

**Bellingham Unitarian Fellowships**  
**The Midweek Update**  
**21 June 2017**

**A Remarkable Victory for Farmworks & C2C & BUF**

On Friday June 16th at 1 pm, after 4 1/2 years of struggle, history was made. Familias Unidas por la Justicia signed a favorable union contract with Sakuma Berry Farms. This is the first farmworker union made up of indigenous farmworkers (people indigenous to Mexico's territory who do not speak Spanish) in history, and this is the first new farmworker union in 20+ years. Without the strong backing of our partner organization Community to Community (C2C) and C2C's supportive partnership with BUF, this might not have come to pass. We have a lot to be pleased about! We were part of a positive step in this area's history, despite the current national political situation. Thank you so much to everyone who has supported the Partnership and the FUJ Union through voting for the Partnership, supporting fundraisers, marching, cooking, signing, writing, boycotting, demonstrating, and more. This is a crucial first step towards improving the health and justice of our food system. Si se puede!

**Enjoy the new art exhibit in the BUF Narthex- stunning photos of the natural world by Carol Sheppard**

A friend once told Carol that if you stay with the color combinations found in Nature, you can't go wrong. Nature is truly the paintbrush of an almighty power, no matter what your spiritual beliefs.



Her photos capture more than the image; they strive to fill and ignite the senses you might have if you were THERE.

Besides being a Nature Photographer, Carol works with creative techniques like Water Drop Photography and Abstracts. She is trained in Portrait Photography and has tackled the more technical challenges of creative editing with Photoshop, High-Dynamic Range and other computer-based tools.

Currently she teaches Macro Photography and Tabletop Photography to small groups and to classes for Whatcom Community College.

Check out her website: [CarolSheppardPhotography.com](http://CarolSheppardPhotography.com)

**Staff Changes**

We're happy to welcome Sue Sayegh, and Alison Youde, back for the summer. Alison is covering vacation time and a decrease in summer hours for our other two building stewards. Sue was back, initially, to provide an orientation for new office staff. Our new bookkeeper, however, quickly realized that taking on the BUF job in addition to another part time position was unsustainable. We're very fortunate to have Sue and Alison, who we've known for a long time, and know these jobs well.

**Armchairs in Sanctuary**

We have four sturdy armchairs in the sanctuary, placed where we hope they can be easily accessible to those who can use them for better mobility. Please let Kathy, our Administrator, know if we need more, or if another arrangement would work better for you.

**Summer Service Previews**

**June 25 - A Mennonite Story**, Guest Speaker Loretta Willems

Sociologists have noted that humanity without groups or identities is impossible because unbearable. They have also noted that identity is based on narrative—the stories we tell about who we are, where we came from, and our relationship with others. Loretta, who is married to UU Minister Emeritus William Haney, will tell about the discovery of the story that permanently claimed her loyalty. Organ music by Allen Hecock.

**July 2 – My Country Right and Wrong**, Guest Speaker Rod Haynes Patriotism seen through the lens of history and my experience being a progressive and an officer in the American Legion.

**July 9 – Pride 201**, Guest Speaker ~Page~ Continuing our LGBTQ education from last year's pride 101. Clearness: what does it mean today? Pastor Page will guide us through an interactive service.

### **BUF is looking to hire a Childcare Coordinator**

Childcare Coordinator is a part-time and paid position. The Coordinator is the primary liaison between caregivers, church community, church leaders, and other staff, working to help caregivers provide a safe, nurturing, welcoming and engaging environment for each child. For more information on the position, please see our ad at <https://www.indeed.com/job/childcare-coordinator-a7f647b8e006884c>. Submit resume to [jennifer@buf.org](mailto:jennifer@buf.org). ~ Jennifer Smith, Director of Lifelong Learning

**Humanitas - Helping People In a Pinch** We are going to take a break and will not be publishing any more stories in the Mid-Week Update until September, even though our doors will be open as usual each Wednesday morning. In the meantime, we wish you all a very happy summer and thank you for your continued support. If you would like further information on what we do at *Humanitas* or if you would like to donate, please contact [elizweber@msn.com](mailto:elizweber@msn.com) or check our corner of the kiosk in the Social Hall.

