

The Beacon

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



CEDARS CHURCH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Volume 12 Issue 8 / February 25, 2022

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Upcoming Services

Black Girl Magic

Sunday February 27th
10:00 a.m.

In-Person Service in Webster Hall

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen
Gregory Cook, Worship Associate

The term "Black Girl Magic" has come into popular use as a way of celebrating the beauty, power, and resilience of Black Women.

In this service we will reflect on the power of this phrase in the lives of Black Women today.

Stewardship Sunday

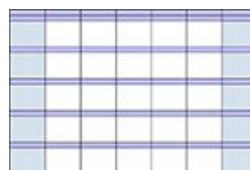
Sunday March 6th
10:00 a.m.

In-Person Service in Webster Hall

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen
Jeff Philip, Stewardship Committee

How we spend our time sends a message about what is important to us in life. In a similar way, how we spend our money says something about what we value in this world. Join us for this service we explore the importance of bringing both our time and treasure into the service of 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 February 27th
10:00 a.m. In-Person Worship Service
[Live-Stream Service Link](#)

Immediately After Service Social Hour
[Virtual Gathering Link](#)

Use passcode 1959 if required
Or by phone using 1-253-215-8782

Monday February 28th
2:00 p.m. Car Magnet Fundraiser
Cedars Center Meeting Room

Wednesday March 2nd
1:00 p.m. Knitting/Crafting Circle
[Virtual Knitting/Crafting Circle Link](#)

7:00 p.m. Cedars Virtual Board Meeting

Thursday March 3rd
10:00 a.m. Sources of Our Faith
[Spiritual Reflection Group](#)

News and Announcements

The Belonging Initiative

Our year-long exploration of promises and possibilities

At the congregational meeting on January 30th, the Board of Trustees presented the findings and recommendations of its Belonging Initiative.

Over the course of the past year, the Board had been inviting and listening to many stories of connection as well as disconnection in a variety of discussion settings and gatherings.

In response, at the congregational meeting in June, members and friends were asked to brainstorm ideas for moving forward and deepening a sense of belonging in four suggestively titled areas of focus:

- **Come, Come Whoever You Are**
- **Beyond Pastoral Care**
- **Living Our Values**
- **Cedars of the Future**

The first and second areas were discussed in earlier Beacon issues, and this week we consider the third area: **Living Our Values**, which posed the question: **How do we live the Cedars mission in the greater community and make the world better?**

A newly re-formed Social Justice Committee has the following projects in its focus and is in the process of gathering information for future partnerships and events:

Current efforts or efforts in the works

- **Super Suppers**
- **Partnership with Fishline**
- **Partnerships with Friends of the Farm and/or Peaceful Morning Farm**
- **Interfaith Climate Action Group**
- **Styrofoam waste collection through Zero Waste Bainbridge and NK**

Information gathering

- **Racial Justice**
- **Poverty Homelessness**
- **Environmental Justice**
- **Disability Advocacy/Vitalize Kitsap**

If you are interested in joining the efforts of the committee for one or more events, please reach out to Carol Ann Davidson.

To view the Board's slideshow presentation summarizing the Belonging Initiative's overall findings, click [here](#).



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

Be a part of Worship at Cedars

As we prepare to enter the fall and gear back up for the program year, we are looking for individuals ready to help with the creation of weekly worship. There are a few important roles that we are hoping to fill and find people willing to join the rest of the team in meaning making work we do.

Preaching: Once a month Rev. Zackrie is away from Cedars, and we need people willing to preach and lead services on these dates. This is your chance to share your thoughts on a topic with the rest of the community. Preaching can also provide you with a chance to deepen your own understanding on a topic as you research, write, and reflect in preparation.

Worship Tech Team: As we continue to navigate the presence of COVID-19 and begin conceptualizing what comes next with our online presence, we need people to assist with the technology side of things. Currently we hope to find a few individuals to help with

Safe Gatherings at Cedars

Because we are responsible citizens and follow the science, we are ready as a community to begin to apply the safe behavior we practice in other parts of our lives to our spiritual home, too. We should feel confident that we can safely gather as a community if we:

- Wear a mask.
- Vaccinate.
- Physically distance if indoors.
- Don't go near others if sick, exposed to COVID, tested positive for COVID.

The Board of Trustees has established guidelines for responsible behavior at all of our in-person meetings and gatherings, as summarized on our Cedars website and linked [here](#).

