Upcoming Sunday Services

March 6: Female Safety Nets: Breakthroughs and Continuing Barriers
Rev. Meg Whitaker-Greene, Guest Worship Leader
The Rev. Meg Whitaker-Greene, LMFT, will speak on a topic related to the rights of women and girls. Margaret Fuller, Transcendentalist, followed a life long quest for self knowledge. In 1844, she stated “People seem to think that not more than one phase of character can be shown in one life.” This statement is illustrative of the multi-faceted issues of International Women’s Day.

March 13: Open Mind, Open Heart, Open Will: Transforming Certainty into Confidence
Gregory Rouillard, Guest Worship Leader
How certain are you about the future of BFUU? Does anyone really know what the future will hold until it arrives? How can we move through periods of uncertainty, change and transition with grace, flow and confidence? Join guest worship leader Gregory Rouillard, M.Div., and members of the Process of Discernment team, in a worship service and embodied sermon exploring these and other questions relevant to BFUU and our Process of Discernment.

March 20: Moments in Time
Rev. Jay Atkinson, Worship Leader
The flow of time is one of the great mysteries --- for physics, cosmology, and human meaning. Many philosophers and physicists even dismiss free will and the flow of time as illusions of human consciousness. In contrast, process theology takes the reality of time seriously and tells us that every moment of our lives is a moment of freedom to move ourselves and our world toward the common good, building upon the lessons of the past and responding to the visionary lure of a better future.

March 27: Eggs, Rabbits, Chocolate… and Resurrection?!
Rev. Matthew McHale, Guest Worship Leader
Easter—the death and resurrection of Jesus—is Christianity’s most important story, but its observance is deeply infused with pagan elements celebrating Spring and fertility, and it has become increasingly commercialized. So what does Easter mean for us as Unitarian Universalists, anyway?
Board of Trustees Report

Under duress, we do not rise to our expectations
– we fall to the level of our training.

Bruce Lee

Dear Fellow/Sister BFUU’s,

Our first Process of Discernment/Beloved Community retreat weekend happened February 5-7. On Friday, self-identified leaders and would-be leaders gathered to kick off the weekend with a community dinner. After a logistical crisis in which all hands were on deck to turn things around, we communed over a delicious meal cooked by Nanci Armstrong-Temple. Following dinner, we were asked to offer up to the group a personal quality or gift we wanted to share with the BFUU community.

On Saturday, 26 members and friends of BFUU convened in solidarity, openness and enthusiasm, to learn about non-violent communication. As Jared and Gregory, our facilitators in this process, noted, while we belong to a religion called Unitarian-Universalism, and we share common ideals and even goals, we are all different people, with different ways of communicating. Certainly, we may have very different ideas about how to accomplish our goals, and these lead sometimes to entrenched conflicts. At the same time, we all have the same universal, human needs. We each have our own faults and good qualities.

The facilitators led us through experiences in which we saw how taking positions and using “sound bites” can polarize us, and how judgment about others while we are making decisions can get in our way. We practiced listening to each other in a series of exercises while exploring how what the other is saying is addressing a need we both share. What I learned was (and what I have experienced in myself in my nine months as Board president) is that we tend to revert to old “training” under duress, just as we are needing to do something different if we are not to end up in the same place as before. What we received over the weekend was a broad and deep new way to see and hear each other, with expert support and guidance. There was an excitement in the air and a level of connection that was gratifying for this BFUU member, a sense of something new happening, a deepening of connection and understanding, and an awareness of just how special we are as a community.
Board of Trustees Report, continued

On Sunday, another 25 members and friends, some of the same and some new ones, joined us in a service on Embodied Compassion followed by a workshop. The children gathered to discuss the meaning of compassion, after which we practiced connecting by walking around the Fellowship Hall really looking at each other, in silence. In the afternoon, Jared and Gregory conducted a mini-non-violent communication session for the benefit of those not present on Saturday, followed by an interactive session to discuss qualities and concerns we would like to see addressed by BFUU as we move toward discernment. Those qualities were organized as areas of concerns for three emerging Working Groups – Structural Transition (governance), Beloved Community (caring for each other) and Vision/Mission/Aim. They will work together, with the Board, and with the congregation as a whole, in an integrative and cyclical process as we continue to participate in the next two retreat weekends in March and April.

If you were present at the February retreat, you know what a wonderful and heartwarming experience it was and I hope you will join us again. If you were not, please jump in as we continue to explore new ways of communicating and working together creating a beloved community within and beyond our walls.

