

The Beacon

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



Volume 13 Issue 24 / June 16, 2023

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Upcoming Services

On Fatherhood

Sunday June 18th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person service in Webster Hall

Warren Read, Guest Speaker
Fran Korten, Worship Associate

On this Father's Day, we'll contemplate the complexities that can accompany the notion of "fatherhood." Whether we reflect on our own fathers, or consider those in our lives who happened to stand in place as a father figure, we'll celebrate those in our lives who have practiced for us the positive virtues that raise the term "fathering" to more than mere biology.

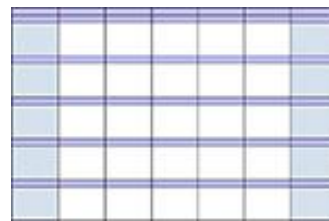
You Do Not Have to Forgive

Sunday June 25th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person service in Webster Hall

Jenny Weaver, Guest Speaker
Gregory Cook, Worship Associate

"Forgive and forget" is a phrase that surrounds us in our society. We are also exposed to the Christian premise of being forgiven for our sins and the foundational concept of original sin. This sermon will address that concept and provide hope for a world in which we are not pressured to forgive or hope for divine forgiveness.

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 June 18th Father's Day
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall
[Live-Stream Link](#)

Tuesday June 20th
3:00 p.m.
Creative Group Meet-Up

Wednesday June 21st
4:30 p.m. (7:30 p.m. EDT- Pittsburgh)
UUA General Assembly Opening Session
[Live-Stream Link](#)

News and Announcements



UUA General Assembly 2023

General Assembly is the annual gathering of Unitarian



Unitarian Universalists, where we conduct business of the Association, explore theological underpinnings of our faith, and lean fully into our mission and principles. Participants worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. Anyone may attend; congregations must certify voting delegates. Join us June 21 - 25, 2023 online or in-person in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

A full schedule of GA activities is available [here](#), with more information [here](#).

Join me for virtual General Assembly

Each year, the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations holds an annual meeting and learning convention called General Assembly. The next one is this coming week. While many are travelling to Pittsburgh, PA, I will be attending virtually. The nice part is you can join me!

The sessions are listed in [Cedars online church calendar](#). I will be in the church office from Wednesday through Sunday, watching them on the big screen, and you are welcome to join me. In addition to the sessions listed on the calendar, there is also a collection of [On-Demand Workshops](#) that we can watch. If you are interested in any of them, just let me know and we will arrange a time to watch it.

General Assembly is a unique gathering of UU's. Thousands come together, share ideas, join in community, and debate important topics. If you ever get a chance, make the journey to attend in person. But this year, consider attending a session with me.

Jeff Philip
President, Board of Trustees

Safe Gatherings at Cedars

Caution Recommended

Based on the recent decision to no longer require masking in health care facilities in Washington State, the Board of Trustees has decided that Cedars will no longer ask people to mask up while singing at Sunday Services.

As we watch the health data, Cedars UU Church will continue to urge caution in the weeks ahead.

We will always honor people's individual choice to wear a mask at any time.

Current COVID Safety - Cedars Unitarian Universalist Church (cedarsuuchurch.org)

Kitsap 2023 Pride Festival

Kitsap Pride is

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

Our Congregational Mission

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



Rev. Zackrie Vinczen

Rev. Zackrie Away

June 20th-28th, I will be away from Cedars to attend the Unitarian Universalist General Assembly in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania. While away, I will be available by phone for urgent matters. Feel free to call or text if something urgent comes up: **(360)-930-9339**.

I will be returning to my regular work schedule on June 29th and in the pulpit on July 2nd to share updates from GA with all of you.

Zackrie

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

Kitsap County's premier LGBTQ+ Pride event and is scheduled to take place on **Saturday, July 22nd, from 2:00 to 9:00 pm** at the Bremerton Fairgrounds.

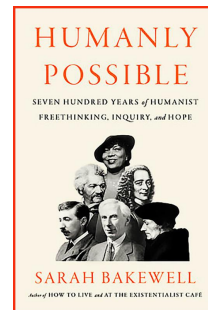


It is a free, family-friendly event. The main stage will feature live music, DJ, and drag performances. Kitsap Pride will host a beer garden and a Pride store for logo merchandise.

They are looking for volunteers to help with the event. To register to help and for more information on the event use this [link](#).

Evans Reading Group

Regaining focus in post-pandemic daylight, the Evans Reading Group is pleased to invite your participation as we return to our Cedars practice of reading and discussing books that can intrigue and might enlighten us in seeking "Salvation by Bibliography" as our late friend Marvin Evans used to say.



