

# 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 24 / June 17, 2022

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## Upcoming Services

### What is Help? Real Help?

**Sunday June 19th**  
10:00 a.m.  
**In-Person Service in Webster Hall**

**Earle Canfield, Guest Speaker**  
**Herb Hethcote, Worship Associate**

How a model organization (and UUs around the world, including UUs at Cedars), are "participating joyfully in the sorrows of the world." By vetting, educating and empowering disadvantaged children to become leaders, we now have young people who are undercutting the caste system, promoting democratic reforms, and transforming Nepal.

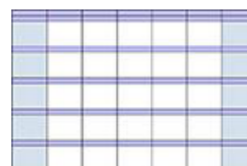
### The Deal on Those Days

**Sunday June 26th**  
9:30 a.m.  
**Virtual UUA General Assembly Service**

**Rev. Gretchen Haley**, with the assistance of **Revs. Sean Neil-Barron** and **Shari Halliday-Quan**

Enjoy the largest annual gathering of UUs joining in a powerful, communal worship experience live-streamed from the UUA General Assembly in Portland.

### 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 June 19th**  
10:00 a.m.  
**In-Person Service in Webster Hall**  
[Live-Stream Service Link](#)

11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour

11:00 a.m. Board Year-end Interaction  
**In-Person in TIS Library**  
[Zoom Participation Link](#)

**Wednesday June 22nd**  
12:00 a.m. UUA GA Opening

**Thursday June 23rd**  
7:00 p.m. Cedars Board Meeting

## News and Announcements

### June Special Collection

Cedars holds a Special Collection monthly for community outreach as a way to educate our

### Our Congregational Mission

*Worship with open hearts*

congregation about the work of various non-profit organizations that reflect our values and to channel our generosity in support of them.

On June 19th, in honor of Pride Month, the Social Justice Committee has chosen to collect money in addition to arts and craft supplies for LGBTQ+ Youth at Kingston Middle School and a Gay Straight Alliance club at Choice Academy.

Both projects were started this school year by their school counselors, recognizing needs expressed by students. Both groups are student-driven and meet every other week.

When asked how we could support them, their counselors have suggested water bottles with positive logos for the high schoolers and arts & crafts materials for the middle schoolers.

All money donated in the Sunday offering on June 19th will benefit the LGBTQ+ youth groups of these schools. These gifts will be used to purchase water bottles with positive logos, arts and crafts supplies for meeting activities, and snacks for club meetings.

We also are collecting extra arts and crafts supplies that you have at home but no longer need. Items such as yarn, string, drawing and paint supplies, beads, etc. are welcome. We will have a box at services for donations on June 12th and 19th, in addition to the Cedars Office through the end of June.

For more information, contact **Patricia Erdmann**.



### Safe Gatherings at Cedars

With care, but also some comfort in the recognition that covid-related constraints are being monitored for guidance in seating arrangement and separation, mask wearing, and room ventilation, we are continuing to seek the familiar accommodation and settings of our past presence in Webster Hall. Our seating arrangements have evolved from six feet of separation between seat pairs or family groups, to more flexible separation, and our service presence and participation will

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



**Cedars UU Church is a Welcoming Congregation and Green Sanctuary**



**Rev. Zackrie Vinczen**

### Sad News

It is with sadness that I write to inform you of the death of **Brian Leekley**. Brian died on Monday June 13th at the Bainbridge Island Health and Rehabilitation Center.

Brian had been a member of Cedars since 2019 and was known for his detailed observations of situations and the world around him.

Brian's niece said his death was sudden and unexpected. Brian was admitted to the hospital on Thursday of last week after experiencing some internal pain. From there he was sent to BI Health and Rehabilitation so he could continue to be monitored. As of Sunday he reported feeling great, but his condition turned suddenly on Monday morning.

Service details are yet unknown, but I will work to communicate them as they become known.

At this time, I ask the entire Cedars Community to hold Brian's family in your thoughts and prayers.

also now respond to safety guidelines released by COVIDactnow.org as follow: Kitsap County has seen an uptick in Covid spread and is now in the "Yellow" rating zone. This means we request that people mask when in groups and at Sunday Services. We know masking is one of the most effective protections for yourself and others nearby.

