

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 30 August 7, 2025

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This Week At Cedars

Sunday Service, August 10
10:00 am

The Threshold

Rev. Kate Lore, Guest Minister
Johanna Munson, Worship Associate

We are living in the pause between stories. The familiar expectations no longer hold. The new ones are not yet formed. This is the threshold: not a place of clarity, but of courage.



Kate Lore is a recently retired UU minister who currently lives in Battle Ground, WA. Prior to that, she served as the Senior Minister at the Port Townsend congregation and as the Social Justice Minister of First Unitarian Church of Portland, OR.

Tuesday, August 12

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

Mortal-i-Tea
6:30 - 8:00 pm
Cedars Center
Please see below for more details

Wednesday, August 13

Cedars Book Group
1:30 - 3:00 pm
Zoom
Please see below for more details

[View detailed calendar here.](#)

Upcoming Service

Sunday Service, August 17
10:00 am

Living Love Through the Practices of Freedom and Liberation

Rev. Margo Rinehart, Cedars Minister
Nancy Philip, Worship Associate

Come and discern what it means for us to protest and otherwise speak out during these politically challenging times. Learn to increase your inner strength by practicing freedom, together.

Reverend Margo Rinehart is our minister at Cedars UU Congregation. She has been a Kitsap County resident for over 20 years before recently finishing a ministry in Bozeman, Montana.



News and Announcements

Board News

Our Elected Leaders

The Board of Trustees is the governing body of Cedars UU Church. It has general charge of the property of the church, conducts its business affairs, and controls its administration, including the appointment of such Committees that it deems necessary. On July 31, at their monthly Board Meeting, the Trustees elected officers for the 2025-2026 church year as follows:

Rod Kempkes, President

Tyler Weaver, Vice President

Sandy Spears, Secretary

Gregory Cook, Treasurer

Rebecca Kim serving alone as a Member-At-Large at this time

(**Rev. Margo Rinehart** is an ex-officio member of the Board)

The Trustees will be holding a retreat on August 17 to do strategic planning for the upcoming church year. Please feel free to contact any one of your Trustees or email to President@CedarsUUChurch.org over the next several weeks to let them know of anything that they should be considering during this time of great transition for our Cedars community.

Sunday, August 31: Special Collection: Super Suppers and Suquamish Community Kitchen

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.



For August, we are collecting funds to help defray the costs of our **Super Suppers** that we offer with Kol Shalom on the last Tuesday of each month at Eagle Harbor Church and for our every other month Community Dinner at the Suquamish United Church of Christ.

If you would like to receive a tax deduction for your donation, please write a check payable to Cedars UU Church with Special Collection in the memo. This can be placed in the offering basket on **Sunday, August 31**, or sent to the Cedars Church Office by Thursday, September 4.

For more information, contact Mike Cox at Socialaction@cedarsuuchurch.org or Rod Kempkes at President@cedarsuuchurch.org.

Cedars Men's Group

Cedars Men's Group will meet on August 12 from 3:00 to 4:30 pm at the Cedars Center. We will meet on the second Tuesday of each month to



Request from Cedars Care Team

The Care Team is hoping to have Emergency Contact information available in case there is any situation when we need to reach someone during any of our services or events. You can enter this information on your personal page in Breeze. We hope that you will take a look to see if you have already provided us with contacts, and if not, please do. Note: You will be asked to list TWO contact numbers. Questions? Care Team members are Liz Motter, Naomi Gary, and Susan Shaffer.



Upcoming Adult Programs This Fall! Mark your Calendars!

***Starting Point** is a unique program designed to provide newcomers and long-timers with the opportunity to experience Unitarian Universalism rather than just hearing about it. It focuses on personal spiritual journeys and the historical journey of Unitarian Universalism and UUCDC as well as the shared journey that we travel together, which includes listening to one's deepest self, opening to life's gifts, and serving needs greater than our own. Four sessions will be held every other Sunday after the service on **Oct 5, 19, Nov 2, 16**. Stay tuned for further details and signups in September!

***Responding to the Anti-Trans Movement, A Course for Unitarian Universalists** This brief course is designed to offer you an introduction to gender diversity and trans identity, help you understand the current political attack on trans people and the misinformation that is part of that attack, and train you in how to create safety and belonging for trans people in UU congregations in this moment. Three sessions will be held on three **Tuesday evenings Sep 30, Oct 7 & 14**. Stay tuned for further details and signups in September!

