

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 21 / May 28, 2021

[Website](#) [Faith Formation](#) [Calendar](#)

[Our Staff](#) [Contact Us](#) [Join Cedars](#)

Upcoming Services

Somewhere on the Road to Damascus

Sunday May 30th
10:00 a.m.
Virtual Worship Service

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen
Grace, Worship Associate

Somewhere on the road to Damascus, Saul became Paul. Somewhere under a Bodhi tree, Siddhartha awoke as the Buddha. And somewhere today, the next generation of spiritual leaders is waking up to the realities of the world.

In this service, we will explore what it means to awaken to the possibility of transformation.

Bridging Ceremony

Sunday June 6th
10:00 a.m.
Virtual Worship Service

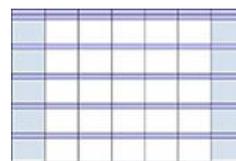
Guest Speakers and Associates

This Sunday we will be celebrating the accomplishment of high school seniors in the Cedars Community who are graduating this year.

Join us as we reflect on the meaning of this accomplishment and help bless our grads as they cross this important threshold.

2021!

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.

Friday May 28th
7:00 p.m. Movie Essentials Group
[Virtual Movie Discussion Link](#)

Sunday May 30th
10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service
[Virtual Sunday Service Link](#)

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

Tuesday June 1st
7:00 p.m. Meditation Group
[Virtual Meditation Link](#)

Wednesday June 2nd
1:30 p.m. Knitting/Crafting Circle
[Virtual Knitting/Crafting Link](#)

7:30 p.m. Choir Practice
[Virtual Choir Practice Link](#)

Thursday June 4th
10:00 a.m. Morning Reflection
[Virtual Morning Reflection Link](#)
Use passcode 1959 if required

News and Announcements

Cedars' Annual Meeting

Cedars' bylaws include requirements for an annual business meeting held prior to June 30th, the end of the church year, for electing members of the Board and Nominating Committee and to conduct other business deemed necessary by the Board.



The meeting will be held virtually again this year, following the Sunday Service on June 6, and a thirty-percent quorum of members is required for the conduct of business.

Please plan to participate so the quorum requirement will be satisfied.

Candidates identified by the Nominating Committee to fill open Board positions include **Mike Cox, Robyn Teske** and **Jeff Philip**, with **Dawna Kramer, Kassia Sing, Herb Hethcote**, and **Carol Ann Davidson** continuing. **Reverend Zackrie Vinczen** also serves as a non-voting, ex-officio member of the Board.

Judy Willot, has been identified as a candidate for the Nominating Committee, with **Susan Shaffer**, and **Gillian Bull** agreeing to continue in new terms. **Johanna Munson** will continue in the second year of her term and **Carol Ann Davidson** will continue serving as the Board representative. One position remains open.

A proposed 2021-22 budget has been reviewed and tentatively approved after many months of work by the Budget Leadership Team composed of **Frank Petrie, Fran Korten, David Barnes** and **Reverend Zackrie..**

A summary of this year's **Belonging Initiative** is also planned as a feature of the meeting.



Staff News

I'm excited to share the news that our staff team at Cedars is growing!

Carolyn Kerns will be starting next week as our Office Administrator.

Carolyn recently graduated with a bachelor's degree in public relations from Northwest Missouri State University. She is originally from Lincoln, Nebraska and is new to this

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 --

area. She's looking forward to getting to know all of you and exploring Washington.

--Rev. Zackrie Vinczen



Movie Essentials

Join us tonight, 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 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**.

Cedars Knitting/Crafting Circle

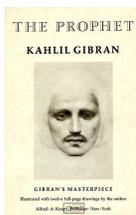
Wednesday June 2nd
Time: 1:30 p.m.

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

Every Thursday, 10:00 a.m.
Virtual Sessions

During each Morning Reflection Session, which is led by **Rev. Zackrie**, participants are invited for meditation and

recognize and honor this important threshold moment. Right now, in these days where school is online and all the traditional 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.

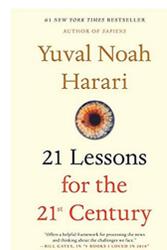
Spread the word! YUUP is for everyone. We hope to see you soon!

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



Seeking "Salvation by Bibliography" as our late friend Marvin Evans used to say, we meet to discuss books that can intrigue and might enlighten us.

Pushing beyond the highly acclaimed and previously discussed **Sapiens** that explored our historic development as a species, author **Yuval Noah Harari** now

discussion of brief sections from **The Prophet** by *Kahlil Gibran*.

Meditation

Cedars Meditation Group
Now Tuesday, 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 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.

Please join the fun 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:

John Wiens created this uplifting watercolor image for a card recently used by Cedars' Continuing Connections Team to stay in touch with congregational members and friends and encourage ongoing and active (though virtual) participation in our Cedars community.



Constant Contact

presents a probing study of today's most urgent challenges as we move into the uncharted territory of the future in **21 Lessons for the 21st Century**.

How do computers and robots change the meaning of being human? How do we deal with the epidemic of fake news? Are nations and religions still relevant? What should we teach our children?

The book is divided into five sections and our plan is to discuss (via Zoom) the fourth section on June 11th. For more information contact **Alan Miller** or **Mary Romeo**

Pastoral Care Concerns

John Peck is at Seattle's Virginia Mason Hospital preparing for a bone marrow transplant and further care at Seattle Cancer Care Alliance. His temporary address for cards and mail is:

John Peck
JP/Level 18
PO Box 900
Seattle, WA 98101

Mary Clear Padilla is in Poulsbo's Liberty Shores convalescent and retirement facility recovering from a fall and mild concussion. Cards and/or afternoon visits would be appreciated (call ahead to arrange at 360-779-5533). Her temporary address is:

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,

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.
3. On the right you will see "Your current charity" with a button below "Change 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 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!

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

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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