



THE BFUU COMMUNICATOR

Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists

May 2014

Upcoming Sunday Services

(services at 10:30 a.m.)

May 4: Taizé comes to BFUU

Lauren Renee Hotchkiss, Worship Leader

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 throughout Europe and is now becoming very popular in the United States. Come join us for this service that will introduce our Third Thursday Taizé worship service beginning on the 15th of this month at 7:30 in the Fellowship Hall.

May 11: Mother's Day Service: A Mother Looks At Ministry

Rev. Joy Atkinson, Worship Leader

On this Mother's Day, as this congregation moves toward a new form of ministry, our interim minister will explore some of the facets of the minister-congregation relationship. What are the expectations of a UU minister, and how realistic are they? The service will also celebrate motherhood and mothers.

May 18: Voices of BFUU Religious Education: A Community of Song and Story

Religious Exploration Committee, Worship Leaders

Adults and children involved in the BFUU Religious Education/Exploration program invite you to hear and share stories, music, ritual and dialogue about our community, our learning, our spirit, and our future. All ages welcome!

May 25: The Footprints of Gossip

Rev. Joy Atkinson, Worship Leader

Gossip is such a delicious temptation, but it can be so destructive! The sermon will explore the phenomena of rumor and gossip in human experience, their effect on communities (including religious communities) and how we can become effective "gossip busters" and better communicators.



Words of Joy

Thoughts and Reflections From Interim Minister Reverend Joy Atkinson



Clergy & Staff

Reverend Joy Atkinson
Interim Minister

Reverend Earl Koteen
Community Minister

Ole Yearian
Office Coordinator

Deborah Hamouris
Event Space Coordinator

Ed Keating
Facilities Manager

Richard Sandling
Custodian

Board of Trustees

Virginia Hollins-Davidson, *President*

Gene Herman, *Vice President*

Ben Burch, *Treasurer*

Cynthia Johnson

Shirley Taylor

Susan Singh (alternate)

Doug Chambers (alternate)

If we could distill our liberal religious tradition down into one word, one likely candidate would be the word "freedom." In this congregation, we offer freedom from creeds and dogma, so that we can be individually free to make up our own minds about religious questions. We also want freedom for ourselves and all people—freedom from poverty and oppression, from fear and discrimination, from a religious tyranny that seeks to impose a particular set of values on everyone. We Unitarian Universalists cherish the freedom to speak out, to express ourselves, to dissent. Fortunately, we enjoy religious freedom in this country, thanks in large part to early visionary Unitarians and Universalists like Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, and Universalist physician Benjamin Rush—a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

But, when annual canvass time comes around, we need to remember that, within our own religious institution, our freedom is not free—it has a price. In order to carry on here at The Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists the legacy of individual religious freedom without restraint of creed and dogma that our religious forebears struggled for, this religious institution needs your time, your participation and commitment, and your financial support. As you think about the friendships, the fellowship and the freedom that this congregation offers, you may find that you want to support BFUU financially, as fully as you can—that it is a pleasure, and not a burden, to write out that pledge check.

For this year's pledge drive, may you consider the value of this community to you—the friendships and connections, the Sunday services and weekly activities, the religious education for children and adults, the values we Unitarian Universalists stand for and represent in the community at large.

Dag Hammarskjöld once said: "Each morning we must hold out the chalice of our being to receive, to carry, and to give back." Our lives are about receiving, carrying, and giving back. May you receive, carry for a time and then pass on the flame of this unique religious community, by participating and volunteering your time here, and by making as generous a pledge of financial support as you can.

Joy

Message From the Vice President

Gene Herman

News of our Members

Gretchen Klug could use some cheering up, and Julie Bidou and Margaret Hamilton would like to hear from old friends. Our beloved President, Virginia Hollis-Davidson, is recovering from recent illness, and Holly Harwood is recovering from a nasty fall. I'm sure Marianne Robinson would love to hear from friends, and if you are a poet or writer, that would be especially meaningful. Check with Ole in the office for current contact numbers, or look up these elders in your BFUU Directory. By the way, a new Directory is in the works, to be available by June.

