

# 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 39 / September 30, 2022

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## Upcoming Services

### Time and History

**Sunday October 2nd**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**In-Person Service in Webster Hall**

**Rev Zackrie Vinczen**  
**Nancy Philip, Worship Associate**

Unitarian minister and theologian James Luther Adams played a major role in shaping contemporary Unitarian Universalist theology.

This service is the second in a series of sermons exploring the legacy of JLA and will focus on his views of Time and History.

### The Gnostics

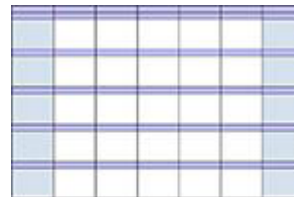
**Sunday October 9th**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**In-Person Service in Webster Hall**

**Rev Zackrie Vinczen**  
**Nancy Philip, Worship Associate**

Gnostic is a term often applied to heretical sects of Christians in the 2nd century. Despite the catch all nature this title offers, there was a broad range of diversity in the rituals and myths of these groups.

In this service, we consider some of the beliefs held by various gnostic groups and the lessons they offer us for our own spiritual journey.

### 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 September 30th**  
**6:00 p.m. All-Ages Game Night**

**Sunday October 2nd**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**In-Person Service in Webster Hall**  
**[Live-Stream Service Link](#)**  
**Congregational Meeting immediately following**

**11:00 a.m.**  
**Congregation Town Hall**  
**Topic: Discussion about the recent survey and the future of Cedars.**

**Thursday October 6th**  
**5:00 p.m. Cedars Social Justice Committee Meeting**  
**[Zoom Link](#)**  
**Meeting ID: 886 1911 6405**  
**Phone if Needed: 253-215-8782**

## News and Announcements

### Our Congregational Mission

*Worship with open hearts  
Nurture a learning spirit*



## CROP Hunger Walk Success

On Sunday, September 25th, Cedars participated in the CROP Hunger Walk! We showed up with a group of eleven people from our congregation, all wearing our Cedars shirts to put our values out for the world to see. The event was attended by other congregations from the area, and we were able to come together for one important purpose. We all showed up to help.

The money raised will make its way to families in need around the world. Our Cedars congregation raised a total of \$975 to assist the fight against hunger! That's incredible! Breaking that amount down, we have provided enough to provide six struggling families in the U.S. with groceries for four months. The money we raised could also be used to educate communities in Ecuador sustainable farming methods, providing renewable sources of food. We participate in events like CROP Hunger Walk in service to the world and to help those in need. Thank you to everyone who donated and everyone who walked.

## 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.

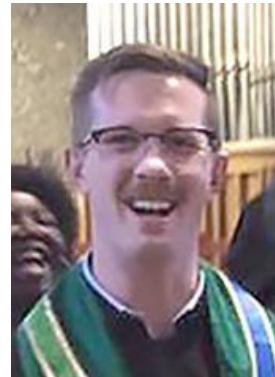
The Cedars Board of Trustees has also decided to no longer require vaccinations at gatherings, though we ask that unvaccinated individuals wear masks and maintain appropriate distancing at all times. Vaccination rates in Kitsap County are now at 80% and we know that a few Cedars people have been unable 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.

*Serve justice with compassion  
Love without judgment*



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



**Rev. Zackrie Vinczen**

## Message from the Minister

As we move into the darker part of the year, there can be a tendency for many folks to turn inward. When I think of this part of the year, the thought of cuddling up at home with a book and my dogs becomes tempting. And despite this impulse, this year at Cedars, our leadership is inviting people to remain engaged. That doesn't mean that you still can't cuddle up with a book and dogs and get cozy, but we hope you won't only do that.

Journalist Finley Peter Dunne once said that the role of journalism is to "comfort the afflicted, afflict the comfortable." At times, it feels appropriate to apply this adage to Cedars. And while it's not my goal to afflict any of you, I do believe we can play an important role in bringing comfort to those who are already feeling afflicted. For me, this is how I understand the call our mission statement offers when we say, "serve justice with compassion."

The word compassion originates with the Latin word "compati" (suffer with). When we serve justice with compassion, that means we are committing ourselves to a degree of discomfort. Compassion invites us to give something up and meet people where they are. Compassion moves us beyond ourselves into deeper understanding and relationship. The past two years have caused many of us to focus our attention inward. But now is the time for us to get beyond ourselves again, and ask the question "how can we help?" How can we help address hunger in our own community? How can we help assure resources for housing

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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#### Climate Café

**Saturday, October 8,  
2022. Sign-in 1:45-  
2:00pm, Event 2:00pm-  
4:15pm**



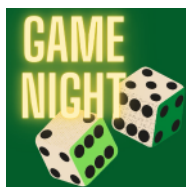
**Eagle Harbor Congregational Church,  
Dining Hall  
105 Winslow Way W, Bainbridge  
Island, WA 98110**

The Climate Café is a safe place for people to come together in circles of trust to share and bear witness to the varied personal perceptions they may have about the future of our Earth home and our interconnected life. This is not a place for educating, promoting or convincing, but one of compassionate companioning one another on this shared journey.

This Climate Café draws on a proven café model of a shared listening process that will allow for concerns, fears, visions, and hopes to be expressed in a safe and welcoming environment. Like the worldwide model it emulates, we hope that this might grow into a similar non-profit venue style for safe and productive ways to voice the very human aspects of climate change and our common future together with the Earth.

**TO REGISTER:** Email your name & phone # to [climatecafe.earth@gmail.com](mailto:climatecafe.earth@gmail.com)  
EVENT IS FREE donations are welcome to offset costs of facility rental.  
RESERVATION IS REQUIRED Seating is Limited. No admission after start.

Participants are encouraged to bring a simple finger dessert to share at our mid-event break. To register, email the address given above.



