

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 39 / September 29, 2023

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Upcoming Services

The Thief of Joy

Sunday October 1st

10:00 a.m.

In-Person Service in Webster Hall

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen

Jennie Weaver, Worship Associate

Life is a journey filled with unique paths, but often, we find ourselves getting caught in the web of comparison, robbing us of joy and contentment. In this service we will explore the insidious nature of comparison and how it affects our lives, relationships, and overall well-being.

Come Out, Come Out, Whoever You Are

Sunday October 8th

10:00 a.m.

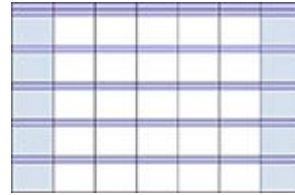
In-Person Service in Webster Hall

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen

Nancy Philip, Worship Associate

Delve into the struggles, growth, and importance of coming out and living as a proud member of the LGBTQ+ community. Discover the transformative power of authenticity and acceptance. Join us as we celebrate **National Coming Out Day** at Cedars!

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 October 1st

10:00 a.m.

In-Person Service in Webster Hall

[Live-Stream Link](#)

Coffee and Social time following

2:00 p.m.

Crop Hunger Walk

Wednesday October 4th

7:00 p.m.

Climate Circle Conversations

at Kol Shalom



News and Announcements



Cedars will be participating again in the



Cedars UU Church is a

October Bainbridge Island/North Kitsap CROP Hunger walk and we want you to walk with us! This event raises money to help hungry families around the world, educate communities in sustainable farming methods, and provide renewable sources of food. We participate in events like CROP Hunger Walk in service to the world and to help those in need.

Last year on a beautiful fall afternoon, Cedars participated in the walk with other congregations from the area. We had a group of eleven people participating, all wearing our Cedars shirts to put our values out for the community to see.

This year, the walk starts at Eagle Harbor Congregational Church at 2 pm on Sunday, October 1st.

To sign up for this year's event, just go to the CROP Hunger Walk Cedar's Team [website](#). From there you will be able to sign up to walk with Cedars or contribute if you cannot join us. The website includes information about the route that we will be walking. There will be accommodation for anyone who does not want to complete the full walk.

This event will also be the focus of the Sunday service Special Collection at Cedars on October 8.

For more information contact [Rod Kempkes](#).



Exploring Meditation

Join us for a new monthly meditation gathering **on the 4th Wednesday of each month** at the Cedars Center (located at 284 Madrona Way #128 in Winslow).

Throughout our session, we will delve into a variety of meditation techniques. As we meditate together, you'll have the opportunity to explore these techniques deeply. As the session draws to a close, there will be a chance to pose inquiries and, if you wish, share your personal meditation experiences with others.

Mark your calendar for the following dates from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.

- October 25th
- November 29th
- **No Meeting in December**
- January 24th
- February 28th
- March 27th
- April 24th

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

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:

**Come, Come, Whoever You Are (#188)
For All That Is Our Life (#128) Hymn of the Month
Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire (#34)**



Writing as a Spiritual Practice

Discover the profound depths within yourself and the world around you through the transformative power of writing. Throughout the centuries, writing has served as a spiritual practice, illuminating hidden truths and connecting us to

- May 29th
- June 26th

If you would like more information, please reach out to **Rev. Zackrie**.
minister@cedarsuuchurch.org
 360-930-9339



Open Mic Science Returns

You are invited to an evening at The Treehouse Café on Bainbridge Island to explore ideas in all aspects of science and technology in an informal, social setting. Talks are to be held the second Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m.

Subscribe to the Open Mic Science newsletter to see future events by going to <https://openmicscience.weebly.com/>

So come and enjoy pizza and beer and stay abreast of current science and technology.

If you have any questions, please reach out to **Mike Cox** at toxman57@gmail.com.

Safe Gatherings at Cedars

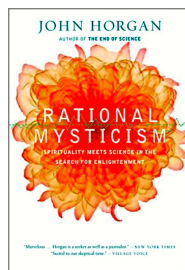
Based on the recent decision to no longer require masking in health care facilities in Washington State, the Board of Trustees has decided that Cedars will no longer ask people to mask up while singing at Sunday Services.

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 **Rational Mysticism --Spirituality Meets Science**

something greater.

