

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 33 / August 19, 2022

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

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

Upcoming Services

Handholds, Holdfasts, and Hearthstones

Sunday August 21st
10:00 a.m.

In-Person Service **outside** Webster Hall

Victoria Poling, Guest speaker
Johanna Munson, Worship Associate

Faith has been described as "a deeply seated confidence, vital to our very existence." How is it that we develop that kind of confidence?

We'll use some familiar images of holdfasts, handholds, and hearthstones to explore some practices that help us grow and deepen our faith.

Do You Know What I've Done?

Sunday August 28th
10:00 a.m.

In-Person Service in Webster Hall

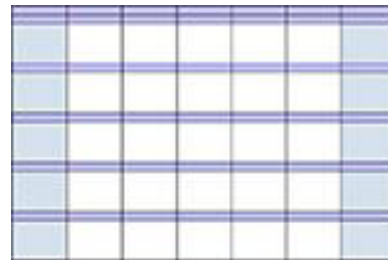
Rev Sean Neil-Barron, Guest Speaker
Rev Zackrie Vinczen

"No one needs to be known by everyone.
But everyone needs to be known by someone."

--Kristen Ivy

You can't belong in the abstract.
Just as you can't love theoretically.
Belonging and love are not just feelings but actions. Actions that form the foundation of our human superpower: relationship.

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.

Saturday August 20th
5:30 p.m. Cedars Monthly Potluck

Sunday August 21st
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service **outside** Webster Hall
Social Hour Immediately following

Thursday August 25th
6:00 p.m. Cedars Board Meeting

Friday August 26th
6:00 p.m. Cedars Center Game Night

News and Announcements

Board News

Our Elected Leaders

Our Congregational Mission

Worship with open hearts

The Board of Trustees is the governing body of Cedars UU Church. It has general charge of the property of the Church, conducts its business affairs, and controls its administration, including the appointment of such Committees that it deems necessary.

As part of its recent retreat, the Trustees elected officers for the 2022-203 church year as follows:

Jeff Philip, President
Dean Sampson, Vice President
Herb Hethcote, Treasurer
Andrea Barnes, Secretary

with **Rod Kempkes** serving alone as a Member-At-Large at this time.

Additionally, the **Cedars' 2021-22 Annual Report** has now been released and is available for viewing [here](#).

Safe Gatherings at Cedars

Our congregation values using sound science 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 GREEN, meaning Masking is optional, but Masks are required when singing.

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

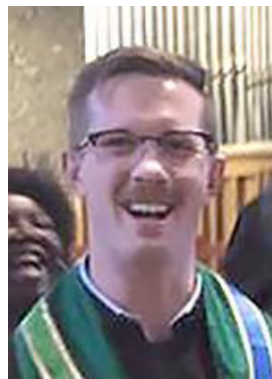
Elder Spiritual Study Group

Calling all Crones,

*Nurture a learning spirit
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.

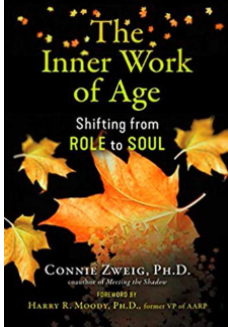
We typically meet on the second Sunday of the month and utilize the UU Principles as touchstones and reference points for exploration.

Contact **Cory Munson** for more information.

Cedars Monthly Potluck

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

August's potluck has been rescheduled and will be on Saturday, August 20th at the home of Alison, Mike, Aidan and Cecile Stokes located at 4255 Sorrel Ave NE 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



guide, we will explore the inner obstacles and embrace the hidden spiritual gifts of aging.

Psychotherapist and bestselling author Connie Zweig uses inner work to uncover and explore our unconscious denial and resistance to aging. "Reclaim your creativity and allow mortality to be a teacher." Woven throughout with wisdom from such prominent elders as Ken Wilber, and Rabbi Rami Shapiro, the text shows ways to embrace a fulfilling late life.

You've filled out your Advance Directive forms, posted your POLST and written your Will, now what do you do? (If you haven't done these vital tasks, contact Johanna at johanna@johannamunson.com!) Sit and wait for the Grim Reaper? Not very UU of you. Obviously, we have to have one last discussion group.

Details:

4 sessions, every other week, held on Zoom- no charge

Time/Dates: Wednesdays 1-2:30pm, September 28, October 12, October 26, November 9

- The book can be purchased at Eagle Harbor Book Company for 20% off, or online
- Participants are encouraged to actively engage in reflection and discussion, and will need a journal to respond to practices offered in the book.

Contact **Carolyn Kerns** in the Cedars office at info@cedarsuuchurch.com to register.

Climate Smart Challenge

Water Plants Just Enough this Summer



With temperatures rising, you and your plants may be getting more sun than normal. In the summer months it's easy to want to "overwater" outdoor plants to make sure they have enough, but too much water is wasteful and can harm plants. Here are some tips to keep your landscape healthy without wasting water.

- Use a moisture meter to see if your yard needs water; if the meter says it's moist, you can skip running the sprinklers (available at local hardware stores for around \$20)
- Make sure your irrigation system has a rain sensor that shuts off the system

Sages, Elders, and Seniors. Are you interested in a study group on the subject of Spiritual Aging? Donna Moore and Johanna Munson are starting such a group in the fall. Using The Inner Work of Age: Shifting from Role to Soul by Connie Sweig, Ph. D. as a

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.

All-Ages Game Night

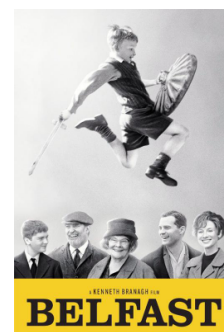
Join Faith Formation Lead, Archer Philip, at our Cedars Center meeting room from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Friday August 26th for a night of hilarious comparisons in *Apples to Apples* fun.

All are welcome to join in on the fun, and light snacks and refreshments will be provided.

We hope to see you there!

Film Fans Return

After a summer hiatus, the Film Fans movie group will return for a new season beginning with discussion of the award-winning **Belfast**, a beautifully filmed semi-autobiographical movie by Kenneth Branagh in which a 9-year-old boy finds himself confronted with the ugly reality of sectarian conflict.



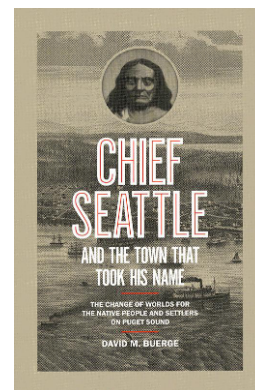
The film is widely available for home streaming preceding the group discussion to be hosted by Linda Andrews and Joan Spencer at 7:00 p.m. on September 8th on zoom.

Contact **Linda** or **Joan** for more information.

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 Buerge.

Historian Buerge has assembled disparate 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,

- when it rains and allows it to turn back on when it stops
- Avoid watering in the middle of the day when the hot sun will evaporate much of the water before it can get to thirsty plants
- Avoid using the hose for plants, and instead opt for a water can or drip system

Learn more about how you can be water wise this summer in this short **video**. Thanks for doing your part to create a **Climate Smart Bainbridge!**

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

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

Keri Schmit, back to teaching, but now in Ecuador, seems to be enjoying her ever-present equatorial summer (or is that winter?) with a light-hearted crazy hair day!

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**.

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

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.

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 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.



Join the Tech Team!

Do you have an interest in technology, sound systems and/or video live-streaming technology? The Tech Team 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.

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 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
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](#).

Cedars UU Church (website)

