

The Beacon

A weekly email newsletter from
Cedars Unitarian Universalist Church
Serving Bainbridge Island and Northern Kitsap County



CEDARS CHURCH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Volume 11 Issue 19 / May 14, 2021

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Upcoming Services

The Anchor Point

Sunday May 16th
10:00 a.m.
Virtual Worship Service

Rev. Bruce Bode
Bryan Baker, Worship Associate

Through composer/singer Meg Barnhouse's song "All Will Be Well," an interior dialogue with the 14th century mystic Julian of Norwich, we will explore an answer to what is, perhaps, the most basic, existential question we humans can ask, namely, "Given life's often horrific conditions, is it worth the living?"

Bruce Bode is a Minister Emeritus of the Quimper Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (QUUF) in Port Townsend, Washington, from which he retired in 2018 after serving the congregation as the Senior Minister for fourteen years (2004-2018).

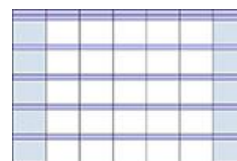
The Sacred Right to Vote

Sunday May 23rd
10:00 a.m.
Virtual Worship Service

Fran Korten, Guest Speaker
Penny Brewer, Worship Associate

In States across the United States, we are witnessing an assault on the sacred right to vote. Join us for this service in which we will explore the nature of the assault, the relationship of voting to our UU principles, and ways we can act on our values.

Current Week Calendar and Links



Your Cedars community invites you to participate in services and activities, get information, enjoy fellowship, and pause for reflection.

To view our detailed calendar [click here](#).
Then click on the event titles for more information.

Sunday May 16th
10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service
[Virtual Sunday Service Link](#)

11:00 a.m. Congregational Coffee Hour
[Virtual Coffee Hour Link](#)
Use passcode 1959 if required
or by phone using 1-253-215-8782

Monday May 17th
7:00 p.m. Knitting/Crafting Circle
[Virtual Knitting/Crafting Link](#)
Use passcode 2020 if required

Wednesday May 19th
7:30 p.m. Choir Practice
[Virtual Choir Practice Link](#)

Thursday May 20th
No Morning Reflection this week

7:00 p.m. Meditation Group
[Virtual Meditation Link](#)

News and Announcements

News from the Trustees

Your Cedars board has been working hard, productively as well as virtually, in recent months.



Discussions about the **Belonging Initiative** have been continuing, and that conversation will be a significant feature of the upcoming **Congregational Meeting on June 6**.

A proposed 2021-22 budget has been reviewed and approved after many months of work by the Budget Leadership Team composed of **Frank Petrie, Fran Korten, David Barnes** and **Reverend Zackrie**, to all of whom we owe a debt of gratitude .

The board itself has also been in flux and facing significant change over the last few months. **Heidi Parkingto-Thal** has resigned from the board to lead the newly reconvened Committee on Ministry. **Helen Nissan** has resigned to devote herself to the monumental task of recovering from a furnace fire and soot damage to her house and all her possessions. **John Peck** is resigning to face months of hospitalization and recovery from a planned bone marrow transplant. **Herb Hethcote** is replacing John as treasurer, and **Kassia Sing** has generously agreed to serve another year on the board.

Fortunately, the nominating committee has identified three very strong and suitable candidates to join the board in July. These three members have all agreed to temporarily replace the resigning board members pending the congregational vote. They are: **Mike Cox, Robyn Teske** and **Jeff Philip**.

My heartfelt thanks to them and to continuing board members Carol Ann Davidson, Herb Hethcote and Kassia Sing. It has been a challenging time, but the board and Cedars have benefited from the thoughtful service of all these members of our church family.

--**Dawna Kramer**, Board of Trustees President



Staff News

I'm excited to share the news that our staff team at Cedars has grown!

On June 1st Carolyn Kerns will be starting at Cedars as our Office Administrator.

Carolyn recently graduated with a bachelor's degree in public relations from Northwest

Our Congregational Mission

*Worship with open hearts
Nurture a learning spirit
Serve justice with compassion
Love without judgment*



Cedars UU Church is a Welcoming Congregation and Green Sanctuary



Rev. Zackrie Vinczen



Faith Formation at Cedars

Chalice Lighting as a Spiritual Practice

You may have noticed a number of different folks lighting and extinguishing the chalice in our Sunday services. It's part of an effort to get more people involved and make sure we "see" each other even when we can't meet in person.

Do you want to light the chalice? It doesn't have to be a solo affair either! Families and couples can do this together. We all look forward to seeing you. More information about doing this is available [here](#).

Bridging

In our Unitarian Universalist faith, the Bridging Ceremony celebrates the transition of our youth from their high school experience into young adulthood. This ritual helps us -- youth and families and all church members -- recognize and honor this important threshold moment. Right now, in these days where school is online and all the traditional

Missouri State University. She is originally from Lincoln, Nebraska and is new to the area. She's looking forward to getting to know all of you and exploring Washington.