~ *The Humanitas Team*

**The needs of the Lummi Food Bank do not take a summer vacation** Lummi Food Bank is always in need of food donations. It is also in need of bags, especially paper bags for distributing the food donations received. We know that hunger is an ongoing struggle for many in our and in our neighbor's communities. Please consider adding a few items to your shopping list (groceries or personal items) that you can donate to their Food Bank by leaving in the cart at the front entrance. You can also make that struggle a little less burdensome cash donations (submit to the BUF office). Thank you for your continued support to help others~ Carol Dukes

### **Pride Umbrella Drill Team Practices – Come One, Come All**

On Wednesday June 21<sup>st</sup>, June 28<sup>th</sup> and July 5<sup>th</sup> in the BUF parking lot, from 6:30-7:30pm.

The practice will consist of learning to walk as a group in a parade and learning a routine.

Qualifications:

- Have a rainbow umbrella or a solid colored umbrella (rainbow color)
- Be able to hold the umbrella, walk, twirl overhead, to the sides and on your shoulder
- Rhythm and dance a plus but not necessary

Needed: drummers to keep the beat.

I WILL BRING UMBRELLAS FOR THOSE THAT WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE \$20

Purchase umbrellas \$20, contact [cathy.campbell@siriusbilling.com](mailto:cathy.campbell@siriusbilling.com)

### **PARADE is Sunday July 9 NOON**

Line up at 11:30 after service at BUF. The Parade starts at noon and ends about 1-ish

## BUF Interweave and Gay Pride July 7<sup>th</sup>-July 9<sup>th</sup>

An interview with Cathy Campbell- Part Two

It turns out that June is Pride Month across most of the county. Here in Bellingham and here in BUF, we continue the festivities into July, culminating in the PRIDE Parade on Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup> at Noon “I think we just didn’t want to conflict with the big Seattle PRIDE Parade in June, and maybe some people wanted to march in both parades!” according to Cathy Campbell.

The Center for Spiritual Living in Mount Vernon will be having a more traditional Pride Celebration on Friday, June 30<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. All are invited to participate in the celebration.

And did you know how the Rainbow Pride Flag earned its (Colorful)



Stripes? In late 70’s San Francisco, the nascent Gay Rights Movement was in full swing. Without a symbol to rally around, the diverse group of activists navigated the treacherous political climate with no beacon. That’s where artist Gilbert Baker came in. Baker’s iconic rainbow flag design not only filled a

void, it quickly became a global symbol of LGBTQ unity and solidarity. This recounting from Marian Beddill.

### Fun Info and Opportunities for the Summer

Thank you families, for your support and patience on my first year as Director of lifelong Learning at BUF. The Curriculum church year has come to a close, and we will be having only childcare on Sundays. But that doesn't mean there are not some fun summer things planned!

**June 25<sup>th</sup>** Family Pool Party at Bayside 9:30-11:30 am. We have rented out the whole pool so come and join all your BUF friends for some fun in the water!

Looking for something to do with the kids this summer? One of the rentals at BUF is a **Poetry Camp** for School age kids! *Sign up forms available in the office or sign up*

here <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094ea5ac2aabf49-poetry>

A great activity for parent's and children to do together is a safety pin box. You put on a pin to show your support for people of color. So now what? The **Kids Safety Pin Box** is a great resource to talk about race with your kids. I highly recommend buying a box.

<https://www.safetypinbox.com/kids/>

Also, I have started a blog for parents! <http://bufdll.blogspot.com/>  
We are still looking for a few teachers to work with the 5/6 & 7/8 class with the Jedi Academy curriculum. They are awesomely fun classes! If you are interested please let me know!

Enjoy your summer! & See you at the pool!

