

The Beacon

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



CEDARS CHURCH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Volume 16 Issue 19 May 8, 2025

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This Week At Cedars

Sunday Service, May 11
10:00 am

Divine Detours: Trusting the Way

Rev. Kari Kopnic, Guest Minister
Jenny Weaver, Worship Associate

Ever had life all mapped out, only for the Divine to grab the wheel? This sermon is about those moments when you think you're heading one way, and suddenly—boom!—you're on a completely different path.

Rev. Kari Kopnic is a lover of good books and poetry, a gardener of native plants, and tends a hearty little charm of hummingbirds in her yard during the cold winters. She serves as the Community Minister and the Acting Executive Director at The Chaplaincy Institute, an interfaith seminary and community.

Childcare will be offered during this service
Click [HERE](#) for details.



Thursday, May 8

Meet & Greet with Rev. Margo
6:00 - 8:00 pm
Patricia Erdmann's House
Please see below for more details

Saturday, May 10

Meet & Greet with Rev. Margo
2:00 - 4:00 pm
Jenny & Tyler Weaver's House
Please see below for more details

Monday, May 12

Emerson as Spiritual Guide
7:00 - 8:30 pm
Cedars Center
Please see below for more details

Tuesday, May 13

Men's Group
3:00 - 4:30 pm
Cedars Center
Please see below for more details

Wednesday, May 14

Meditation Group on Zoom
5:30 - 6:30 pm
Zoom
Please see below for more details

Thursday, May 15

Meet & Greet with Rev. Margo
2:00 - 4:00 pm
Jane Martin's House
Please see below for more details

[View detailed calendar here.](#)

Upcoming Service

Sunday Service, May 11
10:00 am

"The Unreasonable Effectiveness of Mathematics in the Natural Sciences"

Gregory Cook, Guest Speaker
Nancy Philip, Worship Associate

Astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson said "The Universe is under no obligation to make sense to you." While this is certainly true, we (collectively, all of humanity) have learned how to describe and predict many things. From Johannes Kepler's observation that celestial bodies travel in elliptical orbits to the complex differential equations of Quantum Electrodynamics, math has proved to be useful in these understandings. Is that the most profound thing ever- or entirely trivial?



Gregory Cook has been a member of Cedars for nearly 20 years. He has an MS in Mathematics from Western Washington University and has a strong interest in various areas in both Physics and Philosophy.

Childcare will be offered during this service Click [HERE](#) for details.

News and Announcements

IFC Climate Circle Newsletter: Featuring Steve Johnson!

Steve Johnson, friend of Cedars, was recently highlighted in the IFC newsletter for his outstanding contributions to community efforts against climate change. His dedication is making a real difference. You can read the full article [HERE](#).



Cedars Men's Group

The Cedars Men's Group will meet in person at 3:00 pm on May 13 at the Cedars Center to welcome any men who would like to consider joining. We meet once a month on the second Tuesday of each month.



2025-2026 Pledge Drive Update

Our 2025-2026 pledge drive is winding down, but there's still time for you to get your pledges in! Members and friends have several ways to pledge this year, either on paper or electronically. **We are asking everyone to please send in their pledges by May 7** so that the Board can finalize the proposed budget before the annual congregational meeting on June 8. However, if you need additional time to send in your pledge, we will still certainly appreciate your response. If you did not receive a pledge form in the mail and would like to make a pledge to support our Cedars community, you can make a pledge by clicking [HERE](#).



Let's Weave Community, Together!



Stewardship Reception at Prue's House

Over 30 Cedars members enjoyed a beautiful spring afternoon at Prue's House in the Grand Forest of Bainbridge Island on Saturday, April 26th, celebrating the kickoff of our 2025-2026 pledge drive. Good food, beverages, and fellowship were abundant in the sunshine!



May Special Collection: BI Japanese Exclusion Memorial Association (BIJAEMA)

Cedars holds a Special Collection monthly for community outreach 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 May 25, we will be collecting funds to support the building of a visitor center for BIJAEMA. BIJAEMA stands as a poignant testament to the resilience and spirit of a community faced with adversity during World War II. You can find more information [HERE](#).



Please join us for an exclusive tour of the Japanese Exclusion Memorial at Prichard Park on June 1. You can find more information, including signup [HERE](#).

