

It's a New Dawn, a New Day

By Rick Steele (Vlad)



I was out for a pre-dawn walk when I heard the birds singing their sweet melodies rejoicing in the new day. In the aftermath of the receding pandemic, and in honor of Black History Month I am reminded of the song, "Feeling Good" by Nina Simone. She sings, "It's a New Dawn, It's a New Day, It's a New Life for Me and I'm Feeling Good".

With so much suffering going on in the world, it is so easy to lose focus on the beauty of our world. And so much of the good work being done in and through BUF can escape our notice. But have no doubt - our positive energy is growing!

- Our Black Lives Matter team is increasingly active and effective.
- Bringing speakers to enlighten and inspire us such as retired Professors David Curley and Damani Johnson.



- Connecting throughout our greater community
- Holding workshops to make us more aware of our biases and help us to challenge racism in our hearts, our actions and our community

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Live & Streaming Taizé



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It's a New Dawn

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship

Spring 2023

- Our Whole Lives (OWL) is experiencing a resurgence: the current programs have the most participants we have ever had.
- Children are coming back to services! Will the kids choir be next?
- Live & Streaming Taizé Continues!
- The new Refugee Settlement program has been very successful in bringing two Syrian families to our community, and helping them navigate the systems here as they begin their new lives.
- The BUF choirs continue to grow, providing us with very inspiring and entertaining music.



- Humanitas continues to regularly and impactfully support those in our community with urgent needs and connecting with other faith communities to accomplish this.
- And what a great response to our annual auction earlier this month!

All of this growing energy after our necessary downtime response to the pandemic makes me think of our current springtime. We are like a sleeping bear awakening after a long winter hibernation and now are hungry for some sustenance! And we can accomplish so much more together than by ourselves.

Nina Simone finishes “Feeling Good” with “And this old world is a new world and a bold world, for me”. The time is now for letting our values continue to shine and blossom through our work together. **Let’s be bold.**

BUF Humanitas Volunteers



Part of my decision about giving to my congregation relates to honoring the people and events that have established it and furthered the mission before me. My giving also helps to ensure that the congregation is there long after I am gone, for people I will never meet and children who have yet to be born. Between honoring the past and preparing for the future, my gifts warrant the vitality of the programs and activities we implement today- which accord intimately with my own values. In this way, my congregation creates a broader vehicle for making a difference in the world than I could make myself.

-- From: “The Generosity Path” by Mark V. Ewert

HOW STRANGE THAT THE NATURE OF LIFE IS CHANGE, yet the nature of human beings is to resist change. And how ironic that the difficult times we fear might ruin us are the very ones that can break us open and help us blossom into who we were meant to be.

Broken Open
Elizabeth Lesser

BUF 2023 Auction All UU Need is Love