Lo and behold, born-again Unitarian Brett Torres has returned to the fold. Welcome back to you and your twinkling piano-playing fingers. Note: Brett is not in disguise; he has a new, heavy beard in place.

Board News

We are currently in the process of reviewing a candidate for Developmental Minister, but we want to be prepared if it is not a good fit. While we could certainly use some nurturing rain, "you don't always get what you want"—so be patient.

Executive Director Position

WANTED: Experienced Skipper needed to steer this Fellowship of spiritually concerned citizens toward clearer waters. An action-oriented, affable, passionate, innovative soul with strong moral principles. Program development, management leadership, fundraising, tech-savvy skills required. Come to Berkeley, where the action is, the incubator of free speech. It is happening at the Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists (BFUU), a beacon for spiritual growth and social justice in the heart of Berkeley. A welcoming community ... dedicated core ... small choir ... established community resource.

Our strong and active Social Justice Committee sponsors programs and actions on a broad range of issues, including ending the wars, the death penalty, solitary confinement, fracking, and many others. We support an amendment for ending corporate rule; a just and peaceful resolution between Israel and Palestine; enabling honey bees to fly free of pesticides, and more.

For job description and qualifications: Go to WWW.BFUU.org.

Peace out, everyone!

Annual Congregational Meeting

The annual meeting is fast approaching. Save the date and, by all means, plan to attend. You won't even have to stand up to be counted.

Sunday, May 25
Following Sunday Service

Come help elect your new Board of Trustees!

May Birthdays

Carol Amour
Justin Burrows
Frankie Hill
Gail Penso
David Yandle



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 first session begins at 7:00 PM on Wednesday May 14th.

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

Screening the Green Film: Growing Cities



Thursday, May 1 at 7 PM in the Fellowship Hall— 1924 Cedar St.

A documentary that examines the role of urban farming in America and asks how much power it has to revitalize our cities and change the way we eat. In their search for answers, filmmakers Dan Susman and Andrew Monbouquette take a road trip and meet the men and women who are challenging the way this country grows and distributes its food, one vacant city lot, rooftop garden, and backyard chicken coop at a time. They discover that good food isn't the only crop these urban visionaries are harvesting. They're producing stronger and more vibrant communities, too.

Suggested donation \$5-10. No one turned away for lack of funds. Volunteers appreciated! Co-sponsored by Transition Berkeley, The Ecology Center, Berkeley Gardening Collective and the BFUU SJC.

Conscientious Projector's Film Series: Remembering John Judge



Thursday, May 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall— 1924 Cedar St.

Conscientious Projector's Film Series for the 99% presents two films in an evening of remembering John Judge. Bonnie Faulkner recently devoted her April 21 *Guns & Butter* Radio Show to John Judge and Michael Ruppert, who both recently passed. The show is now archived on KPFA. Films: John Judge in 1994: *The Hidden History of the United States: Who Really Runs America? - Part One* (1:59:39) After a brief intermission, we will show the short (38:23) *Closing Remarks* by John Judge to the 50th Anniversary Conference on President Kennedy's Murder, which was presented on November 24, 2013 in Dallas, Texas. The theme was "Fifty Years in Denial is Enough: Free the Files! Find the Truth!" John Judge was the Director of the Coalition on Political Assassinations.

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



Events Continued

An Evening With Country Joe McDonald

Saturday, May 10 at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall— 1924 Cedar St.



Doors open at 6:30 PM. Hali Hammer opens.

Country Joe McDonald straddles the two polar events of the '60s: Woodstock and the Vietnam War. The first Country Joe and the Fish record was released in 1965 in time for the Vietnam Day Teach-In anti-war protest in Berkeley. He sang one of the great anthems of the era, "I-Feel-Like-I'm-Fixin'-to-Die Rag," to half a million people at the Woodstock Festival in 1969.

