

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship ~ BUF.org

Community, Compassion, Commitment

July 28, 2021

Highlights - In this issue

(CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW TO JUMP TO THAT CONTENT, OR CONTINUE SCROLLING)

[Taize](#)

[Sunday Look Ahead](#)

[Anti Racism Moment](#)

[\(NEW\) Around BUF](#)

[Volunteer](#)

[SEJC Special Collection](#)

[Calendar](#)

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

<https://zoom.us/j/738363620> Passcode is **BUF**
Phone: (669) 900-6833

Sunday, August 8, 10:30 a.m.

**Flower Communion from Prague,
with Jim and Lucie Carlson**



Join us for this special summer service in the large picnic shelter in beautiful **Whatcom Falls Park**. Jim and Lucie, who live with their family in Prague, will share the music and traditions of the Prague Unitarian congregation, where flower communion was first held.

Please bring a floral bouquet from your garden in a vase for table decorations during the service. Afterwards, you may take the bouquet home, or give it to someone at the service.

Jim and Lucie Carlson are a violin-accordion duo living in Prague who perform an eclectic mix of classical, early 20th-century popular and folk musical styles that transport their listeners to such exotic places as a French café, an opera scene, a Celtic dance or a Jewish wedding. While both are classically trained musicians and composers, they formed their duo because they wanted to make music that was free from the boundaries of the concert hall. Whether playing on stage, in a café or on the streets of Prague, they impress their listeners with the expressiveness of their playing, their original compositions and the surprising beauty of sound that their instruments make when combined. Come hear something out of the ordinary, music that is evocative, heartfelt and fun!

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Community, Compassion, Commitment

July 28, 2021

Results of Congregational Meeting and HVAC Expenditure

A Message from the Board of Trustees – Bharti Kirchner and Sky Hedren

Thank you for your participation in the Congregational meeting. We had 87 members participate in the special vote on HVAC upgrade. Members voted 83 to 4 to endorse the project. The HVAC contractor, Feller, will submit the permit application to the city this week. Once received, Jim Reimer will work with Feller on the scope of the project. After the details have been worked out, BUF will get a more accurate timeline for completion from Feller. The work on the sanctuary will be prioritized. Feller estimated completion in October or November.

New Zoom Link for Black Lives Matter

The next Black Lives Matter (BLM) business/planning meeting will be held on Aug 2 at 6:00 pm. Please see the Calendar for the new Zoom link.

The next BLM program meeting will be August 9, discussing the fourth part of the Netflix series on the 14th Amendment. It's called "Control" about how the 14th Amendment affected the women's movement. Please see the Calendar for the Zoom link.

Sunday Aug 1, 2021

Celebrate *Lammas* this Sunday with Lizz Roberts. Lammas, or "loaf-mass," is one of the eight major holidays in the Wiccan calendar and is the first of three harvest festivals. And since we're talking about harvests, have something tasty on hand that you can eat during the service; your favorite muffin, a piece of cornbread, toast and jam, whatever works for you. We'll break bread together and share what we're ready to harvest this season.

Sunday Services in 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.

August 1	Lammas – Lizz Roberts
Aug 8	Flower Communion – Whatcom Falls Park
Aug 15 Haynes	Summer Camp Revisited – Rod
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 –

Si Dolce el Tormento (So sweet is the Torment), composed by Claudio Monteverdi in 1624. Sung by Rhianna Giddens in 2021 – Submitted by Patricia

<https://youtu.be/U8-yGWYH61A>

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship ~ BUF.org

Community, Compassion, Commitment

July 28, 2021

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 via zoom for over a year but recently BUF's COVID-19 Task Force announced up to 30 people can gather in the sanctuary for the service.



If you feel ready to attend Taizé in person, here are the guidelines:

- > Wear a mask while singing
- > Be fully vaccinated
- > Sign a waiver when you enter the building
- > Call the office (Mon-Friday between 10am and 2pm) to reserve the space OR Email Admin@BUF.org. You will receive an email confirmation about your reservation.

