



THE BFUU COMMUNICATOR

Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists

January 2022


Worship Service Sundays at 10:30 AM

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


January 2: The Pareto Distribution Made Easy

Rev. Marsh Agobert (he/him)

A great cry for Equal Opportunity and Equal Outcome has risen in the street these days. So why is only one of these genuinely feasible? The answer to this is to be readily found in the Pareto Principle.

January 9: Spirit of Life, Come to Me

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

Today we conclude our 9-session Tapestry of Faith: Spirit of Life participatory worship series. We are invited to look back, look forward, reflect on our journey together, share our [home chalices](#) and our spiritual stories. [More on page 3!](#)



January 16: Where Grace was Blooming

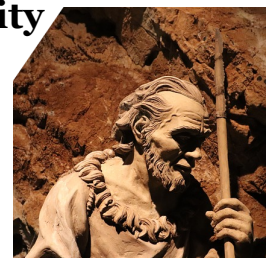
Dr. Melissa James (she/her), UUA PWR

In tumultuous times there is often a tendency for individuals and communities to turn inward. This can leave us feeling isolated, alone, and closed off to the experiences, gifts, and needs of others. What if it didn't have to be that way? Deep within our UU theology is a commitment to covenant that connects us with each other, with our neighbors, and with all beings. When we turn our gaze from the "I" to the "we" spaces where grace has been blooming start to come into focus. Exploring the connection between covenant and grace we start to discover what is uniquely ours, individually and collectively to bring to the healing and flourishing of all in beloved community.

January 23: The Dawn of Everything—a New History of Humanity

Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles (she/her)

Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles recounts the provocative claims that today's anthropologist, David Graeber, and archaeologist David Wengrow put forward: how our prehistory might have given us lasting, large-scale, self-governing, non-dominating communities sustained by mutual aid and social equality.



January 30: A Celebration of Membership

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

We will explore and celebrate the joys and challenges of membership in a UU community. What does it mean to join a UU congregation? Why do we renew our membership every year? Is congregational membership a spiritual practice? What roads led each of us to BFUU? Honoring all members, new and old, past and future.

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
 David Makofsky
 Jean Marie Stine
 Phoebe Sorgen (Alternate)
 Stephanie Doucette (Alternate)
 Paikea Melcher, Youth Member

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.



The Pareto Distribution

The Pareto Distribution is the name of a seemingly simple concept proven highly useful in several fields. We more commonly call it the 80/20 rule. It states, simply, that 80% of results are produced by 20% of causes. Put another way, it also points out that 80% of revenues are the results of 20%

of the sales force, or 20% of customers, or by that percentage of products sold. Conversely, 80% of a company's problems are in 20% of its systems.

The exact number need not be 80 or 20 when we look at several distributions. It may hover around 85/15, or it may drift to 78/22 for a description of an engineering principle.

What matters here is that this is not a human construct. The Pareto Principle¹ is not a human construct designed to manipulate the world; it is active in nature.

The Pareto principle is a core principle in economics, engineering, and many other fields.

The principle was developed and brought into modern focus by Joseph M. Juran, a management consultant in quality control and improvement, and named after an Italian economist, Vilfredo Pareto, who noted the 80/20 while at the University of Lausanne in 1896. Pareto demonstrated that 80% of the land in Italy was owned by 20% of the population.

So why should this principle matter to us? Why should it matter to the 99% or the 1%?

Can we use the Pareto Principle to personal advantage;² is it useful in daily life?³

Rev. Marsh

¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pareto_principle

² <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nJIJtWuAbBc> ; Basic explanations for the Pareto Principle. Video Format

³ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EAynHZE-IK4> ; Making the Pareto Principle work in daily life. Video Format

Chalice Show and Tell January 9!



BFUUers! We will have a “show and tell” of personal chalices during the closing session of our Tapestry of Faith: Spirit of Life worship series in our Zoom worship service on Sunday January 9, 2022 .

In the continuing spirit of our “Taking It Home” BFUU worship activities: you are invited to create a personal Flaming Chalice, decorated to represent aspects of your spiritual life.

Instructions for making a personal chalice are here:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bb6L3-S3nahXpxAtUIusbA5OS4b9A1Y9qqZ0LEQ2gHQ/edit>

This is a communal project, pandemic-style: enjoy the meditative project on your own, or gather safely with a few friends.

We hope you can make your own chalice, but we welcome your sharing any chalice you cherish.

We look forward to seeing your chalice!

Shared Plate Partner for January 2022

The Ella Baker Center for Human Rights

<https://ellabakercenter.org/>



The Ella Baker Center for Human Rights is named after a brilliant, Black hero of the civil rights Freedom Movement who inspired and guided emerging leaders. They build on her legacy by building the power of black, brown, and poor people to create solutions for one of the biggest drivers of injustice today: mass incarceration.

