



2016
WALK & BIKE
TO WORSHIP

MAY 21 - 29



Event Organizer Toolkit

San Francisco Walk & Bike to Worship 2016

Dear Walk & Bike to Worship Organizers,

Imagine people from your congregation leaving their cars behind and discovering new ways to get themselves, their friends and family members to your place of worship. Or for those who must arrive by car, imagine them still being able to share in the cause of opening up our streets for greater modes of transport.

This May, the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition, Walk San Francisco, the San Francisco Interfaith Council and leaders from local congregations are partnering to make this picture a reality by inviting you to participate in the 3rd Annual Walk & Bike to Worship Week from Saturday, May 21 to Sunday, May 29.

A highlight of the celebration will be the Annual Interfaith Ride on Sunday, May 22 where members of different congregations will ride together to visit different churches.

This Event Organizer Toolkit is designed to help you prepare for a successful Walk & Bike to Worship event at your place of worship and to highlight the citywide activities available. From free workshops to the Interfaith Ride, there are many ways your congregation can get involved!

Last year, we had 22 congregations participate. For 2016, we've expanded to include people walking and we hope to involve over 30 congregations in San Francisco and the wider Bay Area. If your congregation is part of a neighborhood faith coalition or work group, please share the toolkit with your faith neighbors. And, if possible, please promote this event with other SF congregations in your denomination through listservs, newsletters and gatherings.

Join us for this fun, festive, interfaith event! Review the Toolkit and start planning your celebration.

Thank you,

Walk & Bike to Worship Planning Team

Rev. Alyson Jacks, First Unitarian Universalist Church & Center

Rev. Beate Chun, St. Francis Lutheran Church

Bonnie Walton, San Francisco Bicycle Coalition

Michael Pappas & Cynthia Zamboukos, San Francisco Interfaith Council

Myles Cowherd, San Francisco Zen Center

Natalie Burdick, Walk San Francisco

Ralph Sinick, Bnai Emunah

Steve Hong, San Francisco Lighthouse Church

Fact Sheet

When is Walk & Bike to Worship?

- Saturday, May 21 to Sunday, May 29, 2016
- Each congregation selects their own worship day to emphasize
- 2nd Annual Interfaith Ride, Sunday, May 22, 2016
- Other related activities listed on page 5

What is Walk & Bike to Worship?

- A San Francisco event that gives your congregation and community members the opportunity to raise the visibility of walking, biking, and/or taking transit to worship to make communities safer and more pleasant places to live
- A collective celebration that promotes physical activity, health, and safety for neighbors and the environment
- A fun opportunity for interfaith collaborations and community building

Why Should Your Congregation Participate?

- Walking, biking and taking transit to your place of worship can become a habit that promotes a fun and healthy habits
- Walking and biking promotes physical activity for your congregants
- Improve bicycle and pedestrian safety in your community
- Encourage healthier communities, lower driving-related expenses and lessen congestion around your place of worship

Event Websites:

www.sfbike.org/worship

www.facebook.com/groups/WalkBikeWorship

Lead Event Organizer Contacts:

Bonnie Walton
SF Bicycle Coalition
(415) 431-2453 x318
bonnie@sfbike.org
www.sfbike.org/worship

Natalie Burdick
Walk San Francisco
(415) 431.9255
natalie@walksf.org
www.walksf.org/events

Five Key Steps to Organizing Your Event

1. Recruit others and organize

- Speak with leaders and members in your congregation who might want to help
- Reach out to any congregants who are already walking, biking and/or taking transit
- Have an initial meeting to plan the basic event outline and choose key roles
- Follow up to spread the word and stay connected

2. Advertise and promote at your place of worship

- Posters: Display the Walk & Bike to Worship Posters
- Calendars: website, bulletin boards, fellowship newsletter, etc.
- Announcements: services or other community meetings
- Emails: get the message out through your mailing lists

3. Plan an event appropriate to your place of worship

- Walk & Bike to Worship activities might include:
 - Organizing group walks or bike rides from points across the city
 - Hosting a walker & rider reception with refreshments for your participants
 - Offering a service like a “Blessing of the Bicycles”
 - Participating in a bicycle education workshop or a bicycle repair class
- Plan where riders can securely park their bicycles
 - Consider designating space in a courtyard or vacant meeting room
 - For more information on bike parking, including how to apply for a free rack or corral, visit: www.sfbike.org/resources/bike-parking.

