



THE BFUU COMMUNICATOR

Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists

June 2014

Upcoming Sunday Services

(services at 10:30 a.m.)

June 1: Flower Communion Service: From You I Receive, To You I Give

Rev. Joy Atkinson, Worship Leader

Join us for the beautiful annual flower communion service, a uniquely UU ritual in which we each bring a flower representing the many gifts we bring to the congregation, and each take a different one home, representing the gifts we receive from one another. In this service we will celebrate our volunteers and hear briefly about how our gifts of time, talent and treasure keep the Fellowship going now and in the future.

Following this service there will be a catered lunch, during which members and friends will enjoy food and fellowship, and be invited to make their annual pledge of financial support to the Fellowship.

June 8: The End of Him and the Beginning of Us

Moses Channels, Worship Leader

If scientific knowledge is moving us away from a traditional God acceptance, where do we go from here? How do we now find personal meaning, self-worth and purpose of life outside of traditional religious thinking? I will explore a new way to address these questions.

June 15: Fathers Day Service

Rocky Morrison, Worship Leader

June 22: Joy's Moving Sale

Rev. Joy Atkinson, Worship Leader

This will be the last service presented by our interim minister. Join Joy as she “wraps up” two years of transitional work and “packs up” to move. We will look at what we’ve accomplished together during this interim phase in the life of the congregation, and do a little gazing into the crystal ball, contemplating what lies ahead for the Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists.

June 29: Pride in the Fellowship

LGBT Fellowship Members, Worship Leaders

Come join us for our annual Pride service, and show support for the rich diversity that has always been a part of BFUU as members share their personal stories and their hopes for the future.

Words of Joy

Thoughts and Reflections From Interim Minister Reverend Joy Atkinson



I wish to begin my summer well; to do something in it worthy of it and me; to transcend my daily routine...to have my immortality now...in the quality of my daily life. --Henry David Thoreau

The time has come for me to say “goodbye” to all of you. My last day in the office is June 19th, my last day in the pulpit will be June 22nd, and the following day I will be on a plane going to the annual UUA General Assembly in Rhode Island and the UU Ministers’ gatherings before GA.

We have accomplished much together in this past interim year. Looking back on it all—the services, the committee meetings, the small cottage meetings, the developmental tasks, leadership transitions, pastoral ministry, the Visioning workshop, the Country Joe/Hali Hammer concert (an especially memorable event), the various social justice programs and more, I realize how busy we have been, working to sustain this historic and unique UU congregation. We have welcomed 10 new people into membership as of this writing, and a few more have returned to renew their membership. It has been gratifying to see the new people roll up their sleeves and join in, becoming part of the ongoing BFUU story, and to see more children in the RE program than we had at the start of this “church year.” Many people have been hard at work all year helping to keep things running and bringing their creative talents to the many tasks before us.

One thing that is necessary for a departing minister to do, is to say a clear and complete “goodbye.” For twenty-five years before I became an interim minister twelve years ago, I was a settled minister, and though settled ministers must also at some point bid “farewell” to the congregations they serve, they don’t usually start out knowing when the eventual “good-byes” will be uttered. We interims know from the outset that “hello” will be all-too-quickly followed by “goodbye.” But despite the fact that we are “temps,” we come to feel connected to the congregations we serve, as a minister, interim or otherwise, naturally does. I have felt connected to you during this past year. But now, I must sever that connection, and make way for your new minister, Theresa Novak, who will form that special bond with you. It is a bittersweet task, and not an easy one. But I know that I will carry you in my heart to the next congregation I serve as interim minister—the Starr King Unitarian Universalist Church in Hayward, California—just down the road a bit.

I am planning on a restful, rejuvenating summer, between serving here and in Hayward, It has been a good and fruitful, albeit a short, run—more like a sprint. Thank you for all your great support of the work of your interim minister, and your good work on behalf of the Berkeley Fellowship.

May your summer also be restful, and your future bright!
Fondly, Joy

Clergy & Staff

Reverend Joy Atkinson
Interim Minister

Reverend Earl Koteen
Community Minister

Ole Yearian
Office Coordinator

Deborah Hamouris
Event Space Coordinator

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Bios of Some New Members

Rocky Morrison has spent his entire life working in the nonprofit world. He has served as executive director, pastor, hospital chaplain and finance director (among other roles). He recently married his life partner, Dan, on their 20th anniversary. He enjoys gardening, camping and exploring the natural beauty of California.