Session 1: Trans 101

Session 2: What You Need to Know About the Anti-Trans Movement

Session 3: How to Ensure Your Congregation Is Truly Trans Welcoming

* We will also be bringing back **Spiritual Odyssey Potlucks** on the last Saturday of each month starting on **September 27!**

***Wednesday Writing Group** Inspired by Suleika Jaouad's *The Book of Alchemy: A Creative Practice for an Inspired Life*, we are interested in developing our writing practice by making journaling an everyday routine in our lives. Care to join us? Amy Johnson has been developing her writing practice for some time, and Patricia Erdmann is keen to get started. *The Book of Alchemy* is filled with a wide variety of prompts and encouragement for writing daily. At the same time, it does not insist on any specific topics or approaches to writing OR to other creative expressions that appeal to you.

We plan to meet at the Cedars Center at 10 am every other Wednesday, starting on Wednesday, September 10. Let us know if you would like to join us!

SAC



Cedars Social Action Committee (SAC) appreciates your interest and involvement.

The **Social Action Committee** is interested in your ideas on the direction we should take at Cedars related to our Social Action programs. We would appreciate it if you could take a moment to complete the **survey** by clicking the link below, which will help us evaluate how we move forward over the next year.

We meet once/month via Zoom and gladly welcome all ideas for topics to study, programs to support, and activities to participate in. **We need more members** and hope you will join our committee!

We welcome your attendance at our **first annual retreat on Saturday, September 6**, from 10 AM to 1 PM, where we will begin planning Cedars Social Action efforts for the year ahead. Please RSVP to Naomi Gary at naomiwwwgary@gmail.com

[Take the Survey](#)

CEDARS Presents: STOCKtheSHELVES!

This month, our contributions will go to Helpline House. If you would like to help, we welcome both food donations and checks. Both can be dropped off at Sunday Service or at Cedars office on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 am to 2 pm. Here is a list of what's most needed at Helpline House for August: baking supplies like flour, sugar, cake mixes, canned milk, spices, baking powder/soda.

Any questions? Ask Naomi Gary or Patricia Erdmann.



UUA News and Information

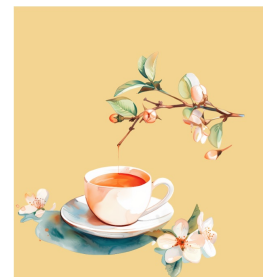
To learn more about UUA values, news, and information, click on the image or [HERE](#). You'll also find a permanent image link at the bottom of each newsletter for easy access.



Community Events

Mortal-i-tea with Johanna Munson and the EdgeWalking Collective

Death happens. Let's talk about it! Mortal-i-tea is a space for coming together with your fellow mortals to discuss our shared fate and to enjoy tea and snacks while we're at it. This group will facilitate open, informal conversations about death and dying; it is not intended to provide grief counseling. No agenda, no religion. The first Mortal-i-tea will be offered on Tuesday, **August 12, from 6:30 - 8:00 pm**. You can sign up [HERE](#).



Ongoing Programs

Cedars Childcare on Sunday Mornings is Returning in September!

Good news! Starting in September, we will 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 Book Group

Our next book to be discussed via Zoom, on Wednesday, **August 13**, at 1:30 pm, will be "*Homewaters*", a *Human & Natural History of Puget Sound*, by David B Williams. It covers glaciers and volcanoes carving up Puget Sound, examines the history of early Native communities, and then colonial settlements. It discusses Keystone species--salmon, orca, rockfish, herring, kelp, and how we can protect them". Please contact Mary Romeo with any questions. You can find more information [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, September 10.

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

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](#).

Cedars Office Hours

Cedars has new office hours as follows: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm, with remote hours (available via email) on Wednesdays from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm.

Beacon Article Deadline

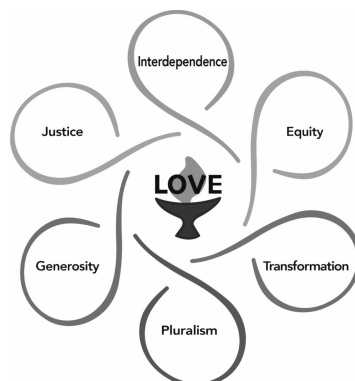
The deadline for submitting content for The Beacon is Mondays by the end of the day. If you would like to add an article, please send it to the Cedars Office

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

Cedars Minister

Rev. Margo Rinehart, Cedars Minister

Tuesday 9:30 am - 3:00 pm
Drop-in times: All Tuesdays in June, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
284 Madrona Way, NE #128
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110
(206) 780-0373
Minister@cedarsuuchurch.org

Cedars Office

Michelle Welsh, Office Administrator

Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm in office hours
Wednesday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm remote office hours
284 Madrona Way, NE #128
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110
(206) 780-0373
Office@cedarsuuchurch.org

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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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