

Beacon on the Hill March 2018

From the Ministers

In worship this month at UUCB we will be exploring the theme of “balance.” We follow the Soul Matters pre-chosen schedule of themes along with many other congregations around the country, and yet this theme seems particularly relevant here and now. As we draw nearer to spring, nights that were so long in winter are growing shorter and the sun is beginning to rise earlier each morning.



Families are getting back into the regular routine after a recent week off from school. And we are working on reaching greater balance in several areas here at church.

We are making strides in reaching new financial balance as a congregation. The Board welcomes your participation in the working groups it is forming to explore some potential paths toward a financially sustainable future for the church. If you are interested, please fill out the application (see pages 5-6 below). Alongside those efforts, your Coordinating Team is working hard to craft a budget that is not only balanced but will carry a surplus in order to begin addressing the deficit that built up over the last few years. Also, the committee to oversee the five deferred maintenance projects for which the congregation approved funding last month has been formed. They should be starting their work together by the time you read this article.

Because the realities of 21st century church mean we are “always in beta mode,” we have evaluated some of the new initiatives we began in the fall and have decided to continue some, retire others, and start two new ones. In particular, participation in Community Office Hours and the weekly Sunday morning Adult RE classes has been spotty, so we will be retiring Community Office Hours and shifting to a once-a-month (rather than once-a-week)

Sunday morning Adult RE schedule. That said, our First Thursday evening potlucks have seen pretty steady participation and Church on Tap has been growing.

We've noticed among the congregation many who are experiencing significant but varied transitions in both young adulthood and the second half of life. So, we are in the process of organizing both a support group for people in later life and a young adult group. It looks like we will try a young adult group once a month on Sundays after worship, perhaps going out to lunch together at a nearby restaurant. The support group for those in later life would also meet once a month, and will offer those facing the "empty nest," navigating retirement, grieving the loss of friends and loved ones, or struggling with poverty in later life a space to speak their truth and draw support and strength from one another.

In a world profoundly unbalanced in so many ways, may we all use this season to make the small changes we can to grow toward greater balance of work and rest, goals and spontaneity, heart and mind in our lives.

In faith,

Kristin and Christian

Sunday Worship Services in March

Sanctuary, 11 am

Theme for Month: Balance

March 4 – *How Do We Find Balance?* Rev. Christian Schmidt with David Roberts, Worship Associate. We're told again and again to find balance: between work and play, activity and rest, ourselves and others. But there is no balance between justice and injustice. Our community supports justice-making with our efforts and our resources. On this Stewardship Sunday, hear how our contributions make a stronger community that makes

justice in our world. *You are invited to stay for a light lunch and short program on stewardship.*

March 11 – *Leaning into Imbalance*, Amanda Weatherspoon with Melissa Rosales, Worship Associate. Stability is often a marker of safety, success, and happiness. What does this mean for the times in our lives that are not so stable? How can we face and embrace imbalance – in our lives, our communities, and in the wider global village? How can we lean into our source and faith communities when everything seems off kilter?

March 18 – *Reverse RE Sunday*, Revs. Christian and Kristin Grassel Schmidt. (RE = Religious Education.) An important part of our liberal faith is that our growth and learning are a life-long pursuit. Yet, our time together each week seems to place higher value on learning for children than for adults. This Sunday, worship will begin as usual, but after the Time for All Ages, adults will leave the sanctuary to take part in one of several opportunities for growth and learning. The rest of worship will be geared towards children. Childcare will be available, as always, for our younger children, and middle and high school youth can choose whether they want to stay in worship or go to a workshop with the adults.

March 25 – *Celebration Sunday!* Mr. Barb Greve with David Roberts, Worship Associate. We welcome Unitarian Universalist Association Co-Moderator Barb Greve to our pulpit as we celebrate our community, turn in our pledge forms for the next fiscal year, and get energy to go do the work of justice in the world!

