

THE BFUU COMMUNICATOR

Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists

May 2015

Upcoming Sunday Services

(Services at 10:30 a.m.)



May 3: The Meaning of Money

Rev. Theresa Novak, Worship Leader

What does money mean to you? It can't buy love, but what can it do? As Unitarian Universalists we try to live our values in the world. Do we spend money in ways that also reflect those values? This will be the kick off of the spring stewardship drive will run through the end of May.

May 10: Real Mothers

Rev. Theresa Novak, Worship Leader

On this Mother's Day Sunday we will explore what motherhood means. Can any of us really live up to the Hallmark images? We will also look at some of the history of this holiday. It might surprise you.



May 17: Turn, Turn, Turn

Virginia Hollins-Davidson, Worship Leader

As we celebrate the ingathering of five new members this morning, we are also mindful of the departure of Rev. Theresa. For everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven.

May 24: Living by Liberal Faith

Rev. Jay Atkinson, Guest Worship Leader

UU theologian Paul Rasor says that our liberal religious tradition "is not for the faint of heart," suggesting that Unitarian Universalism offers a challenging pathway not always easy to follow. What are the historic elements of this liberal faith that we call our own? What does it mean to be faithful Unitarian Universalists in today's world, and how do we help one another live up to that ideal, as individuals and as congregations?



May 31: Carry It On

Jeff Palmer, Worship Leader

Long time BFUU members will present on what BFUU has meant to them over the years and what they get from the Fellowship that they can't get anywhere else.

Developmental Minister Reverend Theresa Novak



Dear BFUU Members and Friends,

There is no minister's column this month.

Clergy & Staff

Reverend Theresa Novak
Developmental Minister

Reverend Earl Koteen
Community Minister

Susan Macke
Office Coordinator

Deborah Hamouris
Event Space Coordinator

Ed Keating
Facilities Manager

Richard Sandling
Custodian

Board of Trustees

Susan Singh, *President*

Pam Norton, *Vice President*

Ben Burch, *Treasurer*

Holly Harwood, *Recording Sec'y*
(alternate)

Doug Chambers

Doertlis (Lis) Schultz-Allen

Sylvia Scherzer (alternate)



Rev. Theresa Novak at PCD Assembly 2015.

President's Report

Happy May Day!

The Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists has earned the Growth Award for 2015. Pacific Central District presented the Award to Elinor Roberts, Susan Singh and Rev. Theresa Novak at the PCD Annual Meeting in San Francisco on April 25. Hurray for BFUU!

The BFUU Board of Trustees is pleased to welcome Rocky Morrison as a new BFUU Board Member. His acumen, expertise and frisky energy will benefit the Board and the Congregation as a whole as we navigate through the next few years of change and growth. The Board also celebrates the reelection of members Holly Harwood, Pam Norton, and Syl Scherzer. The Board is grateful that they continue to dedicate their time and talents and help provide the stability, experience and wisdom from which good direction and good decisions arise.

Our own Annual Meeting 2015 is now history. I want to give special thanks to Abbot Foote for serving as Parliamentarian and to Tom McAninley for serving as Sergeant-of-Arms and to Virginia Hollins-Davidson and Joanna Foley for tallying and presenting the votes for members elected to serve new terms on the 2016-2016 Board of Trustees. Thank you also to everyone who helped set up, showed up, distributed member cards and ballots, helped in any way, joined in the discussions and to those who voted. Thank you to everybody for caring about the future of BFUU.

The Board of Trustees continues to be hard at work developing policies, looking into establishing needed Committees, revising the By-Laws, planning for the future of our buildings and improving process both on the Board and in the Congregation.

We have received some artwork and old photographs of BFUU and members from the estate of Janet Sondin, former BFUU member. Did you know that the yard between our two buildings once had a lawn?

