

Minutes
10/26/2023

Attending: Daria Haynes, Alex Gilman, John Stewart, Stephanie Sarver, Lin Skavdahl, Jim Reimer (VZ), Paul Beckel
Beth Nyblade (excused).

Meeting called to order at 6:34 pm

The Chalice Lighting by Daria reflected on the tragedy in Maine and other places around the globe.

Acceptance of Minutes for September meeting, approved on 10/10

Consent Agenda:

Acceptance of Minutes for September meeting, approved on 10/10

Community Beyond BUF and SEJC Report

Treasurer's Report

Rummage Sale Update

Motion to accept John Stewart Seconded Daria Haynes

Motion approved

Discussion Agenda:

- Paul presented a detailed review of future budgeting scenarios using carefully developed spreadsheets. A long discussions about future needs followed and were anticipatory of the upcoming budgeting process.
- Paul also announced that Tessie Mandeville was stepping away from Taize Leadership as of November 7th and that a new coordinator was being considered and planning was in place to assure the continuation.
- Sanctuary Chairs Stephanie/Lin. The report is attached. In summary, Stephanie and Lin recommended that the expenditures for chairs not exceed \$10K and that aesthetics were a concern of the people who attended the listening sessions.

Motion: John proposed and Daria seconded that the Chair Committee investigate the cost of wooden chairs. The motion passed. Paul is leading the chair committee.

- Cash on Hand John gave a presentation on how to read financial statements that was helpful and welcomed by the members.
- Governance Committee Drew gave a report on behalf of the Governance Committee. The small committee needs more people. Reviewing the committees of the board it is clear that some are in need of new members and leadership. Some committees need more developed plans/charters. The committees in need of members and/or leadership are: Stewardship/Fundraising, BUF Endowment Committee, Governance, Board Policy Grievance. The committees that need a written plan are: Stewardship/Fundraising, possibly Ministerial Evaluation. John and Drew were doing some recruiting for new members and/or facilitators for planning.

In Summary:

-Consent agenda approved

-Motion to proceed with investigating costs of wooden chairs.

Next meeting: November 21 (Tuesday of Thanksgiving week).

Meeting adjourned 9:15 pm

Respectfully,

Drew Betz,
Secretary

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship
Balance Sheet with Previous Year Comparison
As of September 30, 2023

	TOTAL			
	AS OF SEP 30, 2023	AS OF SEP 30, 2022 (PY)	CHANGE	% CHANGE
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Bank Accounts				
WECU Savings & Reserves	64,154.06	145,385.06	-81,231.00	-55.87 %
WECU Checking	22,549.75	42,540.76	-19,991.01	-46.99 %
Humanitas				
WECU - Humanitas Savings	7,250.31	8,994.88	-1,744.57	-19.40 %
WECU - Humanitas Checking	1,441.53	1,033.53	408.00	39.48 %
Total Humanitas	8,691.84	10,028.41	-1,336.57	-13.33 %
WECU - Endowment Savings	162.16	161.76	0.40	0.25 %
Business Savings- Covid 2021	0.00	31,059.14	-31,059.14	-100.00 %
WECU - Building Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total Bank Accounts	\$95,557.81	\$229,175.13	\$ -133,617.32	-58.30 %
Accounts Receivable				
1200 Accounts Receivable	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total Accounts Receivable	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Other Current Assets				
UUA Common Endowment Acct	183,349.97	151,196.88	32,153.09	21.27 %
402917712 WECU Certificate of Deposit	101,892.61		101,892.61	
A. Herrmann Social Justice Acct	39,321.04	37,034.02	2,287.02	6.18 %
WECU 3030802 12 Month CD	25,303.30		25,303.30	
Prepaid Insurance	2,520.38	1,990.38	530.00	26.63 %
13000 Prepaid Expenses	781.48	1,241.48	-460.00	-37.05 %
12000 Undeposited Funds	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Endow Investment - LLC share	0.00	10,000.00	-10,000.00	-100.00 %
Prepaid Insurance Claims	0.00	0.00	0.00	
TIAA Bank (CD)	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total Other Current Assets	\$353,168.78	\$201,462.76	\$151,706.02	75.30 %
Total Current Assets	\$448,726.59	\$430,637.89	\$18,088.70	4.20 %
Fixed Assets				
Building - Net	1,895,618.51	1,847,054.76	48,563.75	2.63 %
Land	331,923.86	331,923.86	0.00	0.00 %
Furniture & Fixtures	27,660.70	27,660.70	0.00	0.00 %
Office Equipment	2,018.00	2,018.00	0.00	0.00 %
Construction in Progress	0.00	48,563.75	-48,563.75	-100.00 %
Total Fixed Assets	\$2,257,221.07	\$2,257,221.07	\$0.00	0.00 %
TOTAL ASSETS	\$2,705,947.66	\$2,687,858.96	\$18,088.70	0.67 %

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship
Balance Sheet with Previous Year Comparison
As of September 30, 2023

	TOTAL			
	AS OF SEP 30, 2023	AS OF SEP 30, 2022 (PY)	CHANGE	% CHANGE
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable				
Accounts Payable (A/P)	2,472.33		2,472.33	
2000 Accounts Payables	-6,992.38	3,549.75	-10,542.13	-296.98 %
Total Accounts Payable	\$ -4,520.05	\$3,549.75	\$ -8,069.80	-227.33 %
Credit Cards				
Visa- WECU	2,076.25		2,076.25	
Visa - Bank of America	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total Credit Cards	\$2,076.25	\$0.00	\$2,076.25	0.00%
Other Current Liabilities				
Mortg Principle - 1 yr liab	10,800.00	10,800.00	0.00	0.00 %
2100 Payroll Liabilities	-1,234.63	-57,276.59	56,041.96	97.84 %
Pension	3,631.00	28,241.16	-24,610.16	-87.14 %
State of WA L&I	198.10	375.62	-177.52	-47.26 %
Federal Withholding	0.00	7,534.62	-7,534.62	-100.00 %
LTD Insurance	0.00	523.38	-523.38	-100.00 %
Medicare	0.00	4,112.26	-4,112.26	-100.00 %
Paid Family Leave	0.00	1,049.46	-1,049.46	-100.00 %
Soc. Security	0.00	17,582.44	-17,582.44	-100.00 %
National Payroll Leave Credit (deleted)	-120.11	-120.11	0.00	0.00 %
Total 2100 Payroll Liabilities	2,474.36	2,022.24	452.12	22.36 %
Prepaid Pledges	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Accrued Liabilities	-1,744.99	-4,889.00	3,144.01	64.31 %
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$11,529.37	\$7,933.24	\$3,596.13	45.33 %
Total Current Liabilities	\$9,085.57	\$11,482.99	\$ -2,397.42	-20.88 %
Long-Term Liabilities				
Mortgage - UUA / WECU	248,473.67	257,840.54	-9,366.87	-3.63 %
Total Long-Term Liabilities	\$248,473.67	\$257,840.54	\$ -9,366.87	-3.63 %
Total Liabilities	\$257,559.24	\$269,323.53	\$ -11,764.29	-4.37 %
Equity				
3900 Retained Earnings	2,151,982.23	2,122,620.11	29,362.12	1.38 %
RESTRICTED BANK ACCOUNT FUNDS				
Savings Acct Fund (Reserves)	165,007.20	142,486.78	22,520.42	15.81 %
Humanitas Fund	8,581.84	10,918.41	-2,336.57	-21.40 %
Total RESTRICTED BANK ACCOUNT FUNDS	173,589.04	153,405.19	20,183.85	13.16 %

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship

Balance Sheet with Previous Year Comparison

As of September 30, 2023

	TOTAL			
	AS OF SEP 30, 2023	AS OF SEP 30, 2022 (PY)	CHANGE	% CHANGE
DESIGNATED PROGRAM (FUNDS)				
RE (Funds)				
RE Gift Fund (Fund)	28,453.82	40,393.82	-11,940.00	-29.56 %
Young Adult (Fund)	677.35	677.35	0.00	0.00 %
High School (Fund)	496.12	496.12	0.00	0.00 %
Coming of Age (Fund)	56.83	102.31	-45.48	-44.45 %
RE Scholarship (Fund)	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total RE (Funds)	29,684.12	41,669.60	-11,985.48	-28.76 %
SEJC (Funds)	0.00		0.00	
Refugee Resettlement Fund	13,304.77	15,808.00	-2,503.23	-15.84 %
Social/Environ. Justice (Fund)	5,339.00	1,370.00	3,969.00	289.71 %
Fairtrade Coffee (Fund)	3,841.88	2,391.88	1,450.00	60.62 %
Interweave (Fund)	954.22	954.22	0.00	0.00 %
BLM (Fund)	337.00	2,108.00	-1,771.00	-84.01 %
UU The Vote Fund	200.00		200.00	
Family Promise (Fund)	155.25	830.25	-675.00	-81.30 %
Anti Racism (Fund)	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00 %
ICE Raid Relief Bas Needs(Fund)	0.00	0.00	0.00	
ICE Relief - Legal Fees (Fund)	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Native Amer. Connect'ns (Fund)	-267.15	232.85	-500.00	-214.73 %
Total SEJC (Funds)	23,874.97	23,705.20	169.77	0.72 %
Retreat - Women's (Fund)	4,940.07	4,940.07	0.00	0.00 %
Retreat - All church (Fund)	2,413.97	4,241.97	-1,828.00	-43.09 %
Choir (Fund)	0.00	0.00	0.00	
CND & Social Hour (Fund)	-21.72	0.00	-21.72	
Total DESIGNATED PROGRAM (FUNDS)	60,891.41	74,556.84	-13,665.43	-18.33 %
RESTRICTED INVESTMENT FUNDS				
A. Herrmann Domini Fund - SEJC	41,505.36	45,227.51	-3,722.15	-8.23 %
Endowment Fixed Asset Fund	0.00	10,000.00	-10,000.00	-100.00 %
RE Gift Invested (CD-TIAA bank)	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total RESTRICTED INVESTMENT FUNDS	41,505.36	55,227.51	-13,722.15	-24.85 %
Net Income	20,420.38	12,725.78	7,694.60	60.46 %
3000 Opening Bal Equity	0.00	0.00	0.00	
PNW Platefull	0.00		0.00	
Total Equity	\$2,448,388.42	\$2,418,535.43	\$29,852.99	1.23 %
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$2,705,947.66	\$2,687,858.96	\$18,088.70	0.67 %