Our current selection, proposed by Mary Romeo, is **Humanly Possible**, a sweeping new study by Sarah Bakewell that takes readers on a grand intellectual adventure bringing extraordinary humanists together across history. Some of them sought to promote scientific and rationalist ideas, others put more emphasis on moral living, and still others were concerned with the cultural and literary studies known as "the humanities."

We will continue our several-session Zoom discussion of this book to cover chapters 4 through 8 on June 27, and finishing with chapters 9 through 12 on August 1, using Zoom at this [link](#).

All are welcome to join us. For more information contact **Alan Miller** or **Mary Romeo**.



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:

07/23/2023

07/30/2023

08/20/2023

09/17/2023

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 **Audrey Blair** for music accompaniment.

Sunday Hymns:

1. **Gather the Spirit (#347)**
2. **Love Will Guide Us (#131)**
3. **How Could Anyone (#1053) Hymn of the Month**
4. **We Would Be One (#318)**

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.

Children's Faith Formation Needs You

An enthusiastic group of parents has begun planning children's programming. Program activities will be scheduled in the Island School library on selected Sunday mornings and the help of other adults will be welcomed.

Seeing an active children's Faith Formation

Climate Change: Join us for the 4th of July Parade

Climate Action Bainbridge and other organizations will be marching in Bainbridge Island's 4th of July parade this year. It is a great opportunity to make people more aware of the challenges with Climate Change and to show that we at Cedars believe this is a serious problem. It is also a great opportunity for families and kids to be part of the parade. So come and join us.

If you are interested please contact **Herb Hethcote** or **Mike Cox**.



Rotary Auction & Rummage Sale

The annual Rotary Auction & Rummage Sale is arguably the largest event on Bainbridge Island that fulfills the three tenets of waste reduction: Reuse, Reduce, Recycle.

- Items that are sold are reused and thus reduce the need to buy new.
- Items that are unsold are reused through donations to nonprofit organizations or recycled to the greatest extent possible.

Want to help?

The Green Team is a group of hardworking volunteers working throughout the pre-Auction period and Sale Day to sort, recycle, and ensure materials that cannot be sold go to good use rather than to the landfill.

To volunteer with our amazing Green Team:

1. Please use this **online registration form** and indicate your interest in the Green Team by typing "Green Team" in the Special Skills and Expertise text box.
2. After you have registered, schedule your preferred slot(s) and the type of work you'd like to do. If you aren't able to find a convenient slot on the schedule, just come by anytime between 8:00am to 7:00pm, June 30 through July 7. We always welcome the help!

Questions? Please **email** us.

A Special Collection Thank-You

Cedars was graciously thanked by the Friends of the Farms organization for the Special Collection funds we gathered last month in support of their program.

Read their full message here.

effort getting off the ground again is exhilarating. To volunteer your assistance, please email Jeff Philip at president@cedarsuuchurch.org.

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.



Suquamish Good Neighbor Opportunities

This year is an important year for the Suquamish Tribe. For the first time since 2019, the Canoe Journey & Chief Seattle Days will be open to the public. These events will take place on the following dates:

Canoe Journey: Friday July 28th-Sunday July 30th

Chief Seattle Days: Friday August 18th-Sunday August 20th

Reopening these events suggests a significant public presence and the need for volunteer support. Cedars volunteers have participated

Cedars Creativity Fair 2023

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.

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

Alex Sanso found this colorful visitor outside her artisan gift shop last week.



with such assistance in the past, providing appreciated support while gaining rewarding insight into the tribe's presence and culture.

More information is available [here](#).



Food4Kids

Monday, August 7th
9:00-11:30 a.m.

Kingston Cares provides and delivers nutritious, kid-friendly meals to over 120 local students who lack access to other food programs during school breaks. Last year they provided 11,000 meals!

It takes a small army to set-up, pack, clean-up and recycle each Monday morning when schools aren't in session. We have committed to creating a team of 17 people to prepare the food packs in Kingston on this one Monday in August. This is a great opportunity for us to reach out to North Kitsap and enjoy a morning volunteering together. Best of all: families are welcome!

Please contact **Patricia Erdmann** to sign up for our CEDARS Team. **360 953-4503** OR pperdmann@gmail.com

PS. This is my first time organizing a Cedars activity, so I'll appreciate hearing from interested volunteers asap.

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

284 Madrona Way, NE #128
Bainbridge Island WA 98110

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen, Minister

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

Position open

Faith Formation Lead

faith.formation@cedarsuuchurch.org

(206) 780-0373

Carolyn Kerns, Office Administrator
Available remotely Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
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)