Disposable Mask Recycling

The Green Sanctuary Committee and the Social Justice Committee have teamed up to offer disposable mask recycling. Cedars has purchased a box through the Terracycle program in which we will collect disposable masks which will be sent to Terracycle where they will be taken apart and recycled. To read how the program works, click [here](#)

There is a bucket placed outside the Cedars church office and at the exit doors after services at the Island School. The buckets will then be brought into our office and masks placed in the Terracycle box. This also be publicized on the local Zerowaste website. Tell your friends and help reduce waste created by the pandemic!

For more information, contact **Jane Martin** or **Carol Ann Davidson**.



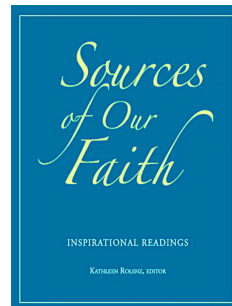
Monday Mingle!

Drop by Cedars Center between **4:00 and 6:00 pm on the first and third Mondays of the month** and visit with Board member **Kassia Sing** for an in-person conversation.

recording and video editing. We also need help running the sound system at in-person services. No prior experience is necessary, but it does help to have a familiarity with technology and a willingness to learn.

Worship Associates: In this role you get a chance to work with Rev. Zackrie and other service leaders to reflect on a topic and share your voice with others. This is a great opportunity for people to develop as a public speaker or experiment with creative ways of conveying ideas. In addition, being a worship associate is a great way to become more widely known within the Cedars community.

If you are interested in joining the worship team in any of these roles or have questions, please email **Rev. Zackrie** at minister@cedarsuuchurch.org



Sources of Our Faith: Spiritual Reflection Group

Starting in February through May, the Cedars Community is invited to join Rev. Zackrie for a regular time of reflection on the sources of our

Unitarian Universalist faith. This gathering will take place twice a week on zoom and is a time for participants to engage in thoughtful reflection on a variety of readings found in the book "[Sources of Our Faith: Inspirational Readings](#)," written by Kathleen Rolenz.

Folks should feel free to attend one or all the sessions as your schedule permits. A complete schedule for both sessions of this reflection group can be found below.

Thursdays @ 10am and Saturdays @ 2pm on the following dates:

3/3 & 3/5
3/10 & 3/12
3/24 & 3/26
4/7 & 4/9
4/14 & 4/16
4/21 & 4/23
5/5 & 5/7
5/12 & 5/14
5/26 & 5/28

For more information (or if you need help purchasing a copy of the book), please contact Rev. Zackrie at minister@cedarsuuchurch.org

Movie Group Returning

Come on your way home from work, on your way to dinner or while on your daily walk. Laid and open to all!

Volunteer Work Day at the Japanese American Exclusion Memorial



Cedars members and friends were there, joining with more than 120 others in last Saturday's volunteer workday.

Bainbridge Island's Japanese American Exclusion Memorial was beautified for the upcoming Day of Remembrance that will mark the 80th anniversary of Executive Order 9066, which began the wartime incarceration of more than 120,000 Japanese Americans.

For our Cedars participants, the activity was a wonderful opportunity to connect with our wider community, both past and present, while also connecting as a congregation through the joy of helpful industry.



Cedars Knitting/Crafting Circle

Wednesday March 2nd
Time 1:00 p.m.

The Wednesday Knitting/Crafting group will meet via Zoom on March 2nd from 1:00–2:30 p.m. **Linda Andrews** will host.

You are warmly welcome to join us for any part of that time to chat, share ideas, or work on a project!



Our Cedars community has experienced many losses over the past two years. Many of us who had been active participants

for some time in Cedars have pulled back from involvement in the church. With our desire to see the Cedars community thrive and to be more inclusive, we are interested in reviving the film group, now called **Film Fans**, with a different meeting time and more inclusiveness.

We will meet on Zoom and be open to all those interested in watching a selected film on their own and then meeting to discuss, analyze, and interpret the film, often using it as an opportunity to explore our own social, political and far-reaching ideas. Because we would be meeting on Zoom, those of you who are living elsewhere during part of the year or have moved away would be able to participate. Also, it would be open to non-Cedars participants. Each month a different person can select a film for the group to watch and then facilitate the discussion. We will meet on the second Thursday of each month from 7:00-8:00, beginning March 10th. The film we have chosen for our first gathering is "**The Power of the Dog**," an Academy Award nominee available on Netflix.