Susan Singh, President



Social Justice Action Report

Yesterday, I took BART to San Francisco Powell Street, disembarked, ascended to the fare gates, concourse and exit, in that order. I walked up the stairway to the sidewalk near 5th and Market; the start point of yesterday's march, which I joined in progress. It was easy to find, as the red flags with the black stylized eagles were highly visible. After falling in with the march, I soon had a flag on loan. I was chanting with the crowd. ¡Sí se puede! ¿Qué queremos? ¡Justicia! ¿Cuándo? ¡Ahora! and other chants, all in Spanish; with no chant sheet. We turned at McAllister Street and bee-lined for San Francisco City Hall. On the steps we assembled, and listened to speakers. First was Arturo Rodriguez, United Farm Workers second President, talking about the contract fight with Gerwan having been ongoing for 25 years (a quarter century!) and the workers were making \$8 (not per hour, \$8 per day!) in Baja California. Also mentioned was that in Bakersfield and Fresno, California, where the workers who we were marching with are from, that although it was only March already had multiple days of temperatures over 90 degrees. Protection from heat was being fought for in contract. Other speakers included San Francisco supervisors Alvarez, Campos, and Kim, a Korean-American whose parents were farm workers in South Korea. She spoke about her parents having been in a similar struggle. Additional speakers included representatives from United Auto Workers, and SEIU Local 87-Janitors; who had served breakfast prior to the march.

¡ESCUCHA! ¡ESTAMOS EN LA LUCHA!
 ¿QUÉ QUEREMOS? ¡JUSTICIA! ¿CUANDO? ¡AHORA!
 SIN JUSTICIA, NO HAY PAZ!
 ¡SÍ SE PUEDE!

Seon O'Neill



The Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists Board of Trustees requests that BFUU members bring congregational grievances to individual Board of Trustees members or the minister and refrain from addressing congregational grievances via BFUU email. Furthermore, the Board of Trustees requests that no statements be made via BFUU email that could be construed as libelous.

Community Voices



May Birthdays

Tallulah Armstrong-Temple
 Annabelle Armstrong-Temple
 Arcata Griffin
 Frankie Hill
 Seon O'Neill
 Gail Penso
 Dan Tussey
 David Yandle



**FY 2015-2016
 PLEDGE GOAL
 \$50,000**

Fanning the Flame of our Beloved Community!

The FY 2015-2106 Pledge Drive will be heating up over the next few weeks! Packets will be going out this week for you to renew your BFUU membership for the coming fiscal year.

Regular Committee Meetings

Social Justice

1st & 3rd Sunday 12:30 PM in the Preschool Room

Sunday Services

1st Thursday at 7 PM in the Minister's office

Finance

3rd Thursday at 4:30 PM in the Fireside Room

Religious Education

3rd Sunday at 12:30 PM (after services)

Hospitality and Membership

4th Sunday at 12:30 PM (after services)

Buildings & Grounds

Meets once per month, contact Ben Burch

Escalating Inequality Update

Rev Earl Koteen (our very own Rev Earl) spoke with us on Tuesday April 21 about Climate Justice. Everyone had a chance to speak about what is wrong and why. We came up with

a myriad of problems:

propaganda

CJ system and mass incarceration

student debt

mythology

globalization

classism

Some good stuff:

union building

New solidarity movement

Importance of building alliance

Wellstone Democratic Renewal

Prop 47 release non-violent offenders and use

police lack of accountability

competition

homelessness

union busting

neo-fascism (police state), neo conservatism
(ongoing wars), neo-liberalism (economy)

Winner Take All Society (book suggestion)

the \$ for education and job training. Holly
reports that some of that \$ is going to Planting
Justice

BOCA and PICO

UU as a liberal religion

Nurturing the embers social justice

We will all do outreach to get other groups involved.

