

# The Beacon

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



**CEDARS CHURCH**  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Volume 13 Issue 25 / June 23, 2023

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## Upcoming Services

### 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.

### The State of the Assembly

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

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

From June 21 - 25, 2023 Unitarian Universalists from around the world have gathered in Pittsburgh and online to conduct the business of our association, elect national representatives, and deepen our commitment to love and justice. In this service Rev. Zackrie will offer his reflections and cover some of the highlights of this gathering.

### 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.

**June 21st through 25th**  
**UUA General Assembly**  
Live-Stream links available  
See below for more information

**Sunday June 25th**  
10:00 a.m.  
In-Person Service in Webster Hall  
[Live-Stream Link](#)  
Coffee and Social time following

**Tuesday June 27th**  
1:30 p.m.  
Evans Reading Group Discussion  
5:00 p.m.  
Interfaith Council Super Supper

## News and Announcements



### UUA General Assembly 2023

General Assembly is the annual gathering of 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.

While many are in Pittsburgh for this year's event, **Jeff Philip** will be attending virtually. The nice part is that you can join him!

The sessions are listed in **Cedars online church calendar** and Jeff will be in our Cedars Center meeting room watching them on the big screen and welcoming you to join him. In addition to the sessions listed on the calendar, there is also a collection of **On-Demand Workshops** that can be watched. If you are interested in any of them, just let him know and he will arrange a time to watch them.

### General Assembly's Ware Lecture: Imani Perry

The Unitarian Universalist General Assembly is a remarkable gathering. I have been attending virtually this week. It's not as impactful, but still informative. Some of the highlights of GA include the workshops, worship services (sometimes with thousands of people) and the Ware Lecture.



The Ware Lecture features prominent thinkers of our time. It has been held since 1921, only missing a year or two. It has featured such luminaries as Howard Thurman, Linus Pauling and Martin Luther King, Jr.

This year, I invite you to join me to watch it virtually on Saturday, June 24 at 4:30pm at the Church Office. The featured speaker is Imani Perry. Perry is the Hughes-Rogers Professor of African American Studies at Princeton University and a faculty associate with Gender and Sexuality Studies and Jazz Studies. In the summer of 2023 she will join the faculty at Harvard University. She is a contributing writer for The Atlantic, and the author of seven books, most recently **South to America: A Journey Below the Mason-Dixon to Understand the Soul of a Nation** (Ecco Books, 2022), which received the 2022 National Book Award for Nonfiction.

**Jeff Philip**  
President, Board of Trustees

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## 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.

**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

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## 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

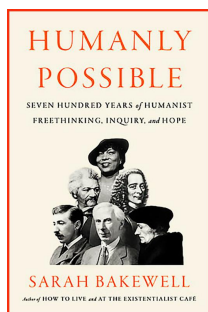
As we watch the health data, Cedars UU Church will continue to urge caution in the weeks ahead.

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

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

## 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**.



## 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

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 **Meredith Patterson** for music accompaniment.

### Sunday Hymns:

1. **This is My Song (#159)**
2. **Comfort Me (#1002)**
3. **Shall We Gather at the River (#1046)**

## 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 effort getting off the ground again is exhilarating. To volunteer your assistance, please email Jeff Philip at

volunteers working throughout the pre-Auction period and the July 8th 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.



## 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](mailto:pperdmann@gmail.com)

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

[president@cedarsuuchurch.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:toxman57@gmail.com).

## Kitsap 2023 Pride Festival



**Kitsap Pride** is 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](#).



## 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](mailto:office@cedarsuuchurch.org).

## Cedars Creativity Fair 2023

**Herb Hethcote** says "When Leslie and I recently gathered with our 2 local families including 3 teenagers, we painted shells with colored felt tip markers."



## 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**.



## 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 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](#).

## 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.

## 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)

**Position open**

**Faith Formation Lead**

faith.formation@cedarsuuchurch.org

**Carolyn Kerns, Office Administrator**

Available remotely Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  
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](#).

**Cedars UU Church (website)**