If interested, please email **Joan Spencer** (gotospencers@yahoo.com) or **Linda Andrews** (lcaandrews@gmail.com). **Jane Martin** will facilitate Zoom and has provided this link to the 7:00 p.m. meeting.

Film Fans Discussion Link

We look forward to seeing many of you at our first Film Fans gathering on March 10th.
Joan & Linda

Super Supper Sign-Ups

Cedars in partnership with Kol Shalom offers Super Supper dinners on the last Tuesday of each month. Super suppers are a free meal for those in need provided by members of the Bainbridge Island Interfaith Council.

We now have a regular sign up for you to use each month so that all in our congregation have a chance to participate. Please consider signing up for one or more slots [here](#).

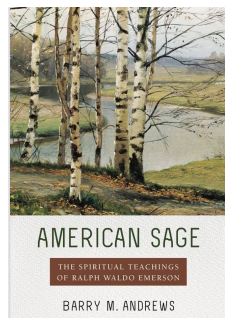
Thank you so much for continuing to help our neighbors in need!

Please contact **Penny Brewer** or **Emily Mockett** for more information.

Evans Reading Group

We invite you to join us on Tuesday March 8th at 1:30 p.m.

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.



Our March selection is ***American Sage - The Spiritual Teachings of Ralph Waldo Emerson***, the latest title by Cedars member **Barry Andrews** (who can also provide copies for sale).

A review summary: "Even during his lifetime, Ralph Waldo Emerson was called the Sage of Concord, a fitting title for this leader of the American Transcendentalist movement. Everything that he said and wrote directly addressed the conduct of life, and unsurprisingly, he sought to rescue spirituality from decay, eschewing dry preaching and rote rituals."

Barry has spent years studying Emerson, finding wisdom and guidance in his teachings and practices, and witnessing how the spiritual lives of others are enriched when they grasp the many meanings in his work. Based on scholarship grounded in historical detail, this enlightening book considers the nineteenth-century religious and intellectual crosscurrents that shaped Emerson's worldview to reveal how his spiritual teachings remain timeless and modern, universal and uniquely American.

We will discuss the book via Zoom (with Barry Andrews' invited participation) as follows: March 8, Intro and Chapters 1-4; March 22, Chapters 5-7; April 5, Chapters 8-10; and April 19, Chapters 11-13.

The sessions are on alternate Tuesdays and will begin at 1:30 p.m. For more information contact **Alan Miller** or **Mary Romeo**.



Parent Chalice Circle

Parents, Grandparents, and caregivers! You are warmly welcome to join this monthly circle where we share in the

questions and experiences of nurturing faith formation in our children and in our own lives.

We meet on the second Sunday of the month and utilize the UU Principles as touchstones and reference points for exploration.

March Month of Stewardship Gatherings: Hosts Needed

March is Stewardship Month, and we are focusing on building community. Rather than our traditional cottage meetings with a stewardship presentation, we want to encourage rebuilding community connections that are the foundation of our congregation.

This year, we are asking for people to host a gathering, whether in person or online, so that we can spend some time together and feel the warmth of community. The only Stewardship Month commitment of the host is to thank them for joining the event and remind people to turn in their pledge forms.

Community events could take any form. Backyard gathering, lunch or dinner, game night, book reading, hike or a myriad of other ideas. These events are the same as many of us have hosted in the past for auctions and fundraisers, but this time there is no upfront donation. Just a reminder to make your annual pledge. All events should follow the [Cedars COVID Safety Protocols](#).

To sign up and host an event, simply fill out this [Online Event Form](#). Your event will be listed among other events where people can sign up to attend. Gather with old friends, make some new ones, and help your congregation regain what makes us so special - our interconnectedness.

For more information, contact Stewardship Chair, **Jeff Philip** philip.jeff@gmail.com

Join the Pastoral Care Team

Caring for one another is a core Unitarian practice, and the Cedars Pastoral Care Team is central to this ministry. We can offer a listening presence, connection, and hope to members of our Cedars community in times of need. We send cards, make phone calls, provide information resources and support family and friends who are caregivers.

The Team meets just once a month with our minister. We are now expanding the Team, and we would love to have you join us.

For more information about the Pastoral Care Team, please contact our office administrator, Carolyn Kerns at office@cedarsuuchurch.org.

Pastoral Care Concerns

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.

Please join us! Our next meeting will be Sunday, March 13 at 7:00 p.m. using this [Zoom link](#) with Rev. Zackrie and Cory Munson co-leading.