Dan Tussey married Rocky Morrison last week. He lives in the hills above Richmond with a 13-year old black lab named Buddy. Dan volunteers as a walking tour guide with San Francisco City Guides. He plays piano and enjoys singalong sessions with popular songs from the 1920-50's. He is a retired public school educator who attended a community church in Columbus, Ohio before moving to California in 2002. He and Rocky have three adult children and six granddaughters.

Sherry Fuzesy

In 1969 Sherry took a class at UC Berkeley in Landscape Architecture to design and build people's park as a class project. She was nearly expelled for doing so and got arrested when the national guard blocked access to the Park. Upon release from jail, she came to BFUU with other activists for support and help. Over the years, she have come here for humanist meetings and social activism. She left for decades while pursuing a career in Marin County in public health. Now that she is retired, she decided to join BFUU when he saw the film, "Last Call at the Oasis," about drought in California. She decided that a congregation that shows commitment at this depth has her vote, and here she has found support, friendship, community spirit, and human kindness.

Joanna Foley Joanna grew up in the United Methodist Church in a small Tennessee town. Her first UU congregation was in Nashville, TN during the 1960s Civil Rights era. She comes to BFUU from the Fourth Universalist Society in Manhattan. She finds the physical setting here very different from cathedral style sanctuary at 4th UU, but the spirit of warmth, support and respect among the members feels familiar. Joanna's former pastor in New York, the Rev. Rosemary Bray McNatt, will become president of Starr King in July. Rosemary

supported the creation of a local V-Day group to end violence against women and girls at 4thU and appeared in one of its productions of "The Vagina Monologues," and Joanna served as publicist for this group's fund-raising activities. Joanna has worked as a journalist, editor, social worker/ psychotherapist and substance abuse counselor. She volunteers as a tutor in an Oakland school through Reading Partners, a program she learned about through BFUU. She is married to a retired urban sociologist who is a gardening enthusiast. Their adult children are consumer attorneys living in Burbank, and their two lively grandchildren frequently lure them down south for visits

Nanci Armstrong-Temple is a 3rd generation Unitarian Universalist, raising two fourth generation UUs, her twin daughters Tallulah and Annabelle. She is married to Carl Temple, who is not a member but who is the son of an atheist lapsed Jew and an agnostic/atheist lapsed Protestant, so they are a perfect UU family. Nanci loves to cook, a social activist and an avid reader.

She runs a small business teaching peace through the arts in schools and community centers in the Bay Area.

Nanci felt honored recently to go with Sharon, Doug and Kathy from our RE program, plus several BFUU kids, including Frida and Mira, leaders of the Faith in Action club, to deliver toiletries donated by BFUU members to the Multi Service Drop-In Center near UC Berkeley.

She is looking forward to helping to continue creating a thriving children's RE program by meeting often with the ad hoc children's choir and by creating a middle school RE group. She also is looking forward to adult RE, including small group ministries, and to joining the finance committee.

Nanci sees BFUU as a thriving, loving community with the potential to continue to make a major impact in the Berkeley community, and looks forward to helping to be a part of that journey.

Albert Schweitzer Medal

On Sunday, May 18, The Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, "up the hill" in Kensington, honored Abbot Foote for his many years of service to the their congregation and the Unitarian Universalist community.

This medal is awarded to UUs who have participated in a number of church functions "above and beyond the normal call of duty;" who have been church leaders; and who have participated in outreach activities.

June Birthdays

Rosy Jasczyk
Harold Houghton
Frank Jennings
Jack Sawyer
Larens Imanyuel
Doug Rodgers
Wattie Taylor

Upcoming Events

A Class on the American Transcendentalists

In response to the recent Visioning Workshop lead by Rev. Joy for the congregation, in which the Program sub-group generated a goal to provide more Adult Religious Education, Rev Joy will offer a four week class on the American Transcendentalists on four consecutive Wednesday evenings in May and June.

The next session begins at 7:00 PM on Wednesday May 28th.

The American Transcendentalists were a small philosophical, literary and religious movement of the 1830s and 40s that had a profound effect on American culture and on Unitarianism and Universalism. Participants will discuss writings by Ralph Waldo Emerson, Margaret Fuller, Henry David Thoreau, Elizabeth Peabody, and other noted Transcendentalists.

To sign up, call the office (841-4824, ext. 1) or email Joy at Revjoy@aol.com

Conscientious Projector's Film Series: *State of Siege*

Thursday, June 12 at 7 PM in the Fellowship Hall—1924 Cedar St.