Well-versed in an assortment of moods and styles, Hali Hammer is an award-winning singer-songwriter who enjoys writing and playing a wide variety of music. She has sung and played for peace and political causes for more than four decades.

Tickets \$15 - \$25, sliding scale, available at the door or at <http://bfuucountryjoe.bpt.me/>

Hearts of the Dulcimer Film Showing

Friday, May 16 at 8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall— 1924 Cedar St.

A feature-length documentary film about the mountain dulcimer boom in the 1970s in California and its lasting impact. Through colorful interviews, rare archival footage, and live performances, *Hearts Of The Dulcimer* gives a firsthand account of living life in the counterculture, following one's passion, and playing and building mountain dulcimers.

There will also be a short set by *The DulciMates* (Deborah Hamouris & Buffalo)

Tickets \$10, available at the door or at <http://heartsofthedulcimer.bpt.me/>

The Berkeley Dulcimer Gathering Faculty Concert

Saturday, May 17 at 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall— 1924 Cedar St.

An evening of music to top off a day of learning. The Berkeley Dulcimer Gathering is proud to present faculty members in concert! Heidi Muller and Bob Webb cross the musical boundaries between original songs and traditional tunes, blending each other's influences from the Pacific Northwest to the Appalachian Mountains. Featuring dulcimers, guitars, mandolin, electric cello, and Muller's crystalline vocals. 5-time national mountain dulcimer winner, 3-time national hammered dulcimer finalist, Steve Eulberg weaves old-timey with blues and contemporary tunes adding original songs into a tapestry of "smile-inducing, toe-tapping folkgrass" that captivates and energizes audiences of all ages.

Tickets \$15, available at the door or at <http://facultyconcertbdg2014.bpt.me>



Events Continued

Cosmic Warrior—Electronic Harassment

Sunday, May 18 at 3:00 PM PM in the Fellowship Hall—1924 Cedar St.



Presented by the author, Doug Metapoet Howerton. *Cosmic Warrior* is a metaphysical novel about electronic harassment, UFO encounters, short stories, poetics and revealing diary entries.

Refreshments will be served.

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

Co-sponsored by the BFUU Social Justice Committee

Conscientious Projector's Film Series: Remembering Michael Ruppert

Thursday, May 29 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall—1924 Cedar St.



Conscientious Projector's Film Series for the 99% presents *The Great Awakening* in an evening of remembering Michael Ruppert. The Great Awakening Speech empowers and invites humanity to change the way it thinks and perceives reality. On 9-11-2011 Mike Ruppert, the “tracker of truth,” spoke in Seattle. He evoked a powerful, inspiring, selfless message of incorruptible truth and awareness; shining a bright light in an age of darkness and deceit. He said that the generation under 30 years old is the generation most screwed by the system in place because it has no concern for the future, only current bottom-line corporate profits and the corporate privatization of all commonwealth inheritance world resources. He promotes Collapse Net, the Zeitgeist movement, Transition Towns, and those working on alternative banking systems. He talks about the ongoing disaster of the Fukushima nuclear plants by the sea in Japan.

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

Recurring/Ongoing Events

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.*

Tuesdays Together

Tuesdays, 6-8 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall—1924 Cedar St.



Each Tuesday Together begins with a potluck meal at 6 p.m. and then at 7 p.m. we switch to a class or activity. Upcoming Tuesdays Together programming includes:

May 6: Sharing Together—We will gather to share how people we admire have influenced our lives.

May 13: Playing Together—Games Night. Bring games or game ideas to share.

May 20: Singing Together—With Lauren Renee Hotchkiss. Bring your favorite songs.

May 27: Exploring Together—Join us for a conversation about our Fellowship.



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.