Our two Tuesdays meetings in May will be on May 5 and May 19th. See you there...lots more to discuss and come up with resolutions

Gene Herman

View From Rooms@bfuu.org



A report on the banners: The banners that have hung in the Fellowship Hall for many decades were taken down to be cleaned when painting began a

couple of months ago. As a result of cleaning, a few of them needed some restoration: the dye stained some of the fabric and the cleaning process disintegrated two of them. At the behest of both the Building Manager and the Buildings & Grounds Committee, I have located a fabric artist who quoted us about \$100 per banner for restoration, recreation, and making a new one to

represent the faith of Islam. We have not yet entered into a contract with her and I am looking for a second quote for comparison purposes. But this appears to be a very low quote!

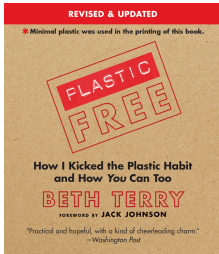
The original banners were created to hang for just a weekend workshop. They are the work of Jeremy Taylor, which some of you know. Though they have graced our hall for, lo, these many years, upon close inspection it is clear they weren't created with longevity in mind.

The banners will be present for all to see after the 4/26 service and another Sunday in May so all can view them as they stand. I'll be there on the 26th to answer questions. The staff will continue to pursue this project to the end that the congregation and the Board require.

Featured BFUU Events

Screening the Green Film Series: "From the Waste Up – Life Without Plastic"

Thursday, May 7 at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall–1924 Cedar St.



Would you like to find more ways to get plastic out of your life? It's easier (and more fun) than you may think! Our special guest speaker East Bay author and community activist, Beth Terry, will show us how to replace plastic with less harmful materials. She'll tell us how she got started with her Plastic Free Life and share some of the many alternatives she has documented in

her book Plastic Free! How I Kicked the Plastic Habit and How You Can Too. (Signed copies of the new edition will be available for purchase.)

In the film, "From the Waste Up – Life Without Plastic," Filmmaker Taina Uitto documents her own efforts and those of six other volunteers who pledge to live for a whole year without plastic. She looks at our addiction to plastic in a very real and down to earth way and as a participant in the project brings a level of humor to a very serious situation. This is a fun and inspiring film you won't want to miss. We'll meet and greet at 6:30, the program begins at 7:00. Please bring plastic free snacks to share if you'd like to. This event is co-sponsored by Transition Berkeley, BFUU's Social Justice Committee and Green Sangha.

Suggested Donation \$5 - \$20. No one turned away for lack of funds.

BFUU Open Mic with Featured Artist Rasheedah Sabreen Shakir

Friday, May 8 at 7 PM in the Fellowship Hall— 1924 Cedar St.

Join us for BFUU's monthly Open Mic night! First come, first choice of 10-minute slots, available all evening or until the slots fill up. Featured Artist(s) perform around 8:30 PM.



Rasheedah Sabreen Shakir was born and raised in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Since retiring from the Berkeley Unified School District in 2012, she has been able to devote more time to her performing arts in the areas of singing her original songs and storytelling. She has been a featured artist at several open mic venues, a featured storyteller at The Shout in Oakland and a featured poet at Queer Open Mic–Pass The Mic Tuesdays, also in

Oakland. Rasheedah also provides guitar and vocal accompaniment for local award winning poet, Aqueila M. Lewis. Rasheedah's current project is a one woman show.

The host for May is San Francisco Bay Area writer, musical storyteller, and grandfather Hassaun Ali Jones-Bey, also known as Boundless Gratitude, who is currently completing and commencing a mythic musical journey into the materiality of ethnic heritage through the aegis of a certificate program in Black Church and Africana Religious Studies at the Graduate Theological Union and a master of arts in social change program at Starr King School for the Ministry in Berkeley.



Suggested donations of \$5 – \$20 will support the work of the Social Justice Committee! No one turned away for lack of funds! Volunteers appreciated!

Featured BFUU Events

Conscientious Projector Film Series: "The Greater Good"

Thursday, May 14 at 7 PM in the Fellowship Hall–1924 Cedar St.

