

# Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship

Community, Compassion, Commitment

April 26, 2023

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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

## Words from Paul

### Ways of Seeing

This past Sunday, Sati Mookherjee spoke not just about the power of seeing, but the variety of forms of seeing—even, she noted, with eyes closed, as with the Hindu concept of the third eye. This led me to think about the many ways (I hope) that BUFsters and visitors have to see/hear/experience the varieties of richness that BUF has to offer the world. Both sensory and experientially.

In the most everyday sensory-sense, BUF staff and volunteers are conscious of, and continuing to improve upon, visual and auditory accessibility. Beyond our walls, tho, I want to make sure that you know, and share with others, that even Not Seeing, but just Listening to Sunday or Taize services online, I've been told, can provide a means of real connection. Whether that's listening on your earbuds, live on zoom, while walking the dog, or listening in the car to recordings on YouTube. You can also access BUF Taize and Sunday services recordings using your TV. Just open your TV's YouTube app and search (using the keyboard or your voice) for Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship. The services come up immediately, so you can sing along to Circle Round for Freedom, or Winds Be Still, while making dinner.

However, wherever, whenever we re-connect, may it invigorate our senses, kindle our curiosity, and open us to encounters with the indescribable.

Peace,  
Paul

## SUNDAY SERVICES – APRIL 2023

### April 30, 2023

Epiphanies: Encounters with the Sacred – Rev Paul Beckel and Others

As BUFsters share their personal spiritual experiences of connection to nature, the holy, the ineffable, their calling, et cetera, may you, too, open yourself to the unknown.

## TAISÉ Service

May 1<sup>st</sup>. 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. at BUF or on Zoom

### The Landscapes of Our Lives: Ocean



At this month's service we'll begin a series on *The Landscapes of Our Lives*. Each month we'll create the altar and choose the chants that help us deepen into a particular landscape. On May 1<sup>st</sup>, our focus will be on **Ocean**.

BUF member, Pam Graham, created this service and she plans to share a beautiful reflection she wrote. The candle-lit altar will be beautiful in blue and dotted with shells and sand.

We'd love to have you join us either in person or via zoom for our monthly service. If you join us in person, we strongly encourage wearing masks.

Here's the Taizé link:

<https://zoom.us/j/753181200>

Meeting ID: 753 181 200

Passcode: BUF

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

[Tessie@BUF.org](mailto:Tessie@BUF.org)

## Lunch With Paul

### SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

## Anti-racism Training Enrollment

April 27<sup>th</sup> and May 4<sup>th</sup>. 6:30-8:30 p.m. via Zoom. There is still time to join the Olympia UU Congregation in an anti-racism training class. Instruction will focus on the call and the practice of multicultural competency in our personal and congregational lives. Class materials will include portions of the UUA *Building-the-World-We-Dream-About* curriculum. Rev. Sara Lewis and Tiffany Felch will facilitate these Thursday sessions.

### Register for Zoom April 27<sup>th</sup> and May 4<sup>th</sup> at:

<https://onrealm.org/OUUC/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=YjA4YzU4NDMtZTY2NSooMTZhLWJjY2YtYWZjYzAwZDkoYzcy>

Every Tuesday at noon we have Lunch with Paul! Bring your own lunch and join us in the Social Hall.

## Newcomers Lunch

May 13. 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at BUF

If you're a visitor or newcomer who would like to find out more about Unitarian Universalism and the Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship, here's an opportunity to do that and make a few friends. Please join us for the **Pathways and Pizza** session on Saturday at BUF. Lunch will be provided. To reserve your spot please contact Felice Davis: (253) 307-8981 or [fdavis1944@gmail.com](mailto:fdavis1944@gmail.com)

## Art in the BUF Narthex

Artist Trisha Coggins' photography exhibit "The Gates of Central Park," will be on display in our narthex through May 1<sup>st</sup>. Trisha plans to be at BUF this Sunday, April 30, to speak with Bufsters and answer any questions.

The next exhibit will be installed on Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. We appreciate the services of our volunteer Narthex Art curator, Jax Mildner, in arranging for exhibits at BUF!

### **SEJC Business meeting**

**April 30. 12-2 p.m.** In the conference room or by Zoom. During the business meeting, we will be planning for a new structure and a new way of operating at BUF. We would love your feedback if you can attend. Bring a sack lunch.

