

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship ~ BUF.org

Community, Compassion, Commitment

June 30, 2021

Highlights - In this issue

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[Taize](#)

[Building Special Projects](#)

[Special Meeting](#)

[Volunteer](#)

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[Calendar](#)

Sunday Service Zoom Link:
Meeting ID 738 363 620
Worship starts at 10:20am

<https://zoom.us/j/738363620>
o Passcode is **BUF** Phone:
(669) 900-683

UPCOMING SERVICES for JULY

JULY 4

Independence through an Anti-Racist Anti-Oppressive Multicultural Lens



Frederick Douglass's letter to Lincoln, a speech by Pandit Nehru, India's first prime minister, on the eve of Indian Independence, and the 50th anniversary of the publication of the Pentagon Papers by Beacon Press.... There is hope and encouragement to be found in yesterdays' struggles—and victories—for Democracy.

JULY 11

The Gifts of Imperfection

Matthew Fox said, "If you look closely at a tree you'll notice its knots and dead branches, just like our bodies. What we learn is that beauty and imperfection go together wonderfully." Many of us stress over not being good enough, pretty enough, smart enough, cool enough...you get the picture: we just know that we are lacking in some way. In what areas of your life are you a perfectionist? Have you ever experienced *imperfection* as a gift? How do you deal with perfectionism in others? How have you experienced perfectionism in the context of Unitarian Universalism in general and BUF in particular? Join Bonnie Phinney for a most "unorthodox" service on *The Gifts of Imperfection*. We will spend most of the zoom hour exploring these questions as we break into small groups to discuss how perfectionism has affected our own lives. It will be a great opportunity to get to know other members of BUF more intimately.

Blessings,
Paul

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More than 4,200 UUs 'Circle 'Round' virtually for 2021 General Assembly



include in the Principles a clear and direct statement that accountable systemic anti-racist and anti-oppressive actions to build Beloved Community are part of what it means to be Unitarian Universalist.” It passed with 91 percent in favor.

A second Responsive Resolution asked that the UUA Common Endowment Fund divest from fossil fuels, pipelines, and institutions that invest in them, and requested that young adults be involved in related discussions. It passed with 80 percent in favor.

In Sunday’s General Session, delegates overwhelmingly supported passage of a UUA Statement of Conscience affirming UU commitment to [undoing systemic white supremacy](#). Statements of Conscience are developed from a four-year engagement process with [Congregational Study/Action Issues](#) (CSAIs) and congregational feedback to them. The 2018–2021 CSAI, voted on by the 2018 General Assembly in Kansas City, Missouri, was “Undoing Systemic White Supremacy.”

Read more here:

<https://www.uuworld.org/articles/general-assembly-2021-summary>

One Responsive Resolution called on the UUA’s Article II Commission and Board to “ensure proposed changes to Article II

Sunday Services in July and August

On the first Sundays of August and September, we hope to share services outside and on Zoom. All other summer services will be on Zoom only.

July 4	Independence through an Anti-Racist Anti-Oppressive Multicultural Lens
July 11	The Gifts of Imperfection – Bonnie Phinney
July 18	Everyday Heroes – Jeff Copeland
July 25	Rising from the Ashes – Rod Haynes
August 1	Lammas – Liz Roberts
Aug 8	To be Determined
Aug 15	Summer Camp Revisited – Rod Haynes
Aug 22	To be Determined
Aug 29	Love and Unity: The Principles as Pillars of Our UU Faith – Rev Barbara ten Hove
Sept 5	Animal Blessings

A Piece of Web Surfing

INSPIRATION

The Language of Whistling – submitted by Ruth Ann Hanlin



VIDEO-2020-02-08-1
4-13-211.mp4

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Summer Taizé in Person and via Zoom



Taizé offers an opportunity for quiet reflection in the midst of our busy lives. It is a service of candlelight, simple music sung in a chant-like manner, readings and silence.

We've been hosting it via zoom for well over one year but recently BUF's COVID-19 Task Force announced that up to 30 people can gather in the sanctuary for the service.