"The Greater Good" is a powerful documentary that explores the issue of vaccines and whether you can be pro-science yet favor exemptions for some mandated vaccines. As Dr. Joseph Mercola M.D. states, "Our current vaccination policies sweep dangers under the rug." As much as many U.S. Citizens want to trust that health officials and drug companies have the greater good in mind, this compelling film will bring increased awareness to this significant topic. The California legislature is considering

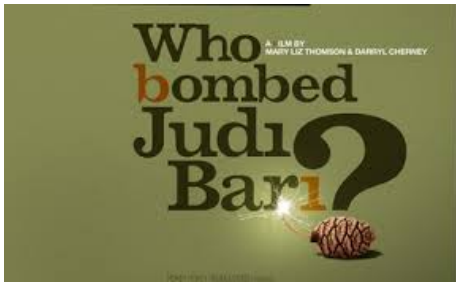
S.B. 277. The Ca Senate Health Committee has already recommended a rigorous mandate for 69 doses of 16 childhood vaccines, with little possibility of exemption, similar to only Mississippi and West Virginia. Discussion follows the film. <http://www.greatergoodmovie.org>

Suggested Donation \$5 - \$20. No one turned away for lack of funds.



Judy Bari Day Event Film: "Who Bombed Judi Bari?"

Sunday, May 24 at 7 PM in the Fellowship Hall— 1924 Cedar St.



This Sunday is the 25th anniversary of the attack on "Earth First!" activists Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney by car bomb in Oakland in 1990 as Redwood Summer dawned. We will commemorate earlier in the day as people gather to mark the moment of the bombing at the location where the bomb blew up Judi's car



with Darryl and Judi in it at the intersection of E. 33rd and Park Blvd, in front of Oakland High. Gather at 11:30 am sharp. Bring signs, songs, drums, and voices for a commemoration speak-out! Later at 7 pm Fellowship Hall doors open and the Judi Bari Day program will begin at 7:30 with screening of the film "Who Bombed Judi Bari?". This will be preceded by comments and updates by Darryl Cherney, Mike Roselle, and Karen Pickett. Expect music and special guests. Q & A session. Info: 510-548-3113 or bach [at] headwaters preserve.org Sponsored by the Social Justice Committee. <http://www.whobombedjudibari.com>

Suggested Donation \$5 - \$20. No one turned away for lack of funds.

Recurring/Ongoing BFUU Events

T'ai Chi & Qi Gong with Gene Herman

Mondays and Wednesdays, 4-5 PM 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. Note that the Wed 5/13, Mon 5/18 and Wed 5/20 classes are cancelled due to vacation. Classes resume Mon 5/25.



Recurring/Ongoing BFUU Events

Wind Song West Cafe - Please Note Date Change

Tuesday May 5, Noon in the Fireside Room – 1606 Bonita Ave.

Please join us at this special Wind Song West as we watch and discuss the new 19 minute video posted to the “Social Justice in the Heart of Berkeley” YouTube Channel titled “Poet Gene Herman Featured at Fellowship Hall”. Audio recording by David Yandle. Post audio & video production & creation by Vic Sadot. Free but suggested donations of \$5 – \$10 are welcome.



Exploring Unitarian Universalism Sunday May 3 ~~CLASS HAS BEEN CANCELLED~~

Escalating Inequality --- Addressing the Issue

Tuesday May 5 and Tuesday May 19, 5 PM in the Fellowship Hall–1924 Cedar St.

Congregational Study/Action Issue (CSAI). We will be meeting in Fellowship Hall: with set up from 5 to 5:15 PM; pot luck from 5:15 to 6 PM. Study/working groups from 6-8 PM...which gives us plenty of time to arrive home before dark.

Elders Circle

Tuesday May 5, 11 AM in the Fellowship Hall–1924 Cedar St.

The BFUU Elders' Circle meets at 11:00 AM on First Tuesdays in the Fellowship Hall.