Bios of Candidates for the Board of Trustees

Holly Harwood

I have been a member of BFUU for two years. I am on the social justice, poetry, and Sunday services committees. I am one of the hosts of the monthly open mic, sponsored by the SJC. 18 years ago my family came to California from New Jersey. I have two adult sons and have been married for over 30 years. I have a BA in Humanities with a concentration in Activism and Social Change from the former New College of California. My interests include various musical instruments, watercolors, clowning, and poetry. Currently I am editing a poetry anthology with Frances Hillyard. Being part of the BFUU

Pamela Norton is a long-life Unitarian, now Unitarian-Universalist, in a U-shaped path. Dedicated in infancy at the downtown Detroit First Unitarian Church near Wayne State University, she graduated high school and followed the then-current edict to “go find your religion,” moving to Brazil and exploring Candomblé (an African animist tradition crossed with Brazilian Catholicism) in 1973 (daughter of Oyá), then Taoism by way of the I Ching, and finally converting just before her daughter's birth to Jewish Renewal Movement Judaism in 1987. A member of the Berkeley Unitarian Church on Bancroft Way at 7, she found her way back to the Berkeley Fellowship at the end of her 6th decade. Definitely on the spiritual side of the Unitarian spectrum, she also has deep connections to the humanist tradition.

A member of the Berkeley Fellowship since 2012, she attended General Assembly as a representative in Phoenix in 2012, has sung in the choir over the past 3 years, has been on the Sunday Services Committee, and is currently serving on the Religious Exploration and the Music Committees. Her desire is to create deeper connections within the current congregation, across differences, through the sharing of our personal stories, open and honest communication, democratic process, and to grow our congregation to sustainability.

Susan Singh

I have been a member of the Berkeley UU Fellowship for 8 years. Before that I was a member of the Sepulveda UU Society for forty years. I have served in just about every church office, except Treasurer. Lately, I have been bringing carrot salad to the Potlucks.

I would like to use my knowledge of church matters and my experience in leadership by serving on the BFUU Board of Trustees.

Elect me and I promise to bring gallons more carrot salad in the future.

Doertlis Schultze-Allen

My name is Lis, and I'd like to become part of the BFUU board.

After returning to this congregation almost a year ago and moving close by, I feel that BFUU is my home for spirituality, and community; I'd like to give back for all that I receive.

About 15 years ago I joined BFUU and raised my 2 daughters (who are now off to college on the East Coast) as UUs, the RE program was very small, there were only a few children from two families. Now I see how much the RE program has grown and continues to attract new members. Having a church to go to while raising children was especially important for me as an immigrant, having no family living closer than a day of flying.

Now back in the Bay Area, I work as a primary care physician with adults only and miss having children around, so I'm one of the religious exploration teachers enjoying the richness of curriculum that our church has to offer. I see our community as rich in openness, talents in music, art, technology, and we have flexibility, diversity, compassion for social justice, world peace, liberty, and taking care of our planet.

We own a large property in the heart of Berkeley and with all our talents, compassion and bright minds put together as well as some time and communication at hand, we will continue to thrive and grow.

I am bringing enthusiasm for creating a healthy, balanced community and general common sense.