#### 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

September 30th for a night of family games.

All are welcome to join in on the fun. Light snacks and refreshments will be provided and we hope to see you there!

#### Elder Spiritual Study Group

and healthcare are available? How can we comfort the afflicted among us? How can we get beyond ourselves and meet the people we are called to serve where they are?

These are the questions that leadership at Cedars is hoping to wrestle with this year, and we are inviting all of you into this wrestling—helping to create opportunities to learn, grow, and serve together as we resist the urge to turn inward and instead seek to find answers to the question “how can we help?” If this is the kind of church you want to be a part of, you can play a role in making this happen by joining the Social Justice Team’s planning efforts, or simply showing up at one of the many service events we are organizing with a willing attitude.

Let’s make this year the year that Cedars emerges from the depths of the pandemic as a mission focused congregation set on blessing the world. Let us be a beacon of light in a dark and lonely time.

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#### Musical Notes

Music can be a powerful tool to connect us to one another and help us to get beyond ourselves. Hopefully this is something you have had a chance to experience within the Cedars community. If you’d like an opportunity to deepen your reflection of Unitarian Universalist hymns at home (as well as prepare for Sunday’s Service) check out the hymns linked below.

[When Our Heart is in a Holy Place \(#1008\)](#)  
[Spirit of Life \(#123\)](#)  
[Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing \(#126\)](#)



#### 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.

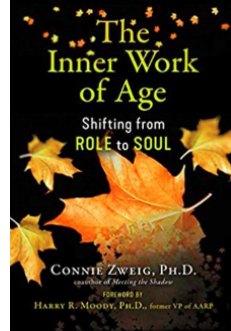
Contact **Cory Munson** for more information.

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#### Film Fans October Selection

Cedars members and friends who identify themselves as **Film Fans** are

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

**Registration for this group is now closed. If you have any questions, contact [johanna@johannamunson.com](mailto:johanna@johannamunson.com).**

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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.

Please join the fun and enjoy the growing show using the link below! If you have something to share, send a photo and

continuing their monthly activities and welcome participation by other movie fans.

Group members typically view selected films on their own and then gather virtually using Zoom to discuss, analyze, and interpret the month's selection. Film selections are proposed on a rotating basis by individual members who then lead the discussion sessions.

Discussion sessions are typically scheduled to occur on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

**Our October 13th selection is *On the Beach***, the 1959 classic exploring how survivors of a nuclear war face the reality and individual consequences of a future taken from them by the false security of humanity's ultimately devastating weaponry.

"After World War III, Australia is the only remaining haven for mankind. However, wind currents carrying lingering radiation all but condemn those on the continent to the same fate suffered by the rest of the world. When the survivors receive a strange signal from San Diego, Cmdr. Dwight Towers (Gregory Peck) must undertake a mission with Lt. Peter Holmes (Anthony Perkins) to see if there is hope for humanity -- leaving behind Moira (Ava Gardner) and Mary (Donna Anderson), the women they love."

The film is **available for free viewing**.

For more information contact **Joan Spencer** or **Linda Andrews**.



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## Pastoral Care Update

It's a new year for Cedars and the Pastoral Care team is looking for people who can help with meals or rides for people who are needing an extra boost. Please take time to fill out the **Pastoral Care Volunteer Interest Form**. We are thankful to the many people who have stepped up in the past few months to help.

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) or send an email to [pastoralcare@cedarsuuchurch.org](mailto:pastoralcare@cedarsuuchurch.org).

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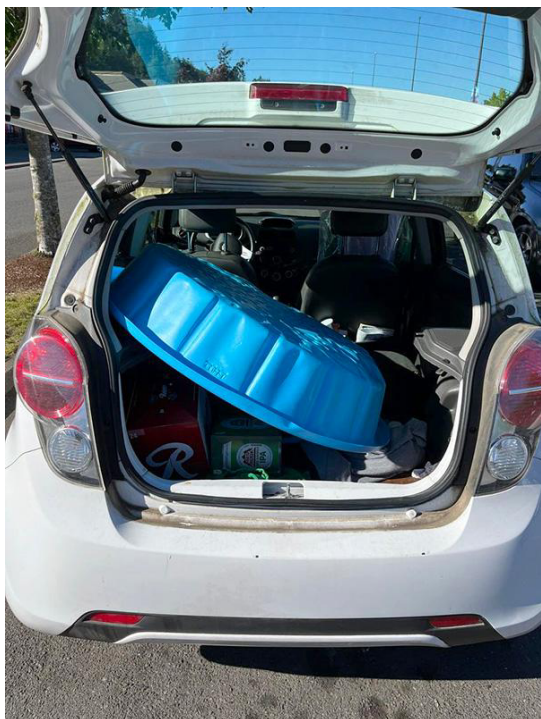
## Public Waste Collection



description to [office@cedarsuuchurch.org](mailto:office@cedarsuuchurch.org).

## Cedars Creativity Fair 2022

**Elliott Charles Smith** says "...kiddie pools were 60% off and they had one that was big enough for the dogs to play in but small enough to fit in the Chevy so...



## Styrofoam & Mattress Recycle Collection Event

Styrofoam seems to effortlessly gather in our garages and similarly under-supervised domestic spaces as a byproduct of product packaging and package deliveries. The consequent challenge is how to dispose of it without littering our environment or wastefully overfilling our landfills.

Fortunately, In partnership with **DTG Recycle**, Kitsap County is hosting a styrofoam and mattress recycling collection event for Kitsap County households. This will be Saturday, October 29, from 9 am - 3 pm at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds Sheep Barn (enter at Tibardis Rd NW).

Questions? Email [solidwaste@kitsap.gov](mailto:solidwaste@kitsap.gov).

## 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)

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](#).