If you feel ready to attend Taizé in person this summer, here are the guidelines we need you to follow:

1. Wear a mask while singing
2. Be fully vaccinated
3. Sign a waiver when you enter the building
4. Call the office (Mon-Friday between 10am and 2pm) to reserve the space OR
5. Email Admin@BUF.org but wait for email confirmation about your reservation.

Remembering Thaddeus Spratlen: Trailblazing scholar, teacher, mentor and Advocate – David Curley, Black Lives Matter



Professor Spratlen was a resident of Bellingham in the 1960s, and taught in the business school of WWU before being hired by UW Foster School of Business. While in Bellingham he and his wife Lois Price Spratlen were members of BUF, and very active in children's education and civil rights. They were 'a formidable team' all their lives, and I strongly suspect that they were part of the reason that BUF adopted a strong statement around 1961 in support of Civil Rights. I found

this statement in the book about our history in the BUF library.

“In the early 1960s, the job market for an African American with a doctorate was generally limited to Historically Black Colleges and Universities. But, applying with a CV sans photograph, Spratlen earned his spot as the second Black faculty member at Western Washington University—the first in its department of business and economics.”

After years at Western Washington (1961-1969) and at UCLA (1969-1972), Spratlen joined the University of Washington in 1972—the first Black professor at the Foster School. A memorial service for Dr. Spratlen will take place on the UW campus on Tuesday September 28. Contact Michael Verchot (mverchot@uw.edu) for more information.

Read more here: <https://bufsejc.blogspot.com>

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BUF Ventilation Improvement in the Works - Member Approval Required!

Jim Reimer (Building & Grounds) – Sky Hedren (Treasurer)

Want to go back to full services, but aren't sure about being indoors in a large gathering? The COVID pandemic has motivated some hard working BUFster's to come up with a proposal to improve the air quality of our building.

Based on current CDC recommendations, industry guidelines, and the advice of local HVAC contractors, the BUF Ventilation Improvement Project (V.I.P.) proposes to:

- Upgrade air filtration to meet post-Covid guidelines and best practice
- Increase the circulation of fresh air
- Reduce stratification and stagnation of air in the sanctuary
- Implement programmable, centralized control of air handling.

Jim Reimer (Building and Grounds) has met with five HVAC contractors this past year and three of them submitted proposals. The bid being considered is from Feller Heating & Air Conditioning for \$27,825.

BUF's Bylaws require that you approve this expenditure because it exceeds \$10,000. A special Congregational Meeting to vote on this proposal will be held on **July 18, 2021** via Zoom. Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/96908526347> Meeting ID: 969 0852 6347
Passcode: BUF

The project has been endorsed by BUF's Financial Oversight Committee and the COVID task force.

The Board of Trustees passed this three part motion at its recent meeting:

1. To call a special Congregational Meeting on **July 18, 2021** to consider the BUF Ventilation Improvement Project
2. The cost of the project is not to exceed \$38,000
3. The project will be funded from BUF's Building Account and, should the Account be exhausted, then from the Building Maintenance Reserve.

Please attend the Congregational Meeting and vote on this proposal. Our goal is to improve BUF's air quality in advance of the return to in-person services this fall.

Want to know more? The detailed proposal will be sent to BUF members this week. On July 11, after church, (see Zoom link above), a question and answer session will be held. In the meantime, feel free to contact us. Jim Reimer (Building and Grounds) (jdreimer@comcast.net), Sky Hedman (Treasurer) (treasurer@buf.org)

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Repairs underway from 2021 Freeze Damage In February BUF had some significant damage from a burst water pipe. Water caused significant damage to the elevator shaft, both restrooms off the social hall and the flooring in the social hall.

Gary's Plumbing handled the pipe fix right away and 911 Dry LLC came in to deal with the water damage. Insurance covered the remediation and we are finally starting the repair phase. This will involve new drywall for ceiling damage, paint, trim and flooring replacement. The damage to the social hall floor was relatively small, confined to the elevator hallway. The entire social hall floor will be thoroughly cleaned and polished as part of the scope of work. This phase of work has also been approved and paid for through insurance.