Fellowship Calendar May 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 11:45 am AA Meditation 7 pm Norcal 9/11 Truth Alliance* 7 pm Improvalicious 7 pm Wing Chung Martial Arts	2 10 am Dance Lab 11:30 am Question Mark Cafe* 7 pm NA Women's Mtg 7 pm Joshua Cross	3 9 am ASCA 10 am Choir Rehearsal* 12 pm PD Active 1 pm MANifesting 1 pm BFUU Band Rehearsal* 7 pm Stone Soup Improv
4 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal* 10:30 am Sunday Service* 12:30 pm SJC Mtg* 2 pm Serenity Asc. 5 pm Spark Circle 8 pm AA Candlelight	5 4 pm Tai Chi/ Qigong* 5:50 pm Tai Chi Chuan 6 pm AA Men's Mtg 6:15 pm Soul Motion 7:30 pm Onetaste	6 7:30 am SLAA 10 am Elders Crcl.* 6 pm Tuesdays Together* 7 pm AA Men's Mtg 7 pm Ran Bush Jam 7 pm Wing Chung Martial Arts	7 4 pm Tai Chi/ Qigong* 6:45 pm NA Men's Mtg 7 pm Core Connexion 7 pm Wing Chung Martial Arts	8 11:45 am AA Meditation 5:30 pm Stress Reduction Class 7 pm Conscientious Projector Film* 7 pm Improvalicious 7 pm Wing Chung Martial Arts	9 10 am Dance Lab 7 pm BFUU Open Mic* 7 pm NA Women's Mtg	10 9 am ASCA 10 am Dr. Hu Qigong 10 am Queer Parenting 5:45 pm SLAA 7 pm Country Joe McDonald Benefit Concert*
11 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal* 9:30 am Science of Spirituality 10:30 am Sunday Service* 12 pm Potluck* 5 pm DA Mtg 8 pm AA Candlelight	12 4 pm Tai Chi/ Qigong* 5:50 pm Tai Chi Chuan 6 pm AA Men's Mtg 6:15 pm Soul Motion 6:30 Working with the Shadow	13 7:30 am SLAA 6 pm Tuesdays Together* 7 pm AA Men's Mtg 7 pm Ran Bush Jam 7 pm Wing Chung Martial Arts	14 4 pm Tai Chi/ Qigong* 6:45 pm NA Men's Mtg 7 pm Core Connexion 7 pm Wing Chung Martial Arts	15 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	16 10 am Dance Lab 6 pm Hearts of the Dulcimer 7 pm NA Women's Mtg	17 9 am ASCA 3 pm Berkeley Dulcimer Gathering 3 pm Bawa Muhaiyadeen 5:45 pm SLAA
18 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal* 10:30 am Sunday Service* 12:30 pm SJC Mtg* 3 pm Cosmic Warrior* 8 pm AA Cndllght.	19 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 Mdn.	20 7:30 am SLAA 6 pm Tuesdays Together* 7 pm AA Men's Mtg 7 pm Ran Bush Jam 7 pm Wing Chung Martial Arts	21 4 pm Tai Chi/ Qigong* 6:45 pm NA Men's Mtg 7 pm Core Connexion 7 pm Wing Chung Martial Arts	22 11:45 am AA Meditation 5:30 pm Stress Reduction Class 7 pm Board Meeting* 7 pm Improvalicious 7 pm Wing Chung	23 7 pm NA Women's Mtg 7 pm Conscientious jProjector's Series*	24 9 am ASCA 10 am Queer Parenting 5:45 pm SLAA
25 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal* 10:30 am Sunday Service* 12:30 pm Wordswell Wrkshp 4:45 pm Spiral Path 5 pm DA Mtg 8 pm AA Candlelight	26 4 pm Tai Chi/ Qigong* 5:50 pm Tai Chi Chuan 6 pm AA Mtg 6:15 pm Soul Motion 7:30 pm Energy Work Class	27 7:30 am SLAA 6 pm Tuesdays Together* 7 pm AA Men's Mtg 7 pm Ran Bush Jam 7 pm Wing Chung Martial Arts	28 4 pm Tai Chi/ Qigong* 6:45 pm NA Men's Mtg 7 pm Core Connexion 7 pm Wing Chung Martial Arts	29 11:45 am AA Meditation 5:30 pm Stress Reduction Class 6 pm Berkeley Disaster Prep. 7 pm Board Meeting* 7 pm Improvalicious 7 pm Wing Chung	30 7 pm NA Women's Mtg. 7 pm BFUU Music Series*	31 9 am ASCA 9 am Camp Winnarainbow 5:45 pm SLAA

* 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.

BFUU STAFF

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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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