

The Beacon

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



Volume 12 Issue 49 / December 9, 2022

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Upcoming Services

Reflections on Traveling as a UU

Sunday December 11th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall

Jeff and Nancy Philip, Guest Speakers

Jeff and Nancy Philip recently returned from a six week trip through the Southwest, visiting National Parks and Museums on the way to visit their daughter, Marina who lives in Albuquerque. Jeff and Nancy will reflect on their travels from the perspective of Unitarian Universalism and their connection to the Seven UU Principles.

Winter Solstice

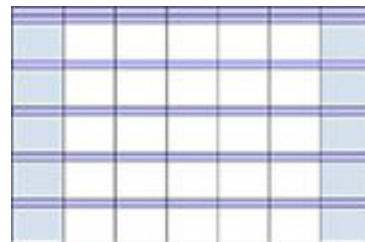
Sunday December 18th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall

Rev Zackrie Vinczen
Gregory Cook, Worship Associate

The winter solstice represents the point in the year when our side of the planet begins to turn back to the light, bringing with it longer days and signs of new life.

Join us for this service as we commemorate the returning of the light to the world.

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 December 11th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall
[Live-Stream Service Link](#)
Coffee hour immediately following



News and Announcements

Safe Gatherings at Cedars

Boosters are Still Cool

Moving into Fall, Kitsap County continues to

Our Congregational Mission

*Worship with open hearts
Nurture a learning spirit
Serve justice with compassion*

be low for COVID-19 Community Transmission. What a relief to see that vaccines, personal protective measures and safe community norms have been so effective. Our own practices at Cedars have certainly contributed to protecting our community.

Kitsap has a very good Vaccination Rate of nearly 83%! People keeping up to date on their booster have not been so good, with only 42% obtaining their Booster Shot. Although I am in New Mexico, it was time for my Booster update (third one for me), so I headed to a local pharmacy. In addition to my COVID-19 booster, I also got my annual flu shot. I encourage you all to get vaccine updates if you are able to. You can find locations by going to **Vaccinate WA: Find COVID-19 Vaccine Providers Near You.**

Enjoy a safe and active December!

Jeff Philip
President, Board of Trustees

Walking St. Olav's Way

Who was Saint Olav? Why is there a collection of "ways" in Norway and Sweden bearing his name? And why would anyone want to walk hundreds of miles to visit the place he is supposedly buried? After our Sunday service on December 11 please join Cedars member **Rod Kempkes** to explore these questions and enjoy a slide show about the 350 mile walk he took this summer with his daughter Erin and wife Carolyn, from Oslo to Trondheim along one of the many St. Olav's Ways pilgrimage routes from the middle ages.

Please come to our regular Sunday service on December the 11th if you can. Look for more about that service in next week's Beacon.

Rod's talk will begin around 11:15 am after the service in Webster Hall and go for about 30 minutes with plenty of time for questions and answers. All ages are invited to attend his family friendly presentation.



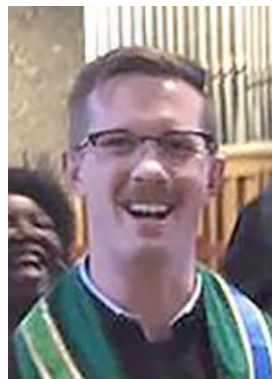
Christmas Eve Service Donation

At our Christmas Eve Service gathering,

Love without judgment



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



Rev. Zackrie Vinczen

Musical Notes

Much hard work and dedication goes into providing music for our Sunday Services. And each week we are grateful for those who make the music and lead us all in song. This week, we offer a special thanks to **Audrey Blair** for leading music this coming Sunday.

Sunday Hymns:

[A Firemist and a Planet \(#343\)](#)
[Winter Solstice Chant \(#1063\)](#)
[The Fire of Commitment \(#1028\)](#)

Chalice Saplings

When: Dec. 11th, Dec. 18th

Chalice Saplings is a space for any children attending Sunday Service. Facilitated by Faith Formation Lead Archer Philip and volunteers, this time and space is where children can experience their own form of worship through activity-based learning. There will be a chalice lighting, check ins, and a different activity every session.