You can check the Kitsap County Health Department's tracking online at covidactnow.org or the CDC link at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html to track Kitsap County numbers.

Vaccinations are also proven ways to both avoid getting sick or to severely lessen the virioli of the virus. Our hearts go out to our community members who cannot get vaccines or boosters due to medical issues— all the more reason for the rest of us to practice safe behaviors to protect them, such as getting vaccinated and boosted if medically possible.

Let's not only talk-the-talk, let's walk-the-walk by what we say in unison on Sundays: let's "treat all people kindly because we are one family." **Your Cedars Board of Trustees**

### Cedars Personnel Policy Manual

The Board of Trustees has adopted Cedars' first-ever Personnel Policy Manual, providing clear information about expectations, procedures, and benefits for Cedars staff, and intended as a valuable management resource for the Board, Minister, and congregation going forward.

The Manual was developed using input from many sources, including listening sessions the Board conducted during Fall of 2021, many one-on-one conversations between Board and Cedars members, and information gathered during the Board's Belonging Initiative.

The Manual was the work of many people. An initial draft was developed by Herb Hethcote, John Wiens, and Richard Wilson after many hours discussing and refining a proposal. Subsequently, a Review Group consisting of Heidi Parkington-Thal, Tyler Weaver, Susan Shaffer, Robyn Teske, and Kassia Sing contributed further input.

Finally, the full Board conducted its own review before adopting the finished Personnel Policy Manual at the April 28th Board Meeting.

A few policies covered in the Manual include: 1) The Minister needs to consult with the Board prior to making any decisions regarding dismissing staff; 2) A new procedure for handling grievances; and 3) Avoiding

If you find yourself needing someone to talk to during this emotional time, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or a member of the pastoral care team.

In Solidarity,

**Rev. Zackrie Vinczen**  
minister@cedarsuuchurch.org



### 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 typically 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.

### Evans Reading Group

**We invite you to join us on Tuesday July 12th (revised date) 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.

Writing by Transcendentalist Margaret Fuller was suggested as the group's next focus, and the collected work edited by Cedars' own Barry Andrews and published by the UUA's Skinner House as "**The Spirit Leads -- Margaret Fuller In Her Own Words**" was selected.

Presenting quotations from Margaret Fuller's letters, journals, and published writings preceded by a biographical introduction to Margaret Fuller's life and work, the quotations have been arranged in thematic sections inviting the reader to engage directly with the ideas of this nineteenth-century public intellectual, progressive social theorist, and pioneering feminist and to explore how her thoughts resonate today.

We will discuss the book via Zoom on July 12th. For more information contact **Alan Miller**



possible favoritism or sense of favoritism if staff have a relationship with members.

The Manual is now available for reference in the By-Laws and Policies section of the Cedars Document Library, accessible through Breeze here: [Link to Manual](#)

Board members will be available after the June 19th service in The Island School Library if you have any questions for year-end, next year's budget or the new Personnel Policy Manual. Here is a [zoom link](#) for those that want to participate remotely.

### Portland GA Coming

General Assembly is the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists, where we conduct business of the Association, explore the theological underpinnings of our faith, and lean fully into our mission and principles.



Starting this coming Wednesday, June 22nd, with the traditional congregational banner parade, this year's program schedule includes five active days of general business, presentations, exhibitions, networking, reunions, and special services. Schedule information is available [here](#).

Video of some activities will be available live-streamed for public viewing without requiring registration, including the General Sessions, Service of the Living Tradition, Synergy Bridging Worship, and Sunday Morning Worship.

For more information visit <https://www.uua.org/ga>



### UU Camp in the Pacific Northwest

The Eliot Institute holds four multi-day inter-generational camps each year for members and friends of Unitarian Universalist congregations at the Seabeck Conference Center in the Pacific Northwest.

For three of Eliot's camps, there is a morning program on topics that range from spiritual growth, social justice, environmental issues, and the arts. Programs for youth and children run concurrently with the adult morning program. Afternoons and evenings are filled with traditional camp activities. Our fourth

or [Mary Romeo](#).

