

The Beacon

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



Volume 13 Issue 12 / March 24, 2023

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Upcoming Services

Where's the Stork From?

Sunday March 26th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person service in Webster Hall

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen
Nancy Philip, Worship Associate

If babies come from storks, then where do storks come from?

Join us as we untangle this twisted nest of an origin story and consider the possibility that nothing (not even birds) is real.

The Poet's Memoir

Sunday April 2nd
10:00 a.m.
In-Person service in Webster Hall

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen
Gregory Cook, Worship Associate

Understanding a poet's life often provides us insight into understanding their poetry. In this service we will consider the role of the memoir as a tool of artistic interpretation.

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 March 24th
12:30 p.m.
Picnic in the Pea Patch Event

Saturday March 25th
11:30 a.m.
Social Lunch & Music Event

Sunday March 26th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall
[Live-Stream Service Link](#)
BBQ Lunch immediately following

Tuesday March 28th
4:45 p.m.
Super Supper

News and Announcements

Listening to your feedback on our Mission



This month we had two great sessions gaining feedback from 35 people in the congregation on how to grow into our Mission

Our Congregational Mission

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

Statement. The discussions were very engaging, and of course we welcome additional feedback. Here is just a sample of what we heard:

Worship with Open Hearts: Lots of appreciation for how we have adapted Worship during and after the Pandemic, including how Archer injected some energy during the Time for All Ages. Looking forward to hearing a variety of perspectives, both UU and outside the UUiverse. Would love to hear more people from our congregation leading a session on Sunday mornings.

Nurture a Learning Spirit: Strong support for learning programs for adults and children. People want to step up to make more programs available, including Our Whole Lives, general children's programming, adult discussion groups focused on movies, books or other topics of interest. The parents group is actively planning things for children and would love any support from individuals and the congregation at large.

Serve Justice with Compassion: People are excited about our focus on Social Justice. Some ideas to explore are to have periodic Sunday Services focused on Social Justice issues; look for causes that have personal impact; focus on women in need; and possibly inviting recipients of our monthly special collection to come speak on Sunday.

Love without Judgment: People were very interested in exploring how we can be more aware of the intersection of Love and Judgment. This is perhaps something we can aspire to, though it is challenging. As a value, it can be important to approach people with an open mind and love in our hearts, even as we discern how to interact with them based on their attitudes and behaviors. One of the more challenging things to achieve in life.

The Board of Trustees will receive notes on the discussions and any additional feedback. You can always send me your thoughts at Philip.jeff@gmail.com

Jeff Philip
President, Board of Trustees

Stewardship Events Remaining in March

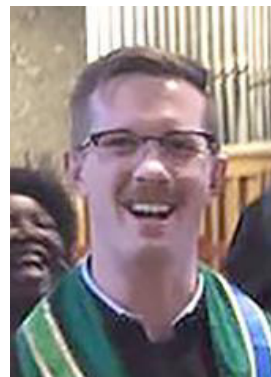
Looking for some fun or social action projects? There are plenty of to choose from, Just go to **Cedars Stewardship Events @ Signupgenius.com**.

- **March 24** Picnic in the Pea Patch
- **March 25** Lunch and Music
- **March 26** Congregation BBQ Lunch

Stewardship is about reaffirming our commitment to Cedars UU Church and informing our



Cedars UU Church is a Welcoming Congregation and Green Sanctuary



Rev. Zackrie Vinczen

Leading a Service

Are you looking for a chance to share your unique perspectives with the rest of the congregation? Do you have a passion for puns? Do you know how to keep a crowd on the edge of their seats? Or have you just always wanted to speak in front of a captive audience? If so, we want to hear from you!

Cedars is looking for speakers of all backgrounds, experiences, and identities to share their wisdom by leading a Sunday service.

Leading a service is a great way to connect with your fellow community members, grow your own spiritual practice, and contribute to the ongoing conversation about the values and principles that guide our church.

Whether you have experience in public speaking or have always wanted to try your hand at preaching, you are invited to give it a try and share your wisdom and unique perspective.

Currently, we are still looking to fill the following dates:

04/16/2023, 04/30/2023, 05/28/2023, 06/18/2023, 06/25/2023

If this interests you, please get in touch with **Rev. Zackrie**.