March Good Neighbor (sharing our offerings): [Planting Justice](#) hires people who have been incarcerated and trains them in skills that support fresh produce in neighborhoods that have a history of limited access to fresh food. Your generosity will help Planting Justice empower even more people impacted by mass incarceration with skills and resources to cultivate food sovereignty, economic justice, and healing.

Personal Theology

Sundays, 9:30 am, Fireside Room

March 4: Rev. Sue Magidson, lifelong UU and longtime member of UUCB, **UUCB Community Minister**, Spiritual Care Coordinator and Chaplain at San Leandro Hospital. ***“Radical Listening as Spiritual Practice: How Giving Someone Our Undivided Attention Can Change Us ... and Them.”***

March 11: Rev. Chris Schriner, Minister Emeritus of Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation. He graduated from the University of Redlands, majoring in religion, philosophy, and psychology. He received a Doctorate in Religion from Claremont School of Theology and an MS in Marriage, Family and Child Counseling from the University of La Verne. ***“Bridging the God Gap: Finding Common Ground Among Believers, Atheists and Agnostics.”***

March 18: Br. Bede Healey, OSB Cam, PhD, Camaldolese Benedictine monk at Incarnation Monastery in Berkeley and clinical psychologist. He has served in various capacities, including Professor, Hermit, Director of Religion and Psychiatry, consultant, workshop provider, treasurer. He has a deep interest in the intersection between psychology and Christian spirituality. ***“The Psychological Roots of Believing.”***

March 25: Dr. Shahara Godfrey, Buddhist teacher and mindfulness coach, humanitarian and mixed-media artist, is a graduate of the Spirit Rock Community Dharma Leadership Program and the Path of Engagement programs. She received her Ph.D. in Humanities with a focus on Transformative Learning and Change from the California Institute of Integral Studies. In addition, she is a core teacher at the East Bay Meditation Center in Oakland. A self-taught mixed-media artist, she has exhibited in the Bay Area, Oregon, Washington, Atlanta and Los Angeles. ***“A Celebration of Life through Accepting Grief.”***

Humanist Connections

Sundays, 12:30 pm, Chrysalis Room

Format: A 10- to 15-minute presentation followed by moderated, timed discussion and a potluck at 2 pm (bring a dish to share or donate \$5). All are welcome!

March 4: *Painting*, Diane Rusnak

March 11: *Neo-Hippie-ism*, Ray Nelson

March 18: *Homo Deus: History of Tomorrow, Purpose of Humankind*, Harold Ogren

March 25: *Daniel Ellsberg, Doomsday Machine: The Morality of Nuclear War*, Don Klose

Special Events in March

Thurs. March 1: First Thursday All-Church Potluck, followed by **Evening Worship and Mission and Vision: Where Our Gladness & the World's Hunger Meet**. Please come, especially if you were unable to attend the session on Sunday, February 18, and share your perspectives as we discern what UUCB will do in its next chapter.

Sun. March 4: Stewardship Luncheon following the service.

Coming in April and May

Thurs. April 5: Our monthly potluck supper will also be a **Passover Seder**. If you would like recipes or ideas about what to bring, contact Marin Fischer, loismfischer@yahoo.com, (510) 848-2995.

Sun. May 6: LFDC's 3rd Annual Guest Speaker Luncheon, previously

planned for March 4, has been rescheduled. Mark your calendar to hear **Professor James Lance Taylor**, author of *Black Nationalism in the United States: From Malcolm X to Barack Obama*. (More information in Social Justice News)

Auction Events with Spaces Available

To sign up, email fundraising@uucb.org, and turn in a check payable to UUCB, marked “Auction.”

Sat. March 24: Any Port in a Storm! Enjoy tasting four different port wines along with four different desserts, while sharing stories of travel adventures (and misadventures) with other participants. Participants will vote on the best story, and the winner will receive a prize! Hosted by Bonnie Shaw and Anne Wardell. \$30.

