

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 12 / March 22, 2024

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Upcoming Services

Surviving Capitalism: Insights from "Trash"

Sunday March 24th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall

Rev Zackrie Vinczen
Gregory Cook, Worship Associate

Delve into hidden narratives of poverty, resilience, and the human spirit in this service inspired by Cedar Monroe's book *Trash: A Poor White Journey*.

We'll explore stories of people here in Washington State trying to survive in the face of capitalism and colonialism as well as a growing need for diverse coalitions to challenge these forces.

Resurrecting Hope

Easter Sunday March 31st
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall

Rev Zackrie Vinczen
Jenny Weaver, Worship Associate

For many followers of Jesus, the story of his life and ministry serve as a source of hope and inspiration. For this Easter service, we will reflect on these themes and consider where to find them in our contemporary lives.

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.

Saturday March 23rd
Field trip to see **1968 Poor People's Campaign Exhibit** in Washington State History Museum in Tacoma.

Sunday March 24th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall
[Live-Stream Link](#)
Coffee and Social Time following

Tuesday March 26th
1:30 p.m. Zoom discussion
Evans Reading Group

5:00 p.m.
Super Suppers

Wednesday March 27th
5:00 p.m. Exploring Meditation

News and Announcements

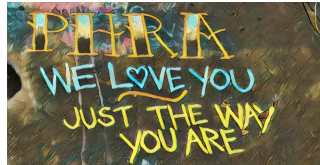
Still Time to Sign Up for Events

This will be our final weekend to sign up

for some great events. Tickets will be sold Sunday morning after Worship Service. You can review the events and signup at our **Signup Genius Event List**. Get ready to have some fun together! Events include:

- Summer Pig Roast
- Fine Wine Tasting
- Workshops
- Outdoor Adventures
- and more.

Jeff Philip
President, Board of Trustees



March 2024 Special Collection

On **Sunday March 31st**, Cedars will be taking up a special collection for the **People's Harm Reduction Alliance**.

The People's Harm Reduction Alliance (PHRA) is a community-based nonprofit and drug user empowerment organization that has provided harm reduction and other health services to people who use drugs in the Pacific Northwest since 2007. PHRA operates programs in Seattle, Kitsap, & King Counties, as well as a mail-order program serving all of Washington State.

The PHRA's approach acknowledges that drug users are better served by compassion and respect than by criticism and punishment. That's why the PHRA strives to serve the needs of the drug-using community by distributing vital harm-reduction supplies within a respectful, non-judgmental context. They also serve the larger community by providing syringe disposal, naloxone (Narcan) distribution and training, as well as continued advocacy.

We hope you will join in supporting this important community work by making a contribution.

Rev. Rick Koyle
(1944-2024)
Missing Our
First Minister



I heard this week that Rev. Rick passed away in Minnesota recently.

Rick was the first Minister to serve our Congregation, from 2000 to 2002. I really



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

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 **Jenny Weaver** for music accompaniment.

Sunday Hymns:

1. **Sing and Rejoice (#395)**
2. **Spirit of Life (#123)**
3. **Shall We Gather at the River (#1046)**

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

enjoyed Rick's presence with us. Here is a brief description from our history document:

"Rick Koyle began service as the fellowship's half-time consulting minister in the fall of 2000, and his arrival brought new energy, more members, and moved the fellowship into a significant new stage of development. He was the fellowship's first minister, this was his first congregation, and there was much learning to do. The fellowship began to develop a deeper appreciation of its denominational and institutional identity as it adjusted to the presence of professional leadership. Some change was difficult, as self-sufficiency and independence gave way to shared leadership, but this was accompanied by a dawning comprehension of the fellowship's potential for a rich and more significant future."

Thank you for your time with us, Rick.

Jeff Philip
President, Board of Trustees

Article II: Principles or Values?

The UU community is abuzz about the proposed changes to Article II in the UUA Bylaws. That Article outlines some of the core elements of the Unitarian Universalist movement in the United States (Canada and other countries have their own guidance). In June we will vote on whether to change them.

We had an in-person Cedars Center discussion of the proposed changes last week and plan to continue the conversation in a Zoom session later in the month. For now, here are links to relevant information:

- [Final Proposed Revision to Article II](#)
- [Save the Seven Principles Website](#)
- [UU World Magazine Article](#)
- [Present Text of Article II](#)

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

again is exhilarating. To volunteer your assistance, please email Jeff Philip at president@cedarsuuchurch.org.



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.:

- 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

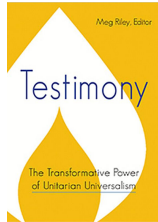
Exploring Meditation

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

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** or **Rod Kempkes** at **rdkempkes@gmail.com**



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.

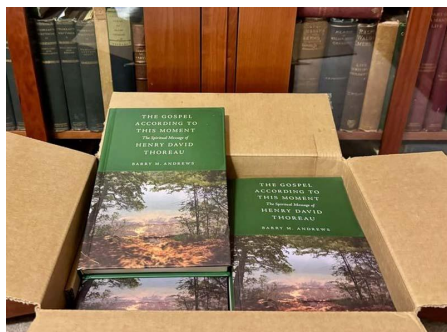
For more information and purchase, see the InSpirit Bookstore at bookstore@uua.org.

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

Barry Andrews is thrilled to welcome the first copies of his latest book: **"The Gospel According to This Moment -- The Spiritual Message of Henry David Thoreau"** which has just been released by the **University of Massachusetts Press**.



your personal meditation experiences with others.

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

- 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 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.

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)

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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