

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 38 September 18, 2025

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This Week At Cedars

Sunday Service, September 21
10:00 am

I Want to be with People. Building Our Place of Belonging

Reverend Margo Rinehart, Cedars Minister
David Thomas & Gregory Cook, Worship Associates

Join us this Sunday as we welcome seven new members! We will also explore how to build nurturing, abundant community in our place of many different ideas, visions, needs and contributions. In the words of Reverend Mark Morrison-Reed, being in religious community widens our vision and renews our strength. Come find out how.



The Reverend Margo Rinehart serves Cedars through welcoming people from diverse theological and religious backgrounds and spiritual beliefs on their journeys to learn from one another, search for truth and answer the call of love and justice.

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

Wednesday, September 24

Wednesday Writing Group
10:00 - 11:30 am
Cedars Center

Friday, September 26
FOCUUS (Walking Group)
10:00 - 11:00 am
Battle Point Park
Please see below for more details

Saturday, September 27
Spiritual Odyssey Potluck
12:00 - 2:00 pm
Cedars Center
Please see below for more details

[View detailed calendar here.](#)

Upcoming Service

Sunday Service, September 28
10:00 am

Beautiful Mistakes or Why waste a

perfectly good mistake?

Rev. Barbara Cornell, Guest Minister
Nancy Philip, Worship Associate

The common understanding of mistakes is we'd rather not make them or that we are wrong or bad when we make them. How we respond after making a mistake is the story of our lives. Let's think about this together.

Rev. Barbara Cornell has been a hospital chaplain for 15 years. She and her husband Dane are proud parents of two adult children, Katie and Will.

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



News and Announcements

A Word from Reverend Margo

Our worship theme this month is building belonging. This past Wednesday evening, while serving at the Suquamish Community Dinner, I noticed how people came in and greeted one another. Some knew each other, others not. New people were often outgoing or brave enough to introduce themselves to others. For many years now, the United Church of Christ has partnered with others to provide meals for the community. It is a place of welcome and belonging.

This next week, in our Sunday service, we will be exploring how to build community at Cedars and beyond. We will be using the reading *I Want to Be with People* by Unitarian Universalist, Dana Worsnop. Worsnop calls out "I want to be with people who are willing to walk the tight rope that is life and who will hold my hand as I walk mine. I want to be with people who see me in my goodness and dignity, who also see my failings and foibles, and who still love me. I want to be with people who support, encourage and even challenge each other to higher and more ethical living." We are invited to bring our true self in and believe that we will be loved for who we are.

There are also risks when we choose to belong to a community. We risk being disappointed or hurt and we risk disappointing or hurting others. We risk being changed and challenged to grow. We risk grief, because people in the community will come and go. Because we want to be a warm and generous community, we must stretch to meet the times we are in. To offer true belonging we need to increase our skill set for truly welcoming others. I hope that many of you will participate in the Transforming Hearts Collective 3-part series *Understanding the Anti-Trans Movement*. Patricia Erdmann, Nancy Philip and I will be offering this course on 3 consecutive Tuesday early evenings, beginning September 30. Look for the sign-up link in *The Beacon* or the sign-up sheet on the information table on Sundays.

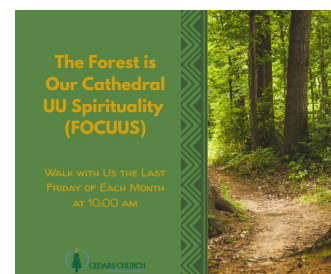
Thank Our Representatives for Protecting Our Vote

Each week, there will be a different card at the back of the service for people to sign to thank our representatives for protecting our vote. Please sign. Our goal is to encourage our representatives who are on the front line of this issue. For more information, contact Sandy Spears.