Cash on Hand Report

From Balance Sheet	28-Feb-23	30-Apr-23	31-May-23	30-Jun-23	31-Jul-23	31-Aug-23	30-Sep-23
Cash Assets under Board control for normal operating expenses							
WECU Checking	\$99,700	\$91,112	\$89,864	\$45,493	\$23,227	\$11,873	\$22,549
WECU Savings	\$162,482	\$62,693	\$62,692	\$87,844	\$87,844	\$87,844	\$64,154
WECU CDs		\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,780	\$100,780	\$100,780	\$101,893
WECU CD Major Donor				\$25,807	\$25,027	\$25,027	\$25,303
Accounts Receivable	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0
Prepaid Expenses	\$641	\$781	\$781	\$781	\$781	\$781	\$781
Prepaid Insurance	\$3,555	\$6,460	\$5,600	\$4,920	\$4,130	\$3,340	\$2,520
Total	\$266,378	\$261,046	\$258,937	\$265,626	\$241,789	\$229,646	\$217,201
Change in Checking Account	130%	-9%	-1%	-49%	-49%	-49%	90%
Change in Cash Assets	49%	-2%	-1%	3%	-9%	-5%	-5%
Liabilities (Adjusted)							
Current Liabilities	\$39,879	\$78,246	\$88,380	\$49,342	\$7,466	\$9,301	\$9,086
Remove 11 months of mortgage princi	-\$7,923	-\$7,923	-\$7,923	-\$7,923	-\$7,923	-\$7,923	-\$7,923
Total	\$31,956	\$70,323	\$80,457	\$41,419	-\$457	\$1,378	\$1,163
Equity (Restricted or Designated Funds)							
Savings Acct Fund (Reserves)	\$128,374	\$128,374	\$128,374	\$188,827	\$188,827	\$188,827	\$165,007
Designated Program Funds	\$71,106	\$62,504	\$60,057	\$60,795	\$59,480	\$61,706	\$60,891
Total	\$199,480	\$190,878	\$188,431	\$249,623	\$248,308	\$250,533	\$225,899
Cash Assets - Liabilities - Equity=							
Estimated Cash on Hand	\$34,942	-\$155	-\$9,951	-\$25,416	-\$6,061	-\$22,265	-\$9,860
Percent increase/decrease line 33	-202%	-100%	6310%	155%	-76%	267%	-56%

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship

Profit and Loss Comparison

September 2023

	TOTAL				
	SEP 2023	AUG 2023 (PP)	CHANGE	SEP 2022 (PY)	CHANGE
Income					
STEWARDSHIP INCOME					
DONATIONS					
Cash Donations and Misc.	24,052.00		24,052.00		24,052.00
Pledge Income	22,477.43	18,819.43	3,658.00	27,986.92	-5,509.49
Non-Pledge / Friends Donations	894.00	652.00	242.00	2,808.00	-1,914.00
RE Gift	815.00	815.00	0.00	1,055.00	-240.00
Total DONATIONS	48,238.43	20,286.43	27,952.00	31,849.92	16,388.51
FUNDRAISING					
Auction - MayFaire	30.00		30.00		30.00
Covid Grants & Income				2,494.00	-2,494.00
Total FUNDRAISING	30.00		30.00	2,494.00	-2,464.00
Total STEWARDSHIP INCOME	48,268.43	20,286.43	27,982.00	34,343.92	13,924.51
OPERATIONS INCOME					
PROGRAMS					
SEJC INCOME					
SEJC - Special Collections	1,361.00	1,089.00	272.00	1,005.00	356.00
SEJC - Fairtrade Coffee Sales	453.00	208.00	245.00	103.00	350.00
Refugee Resettlement Revenue		1,500.00	-1,500.00		
Total SEJC INCOME	1,814.00	2,797.00	-983.00	1,108.00	706.00
Retreat, All Church	595.00		595.00		595.00
CND & Coffee Hour	486.00		486.00		486.00
LLL INCOME					
LLL - OWL income	80.00		80.00	855.00	-775.00
LLL - RE Income	18.82		18.82		18.82
Total LLL INCOME	98.82		98.82	855.00	-756.18
Retreat, Women's				350.00	-350.00
Total PROGRAMS	2,993.82	2,797.00	196.82	2,313.00	680.82
FACILITIES					
Rental of Building	2,165.00	1,225.00	940.00	2,855.00	-690.00
Total FACILITIES	2,165.00	1,225.00	940.00	2,855.00	-690.00
Total OPERATIONS INCOME	5,158.82	4,022.00	1,136.82	5,168.00	-9.18
FINANCING					
Interest Income	1,520.21	1.41	1,518.80	82.48	1,437.73
Total FINANCING	1,520.21	1.41	1,518.80	82.48	1,437.73
Total Income	\$54,947.46	\$24,309.84	\$30,637.62	\$39,594.40	\$15,353.06
GROSS PROFIT	\$54,947.46	\$24,309.84	\$30,637.62	\$39,594.40	\$15,353.06

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship

Profit and Loss Comparison

September 2023

	TOTAL				
	SEP 2023	AUG 2023 (PP)	CHANGE	SEP 2022 (PY)	CHANGE
Expenses					
STAFFING EXPENSE					
Minister Salary & Housing	7,605.82	7,605.82	0.00	7,384.00	221.82
Admin Salary & PTO	4,774.42	4,583.27	191.15	4,583.27	191.15
Director of Lifelong Learning	4,201.66	4,201.83	-0.17	4,080.00	121.66
Benefits					
Pension Payroll Expense	1,825.14	1,806.03	19.11	1,753.43	71.71
Health Insurance Supp	1,605.81	1,046.97	558.84	1,046.97	558.84
LTD Payroll Expense	173.46	173.46	0.00	173.46	0.00
Total Benefits	3,604.41	3,026.46	577.95	2,973.86	630.55
Music Director	2,210.09	2,210.09	0.00	2,145.95	64.14
Payroll Taxes					
Social Security Expense	790.26	800.07	-9.81	777.05	13.21
State of WA L&I Expense	198.10	200.90	-2.80	197.35	0.75
Medicare Expense	184.93	187.13	-2.20	181.74	3.19
Paid Family Medical Leave	38.21	38.55	-0.34	26.64	11.57
Total Payroll Taxes	1,211.50	1,226.65	-15.15	1,182.78	28.72
Keyboard Artist I/Choral Assist	603.75	778.72	-174.97	573.51	30.24
Building Steward	502.92	293.04	209.88	536.25	-33.33
AV Tech	387.50	591.50	-204.00	239.00	148.50
Keyboard Artist II	360.00	540.00	-180.00	175.00	185.00
Taize Leadership	206.00	206.00	0.00	200.00	6.00
Bookkeeper	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
RE Assistant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total STAFFING EXPENSE	25,668.07	25,263.38	404.69	24,073.62	1,594.45
OPERATIONAL EXPENSES					
PROGRAM EXPENSES					
CND & Coffee Hour	1,242.48	226.01	1,016.47	250.27	992.21
SEJC EXPENSES					
SEJC Refugee Resettlement Expen	597.59	500.00	97.59		597.59
SEJC Expense - General	200.00		200.00	200.00	0.00
UU The Vote Expense	200.00		200.00		200.00
SEJC - Spec Coll Dispersements	194.00	1,160.00	-966.00		194.00
SEJC - BLM		250.00	-250.00		
SEJC - Fairtrade Coffee		382.06	-382.06		
Total SEJC EXPENSES	1,191.59	2,292.06	-1,100.47	200.00	991.59
LLL EXPENSE					
LLL - OWL	796.00		796.00		796.00
LLL - RE General	135.01		135.01		135.01

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship

Profit and Loss Comparison

September 2023

	TOTAL				
	SEP 2023	AUG 2023 (PP)	CHANGE	SEP 2022 (PY)	CHANGE
Total LLL EXPENSE	931.01		931.01		931.01
Staff Professional Expenses					
Prof Expense - Minister	725.00	725.00	0.00	423.33	301.67
Prof Expense - Music Director	125.00		125.00		125.00
Prof Expense - DLL				150.00	-150.00
Total Staff Professional Expenses	850.00	725.00	125.00	573.33	276.67
LLL - Childcare Contractors	588.75	142.50	446.25	112.50	476.25
Worship Arts	450.00		450.00		450.00
Choir	406.77		406.77	320.34	86.43
Membership / Hospitality		125.69	-125.69		
Retreat, Women's				75.86	-75.86
Total PROGRAM EXPENSES	5,660.60	3,511.26	2,149.34	1,532.30	4,128.30
FACILITIES					
Building Maintenance & Repairs	2,849.84	693.71	2,156.13	1,076.10	1,773.74
Mortgage Interest	1,793.47	886.10	907.37	817.52	975.95
Insurance - Bldg/Liability Expe	820.00	790.00	30.00	680.00	140.00
Permits, Licenses	182.24		182.24		182.24
Total FACILITIES	5,645.55	2,369.81	3,275.74	2,573.62	3,071.93
UTILITIES / BUILDING SERVICES					
Custodial Contractors	1,620.00	630.00	990.00	287.10	1,332.90
Water/Sewer	341.44	344.74	-3.30	311.05	30.39
Garbage/Recycling	203.33	202.69	0.64	191.45	11.88
Custodial -Supplies	193.93	293.65	-99.72	40.14	153.79
Security Monitor/ Requird Tests	18.38	18.38	0.00		18.38
Electricity		543.80	-543.80		
Gas		24.52	-24.52	23.93	-23.93
Total UTILITIES / BUILDING SERVICES	2,377.08	2,057.78	319.30	853.67	1,523.41
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES					
Office / Administrative	815.31	99.00	716.31	161.95	653.36
Telephone	437.57		437.57	492.84	-55.27
Service Charges & Fees	235.04	128.57	106.47	138.81	96.23
IT - Equipment		322.03	-322.03	1,141.31	-1,141.31
IT - Software/Subscriptions		100.00	-100.00	544.13	-544.13
Total ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	1,487.92	649.60	838.32	2,479.04	-991.12
Total OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	15,171.15	8,588.45	6,582.70	7,438.63	7,732.52

