

Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship September 20, 2018 Special Edition

Special collection for the Humanitas Team is coming up, Sunday September 30th. Donations can be made at any time during the month, by writing "special collection Humanitas" in the memo line or by attaching a note to your donation.

The following item was inadvertently left out of the MWU on September 19th, but was important enough to warrant this extra edition of the newsletter.

Thanks for your patience!

The Humanitas Team - Special Collection Recipient September 30



The Humanitas Team provides support to local people in need by listening to their stories and offering limited, emergency, financial assistance, such as a car breakdown on the way to work, (up to \$40 in pledges or vouchers--no cash), in a safe and non-judgmental atmosphere. Nine volunteer members of the Team participate at a time. In addition, currently a tenth member of the Team overseas the "Laundry Love" program. Every Wednesday morning they give vouchers to individuals to wash a load of laundry. Upto 28 people per week have availed this facility.

Interacting with these needy people can be very difficult some days due to their emotional turmoil. But our patient Team members are there to listen and offer relief. Please read the Team's stories of distress and relief, one in every week of BUF's Midweek Update. The Humanitas Team follows BUF's covenant, "Love is the spirit of this Fellowship and Service gives it life." You'll surely be moved to support this Team's noble work.

Thus the Humanitas Team is BUF's crucial connection to the Bellingham community in easing some unexpected financial pressures. The Team works in collaboration with other churches in the

community sharing this burden. Your contribution this month will be of great help to maintain this effort.

~ Sita Amba-Rao, SEJC.

Fair Trade looking for more volunteer sellers on Sunday (and buyers too!)

Three of Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship's (BUF) Unitarian Universalist principles form the foundation for the FTT. These are: #1, Worth and dignity of every person; #2, Justice, equity and compassion in human relations; and, #6, Goal of world community, with justice for all. These are incorporated into the SEJC objectives as education, action and raising awareness, within our community and wider world.



The UUSC has partnered with the Equal Exchange Company, which buys directly from farmers and Co-ops who grow the chocolate, coffee and tea we sell. They follow the principles and standards of fair trade, and ensure that low income farmers earn a fair living wage. The farmers use organic and sustainable methods, fair prices and good products.

The mission and objectives of FTT are two-fold: 1. Provide FT products for sale to Sunday BUF congregants (while creating an awareness for the equity and dignity of farmers); 2. Raise money for SEJC work.

The second objective is fulfilled by offering a part of the sales to support both UUSC for social justice work worldwide, and by using the surplus funds for SEJC's community's projects or purposes. In order to fulfill these objectives of the SEJC, the FTT needs the commitment of the BUF congregants, both as buyers and sellers. We are looking for new sellers from the congregation to help us raise awareness and promote our products more effectively. One hour, one Sunday per month is our requested service.

Our goal is to offer weekly sales during our social hour, however if we lack volunteers to sell, we may need to reduce our selling times to every other week during the school year and monthly in the summer.

If you are interested in supporting our FT sales, please contact

Susan Thurn @
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or see any SEJC member for more information.