The Forest is Our Cathedral UU Spirituality (FOCUUS)

Join us for a **FOCUUS** walk as we reflect on what moved us during the month, beginning **Friday, September 26**. We will walk in different places on Bainbridge Island and North Kitsap County on the last Friday of each month. Our first walk will be at **Battle Point Park at 10:00 am**. We will meet by the tennis courts. For more information, please contact Naomi Gary or Michelle Welsh at Office@cedarsuuchurch.org



The Cedars Care Team Request

The Cedars Care Team hopes to have Emergency Contact information available in case we need to reach someone during any of our services or events. You can enter this information on your personal page in Breeze. Please note: You will be asked to list TWO contacts. If it is more convenient, you can also email the Office Administrator at Office@cedarsuuchurch.org with this information so that it can be entered in Breeze. Please see Liz Motter, Naomi Gary, or Susan Shaffer for more information.



Cedars Childcare Volunteer Opportunity:

We are currently seeking members who would like to assist with Childcare on September 28, October 5, and 19. If you are interested in helping us, please email the Office Administrator at Office@cedarsuuchurch.org for more information.



Transforming Hearts:

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**. You can click [HERE](#) for more details and to sign up!



Starting Point

Join us for 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**. You can click [HERE](#) to sign up!



Spiritual Odyssey Potlucks

Spiritual Odyssey Potlucks are returning on the last Saturday of the month, starting **September 27 from 12:00 - 2:00 pm!** We will have more details coming soon!



CEDARS Presents: STOCKtheSHELVES!

This month, our contributions will go to **Fishline**. 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 Fishline for September: canned soups, vegetables, and fruits AND diapers (size 4 & 5).



Any questions? Ask Patricia Erdmann or Nancy Dowey.

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

Bainbridge Island Sun Day Event

Eager to learn about solar on Bainbridge? Do you have questions you want answered about solar power?

Come to the Sun Day Celebration at the **Bainbridge Public Library** on **Sunday, September 21**, from **11:00 to 12:30 pm**.

This event is one of hundreds of Sun Days to be held nationwide on September 21 by Third Act to celebrate the unstoppable rise of clean energy. You can click [HERE](#) for more information, including registration. Please contact Mike Cox or Fran Korten with any questions.



Set Sail with StandUp for Kids Benefit Dinner and Auction

On **Saturday, October 4**, we will hold our first Dinner and Auction Gala at the Village Green Community Center in Kingston. Join us for an evening of good food, entertainment, and to learn more about the needs of the homeless in our community. You can find more information about this event, including tickets and how to donate [HERE](#). Contact Jeff Philip for any questions.



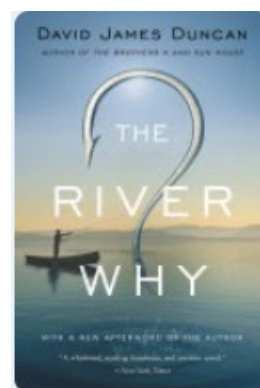
Ongoing Programs

Book Club

Our next book to be discussed via **Zoom**, on **Wednesday, October 15, at 1:30 pm**, will be "The River Why?" by David James Duncan. The classic novel of fly fishing and spirituality was republished with a new Afterword by the author.

Since its publication in 1983, The River Why has become a classic. David James Duncan's sweeping novel is a coming-of-age comedy about love, nature, and the quest for self-discovery, written in a voice as distinct and powerful as any in American letters.

You can find more information [HERE](#).



Cedars Childcare on Sunday Mornings is Back!

Good news! We 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](#).

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, November 12.

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 office hours are now 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 at Office@cedarsuuchurch.org.

Cedars Facebook Conversations

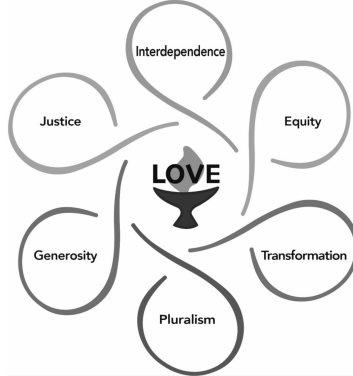
If you're on Facebook, there is a new Facebook group called Cedars UU Church Community Conversations for members and friends to share events, fun stories, etc. Let's keep the coffee hour going all week long! Join the group [HERE](#).



Cedars UU Church is a
Welcoming Congregation

Our Congregational Mission

*Worship with open hearts
Nurture a learning spirit
Serve justice with
compassion*



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

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](#).

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