

The Beacon

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



CEDARS CHURCH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Volume 14 Issue 8 / February 23, 2024

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Upcoming Services

Grace and Accountability

Sunday February 25th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen
Gregory Cook, Worship Associate

Balancing grace with accountability is a delicate art. On the one hand, we want to be flexible and accommodating, and on the other, we need to hold people to the commitments they make. In this service, we will explore the importance of finding a balance between these two forces.

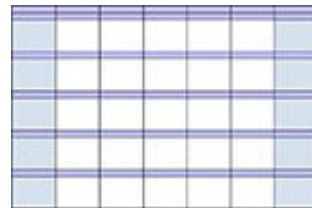
The Spirit That Moves: Merging Spirituality and Social Engagement

Johanna Munson, Worship Associate

Sunday March 3rd
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall

Discover how our spiritual path reminds us that genuine fulfillment springs from our collective endeavor to foster justice, equity, and love in the world around us.

Current Week Calendar & Links



Your Cedars community invites you to participate in services and activities, get information, enjoy fellowship, and pause for reflection.

[View the detailed Calendar.](#)

Sunday February 25th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall
[Live-stream Link](#)
Coffee and Social Time following

Tuesday February 27th
5:00 p.m.
Super Supper

Wednesday February 28th
5:00 p.m.
Exploring Meditation

News and Announcements

Article II of the UUA Bylaws: Purposes, Values and Inspirations

Every 15 years, Unitarian Universalist Congregations are asked to review Article II of the UUA Bylaws. Last June, delegates to General Assembly



Cedars UU Church is a

overwhelmingly (86%) voted to further explore the Purposes, Principles (Values) and Sources (Inspirations). This year, we will be asked to vote on whether to adopt them as a new foundation which ties UU's together.

Many Unitarian Universalists have strong beliefs about the proposed revision. There are many options on which direction we should go regarding the foundational elements. I will hold an information session for us to discuss them on March 6th in the Cedars Center (5pm).

You can learn more now by checking out the resources below.

Jeff Philip
President, Board of Trustees
philip.jeff@gmail.com

Continuing the Conversation About Article II

When the proposed Article II UUA Bylaws revision was presented at General Assembly last June, delegates voted to continue the conversation about a revision, and bring the proposed revision to a final vote in 2024.

The UUA has released the **Final Proposed Revision to Article II**.

On December 7, 2023, the UU World published an article titled **As Unitarian Universalists Reassess Core Beliefs, Article II Study Commission Reflects on Progress Made**.

A group of Unitarian Universalists concerned that the proposed revision abandons our liberal religious heritage has developed a seven-part video series simulating UU member conversations exploring whether the revision would be a wise and prudent change. They are available at SaveThe7Principles.org.

The present text of Article II is available [here](#).

February Special Collection



Cedars holds a monthly Special Collection for community outreach channeling our generosity and educating the congregation about the work of various non-profit organizations reflecting our values.

On February 25th, the Social Justice Committee has chosen to collect money for the **Faith Action Network**, a multi-

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 **Deniz O'Rourke** for music accompaniment.

Sunday Hymns:

We'll Build a Land (#121)
Love Makes a Bridge (#325)
Lift Every Voice and Sing (#149)

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.

faith organization through which thousands of people and over 160 faith communities across Washington State partner for the common good. For more information about this program visit [their website](#).

If you would like to receive a tax deduction for your donation, please write a check payable to Cedars UU Church with FAN in the memo line to place in the offering basket on February 25th or send it to the Cedars Church Office by March 3rd.

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



Small Event Fundraising

We are bringing Hosted Events back again this year! You can choose to be a host for a small gathering, or co-host a larger event with a friend. You determine what is included in the event like food, beverages or music. Tickets will be sold for a small fundraising fee (perhaps about \$20-\$30), and Cedars will be the beneficiary. Sales will begin in March, and events will take place between April and October.

Need ideas? Check out these [Examples of Past Events](#). When you are ready to submit your event, go to the [Event Submission Form](#). Please reach out to Jeff Philip if you have any questions.