In solidarity,

Pam Norton

SpiritUUal Contemporaries

Spi-Con is now meeting on a new day for 2016: the 3rd Thursday of the month.
SpiritUUal Contemporaries is an open covenant group for 'middle adults' to come together for small group worship and activities.

In January, we did not meet.
In February, we met and made vision/reflection boards and set some gentle intentions for ourselves over the year.
In March, we will attend the W. Kamau Bell show as part of the live audience for the KALW broadcast, instead of our regularly scheduled meeting. Info is here:
http://m.bpt.me/event/2491562

If you want to join us the third Thursday in March, please contact Nanci Armstrong-Temple first because we are working on a free/discount block of tickets.

In community,
Nanci Armstrong-Temple
Fraggle94@gmail.com
Dear BFUU Family,

Last month we had the first of three Beloved Community weekends focused on our church discernment process.

Mark your calendars for the next dates--the 2nd weekends in March and April.

As most of you know, we have contracted with Jared Finkelstein and Gregory Rouillard of Living Seven Principles (http://www.livingsevenprinciples.com/). Their role is to help facilitate BFUU in our process of becoming more clear about what we want to be and do in our congregation and in the world. During the course of the weekends, we will craft the following:

a. **Vision Statement:** A clear articulation of the congregation’s dream of itself as the members want it to be.

b. **Mission Statement:** What congregants do among themselves to accomplish this vision; the congregation’s internal focus, structures and processes.

c. **Aim Statement:** The products or services the congregation provides to itself and to the world; the congregation’s external focus.

d. A clear decision about ministerial strategies for the next five years (or other meaningful time period).

e. Characteristics of the ideal minister for BFUU, articulated as a Ministerial Profile for direct inclusion in any future Ministerial Search Process.

Their facilitation style incorporates many different modalities, and this particular process was designed with and for us using a traditional Buddhist Ground-Path-Fruition sequence. (Please see January 2016 Communicator for a fuller description of these phases.)

During the course of the first Beloved Community weekend, the 'Ground' phase of this part of the discernment process, we were fed with music, empathy, worship, strategy, and community. On Friday we got to share with each other what our gifts that we bring to the community are. On Saturday we practiced deep listening and began to create an environment where accountability and tenderness are cultivated. And Sunday we participated in a supportive worship and dove into creating working groups to start to think more deeply about who we are and where we are going as a congregation, and to make suggestions about how we might do so.

Please contact Frankie Hill or Nanci Armstrong-Temple if you wish to participate in the working groups.

We encourage all members and friends who consider themselves part of this community to carve out the time to attend as much of the next Beloved Community weekend as possible. If you consider yourself a BFUU leader, please make sure to attend the Friday night leaders workshops/mixer. And all members and friends are invited to all weekend events.

More details are to come, and if you'd like to help plan please contact me, the Discernment Task Force Chair.

For now, here is the schedule for weekend two (March 11-13), "Path" Phase:

- **Friday 6:30pm-9 pm:** Dinner and Mixer and Leadership Pre-Workshop
- **Saturday 10am-6 pm with a lunch break**
- **Sunday 10:30am-3:30pm:** Sunday service with Gregory and Jared as an integral part. Lunch and workshop following the service

Childcare and lunch will be included for everyone who RSVPs.
Community Voices

Report Back from Conscientious Projector / Sylvia McLaughlin

I attended the Conscientious Projector Film Series Salute to Sylvia McLaughlin that featured two out of four of the segments of PBS-KQED and Ron Blatman’s “Saving the Bay.” Segments three and four, “Miracle Workers” and “Bay in the Balance” highlighted the ecological degradation of the San Francisco Bay pollution, dumping and landfill real-estate “development” projects that was was reducing not only the water quality, public access and wildlife after World War II; but planned to fill in 2/3 of the Bay itself to increase taxable municipal acreage.

Sylvia McLaughlin passed away recently; but in 1961 she, Catherine Kerr and Esther Gulick were privileged, intelligent and well-positioned women who gathered all the California wilderness association leaders to ask for their help, but groups like the Sierra Club could only offer member lists to them. The women took these mailing lists, raised funds, alerted voters, gathered political allies and orchestrated legal battles that created state legislation in 1965 establishing the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission as a state agency to manage and protect projects and resources.

Thanks to the BFUU Social Justice Committee for sponsoring a very inspiring example of what “a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens” can do to “change the world,” as anthropologist Margaret Mead said.