Sat. April 7: Kensington History Walking Tour. Join Ann Harlow for a walk in the southern portion of Kensington and learn about how the still unincorporated town got started in the 1910s and ‘20s. You’ll see photos of the streetcar that came up Arlington and the “storybook style” business complex that occupied the space where the gas station is now. Learn about an early Kensington landowner, “Potato King” George Shima; architects William Yelland and Edwin Snyder; pharmacist/local historian Louis Stein, Robert Oppenheimer, and more. Starts at Ann’s house on Ardmore with coffee/tea and scones. \$10.

Family Ministry

Merrin Clough, Director of Family Ministry

Spring has sprung and Easter is fast approaching on Sunday, April 1! That means it’s almost time to hunt eggs, consider the quickening of life in this season... and enjoy good food along with great company during

brunch!

Buy brunch tickets online at <https://uueaster.bpt.me> or at the door. The cost is \$5 per person (both kids & adults). Menu: Baked Pancakes with Topping Bar (Cinnamon Apple, Blueberry, Nutella, Whipped Cream), Frittata with Cheese, Chicken Apple Sausages.

Easter Morning Schedule

9:15 am to 1 pm Childcare for Young Children

9:30 am Family Worship Service

9:45 to 11:30 am Pancake Brunch

10:30 am Egg Hunt

11 am to 1 pm Spring Activity Fair for Kids

11 am Adult Worship Service

It's never too late to volunteer! Contact [Colleen Farrell](#) or [Megan Hailey-Dunsheath](#) (RE) or [Karl Rimbach](#) (Legacy Links) to explore how your interests, skills, and experience can meaningfully shape the spiritual formation of our youth.

A Personal Note from Merrin Clough

This year has been full of both joy and challenges for my family. The birth of our bright baby girl, Etta, has brought more love into our home than my husband Jared and I ever imagined. Our days are filled with sweet laughter, and so much wonder, as we watch her grow in leaps and bounds. Our nights on the other hand lack that elusive elixir so many parents crave- sleep! As many of you know, life as a parent of young children is an over-full experience. It can feel like our hearts and schedules are being stretched in new ways. We wonder, what shape is our life as a family taking? Who is this

magical child going to become?

In February my father died after many years of declining health. It was a real blessing to have been able to be with him as his eighty-year-old body slowed down. Sitting with him I could sense how old age is just as transformative as birth. The approach of death can be so intimidating. For our family, end of life choices brought anxiety, freedom, and deep sadness. We all wonder, what has my life become? Am I ready to leave this world behind? I doubt we ever really find answers to these questions.

This coming and going from life, birth and death, this is certainly soul forming stuff. We have all stood at the threshold in this way, welcoming in new life and saying goodbye to those we love. I sense these are the moments when we discover who we really are.

All of this has been a lot for my family to manage. It has become clear to me that more time needs to be carved out of our busy days to manage my father's affairs and care for the baby. To that end, I will work part time for the remainder of the church year (through June). In general, I will work from home in the mornings on Mondays & Tuesdays. I will work from the office on Thursdays & Sundays, as well as most Wednesdays. The specific hours I work will vary each week as I fit meetings and special events into my schedule. I will continue to be available by appointment, so please reach out if you need my support.

Thank you to the church leaders for allowing me the flexibility to make these changes.

From the Board of Trustees: Call for Working Group Volunteers

Cindy Maxim, Board of Trustees member

Do you want to help UUCB find a path to long-term financial stability? Do you have knowledge, skills, experience, or an ability to think outside the box?

