CEDARS CHURCH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
A Welcoming Congregation and Green Sanctuary

The Beacon

A weekly email newsletter from
Cedars Unitarian Universalist Church
Serving Bainbridge Island and Northern Kitsap County
Volume 17 Issue 39 September 24, 2026

This Week At Cedars

The Five Strands of Unitarian Universalism
Sunday, September 27
10:00 am
The Island School

Cedars Guest Speaker - Reverend Dr. Barry Andrews
Worship Associate, Liz Motter



Unitarian Universalism is better described in terms of themes or strands than a bunch of names and dates. Although one or more of them have been dominant in certain periods, all are still present in our liberal religious DNA. These are, in my view at least, Liberal Christianity, Transcendentalism, Progressivism, Universalism, and Humanism.

Reverend Dr. Barry Andrews is Minister Emeritus of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock, Manhasset, New York. He has written 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.

Thursday, September 24

IFC Crop Walk Food Drive
10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Town & Country Poulsbo

Saturday, September 26

~~Safeway on Bainbridge Island~~

Ukulele & Rhythm Jam Group
1:00 pm - 2:30 pm
Cedars Center

Tuesday, September 29

Super Supper
4:45 pm - 7:00 pm
Eagle Harbor Congregational Church

Please see below for more details and use this **link** to find the Cedars calendar**.**

New News

Circle Dinners have returned to Cedars! Save the Dates!



Fall dates will be:
October 10, 17 and 24

October 10 with Naomi Gary for dinner and then a walk or drive to the Second Saturday Music Night at the Seabold Hall. For sign-ups to October 10 contact Naomi Gary at office@cedarsuuchurch.org.

Sign-ups for October 17 and 24 contact Reverend Margo minister@cedarsuuchurch.org with details to follow.

JUUstice Washington and UU Social Action Network Conversations

Several Tuesday evenings through November
6:30 - 8:30 pm
via Zoom

JUUstice Washington, the UU Social Action Network for Washington State is inviting congregations to take part in a social justice focused conversation through a series of four Zoom gatherings. Starting with deepening relationships and then exploring what becomes possible when we act from those relationships, the themes will remain open and responsive to what arises. For more information, please follow this link to
JUUstice Washington – A Unitarian Universalist State Action Network

Sept. 22, 6:30–8:00 PM Pacific — Connection

Nov. 17, 6:30–8:00 PM Pacific — Sustaining

If you are interested in attending, please let Reverend Margo or Naomi Gary know and they can supply you with the Zoom link at minister@cedarsuuchurch.org

Upcoming Sunday Service

Courage: Messages From Everyday Dissidents
Sunday, October 4
10:00 am
The Island School



Reverend Margo Rinehart, Cedars Minister
Alan Miller and Joanna Munson, Worship Associates

Come and hear stories of everyday people who took on established, unjust policies. Stories include the return of land to Indigenous Tribes and Nations.

Reverend Margo Rinehart serves Cedars by 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.

Social Action

Save the Date!
SAC Annual Retreat
Saturday October 17th
10:00 am - 2:00 pm
14533 Henderson Road NE (Naomi Gary's home)

Facilitators: **Mel Hoover and Rose Edington** aka MelRose Ministry
If you would like to participate, please email Mike Cox at office@cedarsuuchurch.org

Write letters and help strengthen democracy and protect Voting Rights!

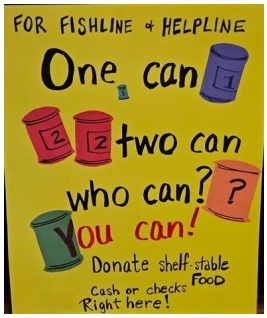
One of the most effective ways to do that is through letter-writing campaigns focused on a carefully selected slate of local races to rebuild trust in government and increase voter participation. These

help increase voter turnout.

The good news is that the letters do not need to be mailed until October.
So far, 13 Cedars members have committed to writing 325 letters.

If you would like to participate, please email Sandy Spears at office@cedarsuuchurch.org.

CEDARS Presents: YOU CAN!



The growing need for food resources in our wider community is unmistakable. Because the most urgent needs are currently across the Agate Pass Bridge, we are currently directing all Cedars food donations to Fishline. Every contribution of cans, boxes, bottles, and more goes straight onto the shelves and is immediately appreciated.

Thank you for giving what you can. **Every bit truly helps.**

For more information about the food drive, see **Nancy Dowey** or **Patricia Erdmann** or email them at **office@cedarsuuchurch.org**.

Super Suppers Volunteers: Super Appreciated!



We have a great team serving Super Suppers each month to an appreciative group of Islanders. For many years, we have teamed up with Kol Shalom to provide this much-needed service on the last Tuesday of the month, at Eagle Harbor Congregational Church in Winslow. However, we need more volunteers!

- to bring side dishes and help with set-up, serving, and cleanup
- or help warm up the premade main dish, set up, and serve.

Typically, we provide side dishes or prepare the main dishes on alternating months. In September we will need to provide both the side dishes and the main dish. You can sign up to help with one or more slots using this link, whatever works for you, and your help will be SUPER APPRECIATED! Our next opportunity is **Tuesday, September 29**.

For more information about Super Suppers, please use this **link** to email **Mike Cox** at **socialaction@cedarsuuchurch.org**.

Suquamish Community Kitchen

Every other month, Cedars takes the lead in preparing and serving a free, nourishing meal for anyone in our community through the Suquamish Community Kitchen. These meals require many



We invite you to sign up to join the team using this link. Your time and energy will make a meaningful difference.

For more information, please email **Heidi Parkington-Thal** at **office@cedarsuuchurch.org** using this link.

Group Meetings

Newer to Cedars Conversation
Sunday, October 4 (ongoing on the first Sunday of each month)
11:15 am–12:00pm (right after Service)
The Island School

If you're newer to Cedars or simply want to learn more about Unitarian Universalism, you're invited to join our **Newer to Cedars Conversation**. This is an easy, friendly space to ask questions, meet others who are also getting connected, and enjoy light snacks.

These conversations are relaxed, fun, and usually run **30–45 minutes**, depending on how many of us gather. We'll be hosting them **every first Sunday of the month,** so there's always another chance to drop in.

Cedars Women's Covenant Group
Monday, October 12 (ongoing the second Monday of each month)
2:00 pm - 3:30 pm
Fieldstone Retirement Community

The Cedars Women's Covenant Group would welcome adding several new members who identify as women and are committed to sharing experiences and feelings on a specific topic in a confidential setting. If you are new to Cedars, this is a great way to get acquainted, and if you're a long-standing member, it's a way to deepen your friendships.

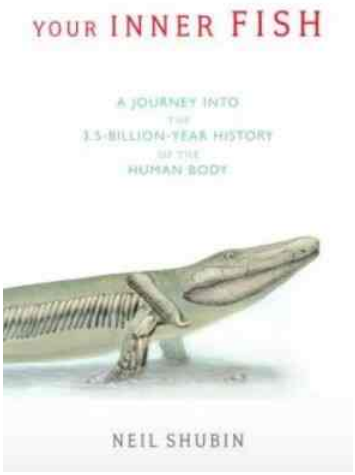
If you are interested or want more information, contact **Fran Korten** or send an email to **office@cedarsuuchurch.org** using this **link** for more information about the Women's Group.

Cedars Men's Group
Tuesday, October 13 (ongoing the second Tuesday of each month)

The Cedars Men's Group welcomes those who identify as men and who would like to consider joining to share experiences and feelings on a specific topic in a confidential setting.

If interested or want more information, contact Herb Hethcote or Ed Clemens or send an email to office@cedarsuuchurch.org for Men's Group information using this link.

Cedars Book Group
Wednesday, October 21
2:30 pm - 4:00 pm
via Zoom



Your Inner Fish is widely considered an excellent, highly engaging science book. It won the National Academy of Sciences best book award in 2009.
Why do we look the way we do? What does the human hand have in common with the wing of a fly? Are breasts, sweat glands, and scales connected in some way? To better understand the inner workings of our bodies and to trace the origins of many of today's most common diseases, we turn to unexpected sources: worms, flies, and even fish.

Shubin makes us see ourselves and our world in a completely new light.

Strengths of the Book

- **Fascinating connections:** It shows how human hands, teeth, heads, and senses link directly to ancient creatures through fossils and DNA.
- **Easy to read:** The writing style is simple, friendly, and full of humor rather than dense or dry academic jargon.

If you'd like to discuss this book with us, let **Herb Hethcote** know you'd like to be on our email list, so you will receive the zoom link: office@cedarsuuchurch.org

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Tuesday, October 13
7:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Cedars Center

The Cedars Music Committee welcomes anyone interested in joining to promote, advocate, nurture, and sustain music programs at Cedars.

If you are interested or want more information, contact **Fran Korten** or send an email to **office@cedarsuuchurch.org** using this **link** for more information about the Music Committee.

Ukulele Jam Group
Saturday, September 26 (ongoing on the last Saturday of each month)
1:00 pm - 2:30 pm
Cedars Center



A Ukulele Jam Group is taking shape, and everyone in the Cedars community is welcome to join in. Bring your own instrument but we also have extra Ukes and lots of rhythm instruments to share. Easy to sing along music… everyone is invited to join the Jam! Please think about 3 favorite and easy songs you'd like to play.

