famous muralist/artist friend, designs and co-creates with community members around the Bay Area.

To be continued in a subsequent issue of The Communicator.

Community Voices



**Norman Frank
Christine Dickson
Nancy Reynolds
Gordon Waugh**

Update on UUCB events

BFUU member Wyndy Knox Carr will be giving a Personal Theology talk Sunday, November 21st 2021 titled “We Have It In Us to Heal: Ancestral Memory, Tribalism and Finding Our Way Forward in the Half-light and Dark.” Tune in at 9:20 AM here <https://uucb.org/learning/adult-programs/personal-theology-2/> and you can still make the BFUU service at 10:30!

Her talk is about reconnecting to our deepest bio-cultural roots as UUs, in the U.S. and on Mother Earth, her discovery of her Anishinabe Great-Great-Grandmother during a healing crisis in 1986 in Grand Marais Minnesota, how it connects to police riots in 1968 (violence), jury duty in Minneapolis in 1994 (racism), Oprah’s #TIMESUP speech at the 2018 Golden Globes (misogyny) and how they relate to all of our painful American exposures to self-knowledge over the past two years. “We’re not crazy after all,” and we might just be able to evolve our way out of this IF we return to our roots, intuitions and caring for one another as humane beings.

UUCB Literature, Film and Drama contingent is also hosting their Honoring Indigenous Peoples group for two short films and discussion 12:30 - 2:30 November 7th, 2021 connecting UU principles and Indigenous worldviews, leading to thought and action. Contact Camille Parker socialjustice@uucb.org or link at 12:20 to Zoom through their website or <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84257017624>

Wyndy Knox Carr



La Sirène – the 36th Annual Christmas Revels

**December 11-12 and
17-19; streaming on-
demand starting
December 21**

**First Congregational Church of Oakland –
2501 Harrison St, Oakland, CA 94612**

**Tickets: www.californiarevels.org or by calling
(510) 452-9334**

This year California Revels dives into the Age of Sail, blending 19th Century London with folklore and traditions from the Caribbean and Gullah Islands in an odyssey across the Atlantic. From sea chanties, mermaids, and Christmas carols to Jonkonnu and Papa Bois, we'll celebrate the Winter Solstice through the eyes of Joseph Johnson, a man who lived his life in all these traditions.

*Look for BFUU members **Doug Chambers** and **Virginia Hollins-Davidson** in this show!*

Poetry Corner

THE GROUND OF OUR FAITH

Through layered forests,
from everywhere, a stream
spills innumerable lives:

standings of dandelions,
lifespans of lady bugs,
seethings of sunlight on flowers,

in the book we write as we go
glad for the mysteries we explore together
glad for our same but different blossomings.

Frances Hillyard, BFUU Poet Laureate Emerita

Weekly Meetings

BFUU Choir Practice on Tuesdays at 7:00 PM

Choir members practice songs for worship service and fun!

Please contact Margaret at muscom@bfuu.org

Rev. Dr. Carrie'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 and let her know of your interest.

Worship Service on Sundays at 10:30 AM

All are welcome to attend Worship Service!

Please contact Sharon at worshipservices@bfuu.org

Monthly Meetings

Board of Trustees Meeting 3rd Thursday 11/18 at **3:00 PM** *Please note time change!*

BFUU BOT meetings are open to all! **Board meeting on 3rd Sunday** this month due to holiday.

Committee on Ministry Meeting 1st Thursday 11/4 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

Elders Circle 1st Tuesday 11/2 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.

Hospitality, Membership, and Caring Committees Meetings 4th Sunday 11/28 at 12:30 PM

Please contact Kathy at caring@bfuu.org

Men's Group 2nd Thursday 11/11 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 1st Monday 11/1 at 2:00 PM

Questions? Please contact Margaret at muscom@bfuu.org

Personnel Committee Meeting 3rd Thursdays on odd months 11/18 at 2:30 PM

Please contact Kathy at personnel@bfuu.org

Social Justice Committee Meeting 3rd Sunday 11/21 after service (noonish)

Please contact Phoebe at sjc@bfuu.org

Social Justice Ministry Meeting *is on hiatus*

Worship Service Committee Meeting 1st Friday 11/5 at 1:30 PM

Please contact Sharon at worshipservices@bfuu.org

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

Fellowship Calendar November 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 2:00 pm MusCom Meeting*	2 11:00 am Elders Circle ^{*1} Reflection & Connection* 7:00 pm Choir Practice ^{*1}	3	4 2:00 pm COM Meeting*	5 1:30 pm Worship Svcs Committee Mtg*	6
7 10:30 am Worship Service ^{*1}	8	9 Reflection & Connection* 7:00 pm Choir Practice ^{*1}	10	11 7 pm BFUU Men's Group*	12	13
14 10:30 am Worship Service ^{*1}	15	16 Reflection & Connection* 7:00 pm Choir Practice ^{*1}	17	18 2:30 pm Personnel Committee* 3 pm BFUU Board of Trustees Mtg ^{*1}	19	20 Communicator Deadline
21 10:30 am Worship Service ^{*1} Noonish - after service SJC Meeting ^{*1}	22	23 Reflection & Connection* 7:00 pm Choir Practice ^{*1}	24	25 Thanksgiving Holiday BFUU Office CLOSED	26 Holiday BFUU Office CLOSED	27
28 10:30 am Worship Service ^{*1} 12:30 pm HMC- Hospitality. Membership and Caring-Cttees Mtgs ^{*1}	29	30 Reflection & Connection* 7:00 pm Choir Practice ^{*1}				

Contact the office - call 841-4824 ext 1 or
email office@bfuu.org for info re
Transforming Hearts Collective training!

* denotes Fellowship event

¹ denotes meeting link

² denotes meeting registration

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

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Email: rooms@bfuu.org

Susan Macke - Office Coordinator

Phone: 510-841-4824, ext. 1

Working Days: Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri

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SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER COMMUNICATOR:

November 20, 2021 at 11:00 AM

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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