4. Involve your whole community

- Include people who may not be able to walk or bike: offer snacks or a welcoming activity so the whole community can enjoy the success of the day
- Rollers count too! Your congregation may have members who use wheelchairs or scooters, or skate/skateboard to your place of worship

5. Deliver! Have a great day!

- Track your success
- Give every rider a “I Walked/Biked Today” sticker + opportunity to enter the free participant drawing for prizes
- Take pictures!

Support Available for Organizers

Pre-event support from the SF Bicycle Coalition & Walk SF

- Walking and biking maps of San Francisco for route planning
- Walk & Bike to Worship posters with space for you to add your custom details
- Digital Walk & Bike to Worship logo and flyer
- Your place of worship included on the online list of participating locations
- Promotion to SF Bicycle Coalition and Walk SF Members and supporters through social media and newsletters

Participant items available from the SF Bicycle Coalition and Walk SF

- “I Walked/Biked Today” stickers
- Safety material including the “Walking in San Francisco by the Numbers” bookmark, “Rules of the Road,” and info on free Bicycle Education classes
- Bike Drawing Prize: Bike Lock, light set, HALO Safety Light Belt, and Walk SF and SF Bicycle Coalition Memberships
- Bike Guides with helpful information on all things biking
- Get the facts about walking in SF: www.walksf.org/learn-more/walking-facts
- Learn the “Rules of the Road” for biking in SF: www.sfbike.org/bikelaw

San Francisco Walk & Bike to Worship Events

● **Free Urban Bicycling Workshop**

Get your congregation prepared for Walk & Bike to Worship Week! This free workshop is open to the public and will cover the basics of how to pick the right bike for everyday riding in SF. Free RSVP: sfbike.org/worship

- *Tuesday, April 19 from 7:30-8:30 pm*
San Francisco Zen Center, 300 Page St
- *Tuesday, May 24 from 6:30-7:30 pm*
First Unitarian Universalist Church, 1187 Franklin St

● **2nd Annual Interfaith Ride**

Sunday, May 22 (1-4pm, Location TBD)

Celebrate the environment, the community and general health by joining like-minded citizens of different faiths to tour our beautiful city by bicycle! Last year we had over 40 riders and visited eight congregations.

Be part of the fun as we ride and talk together, visit different faith communities around SF, and conclude with a rousing celebration in Golden Gate Park.

RSVP: sfbike.org/worship

Additional Related Events

- **Walk to Work Day**

Thursday, April 7 (Citywide) walk2workday.com

People who live and/or work in San Francisco are encouraged to walk just 15 minutes of their daily commute. Participants get rewarded at one of the hosted Hubs across the city.

- **Bike to Work Day**

Thursday, May 12 (Citywide) sfbike.org/btwd

It's the 22nd Anniversary of San Francisco's Bike to Work Day, and we will be celebrating Bike Month all May. Riders will be cheered on at 25 Energizer Stations across the city.

- **Ride of Silence**

Wednesday, May 18 (Citywide) rideofsilencesf.org

A silent procession to honor those killed or injured while cycling on the streets of San Francisco.

Event Organizer Sign-Up

If you're interested in getting your congregation involved, please fill in your details below or online and you will be contacted with additional details.

Mail completed form to: SF Bicycle Coalition, attn: Bonnie Walton
1720 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

Submit online form: www.sfbike.org/worship

Please contact Bonnie Walton with any questions: bonnie@sfbike.org

Your Name: _____ **Email:** _____

Name of Place of Worship: _____

Mailing address: _____

Website: _____ **Phone:** _____

Your Walk & Bike to Worship Date:

___ Saturday, May 21 ___ Tuesday, May 24 ___ Friday, May 27
___ Sunday, May 22 ___ Wednesday, May 25 ___ Saturday, May 28
___ Monday, May 23 ___ Thursday, May 26 ___ Sunday, May 29

Other _____

Estimated Size of Event

How many people in your congregation do you think will participate in a Walk & Bike to Worship Day?

___ 1-10 ___ 11-25 ___ 26-50 Other _____

How involved would you like to be in Walk & Bike to Worship?

Please rate on a scale of 1 to 3, with 3 being the most involved: _____

- 1) I'd like to participate, but am not available to organize
- 2) I can help connect you with the appropriate leader in my group
- 3) I'm excited to make this happen for my congregation, and I can organize it!

Other: _____

Notes or Questions for Organizers:
