

# 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 11 / March 18, 2022

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

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

## Upcoming Services

### Our Shared Liberation

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**Sunday March 20th**  
10:00 a.m.  
**In-Person Service in Webster Hall**

**Rev. Deanna Vandiver**  
**Penny Brewster, Worship Associate**

In the face of dehumanization, devastation, and death, humans have gathered throughout the centuries to create life-affirming communities of faith. Here, together, we practice the art and science of loving each other through the messy, wild chaos of life.

Please bring an element of this natural world to our service -- flowers, rocks, branches, cedar -- to express our joy, grief, and gratitude for each other and all we are given from the wild and beautiful web of life. We will co-create art in a liberatory ritual as we welcome Spring and practice getting free together.

Invite your beloveds to join us in worship as we engage in spiritual practices that sustain us and give us courage and skills for the call to shared liberation.

For those of you participating virtually, please place your items from nature on your personal sacred space.

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### What I Learn from My Garden

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**Sunday March 27th**  
10:00 a.m.  
**In-Person Service in Webster Hall**

**Rev. Zackrie Vinczen**  
**Johanna Munson, Worship Associate**

Every time I go to work in my garden, I notice something new about myself and the world around me. In this service we will pause to consider some of these lessons.

### Current Week Calendar and Links

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*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 March 20th**  
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 March 14th**  
2:00 p.m. Car Magnet Fundraiser  
Cedars Center Meeting Room

4:00 p.m. Monday Mingle  
Cedars Center Meeting Room

**Tuesday March 22nd**  
1:30 p.m. Evans Reading Group  
[Virtual Discussion Link](#)  
Use passcode 2020 if required

**Thursday March 24th**  
10:00 a.m. Sources of Our Faith  
Spiritual Reflection Group  
[Virtual Discussion Link](#)

7:00 p.m. Board Meeting

### Cedars Special Collection Aid to the Ukrainian People



Prior to the pandemic, Cedars held a Special Collection monthly for community outreach as a way to educate our congregation about the work of various non-profit organizations that reflect our values, and to channel our generosity in support of them. Beginning this month, we are reinstating Special Collections as we reinvigorate our social justice efforts.

For the month of March, the Social Justice Committee has chosen to collect money for aid to the Ukrainian people as the humanitarian crisis unfolds. All money donated in the Sunday offering on March 20th will benefit The Ukraine Crisis Fund of CARE. Your emergency gifts will support their efforts to reach 4 million with immediate aid and recovery, food, water, hygiene kits, psychosocial support, and cash assistance — prioritizing women and girls, families, and the elderly.

CARE is a 501(c)(3) that works around the globe to save lives, defeat poverty and achieve social justice with a particular focus on gender equality and women's empowerment.

If you would like to receive a tax deduction for your donation, please write a check payable to CARE USA with Ukraine Crisis Fund in the memo line and place it in the March 20th offering basket or send it to the Cedars Church Office by March 25th.

For more information contact **Carol Ann Davidson**.

### Stewardship at Cedars



March is Stewardship Month, and we have an exciting year ahead. Some folks have been fully engaged during these past two years of masked or virtual services and activities, and others have been eagerly awaiting a return to in-person Worship Services and group or congregational events.

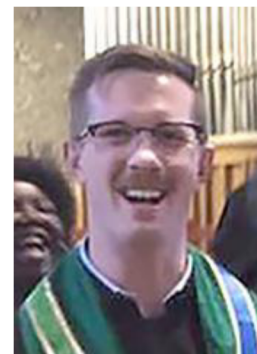
With our Belonging Initiative, we have been encouraging everyone to reconnect with our Cedars UU Church Community, and there are many in-person gatherings and events planned throughout the current month as part of our stewardship campaign. You can [sign up through the form on the website](#).

### 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**

### A Message from Our Faith Formation Lead & Music Director

I have lived in Washington my whole life and have grown to love the beautiful evergreen nature along with the abundant rainfall. My musical background is Percussion, some of my fondest memories are of making music- I find there is a special unity in creating any sort of music as long as we are doing it together. Currently I am living with my partner Mark in Bremerton and spend my free time enjoying games, learning to edit video, and spending time with animals. I am looking forward to working with all of you in the Cedars UU Community! Please feel free to reach out to me anytime and we can meet to chat.

**-Archer Philip**

Contact Archer at [faith.formation@cedarsuuchurch.org](mailto:faith.formation@cedarsuuchurch.org)

**Sources of Our Faith: Spiritual**

To keep fulfilling our mission, we rely on the resources you generously provide. Before the end of March, please return your pledge form or [complete an online pledge on the Cedars Website](#). Your support will help to make the coming year a remarkable one.

For more information, contact **Jeff Philip**.

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## Safe Gathering at Cedars

Now, and going forward, Cedars will begin following the guidelines for Houses of Worship as a result of our Governor's actions and an Island School Task Force review. What does this mean?

- Masks are optional, but we will still welcome them for any reason (no judgment!).
- Unvaccinated friends and members should please mask up when they attend. Free KN95 masks available.
- We can be reasonably spaced between seats.
- Musical instruments (wind & brass) and singing can return; but Cedars will employ guidelines for this, especially for group singing (vs. soloist).

We are now in the process of creating additional protocols and plan to present them by the end of the month.

- Cedars will no longer ask for vaccination status at the door.
- Coffee and tea service will return on March 20 but no food will be served.
- Socializing is fine to do inside Webster Hall.
- Cedars Center is open.
- Cedars Center will continue to use a sign-in sheet for anyone entering, but will no longer ask health questions.
- Physical distancing and masking are optional at Cedars Center. The group meeting can decide how they want to handle these two issues.
- No shared food or meals at either location yet; For Cedars Center, brown bag lunch or single-serving boxed meal is okay. We're taking things one step at a time.

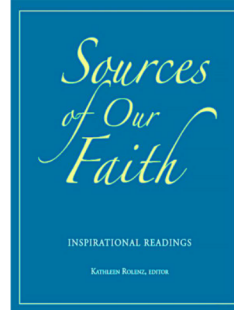
We will be careful about re-introducing too many things at once. We have far fewer helping hands at Cedars now, compared to pre-COVID, so we need to be able to handle all the details of putting on a Sunday Service safely and successfully using the state's House of Worship guidelines.

Please be patient with us as we adjust.

## Your Cedars Board of Trustees

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## Disposable Mask Recycling



## Reflection Group

Currently open and continuing 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.

Saturdays @ 2pm on the following dates:

3/26, 4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 5/7, 5/14, 5/28

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

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## 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.

Contact **Cory Munson** for more information.

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## Movie Group Returning

Our Cedars community has experienced losses over the past two years, including

some who had previously been active participants in congregational life.

Hoping to see Cedars more inclusive and welcoming, we are interested in reviving the film discussion group, which will now be called **Film Fans**.

We will meet on Zoom and be open to all who are interested in watching selected films on their own and then meeting to discuss, analyze, and interpret the films, often using this as an opportunity to explore our own social, political and far-reaching ideas.

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 is also being 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**.



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

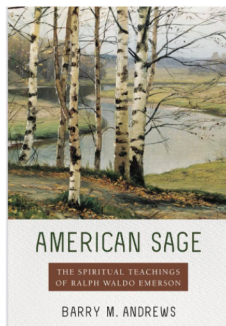
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## Evans Reading Group

We invite you to join us on **Tuesday March 22nd 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).



Because we will meet on Zoom, those now living elsewhere during part of the year or who have moved away will be able to participate, and our discussions will also 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.

If interested, please email **Joan Spencer** ([gotospencers@yahoo.com](mailto:gotospencers@yahoo.com)) or **Linda Andrews** ([lcgandrews@gmail.com](mailto:lcgandrews@gmail.com)).

**Joan & Linda**

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## 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.

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## Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care at Cedars helps our Cedars community in times of need. We are hoping to create a Phone Companion opportunity where you will receive a call once or twice a month. Is this something you would appreciate? We are also looking for people to initiate the calls, as well as volunteers who would be willing to prepare meals or give rides occasionally. If you are interested, contact our Office Administrator, **Carolyn Kerns** at [office@cedarsuuchurch.org](mailto:office@cedarsuuchurch.org).



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## 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.

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.

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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 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**.

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### 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](mailto:Sandy.Spears@att.net)

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### 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.

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:jjanemartin4569@gmail.com) and she will mail it/them to you. Thank you for your continued support of our beloved Cedars community.

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### Claim Your Items

Please join the fun by sharing what you have been doing and enjoy the growing show using the link below!

### Cedars Creativity Fair 2022

**Phil Hutcherson** says: "Two eagles perform a moon flyby."



### in Lost and Found!



If you've lost something at Cedars over the past year, it's probably in our lost and found!

Read through the items listed below and email our **Office Administrator** at **office@cedarsuuchurch.org** to claim your item and schedule a time to pick it up.

Items still remaining in the lost and found by the end of the month will be donated.

- Blue REI windbreaker (Size Large)
- Green jacket from Deep Creek Lake, MD
- Purple water bottle from Rotary International
- Kate Spade glasses case (orange and pink) with glasses inside
- Black +2.50 readers
- Blue SubZero water bottle
- Gray Sensatec gloves
- Silver bracelet with gold detailing and green stones
- Blue rubber bracelet from Microsoft Youth Spark)
- Blue, black, and gray Turtle Fur beanie with Seattle Sounders FC logo
- Gray water bottle from Howard S Wright
- HTC black phone charger
- Brown tortoiseshell sunglasses from LRI Classic

### Print the Beacon Newsletter

The Beacon is available to download and print each week. Go to [www.cedarsuuchurch.org](http://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](mailto:minister@cedarsuuchurch.org)  
For an urgent matter, call (360) 930-9339 (Pastoral Care)

### Faith Formation Lead (Position Vacant)

[faith.formation@cedarsuuchurch.org](mailto: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](mailto:office@cedarsuuchurch.org)

Would you like to subscribe to The Beacon? Email: [beacon@cedarsuuchurch.org](mailto:beacon@cedarsuuchurch.org)

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](#).