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship

Profit and Loss Comparison

September 2023

	TOTAL				
	SEP 2023	AUG 2023 (PP)	CHANGE	SEP 2022 (PY)	CHANGE
STEWARDSHIP EXPENSES					
Denominational Dues					
UUA Dues	2,031.00	2,031.00	0.00	2,121.91	-90.91
Total Denominational Dues	2,031.00	2,031.00	0.00	2,121.91	-90.91
Total STEWARDSHIP EXPENSES	2,031.00	2,031.00	0.00	2,121.91	-90.91
Total Expenses	\$42,870.22	\$35,882.83	\$6,987.39	\$33,634.16	\$9,236.06
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$12,077.24	\$ -11,572.99	\$23,650.23	\$5,960.24	\$6,117.00
Other Income					
NON-OPERATING INCOME					
Capital- Use of Reserves	-0.09		-0.09		-0.09
Total NON-OPERATING INCOME	-0.09		-0.09		-0.09
Total Other Income	\$ -0.09	\$0.00	\$ -0.09	\$0.00	\$ -0.09
Other Expenses					
NON-OPERATING EXPENSE					
Capital Buiding Security	707.20		707.20		707.20
Capital - Sanctuary AV				940.31	-940.31
Capital - Sanctuary HVAC					
Total NON-OPERATING EXPENSE	707.20		707.20	940.31	-233.11
Total Other Expenses	\$707.20	\$0.00	\$707.20	\$940.31	\$ -233.11
NET OTHER INCOME	\$ -707.29	\$0.00	\$ -707.29	\$ -940.31	\$233.02
NET INCOME	\$11,369.95	\$ -11,572.99	\$22,942.94	\$5,019.93	\$6,350.02

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship
Budget vs. Actuals: Budget_FY24_P&L - FY24 P&L
 July - September, 2023

	JUL 2023				AUG 2023				SEP 2023				TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Income																
STEWARDSHIP INCOME													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
DONATIONS													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
Pledge Income	52,811	41,441	11,370	127.00 %	18,819	18,851	-32	100.00 %	22,477	27,987	-5,510	80.00 %	\$94,108	\$88,279	\$5,829	107.00 %
Non-Pledge / Friends Donations	811	1,077	-266	75.00 %	652	558	94	117.00 %	894	8,500	-7,606	11.00 %	\$2,357	\$10,135	\$ -7,778	23.00 %
RE Gift	815	815	0	100.00 %	815	815	0	100.00 %	815	815	0	100.00 %	\$2,445	\$2,445	\$0	100.00 %
Cash Donations and Misc.	40	0	40			100	-100		24,052	0	24,052		\$24,092	\$100	\$23,992	24,092.00 %
Total DONATIONS	54,477	43,333	11,144	126.00 %	20,286	20,324	-38	100.00 %	48,238	37,302	10,936	129.00 %	\$123,002	\$100,959	\$22,043	122.00 %
FUNDRAISING													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
Covid Grants & Income		0	0			14,250	-14,250			7,500	-7,500		\$0	\$21,750	\$ -21,750	0%
Auction - MayFaire									30		30		\$30	\$0	\$30	0%
Total FUNDRAISING		0	0			14,250	-14,250		30	7,500	-7,470	0.00 %	\$30	\$21,750	\$ -21,720	0.00 %
Total STEWARDSHIP INCOME	54,477	43,333	11,144	126.00 %	20,286	34,574	-14,288	59.00 %	48,268	44,802	3,466	108.00 %	\$123,032	\$122,709	\$323	100.00 %
OPERATIONS INCOME													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
FACILITIES													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
Rental of Building	1,286	800	486	161.00 %	1,225	1,000	225	123.00 %	2,165	3,100	-935	70.00 %	\$4,676	\$4,900	\$ -224	95.00 %
Total FACILITIES	1,286	800	486	161.00 %	1,225	1,000	225	123.00 %	2,165	3,100	-935	70.00 %	\$4,676	\$4,900	\$ -224	95.00 %
PROGRAMS													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
SEJC INCOME													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
SEJC - Special Collections	1,325	1,202	123	110.00 %	1,089	921	168	118.00 %	1,361	1,005	356	135.00 %	\$3,775	\$3,128	\$647	121.00 %
SEJC - Fairtrade Coffee Sales	262	179	83	146.00 %	208	213	-5	98.00 %	453	103	350	440.00 %	\$923	\$495	\$428	186.00 %
Refugee Resettlement Revenue					1,500		1,500						\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500	0%
Total SEJC INCOME	1,587	1,381	206	115.00 %	2,797	1,134	1,663	247.00 %	1,814	1,108	706	164.00 %	\$6,198	\$3,623	\$2,575	171.00 %
LLL INCOME													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
LLL - OWL income		0	0			0	0		80	800	-720	10.00 %	\$80	\$800	\$ -720	10.00 %
LLL - RE Income									19		19		\$19	\$0	\$19	0%
Total LLL INCOME		0	0			0	0		99	800	-701	12.00 %	\$99	\$800	\$ -701	12.00 %
CND & Coffee Hour		0	0			0	0		486	200	286	243.00 %	\$486	\$200	\$286	243.00 %
Retreat, All Church									595		595		\$595	\$0	\$595	0%
Total PROGRAMS	1,587	1,381	206	115.00 %	2,797	1,134	1,663	247.00 %	2,994	2,108	886	142.00 %	\$7,378	\$4,623	\$2,755	160.00 %
Total OPERATIONS INCOME	2,873	2,181	692	132.00 %	4,022	2,134	1,888	188.00 %	5,159	5,208	-49	99.00 %	\$12,054	\$9,523	\$2,531	127.00 %
FINANCING													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
Interest Income		1,113	-1,113		1	15	-14	9.00 %	1,520	15	1,505	10,135.00 %	\$1,522	\$1,143	\$379	133.00 %
Total FINANCING		1,113	-1,113		1	15	-14	9.00 %	1,520	15	1,505	10,135.00 %	\$1,522	\$1,143	\$379	133.00 %
Total Income	\$57,350	\$46,627	\$10,723	123.00 %	\$24,310	\$36,723	\$ -12,413	66.00 %	\$54,947	\$50,025	\$4,922	110.00 %	\$136,607	\$133,375	\$3,232	102.00 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$57,350	\$46,627	\$10,723	123.00 %	\$24,310	\$36,723	\$ -12,413	66.00 %	\$54,947	\$50,025	\$4,922	110.00 %	\$136,607	\$133,375	\$3,232	102.00 %
Expenses																
STAFFING EXPENSE													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
Minister Salary & Housing	7,606	7,606	-0	100.00 %	7,606	7,606	-0	100.00 %	7,606	7,606	-0	100.00 %	\$22,817	\$22,818	\$ -1	100.00 %
Admin Salary & PTO	4,583	5,783	-1,200	79.00 %	4,583	5,783	-1,200	79.00 %	4,774	7,583	-2,809	63.00 %	\$13,941	\$19,149	\$ -5,208	73.00 %

