

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 32 / August 11, 2023

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--- Upcoming Services

Preaching a UU Sermon

Sunday August 13th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen
Jenny Weaver, Worship Associate

As a faith committed to a “free and responsible search for truth and meaning,” sermon topics can take us in many directions.

In this service we will explore what makes a UU sermon as well as some tips on how to craft a sermon.

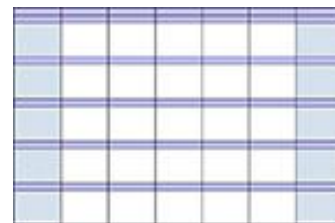
Community Conversation

Sunday August 20th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall

Nancy Philip, Speaker
Jeff Philip, Worship Associate

Last month we met and discussed our thoughts on the two questions, do you have a personal spiritual practice and what do you do to feel connected to something larger than yourself.? This Sunday, we will continue exploring these topics and our takeaways from this discussion.

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 August 13th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall
[Live-Stream Link](#)
Coffee and Social time following

Saturday August 18 - 20th
2:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Chief Seattle Days
Suquamish House of Awakened Culture

Sunday August 20th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall

Picnic in Battle Point Park following

News and Announcements

Summer Time

The weather is warm and there is so much opportunity in a Pacific Northwest Summer. Especially if you get out early and back



Cedars UU Church is a

home before it gets too hot.

Remember, there are many things to do with your Cedars UU Family too! Last Monday, a number of us worked to provide nutritious meals for children in the North Kitsap Area who normally rely on free or reduced lunch programs at school. We forget that for some children, the best meal of the day is at school and when school is out, they miss those meals. As the article below shows, we were able to help.



Speaking of food, our own congregation is having a picnic at the Battle Point Park picnic shelter after church on August 20th from 1-3:00 p.m. Sit in the shade and enjoy some potluck food, chat with friends or maybe join in some picnic games.

Please bring a dish to share (main dish, dessert, salad, etc.). We also encourage you to bring something to grill, as we will have a hot grill available. And please also consider bringing your own plates/utensils and carpooling.

The picnic shelter is located near the Arrow Point Drive NE entrance of Battle Point Park. The park features include a large children's play structure, basketball, tennis, roller hockey courts, and over three miles of walking trails.

We could use some help setting up. Visit [this page](#) and see how you can lend a hand.

See you in the shade (and a little sun, too)

Jeff Philip
President, Board of Trustees



Board Retreat Next Week

We "Retreat" to extract ourselves from the distractions of everyday life. I

suppose we all need a strategic retreat to refocus priorities. There are spiritual retreats, couples retreats, vacation retreats, and organizational retreats. Each summer, the new Board of Trustees sets some time aside to discuss what our focus and vision will be for the coming year at Cedars UU Church.

Our Trustees are not new this coming year, but the challenges are always changing. Next Thursday we will spend the afternoon reviewing developments of the past year, and imagining what can happen this year. Then coming up with a plan to make it real. Will we continue on our Social Action Focus, like last year? How can we improve church finances? What will attract more UUs to walk with us as we embody our mission?

Welcoming Congregation and Green Sanctuary

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

Our Congregational Mission



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 willing to make music and lead us all in song. This week, we offer special thanks to **Audrey Blair** for music accompaniment.

Sunday Hymns:

Let It Be a Dance (#311) Hymn of the Month

This is My Song (#159)

We'll Build a Land (#121)

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.

What would you like the Trustees to consider at the retreat? If you have thoughts, send a note to president@cedarsuuchurch.org

Jeff Philip
President, Board of Trustees



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 president@cedarsuuchurch.org.

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.

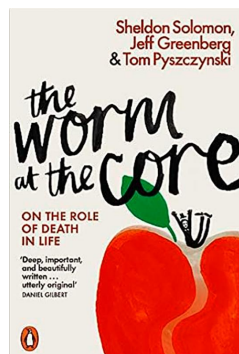
As we watch the health data, Cedars UU Church will continue to urge caution in the weeks ahead.

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

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

Evans Reading Group

The Evans Reading Group is pleased to invite your participation in our 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 next selection is ***The Worm at the Core: On the Role of Death in Life.***

"Deep, important, and beautifully written, ***The Worm at the Core*** describes a brilliant, original program of scientific research on death, a force so powerful that it drives our lives, but so frightening that we cannot think clearly about it. This book shines the light of reason on the heart of human darkness."—

Chief Seattle Days

Chief Seattle Days is an annual event celebrating the memory of Chief Seattle with various activities focused on the revitalization of Coast Salish traditions and culture. The celebration is open to the public and people from around the world are invited to experience the Suquamish Tribe's hospitality, culture and fun.

A gravesite ceremony at 10 a.m. on Saturday August 19th will be open to the public again this year for the first time since 2019, with the tribe practicing traditions, inviting people to share stories, and reminding people of Chief Seattle and tribal history.

The Suquamish are one of more than twenty tribal groups that were parties to the Treaty of Point Elliott, signed near Mukilteo, on north Puget Sound, on January 22, 1855. This document was the second of five treaties that Territorial Governor Isaac Stevens negotiated with tribes in western Washington. Representing both the Suquamish and Duwamish tribes at the treaty signing was Chief Seattle, along with many sub-chiefs and leaders of other tribes. The Suquamish gave up title to their lands, which encompassed most of present Kitsap County, for acknowledgement and protection of their fishing and hunting rights, health care, education and a reservation at Port Madison.

To make this cultural event successful, a strong volunteer presence will be essential, and **Rev. Zackrie Vinczen** is helping by coordinating volunteers to fill the following roles:

- Parking Attendant
- Meal Assistance
- Trash & Recycling Attendant
- Info Booth Attendant
- First-aid Support

If you are available and willing to help out, please contact Zackrie by email at minister@cedarsuuchurch.org.

Daniel Gilbert, Edgar Pierce Professor of Psychology, Harvard University.

Join us for an interesting discussion via Zoom at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 5th. If you would like to be on our email list, let **Mary Romeo** know.

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

Rev. Zackrie says "My humble Lammas harvest!" and the web says "Lammas is a harvest holiday celebrated in a number of English-speaking countries which include England, Ireland, Scotland and the United States. Depending on whether the day is celebrated as a Christian holiday or as a pagan holiday, it can either be used to celebrate the coming harvest or in celebration of the god Lugh – the master of skills."



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.



Food4Kids

This week our mighty team of ten helped pack 260 bags for Food4Kids in Kingston. Learn more about Kingston Cares on Sunday when our Special Collection will go to supporting the work of this organization.

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
(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

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 \(website\)](#)