Consider becoming a part of one of the Working Groups of the Financial Sustainability Task Force. The Board of Trustees is seeking volunteers for three Working Groups:

- **The Alternative Location working group** is tasked with gathering information on two things: 1) alternative properties for the congregation to consider should our Kensington campus come to be too expensive for us to maintain, and 2) other organizations with whom we might share our campus. This working group will need to be creative in their possibility thinking – people who think outside the box are especially welcome here!
- **The Capital Campaign working group** will help identify goals for an effective capital campaign. You'll look at what's been effective in past campaigns, and what hasn't, in order to come up with a plan for a potential future campaign. You'll also help identify ways to increase participation and discover what resources the UUA might have that can help. Do you like talking with other people and gathering their opinions? This might be the place for you!
- **The Staffing Structure working group** will explore our current staffing structure and better clarify how our staff contribute to UUCB's mission now and in the future. You'll work with our UUA contact to compare our staffing to that of other UU congregations of similar size and mission, and talk with staff members about how they and the congregation can better work together to fulfill our mission. To be clear, you won't be evaluating the performance of individual staff members; rather, you would be discovering how we can receive the maximum potential our staff can offer.

We are seeking members of all ages and backgrounds for these important positions – don't worry if you don't have experience on UUCB Committees, we're looking for a balance of ideas and energies! If one of these positions interests you, please briefly respond to the following questions (you can also find blank forms at the Board Listening Table on Sundays), or fill out the form electronically at <https://tinyurl.com/uucbsustainability>. **Please respond by March 28.**

1. Name
2. How can we reach you?
3. Are you a member of UUCB?
4. Why do you want to serve?
5. Which working group are you most interested in?
6. Tell us about any skills, knowledge, or experience you might have in this area.
7. What else do you want the board know about you?

Paper responses may be returned to Maryann Simpson's mailbox in the UUCB mailroom.

The Working Groups will be asked to submit their reports by December 18, 2018 so this is not a long-term commitment. If you have more questions about the working groups or their tasks, contact any member of the Board of Trustees, or email board@uucb.org.

Canvass Time

Nurturing Our Inheritance – Living Our Values

Please Join Us

A Time for Generosity and Church Stewardship

2018-2019 Canvass Kick Off Sunday

and Lunch

March 4, 2018

There is good news at UUCB: a **strong history and legacy** of those who have come before us that is evident in our church community, in our

traditions, and in the physical campus we have; and the **values and principles** of Unitarian Universalism and of each one of us that call us to lives of integrity, joy, and service; and a future of great possibility.

It takes commitment from all of us to live into that future for which we hope. This year, we challenge each of us to show our commitment by showing up, by living our values, and by making a pledge to support the life of this community. In this stewardship season, we challenge you to consider how much you can pledge in the coming 2018-19 fiscal year.

The Stewardship Team encourages you to turn in your pledge any time during March. Stop by their table in the Atrium to pick up or turn in forms or ask any questions you may have. You can also make a pledge or ask questions by emailing stewardship@uucb.org.

Thoughts from Community Ministry

Rev. Cathleen Cox

Many of you are aware of the sudden passing of Rev. Dr. Jeremy Taylor, UU community minister, internationally known dreamworker and frequent presenter at UUCB, on Jan. 3. Jeremy died only two days following the death of his beloved wife of 56 years, Kathryn, who had been in hospice care.

Rev. Dr. Jeremy Taylor's pioneering community ministry broke new ground and changed the landscape for community ministers who followed him forever. The Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists, in recognition of Jeremy's extraordinary gifts and unshakable commitment to his call to serve a community ministry of dreamwork, ordained him in the early 1970s.

There is no question that Jeremy's extraordinary international success lifted up into visibility the possibilities for UU community ministry in a way that influenced and hastened the acceptance of community ministry by the UUA

in the 1990s.

As a founder and past president of the International Association for the Study of Dreams and The Marin Institute for Projective Dreamwork, Jeremy created lasting institutional legacies for dreamwork as a powerful spiritual practice. He also influenced a generation of students at Starr King School for the Ministry, where he served as adjunct professor for many years. He was the author of four books on dreamwork and was a featured speaker at several UUA General Assemblies.

Jeremy was a fierce, lifelong supporter of community ministry, and he served on the Board of the UU Society for Community Ministries, of which I am the current President, for many years. He believed that community ministry has a crucial and unique role to play in sustaining and spreading the transformative, unifying and healing vision of our Unitarian Universalist faith. He was deeply committed to the value of clergy and lay leaders working in concert to manifest “the priesthood and the prophethood of all believers,” as called for by James Luther Adams.