Send your songs to Rebecca Kim to **office@cedarsuuchurch.org** using this **link.**
She has the Ultimate Guitar app and projects the chords and lyrics on the big screen. Makes it super fun and easy for us all to JAM!!!

If you are interested or want more information, contact **Naomi Gary**, or send an email to **office@cedarsuuchurch.org** using this **link.**

More About Cedars

Cedars on Social Media

Did you know that Cedars now has a podcast? Our podcast is called "**Sunday Mornings at Cedars**".
Use this **link** to listen to our podcast on **Spotify**.
Use this **link** to listen to our podcast on **Apple Podcast app**.
Use this **link** to listen to our podcast on **Amazon Music**.
Use this **link** to listen to our podcast on **iHeartRadio.**

We are also on **Instagram!** Use this link to find us on **Instagram**.
And as usual, find us on our **Cedars Facebook** page with this **link**. If you're on Facebook, there is a Facebook group called Cedars UU Church Community Conversations for members and friends to share events, fun stories, etc. Let's keep the coffee hour

Be sure to "Like" us and "Follow" us on each one!
Use this **link** to find **audio recordings** of our Services on our website.

Our Wider Community

League of Women Voters of Kitsap: Bainbridge Island Unit
Saturday, September 26 (ongoing the last Saturday of each month)
11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Helpline House
282 Knechtel Way NE on Bainbridge Island

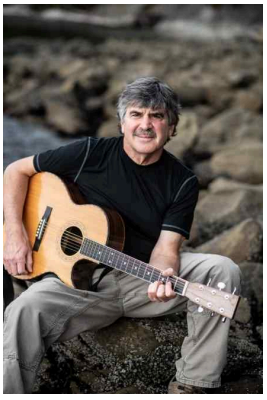
The League of Women Voters wants your questions. Local Kitsap County Candidate Forums are coming late September and early October. Now is your chance to ask the candidates directly about local issues! Here is a link to the questions:
https://lwv-kitsap.org/candidate-forum-questions

If you are interested or want more information, contact **Naomi Gary**, co-chair of the LWV Bainbridge Island Unit, or send an email to **office@cedarsuuchurch.org** using this **link.**

League of Women Voters Website

These Songs of Freedom: Talk and Concert About Protecting our Democracy

Saturday October 10
12:00 pm - 2:30 pm
Lynwood Theater
4569 Lynwood Center Road NE on Bainbridge Island



Singer/Songwriter Dana Lyons (https://cowswithguns.com) shares songs and stories from across America of unexpected alliances working together for democracy and our beautiful planet.

Suggested donation of $10 at the door
For more information you can go to:
https://www.standingtogetherbi.org/events/oct10/

Register HERE for Dana Lyons Concert



Saturday October 17
9:00 am - 11:00 am
Grace Episcopal Church
8595 NE Day Rd on Bainbridge Island

The Grace community and project partners are thrilled to invite you to celebrate the new 32 kW solar project on the rooftop of Grace Episcopal Church.

For more information please follow this link for the program of events and registration requirement.

Register HERE for Ribbon Cutting at Grace

Beacon Article Deadline

The deadline for submitting content for The Beacon is Monday by the end of the day. If you would like to add an article, use this **link** to email your Beacon article to the Cedars office at **office@cedarsuuchurch.org**.

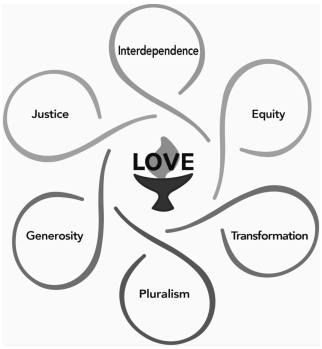
UUA News and Information

Use this **link** or the image to learn more about UUA values, news, and information.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION

Cedars UU Church is a Welcoming Congregation and Green Sanctuary

View



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 using this **link** to our website.

directory for contact information. The link is located under the Connection tab of the Cedars website and via this **link** to our directory.

Worship Services
Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
The Island School
8553 NE Day Road
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

View Map Here

Cedars Minister
Rev. Margo Rinehart, Cedars Minister
Tuesday 9:30 am - 3:00 pm in office hours
(206) 780-0373
minister@cedarsuuchurch.org

Cedars Office
Monday thru Thursday 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm in office hours
284 Madrona Way, NE #128
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110
(206) 780-0373
office@cedarsuuchurch.org

Use this **link** to subscribe to The Beacon.

Do you have an article, event, or announcement?
Use this **link** to email it to office@cedarsuuchurch.org for inclusion in our Thursday newsletter (3 days in advance). Use this **link** to see our **submission guidelines.**

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