

# The Beacon

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



Volume 12 Issue 30 / July 29, 2022

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## Upcoming Services

### Bring the Rhythm!

**Sunday July 31st**  
10:00 a.m.  
In-Person Service **outside** 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.

### What We Learn from Mountains

**Sunday August 7th**  
10:00 a.m.  
In-Person Service in Webster Hall

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

Throughout human history mountains have played a significant role in the spiritual lives of people. Whether that be as a place of retreat or as an obstacle to overcome, there is something profound about these topographical features.

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

**Saturday July 30th**  
Board of Trustees Retreat

**Sunday July 31st**  
10:00 a.m.  
In-Person Service **outside** Webster Hall  
Social Hour Immediately following

**Wednesday August 3rd**  
7:00 p.m. Cedars Climate Smart  
[Zoom Link](#)

## News and Announcements

### Special Collection for July

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



### Our Congregational Mission

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

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

During the month of July the Social Justice Committee has been 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.

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### 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.**

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### Choose a Plastic-Free Month

Join the City of Bainbridge Island in [Plastic-Free July!](https://www.plastic-free-july.org/)

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!](#)

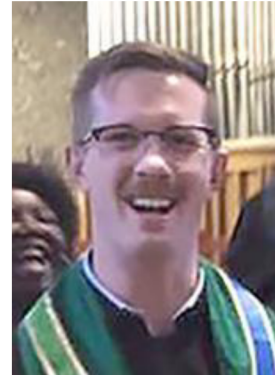
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### Safe Gatherings at Cedars

Our congregation values using sound science



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



**Rev. Zackrie Vinczen**



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

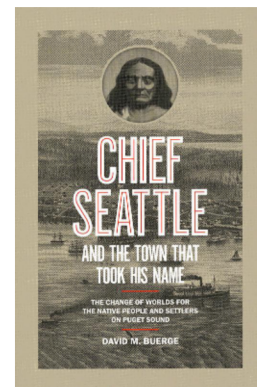
Contact **Cory Munson** for more information.

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### Evans Reading Group

**We invite you to join us**

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 current selection, proposed by Richard Wilson, is **Chief Seattle and the Town that took his name** by David Buerege.

Historian Buerege has assembled disparate

and following advice of health agencies to adapt our safety guidelines to the changing status of the COVID-19 virus. You may find our current **COVID Safety Guidelines on the Cedars Website**. It now includes the current Community Risk Level and a table describing what precautions we are implementing for indoor gatherings. We are currently at **YELLOW**, meaning Masking is requested, but required when singing; increased ventilation and no beverage service.

The Cedars Board of Trustees has also decided to no longer require vaccinations at gatherings, though we do ask that all unvaccinated individuals wear masks and maintain appropriate physical distancing at all times. Community vaccination rates in Kitsap County are now at 80% and we know that a few people at Cedars have not been able to obtain vaccines. Our gathering precautions include social and physical distancing and increased ventilation at the current Community Risk Level.

The people at Cedars UU Church care deeply about each other and the community we have built together. We trust that each person will act responsibly to protect themselves and others using masks, distancing and other precautions. Following these guidelines will allow more people to gather and join in experiences safely.

We are all in this together, and as we say in unison on Sundays: let's "treat all people kindly because we are one family." **Your Cedars Board of Trustees**

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## 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.

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## Cedars Monthly Potluck

**Our monthly potlucks are family friendly events held at members' homes.**

August's potluck will be on Saturday, August 13th at the home of Alison, Mike, Aidan and Cecile Stokes located at 4255 Sorrel Ave NE

accounts of the time from the 1780's to the 1860s—including native oral histories, Hudson's Bay Company records, pioneer diaries, and historic newspaper reporting to tell the story of an era of tremendous flux, turmoil, and violence during which a Native American war leader became an advocate for peace and strove to create a successful racial hybrid community.

We will discuss the book (via Zoom) at 1:30 pm on September 13th. For more information contact **Alan Miller** or **Mary Romeo**.

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## 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 30th and received 2-3 weeks after.**

Serving Justice with Compassion,  
**The Cedars Social Justice Committee**



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## The Climate Smart Challenge



Cedars now has 15 households signed up to

participate in this local program designed to help us reduce our contributions to climate change. We have decided to meet periodically to talk over what we have done, share stories of progress we are making, and explore specific topics such as energy use, transportation, diet, etc.

Our next get-together is scheduled as follows:

**Climate Smart Challenge Users Group  
7:00 p.m. Wednesday August 3rd**

**Zoom Link**

**Meeting ID: 929 048 2386**

**Phone if Needed: 253-215-8782**



Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 from 5:30pm to 8:30pm. The potluck will be held in their large backyard. In the event of sprinkles their covered outdoor deck area, their gazebo, and a tent will be available for shelter. Please bring a dish to share (main dish, dessert, salad, appetizer, ...). Bring your own beverage and consider carpooling and bringing your own plates/utensils. Parking is available along the street in their neighborhood.

For more information or if you are also interested in hosting a potluck contact **Carolyn Kempkes** at [ecrkempkes@icloud.com](mailto:ecrkempkes@icloud.com).



## 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 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!



## 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

Contact **Mike Cox** for more information or to participate.

## 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](mailto:sandy.spears@att.net)

## Game Night!

Join Archer Philip at the Cedars Center tonight (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 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.

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**

**Janetmarie Valiga** shared these observations with the comment, "...miss you all, still having trouble because of my latest fall."

#### **I Write**

With fingers on keyboard, I write daily verse  
Because I have no one here with whom to converse.  
When our governor proclaimed "You stay-at-home,"  
He had no idea of my onerous rhyme tome.

#### **Recovery/Rejuvenation**

When will we ever once more be just normal?  
Do we really need a government decree so formal  
To allow us to go out in the world again  
To sit closer than six feet to our fellow men?

They say we will cure the wicked virus so soon:  
The winning answer would be such a global rich boon.  
How about our now-fragile economy's fruition;  
Will we all get better and thus save our nation?

*Janetmarie Valiga*

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](mailto: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.

### **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 and [here](#).

#### **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)

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)