--Rev. Zackrie Vinczen

Cedars Knitting/Crafting Circle

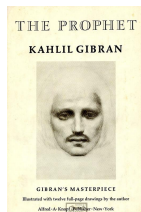
Monday May 17th
7:00 p.m.

Cedars knitters and crafters are invited to join virtual social gatherings on first Wednesdays of the month at 1:30 p.m. and third Mondays at 7:00 p.m.

Bring your current project, tea or coffee, and snack for virtual sharing and connection. If you don't have a current project in mind, you can knit for charity with your favorite organization or knitting4Peace.org.

The Wednesday afternoon knitting/crafting group is now hosted by **Linda Andrews**, and the Monday evening group is hosted by **Hilda Wiens**.

Contact **Carol Ann Davidson** for details.



Morning Reflection

Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.
Suspended this week

During each Morning Reflection Session, which is led by **Rev. Zackrie**,

participants are invited for meditation and discussion of brief sections from **The Prophet** by *Kahlil Gibran*.

Meditation

Cedars Meditation Group
Every Thursday, 7:00 p.m.
Virtual Sessions

Although the zoom format is not the same as meeting in person, it is a step in committing to a regular meditation practice. Each session includes 5 minutes of chanting, 25 minutes of silent meditation and at least 30 minutes of informal group discussion.

For more information or the Zoom link, contact **Dawna Kramer** at raddjk@yahoo.com or via phone number from the Breeze directory.



Cedars Creativity Fair 2021

See What Others Have Been Doing

trappings of senior year are missing, these rituals are more vital than ever.

Do you have someone in your family who is graduating from high school this year? Are you yourself graduating from high school? Would you help to shape a bridging ceremony at Cedars?

Rev. Zackrie and Kathryn Jay would love to hear from you!

An Invitation

Do you know any high school students who would like to explore Unitarian Universalism with other high schoolers?



YUUP (the Young Unitarian Universalists Project) is launching a platform to forge connections, work together, support each other, and find leadership opportunities. It will have a variety of different topics and groups within it for UU youth and recent bridgers across the country.

There are a couple of steps to joining the network: first, the youth must fill out the **Youth Drop-In Registry for their region** or **registry for recent bridgers**. Once the registry is filled out and confirmed by a parent and a minister or church administrator, youth will receive a Mighty Network invitation to get on YUUP.

Spread the word! YUUP is for everyone. We hope to see you soon!

Chalice Circles

Are you interested in meeting regularly with people to listen and learn and to deepen spiritual connections to yourself and your community? Consider joining a Cedars Chalice Circle!

For more information click [here!](#)

Kathryn Jay
Faith Formation Lead
360-559-2381



Movie Essentials

Join us on Friday, May 28th at 7:00 p.m.

The Cedars Movie Group meets monthly for social evenings and discussion of a selected movie that participants have viewed previously.

This month we will discuss **Summer Hours**, Olivier Assayas's captivating film about a treasure-filled inheritance. A silver-haired

To Cope with Social Isolation

Our identity as a congregational community has been weakened by the COVID-19 pandemic, and one response has been to re-imagine virtual versions of the several after-service **Creativity Fairs** that were held in Webster Hall in recent years.

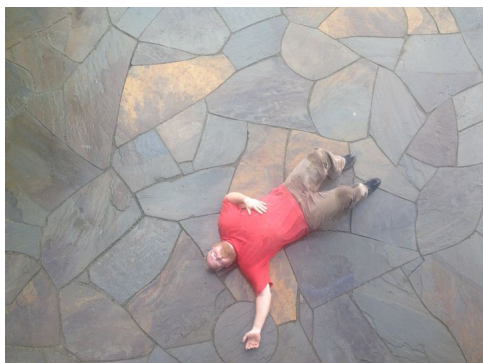
Organized to provide opportunities to see and enjoy artful products and demonstrations of the creativity present in our talented and capable congregation, those fairs helped us get to know and appreciate each other.

Now that 2020 is behind us, a new 2021 Cedars Creativity Fair has opened and the 2020 fair has closed (but remains viewable as an album of photos on our Cedars Facebook page). Please join us by sharing what you have been doing and enjoy the growing show using the link below!

Cedars Creativity Fair 2021

A recent addition to the show:

Former Cedars member and trustee Mark Rosenwald (who sometimes does stonework on the side) fondly remembers this past accomplishment with **"I finished it. Set a personal record today: 385 sq ft set to sloping elevation in 9.5 hours"**.



Amazon Donates to Cedars!

Amazon has a charitable donation program called AmazonSmiles. If you are an Amazon customer, follow the instructions at this [link](#) and you can register so that Cedars will receive a small donation every time you make a purchase, It costs you nothing!