If you are curious to learn more about lay community ministry and whether claiming this identity could be right for you, contact me at revcat@revcat.net or visit the UU Society for Community Ministries at uuscm.org.

UUSCM has established a memorial fund for community ministry projects in Jeremy’s honor.

There could be no greater tribute to Jeremy’s life than for you bring to life these words by Goethe, which Jeremy often quoted: “Whatever you can dream, begin it. Boldness has power and magic in it.”

In addition to a posting on my own and UUSCM’s Facebook page, the following are links to further tributes to Jeremy’s life.

<http://www.asdreams.org/in-memorial-rev-jeremy-taylor/>

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Larry Nagel

On January 28, 2018 there was a very important special Congregational Meeting to address urgently needed repairs for our beautiful campus. At this meeting, the congregation passed a motion to allocate up to \$758,000 to be drawn from the Board Designated Endowment to be spent on the following building repair projects:

- Restoration of the Safir Room
- Repair of the rafter tails (main building and Safir wing)
- Exterior painting, caulking and sealing (main building and Safir wing)
- Replacement of skylights (main building and Safir wing)
- Up to \$35,000 for mold investigation and remediation for the RE building

We are presently in the process of preparing Request for Proposals (RFPs) for these projects. The restoration of the Safir Room already has been designed, and we will be applying for permits and requesting bids on this project very soon, just as soon as the issue with the leaking skylight over the Safir Room is resolved. The remaining projects will follow in short order.

According to the motion that was passed, “a committee of five church members, consisting of a representative from the Building and Grounds Committee, a representative from the Endowment Committee, a representative from the Board of Trustees, and two congregants in good standing appointed by the Board of Trustees, shall have oversight responsibility for the authorized work. The committee shall report every three months to the congregation on progress of the repairs until work is complete.” In addition to the Oversight Committee report every three

months, the Buildings & Grounds Committee will be reporting on these projects every month here in the Beacon.

If any of these projects fits your interests and your skills, we would love to have you on our team. Please contact Larry Nagel at (510) 558-0842 or lwn@att.net. Or, just drop in at the Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting which is the fourth Monday of every month at 4 PM in the Fireside Room (except for December and May, when it is the third Monday)

Coordinating Team Notes

Deborah Schmidt, Coordinating Team Convener

- I am delighted to announce that our open Coordinating Team seat is now filled! Hilary Lorraine is our new Program Council liaison. A lifelong UU, long-time choir member and current member of the Youth Adult Team, she has a background in organizational and policy analysis and is already improving our org chart. We welcome her big heart, creative thinking and active commitment to UUCB.
- We are close to a working draft for next year's budget. Our commitment is to *at least* a balanced budget, with a possible surplus. This will probably mean some difficult cuts. A draft will be presented to the board on March 7, and we will hold budget info sessions on March 8 at 7:30 and on March 18 at 12:45, both in the Fireside Room. The board will approve the budget in April, followed by the congregational vote at our May 20 meeting.
- We are putting together two new teams with huge potential for impacting our budget positively: Fundraising and Community Rental Marketing. Do you have creative ideas for fundraisers that would appeal to both diverse UUs and our wider community? Are you skilled in event management and/or marketing? We would love to hear from you!

The Coordinating Team meets on first and third Thursdays from 10 am to 12 noon. If you're interested in attending, please contact the CT Convener to verify meeting time and place. Questions for the CT? Email CT@uucb.org.

Program Council

Gail Simpson, Convener

Last month I contemplated how to succinctly describe the work of the Program Council as distinct from the Board of Trustees or the Coordinating Team, their executive arm. I tried out this description:

“The Board of Trustees consists of your democratically elected representatives, charged with visioning, fiscal obligations and policy. The Program Council is more like the housemate who takes responsibility for organizing household events and chores. We work for the wellbeing of our diverse ‘residents’ by coordinating, communicating, housekeeping and reminding people to share. “

This month the PC discussed a topic that may soon impact you when you come to UUCB for a committee meeting, a Chalice Circle or a rehearsal!! We will ask groups, when possible, to set up their own chairs and tables—just like you would if you needed to rearrange Mom and Dad’s living room so you could host guests. You would only move the furniture that was necessary for your event. You would set up the extra chairs you need. And you would put everything back the way you found it before you left.