They organize with Black, Brown, and low-income people to shift resources away from prisons and punishment, and towards opportunities that make our communities safe, healthy, and strong. For twenty-five years, they’ve been working to advance people-powered campaigns for racial and economic justice – and they are winning.

Everyone wants to live in a healthy and strong community that they have the opportunity to help shape. BFUU is honored to share the January collection plates with this admirable organization.

Offerings are split 50/50 between BFUU and our shared plate partner.

Pledge payments aren’t a part of the plate collection.

Regular Committee Meetings (via Zoom through Shelter In Place)

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

Community Voices



Elinor Roberts

Shirley Taylor

Marge Turngren



Worship Service Team November 21 ^

top: Elinor, Paieka, Andy, Cheryl; 2nd row: Stephanie, Frances, Barbara, Luna; 3rd row: Virginia, David, Kathy & Doug, Ardys; 4th row: Mike & Jinky, Melissa, Lawrance, Phoebe; 5th row: Tom

< Worship Service Team November 28

top: Lawrance, Paieka & Eva, Andy, Melissa; 2nd row: Margaret, Barbara, Ardys, Virginia; 3rd row: Cheryl, Kathy & Doug, Luna, Rev. Dr. Carrie Knowles; 4th row: Frances



Worship Service Team December 5 >

top: Elinor & Steve, Paieka & Eva, Ardys; 2nd row: Frances, Andy, Barbara; 3rd row: Kathy & Doug, Lawrance, Margaret; 4th row: Luna, Melissa, Karen

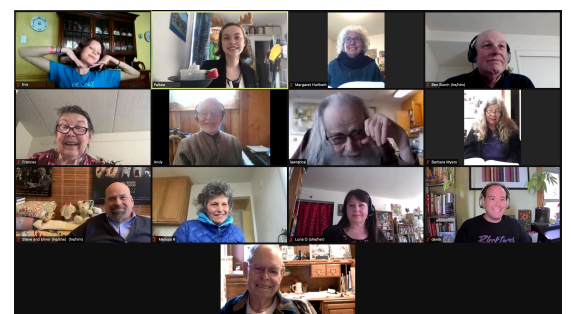


Worship Service Team December 12 ^

top: Lawrance, Paieka, Cheryl; 2nd row: Frances, Andy, Stephanie & Eva; 3rd row: Barbara, Margaret, Melisa; 4th row: Kathy & Doug

Worship Service Team December 19 >

top: Eva, Paieka, Margaret, Ben; 2nd row: Frances, Andy, Lawrance, Barbara; 3rd row: Steve, Melissa, Luna, Derek; 4th row: Mike



Poetry Corner

Jenin: Lost Item Report

I lost my house.
It had a lovely garden,
in it I had my own room.
The street next to it was not yet all
running sewage.

I lost my name.
The soldiers would not speak it.
They called me a grasshopper.
Without my name no one
can help me find my home.
No one will recall the name
of a grasshopper's father.
No one can rebuild an unclaimed wall.

I had an album full of photos
buried in plaster and stone.
Rubble has become so familiar to me
I cannot pick out my own.