Wyndy Knox Carr

Process of Discernment Report continued

Please let me know by March 4th if you plan on attending the second weekend so that we can order enough food and have enough childcare. If you RSVP after March 4th you are welcome to attend but you may need to bring your own food. And please include dietary restrictions and allergies for yourself (and any children you plan on bringing) in your RSVP.

In community,

Nanci Armstrong-Temple
Discernment Task Force Chair
Fraggle94@gmail.com
510-301-5073

Regular Committee Meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Buildings &amp; Grounds</th>
<th>Hospitality, Caring and Membership</th>
<th>Social Justice</th>
<th>Sunday Services</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meets once per month, contact Ben Burch</td>
<td>4th Sunday at 12:30 PM in Fellowship Hall</td>
<td>1st &amp; 3rd Sunday 12:30 PM in the Preschool Room</td>
<td>1st Tuesday at 7 PM in the Preschool Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>Religious Education</td>
<td>3rd Sunday after services in the Courtyard</td>
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The Fellowship Hall (1924 Cedar St) is accessible by a ramp on the Bonita Avenue side. The Preschool rooms are only reservable by BFUU groups and are accessible on the ground level of our Religious Education Building (1606 Bonita Ave). At this time the Connie Barbour, Fireside, and Benjy Rooms on the 2nd floor of our Religious Education Building are not wheelchair accessible.

**Transition Berkeley Presents: "Tiny: A Story About Living Small"**

*Thursday, March 3, 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM in Fellowship Hall–1924 Cedar St.*

Join us for a film and discussion about the tiny home movement. A screening of “Tiny: A Story About Living Small” will be followed by a panel discussion led by members of Tiny House In My BackYard (THIMBY), an interdisciplinary collaboration of UC Berkeley students designing and building a zero-net-energy tiny house on the Berkeley Global Campus.

“The film follows one couple’s attempt to build a “tiny house” from scratch, and profiles other families who have downsized their lives into homes smaller than the average parking space. TINY is a story for a society redefining its priorities in the face of a changing financial and environmental climate. More than anything, TINY invites its viewers to dream big and imagine living small.”

Potluck snacks and meet and greet at 6:30pm; film at 7pm, followed by discussion. Cost: Suggested Donation $5-$20. No one turned away for lack of funds! Purchase tickets ahead of time, or just drop in!

Event Phone: (510) 548-2220 x239


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**Berkeley's 2nd Annual Women's Film Festival**

*3 Nights of Film!*  
*(see detailed descriptions by date)*

**Tue 3/8 International Women's Day: Salt of the Earth**

**Thu 3/10: Rosenstrasse**

**Sun 3/13: Norma Rae**

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**Berkeley's 2nd Annual Women's Film Festival**

*Salt of the Earth (original), 1954. Film was Banned in U.S.*

*Tuesday, March 8, 7pm in Fellowship Hall–1924 Cedar St.*

Produced, Directed and Written by victims of U.S.Congressional blacklisting, (aka redlisting), directed by Herbert Biberman, one of the Hollywood Ten. Cast is almost entirely workers who participated in the real-life strike film is based on.

In a gritty mining town in New Mexico, Mexican-American workers go on strike to protest their dangerous working conditions and low wages. They meet with fierce opposition from company thugs and local deputies. After vicious beatings, the wives and mothers of the striking workers take over the picket line in a final demand for justice.

Suggested donation $5 – $20. No one turned away for lack of funds!
**Featured BFUU Events**

**Berkeley's 2nd Annual Women's Film Festival and BFUU Conscientious Projector Present**

**Rosenstrasse, 2003 directed by Margarethe Von Trotta**

*Thursday, March 10, 7pm in Fellowship Hall—1924 Cedar St.*

In the Berlin winter of 1943, Jewish husbands of Aryan wives were imprisoned in a factory on a street named Rosenstrasse. The women stood on that street and protested in defiance of the Nazis. They stood there until reunited with their men. Margarethe Von Trotta, director of the recent film, Hannah Arendt, has won dozens of awards for her films, including Best Actress and best Cinematography for this one. Suggested donation $5 – $20. No one turned away for lack of funds!

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**BFUU Discernment Weekend!**

*Friday, March 11 - Sunday March 13 in various rooms—1924 Cedar St. and 1606 Bonita Ave.*

Jared Finkelstein and Gregory Rouillard of Living Seven Principles (www.livingsevenprinciples.com) will lead our Discernment workshops, where we will clarify what we want BFUU to be and do—for our congregation and in the world. We encourage all members and friends who consider themselves part of this community to carve out the time to attend as much of the weekend as possible. If you consider yourself a BFUU leader, please make sure to attend the Friday night leaders’ workshops/mixer.