### Climate Change: Time for Action



Bainbridge Island is working to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 25% by 2025, and to help achieve this goal, the City of Bainbridge Island has launched the **BI Climate Smart Challenge** and you can help too!

We have scheduled two opportunities to come together to discuss the Challenge and how we as a congregation can work individually and collectively to reduce our carbon footprint.

**Tuesday June 28th and Wednesday July 6th 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm**

[Zoom Link](#)  
Meeting ID: 929 048 2386  
Phone if Needed: 253-215-8782

Prior to the meetings we are asking that you click on the link below and sign up for the Challenge. After you sign up you will be asked to answer several questions that will help you to determine your carbon footprint. You can then look at specific actions you can take to reduce that footprint.

### Sign Up Link

**Come join us as we come together to do our part in addressing the climate emergency.**

If you have questions, please contact **Mike Cox** ([toxman57@gmail.com](mailto:toxman57@gmail.com)) or 206-799-3725.

### Join the Snake River Savers!



Are you interested in protecting the Southern Resident orcas, the Chinook salmon they rely on, or stopping our government from spending billions of taxpayer money on destroying an ecosystem? Join our team of passionate, motivated, and initiative-taking volunteers - the Snake River Savers. We are part of a big group that is advocating for the removal of the 50 year old lower Snake River dams.

Fill out this brief form to let us know your interests and we'll be in contact shortly!

camp, Creative Arts Eliot, features workshops led by artists instead of a speaker.

**Visit our website** to learn more and read about specific **camp descriptions and dates**. Seabeck Conference Center has a variety of **housing options**. Proof of vaccination is required by Eliot Institute and there are **scholarship funds** available. If you have questions, you can contact our administrator, Bev Hesterberg at [eliotregistrar@gmail.com](mailto:eliotregistrar@gmail.com).

Come relax, grow and connect with others on the beautiful 90-acre campus in Seabeck, Washington, with sweeping views of Hood Canal and the Olympic Mountains. We would love to have you join us!



## Enjoy New Cedars Center Activities

**Game Night at Cedars Center** is now being planned as a new opportunity for all-ages congregational fun by **Archer Philip**. The inaugural session is scheduled for Friday, July 1st, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Light snacks and refreshments will also be provided.

**Song Circle**, another Cedars Center activity, is being planned for Thursday, July 7th, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

If you enjoy singing, but have come across a UU hymn that you found challenging, then Archer invites you to join others for an hour of singing from our ***Singing the Living Tradition*** and ***Singing the Journey*** with both hymnals provided. Come and sing our living tradition!

## 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.

## Form Link

For more information contact **Sandy Spears** at [sandy.spears@att.net](mailto:sandy.spears@att.net)

## Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care team is looking for volunteers to help support our community through times of need by preparing meals, providing phone companionship, or offering rides. As such we are putting out a call to the Cedars community to solicit names of people who are willing to help with these efforts.

If this is something you would be willing to assist with, please take a moment to fill out our [Pastoral Care Volunteer Interest Form](#).

In addition, if you find yourself in need of additional support or assistance we encourage you to take a moment to fill out the [Pastoral Care Request Form](#) to let our Pastoral Care team know how we can be of support.

For more information about this effort please contact Rev. Zackrie at [minister@cedarsuuchurch.org](mailto:minister@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.

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.

## 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](#).

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

## Join the Tech Team!

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

### Cedars Creativity Fair 2022

**Gillian Bull** says she's enjoying the **Bainbridge Urban Sketchers** and shares this drawing as a sample of her weekly participation:



Do you have an interest in technology, sound systems and/or video live-streaming technology? The Tech Team will be in dire need of more help starting in July. We would love to have you join us! We will train you and you will be working with nice and enthusiastic people!

Contact **Carolyn Kempkes** ([ecrkempkes@icloud.com](mailto:ecrkempkes@icloud.com)) if you would like to volunteer or to learn more about what the Team does.



### 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)

### Archer Philip

**Faith Formation Lead**  
[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](#).

Cedars UU Church (website)



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

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