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship

Budget vs. Actuals: Budget_FY24_P&L - FY24 P&L

July - September, 2023

	JUL 2023				AUG 2023				SEP 2023				TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Director of Lifelong Learning	4,202	4,202	-0	100.00 %	4,202	4,202	-0	100.00 %	4,202	7,202	-3,000	58.00 %	\$12,605	\$15,606	\$ -3,001	81.00 %
Benefits													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
Pension Payroll Expense	1,806	1,880	-74	96.00 %	1,806	1,880	-74	96.00 %	1,825	1,880	-55	97.00 %	\$5,437	\$5,640	\$ -203	96.00 %
Health Insurance Supp	1,047	1,047	-0	100.00 %	1,047	1,047	-0	100.00 %	1,606	1,047	559	153.00 %	\$3,700	\$3,141	\$559	118.00 %
LTD Payroll Expense	173	173	0	100.00 %	173	173	0	100.00 %	173	173	0	100.00 %	\$520	\$519	\$1	100.00 %
Total Benefits	3,026	3,100	-74	98.00 %	3,026	3,100	-74	98.00 %	3,604	3,100	504	116.00 %	\$9,657	\$9,300	\$357	104.00 %
Music Director	2,210	2,210	0	100.00 %	2,210	2,210	0	100.00 %	2,210	2,210	0	100.00 %	\$6,630	\$6,630	\$0	100.00 %
Payroll Taxes													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
Social Security Expense	784	827	-43	95.00 %	800	827	-27	97.00 %	790	827	-37	96.00 %	\$2,374	\$2,481	\$ -107	96.00 %
State of WA L&I Expense	200	210	-10	95.00 %	201	210	-9	96.00 %	198	210	-12	94.00 %	\$599	\$630	\$ -31	95.00 %
Medicare Expense	183	184	-1	100.00 %	187	183	4	102.00 %	185	182	3	102.00 %	\$555	\$549	\$6	101.00 %
Paid Family Medical Leave	38	27	11	141.00 %	39	27	12	143.00 %	38	27	11	142.00 %	\$115	\$81	\$34	142.00 %
Total Payroll Taxes	1,204	1,248	-44	97.00 %	1,227	1,247	-20	98.00 %	1,212	1,246	-35	97.00 %	\$3,643	\$3,741	\$ -98	97.00 %
Keyboard Artist I/Choral Assist	604	590	14	102.00 %	779	590	189	132.00 %	604	590	14	102.00 %	\$1,986	\$1,770	\$216	112.00 %
AV Tech	170	425	-255	40.00 %	592	425	167	139.00 %	388	600	-213	65.00 %	\$1,149	\$1,450	\$ -301	79.00 %
Building Steward	502	325	177	154.00 %	293	400	-107	73.00 %	503	550	-47	91.00 %	\$1,298	\$1,275	\$23	102.00 %
Taize Leadership	206	200	6	103.00 %	206	200	6	103.00 %	206	200	6	103.00 %	\$618	\$600	\$18	103.00 %
Keyboard Artist II	720	175	545	411.00 %	540	210	330	257.00 %	360	175	185	206.00 %	\$1,620	\$560	\$1,060	289.00 %
Bookkeeper	0		0		0		0		0		0		\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
RE Assistant	0		0		0		0		0		0		\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
Total STAFFING EXPENSE	25,033	25,864	-831	97.00 %	25,263	25,973	-710	97.00 %	25,668	31,062	-5,394	83.00 %	\$75,965	\$82,899	\$ -6,934	92.00 %
OPERATIONAL EXPENSES													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
PROGRAM EXPENSES													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
SEJC EXPENSES													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
SEJC - Spec Coll Dispersments	1,326	699	627	190.00 %	1,160	1,800	-640	64.00 %	194	800	-606	24.00 %	\$2,680	\$3,299	\$ -619	81.00 %
SEJC Expense - General		0	0			0	0		200	200	0	100.00 %	\$200	\$200	\$0	100.00 %
SEJC - BLM					250		250						\$250	\$0	\$250	0%
SEJC - Fairtrade Coffee	564		564		382		382						\$946	\$0	\$946	0%
SEJC Refugee Resettlement Expen					500		500		598		598		\$1,098	\$0	\$1,098	0%
UU The Vote Expense									200		200		\$200	\$0	\$200	0%
Total SEJC EXPENSES	1,890	699	1,191	270.00 %	2,292	1,800	492	127.00 %	1,192	1,000	192	119.00 %	\$5,374	\$3,499	\$1,875	154.00 %
Worship Arts	1,050	664	386	158.00 %		1,300	-1,300		450	1,000	-550	45.00 %	\$1,500	\$2,964	\$ -1,464	51.00 %
Staff Professional Expenses													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
Prof Expense - Minister	55	0	55		725	1,333	-608	54.00 %	725	423	302	171.00 %	\$1,505	\$1,756	\$ -251	86.00 %
Prof Expense - DLL		0	0			948	-948			150	-150		\$0	\$1,098	\$ -1,098	0%
Prof Expense - Music Director									125		125		\$125	\$0	\$125	0%
Total Staff Professional Expenses	55	0	55		725	2,281	-1,556	32.00 %	850	573	277	148.00 %	\$1,630	\$2,854	\$ -1,224	57.00 %
LLL EXPENSE													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
LLL - RE General	603	465	138	130.00 %		172	-172		135	600	-465	23.00 %	\$738	\$1,237	\$ -499	60.00 %
LLL - OWL									796		796		\$796	\$0	\$796	0%
Total LLL EXPENSE	603	465	138	130.00 %		172	-172		931	600	331	155.00 %	\$1,534	\$1,237	\$297	124.00 %

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship

Budget vs. Actuals: Budget_FY24_P&L - FY24 P&L

July - September, 2023

	JUL 2023				AUG 2023				SEP 2023				TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Choir	100	300	-200	33.00 %		0	0		407	325	82	125.00 %	\$507	\$625	\$ -118	81.00 %
CND & Coffee Hour	147	0	147		226	0	226		1,242	250	992	497.00 %	\$1,616	\$250	\$1,366	646.00 %
LLL - Childcare Contractors	188	0	188		143	0	143		589	115	474	512.00 %	\$919	\$115	\$804	799.00 %
Retreat, Women's	135	0	135			0	0			80	-80		\$135	\$80	\$55	169.00 %
Membership / Hospitality					126		126						\$126	\$0	\$126	0%
Pastoral Care	186		186										\$186	\$0	\$186	0%
Total PROGRAM EXPENSES	4,353	2,128	2,225	205.00 %	3,511	5,553	-2,042	63.00 %	5,661	3,943	1,718	144.00 %	\$13,525	\$11,624	\$1,901	116.00 %
FACILITIES													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
Building Maintenance & Repairs	509	2,800	-2,291	18.00 %	694	1,000	-306	69.00 %	2,850	900	1,950	317.00 %	\$4,053	\$4,700	\$ -647	86.00 %
Mortgage Interest	860	851	9	101.00 %	886	851	35	104.00 %	1,793	851	942	211.00 %	\$3,540	\$2,553	\$987	139.00 %
Insurance - Bldg/Liability Expe	790	680	110	116.00 %	790	680	110	116.00 %	820	680	140	121.00 %	\$2,400	\$2,040	\$360	118.00 %
Permits, Licenses	130		130						182		182		\$313	\$0	\$313	0%
Total FACILITIES	2,290	4,331	-2,041	53.00 %	2,370	2,531	-161	94.00 %	5,646	2,431	3,215	232.00 %	\$10,305	\$9,293	\$1,012	111.00 %
UTILITIES / BUILDING SERVICES													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
Custodial Contractors	510	500	10	102.00 %	630	500	130	126.00 %	1,620	750	870	216.00 %	\$2,760	\$1,750	\$1,010	158.00 %
Electricity	529	410	119	129.00 %	544	563	-19	97.00 %		580	-580		\$1,073	\$1,553	\$ -480	69.00 %
Water/Sewer	353	418	-65	85.00 %	345	355	-10	97.00 %	341	311	30	110.00 %	\$1,040	\$1,084	\$ -44	96.00 %
Garbage/Recycling	203	200	3	101.00 %	203	200	3	101.00 %	203	200	3	102.00 %	\$609	\$600	\$9	101.00 %
Elevator		513	-513			0	0			0	0		\$0	\$513	\$ -513	0%
Custodial -Supplies		0	0		294	150	144	196.00 %	194	65	129	298.00 %	\$488	\$215	\$273	227.00 %
Security Monitor/ Requird Tests	549	200	349	275.00 %	18	0	18		18	0	18		\$586	\$200	\$386	293.00 %
Gas	46	20	26	230.00 %	25	25	-0	98.00 %		125	-125		\$70	\$170	\$ -100	41.00 %
Total UTILITIES / BUILDING SERVICES	2,191	2,261	-70	97.00 %	2,058	1,793	265	115.00 %	2,377	2,031	346	117.00 %	\$6,625	\$6,085	\$540	109.00 %
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	324		324										\$324	\$0	\$324	0%
Telephone	442	368	74	120.00 %		493	-493		438	493	-55	89.00 %	\$879	\$1,354	\$ -475	65.00 %
IT - Software/Subscriptions	438	350	88	125.00 %	100	350	-250	29.00 %		350	-350		\$538	\$1,050	\$ -512	51.00 %
Office / Administrative	590	150	440	393.00 %	99	150	-51	66.00 %	815	150	665	544.00 %	\$1,504	\$450	\$1,054	334.00 %
Service Charges & Fees	-965	150	-1,115	-644.00 %	129	160	-31	80.00 %	235	140	95	168.00 %	\$ -602	\$450	\$ -1,052	-134.00 %
IT - Equipment		0	0		322	100	222	322.00 %		0	0		\$322	\$100	\$222	322.00 %
Total ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	829	1,018	-189	81.00 %	650	1,253	-603	52.00 %	1,488	1,133	355	131.00 %	\$2,966	\$3,404	\$ -438	87.00 %
Total OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	9,662	9,738	-76	99.00 %	8,588	11,130	-2,542	77.00 %	15,171	9,538	5,633	159.00 %	\$33,422	\$30,406	\$3,016	110.00 %
STEWARDSHIP EXPENSES													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
Denominational Dues													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
UUA Dues	2,031	2,032	-1	100.00 %	2,031	2,032	-1	100.00 %	2,031	2,032	-1	100.00 %	\$6,093	\$6,096	\$ -3	100.00 %
Total Denominational Dues	2,031	2,032	-1	100.00 %	2,031	2,032	-1	100.00 %	2,031	2,032	-1	100.00 %	\$6,093	\$6,096	\$ -3	100.00 %
Total STEWARDSHIP EXPENSES	2,031	2,032	-1	100.00 %	2,031	2,032	-1	100.00 %	2,031	2,032	-1	100.00 %	\$6,093	\$6,096	\$ -3	100.00 %
Total Expenses	\$36,727	\$37,634	\$ -907	98.00 %	\$35,883	\$39,135	\$ -3,252	92.00 %	\$42,870	\$42,632	\$238	101.00 %	\$115,480	\$119,401	\$ -3,921	97.00 %
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$20,623	\$8,993	\$11,630	229.00 %	\$ -11,573	\$ -2,412	\$ -9,161	480.00 %	\$12,077	\$7,393	\$4,684	163.00 %	\$21,128	\$13,974	\$7,154	151.00 %
Other Income																