Join the **Cedars Spiritual Writing Group**, a new monthly writing experience facilitated by Rev. Zackrie. During each of these gatherings, you will be offered prompts that nourish your creative spirit, ignite your inspiration, and invite you into questioning. Moreover, these gatherings will also provide a space for deep reflection, contemplation, and sharing. Whether you choose to attend a single session or embark on the full journey, each gathering will offer the promise of a meaningful exploration of self and soul.

So mark your calendar for the following dates from 5-6 p.m.:

- October 11th: Befriending Solitude & Grief
- November 8th: On Gratitude
- December 13th: Reviving Spiritual Traditions
- January 10th: Dwelling in Our Bodies
- February 14th: Moments in Between
- March 13th: Allowing Emptiness
- April 10th: Responding to Art
- May 8th: Encounters in the Wild
- June 12th: TBD

Each session will take place at the Cedars Center in Winslow (284 Madrona Way #128).

If you would like more information, please reach out to **Rev. Zackrie**.
minister@cedarsuuchurch.org
 360-930-9339

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.

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

in the Search for Enlightenment, by John Horgan.

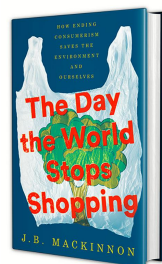
How do trances, visions, prayer, satori, and other mystical experiences "work"? Is there a scientific explanation for religious mysteries and transcendent meditation? This book chronicles advanced research into the mechanics and meaning of mystical phenomena, exploring chemistry, neuroscience, psychology, anthropology, theology, and more, to narrow the gap between reason and mystical experience.

Join us for an interesting discussion via Zoom at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday November 8th. If you would like to be on our email list, let **Mary Romeo** know.

Green Living Now

Journalist J.B. MacKinnon's recent book **The Day the World Stops Shopping** makes a convincing case that we all need to shop less now. Green consumerism, in

MacKinnon's telling, isn't just about buying ecologically-sound stuff or recycling our rubbish. It's about buying fewer things, leaving us with much less to recycle in the first place.



Hear the author and journalist in conversation with Buy Nothing co-founder Rebecca Rockefeller in an interactive discussion of his work at 7:30 p.m. on October 11 at Bainbridge High School, with free event tickets available at RefashionBainbridge.org.



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So come and enjoy pizza and beer and stay abreast of current science and technology.

If you have any questions, please reach

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.

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.



Climate Circle Conversations

In 2022, the Bainbridge Island/North

out to **Mike Cox** at
toxman57@gmail.com.



We were there with our books!

We met lots of great folks at Poulsbo's Pride with our free mobile library in the park on Sunday. What a great inaugural event to celebrate LGBTQ folk in North Kitsap!

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.

Creativity Fair

Cedars friend and former member **Patti Shannon** says "Haystack Rock in Cannon Beach at low tide -- Magical tide pools, beautiful starfish and anemones. Love the Oregon coast!"

Kitsap Interfaith Council (IFC) formed the **Climate Circle**, "to promote awareness of individual and shared actions to mitigate and adapt to climate change," with several Cedars members helping to organize the program, which currently has about twenty members from different congregations and faith traditions.

Next month, the Climate Circle is launching a month of climate conversations of various kinds and inviting participation. The goal of this initiative is **"to increase awareness of what individuals, congregations, and the whole community of faith organizations can do to address climate change."**

An open interfaith gathering called **Celebrating the Web of Life** will be the kickoff event, led and hosted by Climate Circle members. The gathering will be at Kol Shalom (9010 Miller Rd NE) on Wednesday October 4th at 7:00 p.m.

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

Climate Café

The Climate Café is a safe place for people to come



together in circles of trust to share and bear witness to the varied personal perceptions they have about the future of our Earth home and our interconnected lives. This is not a place for educating, promoting or convincing, but one of compassionate companionship one another on this shared journey.

All tables will be limited to 5 or 6 people, and each table will have a trained facilitator.

Participants are welcome to bring a small plate of finger foods to share at a mid-event break.

Saturday, October 28th
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon (seating begins at 9:45 a.m.)

Grace Episcopal Church
8595 NE Day Rd, Bainbridge Island
RESERVATION REQUIRED (Seating is limited)

To register: Email your name & phone # to climatecafe.earth@gmail.com

For more information, please contact the event organizers: **Rick Freeman:** climatecafe.earth@gmail.com or **Michael Cox:** 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

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

[Cedars UU Church \(website\)](#)



Cedars Unitarian Universalist Church | 284 Madrona Way NE, #128, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

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