All are invited to attend at BUF or by Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/97265181170>

Passcode: BUF

Yours in peaceful justice, Kara and all of SEJC

### **Indigenous Studies Symposium**

**May 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>** This event will be held at the Northwest Indian College Main Campus. Vine Deloria Jr. was a Standing Rock Sioux and an author, theologian, historian, and activist for Native American rights. His book *Custer Died for Your Sins: An Indian Manifesto* and *God is Red* is the theme of this annual symposium held on the Lummi Nation reservation. For more information and to register, go to: <https://www.nwic.edu/about-nwic/nwic-vine-deloria-jr-symposium>

### **May 25. 6:15 p.m.** BUF Sanctuary

BUF BLM will host a George Floyd memorial celebration and fundraiser on Thursday. It will begin with a film screening of Remy Styrk's Juneteenth video (a documentary that celebrates June 19<sup>th</sup>, the day Texans were emancipated by the 13<sup>th</sup> amendment).

This will be followed by conversation with some of the participants. We will then walk to Fouts Park for a candle light vigil by the George Floyd memorial bench. City Councilwoman Kristina Michelle Martin will emcee. A \$5 donation at the door is recommended. Funds will support a follow-up Juneteenth video. We need volunteers. Please contact Naomi Gary for details: [naomiwwgary@gmail.com](mailto:naomiwwgary@gmail.com)

### **SEJC Special Collections – April Lummi House of Tears Carvings**

#### **Lummi House of Tears Carvers – SEJC Special Collection Recipient for April 2023**

House of Tears Carvers, located on the Lummi Nation reservation, is led by Master Carver Se Sealth (Jewell Praying Wolf James) and his brother Sit ki kadem (Doug James). With the help of family and friends, the Carvers create Totem Poles of hope and healing that are gifted to communities in need. In the last 20 years, more than 15 totem poles have been carved and have journeyed throughout the United States and Canada.

Each Totem Pole is carved with traditional images representing either traditional stories or cultural messages that speak to the needs of the community receiving it. Each Totem Pole embarks on a journey, making Blessing stops in many communities along the way. This gives them the opportunity to imbue the Pole with their prayers and thoughts of shared grief, healing and hope.

Through the Carvers generosity and openness, BUF leaders, staff, members and friends have been an integral part of the Totem Pole Journeys since 2013. The poles are not commissioned. Nor are participants or recipient communities charged in any way. The labor and resources are covered through grants and donations only. The donations BUF contribute this month will help them continue their work.



### Humanitas Ministry

We've had many women come in telling us about how they had lost everything and were having to start over. This week it was a man. When he walked in, well-dressed, well-spoken, he looked no different than one of us. This time last year he was married, had two daughters, and worked in a high-paying job as an engineer. He lived in a large house and drove a new car. Within a year, he'd lost it all. It started with a divorce which took him into a severe depression. Because of his depression, he lost his job, house, car, and everything else, which put him out on the street. He explained he had a car in storage that he'd bought for his daughter. Now he needed help getting it out of storage so he could drive it to get a job. We gave him a pledge for part of the money he needed and sent him to get additional pledges from a network of churches that fulfill these needs. He's getting back on his feet and will hopefully continue to heal from his experiences of the past year.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Article II April Preparations

The UUA Article II Commission has published the procedures on what happens next with the proposed changes to Article II of the UUA By-Laws. Go here to get the latest national update, timing and limitations in the procedure:

[Article II Study Commission | UUA.org](https://www.uua.org/article-ii-study-commission)

The commission is obviously expecting many amendments and a lively discussion during the mini-assembly and during the business session at General Assembly. Either participating or watching will be quite interesting. If you're interested in being a delegate, thereby being able to directly affect the process, contact Lew Phinney: [lew@usa.net](mailto:lew@usa.net).

### Article II Conversation

The Article II Commission is looking forward to continued engagement with Unitarian Universalists about this important shift in our theology. Your voice matters!

Here's how you can contribute to the conversation:

**Read the Article II Commission Report** (pdf: <https://www.uua.org/files/2023-02/article-II-study-report-2021-23.pdf>)

**Watch the video of their presentation**

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zPQmvlMBUOg&feature=youtu.be>)!

**Watch the Article II Commission space!** Starting April 1, you can suggest amendment ideas here (<https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/article-ii-study-commission>). In May, discussion groups will be organized to craft the amendments. Check the webpage for more information and details!