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship

Budget vs. Actuals: Budget_FY24_P&L - FY24 P&L

July - September, 2023

	JUL 2023				AUG 2023				SEP 2023				TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
NON-OPERATING INCOME													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
Capital- Use of Reserves									-0		-0		\$ -0	\$0	\$ -0	0%
Total NON-OPERATING INCOME									-0		-0		\$ -0	\$0	\$ -0	0%
Total Other Income	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%	\$ -0	\$0	\$ -0	0%	\$ -0	\$0	\$ -0	0%
Other Expenses																
NON-OPERATING EXPENSE													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
Mortgage Equity Pymt		810	-810			810	-810			810	-810		\$0	\$2,430	\$ -2,430	0%
Capital - Sanctuary HVAC													\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
Capital Buiding Security									707		707		\$707	\$0	\$707	0%
Total NON-OPERATING EXPENSE		810	-810			810	-810	0.00 %	707	810	-103	87.00 %	\$707	\$2,430	\$ -1,723	29.00 %
Total Other Expenses	\$0	\$810	\$ -810	0%	\$0	\$810	\$ -810	0.00 %	\$707	\$810	\$ -103	87.00 %	\$707	\$2,430	\$ -1,723	29.00 %
NET OTHER INCOME	\$0	\$ -810	\$810	0%	\$0	\$ -810	\$810	0.00 %	\$ -707	\$ -810	\$103	87.00 %	\$ -707	\$ -2,430	\$1,723	29.00 %
NET INCOME	\$20,623	\$8,183	\$12,440	252.00 %	\$ -11,573	\$ -3,222	\$ -8,351	359.00 %	\$11,370	\$6,583	\$4,787	173.00 %	\$20,420	\$11,544	\$8,876	177.00 %

Rummage Sale Update
Prepared by Drew Betz, Convener

The Rummage Sale is moving along nicely.

A small group of organizers as emerged and we are getting a good response for volunteers. More will be needed and the committee persists.

Our big challenge will be receiving items, sorting and pricing them and having volunteers the day of the sale to sell the goods and to keep things orderly.

Please be thinking about any treasures that you are willing to move along. I know I am working on this and am finding it a worthwhile practice of letting go.



Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship

Community, Compassion, Commitment



Reports of the Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship

Community Beyond BUF (CByB) and Social and Environmental Justice Committee (SEJC)

April 2023 –
September 2023

*Compiled and submitted by:
Deb Cruz, SEJC Ministry Action Team Lead and
Community Beyond BUF Council Lead*

These reports were compiled initially for the SEJC Program Meeting of September 17, 2023. They are predominantly reports from the Ministry Action Teams and Projects, but also contain reports from beyond SEJC to include the other justice-oriented teams under the Community Beyond BUF Council.

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Team Reports

Actions of the Social and Environmental Justice Executive Committee

The Executive Committee approved the following requests since April:

- Facility use request for an Immigration Stakeholder meeting with representatives from the Dept of Homeland Security, office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties to share grievances about interactions with ICE and CBP.
- Facility use request for a Focus Group on Affordable Housing and Infill Development.
- Contribution of \$200 to Whatcom Peace and Justice Center for their International Day of Peace 2023 event.
- Contribution of \$200 to Our Rights Matter to purchase court documents.
- Facility use request for a gathering focused on the new Whatcom jail proposal.
- Contribution of \$200 to Bellingham Unity Committee for 5th Annual Juneteenth Celebration.
- Contribution of \$200 to the Gathering of the Eagles Encampment.
- Facility use request and contribution of \$200 to Dr. Giles Southern Resident Orca presentation.

Black Lives Matter

We hold two meetings every month. The first is a “business meeting” to plan the Guest Speaker Program and Discussion/Book Review meetings. We make room for any topical issues and concerns during all our meetings. About 5-10 people regularly attend business meetings. More people attend the program meetings.

- ❖ Rupert Ayton has asked to have a temporary break in BLM work while he focuses on the Spencer Miller case
- ❖ Naomi has asked to have less involvement since she is now living part-time in Bainbridge.
- ❖ Joel Johnson has stepped up and helped tremendously! He will be a more active part of BUF BLM leadership in the future.

All meetings are currently held over Zoom on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 7pm. In May, our guest speakers included Malora Christensen, Whatcom County Health and Community Services’ Response Systems Division Manager and Barbara Miller and Adilene Calderone with Friendship Diversion Services. In September we screened “How Cops Get Away with Murder: Qualified Immunity” and discussed HB 1025, a Washington state bill “relating to creating a private right of action for harm from violations of the state Constitution or state law by peace officers.” Program content is also being worked out around the book “Barred: Why the Innocent Can't Get Out of Prison” by Daniel Medwed and around the film “Since I Been Down.”

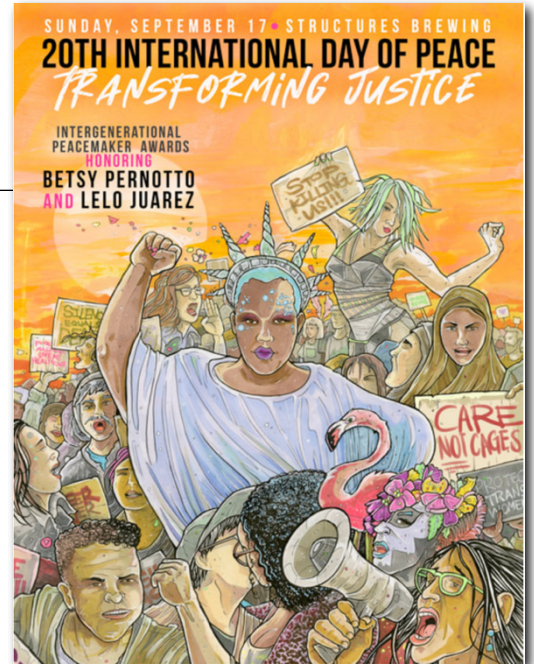
Other actions:

- Participated in Covenant of Beloved Community monthly meetings
- Participated in Juneteenth Celebrations
- George Floyd Memorial on 5/25
- Active in Voting Rights
- Active in Restorative Justice, especially the Spencer Miller Case
- Created a Sunday Service for BUF on August 13th, 2023

A comprehensive history of BUF’s BLM activities can be found here: <https://bufblacklivesmatter.blogspot.com/>

Convenor: David Curley: dcurley1945@gmail.com

Environmental Justice



Community Beyond BUF/Social and Environmental Justice Committee April 2023

Multifaith Network for Climate Justice.

BUF's environmental justice work has been predominantly been conducted through its participation in the Multifaith Network for Climate Justice (MNCJ) with Deb Cruz as BUF's representative. MNCJ's program since January 2023 are below. Upcoming presentations and recordings of past meetings can be found here at <https://earthministry.org/past-mncj-events/>. MNCJ meets on the 4th Sunday of the month either on Zoom or BUF's social hall. All are welcome to attend.

- July 2023: Whatcom Million Trees Work Party
- August 2023: Summer Break – no events
- September 2023: MNCJ co-sponsored several events for the City of Bellingham's All In Climate Week (September 22-30, 2023)
- October-December, 2023: TBA

Earth Advocacy Partners.

Deb Cruz attends monthly meetings with Earth Ministry (<https://earthministry.org>) and other faith representatives to keep up-to-date on WA State environmental legislation and other activities. Legislative priorities are being established and awaiting the priorities from Environmental Priorities Coalition. Other advocacy issues include the breaching of the Snake River dams, opposing the GTN Express Pipeline, tracking the Columbia River Treaty re-negotiation process, supporting the 2023 All Our Relations Campaign (Snake River Dams) and the Mega warehouse proposed by Amazon in Tacoma.

Dr. Giles Presentation on the Southern Resident Orcas

On September 28th at 7:00 pm, BUF will be hosting a presentation by Southern Resident Orca scientist Dr. Deborah Giles. Entitled "*What Poop Can Tell Us: Using Scent Detection Dogs to Study the Health of Southern Resident Killer Whales*," Dr. Giles, with her "poop-smelling" partner dog Eba, will talk about using the superpower of a dog's nose to allow Wild Orca's team to remain further away from the whales than other methods, making this research non-invasive. "We're stronger together, so we collaborate with the most respected names in wildlife conservation research to paint a near real-time picture of the health of endangered Southern Resident killer whales, and provide timely data to the public and management agencies used to understand and address the causes of population decline."

"Let's Talk Grizzly Bears: Restoring Grizzly Bears to the North Cascades"



Dr. Chris Servheen, President and Board Chair of the Montana Wildlife Federation, and Co-chair of the North American Bears Expert Team for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Deb Cruz is working with the Sierra Club, the National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA), Conservation Northwest and the Endangered Species Coalition, Dr. Servheen will be speaking about restoring grizzly bears to Washington's North Cascades. A decision to move forward could produce one of the most incredible conservation victories for North Cascades National Park and its surrounding ecosystem - but it cannot happen without public support and the work required to minimize the potential for human-bear conflict. Come learn more about grizzly bears recovery efforts, grizzly biology, and how humans have learned to coexist with grizzlies in other parts of the country. The event will be on Zoom and details will follow.