The social hall, downstairs bathrooms, kitchen and library are part of the construction area and not available for meeting or events at this time.

Repair is expected to take 3-4 weeks but may be extended, based on the availability of materials (especially ceramic tile and bamboo flooring.)

Summer Small Group Rentals At BUF

We have limited space available for small groups (15 or fewer), due to the capital projects underway. This applies to BUF groups or outside applications for space rentals. Available space includes space at the back or front of the Sanctuary main room, narthex and entry and after July 5th, the flex room upstairs. Users of BUF space must comply with BUF Covid requirements as follows: **Fully vaccinated, complete required sign-in (includes self-check health waiver, declaration of vaccinated status and acknowledgment of personal liability). If some attendees are not fully vaccinated must sign in as above and remain fully masked and socially distanced while in the building. If all are vaccinated, distancing and masks are not required. The main bathrooms on admin level may be used (one person at a time.) The elevator is out of service and there is no access to the downstairs social hall or kitchen, as these areas are under repair. To reserve or apply, call main number 360 733-3837 Mon-Fri from 10am to 3pm or email admin@buf.org.

Dancing At the Leo – B'ham Hop



When: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Tuesday July 6, 2021

Where: Hotel Leo Crystal Ballroom

1224 Cornwall Avenue

Students, Seniors, Trumpet pin holders: \$8.00

General Admission: \$10.00

Vaccination card required for entry

Open to all ages and skill levels

Beginner friendly lessons at the beginning of each event.

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Every Tuesday throughout the summer you can swing dance in an environment that is safe and celebratory. Churches and youth groups are invited to this fun social event to build community, and interact with diverse populations. Vaccination and Masking policy is uncompromising. The Facebook event is [here](#), and the page for all B'ham Hop activities is [here](#). Our Instagram is [@bhamhop](#).

"I've organized swing dance events for years in Bellingham, and now that Washington is slowly reopening, I'm excited at the possibility of reknitting our community together." – Damian Cade, B'ham Hop

Questions? Please contact Damian Cade, 360-303-3306 or [bhamhop.com](#).

Modifications to Mid-Week Update

We are remodeling . . . the MWU. Please take a moment to read our new guidelines for submitting content over the summer:

Word document, single space, Georgia 12 font. Please avoid extra formatting, bullets, etc. Limit 200 words. If you have an item for the calendar please put "Calendar" in the subject line of your email; if you are seeking Volunteers, please put "Volunteer" in the subject line. Submittals may be edited for space and clarity. You may still submit your "Surfing the Web for Music and Inspiration" as before. You will find selections sprinkled throughout the MWU. Happy Reading!

Our goal is to increase readability and simplify the process so volunteers can easily step in as needed. Submit your content to MWU@buf.org

Summer Publishing Schedule for MWU

Content must be received by 10:00 a.m. Monday before publication day.

Publish on

Submit Content by 10 a.m.

July 14

July 12 .

July 28

July 26

Aug 11

Aug 9

Aug 25

Sept 8, resuming weekly publication thereafter. Content due as described above.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

VOLUNTEERS - Bring your Tool Belt

We are transforming a storage space into a meeting space! Having finally gotten the space cleaned out it is ready for a make over. Looking for handy types to wield a hammer, cut and fit baseboards, cut and fit plywood window covers and install white boards. One -day job, bring you own tools, though we can provide some. Call Jim Reimer at 360 927-3836 or leave a message at BUF 360 733-3837.

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MUSIC VOLUNTEERS - Sunday Service

Sunday services from **now through September 5** will originate from presenters' homes and will be broadcast over Zoom. **If you have something to offer for a summer service, musical or otherwise, that you can deliver in a pre-recorded format, or that you are able to perform live from your home over Zoom, please email your offering to Rev. Paul.**

Volunteers needed for Religious Education

Volunteers to help with pre-school, K-4 grade, and 5th-8th classes. If you enjoy children, being a part of a dedicated team, learning and teaching about what makes us Unitarian Universalists, art, drama or storytelling, then this is the place for you! Curriculum will be provided. Contact me at genia@BUF.com



Interfaith Coalition opportunities and needs

Childrens' Books in good condition (no rips, tears, writing, etc.) and no more than 5 years old (none of the old "classics" please.) Bilingual (Spanish and Russian, particularly), toddler board books, and graded readers are especially needed.