Musical Notes

Much hard work and dedication goes into providing music for our Sunday services. And each week we are grateful for those willing to make music and lead us all in song. This week, we offer special thanks to **Meredith**



budget for the coming year. Thank you to everyone who have submitted their pledge forms. If it is still on your To Do List, there is still time. Bring the form on Sunday, mail it in,

or fill out the online form at <https://www.cedarsuuchurch.org/annual-financial-commitment/>.

Safe Gatherings at Cedars

Continued Caution

Spread of viruses (COVID, Respiratory Syncytial virus and the flu) surged late in 2022, but didn't grow to the levels some health professionals predicted. Those rates appear to be coming back down. As we watch the health data, Cedars UU Church will continue to urge caution in the weeks ahead.

Cedars encourages people to wear masks for indoor, in person gatherings. And remember to get your annual flu vaccine and COVID booster. A shot in the arm is better than a week in bed.

Current COVID Safety - Cedars Unitarian Universalist Church ([cedarsuuchurch.org](https://www.cedarsuuchurch.org))

March Special Collection

Cedars schedules a monthly Special Collection for community outreach and 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.



For March, the Social Justice Committee chose to collect money for **Front and Centered**, an organized effort seeking a just transition to an economy that is centered on ecological restoration, community resilience, and social equity.

If you would like to receive a tax deduction for your donation to this program, please write a check payable to Cedars UU Church with Front and Centered in the memo line and send it to the Cedars Church Office by March 31st.

For more information contact **Mike Cox** at 206-799-3725 or toxman57@gmail.com.

Cedars Creativity Fair 2023

See What Others Have Been Doing

Our identity as a congregational community is

Patterson for music accompaniment.

Sunday Hymns:

1. **What Wondrous Love (#18)**
2. **Hymn of the Month: Come Sing a Song with Me (#346)**
3. **We Laugh We Cry (#354)**



Poetry Writing Workshop

April is just a few weeks away, and you know what that means? **National Poetry Month!** To celebrate **Rev. Zackrie** will be offering a three-session poetry writing workshop for members and friends of Cedars.

This workshop will introduce features of poetic form and invite participants to experiment with writing their own poetry. The sessions will take place at the Cedars Center from 2-4pm on the following dates:

- April 1st
- April 8th
- April 22nd

If you'd like to join this workshop, please take a moment to fill out the **registration form**.

Time for All Ages Volunteers

Are you looking for new ways to get involved, have fun, and make meaning? Is it time to spice up your church life? If so, then we have an opportunity for you.

The Worship Team is looking for people willing to lead games, tell jokes, and share stories during the Time for All Ages portion of our Sunday services. Whether you're a long time storyteller seeking an audience or brand new to public speaking, we have a place for you.

So, if you're ready to add a little humor and fun to our Sunday mornings, please reach out to **Rev. Zackrie**, and let him know that you're ready to make us laugh and create meaning. He can take it from there and help find a home for your talents.



New Women's Groups

A covenant group is a small group of people who meet regularly to establish deeper relationships among themselves and within the congregation.

Beginning this month, Cedars will have three new women's covenant groups:

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.

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 2023

Master gardener and landscape designer **Shayne Chandler** has been in France lately, enjoying a very special site visit and joyfully sharing his delight:

"Wow! What a fun project I am working on. I am designing a landscape for the fabulous Château De Lalacelle in Normandy, France. With the rough design done before a visit, Karen Brindley and I made the journey to see the site and meet the amazing family who live there and are doing a crazy amount of work to create a magical place. Now I'm back home to work on the final drawings."



- One evening group meeting mostly in-person on the first Monday of the month.
- One afternoon group meeting with a mix of Zoom and in-person meetings on the fourth Tuesday of the month.
- One meeting mostly on Zoom with day and time yet to be determined.

All groups have room for additional members, so contact **Sally Wilson** if you are interested in participating.

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.

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**.

For more information contact **Mike Cox** at 206-799-3725 or toxman57@gmail.com.

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.

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

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen, Minister

For an appointment, e-mail minister@cedarsuuchurch.org
For an urgent matter, call (360) 930-9339 (Pastoral Care)

Position open

284 Madrona Way, NE #128
Bainbridge Island WA 98110
(206) 780-0373

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)