Regenerate Cascadia Presentation

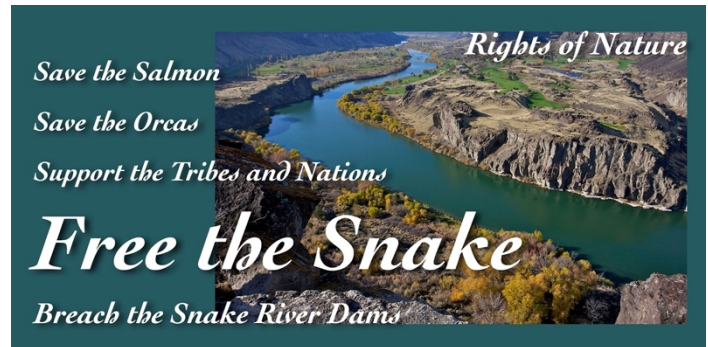
Work is happening by Deb Cruz and MNCJ to bring Joe Brewer along with the Regenerate Cascadia project to Bellingham/Whatcom. Plans for a presentation by Regenerate Cascadia is tentatively scheduled for October 28th at 7:00 pm in the BUF Sanctuary. On October 29th, there are plans for field trips to visit organizations and sites that are demonstrating regenerative and restorative efforts. Regenerate Cascadia will be touring during the month of October as part of a bioregional activation tour. This will lead to a hybrid summit, where groups can share lessons and challenges and create a shared vision and framework to cocreate funded bioregional councils in each watershed for the long-term regeneration of Salmon Nation and the Cascadia bioregion. Joe Brewer was previously at BUF with Michael Dowd in 2019. Here are the links of that 2019 presentation. More details to come.

- Dialogue pt 1: <https://youtu.be/tmwFJ3-5OrE>
- Dialogue pt 2: https://youtu.be/hhOy_OO57-o

Snake River Dams.

Work continues with coalition groups to monitor Washington State budget allocations passed last session, writing congress folks and urging President Biden to move forward with the breaching of the dams. A stay was issued by the Court in *National Wildlife Federation et al. v. National Marine Fisheries Service et al.* that calls for the Court to breach the dams to allow more consultation. The decision deadline has been extended to October 31st. The 2023 All Our Relations Campaign (Sculpture Journey supporting the breaching of the Snake River dams) will embark on September 23rd in Olympia with a gathering and then a reverent vigil walk to the state Capitol, then traveling to Portland and onto Palouse and Nimiipuu lands and end in Seattle on October 1st. The Journey is being organized by Se'Si'Le with Lummi House of Tears Carvers.

Convener: Deb Cruz, dwcruz@comcast.net



Family Promise



The BUF Family Promise Team delivered another set of meal kits to four Family Promise families both in Bellingham and Ferndale on August 7th. Thanks to our regular volunteers who generously buy the ingredients to these meal kits. We have another meal kit delivery scheduled on October 7th. The kits are now only delivered on Mondays along with our partner Garden Street Methodist volunteers. We are always in need of other volunteers both to assemble meal kits and deliver.

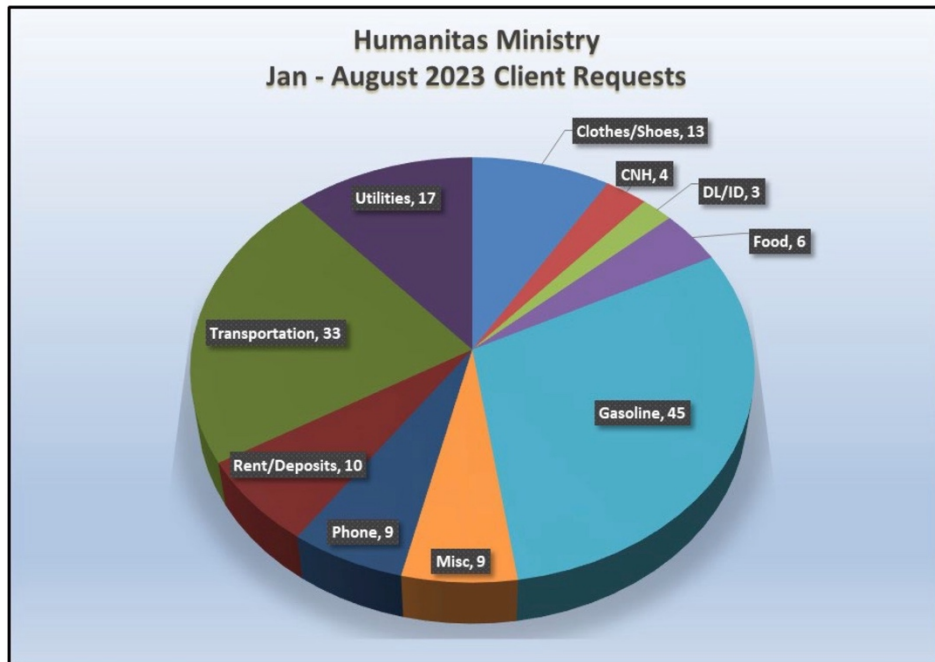
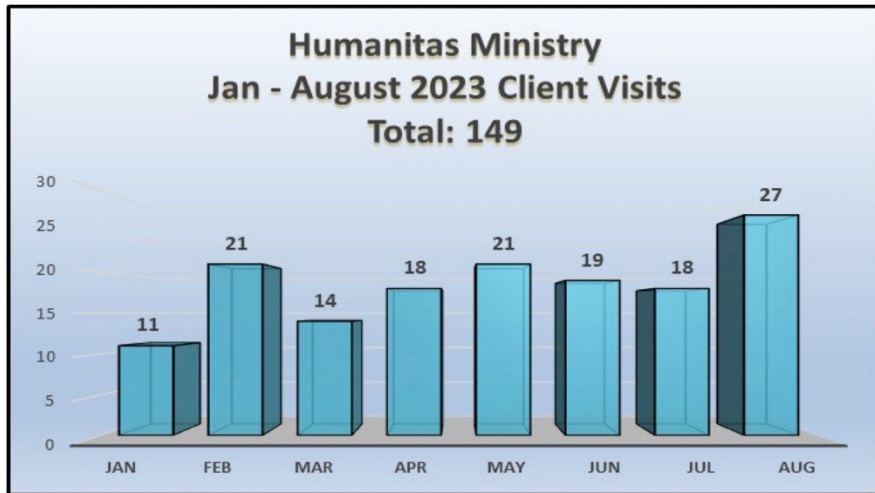
Convener: Ann Stevenson, Volunteer Coordinator, ann.v.stevenson@gmail.com

Humanitas

Humanitas Ministry - 3rd Quarter 2023

From January through August of this year we have had a relatively steady flow of clients coming through our doors, although on a week-to-week basis the numbers can vary significantly from none (twice) to nearly a dozen at a time (three times).

Among requests, gasoline continues to be prevalent at 30%, as high prices put stress on already skimpy budgets. This is followed by transportation at 22%, which includes bus passes, bus tickets to other states, car parts and the like.



Convener: Stephanie Bowden, stephanie.bowden@comcast.net

Immigration Rights

SEJC Collections, October, 2023 Recipient: Immigrant Resources & Immediate Support.

Immigrant Resources & Immediate Support (IRIS) provides quick assistance to immigrants and refugees in a temporary crisis, and connects them with current resources in the community. These include basic needs and emergency medical costs. Bilingual Board members find the needs of low-wage and seasonal labor who do not benefit by the existing social services and support networks. They also determine if connections can be made with other organizations that can offer assistance. They seek low cost or donated items. For example, they help entire families with less than \$300. The SEJC collection will be used to provide critical needs such as food, clothing, hygiene items and baby supplies. Part of the funds may also be used to assist with emergency medical expenses. Volunteers are needed urgently for transportation, delivering much needed items to families without the facility, and for rides to appointments. Immigration Attorney, Leta Sanchez, Board Chair, IRIS and Norma Suarez, Executive Director will speak to the BUF Congregation on Sunday, October 8. They were be available later in the Social Hall to share farm worker experiences and the struggles faced by Asylum-seeking families. Website: irisnw.org Phone: 360-333-4943..

Immigration Stakeholder meeting co-sponsorship.

In August 2023, the Refugee Resettlement team and the SEJC Executive Committee agreed to co-sponsor immigration attorney Leta Sanchez, executive director of IRIS (the nonprofit that SEJC voted to receive a collection this year above), for hosting a stakeholder meeting at BUF on September 7th at 10 am. This stakeholder meeting/listening session was conducted with representatives from the Dept of Homeland Security, office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. Leaders from the immigrant community, local nonprofit reps and other community members were in attendance and had a chance to share grievances about interactions with ICE and CBP. Reps from the Mexican and Guatemalan Consulates were also included.

Convener: Mike Betz, mwbetz@comcast.net

Interfaith Coalition

- Interfaith Coalition (IFC) Office moving soon to permanent quarters, with all services under one roof.
- IFC continues to progress in housing homeless families, successful transfer to own homes, offering rental/moving assistance on threat of eviction or loss of homes, and ongoing support services.
- Strengthened connection with Whatcom County school district family support liaison reaching far out into the County.
- A Summer Shindig fetched \$10K, beyond expectations.
- Coats and winter warm clothing drive: gave out 1800+ coats, no need for more this year; but seek children's knitted cold weather items (gloves, scarves, blankets), for project warm-up. Please contact IFC's coordinator, Ronalee Kincaid: lkincaid@aol.com
- CAST served 11,000 meals last year.
- Coming up: September 23, Celebration of Interfaith honorees, at Center for Spiritual Living.

Convener: Sita Amba-Rao, ambarao25@gmail.com

Interweave (LGBTQAI+)

Natalie Johnson and Connie Ohana have stepped up to revive this team. A meeting will be called later this fall to develop a team and a plan for a future of the group and its activities. BUF members continue to be engaged in LGBTQAI+ issues with UUSC and with the proposed Safe Space Game Night program with Grace Nyblade.

Conveners: Natalie Johnson, nataliejohnson53@gmail.com and Connie Ohana, cohana61223@gmail.com

Native American Connections Committee (NACC)

Gathering of the Eagles.

