

# Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship

*Community, Compassion, Commitment*

May 1, 2024



**All BUF services are accessible in-person**

**or on Zoom use this link:** <https://zoom.us/j/73836362>

Passcode = BUF / Meeting ID 738 363 620

## **Monday, May 6 Taize Service**

Worship starts at 7 PM

Gathering music starts at 6:50pm

## **Sunday, May 12**

**A Celebration of Nurturing Energy**

**Share your Parent/Caregiver photos!**

We are putting together a slide show honoring our beloved parents/caregivers (all genders) for the Sunday service on May 12. If you have a photo of a parent or caregiver you would like to share during this service, please send it to Genia at [genia@buf.org](mailto:genia@buf.org) by May 7, along with: The name of the person in the photo, and how they are related to you. Example: *Katy Allen, mother of Genia Allen-Schmid.*

## **Sunday, May 5**

**10:30 am**

**Becoming Sanctuary for Each Other**

Rev Rachael Weasley

Rachael is the minister of Community of Hope, a local/online queer Mennonite congregation.

## **Sunday, May 19 BUF Annual Meeting 12:00 PM**

in the Sanctuary or on Zoom

Here is the BUF Board of Trustees budget proposal for 2024-25:

<https://wp.buf.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/2024-25-BUF-Budget-Proposal.pdf>

Here are the minutes from last year's Congregational Meeting that need to be approved this year:

<https://wp.buf.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Provisional-Congregational-Meeting-Minutes-2023-05-21-MERGED.pdf>

A more detailed agenda is coming next week. Thank you all for your financial generosity and generosity of spirit that make all of this possible.

## **GEORGE FLOYD COMMEMORATION, MAY 26, Fouts Neighborhood Park, Noon**

In May the BUF Black Lives Matter team will host the third annual gathering to commemorate George Floyd at Fouts Neighborhood Park, a short block from BUF. To avoid conflicting with the all-day Coast Salish Day celebration in Bellingham on May 25, this year we will gather at noon after the Flower Communion Service, on Sunday, May 26. Black community leaders will lead a short, moving and inspiring service of commemoration and commitment. Please come with a flower from the BUF service. We all will be invited to share our hearts, hands and voices to support good police and community relations.

## **NINE SWEET YEARS: A Booklet Listing BUF Music Events & Choir Repertoire From 2015 To 2024**

BUF congregants may be interested in perusing a booklet listing the major music events and choir songs that we have all enjoyed since 2015. This link should take you to an online pdf of the booklet:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1go1gtgRNpulWY4iy4JymmVy3JPY0kZRa/view?usp=sharing>

I am sharing this booklet along with one of my favorite poems by Robert Frost:

### The Pasture

I'm going out to clean the pasture spring;  
I'll only stop to rake the leaves away  
(And wait to watch the water clear, I may):  
I sha'n't be gone long. You come too.

I'm going out to fetch the little calf  
That's standing by the mother. It's so young,  
It totters when she licks it with her tongue.  
I sha'n't be gone long. You come too.

I'm glad that whenever BUFsters were invited to come along they came, and we have had nine sweet years together.

With love, Kevin Allen-Schmid, BUF Music Director, 2015-2024

## **CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION THIS WEEK**



Our theme for May is pluralism and this Sunday we explore how our UU Faith believes that diversity of thought, ideas, people, cultures, and beliefs is something to celebrate. And not only that diversity is good but that having many different beliefs and views helps us understand things better.

Children will start in the sanctuary where we have a child-friendly space with pillows, drawing supplies, fidget boxes and a front row seat for the Story of All Ages or interactive song. After the Children's Focus, we will head upstairs where we will explore our theme through stories, activities, games and art. We're putting together a slide show honoring our beloved parents/caregivers (all genders) for the Sunday service on May 12. If you have a photo of a parent or caregiver you would like to share during this service, please send it to Genia by May 7, along with: The name of the person in the photo, and how they are related to you. Example: *Katy Allen, mother of Genia Allen-Schmid.*

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

### **Volunteers Needed for Children's RE**

We are in need of adult volunteers to help with our children's program once or twice a month. Working with our bright, curious children and their parents is a great way to find belonging and connection, and essential for our budgetary health as well. If you are interested in finding out more, contact Genia Allen-Schmid at [genia@BUF.org](mailto:genia@BUF.org)!

## COMMUNITY NIGHT DINNER WEDNESDAY

Due to an overly full freezer, we are serving a variety of delicious soups this Wednesday for our Community Night Dinner. Join us in the Social Hall at 6:00 for a plethora of soups, garlic bread, salad and dessert—all for just \$5 per person, and kids under 12 free!!