Just for Laughs – Submitted by Angie Lindquist

Viking Helmet Safety

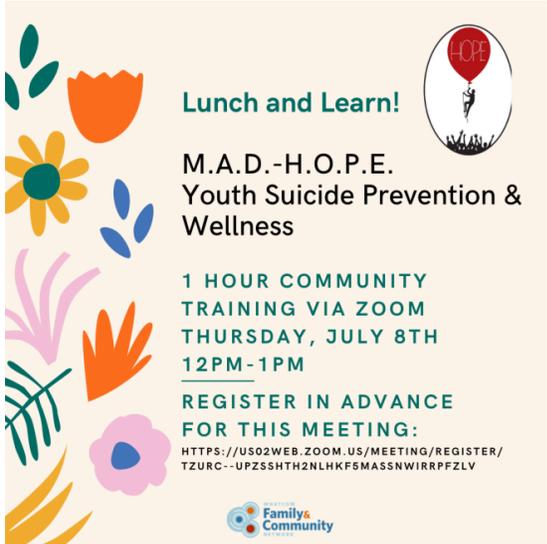
<https://boingboing.net/2021/06/08/danish-psa-for-wearing-bicycle-helmets-is-the-best-viking-movie-in-63-years.html?fbclid=IwAR21qY6ob7lO1CViG0TW50xFthHlLh3FK2G6N4bRz-mUzml0zWVQrmtZf4>

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BUF-SEJC Special Collection, June 2021: Whatcom Family and Community Network/MAD-HOPE – Sita Amba-Rao, BUF SEJC



Lunch and Learn!

M.A.D.-H.O.P.E.
Youth Suicide Prevention & Wellness

1 HOUR COMMUNITY
TRAINING VIA ZOOM
THURSDAY, JULY 8TH
12PM-1PM

REGISTER IN ADVANCE
FOR THIS MEETING:
[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/MEETING/REGISTER/
TZURC--UPZSSHT2NLHKF5MASSNWIRRPFLV](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/91012020000)



Please join us on **Thursday, July 8th from 12-1pm for a Lunch & Learn over Zoom** with M.A.D.-H.O.P.E. Youth Suicide Prevention and Wellness. This is a condensed version of the trainings we did in classrooms this year and will go over how to support your mental health and wellness, risk factors and warning signs to look for, how to break the stigma around mental health and open up the conversation with someone who is struggling, and resources including the importance of trusted adults. Open to adults and youth! Please register in advance over Zoom by clicking [here](#).

“When power of love overcomes the love of power the world will know peace.” MAD HOPE is that power of love.” Oliver Trulock, MAD HOPE Volunteer. “I wish the rest of the world was as talkative and educated about it (suicide awareness).” Sehome H.S. student trainee.

BUF SEJC Special Collection – JULY 2021: Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center – Jane Ronca Washburn

The Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center (WDRC) is the July recipient of Special Collections. Conflict happens every day, and WDRC accomplishes their Mission to provide and promote constructive and collaborative approaches to conflict through the work of their staff and volunteers.

A part of the collection will expand the training scholarship fund, providing future trainees with the opportunity to:

Run a workshop Understanding Conflict for Kids and hear a child say, “It provided me with many ideas, including how to cool down when I get upset;” help neighbors resolve a dispute; help friends agree on an outstanding debt, supervise one of 409 hours of virtual Supervised Visitation between non-custodial parents and their children; facilitate



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communication between community members and the City of Bellingham, solving a problem of noisy leaf-blowing to neighbor's relief.

Additional programs at WDRC, including Cross Coalition Power, Race and Justice, Equity and Cultural Humility, and Creating Spaces for Productive Conversations.

For Volunteer Opportunities with WDRC or more information whatcomdrc.org or phone 360-676-0122.