If you are already using AmazonSmiles and want to change your charity to Cedars, sign into your Amazon account and

1. Click on Hello (Name)/Account & Lists towards the top right of the page.
2. Click on Your Amazon Smile at the right.
3. On the right you will see "Your current charity" with a button below "Change

matriarch enthroned among her children and grandchildren at the beginning of the film leaves behind a charming country house and a cherished art collection, and her heirs, as is normal, must figure out what to do with it all after her death.

The group discussion will begin at 7:00, but the zoom link will be active by 6:45 to allow social interaction before the discussion. For more information contact **Joan Spencer** or **Jane Martin**.

Pastoral Care Concerns

Cedars member **Mary Clear Padilla** fractured her ankle and suffered a mild concussion in a fall last week. Consequently she's now in Poulsbo's Liberty Shores convalescent and retirement facility for about a month. Cards and/or afternoon visits would be appreciated (call ahead to arrange @ 360- 779-5533). Her temporary address will be:

Mary Clear Padilla
Apt. 115
Liberty Shores
19360 Viking Avenue NW
Poulsbo, WA 98370

In discussion with the Pastoral Care Team, **Rev. Zackrie** confirmed that he would appreciate being informed if anyone in the Cedars community tests positive for Covid-19.

The information will remain confidential if the person so wishes, but Rev. Zackrie's awareness could help with contact tracing as well as determining what support and possible services could be offered by Pastoral Care Team members and perhaps the larger Cedars UU community as well.

The Pastoral Care Team

Social Justice News

Reform Our Justice System: Targeting the Poor

Banning debt-based drivers license suspensions is a goal of the Kitsap Equity, Race, And Community Engagement Coalition, **Kitsap ERACE**. The organization's criminal justice team added the objective to its list of collective actions after conferring with those working with impacted people.

Kitsap ERACE is a collaboration of many groups, organizations, and individuals, all striving for racial equity in Kitsap County. More information is available [here](#).

Regional Activity

Charity." Below that button it shows the charity you are currently helping.

In this donation system, Cedars is currently listed as "Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Bainbridge Island" Location: Bainbridge Island, WA and a renaming request to reidentify us as Cedars is being submitted.

The Cedars Fundraising Committee

Guidelines for using Cedars Center

The Cedars Board is making the following restrictions to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission to the few people who must enter the Cedars Center to keep us functioning.

1. Permission from staff or Board Member is required for entry.
2. Sign in when entering and sign out when leaving.
3. Use hand sanitizer when entering.
4. Wear a face mask and practice social distancing.
5. Avoid touching your face.
6. Please disinfect high contact surfaces when you enter and before you leave: door handles, light switches, computer mouse and keyboard, desks, tabletops, countertops, sinks, toilet, and shared equipment such as pens, staplers, and clipboards.

Thank you for helping to keep us safe!

Various actions and programs organized or promoted by **JUJustice Washington** for the current month can be reviewed in the monthly news update available for review [here](#).

Cedars Zoom License

Cedars UU Church has purchased a licensed zoom account through UUA for use by Board members, committees, and affinity groups.

This zoom account has screen sharing, polling, breakout rooms, and no time limits on meetings (the time limit for a free zoom account is 40 minutes). To schedule a meeting using the account, email **Herb Hethcote** and he will schedule the meeting and send an email to you with the zoom information.

For more information click [here](#).



Note from Rev. Zackrie

The recent United States Supreme Court appointment is worrying to many folks and for many reasons.

If you're a member of the LGBTQ+ community and find yourself suddenly needing to get married for legal protections, contact me, I am willing to officiate small socially distanced weddings in Western Washington.

Print the Beacon Newsletter

The Beacon is available to download and print each week. Go to www.cedarsuuchurch.org. The newest issue is available on the Cedars website under News after 12:00 p.m. on Fridays. Copies will also be available at Sunday Worship Services when they resume.

Member Directory

Members and Friends can easily search our online Church Directory for contact information. The link is located under the Connection Tab of the Cedars website

Services and Faith Formation

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
The Island School
8553 NE Day Road
Bainbridge Island

Cedars Center
284 Madrona Way, NE #128
Bainbridge Island WA 98110
(206) 780-0373

Closed during COVID-19 Pandemic

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen, Minister

For an appointment, e-mail minister@cedarsuuchurch.org
For an urgent matter, call (360) 930-9339 (Pastoral Care)

Kathryn Jay, Faith Formation Lead
faith.formation@cedarsuuchurch.org

Office Manager
Currently volunteer staff
office@cedarsuuchurch.org

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Do you have an article, event, or announcement?
Send it to The Beacon by **Friday at 11:00 a.m. ONE WEEK BEFORE** the next Friday's newsletter (7 days in advance). See our [submission guidelines](#).

Cedars UU Church (website)



Cedars Unitarian Universalist Church | 284 Madrona Way NE, #128, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

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