## UPDATE ON ARTICLE II CHANGES

Many of us are familiar with Article II of the Unitarian Universalist Association by-laws, in particular: the seven principles and six sources that define our faith and practice. But did you know that under UUA bylaws, we review Article II every 15 years?

In 2020, the UUA Article II Study Commission commenced such a review. They met with congregations nationwide, gathered comments and solicited amendments to determine how Article II can better reflect the UUA as it grows. Last year, we at BUF engaged in discussions about the proposed Article II revisions. The seven principles have been replaced by six shared values: Interdependence, Pluralism, Justice, Transformation, Generosity, and Equity. Sources have been replaced by Inspirations. The core principles have endured, but in a different form.

At the 2023 General Assembly (GA), delegates voted to accept the revised Article II.

This June, the GA will vote on the final adoption of the amended Article II. A two-third's majority is required to fully adopt the changes. (See [https://www.uua.org/files/2023-10/a2\\_final\\_line\\_num\\_10312023.pdf](https://www.uua.org/files/2023-10/a2_final_line_num_10312023.pdf))

You can learn more about the proposed Article II changes. A conversational session will be held in June after the Sunday service. Join us!



## Are You Ready for a Great Party?

It's not too late to get your ticket to the BUF Auction this Saturday. Admission is \$25 per person and includes extraordinary food, a costume parade, childcare for kids 2 and up, fun with friends and the chance to support BUF.

*Enter the Costume Parade and Get a Free Raffle Ticket.*

*Winner Receives ten tickets!*

**Entry and Raffle Tickets on Sale Now!**

Online at <https://fundraiser.bid/BUF>

Many items are open for bidding now; bidding will pause tonight, Wednesday 5/1, at 11:59pm and resume at the event. Check out the catalog and keep the bidding momentum going: [fundraiser.bid/BUF](https://fundraiser.bid/BUF)

*This is BUF's biggest Fundraiser and we need you to attend.*

*Bring your Friends!*

## AUCTION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We could still use some volunteers! To learn more or to offer to help, sign up [here](https://fundraiser.bid/BUF) or email [AuctionAdmin@buf.org](mailto:AuctionAdmin@buf.org).

**SOCIAL JUSTICE COLLECTION FOR MAY:  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES (DVSAS)**

The mission of DVSAS is to support people affected by domestic violence, sexual assault, and sexual exploitation, aiding the community in its efforts to end these abuses of power. Survivors find shelter and safety there, and then move on to find their own stability.

This constant turnover of people requires frequent maintenance work, more than the ordinary repairs and replacement of fixtures and furniture. In the past, BUF collections supported DVSAS in its various projects to renovate and expand services to reach out to diverse populations--including marginalized communities of Whatcom County. Particularly, the organization translated pages on its website into Spanish and Russian, and subscribed to magazines and children's items to meet the varied user-groups.

Next Sunday--at the BUF May 5th service-- Marjie George, Director of Development, will inform our congregation about the critical role DVSAS plays in our local community. Please attend to learn and consider contributing as generously as you can. Checks should be made payable to BUF or Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship with the note, "for DVSAS collection" in the tag line. You can also drop it off at the BUF office or mail it throughout May.

**CPR/AED/FIRST AID TRAINING IS FULL Saturday, May 11**

This training session has reached capacity! The great response demonstrates your precious attention to the health and safety of each other. Thank you.

If you would like to be put on a waitlist and/or notified about the next planned training (likely in the fall), please email [sarah.cat.pearson@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.cat.pearson@gmail.com) or text 360-224-0305 with your name, phone number and email. We'll notify you if a spot opens up and/or look forward to catching you next time!

**MIDWEEK UPDATE MOVES TO SUMMER SCHEDULE AFTER MAY 22**

The MWU will be published and distributed every other week following the May 22 edition. Look for it in your inbox on June 5, 19, July 3, 17, 31, August 14, and 28. WE will return to weekly September 4.

**HOW TO SUBMIT CONTENT FOR THE MID-WEEK UPDATE**

Content must be received on Monday by 10:00 AM before the distribution date. Submit via email and include an attached Word doc, single spaced, Times New Roman 12 font. Avoid any formatting, including bullets. Limit: 200 words. Submittals may be edited for space and clarity. Submit your content to [MWU@buf.org](mailto:MWU@buf.org)

**FIND THE BUF CALENDAR ONLINE**

The complete calendar of BUF events and building uses is available on our website under the News tab or by following this link: <https://73940468.view-events.com/calendar/73940468/month>

**BELLINGHAM UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP**

Office phone:360-733-3887, [buf.org](http://buf.org) or [admin@buf.org](mailto:admin@buf.org) Sign up for the Mid-Week Update and/or the

BUF News Digest at <https://wp.buf.org/news/communication-sign-ups/>