

The Beacon

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



CEDARS CHURCH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Volume 15 Issue 38/ September 20, 2024

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This Week At Cedars

Sunday Service, September 22nd
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall

Emerson & Me

Rev. Barry Andrews, Guest Minister
Jenny Weaver, Worship Associate

For many people today, Ralph Waldo Emerson is a quaint relic of the nineteenth century, or worse yet, a dead white male with little to offer contemporary Americans. Not so for me. I have spent many years reading and reflecting on his writings. I have taught classes, led workshops, and written several books about him. I have tried to explain his ideas as best I can. Sometimes people ask me, "Why do you read him? What does he mean to you? How has he made a difference in your life?" The short answer is that he has been a wise companion and spiritual guide on my life journey.



Rev. Barry Andrews is Minister Emeritus of the Unitarian Congregation at Shelter Rock, Manhasset, New York, and is the author of numerous books on Transcendentalism and Transcendentalist authors, most recently "The Gospel According to This Moment: The spiritual Message of Henry David Thoreau," published by the University of Massachusetts Press. Since his retirement in 2011, he and his wife, Linda, have been living on Bainbridge Island.

Sunday, September 22nd

UU the Vote
9:00 - 9:45 am
The Island School
Please see below for more details.

CROP Hunger Walk
1:30 pm
Eagle Harbor Congregational Church
Please see below for more details.

Tuesday, September 24th

Super Suppers
4:45 - 6:00 pm
Eagle Harbor Congregational Church
Please see below for more details.

Wednesday, September 25th

Meditation Group
5:30 pm
Cedars Center
Please see below for more details.

Community Film: The Power of Local
7:00 - 8:45 pm
Grace Church

Please see below for more details.

[View detailed calendar here.](#)

Upcoming Service

**Sunday, September 29th, In-Person Service in Webster Hall
10:00 am**

What's up with young people, these days?

**Grace Bonow, Guest Speaker
Nancy Phillip, Worship Associate**

What's Up With Young People These Days?: A Teenager's View on Today's World
The world is a complicated place. It's full of catastrophic problems like climate change, social injustice, and of course the millennia-old complaint: young people. How do young people today see the world? How can we ensure that we as humans, but especially desensitized younger generations, feel empowered to make positive change? This service aims to shed light on the views, problems, and influences of today's youth, as well as what we can do to break down barriers and find hope, all from a teenager's perspective.

News and Announcements

Board News

Our Cedars community is in a time of great transition. We are faced with many decisions as we attempt to chart a new path forward after five years of settled ministry with Rev. Zackrie. In order to help us navigate through the challenges before us, your Board of Trustees is planning to provide an opportunity for every member to express their feelings, concerns, hopes, and aspirations for our Cedars community through an offering of "**Listening Circles**" with several options to participate **during the week of September 29th to October 6.**

These Listening Circles will serve as a place for participants to speak from the heart, to allow their feelings to manifest and have fellow members listen and really hear those feelings. The circles are meant to build understanding among members of what we are feeling individually and collectively about our Cedars community, to take an "emotional snapshot" if you will.

All members should look for an email from the Board this week with details about the Listening Circles, including how to sign up for a session and what to expect as a participant. The Board feels that gathering thoughtful input from as many members as possible, is vital to helping us chart our path forward. Every member should make their best efforts to attend a Listening Circle OR let us know if you are unable to attend and we will make alternative arrangements to receive your input.

After all of the Listening Circles have been held, the Board will prepare a written report and hold a **Town Hall meeting at The Island School after the Sunday service on October 13th (around 11:15 am)** to present a summary of the report and offer a time for questions and answers, as well as a time for everyone to talk about their own observations and ideas for opportunities in response to the report.

– Cedars Board of Trustees

Cedars Facebook Conversations

If you're on Facebook, there is a new Facebook group called Cedars UU Church Community Conversations for members and friends to share events, fun stories, etc. Let's keep the coffee hour going all week long! Join the group [here](#).

Book Group

The Marvin Evans Book Group will discuss philosopher Robert Solomon's *Spirituality for the Skeptic* on Thursday, October 23rd, via Zoom at 1:30 pm. Let **Mary Romeo** know if you'd like to receive our reminder emails and Zoom link, contact Mary nmromeo@msn.com.