### BUF Night In and Game Night Tonight!



Join our weekly supper in the Social Hall at 6:00 – everyone is welcome! Tonight, we offer up a variety of delicious soups from our frozen collection, including chicken quinoa, taco and lentil, along with our ever-popular garlic bread (with gluten free rolls too), Kale salad, and dessert– all for just \$5 a person, and kids under 12 free! After dinner stick around for some board games! We have childcare until 8:00.

## Women's Spring Retreat

**May 20. 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.** Come join us on Saturday at Semiahmoo to make new friends and deepen your relationship with old ones! Our theme is “Seeds of Intention”. We will have a mix of whole-group and small-group activities surrounding our theme, along with time for self-reflection and unscheduled fun! Prepare to be inspired, connect, and rejuvenate! BUF is providing childcare for children 15 months to 11 years at BUF, from 8:30 until 12:30. Register here, [registration](#), or copy and paste this address into your browser:

<https://buf.breezechms.com/form/buf.breezechms.com>



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**Genia Allen-Schmid, RE Director, [genia@buf.org](mailto:genia@buf.org)**

### CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

#### Sunday Morning



Our theme this month is *Resistance*. Sunday we explore “sticking with it” as a form of Resistance. Working for positive change in the world takes perseverance, and we have to resist giving up by sticking with it. We do not give up. We try and try! The lesson of the tortoise and the hare is a good one, and after reading that timeless tale we will have fun making book marks using sticky duct-tape and playing games with other things that stick.

Children will start in the sanctuary where we have a child-friendly space with pillows, low tables and chairs, drawing supplies, fidget boxes, and a front-row seat for the Story of All Ages. After the Story, we will head upstairs and have a one-room classroom for 1<sup>st</sup> graders on up. We'll share our joys and concerns followed by activities surrounding a weekly theme. Preschoolers will be in a separate room for fun, supervised playtime.

If you have any questions or concerns about our children's programming or want to volunteer, please contact me at [genia@BUF.org](mailto:genia@BUF.org).

### ADULT RE SURVEY RESULTS

#### Adult RE Survey Results

Thanks to all of you who took the time to fill out the recent Adult RE survey. We had a great response and our team is planning next year's offerings based on your feedback. Here are the results of the survey. The data and visual were put together by Patricia Conover and Jen Baptist. This week the link should work!!

[https://wp.buf.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Religious-Education-Survey-Results-March-2023\\_with-Charts\\_Final.pdf](https://wp.buf.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Religious-Education-Survey-Results-March-2023_with-Charts_Final.pdf)

## VOLUNTEERS – MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Volunteers are needed May 25 for the Black Lives Matter George Floyd Memorial event, starting in the BUF sanctuary at 6:15 p.m. and moving to Fouts Park. For details contact Naomi Gary at [naomiwwgary@gmail.com](mailto:naomiwwgary@gmail.com).

Our annual pledge drive is still underway and can always use fresh eyes and new volunteers. To get involved, contact the office at [admin@buf.org](mailto:admin@buf.org).

## BUF Keyboard Artist In The Moment



**May 5 and 6.** BUF pianist Andrea Rackl is giving a fully improvised concert with her friend and colleague Matt Rehfeldt! The concerts are organized by Bellingham House Concerts.

They will take place at BUF choir member Steve Lamm's house on the Lummi Peninsula. Come share the magic of music created in the moment in the intimate atmosphere of a living room. You'll be up close and personal for the action! Bellingham House Concerts tend to sell out early due to limited seating. Get more information and your tickets now at [BellinghamHouseConcerts.com](http://BellinghamHouseConcerts.com)

## MUSIC NEWS –

**KEVIN ALLEN-SCHMID, Music Director – [kevin@buf.org](mailto:kevin@buf.org)**

## BUF Choirs Take to the Road in April

**April 30.** 10:30 a.m. Vancouver, BC



The BUF Phoenix Ensemble will team up with the choir at North Shore Unitarian church (NSUC) in Vancouver, BC to provide that morning's Sunday service. Music Director Allison Nixon is planning a full music service together with BUF director Kevin.

## Orca Happy Hour

May 4, 5-7 p.m. Thursday, Crystal Ballroom, Bellingham

Members of the [Choir of the Salish Sea](#); Lummi violinist [Swil Kanim](#); artist [Jason LaClair](#); Sacred Sea President [Tah-Mahs Ellie Kinley](#); and the band SOUL\*DRIFT present social fun, art, stories, and songs to help Tokitae return home. This benefit for Sacred Sea will be in Hotel Leo's gorgeous Crystal Ballroom at 1224 Cornwall Avenue, Bellingham. No tickets or RSVP needed.