All facilitators of Chalice Saplings are vetted with a background check. If you are interested in having your child/children participate, there will be a form to fill out when you arrive on Sunday at the door. You may also contact **Archer Philip** at faith.formation@cedarsuuchurch.org for more information and a copy of the form.

Cedars will collect donations of **new** socks, underwear and pajamas (all sizes) for women and children. These will be donated to the **YWCA Alive Shelter** which is dedicated to ensuring the personal safety, rights, welfare, and dignity of those who experience domestic abuse while building partnerships and increasing community awareness to create positive social change. For more information, [visit their website](#).

If you are unable to attend the Christmas Eve gathering but would like to donate, there will be a donation box at the Cedars office where items can be dropped off during the month of December between the hours of 10-5 Tuesday through Friday. For more information, contact **Carol Ann Davidson**.

Suquamish Museum Visit

About 30 Cedars members, friends, and family members gathered at the Suquamish Tribal Museum last Sunday for an inspiring and informative experience viewing and learning about various aspects and artifacts of the Suquamish people whose ancestral lands we thankfully share.



Community Loaves

Calling all Bakers:
Participate in Baking
Bread for local food
banks.



We will partner with Community Loaves, an organization that strives to nurture strong communities through the connection, training, and empowerment of home-based bakers to reduce hunger and promote wellness.

To participate as bakers, you need to take a one-hour information session. The next information session is Tuesday, December 6th at either 12:00 pm or 5:00 pm. We will be collecting loaves on Sunday, December 18th.

After service on December 18th we will be baking cookies in Webster Hall. Dough and cookie cutters will be provided. Stay after to help cut out dough with the congregation!

If you are interested or have questions, please contact **Mike Cox** at toxman57@gmail.com or 206-799-3725.



Family Movie Night

You are invited!

Come and enjoy a great opportunity to engage with other families in your Cedars community! Faith Formation lead Archer Philip is hosting a family movie night!

When: Saturday, December 17th 5:30pm-8:30pm

Where: The Stokes Home (4255 Sorrel Way NE, Bainbridge Island)
For holiday season fun, we will gather for an evening viewing of the 1993 film "**Groundhog Day**" starring Bill Murray. This classic movie is sure to bring a smile to your family's faces and we will explore and analyze themes from the film in a group discussion afterwards.

Pizza will be provided before the viewing, paired with some light game activity. If you have any dietary restrictions, we suggest bringing an appropriate meal and drink for yourself.

If you are interested please RSVP with Archer Philip at faith.formation@cedarsuuchurch.org.

UUA Reviewing Principles and Purposes

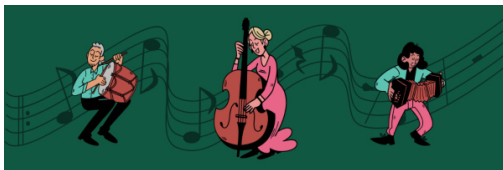
For decades, the Unitarian Universalist Association has focused our efforts around the seven principles and six sources, as described in the UUA Bylaws Article II. Last updated in 1987, they are periodically reviewed to see if they continue to reflect who we are and encourage us to strive for a better world.

In 2017, discussions around adding an 8th principle focused on anti-racism began at General Assembly. This year a special commission is reviewing article 2, and have prepared a draft revision. This new revision does not use the seven or eight principle approach, but a different method of reflecting our values. You can learn more at this website:

[Article II Study Commission | UUA.org](#)



InSpirit, our UU Book and Gift Shop is currently highlighting new social justice books, including titles on disability justice, abortion access, and critical race theory, among others. Free standard shipping on orders of \$50 or



The Music Committee Needs Your Help

Do you sing or play an instrument? Here's an opportunity to share your talents and add special music at a Sunday service. We'd love to hear from you. And if you're part of a small instrumental or vocal group, we'd be delighted to have the group provide music. Students who are taking lessons will find this a great opportunity to get some performance experience.

