

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 16 / April 19, 2024

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Upcoming Services

A Gathering of Perspectives

Sunday April 21st
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall

Worship Associates
Nancy, Johanna, Gregory

Join your Worship Associates, Gregory, Johanna and Nancy as they share their personal points of view about Earth Day; what Earth Day brings to mind, and what it means to each of them.

Join us in the discovery and celebration of the importance of dedicating a day, week, month, or hopefully your entire life of days, weeks, and months to the well-being of Mother Earth.

Becoming Beloved Community

Sunday April 28th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen
Jenny Weaver, Worship Associate

Through a process theology lens all things are considered to be in a constant state of creation and becoming.

Come join our consideration of what this means for a community like ours.

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, April 20
7:00 p.m.
Stewardship Reception Celebration
Prue's House
9600 Mandus Olson Rd. Bainbridge Island

Sunday, April 21st
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall
No Live-Stream
Coffee and Social Time following

Monday, April 22nd
Earth Day

Wednesday, April 24th
1:30 p.m.
IFC Climate Circle at Cedars Center

5:00 p.m.
Writing as a Spiritual Practice

News and Announcements

Stewardship is about more than

money

We focus our spring Stewardship Campaign on renewing our pledge of financial commitment to Cedars Unitarian Universalist Church. A strong financial foundation is critical to ensuring we are planning for a successful year ahead. And every dollar you pledge is welcome and generous.



I am also reminded at this time of year, that pledges and donations are only a part of what makes Cedars thrive. Even more important is the community we build, and the effort we put into making the world a better place. These things are what we talk about when sharing why this congregation is significant in our lives. I encourage each of you to go to our Stewardship Website (**Say Yes to Love, Say Yes to Cedars**) to read and hear what others find valuable here. The box at the lower left (Share what you value about Cedars) is set up for you to share your thoughts too. Click on "Add to Board" and let us know why you Say Yes to Cedars!

Jeff Philip
President, Board of Trustees



Cedars' Stewardship Campaign

This time of year, we take time to recognize and appreciate the value our UU community and activities together bring to each of us in a thriving presence that makes our world better.

Please join us to celebrate our 2024 stewardship campaign with light refreshments and time together on April 20th from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Prue's House social gathering facility located in the island's Grand Forest preserve and accessed through its east entrance at the north end of Mandus Olson Road (which is itself accessed from New Brooklyn Road).

General
Assembly 2024

General Assembly



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
VIRTUAL GA • JUNE 20 - 23, 2024



**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 Musician **Audrey Blair** and Song Leader **Rebecca Kim**.

Sunday Hymns:

1. There is More Love Somewhere (#95)
2. Spirit of Life (#123)
3. Blue Boat Home (#1064)

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

(or GA) is the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists, where we conduct business of the Association, explore the theological underpinnings of our faith, and lean fully into our mission and principles.

Although typically organized as a physical assembly of congregational delegates, this year's GA will instead be virtual, with "Love Unites, Stories Ignite" as an organizing theme celebrating love as a profound and binding force transcending boundaries and historical traditions within our faith communities and beyond, while our stories and the power of storytelling can ignite change, inspire compassion, and help us build a more just and equitable world.

The 63rd General Assembly will take place virtually **Thursday, June 20 through Sunday, June 23**, and you can now view the GA schedule to see the lineup of informative workshops, inspirational worship services, and more!

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 several weeks ago 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](#)

April Special Collection

Cedars holds a Special Collection monthly for community outreach and to educate our congregation about the work of various non-profit organizations that reflect our values and to channel our generosity in support of them.

On April 21st, the Social Justice Committee has chosen to collect money for the **Puget Sound Restoration Fund**. The Fund works throughout Puget Sound on diverse projects to restore iconic marine resources and a healthy ecosystem. For more information about this program visit [their website](#).

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.:

- 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

Earth Day

Earth Day is a significant annual event organized to demonstrate support for environmental protection. First held on April 22, 1970, it now includes a wide range of events coordinated globally by **EARTHDAY.ORG** (formerly Earth Day Network) and involves a billion people in more than 193 countries.



If you would like to receive a tax deduction for your donation, please write a check payable to Cedars UU Church with Puget Sound Restoration Fund in the memo to place in the offering basket on April 21st or send it to the Cedars Church Office by April 30th.

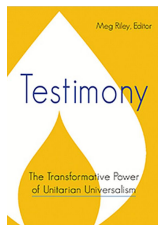
For more information contact **Mike Cox** at 206-799-3725 or toxman57@gmail.com.

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](#).

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.

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

The first Earth Day also led to the creation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency which was responsible for passing the first major environmental laws including the National Environmental Education Act, the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the Clean Air Act, and only two years later, the Clean Water Act.

Support Southern Resident Orcas and Salmon

Sandy Spears is looking for volunteers to walk in Bainbridge Island's Grand Old Fourth parade (with its typical 18,000 member audience) to demonstrate support for the protection and continuing presence of the endangered Southern Resident Orcas and Salmon in our local waters.

The walk is one mile, and you can hold a sign or support a walkable orca or salmon float. We will need to be in the Winslow parade's participant assembly area at about 1:00 or 2:00 p.m.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact **Sandy Spears** at 713-705-7924. She currently has only four people, and needs at least 5 more! It's also really fun to be in a parade!

Evans Reading Group

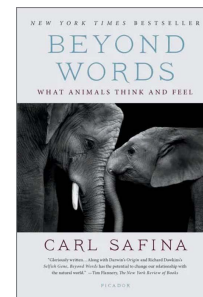
Organized 16 years ago as the Spirituality Book Group, this Cedars reading group assumed a new identity as the

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.

Because we found our recent selection by Carl Safina deeply fascinating and inspiring, we have chosen another book by the same author as our next selection.

Interweaving decades of field observation with exciting discoveries about the brain, Safina's ***Beyond Words*** explores similarities between human and nonhuman consciousness,



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.

- April 24th
- May 29th
- June 26th

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

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

Watercolor artist and card publisher **Judy Friesem** says "A new bird joins the flock — Welcome to Spring!"



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.

self-awareness, and empathy, suggesting that we need to re-evaluate our understandings and interactions with animals. Wise, passionate, and mind-opening, this book is ultimately a graceful examination of humanity's place in the world.

Join us for an interesting discussion via Zoom at **1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 28th**. If you would like to be on our email list, let **Mary Romeo** know.



ReFashion 2024
Sunday
May 19
IslandWood

Runway 1-2pm
Fashion In the Forest 2:30-4pm
Awards 4:30pm

Tickets available at islandwood.org

More info at refashionbainbridge.org

Logos: BAINBRIDGE Community Foundation, town & country MARKETS, 2abara, Bainbridge Disposal, HEYDAY FUND, INCUBATE DESIGN, J.A. ENHERBMAN, BAINBRIDGE ISLAND PLAY & LEARN

ReFashion 2024

The 8th annual **ReFashion Show** is happening on **May 19th at IslandWood!** Check [here](#) for ticket information.

ReFashion's committee and community partners are dedicated to bringing you the latest in sustainable fashion on Bainbridge Island and the Seattle area, educating the public on the environmental impact of clothing choices through speakers, workshops, fashion shows, conferences and web resources.

More information [here](#).

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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