## Galbraith Mountain

May 19, 7:30pm, Friday, at BUF

May 20, 3pm, Saturday, Fairhaven Village Green



Choir of the Salish Sea presents a musical montage to a mountain bike and trail running mecca.

The driving rhythms and lofty harmonies of Bellingham's premiere tenor and bass choir reflect the energy and camaraderie of the mountain that brings the world to Bellingham. Songs include *Bicycle Race* by Queen, *White Winter Hymnal* by Fleet Foxes, *Here Comes the Sun* by the Beatles, and *Seven Bridges Road* by The Eagles. For more information and tickets visit [choirofthesalishsea.com](http://choirofthesalishsea.com)

## BUF Choice Finale

June 11, 10:25am

Chalice Choir and Phoenix Ensemble present their greatest hits from the 2023-2024 season in this Sunday morning grand finale service at BUF. The choirs have been focusing on developing vocal technique and expression this year and they are creating a joyful, vibrant and loving sound. Come immerse yourself in a morning of beauty and meaning with your fellow BUFsters in this spiritually engaging service.



### How to submit content for the Mid Week Update:

Content must be received on Monday by 10:00 a.m. Submit via email and include an attached Word document, single spaced, Georgia 12 font. Avoid any formatting, bullets, etc. Limit **200 words**. If you have an item for the calendar please put "Calendar"; 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)

### Streamline your Monthly Charitable Contributions through Electronic Funds Transfer

Would you like to make sure that you do not miss any of your monthly contributions? Set up an automatic electronic funds transfer (EFT) of your regular charitable donations. Kathy Wahto BUF administrator can assist you. If you would like to give more for a select organization, you can send an additional check just for those organizations. This system ensures that every organization gets the funds. Thank you so much for your generous gifts.

**Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship**

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/>

**BUF Board of Trustees and Officers 2022-2023**

Daria Haynes, President - Alex Gilman, Vice President - John Stewart, Secretary - Sky Hedman, Treasurer, ex officio, - Jim Reimer, Trustee - Drew Betz, Trustee - Sarah Pearson, Trustee - Lew Phinney, Trustee - Henry Ohana, Trustee - Rev. Paul Beckel, ex office



<b>BUF CALENDAR</b>		
<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
April 27, 2023	12:30 pm	Flowering Cherry Sangha, BUF Sanctuary, Contact: Cynthia at <a href="mailto:cynauman@gmail.com">cynauman@gmail.com</a>
May 1, 2023	7-8:00 pm	Taizé <a href="https://zoom.us/j/753181200">https://zoom.us/j/753181200</a> Meeting ID: 753 181 200 Passcode: BUF If you have any questions, please email Rev. Tessie at <a href="mailto:Tessie@BUF.org">Tessie@BUF.org</a>
May 3, 2023	---	The 2023 application deadline for non-traditional organizations to apply for 2024 Special Collections
May 4, 2023	12:30 pm	Flowering Cherry Sangha, BUF Sanctuary, Contact: Cynthia at <a href="mailto:cynauman@gmail.com">cynauman@gmail.com</a>
May 8, 2023	7:00 pm	Black Lives Matter business meeting, contact <a href="mailto:rupertayton@yahoo.com">rupertayton@yahoo.com</a> for details, <a href="https://zoom.us/j/96292952504">https://zoom.us/j/96292952504</a> Meeting ID: 962 9295 2504 Passcode: BUF. Note we may make this a hybrid in person and zoom meeting; details to follow.
May 11, 2023	12:30 pm	Flowering Cherry Sangha, BUF Sanctuary, Contact: Cynthia at <a href="mailto:cynauman@gmail.com">cynauman@gmail.com</a>
May 13, 2023	10 am-2:00 pm	Pathways and Pizza. Get acquainted Saturday with everyone new to BUF and the church. For details contact Felice Davis at 253 307-8981
May 15, 2023	7:00 pm	Black Lives Matter program meeting, subject or speaker TBA, contact <a href="mailto:rupertayton@yahoo.com">rupertayton@yahoo.com</a> for details, <a href="https://zoom.us/j/96292952504">https://zoom.us/j/96292952504</a> Meeting ID: 962 9295 2504 Passcode: BUF
May 18, 2023	12:30 pm	Flowering Cherry Sangha, BUF Sanctuary, Contact: Cynthia at <a href="mailto:cynauman@gmail.com">cynauman@gmail.com</a>
May 20, 2023	9:00 am -4:00 pm	Spring BUF Women's Retreat. Saturday at the Cannery Lodge at Semiahmoo in Blaine. More details coming soon.
May 22, 2023	7:00 pm	Black Lives Matter program meeting topic subject or speaker TBA, contact <a href="mailto:rupertayton@yahoo.com">rupertayton@yahoo.com</a> for details, <a href="https://zoom.us/j/96292952504">https://zoom.us/j/96292952504</a> Meeting ID: 962 9295 2504 Passcode: BUF
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May 25, 2023	6:15 pm	Black Lives Matter George Floyd Memorial event starting with a film screening and discussion in the Sanctuary. This to be followed by a candlelight vigil at the George Floyd/Black Lives Matter memorial bench at Fouts Park. Volunteers needed. For more details contact Naomi Gary <a href="mailto:naomiwwwgary@gmail.com">naomiwwwgary@gmail.com</a>
June 1, 2023	12:30 pm	Flowering Cherry Sangha, BUF Sanctuary, Contact: Cynthia at <a href="mailto:cynauman@gmail.com">cynauman@gmail.com</a>
June 5, 2023	7-8:00 pm	Taizé <a href="https://zoom.us/j/753181200">https://zoom.us/j/753181200</a> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/753181200">https://zoom.us/j/753181200</a> Meeting ID: 753 181 200 Passcode: BUF If you have any questions, please email Rev. Tessie at <a href="mailto:Tessie@BUF.org">Tessie@BUF.org</a>