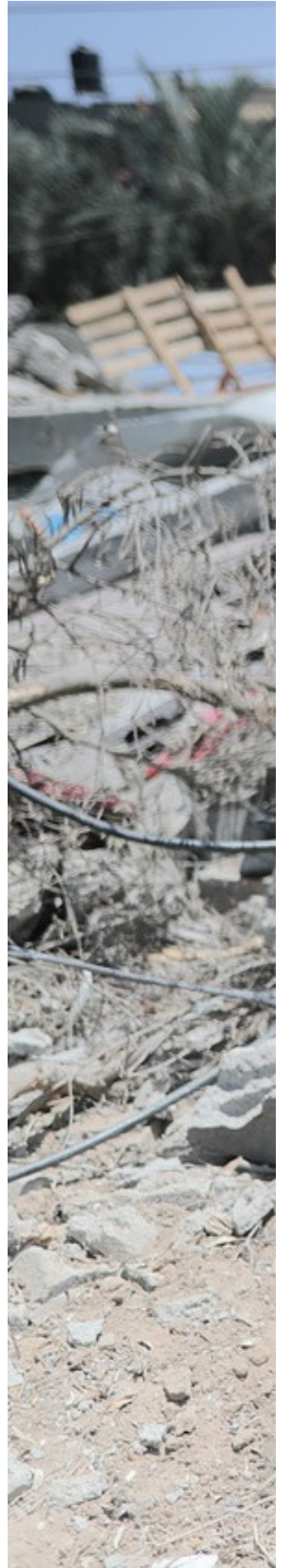
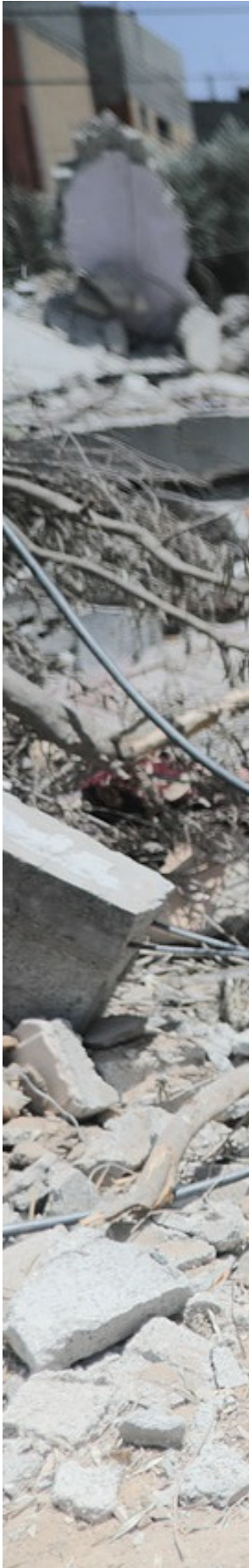
I lost my voice long ago.
I can think I am shouting for help,
for mercy, that I am innocent, that I
don't know what you want.

You stand too far away to hear.....Or
are these bullets your reply?

I lost my child's red and yellow
ball. He wandered with it
under fire on his way to school.
We don't know if he made it there.
I wish I could ask him what he wants for lunch
tomorrow.

I lost my silver-edged mirror.
Silver one may not need, but I
need the eyes of a friend
to look into.

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 4th Thursday 1/27 at 3:00 PM

BFUU BOT meetings are open to all!

Caring Committee Meeting with Ministers on 3rd Tuesday 1/18 at 11 AM

Please contact Rev. Carrie at revcarrie@bfuu.org

Note that Caring Committee also meets with Hospitality and Membership on 4th Sundays.

Committee on Ministry Meeting 1st Thursday 1/6 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 1/4 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 1/23 at 12:30 PM

Please contact Kathy at caring@bfuu.org

Men's Group 2nd Thursday 1/13 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 1/3 at 2:00 PM

Questions? Please contact Margaret at muscom@bfuu.org

Personnel Committee Meeting 3rd Thursdays on odd months 1/20 at 2:30 PM

Please contact Kathy at personnel@bfuu.org

Social Justice Committee Meeting 3rd Sunday 1/16 after service (noonish)

Please contact Phoebe at sjc@bfuu.org

Social Justice Ministry Meeting is on hiatus

Worship Service Committee Meeting 1st Friday 1/7 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 January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <i>Transforming Hearts Collective</i> <i>Contact the office - call 841-4824 ext 1 or email office@bfuu.org for information about Transforming Hearts Collective</i>						1  <i>Happy New Year!</i>
2 10:30 am Worship Service*¹	3 2:00 pm MusCom Meeting*	4 11:00 am Elders Circle*¹ Reflection & Connection* 7:00 pm Choir Practice*¹	5	6 2:00 pm COM Meeting*	7 1:30 pm Worship Svcs Committee Mtg*	8
9 10:30 am Worship Service*¹ <i>with Personal Chalice Show & Tell!</i>	10	11 Reflection & Connection* 7:00 pm Choir Practice*¹	12	13 7 pm BFUU Men's Group*	14	15
16 10:30 am Worship Service*¹ Noonish - after service SJC Meeting*¹	17	18 COM meeting with ministers* Reflection & Connection* 7:00 pm Choir Practice*¹	19	20 2:30 pm Personnel Committee* Communicator Deadline	21	22
23 10:30 am Worship Service*¹ 12:30 pm HMC- Hospitality. Membership and Caring-Cttees Mtgs*¹	24	25 Reflection & Connection* 7:00 pm Choir Practice*¹	26	27 3 pm BFUU Board of Trustees Mtg*¹	28	29
30 10:30 am Worship Service*¹	31	* 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

Working Days: Tue, Wed & Fri

Email: rooms@bfuu.org

Susan Macke - Office Coordinator

Phone: 510-841-4824, ext. 1

Working Days: Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri

Email: office@bfuu.org

SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY COMMUNICATOR:

January 20, 2022 at 11:00 AM

Please email newsletter@bfuu.org with submissions.

Address Correction Requested

Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists

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Berkeley, CA 94709

Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists

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