

# Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship ~ BUF.org

*Community, Compassion, Commitment*

July 14, 2021

## Highlights - In this issue

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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

**Congregational Meeting**  
**Sunday July 18, 2021, 12 noon via ZOOM**

## A Message from the Board of Trustees – Bharti Kirchner

All members are kindly requested to attend this special Congregational Meeting.

**Primary Business:** We will ask for your approval of the expenditure of up to **\$38,000** (from our reserve funds) to upgrade the ventilation system of the BUF building.

**Rules of Order and Use of Zoom:** We'll follow Robert's Rules of Order, with a slight change made to accommodate Zoom. Instead of permitting a commentator to express themselves for 10 minutes, we'll allow each commentator to speak for 2 minutes only.

Please type in your full name in the Chat box upon your arrival. Please do not use the Chat box for any other purpose during this initial phase.

**Voting:** Voting will be conducted via an electronic ballot. (Or by phone for those who do not have internet access.) At the conclusion of the meeting, you will be given a link to the ballot via the Chat box (to be also available on [www.buf.org](http://www.buf.org)). Voting will be permitted only during a two-hour window following the meeting adjournment.

Absentee voting is not permitted, as per our bylaws.

### ZOOM LINK

<https://zoom.us/j/96908526347>

Passcode: BUF

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 969 0852 6347

Passcode: 178568

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**Sunday July 18, 2021**

## **Lessons from Dad**

Jeff Copeland spent 55 years with a man who was considered a little off-kilter by his own first family. Lawrence Copeland's unbounded enthusiasm and sense of humor shaped his life and the lives of many around him. His children absorbed some of that strange view of life, and forged their own, disparate paths because of it. Jeff will share some of the things he learned from the man who spawned him.

## **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 18	Lessons from Dad – Jeff Copeland
July 25	Rising from the Ashes – Rod Haynes
August 1	Lammas – Liz 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

## **Special Summer Outdoor Service**

**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.

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*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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## 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](mailto: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](mailto:Tessie@BUF.org)

## Welcome New Board Members!

A warm welcome to our new board members, Drew Betz, Alex Gilman and Daria Haynes. Board terms are for three years and we look forward to their service. Thanks to continuing board members Debbie Boots, Henry Ohana, John Stewart, Sarah Pearson, Melissa Swift and Bharti Kirchner (new President).

Many thanks to outgoing board members Murray Bennett (former President), David Curley and Rod Haynes.

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## Delegate Report – 2021 UUA General Assembly – Cat McIntyre

**Ware Lectures.** Speakers, Stacey Abrams from Georgia, and Desmond Mead from Florida, warned about attempts to suppress voting. Mr. Mead, denied his right to vote for many years because he had been in jail, said “What matters most is that everyone has an opportunity to participate in our democracy...to legitimize their existence and their humanity.”

Other BUF delegates to UUA General Assembly include: Rick Steele and Lew Phinney

In General Sessions, I voted in favor of all three of the following:

**Responsive Resolution #1:** Article II Commission will “ensure proposed changes to Article II 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 a Unitarian Universalist.” This resolution passed with 91 percent in favor

**Responsive Resolution #2:** UUA Common Endowment Fund should divest from fossil fuels, pipelines, and institutions that invest in them, and involve young adults in related discussions. A young adult sweltering in 114 degree Portland, pleaded for UUA to address climate change. The resolution passed with 80 percent in favor.

**The UUA Statement of Conscience,** affirming UU commitment to undoing systemic white supremacy, passed with 90 percent in favor.

**Next year, Portland, Oregon!**

A Piece of Web Surfing

**INSPIRATION –**

Beethoven’s 5<sup>th</sup>. Body Percussion – Submitted by Pam Ives

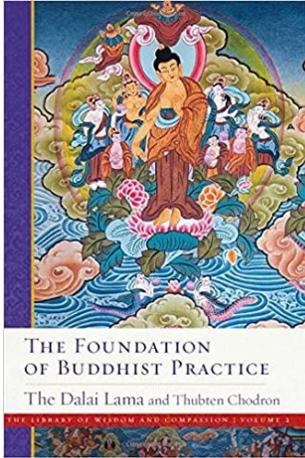
<https://www.facebook.com/ClassicFM/videos/487896679146724/?extid=SEO---->

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## Understanding Buddhism



The essence of Buddhism is contained in four Noble Truths and the Eight-Fold Path, but grasping what the Buddha taught us is not trivial. 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 August 10—each Tuesday at 12 noon.

The principal message of the Dalai Lama is that we must look inside ourselves for happiness and peace by, examining our attitudes and emotions. The Buddha said: *All phenomena are controlled by one phenomenon, mind.* The Dalai Lama said,

“Many people are eager to meditate, which is commendable; but without proper study, they run the risk of going astray.

Study group meeting via Zoom  
Tuesday at Noon beginning Aug 10

The book deals with more theory than simply giving you a mantra to chant. After initial chapters describing the basics of Buddhism, it discusses spiritual mentors, how to structure a meditation session, and karmic actions which must be with wholesome intentions.

We welcome you and promise to share what we have learned. In the meantime, please consider the idea that ignorance, the cause of our dukkha, is not a mere lack of knowledge; it is a distorted apprehension that grasps as existing what doesn't exist.

If you are interested in reading this book or participating in the discussion, please contact Debu Majumdar at [Debumeister@gmail.com](mailto:Debumeister@gmail.com).

### 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](mailto: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!

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## 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 28

July 26

Aug 11

Aug 9

Aug 25

Aug 22

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.

### **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-8<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:genia@BUF.org)

**Volunteers** needed for making and or serving sandwiches downtown through the CAST program under **Interfaith Coalition**. This is one way to support our community and the unhoused. If you are interested, contact the Interfaith Coalition. They are trying to set up a Friday serving time but need a large team of 35 people, so that you may only need to volunteer once a month. Ann Stevenson

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## **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.

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](http://whatcomdrc.org) or phone 360-676-0122.



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UPCOMING EVENTS / CALENDAR		
DATE	TIME	EVENT
July 18		<b>Congregation Special Meeting and Vote on Ventilation Improvement Project</b> Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://zoom.us/j/96908526347">https://zoom.us/j/96908526347</a> Meeting ID: 969 0852 6347 Passcode: BUF
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 Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://zoom.us/j/96292952504">https://zoom.us/j/96292952504</a>
Aug 8	10:30	Flower Communion Service – Whatcom Falls Park
Aug 9		Family Promise -Week of Service contact: <a href="mailto:ann.v.stevenson@gmail.com">ann.v.stevenson@gmail.com</a>
Aug 9	7:00 p.m.	Black Lives Matter – Program Meeting Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://zoom.us/j/96917727292?pwd=TWViVldQNDBnLzVwLldNWUZDckFHZzo9">https://zoom.us/j/96917727292?pwd=TWViVldQNDBnLzVwLldNWUZDckFHZzo9</a>  Meeting ID: 969 1772 7292 Passcode: BUF
Aug 10	Noon	Understanding Buddhism Study Group – contact Debu at <a href="mailto:Debumeister@gmail.com">Debumeister@gmail.com</a> .
Aug 14-18		Creative Arts Eliot Contact: Barbara Ten Hove: <a href="mailto:revbabs10@gmail.com">revbabs10@gmail.com</a>
Aug 22	8:30 a.m.	Widening the Circle via Zoom Contact Genia at <a href="mailto:genia@buf.org">genia@buf.org</a>
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 <a href="https://zoom.us/j/96292952504">https://zoom.us/j/96292952504</a>

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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](mailto: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