

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 29 / July 22, 2022

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Upcoming Services

Faith Beyond Optimism

Sunday July 24th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen
Tyler Weaver, Worship Associate

In her book "After the Good News: Progressive Faith Beyond Optimism" Rev. Nancy McDonald Ladd challenges the liberal religious idea of endless advancement and progress.

In this service we will consider this view and explore what a faith beyond optimism would look like.

Bring the Rhythm!

Sunday July 24th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall

Archer Philip, Service Lead

Music reaches us one way or another throughout our lives, and in this informal service we will come together to create our own unique music. All you will need is something to express yourself rhythmically. If you have a rhythm instrument, bring it with you; if you have no such instrument, be creative and bring something to bang on! No skill will be required.

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 July 24th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall
[Live-Stream Service Link](#)
Social Hour Immediately following

Thursday July 28th
7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees Meeting

Friday July 29th
6:00 p.m. Game Night at Cedars Center

News and Announcements

Special Collection for July

Cedars holds a Special Collection monthly for

Our Congregational Mission

*Worship with open hearts
Nurture a learning spirit*

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.



On July 17th, the Social Justice Committee will be collecting money to fund the purchase of the main dish for Super Suppers, which are free meals provided for those in need during the last week of the month.

Your gifts will help provide a healthy meal to 30+ families, adults, and seniors at the end of each month when funds are tight. We hope to raise \$600 to fund meals for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

Please give generously. If you would like to receive a tax deduction for your donation, please write a check payable to Cedars UU Church with Super Suppers in the memo to place in the offering basket or send it to the Cedars Church Office by July 30th.

Cedars Board Retreat

The incoming Board of Trustees will be meeting the outgoing Trustees on July 30th to share information and strategize on focus areas for the coming year. If you have any thoughts on how to move Cedars UU Church into the new year, please reach out to an outgoing or incoming Board Member. Your new Trustees will be **Herb Hethcote, Jeff Philip, Andrea Barnes, Dean Sampson and Rod Kempkes.**

Choose a Plastic-Free July

Join the City of Bainbridge Island in [Plastic-Free July!](#) This is a global movement that helps millions of people be part of the solution to plastic pollution – protecting our oceans and communities.



You can participate by refusing to use single-use plastics. It's as simple as:

- replacing plastic water bottles with a [reusable water bottle](#)
- refusing [plastic straws](#), or
- bringing [reusable bags](#) to the grocery store.

By making one small change, you can make a real difference. For more ideas, check out this [short video](#).

Thanks for doing your part to create at to [Climate Smart Bainbridge!](#)

*Serve justice with compassion
Love without judgment*



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



Rev. Zackrie Vinczen



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.

Order Your Social Justice T-Shirt

The Cedars Social Justice Committee is ordering t-shirts for us to wear when participating in work parties and local events. This will give us greater visibility as we strive to live our values in the greater community.

Shirts will be short sleeved, white, and made of cotton or cotton blend. Men's shirts are crewneck, sizes S-4XL. Women's are V-neck, sizes XS-4XL. We are also offering youth crewneck shirts, sizes XS-XL.

Please click on [this link](#) to place an order.

Ordering will be extended through July

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 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 [this link](#) to track Kitsap County numbers.

Vaccinations are also proven ways to both avoid getting sick or to severely lessen the virulence 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 Teams

Currently, our Cedars Teams are inactive. As we began meeting in-person again after Covid safety protocols were implemented, it was soon clear that the Cedars Teams had lost participants and there were not enough people to handle setup duties.

Because setup is still necessary, we have eliminated or simplified some of the things we used to do and created new Task Teams responsible for Setup Leadership, Worship Setup, and Hospitality/Greeting. Each Task Team has a leader and ideally 4-5 members made up of people attending the in-person services. The leader schedules the rotation of duties.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer for one of the Task Teams, please contact **Sally Wilson**, setup coordinator.



UU Camp in the Pacific Northwest

The Eliot Institute holds four multi-day

30th and received 2-3 weeks after.

Serving Justice with Compassion,
The Cedars Social Justice Committee



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!
Form Link

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

Game Night!

Join Archer Philip at the Cedars Center on Friday July 29th from 6pm to 7pm for a fun night of games! All ages are welcome and there will be light snacks and refreshments.

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

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 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.

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!



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

Richard Wilson says "Photography has been a special way of seeing, appreciating, and sometimes understanding my surroundings for most of my life. I took this photo in Germany about 50 years ago and have wondered about it ever since. Is this creativity? Or is it a misplaced appreciation of novelty, a bold expression of arrogance, or a message of some other kind. What is the message being told?"

team know how we can be of support.

For more information about this effort please contact Rev. Zackrie at 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.

Join the Tech Team!

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) if you would like to volunteer or to learn more about what the Team does.

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.

Cedars Was There Again

Our presence at last week's Bainbridge Pride Festival captured some attention, with Amy Johnson reading a story for children.



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)

Archer Philip

Faith Formation Lead
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

Would you like to subscribe to The Beacon? Email: 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](#).