In addition to special music, there are opportunities to play Gathering, Prelude, Offering, or Leaving music for a service. We also are looking for pianists to accompany hymns.

Ready to volunteer? Archer will be happy to discuss scheduling. If you are interested, intrigued, or tempted to participate, please contact **Archer Philip** or **Audrey Blair**, with any questions or comments you may have.

Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care team is looking for people who can help with meals or rides for people needing an extra boost. Please take time to fill out the **Pastoral Care Volunteer Interest Form**. We are thankful to the many 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** or send an email to pastoralcare@cedarsuuchurch.org.

Cedars Creativity Fair 2022

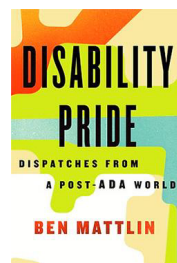
See What Others Have Been Doing

Our identity as a congregational community is strengthened by the activities and gatherings we enjoy together, as well as by the ways we can find to know each other better.

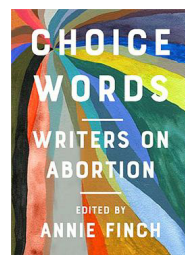
In past years we organized occasional Creativity Fairs to share individual interests and capabilities following Webster Hall services, and in response to the more recent pandemic we have shifted to on-line or virtual versions of those fairs.

more within the U.S. is available through December 4th!

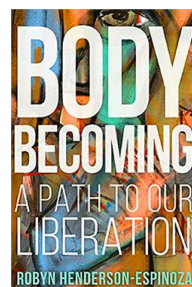
Here are several samples:



In ***Disability Pride***, disabled journalist Ben Mattlin weaves together interviews and reportage to introduce a cavalcade of individuals, ideas, and events in engaging, fast-paced prose. He traces the generation that came of age after the ADA reshaped America, and how it is influencing the future.



A landmark literary anthology of poems, stories, and essays, ***Choice Words*** collects essential voices, from Amy Tan to Margaret Atwood and Ntozake Shange that renew our courage in the struggle to defend reproductive rights.



The ***Body Becoming*** that Robyn Henderson-Espinoza inhabits is a nonbinary body, a trans body, a body in two races—and a body continually in discovery. Theirs is also a body on sojourn invested in experience, body understanding, and engagement in and for

human thriving. Mixing memoir and faith, somatics theory and body practice, Henderson-Espinoza steers us through territory both familiar and difficult, as we discover embodiment as a place of wisdom.

See bookstore@uua.org for more information.

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**.

This month's Super Supper is scheduled for **November 29**. Please contact **Penny Brewer** for more information.

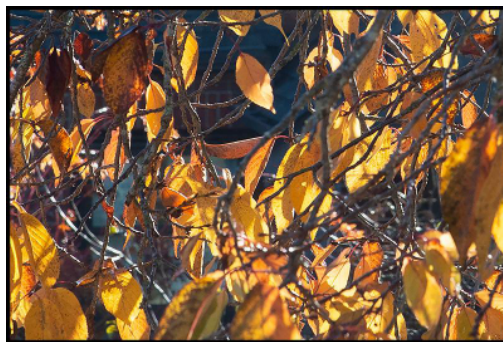
Facing the Climate Crisis

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.

Continuing that sharing of individual interests and creativity, please join the fun and enjoy the growing show using the link below! If you have something to share, send a photo and description to office@cedarsuuchurch.org.

Cedars Creativity Fair 2022

Richard Wilson has used his photographic eye to capture some of the last rays of autumn sun illuminating the season's bold and final color in leaves about to drop away for winter's arrival.



The Fall/Winter issue of the **UU World** magazine presents a multi-faceted exploration of the very significant environmental challenge now threatening our future as the human race.



The issue is distributed directly to active members of our congregation, and is also publicly available online at uuworld.org in an expanded presentation.



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](#).