Contact **Cory Munson** for more information.

You can be a Climate Changemaker!

Changemakers are energetic, ardent advocates for environmental values making a world-changing difference, especially addressing the challenges of climate change.



Join them in taking an hour per week to call or write friends, utilities, newspapers, and representatives with a bunch of other awesome people. They are present at <https://www.climatechangemakers.org/> and will welcome your joining with them.

For more information contact **Sandy Spears** at Sandy.Spears@att.net

Cedars Creativity Fair 2022

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 2022

Melissa Edgerton says "Tsuki was bouncing all over the house, demanding Walkies...turns out she just wanted to RIDE and let me push her! Silly Doots"

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.

Tell Your Story

Do you identify as Asian or Pacific Islander?

Tell your story for a documentary film.

Filmmaker **Vivien Hao** is making a documentary film that uplifts and spotlights Asian and Pacific Islander Unitarian Universalists. The film needs your compelling story of experiences in general communities or Unitarian Universalist spaces.

All people who identify as Asian and Pacific Islander and Unitarian Universalist in Washington State are invited to submit their stories for consideration to be in the film.

Deadline for submission is March 31, 2022. Details and how to apply are [here](#).

Contact: grace.colton@gmail.com.



Car Magnet Fundraiser

Make a special donation to Cedars and receive a Cedars UU Church car magnet. Donate \$25 or more via cash, check or PayPal – one magnet may be yours for every \$25. Display your magnet(s) to help people know about our welcoming spiritual community, and to help Cedars grow.

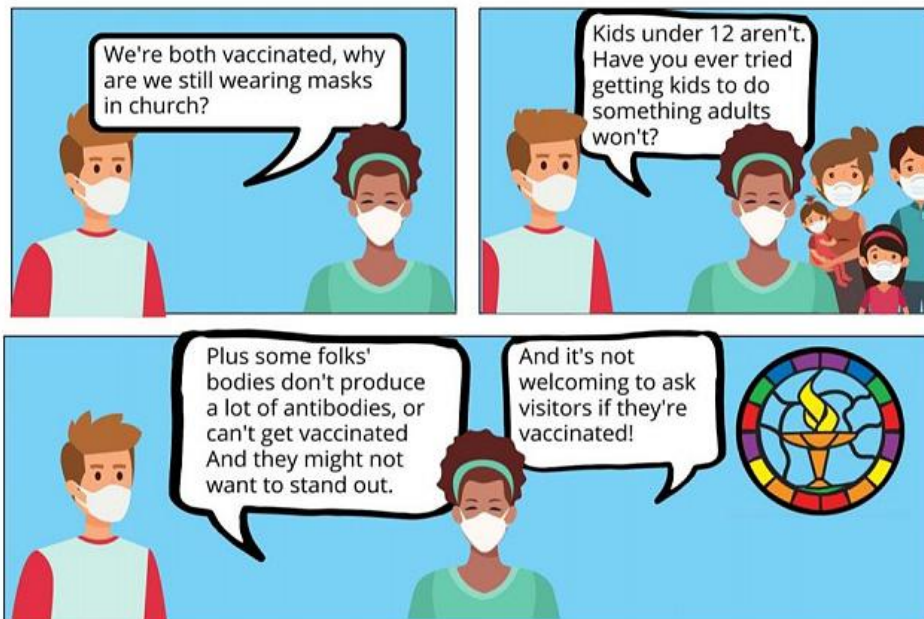
To donate in person by cash or check and pick up your car magnet(s) at the same time, visit Jane Martin at Cedars Center on Mondays 2-4 pm. If donating by a mailed-in check, write the number of magnets you want in the "Memo" line at the bottom left of your check. If you decide to donate \$100, but want only one car magnet, just write "one magnet" on the Memo line. If using PayPal through the Donate button on Cedars' website, select the "Car



Magnet Event" donation option. Every \$25 donation transaction you make will appear on our PayPal report so we know how many magnets to set aside for you.

If you can't pick up pre-ordered magnet(s) email jjanemartin4569@gmail.com and she will mail it/them to you. Thank you for your continued support of our beloved Cedars community.

MASKS IN CHURCH?



CONSENT: MASK EDITION!



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

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen, Minister

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

Faith Formation Lead (Position Vacant)

faith.formation@cedarsuuchurch.org

Carolyn Kerns, Office Administrator

Hours: 10:40 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Tuesday & Friday
Available remotely 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Thursday
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)



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