Please RSVP by March 4 if you plan on attending the weekend, so that we can coordinate food and childcare. Please include dietary restrictions and allergies for yourself and any children you plan on bringing in your RSVP. To RSVP or for information, please contact Nanci or Frankie: **Nanci Armstrong-Temple**, Discernment Task Force Chair / Fraggle94@gmail.com / 510-301-5073 **Frankie Hill** / frankie.hill@gmail.com

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**BFUU Open Mic with Soul Rising, featuring Moses Channels**

*Friday, March 11 at 7 PM in 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 performs around 8:30 PM.

"Soul Rising" is a rock and soul group specializing in performing contemporary and classic R&B hits for spiritual - not religious - Saturday and Sunday morning services throughout the Bay Area. The lead singer, Moses, is a seminarian graduate student at Berkeley's Pacific School of Religion. They specialize in getting any crowd to dance and celebrate life. "Soul Rising" just completed a six week run performing all secular rock hits at the Kensington Unitarian Church. They are currently performing Saturday mornings at 10:30 am at the Church of the Great Commission on 1798 Scenic Avenue.

Doug Chambers is the host for the March Open Mic. He'll kick off the evening with two songs and keep the evening rolling along. In his own music, Douglas brings you along on a journey through acoustic music old and new. Songs and stories you may not remember, or just think you forgot, tumble from his banjo and guitar with surprising ease!

Suggested donation $5 – $20. No one turned away for lack of funds! Volunteers welcome!
Berkeley's 2nd Annual Women's Film Festival
Norma Rae, 1979 directed by Martin Ritt
Sunday, March 13 at 7 PM in Fellowship Hall–1924 Cedar St.
Sally Field won the Oscar for her performance in the title role. A young single mother and textile worker agrees to help unionize her mill despite the problems and dangers involved. The story is based on Crystal Lee Sutton's life as a textile worker and then union organizer, in North Carolina where the union battle took place against a J.P. Stevens Textiles mill.
Suggested donation $5 – $20. No one turned away for lack of funds!

The Freedom Bus Ride Through The West Bank: A Photo-Movie Presentation
Thursday March 17 at 7 PM in Fellowship Hall – 1924 Cedar St.
Skip Schiel is a Cambridge-based socially engaged photographer and teacher who has produced many justice presentations from Hiroshima, environmental and racial justice, to poverty and oppression here and abroad.
YouTube https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=UUVP-eqKQLwLAETq-Kral-w
Web Site http://teeksaphoto.org
In 2015 Skip spent 3 months in Israel and Occupied Palestine and produced 5 powerful photo-movies. SJC has chosen is The Freedom Bus Ride thru the West Bank which highlights a cross section of oppression and resistance in key sites such as Tuwani, Bil'in and Nabi Saleh. One reason we chose this is the Black Lives Matter Movement powerfully connects to the Palestine Freedom movement.
Suggested donation $5 – $20. No one turned away for lack of funds!

Annual Bay Area Seed Swap & Celebration
Friday, March 18, 7:00 pm — 9:00 pm in Fellowship Hall–1924 Cedar Street
Join us for a fun and festive Annual Seed Exchange hosted by the Bay Area Seed Interchange Library (BASIL). Come learn about seed libraries, swap home-grown garden seeds, share a potluck supper, enjoy music and the company of fantastic local gardeners and earth stewards.
Sign up ahead of time to let us know you’ll be there, or just drop in!
Interested in volunteering at the swap? We’d love to have your help! Email: carrie@ecologycenter.org
Co-sponsored by the BASIL, a project of the Ecology Center; Transition Berkeley; and BFUU’s SJC.
Cost: Free if you bring food and seeds to share OR suggested donation of $5-$20. No one turned away for lack of funds!
Event Phone: 510-548-2220 x239 / Event Email: carrie@ecologycenter.org / website ecologycenter.org
Featured BFUU Events

**Tom Neilson Concert: Fundraiser for No Nukes Action**
Saturday, March 19 Doors 6 PM in Fellowship Hall – 1924 Cedar St.
No Nukes Action educates and organizes around the need to end nuclear power, the ongoing disaster at Fukushima, and the urgency of shutting down Diablo Canyon. Tom is an acclaimed topical singer-songwriter who travels a lot to spread his messages. Suggested Donation $20 - Sliding Scale - No one turned away.