In February, so many people pitched in to help after Love Songs & Chocolate that it only took ten minutes to clear the chairs and tables from the Social Hall. Just like a family!

Of course, the facilities staff will be available when you need help! Big events? Vulnerable back or knee? No problem. A first priority for everyone

will be safety. But let's look forward to a new era of self-reliance. To be announced soon. Until then, practice helping out!

Social Justice Council News

Sheldon Jones, Reporter

Stop Deportations: Rally and March to Defend Immigrants

Monday, March 5, 5:30 PM

SF Federal Building, Mission and 7th St, SF, Civic Center BART

Hosted by Free SF and Bay Resistance

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1798981326802736/>

During February's potluck meeting, Mark Miner, lead of the Green Sanctuary Project, gave the first of three update reports on Green Sanctuary at UUCB. The main effort of the Green Sanctuary Project focused on church infrastructure and kitchen practices. Mark has joined the Building and Grounds Committee to promote environmental sustainability and has been impressed with the expertise of all its members. Given the cost of the urgent repairs, however, it will take time to bring energy efficiency and sustainability into the equation.

Future composting for the kitchen at UUCB, except for special efforts by individuals during singular events, is dependent on the City of Kensington's instituting a weekly composting pickup. Mark suggested that we might encourage Kensington to contract for this waste management service from El Cerrito as is done for fire protection. Mark's next report will be about the Marin Community Energy option coming to Kensington in the coming months.

UUCB will be hosting the monthly Immigrant Justice vigil at the West Contra Costa County Detention Center later this spring. The vigil takes place in front

of the detention center on the first Saturday of the month.

January's Good Neighbor recipient, *Berkeley Food Pantry*, received \$2366 from the Sunday collection. February's recipient was *Youth Emergency Advocacy Housing (YEAH)* of Berkeley, which provides daily shelter and services to 30 young adults and their pets. *Planting Justice* is the Good Neighbor recipient for March. *Planting Justice* is a grassroots organization with a mission to empower people impacted by mass incarceration and other social inequalities with the skills and resources to cultivate sovereignty, economic justice, and community healing.

Sunday, May 6, LFDC, Annual Guest Speaker Luncheon, (postponed from March 4) **Professor James Lance Taylor** is the author of *Black Nationalism in the United States: From Malcolm X to Barack Obama*, which earned a 2012 "Outstanding Academic Title" – Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries. He is a former president of the National Conference of Black Political Scientists, served as chair of the Department of Politics at the University of San Francisco from 2012-15, as faculty coordinator of the African American Studies Program from 2015-17, and chair of the "Committee on the Status of Blacks" in Political Science for the American Political Science Association, 2016-17.

Partner Church Committee News

Stephanie Ann Blythe, Reporter

Refresh: give new strength or energy to; reinvigorate.

Your Transylvanian Partner Church Committee is initiating a process for refreshing our partnership with the church and people of Homoródújfalú. The UUA's Partner Church Council is spearheading this effort to reinvigorate our denomination's many Transylvanian partnerships. The generation of UUs who created and nurtured these partnerships are now a little longer in the tooth, to put it

gently, and looking for help. We have a new minister, Gyero Attila, at our Partner Church. New generations of UUs are needed to keep these relationships vital and ongoing. Let's get to know the new generation in our village! That means us right here, right now, at UUCB.

Anne and I have spoken with the ministers. Without question, they are on board. Next, we'll be talking with the Board, Coordinating Team, and Program Council for their support. They are all needed just to have the Partner Church Council send a facilitator for a "refresh weekend" that includes a Friday or Saturday workshop, followed by a Sunday worship service. We need the participation of the "people in the pews" to make it work. That's you!