Conscientious Projector's Film Series for the 99% presents *State of Siege*, a 120 minute 1972 French film directed by Costa Gavras, starring Yves Montand and Renato Salvatori. Yves Montand plays Philip Michael Santore, an official of the United States Agency for International Development, an organization sometimes used as a front for training foreign police in "counterinsurgency methods". Santore is kidnapped by a group of urban guerrillas. The story is based by Costa Gavras on an actual incident in Uruguay in 1970 when U.S. Embassy official Dan Mitrione was kidnapped and killed. Using Santore's interrogation by his captors as a backdrop, the film explores the often brutal consequences of the struggle between the repressive government of Montevideo and the leftist Tupamaro guerrillas. Using death squads, the government decimates the revolutionary group.

*Suggested donation \$5-10. No one turned away for lack of funds.
Volunteers appreciated!*

Events Continued

The Berkeley Fellowship Monthly Open Mic

Friday, June 13 at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall—1924 Cedar St.

Signups begin at 6:30 PM.



This month's featured artist is Bonnie Lockhart. Bonnie is a Bay Area singer, songwriter, educator and activist. She sang with the anti-war folk group, the Red Star Singers; toured and recorded with women's music groups The Berkeley Women's Music Collective and Swingshift, and continues to get folks singing in this millennium with her pals in Occupella

Our host this month is Hali Hammer. Hali is an award winning singer-songwriter who enjoys playing a wide variety of music. She has sung and played for peace and political causes for over three decades and is an active member of Freedom Song Network. Her diverse work (and play) have made her comfortable performing with all age groups, from preschoolers to senior citizens.

Suggested donation \$5-10. No one turned away for lack of funds.

Volunteers appreciated!

Evolutionary Collective

Saturday, June 14 at 1:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall—1924 Cedar St.

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Join Patricia Albere, founder of the Evolutionary Collective and contemporary spiritual teacher for a deep dive into the core practice of her work. Mutual Awakening is a spiritual practice done with a partner that facilitates a powerful inter-subjective awakening. This is an opportunity to immerse yourself in the shared awakened consciousness that it generates between people.

<http://evolutionarycollective.com/courses/mutual-awakening-salon-berkeley/#register>

Memorial Service for Delfy Vaznaugh

Sunday, June 15 1t 12:30 PM in the Hall



BFUU friend Delfy Vaznaugh died unexpectedly of heart failue recently while in Switzerland. A memorial service will take place after the service at 12:30 on June 15 in the Hall.

Conscientious Projector's Film Series: Born This Way

Saturday, June 28 at 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall—1924 Cedar St.



Conscientious Projector's Film Series for the 99% presents *Born This Way*, a film about LGTB rights in Cameroon. This award winning documentary film will be a fundraising event to help reopen the Cameroonian LGBTQI center destroyed last December, CAMEF. The Executive Director, Bill Simbo, in asylum in the UK will be here to discuss the future for his center and for Cameroonians and Africans.

Suggested donation \$5-10. No one turned away for lack of funds.

Volunteers appreciated!



Recurring/Ongoing Events

Sacred Music Meditation

Sundays, 3:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall, Beginning June 22nd



Third Thursday Taizé

Third Thursdays, 7:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall



Taizé music originated in the Taizé Monastery in France as an opportunity for people of various religious faiths to unite in spirit and song. It quickly spread through Europe and is now becoming very popular in the United States. Come join us each third Thursday at 7:30 in the Fellowship Hall as BFUU takes its place in the growing Taizé community.

Serenity Association

First Sunday of each month, 2 – 3 PM in the Connie Barbour Room

You are cordially invited to attend a series of introductory, guided discussions on The Living Light philosophy, given through the mediumship of Mr. Richard P. Goodwin. This philosophy, based upon revealed laws, demonstrates how man, through his electromagnetic field and his planes of consciousness, attracts all things in his life.

Please visit www.livinglight.org

Recurring/Ongoing Events Continued

T'ai Chi Ch'uan with Karina Epperlein: The Principles and Art of Slowing Down *Mondays, 6-7 p.m. in the Connie Barbour Room — 1606 Bonita Ave.*

Breath, sound, movement, qi gong, imagination and intention, standing and walking meditation, balance, centering and grounding. Karina brings to her 37 years of teaching an extensive background and training in T'ai Chi Ch'uan, dance, physical theater, music, voice, breath and meditation. *Ongoing. \$90 per month. Please call in advance to register: 510-559-8892. Visit www.karinafilms.us for more information.*

Compassionate Communication

Tuesdays, 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall—1924 Cedar St.