Homage to Orca Tahlequah: A Flourishing Web of Life. By Deborah Milton



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 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.:

- 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

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

Super Supper and Community Kitchen Sign-Ups

Cedars, in partnership with Kol Shalom as members of the Bainbridge Island Interfaith Council, offers Super Supper dinners on the last Tuesday of each month, and is now moving toward a similar role assisting the Suquamish Community Kitchen on selected Wednesdays with free meals for those in need.

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](#).

Climate Circle Meeting

Awakening Our Relationship with the Web of Life

Friday, March 8th

6:30 – 8:30

Bethany Lutheran Church
7968 Finch Rd NE, Bainbridge Island,
WA 98110

As people of faith, we know our interdependent world is sacred and hurting. As we warm the planet and exhaust the biosphere, we face a precarious future.

The BINK-Interfaith Council Climate Circle invites you to join us on March 8th to imagine a new earth-centered civilization that welcomes love and justice for all life. By sharing together our actions, visions, and practices we hope to springboard new ideas to bring a flourishing world into being. All faiths, traditions, spiritual beliefs, and/or worldviews are welcome. Just bring your open-hearted concern for our shared earth as we build support for our collective efforts.

For more information contact **Mike Cox** at toxman57@gmail.com

Museum Field Trip

On **Saturday, March 23rd**, the Cedars Social Justice Committee is planning a field trip to the Washington State History Museum in Tacoma to experience the **Solidarity Now! 1968 Poor People's Campaign** exhibit.

"This traveling exhibition from the Smithsonian illuminates the often-overlooked history of the multicultural movement to confront poverty that redefined social justice and activism in America."

The admission cost for the Museum is as follows:

- \$14 general
- \$11 (65+)
- \$11 (6-18)

Cedars is able to cover the admission if it is a barrier to participation.

We plan to leave North Kitsap the morning of **March 23rd** and make our way to the museum. Following the exhibit, we will get lunch nearby before heading back home.

Carpools are being organized for those who want to attend. Please use the link below to register or contact Rev. Zackrie for more information.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

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

Exploring Meditation

Join us for a monthly meditation gathering 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.

- February 28th
- March 27th
- April 24th
- May 29th
- June 26th

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



Evans Reading Group

Organized 16 years ago as the Spirituality Book Group, this Cedars reading group assumed a new identity as the Evans Reading

Group in 2020 to honor the Rev. Marvin Evans after his passing.

In our time together, the group has read and discussed more than 60 books selected to intrigue and hopefully enlighten us in seeking "Salvation by Bibliography" as our late friend Marvin used to say, and we are pleased to invite your participation with us in our ongoing practice.

Our current selection is **Becoming Wild: How Animal Cultures Raise Families, Create Beauty, and Achieve Peace**, by Carl Safina.

A NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK OF 2020:

"Dr. Safina is a terrific writer, majestic and puckish in equal measure, with a contagious enthusiasm... He draws out

Trip details including the itinerary will be shared with those who register.

Cedars Creativity Fair 2024

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.

Please feel free to join an on-going process of sharing news and details about the creative interests and accomplishments of each other as members and friends of Cedars UU Church. If you have something to share, send a photo and description to office@cedarsuuchurch.org.

See What Others Have Been Doing

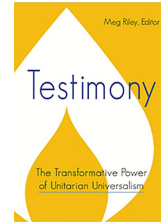
Rev. Zackrie says: "First attempt on a canvas."



haunting resonances between animal lives and our own... This revelatory work sheds as much light on what it means to be human as it does on the nature of other species ..."

Publishers Weekly

Join us for an interesting discussion via Zoom at **1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 26th**. If you would like to be on our email list, let **Mary Romeo** know.



Testimony - The Transformative Power of Unitarian Universalism

Offered by our own Skinner House Press, this illuminating book

shares personal stories from people whose lives have been dramatically transformed by Unitarian Universalism, finding renewed purpose and personal meaning in UU values and through participation in a congregational community such as Cedars. Together these vignettes paint a portrait of the real, felt impact of Unitarian Universalism.

For more information and purchase, see the InSpirit Bookstore at bookstore@uua.org.



ReFashion Bainbridge is organizing a second annual clothing swap for exchanging children's, women's, or men's high-quality clothing (what you would give to a friend). The event has been scheduled for **Sunday, March 17th, from 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.** at the Filipino American Hall at 7566 High School Road on Bainbridge Island.

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.

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)

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)



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

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