Dr. Solomon is Professor at University of Texas. "Spirituality is not just organized religion. Nor is it anti-science, un- or super-natural. There is a *naturalized* spirituality that I have always had a glimpse of, and this is what I want to pursue in this book... Spirituality, as I conceive it,

embraces both emotion and rationality, both philosophy and religion".



Films for Flourishing presents: The Power of Local

Grace Episcopal Church, in collaboration with Bainbridge Island/ North Kitsap Interfaith Council Climate Circle, of which Cedars is a part of, is hosting Films for Flourishing. The next film is:

Wednesday, September 25th
7:00 - 8:45 pm
Grace Episcopal Church
8595 NE Day Road

Local Futures. Org produced this inspiring 42 minute documentary film featuring localization initiatives from across the world. It showcases 30+ community groups, businesses, organizations and networks on five continents working towards healthy and fair local economies, communities and food systems.

Please join us for the film, followed by meaningful conversation.

UU the Vote: Sunday September 22nd at 9:00 am Before the Service

Last Sunday 11 people stayed after the service to write letters to encourage people to come out to vote in Ohio.

We thought we would try to meet before the service This coming Sunday at 9:00 am for 45 minutes and see if that works. We will meet on the stage as it will be quieter and not in the way of the set-up crew.



UU the Vote is a bold initiative created by the Unitarian Universalist Association's Side with Love team, providing UUs a thoughtfully crafted "plug-and-play" opportunity to bring our democratic values to life in the crucial struggle to build a genuine multiracial democracy <https://uuthevote.org/>.

For more information, please contact Sandy Spears at sandy.spears@att.net or Naomi Gary at naomiwwgary@gmail.com or Mike Cox at toxman57@gmail.com.

Hope to see you Sunday at 9:00 am at the Island School.

Bainbridge/North Kitsap CROP Hunger Walk-Dance registration is open!



No one in this world should be hungry. That's why the Bainbridge/North Kitsap CROP Hunger Walk-Dance is more than just a gathering of people in one place. It is part of a movement, taking steps and raising funds together to provide meals for those in our own community who need them—and supporting programs that create greater food security in communities all around the world.

Please join our team in the fight against hunger. The steps we take and funds we raise will make a difference in the lives of others. Join our team [here!](#)

Sunday, Sept. 22nd at Eagle Harbor Congregational Church
Registration time is 1:30 p.m. and Dance starts at 2:00 p.m.
Sponsored by Bainbridge Island/North Kitsap Interfaith Council

Ongoing Programs

Meditation Group

Join us for meditation practice on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:30p.m. at the Cedars Center. We will use mindfulness or Vipassana Meditation audio recordings from the Insight Meditation Center in Redwood City. For questions, please contact **Sandy Spears** at sandy.spears@att.net



Do you like trivia? Join other Cedars members and friends at the **Meadowmeer Grill** on Bainbridge Island each Sunday for Trivia Time! The game starts at 5:00pm. Get there by 4:45pm to form teams. If you want to RSVP, text **Jim Morss**.

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. We have a regular sign-up for you to use each month to provide various dishes and to assist with setup, serving, and cleanup, so that all in our congregation have a chance to participate.

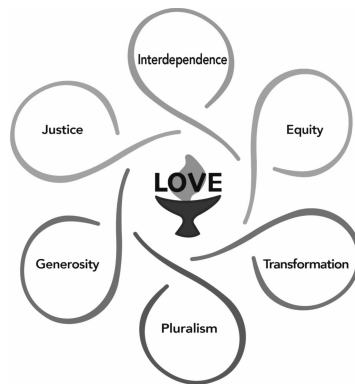


Cedars is also now committed to leading the preparation and serving of a free meal to anyone in the community every other month through the Suquamish Community Kitchen. These meals require many helping hands to prepare, serve, and clean up. Please consider signing up [here](#) for one of the team member roles on one or more of the upcoming dates (September 11 and November 13).

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



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*

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](#).

Worship Services

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
The Island School
8553 NE Day Road
Bainbridge Island

Office at Cedars Center

Tuesday - Thursday 9 am - 2 pm
284 Madrona Way, NE #128
Bainbridge Island WA 98110
(206) 780-0373
office@cedarsuuchurch.org

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



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