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**Community, Compassion, Commitment**  
**April 26, 2023**

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June 22, 2023	12:30 pm	Flowering Cherry Sangha, BUF Sanctuary, Contact: Cynthia at <a href="mailto:cynauman@gmail.com">cynauman@gmail.com</a>
June 29, 2023	12:30 pm	Flowering Cherry Sangha, BUF Sanctuary, Contact: Cynthia at <a href="mailto:cynauman@gmail.com">cynauman@gmail.com</a>
July 3, 2023	7-8:00 pm	Taizé <a href="https://zoom.us/j/753181200">https://zoom.us/j/753181200</a> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/753181200">https://zoom.us/j/753181200</a> Meeting ID: 753 181 200 Passcode: BUF If you have any questions, please email Rev. Tessie at <a href="mailto:Tessie@BUF.org">Tessie@BUF.org</a>
August 7, 2023	7-8:00 pm	Taizé <a href="https://zoom.us/j/753181200">https://zoom.us/j/753181200</a> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/753181200">https://zoom.us/j/753181200</a> Meeting ID: 753 181 200 Passcode: BUF If you have any questions, please email Rev. Tessie at <a href="mailto:Tessie@BUF.org">Tessie@BUF.org</a>
September 4, 2023	7-8:00 pm	Taizé <a href="https://zoom.us/j/753181200">https://zoom.us/j/753181200</a> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/753181200">https://zoom.us/j/753181200</a> Meeting ID: 753 181 200 Passcode: BUF If you have any questions, please email Rev. Tessie at <a href="mailto:Tessie@BUF.org">Tessie@BUF.org</a>
October 2, 2023	7-8:00 pm	Taizé <a href="https://zoom.us/j/753181200">https://zoom.us/j/753181200</a> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/753181200">https://zoom.us/j/753181200</a> Meeting ID: 753 181 200 Passcode: BUF If you have any questions, please email Rev. Tessie at <a href="mailto:Tessie@BUF.org">Tessie@BUF.org</a>
November 6, 2023	7-8:00 pm	Taizé <a href="https://zoom.us/j/753181200">https://zoom.us/j/753181200</a> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/753181200">https://zoom.us/j/753181200</a> Meeting ID: 753 181 200 Passcode: BUF If you have any questions, please email Rev. Tessie at <a href="mailto:Tessie@BUF.org">Tessie@BUF.org</a>
December 4, 2023	7-8:00 pm	Taizé <a href="https://zoom.us/j/753181200">https://zoom.us/j/753181200</a> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/753181200">https://zoom.us/j/753181200</a> Meeting ID: 753 181 200 Passcode: BUF If you have any questions, please email Rev. Tessie at <a href="mailto:Tessie@BUF.org">Tessie@BUF.org</a>