BFUU SpiritUUal Contemporaries

Thursday May 7, 7 PM in the Benjy Room–1606 Bonita Ave.

SpiritUUal Contemporaries at BFUU, an open covenant group for self-defined middle adults, welcomes those who would like to experience open covenant small group worship. Please contact Nanci Armstrong Temple fraggles94@gmail.com for more information.

BFUU Second Sundays Potluck

Sunday May 10, after service (around 12:30 PM) in the Fellowship Hall–1924 Cedar St.

Come one, come all! Whether you have a dish to share or not, we invite you to join us as we break bread in the spirit of loving community. If you can, please help us set up tables and chairs before and put them away afterward. In between, join in the bounty provided by members and friends. Members, friends, neighbors, and the wider community are welcome to join us.

Exploring Unitarian Universalism

Sunday May 17, noon lunch, class starts at 12:30 in the Connie Barbour Room – 1606 Bonita Ave.

Join us for the fourth in our new series of Adult Religious Exploration Classes.

The topic for this workshop is "Religious Education or Faith Development." Light vegetarian lunch at noon, class begins at 12:30.



Pub Theology

Friday May 21, 7:00 PM at Au Coquelet (2000 University Ave., Berkeley)

BFUU's young adult group meets monthly at Au Coquelet. Please contact Lincoln Statler lincolnstatler@gmail.com for more information.



Recurring/Ongoing BFUU Events

BFUU Board Meeting

Thursday May 28, 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall – 1924 Cedar St.

Wordswell Writing Workshop

Sunday May 29, 12:30 PM in the Fireside Room – 1606 Bonita Ave.

Have you written before? Or always wanted to write more? This group will support and encourage you to write.

Suggested donation per class: BFUU pledging members \$5, non-members \$10. Half of the money goes to BFUU and half to Wordswell, a non-profit for writing.

Other Community Events held at BFUU



Faerie Mask Ball with Reclaiming

Saturday, May 16 at 7:30 PM in Fellowship Hall – 1924 Cedar St.

Join us during the height of Beltane season for a magical ritual and dance party to welcome the coming of Summer! We'll have DJ dancing for teens and adults, guided activities for younger ages, and magic for all ages.

Cost \$11-33 adults / youth (to age 25) \$5-up / kids to age 6 free. Please no drugs or alcohol. Admission includes snacks; additional food available.



Produced by
Deborah Hamouris

The Third Berkeley Dulcimer Gathering Faculty Concert

Friday, May 29 at 7:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall – 1924 Cedar St.

Featuring: Butch Ross, Steve Eulberg, Janet Herman & members of Zambra, Neal Hellman, and The Berkeley Dulcimer Orchestra

Tickets \$10 at <http://facultyconcertbdg2015.brownpapertickets.com/>

\$15 at the door For more information: www.berkeleygatheringdulcimer.com

Katrina's Dreamers

Enrollment open now for classes June 15 - August 13, 2015



Katrina Dreamer's innovative summer classes help students get ahead in the new school year, manage stress, and gain confidence. She combines engaging instruction, mindfulness, and experiential exercises and offers classes in writing or surviving transition years for students off to middle school, high school, or college. Classes start at \$250. Sessions offered 6/15 through 8/13.

To learn more/sign up: katrina@katrinadreamer.com 510-761-8047 www.katrinadreamer.com