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UPCOMING EVENTS / CALENDAR		
DATE	TIME	EVENT
July 1	5:30 – 7:00 p.m.	BUF Covenant of Beloved Community Forum. Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/94055724755?pwd=RHZrT28zcmx0a3k3eHFMNmK4THE4QT09 Meeting ID: 940 5572 4755 Passcode: BUF
July 5	6:00- 7:00 p.m.	BUF Black Lives Matters Monthly Business Meeting Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/96292952504
July 5	7:00 p.m.	Taize Via Zoom or in Person Contact BUF Admin to reserve a spot: Email Admin@BUF.org
July 6	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	B'Ham Hop – Dance Bellingham Hotel Leo Crystal Ballroom, 1224 Cornwall Ave. More info - Damian Cade 360-303-3306
July 8	12:00- 1:00 p.m.	Lunch & Learn over Zoom with M.A.D.-H.O.P.E. Youth Suicide Prevention and Wellness. Please register in advance by clicking here .
July 11	8:30 a.m.	Widening the Circle – for information contact Genia@buf.org
July 11	11:30	Ventilation Project Q & A – after church, Zoom. Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/96908526347 Meeting ID: 969 0852 6347 Passcode: BUF
July 12	7:00 -	Black Lives Matter – Program Meeting Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/96917727292?pwd=TWViVldQNDBnLzVwLldNWUZDckFHZzo9 Meeting ID: 969 1772 7292 Passcode: BUF
July 18		Congregation Special Meeting and Vote on Ventilation Improvement Project Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/96908526347 Meeting ID: 969 0852 6347 Passcode: BUF
Aug 2	6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	BUF Black Lives Matters Monthly Business Meeting Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/96292952504
Aug 9		Family Promise -Week of Service contact: ann.v.stevenson@gmail.com
Aug 9	7:00 p.m.	Black Lives Matter – Program Meeting Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/96917727292?pwd=TWViVldQNDBnLzVwLldNWUZDckFHZzo9 Meeting ID: 969 1772 7292 Passcode: BUF

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Aug 14-18		Creative Arts Eliot Contact: Barbara Ten Hove: revbabs10@gmail.com
Sep 6	6:00 – 7:00 p.m.	BUF Black Lives Matters Monthly Business Meeting Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/96292952504



Traditional Charities at BUF

Traditional charities are an important contribution in meeting the economic justice challenges of our time and place here in Whatcom County. They also offer BUF the opportunity to participate in meeting these needs as a member in the Whatcom interfaith community. Local charities like Humanitas offers financial support for immediate needs, Lummi Food Bank provides food and personal items and Family Promise works to meet housing needs. Consider contributing today. Monthly donations can be set up automatically by EFT. Contact BUF's administrator for more info.

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BUF Mission

We the members of the Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship (BUF) are a liberal religious community which values the diversity of individuals and affirms Unitarian Universalist principles. As a community we aspire to provide a creative and nurturing environment where social, spiritual and personal development are encouraged and acknowledged. Therefore, we celebrate in ritual, music, art literature and humor; and we endeavor to teach, to learn, and to serve both our community and the world.



BUF's website is BUF.org. Contact us by email at admin@buf.org Phone 360-733-3837.

Sign up for our online newsletter, the Midweek Update at <https://wp.buf.org/news/communication-sign-ups/> Sign up for BUF News Digest at <https://wp.buf.org/news/communication-sign-ups/> (photo by Carol Sheppard Photography)

BUF Board of Trustees and Officers

Murray Bennett, President • Bharti Kirchner, Vice President • John Stewart, Secretary, Sky Hedman, Treasurer, ex officio, • Melissa E. Swift, Trustee • David Curley, Trustee • Rod Haynes, Trustee • Debbie Boots, Trustee • Sarah Pearson, Trustee • Henry Ohana, Trustee • Rev. Paul Beckel, ex officio

Spring Office Hours at BUF

Building Closed till further notice due to Covid-19 Emergency

Phone messages and emails checked regularly

Minister's Schedule
Tuesday through Friday