This year's Gathering of the Eagles with members of Lummi Nation was a phenomenal event! May 21st-25th canoes journeyed to the islands and the Hawaiian contingent participated. May 26th was the landing at Lummi and a number of UUs from BUF and around the state attended and helped out with meal preparation, necklace making and other tasks. May 27th was the honoring of the women warriors celebration that honored Deborah Parker (Tulalip), Winnoa La Duke (Annishinaabe), Fawn Sharp (Quinalt) and Amy George (Tseil-Watuth). There was also a group of San Carlos Apaches, who are struggling against the Oak Flat mining project, that made its way to the Gathering from Arizona. Very powerful group, especially on the last day that was spent in ceremony that was open to the public. Plans are being made to continue the Gathering for next spring.



Interfaith Network for Indigenous Communities

(INIC, <https://fanwa.org/our-network/inic/>). Deb Cruz attends bimonthly meetings with other faith communities across the state to discuss and share activities within our Indigenous communities.

Indigenous Allies.

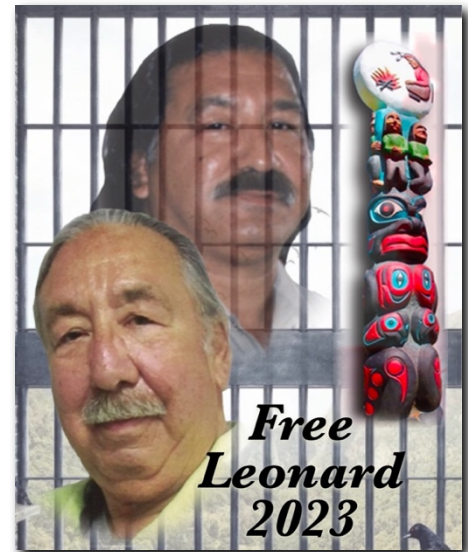
Indigenous Allies meets the 4th Wednesday every month with Deb Cruz and Beth Brownfield as BUF representatives. This is an interfaith coalition of local faith communities working to engage in Indigenous issues. Members of the group were very busy with helping out with and attending the Gathering of the Eagles last May. They also helped with the Lummi landing of the Paddle to Muckleshoot. One of their current projects includes gathering information on the Stickney Indian Boarding School that was located in the Lynden area. They are meeting the 4th Wednesday of every month at 2:00 pm. Contact Deb Cruz at dwcruz@comcast.net if you are interested in participating with this group.

2023 Paddle to Muckleshoot.

On July 22nd and 23rd, BUF members along with UUs from East Shore and members of the local Indigenous Allies group volunteered and attended the Paddle to Muckleshoot Lummi Landing on July 23rd. Volunteers packed about 300 lunch bags for canoe families and help with main meal preparations for both days, including a couple hours of shucking corn!! Canoes landing at Lummi were greeted with traditional Lummi hospitality and then paddled south to join other canoes heading for the main landing at Muckleshoot. Other UU congregations throughout the state also volunteered and attended Paddle landings in their areas.

2023 Free Leonard Peltier Totem Pole Journey.

On September 6th, BUF hosted the Bellingham Blessing of the 2023 Free Leonard Peltier Totem Pole Journey. Lummi House of Tears Carvers embarked on a journey to Washington DC with at Totem Pole with its traditional blessing stops along the way. East Shore and Olympia UUs also hosted blessing. The Totem Pole headed out to Washington DC to join Amnesty International and NDN Collective for a gathering outside the White House calling on President Biden to grant Leonard clemency.



Leonard, a member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa and of Lakota and Dakota descent, is now in his 48th year of serving a prison term of two life sentences in Coleman, Florida for aiding and abetting in the deaths of two FBI agents during a shootout on the Pine Ridge Indian reservation in South Dakota in 1975. The history of Leonard's case has been fraught with legal and judicial irregularities, violations and inequities that authorities have fought against correcting. Former witnesses, judges and attorneys have pleaded clemency acknowledging the misbehavior of officials at his original trial and in subsequent appeals. Leonard

will be 79 years old on September 12th and is in failing health. The call is to President Biden to grant clemency for Leonard and to allow him to spend what remains of his life at home.

2023 All Our Relations Campaign.

On September 23rd, Lummi House of Tears Carvers embarked on another Journey, this one headed to Nimiipuu (Nez Perce) country, continuing to raise support for the breaching of the lower Snake River dams. This time it was a metal sculpture (instead of a Totem Pole) that would visit communities gathering prayers on its way. Stops included Olympia, Portland, Pasco, Spokane, Nimiipuu and Seattle. Communities gathered to reconnect and raise their voices to support treaty rights in the Columbia River basin and the health of the Salish Sea bio-region by bearing witness to the urgency of breaching without further delay the Lower Snake River Dams.

Sk'aliCh'elh-tenaut Totem Pole Installation and Celebration of Life.

After years of work to bring Sk'aliCh'elh-tenaut home, it was not meant to be. Toki died in Miami Seaquarium on August 18th. On August 27th, a previously planned event to permanently install the Sk'aliCh'elh-tenaut Totem Pole on Jackson Beach on Friday Harbor, also became a Celebration of Life Ceremony to honor her passing and her legacy.

Led by Lummi leaders and elders, an emotional ceremony became a commitment to continue the struggle to protect and restore the rest of her qwe 'lhol mechen family. Guests and witnesses included leaders and elders from Shannon Wheeler of Nimiipuu (Nez Perc), JoDe Goudy of Yakima Nation and Sen. Debra Lekanoff. There were prayers, testimonials, dancing, drumming and singing. The celebration was recorded and can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hW0JiuqGtuQ>. If you are on Friday Harbor, be sure to stop and visit the Totem Pole, lay your hands on it and whisper a prayer . . .



Toki TV.

Toki TV, originally focused on the return of Sk'aliCh'elh-tenaut will continue with the goal of the protection and restoration of the Southern Resident Orcas as a way of honoring Sk'aliCh'elh-tenaut in her passing. We'll be looking to the breaching of the Snake River dams and supporting the Rights of the Southern Resident Orcas proclamation and resolution processes. Every Sunday at 1:00 pm. You can view previous episodes and future ones here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/529407417240057> or here: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCor-MLc7Lh-jiQ-thWsyFwg/videos>. Deb Cruz provides technical support for the broadcast.

Rights of the Southern Resident Orcas Proclamations and Resolutions

In July, both Whatcom County Council and the City of Bellingham were presented with a proposed proclamation to honor the Rights of the Southern Resident Orcas. It was the City and Whatcom County councils to move this forward as a resolution. Originally scheduled in July for the Whatcom County Council, the vote on the resolution was postponed because of overwhelming issues with the proposed county jail. It was suggested it be on the County Council's agenda for September, but we've not yet received confirmation. The City of Bellingham is doing further research on the resolution, checking in with legal representatives and Lummi Tribal leadership.

East Shore UUU Honoring Service

On August 27th, East Shore UU performed a service entitled "Celebrating our Indigenous Connections" that had at center, the honoring of the work of BUF members Beth Brownfield and Deb Cruz for all their work and leadership in Indian Country. "Join the East Shore Indigenous Connections Team as we share what we have learned while building relationships with our indigenous neighbors. We will also honor two UU women who have worked tirelessly to connect and inspire us and

other UUs to engage with indigenous communities and the issues that impact them.” The podcast can be listened to here: <https://esuc.org/event/celebrating-our-indigenous-connections/>

Conveners: Beth Brownfield, bethbrownf@aol.com and Deb Cruz, dwcruz@comcast.net

Refugee Resettlement Team

The work continues in supporting the two Syrian refugee families. We have volunteers still providing tutoring and language instruction at home and school, help with the green card application for Wave #1 family, birthday celebrations, dental care issues, swimming lessons, and many more activities. A special fundraising dinner for dental issues is planned for yet to be determined date this fall. If you are interested in supporting this effort, please contact anyone on the Refugee Action Team or Ann.v.stevenson@gmail.com.

Convener: Ann Stevenson, ann.v.stevenson@gmail.com

SEJC Project Reports

Fair Trade Sales

On 7/18 Susan was invited to sell Fair Trade-chocolate & teas at a local pop-up market. A little over \$80 was sold.

Sellers have been Cleo, Susan, Sita and Fran McKay. Rose Edington offered to sell as a backup person and Sita is ready to step down as a regular seller & be available as a backup. As usual, we are always looking for sellers to commit to at least 1 Sunday a month. That said, we couldn't do this without all the buyers that support SEJC with their Fair Trade purchases. We hope to continue to sell weekly during Sunday social hour. If anyone attends Wednesday Community Night Dinners & would be interested in selling after dinner, please let me know.

Convener: Susan Thurn, sdthurn3@gmail.com



SEJC Special Collections and B’ham Food Bank/Lummi Food Shelf contributions

“We profit from diverse inclusive society, understanding, accommodating and celebrating our differences pulling together for common good.” Ruth B. Ginsberg

1. Our new and old recipients continue to reflect our covenant of diversity and inclusiveness. Four of our ten selections for 2023-24 are new and diverse organizations contributing to just causes.
2. We need nominated greeters to replace the tentative two volunteers, Henry and Sita, to greet and assist monthly collections recipients who present their justice efforts at a monthly BUF Service—on arrival and at coffee hour.
3. We are grateful for our congregants who, once again, contributed generously. We hope you continue to make a difference in the community through your support to those organizations that strive to deliver their promise. Your contributions for June-July 2022-23 are shown below. We are grateful to our own administrator, Kathy Wahto for her efforts in sorting and organizing the monthly overlapping incoming funds, throughout the year, into a meaningful whole. (The recipient list for the current year has been included in the last report.)
4. Total contributions for 12 months, including the two for BUF Partners + Interfaith Coalition’s Christmas Eve gift collection: \$15,630, Food Banks, B’ham and Lummi: \$1,025 .

Grand Total: \$16,655. Per organization receipts range: \$415-2,500.

Special Collections recipients for 2023-2024.