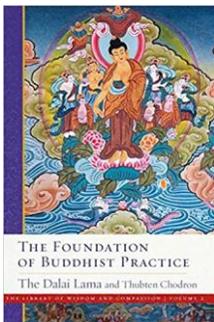
Summer Dates for Taize
August 2 & 30
(No service on Labor Day 9/6/2021)

In addition to this in-person opportunity, we will continue to offer monthly Taizé service via zoom. Not everyone is ready to return to in-person services and we also

know our Taizé service is international in its scope and not everyone lives in Bellingham, so we want to keep it accessible for all who wish to be part of it.

We look forward to being with you in the ways you're most comfortable being with us.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email Rev. Tessie at Tessie@BUF.org



Understanding Buddhism

We invite you to join us in a hour-long Zoom meeting, reading, discussing, and increasing our understanding of Buddhism. No previous knowledge is necessary but a sincere interest and determination to study the book, *The Foundation of Buddhist Practice* by the Dalai

Lama and Thubten Chodron. We will meet

Study group meeting via Zoom
Tuesday at Noon beginning Aug 10

August 10—each Tuesday at 12 noon.

If you are interested in reading this book or participating in the discussion, please contact Debu Majumdar at Debumeister@gmail.com.

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship ~ BUF.org

Community, Compassion, Commitment

July 28, 2021

Anti Racism Moment 7/17/21 - Sarah Pearson

Critical Race Theory, is a framework used in academia through which race and racism are viewed as embedded in U.S. Laws and Policies and it has become the new boogeyman of the right. It is being used as a catch-all term to describe what are **actually** diversity and anti-racism initiatives in K - 12 schools, many begun in response to George Floyd's murder.

Parents from Virginia to Texas, from Connecticut to Missouri, have overwhelmed PTA meetings and challenged school boards and educators with fury over their teaching of "critical race theory". These mostly white parents are reacting to addressing racism, through education.

This reactionary parent movement is having **real** consequences: 5 states have passed laws that limit how teachers can address "divisive" concepts, like racism; 22 states

have proposals on the table that would limit how schools can talk about race. Rydell Harrison, who is black, was hired as superintendent of Connecticut schools after the murder of George Floyd was tasked with addressing racial inequity. But as the "critical race theory" protests bloomed this year, he was one of many educators relentlessly targeted by parents and community, causing him to resign in June.

Brittany Hogan, a black woman recently hired as a diversity coordinator in Rockwood, Missouri felt she had no choice but to resign after being violently threatened by local and national figures.

What can we do so that the grassroots movement of Black Lives Matter can continue to gain ground rather than lose it?

We are facing an intense backlash against an equity movement that was making great strides a year ago. Why? Is backlash of the proportion we are seeing inevitable?

A Piece of Web Surfing

INSPIRATION –

Casals Song of the Birds, Lynn Harrell, Cello – Submitted by Jayme Curley

<https://youtu.be/REXCqJ8G4IE>

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship ~ BUF.org

Community, Compassion, Commitment

July 28, 2021

Around BUF - Bits and Pieces



On July 1, **Marion Beddill** celebrated her 85th birthday with many friends from BUF. Happy Birthday Marion!

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You will notice when you next come to BUF, a new Black Lives Matter banner. Thank you to all who made it happen

including **Judy Kasper** and **Jim Reimer** and the whole BLM team!



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On July 10, BUF member **Jean Bailey Lehman** died in Bellingham at the age of 83. A memorial will be held on July 28. In lieu of flowers donations may be sent to ARC of Lancaster County (thearcclanclub.org) or to Strictly Functional Pottery <http://strictlyfunctionalpottery.net/>

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On July 9, a terrible accident severely injured **Kim Eagle**, a self employed landscaper, resulting in the loss of both her legs, factured pelvis and internal injuries. Known around the BUF community, a A Go-Fund-Me has been set up to assist with hospital bills and a long recovery.

[Kim Eagle Devastating Accident Aid](#)

Letters from Magyarszovat

(Reka Zolten corresponds with Kato and Tamas at our sister church in Magyarszovat)

Thank you for the letter and photos. The photos were very interesting [of the Lummi Totem Pole journey]. We both got vaccinated. We had too much rain so gardening is delayed. The treasure hunt was last year. Unfortunately we weren't given photos of the excavations. This will continue this summer via support from Hungarian government. Unfortunately we have very few children here now and the kindergarten class will not resume. Unfortunately teaching hungarian will also end. My teaching position will also end before retirement. We wish you the best, Kato and Tamas

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship ~ BUF.org

Community, Compassion, Commitment

July 28, 2021

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.