Recurring/Ongoing BFUU Events

**T’ai Chi & Qi Gong with Gene Herman**
Mondays, 4-5 PM in the Connie Barbour Room – 1606 Bonita Ave.
Wednesdays, 4-5 PM in the Connie Barbour Room – 1606 Bonita Ave.
This practice improves health and well-being at any age.

**Elders Circle**
Tuesday March 1 at 11 AM in Fellowship Hall–1924 Cedar St.
The BFUU Elders Circle meets at 11:00 AM on First Tuesdays in Fellowship Hall.

**BFUU Second Sundays Potluck**
Sunday March 13, after service (around 12:30 PM) in 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.
*If you bring a dish, please also bring a printed list of all ingredients so those with allergies, interactions and dietary restrictions can enjoy the dishes they can and avoid those they can't.

**BFUU SpiritUUal Contemporaries - Kamau Right Now show instead of meeting**
Thursday March 17, 6:45 PM at 2323 Broadway, Oakland - http://m.bpt.me/event/2491562
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, fraggle94@gmail for more information/discount tickets.

**Pub Theology**
Friday March 18 at 7:00 PM at Au Coquelet (2000 University Ave., Berkeley)
BFUU’s young adult group meets monthly at Au Coquelet. Please contact Nanci Armstrong Temple or Dominic Jeffries for more information.

**Good Grief Group**
Wednesday March 23 at 7:00 PM in the Minister's Office – 1606 Bonita Ave.
A gathering place to share the experience of grief and loss. To join, call BFUU at 510-841-4824.

**BFUU Board Meeting**
Thursday March 24 at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall – 1924 Cedar St.
Other Community Events held at BFUU

Empowered Communication

In this 5-week course, you’ll learn to:
* Communicate clearly and effectively
* Build stronger relationships with others (and with yourself!)
* Navigate even difficult conversations

Useful at work, at school, with your family, in line at the grocery store, and wherever you interact with people!

3/22, Tuesday, NVC Introductory Evening, 2 hours ($25)
http://baynvc.org/event/introductory-evening-tuesday/

4/5, Tuesdays, Empowered Communication, 5 weeks, 3 hours ($600 regular tuition; $400 scholarship rate)
http://baynvc.org/event/empowered-communication-5-week-series-tuesdays/

4/18, Monday, NVC Introductory Evening, 2 hours ($25)
http://baynvc.org/event/introductory-evening-monday/

5/2, Mondays, Empowered Communication, 5 weeks, 3 hours ($600 regular tuition; $400 scholarship rate)
http://baynvc.org/event/empowered-communication-5-week-series-mondays/

TO REGISTER contact Meganwind Eoyang with your name, phone/s, email and date of class:
meganwind @baynvc.org , or 707-775-7178.

Acoustic Music Berkeley presents Quake City Jug Band and Guest John Bidwell with Tonebent

Friday, March 25, 2016 at 8 PM in Fellowship Hall - 1924 Cedar Street

Tonebent, Robin Eschner and Bill Horvitz, will open this very special show with their fabulous harmonies and inspired original songs. Quake City Jug Band will then move in with the washboard and tap shoes and the ever-so-musical "Dobro" John Bidwell to bring you some of our freshest harmonious material that we have been working on this winter. Refreshments are available at intermission. This show is part of George Cole and Sheila Swift’s Acoustic Music Series.

Firecracker Math offers an extra-curriculum program that will help your child to build a solid foundation and understanding of mathematics. Students will learn and explore math concepts and problem-solving techniques. Theoretical instruction is combined with practical exercises and group discussions that employ games, puzzles, and paradoxes.

- Grades K-10
- Small groups and individual approach
- Experienced and enthusiastic teachers
- Intellectually stimulating environment
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<td>12:30 pm SJC Mtg*</td>
<td>8pm AA Mtg</td>
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<td>11 am Elders Circle*</td>
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* denotes Fellowship event

First Unitarian Church of Oakland Men's Retreat is March 18-20. See www.oaklandmensfellowship.com for more info.
Building character, enriching spirits, promoting community, and serving humankind through spiritual growth and social action.

BFUU OFFICE HOURS
Monday - Friday: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

BFUU STAFF
Deborah Hamouris - Event Space Coordinator  Susan Macke - Office Coordinator
Phone: 510-841-4824, ext. 3  Phone: 510-841-4824, ext. 1
Office Days: Returning in April 2016  Office Days: Mon - Fri
Email: rooms@bfuu.org  Email: office@bfuu.org

SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR NEXT COMMUNICATOR: March 20
Please email newsletter@bfuu.org with submissions.

Address Correction Requested
Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists
1606 Bonita Ave.
Berkeley, CA 94709