Special Collections Recipients for 2023-24:

April 23, 2023	Lummi House of Tears Carvers
May 21, 2023	Blue Skies for Children
June 11, 2023	Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center
July 2023	Northwest Youth Services
August 2023	Friends of Women's Protection Center Nepal (WPC)
September 2023	Humanitas
October 2023	Immigrant Resources and Immediate Support (IRIS)
November 2023	Magyarszovat
December 2023	Restorative Community Coalition
January 2024	PNW Plateful
February 2024	Coffee and Sandwiches Together (CAST)
March 2024	Whatcom Peace & Justice Center
April 2024	Children of the Setting Sun Productions
May 2024	Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Services (DVSAS)
June 2024	Unbridled Spirit 7

Convener: Kara Black, kara@cedartreellc.com

Affiliate Reports

Unitarian Church of Magyarszovat in Transylvania, Romania.

In traveling to Bellingham last month, Rev Tamas and Kato Balazs, from our partner congregation in Magyarszovat, Romania, gave us a great gift. On the cusp of retirement, they took their first flight ever—to a place where almost no one spoke their language—in order to more deeply ground the relationship between our congregations...and to help us understand the historical depth (and theological breadth) of our Unitarian heritage. Thanks to our Hungarian-fluent BUFsters Reka Zoltan and George Bor, Tamas and Kato were able to enjoy Seattle, and the beauties of Whatcom County. And we were able to enjoy their presence in small groups and at Sunday services. These photos capture a bit of the service on August 20, with Reka accompanying Kato and Tamas singing traditional Hungarian songs, and Tamas offering a blessing around BUF's kopjafa.



As partner congregations, we have now exchanged the hosting of travelers (though we must acknowledge that they have hosted 50 of us over the years). What's next? For one thing BUF needs new leadership to keep this relationship going. Please consider helping with this; don't hesitate just because you haven't been involved in the past or haven't traveled to Magyarszovat.

We'll also need real creativity and humility going forward, as global relationships (among UUs in the Philippines, India, Burundi, the Czech Republic, Australia and many other countries) are being re-envisioned to ensure that there is more mutuality rather than dominance by first-world UU organizations. Here's more about the transition toward international U/U collaboration: <https://sites.google.com/uaa.org/in-tl-uu-collaboration/home> Unitarianism, Universalism, and Unitarian Universalism are not static. Even as we honor our traditions, we celebrate our evolving relationships and our hopes for continuing trust, fellowship, and mutuality.

Convener: Reka Zoltan at anyu9earth@gmail.com

Whatcom Racial Equity Commission.

No report at this time.

Eliana Steel at eliana.steele@gmail.com and Rupert Ayton at rupertayton_rt@yahoo@breezechms.com

Other Activities

Ops Team

The Ops Team is working with Grace Nyblade to host/sponsor a Safe Space Game Night program on the second Sunday of every month from 6:00-9:00 pm. This has been proposed as a joint project between BUF and Salish Skills Coaching and Classes. It's intended to be a program that allows for a safe space for social interaction for LGBTQ+ affirming and Neurodivergent teens (14 - 18) with adult supervision. More details to come when the program is finalized.

In the coming weeks, the Ops team will be working on shoring up the staffing of the Healthy Relationships team, hiring a new administrator to replace Kathy, writing procedures and policies for starting up new groups or activities that are not related to SEJC, building security and access, rental policies and rates and a myriad of other issues.

Current Ops Team members are:

Ministry Council Lead/Chair
Board Representative/Vice Chair
Administration Lead Council
Community within BUF Lead

Rev. Paul Beckel (Senior Minister - Staff)
Jim Riemer (Board Member)
Kathy Wahto (Administrator)
Seat is Vacant (Volunteer position, temporarily lead by Genia Allen-Schmid)

Growth and Learning Council Lead
Learning-Staff)
Community Beyond BUF Council

Genia Allen-Schmid (Director of Lifelong)
Deb Cruz (Volunteer)

Covenant of Beloved Community:

It seems as though our Covenant for Beloved Community is in need of leadership. Our previous leaders having served diligently, have needed to respond to other demands in their lives.

The purpose of the Covenant for Beloved Community, especially the Accountability Team, have been helping the congregation's teams and committees move forward in identifying those issues within the BUF environment that pose barriers to genuine inclusion into our community for marginalized community members. Once identified, action steps are taken to make the change that would increase BUF's capacity to be more actively engaged in anti-racism and anti-oppression work and create a climate and culture that encourages diversity. The Covenant of Beloved Community team offers assistance in identifying issues, creating action plans and goals and promoted the successes of BUF's efforts.



If you are interested in continuing the work of creating a Beloved Community here at BUF, please contact Deb Cruz at dwcruz@comcast.net

Denominational Affairs

UUA.

- The UUA Article II Study Commission is currently considering amendments passed at General Assembly the past June. The final recommendation is expected to be presented to the UUA Board of Trustees sometime in October 2023. The revised text and the text of the proposed amendments can be found here: https://www.uua.org/files/2023-06/Article%202%20Package.pdf?_gl=1*kobtyu*_ga*NDU1NDIxNTk1LjE2NTk0NTU1NTE.*_ga_VR20L6NSFS*MTY4Nzk1NDM4NS44NC4wLjE2ODc5NTQzODUuMC4wLjA.
- Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt was confirmed as the next president of the UUA.

- GA Actions for Immediate Witness include:
 - **Rise Up to Stop Cop City.** Concerned citizens are facing off with the Atlanta Police Foundation, in partnership with the Atlanta City Government and a committee of more than 40 corporate donors to oppose and derail the construction of “Cop City,” a militarized police training facility. The facility, besides going against the de-escalation of police force, also heavily and adversely impacts one of Atlanta’s largest green spaces and also impacts indigenous lands. Text here: <https://www.uua.org/files/2023-06/Stop%20Cop%20City%20AIW.pdf>
 - **Protect the Dreamers, the Recipients of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA) with a Pathway to Permanent Residence.** Text is here: <https://www.uua.org/action/statements/protect-dreamers>
 - **Organizing for Health Equity.** Concerning access to equitable and adequate health care including reproductive rights, gender affirming treatment, poverty, racism and other issues. Text here: <https://www.uua.org/files/2023-06/Health%20Equity%20AIW%202023.pdf>
- Monthly National 8th Principle meeting with Paula Jones is still ongoing.
- Common Read 2023-24: *On Repentance and Repair* by Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg. *On Repentance and Repair* invites readers of any faith to explore practices for accountability that can bring us into wholeness and really make a difference in our personal, community, and national relationships.

Pacific Western Region.

- Pacific Western Regional Assembly: April 19-20, 2024
- PWR Chalice Lighters will officially launch in January 2024
- “Caring for Trans Families,” a national 3-part series that will empower congregational leaders to faithfully support our Trans/Non-Binary community members was/is being held on Monday, September 18th, Monday, October 23rd and Monday, November 20th.

JUJustice Washington

Asset Mapping. JUUstWA continues its work in asset mapping (figuring out who’s doing what in which congregation). As oft repeated, the pandemic wreaked havoc on congregations’ justice teams, many of which have faded off into the sunset. However, there is new activity with new people stepping into leadership positions and JUUstWA is racing to keep up.

Switch of CRMs. JUUstWA is undergoing a major shift from one CRM (donation and database software) to another and it’s always a very slow and tedious process. Hopefully, though, the new software, will help JUUstWA be a more effective organization with more outreach.

Interactions. JUUstWA interacts with a number of local, regional, national and international UU, interfaith and NGO individual organizations. Regular meetings with organizations working in a variety of justice issues, helps to keep our congregations informed and provide the resources they need as they step and grow into their justice work. Ongoing topics include climate resilience, UU State Action Networks, lower Snake River dams, interfaith Indigenous efforts, LGBTQAI+ relocations, State legislators and legislative activity, supporting federal legislative lobbying for things like the current Farm Bill, the Afghan Adjustment Act, immigration reform, Truth and Reconciliation Act and much more.

Projects. This summer has been spent in engaging UU’s in a number of indigenous issue-related activities, very much in line with BUF has also done this past summer. UUs from around the state participated in the Gathering of the Eagles, the Paddle to Muckleshoot, Free Leonard Peltier Totem Pole Journey and the All Our Relations Campaign. Thanks to BUFster Rupert Ayton, JUUstWA is currently helping form a state-wide group that will be engaged in equity issues in our criminal justice system. Other UU congregations are working hard in their efforts in Beloved Community and Green Sanctuary programs. We’ll be preparing for the next state legislative session which will start gearing up after the elections. This means plans and preparations for our Legislative Summary usually held in the first week of January of the new year.

BUF Sanctuary Chair Task Force
Report to the Board for October 26, 2023

1. Three listening sessions were held in September and October, at which 26 members or friends offered comment. See the attached summary of comments. Generally, members were supportive of adding “some” chairs; however the specific number of chairs was not broached at the time.
2. Chair Task Force recommends that we don’t use the available matching funds, but limit the expenditures to the \$9,750 raised by individual donors in the paddle call.
3. The Chair Task Force recognizes that some BUF members are concerned about the aesthetics of the chairs. When chairs were first considered for the paddle call, the Task Force explored, but opted not to consider stackable wooden chairs owing to their cost, which could be as much as double the cost of the selected chair. Chairs with wood components may be more aesthetically compatible with oak pews.
 - Question for the Board: should we explore the costs of stackable chairs made with wood components in consideration of the aesthetics/compatibility with pews? This choice would result in fewer chairs, but possibly with greater visual appeal.
 - The cost of the chair selected (for which we have samples) would allow for roughly 68 chairs (17 pews). How many chairs are needed to meet the defined need?
4. The Task Force seeks Board volunteers to help in assembling a finance/project plan that includes cost scenarios, and logistical planning.