Fellowship Calendar May 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Deborah Hamouris, BFUU Event Space Coordinator, will be out of the office from Friday May 1 - Monday May 11 (back on Tuesday May 12).					1 Wind Song West MOVED TO 5/5 7 pm NA Women's Mtg	1 9 am ASCA 11 am Soul Motion Workshop 6 pm Augustine Fellowship
3 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal* 10:30 am Sunday Service* Expl. UU Cancelled 12:30 pm SJC Mtg* 8 pm AA Mtg	4 4 pm Tai Chi/ Qigong* 6:00 pm Tai Chi Chuan 6:30 pm Soul Motion 6 pm AA Men's Mtg	5 7:30 am Augustine Fellowship 11 am Elders Circle 12 noon Wind Song West Cafe* 4 pm Sunflower Alliance 5 pm Escalating Inequality CSAI* 7 pm AA Men's Mtg	6 7:30 am Soul Motion Mornings 4 pm Tai Chi/ Qigong* 7 pm NA Men's Mtg 7 pm Core Connexion	7 11:45 am AA Meditation 7 pm Film: "...Life Without Plastic 7 pm Norcal 9/11 7 pm Sunday Services Mtg* 7 pm SpiritUUal Contemporaries*	8 7 pm NA Women's Mtg 7 pm BFUU Open Mic: Rasheedah Sabreen Shakir*	9 9 am ASCA 10 am Dr. Hu Qigong 6 pm Augustine Fellowship
10 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal* 10:30 am Sunday Service* 12:30 pm Potluck* 8pm AA Mtg	11 4 pm Tai Chi/ Qigong* 6:00 pm Tai Chi Chuan 6 pm AA Men's Mtg 6:30 pm Soul Motion	12 7:30 am Augustine Fellowship 7 pm AA Men's Mtg 7 pm Ran Bush Jam	13 7:30 am Soul Motion Mornings 4 PM Tai Chi/ Qigong Cancelled* 7 pm NA Men's Mtg 7 pm Core Connexion	14 11:45 am AA 4:30 Finance Committee Mtg* 7 pm Norcal 9/11 7 pm Film: The Greater Good	15 7 pm NA Women's Mtg 7 pm Pub Theology at Au Coquelet*	16 9 am ASCA 6 pm Augustine Fellowship 7:30 Faerie Mask Ball
17 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal* 10:30 am Sunday Service* 12:30 pm SJC Mtg* 12:30 RE Mtg* 8 pm AA Mtg	18 4 PM Tai Chi/ Qigong Cancelled* 6:00 pm Tai Chi Chuan 6 pm AA Men's Mtg 6:30 pm Soul Motion	19 7:30 am Augustine Fellowship 4 pm Sunflower Alliance 5 pm Escalating Inequality CSAI* 7 pm AA Men's Mtg	20 7:30 am Soul Motion Mornings 4 PM Tai Chi/ Qigong Cancelled* 7 pm NA Men's Mtg 7 pm Core Connexion Communicator Deadline!	21 11:45 am AA Meditation 7 pm Norcal 9/11	22 7 pm NA Women's 8 pm Acoustic Music Berkeley	23 9 am ASCA 6 pm Augustine Fellowship
24 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal* 10:30 am Sunday Service* 12:30 Hospitality & Membership Mtg* 12:30 Wordswell* 7 pm Judi Bari Day 8 pm AA Mtg	25 4 pm Tai Chi/ Qigong* 6:00 pm Tai Chi Chuan 6 pm AA Men's Mtg 6:30 pm Soul Motion	26 7:30 am Augustine Fellowship 7 pm AA Men's Mtg	27 7:30 am Soul Motion Mornings 4 pm Tai Chi/ Qigong* 7 pm NA Men's Mtg 7 pm Core Connexion	28 11:45 am AA Meditation 7 pm Board Mtg*	29 7 pm NA Women's	30 9 am ASCA 2 pm New Way Media Fest* 6 pm Augustine Fellowship
31 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal* 10:30 am Sunday Service*	* denotes Fellowship event <i>UU General Assembly is coming up June 24-28 in Portland Oregon! The theme for 2015 is "Building a New Way." Go to www.uua.org/ga for all of the information about this year's GA!</i>					

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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Susan Macke - Office Coordinator

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SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR NEXT *COMMUNICATOR*: May 20

Please email newsletter@bfuu.org with submissions.

Address Correction Requested

Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists

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