~ Jennifer Smith, DLL

## BUF Calendar Highlights 6/21-7/2

Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>

\*Humanitas at 10am- Sanctuary

\*Writers Group at 12 noon

Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>

\*Flowering Cherry Meditation  
at 2:00pm in Quiet Room

Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup>

\*Dungeons & Dragons at 10am  
in the library

Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>

\*Worship Service at 10:30am  
with Loretta Willems

\*Coffee Hour at 11:30 am in  
Social Hall

\*Sunday Brunch -Hearthfire  
At 12 Noon

\*Memorial Service for Kate  
Blake-Sanctuary 2:30

Monday, June 26<sup>th</sup>

\*NCLEX Prep Course-Library  
all day, Monday -Thursday

\*Life Exercise-4:30 Flex

\*Black Lives Matter- 6:00pm in  
conference room

Wednesday, June 28<sup>th</sup>

\*Humanitas-10am Sanctuary

Thursday, June 29<sup>th</sup>

\*Flowering Cherry Meditation  
at 2:00 in Conference Room

Saturday, July 1<sup>st</sup>

\*Shir HaShalom at 10:30 Flex

Sunday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>

\*Worship Services, 10:30 am  
Rod Haynes, Guest Speaker

\*Coffee House, 11:30 Social Hall

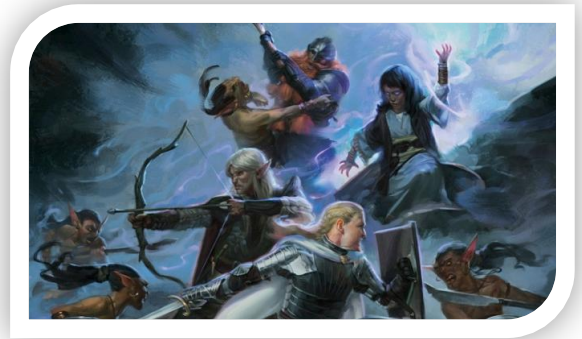
## Miracle of Mindfulness—Join Us Every Thursday at 2:00pm



Meeting **every Thursday** and following the tradition of Thich Nhat Hanh, the Flowering Cherry Sangha Mindfulness Meditation Group takes part in meditation, study, discussion, and chanting. Join us at **2:00 pm on June 22<sup>th</sup>** in the Meditation Room downstairs. Chairs are provided; bring a cushion if you wish. For more information contact David Gillespie at [davidgillespie72@gmail.com](mailto:davidgillespie72@gmail.com).

## Dungeons and Dragons- Saturday Mornings in the Library

BUF members recently formed a Dungeons and Dragons role-playing game opportunity. At 10:00 AM on **June 24<sup>th</sup>** in the Library, join us in this fantasy game, as we guide our heroes through quests for treasure, battles with deadly foes, daring rescues, courtly intrigue, and much more. Adventure updates are posted to <http://blog.bitratchet.com>. Email [jed@bitratchet.com](mailto:jed@bitratchet.com) with questions.



BUF  
FAMILY PARTY

AT THE

pool

Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
9:30 - 11:30 AM



Bayside Swimming Club  
502 Clark Rd, Bellingham, WA 98225

### Sunday June 25<sup>th</sup>

**BUF Family Pool Party from 9:30-11:30 am Bayside Swimming Club**

**Worship Service at 10:30 am with Loretta Willems**

**Coffee Hour at 11:30 am in Social Hall**

**Sunday Brunch at Noon at Hearthfire**

**Memorial Service for Kate Blake**

## The Natural Balance in All Things- Every Monday at 4:30 PM

Join us at **4:30 pm on June 26<sup>th</sup>** for Life Exercise, a program of gentle movement drawn from Chinese Tai Chi and Japanese health exercises. All levels of fitness are welcome. For more information, contact Lee Seaman, (360) 676-8543, [lseaman@seamanmedical.com](mailto:lseaman@seamanmedical.com).

## HARNESSING THE POWER OF LOVE TO CREATE CHANGE

[Black Lives Matter Ministry Team](#) meeting will be held on **June 26<sup>th</sup>** at 6:00 PM. The BUF Black Lives Matter Ministry Action Team seeks to nurture the social, spiritual and personal development of congregation members in the exploration of how racism and privilege impact our congregation, our



community, and our nation. In particular, we acknowledge the targeted violence which impacts black people disproportionately. We are committed to harnessing the power of love to dismantle racism and white supremacy across our communities and to creating spaces inclusive of people of all races, ethnicities, and cultural backgrounds. We meet consistently, every second and fourth Monday of the month at 6pm in the Conference Room.