FUU is planning a series of classes called Compassionate Communication. It is based on Non-Violent Communication, that has been widely written about. This class series will enhance our efforts in welcoming newcomers to our fellowship and perhaps in attracting new members. The training will improve the quality of communication within the fellowship and make for better relations among the members of our beloved community. It would also make a good prelude to creating a Covenant of Right Relations for our Fellowship, which we don't currently have.

All are invited to participate in the class series, initially 6 meetings of 1.5 hours each this summer. BFUU will provide a room for the series and a nominal fee to the teacher. Donations by the participants would be appreciated but not required. There are survey sheets at the welcome table at the Sunday service, for you to indicate that you are interested and which times of the week are possible for you to attend. The survey sheets were available at last Sunday's service and we have already gotten some interested people.



T'ai Chi & Qi Gong with Gene Herman

Mondays and Wednesdays, 4-5 p.m. in the Connie Barbour Room — 1606 Bonita Ave.



This practice is appropriate for people of all ages. It improves health and well-being at any age.

Dance From Your Core: CoreConnexion Transformational Arts with Eva Vigran, MA *Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall—1924 Cedar St.*

Starting in the NOW, we will listen to body and soul, following movement that emerges from moment to moment. Through playful connection with ourselves, others and nature, we can illuminate our individual and authentic aliveness and strengthen our inner nature and resources. Participants will gain access to the wisdom and joy at their core. First class is free! www.coreconnexion.net.

Question Mark Cafe

First Fridays at 11:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room—1606 Bonita Ave.



The Question Mark Cafe is a potluck lunch with a program and self-care for activists. Bring music, poetry, and food to share.



Reverend Theresa Novak

The Reverend Theresa Novak, who will be BFUU's Developmental Minister beginning on August 15, 2014, graduated from Starr King School of the Ministry in 2007. She was born in a small town in northern California and attended the University of California Berkeley between 1968 and 1974, earning a BA in demography and a MA in sociology. Prior to entering seminary, she worked for the Social Security Administration in Richmond, CA for 25 years, primarily in management positions. She served her ministerial internship at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis, Maryland. From 2007 to June of 2014 she has served as the full time settled minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ogden, Utah. That congregation received national recognition in 2012 as a UUA Breakthrough Congregation.

Theresa and her wife, Anne Spatola, have been together since January 1975, although they were only able to legally marry recently. They have three adult children. Theresa was raised in the Disciples of Christ tradition and describes her religious journey as one that has included Christianity, Atheism, Agnosticism, Humanism, and Mysticism. She has been a life-long social activist and sees great value in many different theological orientations. "The core of what I had come to believe is that life is precious and, amazingly, that "God loves us" in a deep and lasting way. By God, I mean the connection, the life force that is behind what we mean when we say that we respect the interdependent web of all existence. Affirming the inherent worth and dignity of all is just another way of saying all are worthy, all are precious, God loves us.

All of us. Not just some. All of us. It doesn't matter who we are or what we do. It doesn't matter what we believe about God or whether we believe in God at all.

All of us. Despite the cracks, the imperfections, - and sometimes because of them - we are all beautiful - we are all worthy of love.

We find religion in the sometimes brief glimpses of recognition, of seeing the connections, of feeling like the path we are taking is the right one. We work for justice, for a better world. It isn't about great flashes of wisdom, about burning bushes telling us what we had better do. All life, God if you will, calls to all of us all the time really. It calls to us when we hold each other in friendship or in moments of terror, when we weep together with joy or with grief, when we make even a small connection with another human being - just making eye contact with a stranger – pausing to listen to water move against the rocks in a flowing mountain stream. Such moments give us hope, they give us courage, and they remind us that we are human and alive. They weave our lives with other lives, making a tapestry of possibility. True connection is a state of Grace that both beckons us and welcomes us home.

Theresa is also a poet and an active blogger.