Meet & Greets with Rev. Margo

Cedars members and friends will have several opportunities to meet and greet Rev. Margo in small groups of 8 to 10 people in members' homes.

Here are the dates of these Meet & Greets:

Thursday, May 8, 6- 8 pm - Host: **Patricia Erdmann**, Suquamish
Saturday, May 10, 2-4 pm - Hosts: **Jenny & Tyler Weaver**, South B.I.

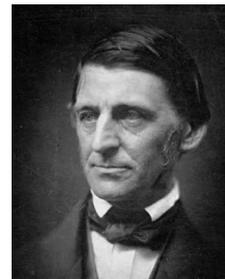
Thursday, May 15, 2-4 pm - Host: **Jane Martin**, Winslow



Please sign up to attend one of these events [HERE](#).

Learning Opportunity: Emerson as a Spiritual Guide

Cedars member **Barry Andrews**, author of several books about **Ralph Waldo Emerson**, is offering a program of learning and discovery to explore the spiritual writings of Emerson through a series that began last **Monday, May 5, at the Cedars Center**. This program is open to new participants and you can find out more information about this program [HERE](#).



You can still sign up for the class [HERE](#).

Hold the Date!

We will be having our **Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, June 8**, after the service at The Island School. At the meeting, members will vote on the 2025-2026 annual budget and elect members to the Board of Trustees and the Nominating Committee. Please mark your calendars for this important event!

Community Events

Standing Together, Bainbridge Island

A group of concerned Bainbridge citizens under the banner "Standing Together, are planning a town hall rally for democracy on June 7 from 12:00 to 2:30 pm at the Lynwood Theater on Bainbridge Island. You can find more information about this event [HERE](#).



Ongoing Programs

Meditation Group on Zoom!

Join us for meditation practice on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. We will meet on Zoom, using mindfulness or Vipassana Meditation audio recordings from the Insight Meditation Center in Redwood City. You can find the link to the meditation [HERE](#). For questions, please contact **Sandy Spears** at meditation@cedarsuuchurch.org

Childcare on Sunday Mornings!

Good news! We now offer childcare for families with young children during our Sunday services! If you know a family that hasn't been able to attend on Sundays because of a lack of childcare, please tell them about this.. We look forward to welcoming some new faces that otherwise wouldn't be able to be with us on Sunday mornings! For details about how childcare is provided, click [HERE](#).

Cedars on Social Media

Cedars now has a podcast! We are posting our Sunday Services on **Spotify** [HERE](#), on the **Apple Podcast** app [HERE](#), on Amazon Music [HERE](#), and on **iHeartRadio** [HERE](#) for easier access to our audio recordings. Our podcast is called "**Sunday Mornings at Cedars**."



We are also now on **Instagram**! Find us [HERE](#).

And as usual, find us on our Church **Facebook** page [HERE](#) and our **Community Facebook** page [HERE](#).

Be sure to "Like" us and "Follow" us on each one!

You can also still find audio recordings of our Services on our website [HERE](#).

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. You can find the sign-up for Super Suppers [HERE](#).



Cedars is also 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 the upcoming date, Wednesday, May 14.

For more information, contact **Mike Cox** at socialaction@cedarsuuchurch.org or **Rod Kempkes** at president@cedarsuuchurch.org.

Cedars New Office Hours

We have new office hours starting next week. The Cedars office hours will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm, with remote hours on Wednesdays from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm.

Beacon Article Deadline

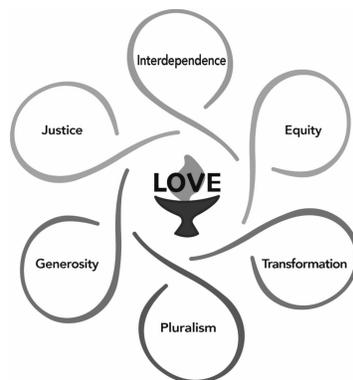
The new deadline for submitting content for The Beacon is now Mondays by the end of the day. If you would like to add an article, please send it to the Cedars Office at Office@cedarsuuchurch.org.

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](#).



**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

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

Cedars Minister

Rev. Margo Rinehart, Cedars Minister
Tuesday 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
284 Madrona Way, NE #128
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110
(206) 780-0373
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 Office@cedarsuuchurch.org for inclusion in our Thursday newsletter (3 days in advance). See our [submission guidelines](#).

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



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