☐COMING IN JULY☐

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**Gaymes Night** Friday July 7 6:00 to 9:00 pm

**Board games, card games, kibitzers and good conversation!**



**Bellingham PRIDE Dance** Music by DJ Char

Saturday July 8, 6-10 PM BUF Social Hall

\$10/door BYODrinks

Soda, Ice, snacks provided

**BUF PRIDE SERVICE**

Sunday July 9 10:30

Page, minister

Carrie Koehline, celebrant

**Pride Parade**

Sunday July 9 Noon

RAINBOW Umbrella Drill Team

Walkers, skaters, bikers, strollers

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## Project Homeless Connect coming up on July 21st

Interfaith Coalition has opportunities for you to make a difference in the lives of your Whatcom County neighbors. This summer we could use help doing exterior maintenance and repairs on our houses and would welcome with things like: painting, tree/brush trimming, mowing, general carpentry, etc. Skilled or not skilled – you can help! Knitters can begin making hats and scarves for Project Warm Up to distribute this winter, or donate yarn for others to do so. In addition, Interfaith helps collect items for Project Homeless Connect, a community one-day event in Bellingham on July 21st, that brings immediate access to services for the homeless.

**Kids Need Books** distributes books to low-income families in Bellingham and the county, and your donations of new or gently-used kids' books will help many kids avoid the "summer learning slide." Call Interfaith at 734-3983, or email [info@interfaith-coalition.org](mailto:info@interfaith-coalition.org) for more info to donate, volunteer, or learn more.



Giveaway items needed are: hygiene items, new socks and underwear, blankets, sleeping bags, tarps, tents, backpacks, shoes, towels, diapers, baby wipes and formula. Donated items can be brought to the Interfaith office – just call first. Deadline for donated items is Friday, July 14th. To volunteer before or during the event, contact the Whatcom Volunteer Center at 734-3055.

## An Invitation to BUFsters from Seattle University Unitarian Church (UUC) For July 14-16



A 3-day Zen Retreat, July 14-16, led by the Rev. James Ford, Roshi, and Janine Larsen, Practice Leader. On-line registration is now open. Fees are based on what you can pay, and attendance can be full-time or part-time. This is a “commuter retreat,” meaning participants go home each night. Some home hospitality is available for out-of-town participants, or commercial lodging is available reasonably close to the church. In addition, two optional sessions are open to all. On Thursday evening July 13, Rev. Ford will offer meditation and give a Dharma talk at the Woodinville UU Church, and on Sunday morning July 16, Rev. Ford will lead Sunday worship at University Church service before concluding the Zen retreat with a short meditation period, Q&A about Buddhism, and three short Zen ceremonies. More details and online registration is available at [www.uuchurch.org/Zen](http://www.uuchurch.org/Zen).

## Social Justice Collection for the month of July: Lydia Place

BUF members and the congregation itself as a whole have been long time supporters of Lydia Place. The mission of Lydia Place has been and is to support sustained independence by providing housing, supportive services, advocacy, education, and by raising awareness of the faces and causes of homelessness here in Whatcom County. Lydia Place was established in 1989 by a task force of Church Women United who saw a need for a safe housing for homeless women. It has carried on the tradition since and has even expanded its focus to include a myriad of other issues affecting or affected by housing and working with community partners in the collaboration of programs that are working to end homelessness in Whatcom County.



## BUF Book Club Meets July 20<sup>th</sup>

On July 20<sup>th</sup> we will examine Jonathan Evison’s *The Revised Fundamentals of Caregiving*. Evison crafted a novel of the heart, a novel of unlikely heroes traveling through a grand American landscape, and most of all, a story that offers a profound look into what it takes to truly care for another person. Bursting with energy and filled with moments of absolute beauty, this big-hearted and inspired novel ponders life’s terrible surprises as well as its immeasurable rewards. The book club will meet in the home of Daria Haynes, 4127 Ridgewood Ave. For any questions, email Jan Cavitt at [jadacad@gmail.com](mailto:jadacad@gmail.com). Keep up with the BUF Book Group’s doings at their blog: <http://bufbookgroup.blogspot.com/>