Right now we are looking for a date, probably a Saturday evening, when the Partner Church Committee will host a dessert social. Our past intern minister, Zackrie Vinczen, who has been to Transylvania as a Balázs Immersion Scholar, and Rev. Emese Bodor, who is this year's Balázs Scholar at Starr King School for the Ministry, will be the featured speakers. Look for more details soon.

Can't wait? Want to get involved now? Contact Stephanie Ann Blythe at steph62850@yahoo.com or Anne Greenwood at annegt1@sbcglobal.net to get in on the ground floor!

Bringing the Present to the Future

Beth Pollard, Endowment Committee

Have you ever wanted to time travel into the future? While also able to live in the present?

We have just the gizmo to make that voyage...it's called "[Wake Now Our Vision](#)."

It's easy....just come up with a guestimate of how much you think UUCB will receive from your estate or other endowment gift(s) in the future, fill out the [UUA form](#) (not legally binding) that goes to the UUA, and "poof" – UUCB will receive some money next year – before your own gift arrives here.

The magician who created this time travel gizmo is Manhasset, New York's UU Shelter Rock congregation, who has been blessed with both funds and a spirit of generosity to share with other UU's. It's possible we could receive as much as 10% of members' guestimates that they will bequest to UUCB.

This isn't the first occasion that UUCB members are time traveling. Recently the congregation was "visited" by past members, when the earnings of their endowment gifts turned into funding for much needed capital repairs in the present.

Contact endowment@uucb.org, call me (510-812-6284), or go to <http://wakenowourvision.org/> so that you too can live and benefit UUCB in the future and now. Please let [us](#) know you've made the journey!

New Music Group Starting

The UUCB Bluegrass and Folk Ensemble will have its first weekly session on Sunday, March 11, at 1 pm in the UUCB Music Room. No experience necessary! The UUCB "Blue Folk" Ensemble aims to build community where people with no musical experience and people with a lot of musical experience can join together to create music that draws on the social justice foundations of American Folk and Bluegrass traditions. The only requirement for membership is a desire to play, sing, or just enjoy hearing acoustic guitars, banjos, bass, etc.,

make traditional, contemporary and progressive acoustic music. For more information please contact co-chair Ralph Nelson, at taxhelp@financial-harmony.com or (510) 828-6215.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley Covenant of Right Relations

- We covenant to build a religious community guided by love and sustained by respectful relationships.
- Believing that building healthy relationships is a spiritual practice, we aim to listen appreciatively, speak with care, express gratitude, honor our differences, and assume good intentions.
- We endeavor to communicate directly, honestly, and compassionately, particularly when we are in conflict.
- When we hurt one another, we will try to forgive, make amends, and reconnect in a spirit of love.
- In celebration of the common purpose that unites us, we will do our best to abide by this covenant.

MEMBERSHIP in this Unitarian Universalist congregation is open to all who see this church as their religious home and the principles for which the church stands as their own. People who wish to join participate in a “pathways to membership” session, sign the membership book, and commit to supporting this church through participation and financially. To become a member, please contact our Membership Co-Chairs, Lonnie Moseley or Paul Hudson (membership@uucb.org), or speak with one of the co-ministers.

NEWSLETTER ITEM SUBMISSIONS: Submit announcements and articles by email to beacon@uucb.org. Due to limited space, we do not publish announcements for events occurring outside the church community.

The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month. **Questions?** Please email beacon@uucb.org.

WEB SITE: <http://uucb.org>

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS:

To subscribe to the email version of this newsletter or “The Week Ahead at UUCB,” email administrator@uucb.org. You can also find both newsletters at the uucb.org website under “News.”

UUCB general discussion list:

http://groups.google.com/group/uucb_discuss/about

Email list for families: Email family.ministry@uucb.org

Social Justice email list: Email sejones1950@gmail.com