You can read her blog at <http://theresauuco.wordpress.com>

Fellowship Calendar June 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal* 10:30 am Sunday Service* 12:30 pm SJC Mtg* 12:30 pm Pledge Lunch* 2 pm Serenity Asc. 5 pm Spark Circle	2 4 pm Tai Chi/ Qigong* 5:50 pm Tai Chi Chuan 6 pm AA Men's Mtg 6:15 pm Soul Motion 7 pm Insight Meditation	3 7:30 am SLAA 6 pm Compassionate Communication* 7 pm AA Men's Mtg 7 pm Ran Bush Jam 7 pm Wing Chung Martial Arts	4 4 pm Tai Chi/ Qigong* 6:45 pm NA Men's Mtg 7 pm Core Connexion 7 pm Wing Chung Martial Arts	5 11 am Food Not Bombs 1:45 am AA Meditation 7 pm Norcal 9/11 Truth Alliance* 7 pm Improvalicious 7 pm Wing Chung Martial Arts	6 11:30 am Question Mark Cafe* 7 pm NA Women's Mtg 7 pm BFUU Music Series*	7 9 am ASCA 10 am Choir Rehearsal* 10 am Dr. Hu Qigong 7 pm Stone Soup Improv
8 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal* 10:30 am Sunday Service* 12 pm Potluck* 1:30 pm Hal Center Anniv. Party* 6 pm 350 Bay Area	9 4 pm Tai Chi/ Qigong* 5:50 pm Tai Chi Chuan 6 pm AA Men's Mtg 6:15 pm Soul Motion	10 7:30 am SLAA 6 pm Compassionate Communication* 7 pm AA Men's Mtg 7 pm Ran Bush Jam 7 pm Wing Chung Martial Arts	11 4 pm Tai Chi/ Qigong* 6:45 pm NA Men's Mtg 7 pm Core Connexion 7 pm Wing Chung Martial Arts	12 11:45 am AA Meditation 5:30 pm Stress Reduction Class 7 pm Conscientious Projector Film* 7 pm Wing Chung Martial Arts	13 7 pm BFUU Open Mic* 7 pm NA Women's Mtg	14 9 am ASCA 1:30 pm Evolutionary Collective 5:45 pm SLAA
15 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal* 9:30 am Science of Spirituality 10:30 am Sunday Service* 12:30 pm SJC Mtg.* 5 pm DA Mtg 8 pm AA Candlelight	16 4 pm Tai Chi/ Qigong* 5:50 pm Tai Chi Chuan 6 pm AA Men's Mtg 6:15 pm Soul Motion 7 pm Insight Meditation	17 7:30 am SLAA 6 pm Compassionate Communication* 7 pm AA Men's Mtg 7 pm Ran Bush Jam 7 pm Wing Chung Martial Arts	18 4 pm Tai Chi/ Qigong* 6:45 pm NA Men's Mtg 7 pm Core Connexion 7 pm Wing Chung Martial Arts	19 11:45 am AA Meditation 5:30 pm Stress Reduction Class 7 pm Norcal 9/11 Truth Alliance* 7 pm Improvalicious 7:30 pm Taize Service	20 7 pm NA Women's Mtg 7 pm BFUU Music Series*	21 9 am ASCA 3 pm Bawa Muhaiyaddeen 5:45 pm SLAA 7 pm Augustine Fellowship Show
22 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal* 10:30 am Sunday Service* 12:30 pm SJC Mtg* 3 pm Sacred Music Meditation* 8 pm AA Cndllght.	23 4 pm Tai Chi/ Qigong* 5:50 pm Tai Chi Chuan 6 pm AA Men's Mtg 6:15 pm Soul Motion	24 7:30 am SLAA 6 pm Compassionate Communication* 7 pm AA Men's Mtg 7 pm Ran Bush Jam 7 pm Wing Chung	25 4 pm Tai Chi/ Qigong* 6:45 pm NA Men's Mtg 7 pm Core Connexion 7 pm Wing Chung Martial Arts	26 11:45 am AA Meditation 7 pm Board Meeting* 7 pm Wing Chung	27 7 pm NA Women's Mtg 7 pm BFUU Music Series*	28 9 am ASCA 10 am Queer Parenting 5:45 pm SLAA 7:30 pm Born This Way Film*
29 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal* 10:30 am Sunday Service* 3 pm Sacred Music Meditation* 4:45 pm Spiral Path 8 pm AA Candlelight	30 4 pm Tai Chi/ Qigong* 5:50 pm Tai Chi Chuan 6 pm AA Mtg 6:15 pm Soul Motion 7:30 pm Energy Tools					

* denotes Fellowship event

Spiritual Growth and Social Justice in the Heart of Berkeley

BFUU OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR NEXT *COMMUNICATOR*: June 20

Please email newsletter@bfuu.org with submissions.

Address Correction Requested

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