Aug 11

Aug 9

Aug 25

Aug 22

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

Modifications to Mid-Week Update

We are remodeling . . . the MWU. Our goal is to increase readability and simplify the process so volunteers can easily step in as needed. Please take a moment to read our guidelines for submitting content:

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. Submit your content to MWU@buf.org You may still submit your "Surfing the Web for Music and Inspiration" as before. You will find selections sprinkled throughout the MWU. Happy Reading!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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.org

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 - 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.

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship ~ BUF.org

Community, Compassion, Commitment

July 28, 2021

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

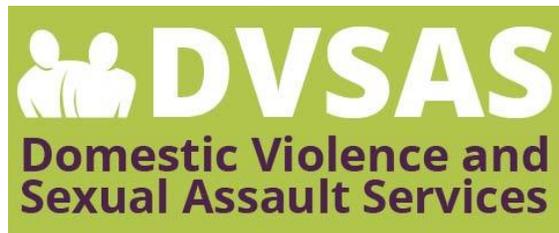
The Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center (WDRC) is the July recipient of Special Collections. Conflict happens every day, and WDRC accomplishes their Mission to provide and promote constructive and collaborative approaches to conflict through the work of their staff and volunteers.



A part of the collection will expand the training scholarship fund.

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

BUF SEJC Special Collection – August 2021: Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services – Jane Ronca Washburn



The Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services (DVSAS) advocates for, educates and assists victims. Domestic violence is a pattern of behavior used by an individual to establish and maintain control over an intimate partner. Is the victim at fault? No. Because some

victims are unsure about what qualifies as domestic violence, the DVSAS website - DVSAS.org - gives many scenarios that help to define it.

Some DVSAS Programming includes Preventive Education for high school students, Shelter and

Rehabilitation for singles, families and pets and support groups for women, men, LGBTQ+ survivors, incarcerated survivors and teens.

DVSAS wishes to make their staff, board and leadership more reflective of the varied composition of the clients that they serve, they ask for funds from BUF for equity training.

"I came to the shelter feeling broken and afraid. I leave knowing how capable and strong I am. I will be forever grateful."

DVSAS is proud that 88.05% of expenses go to their programming and services.

Information and Support is through the website and 24-hour help line, 1-360-715-1563.

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship ~ BUF.org

Community, Compassion, Commitment

July 28, 2021

UPCOMING EVENTS / CALENDAR		
DATE	TIME	EVENT
Aug 2	7:00 p.m.	Taize – In Person or Zoom Call Admin at BUF to reserve a seat.
Aug 2	6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	BUF Black Lives Matters Monthly Business Meeting https://zoom.us/j/96292952504 Meeting ID: 962 9295 2504 Passcode: BUF
Aug 8	10:30	Flower Communion Service – Whatcom Falls Park And usual Zoom channel
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=TWViVldQNDBnLzVwLldNWUZDckFHZz09 Meeting ID: 969 1772 7292 Passcode: BUF
Aug 10	Noon	Understanding Buddhism Study Group – contact Debu at Debumeister@gmail.com .
Aug 14-18		Creative Arts Eliot Contact: Barbara Ten Hove: revbabs10@gmail.com
Aug 22	8:30 a.m.	Widening the Circle via Zoom Contact Genia at genia@buf.org
Aug 30	7:00 p.m.	Taize – In Person or Zoom Call Admin at BUF to reserve a seat.
Sep 6	6:00 – 7:00 p.m.	BUF Black Lives Matters Monthly Business Meeting Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/96292952504
Oct 4	6:00 – 7:00 p.m.	BUF Black Lives Matters Monthly Business Meeting https://zoom.us/j/96292952504 Meeting ID: 962 9295 2504 Passcode: BUF

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship ~ BUF.org

Community, Compassion, Commitment

July 28, 2021

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

Bharti Kirchner, President - John Stewart, Secretary - Sky Hedman, Treasurer, ex officio, - Melissa E. Swift, Trustee - Daria Haynes, Trustee - Drew Betz, Vice President - Alex Gilman, Trustee - Sarah Pearson, Trustee - Lew Phinney, 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