

# The Beacon

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



**CEDARS CHURCH**  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Volume 11 Issue 20 / May 21, 2021

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## Upcoming Services

### The Sacred Right to Vote

**Sunday May 23rd**  
10:00 a.m.  
Virtual Worship Service

**Fran Korten, Guest Speaker**  
**Penny Brewer, Worship Associate**

In States across the United States, we are witnessing an assault on the sacred right to vote. Join us for this service in which we will explore the nature of the assault, the relationship of voting to our UU principles, and ways we can act on our values.

### Somewhere on the Road to Damascus

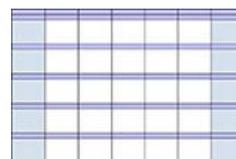
**Sunday May 30th**  
10:00 a.m.  
Virtual Worship Service

**Rev. Zackrie Vinczen**  
**Grace, Worship Associate**

Somewhere on the road to Damascus, Saul became Paul. Somewhere under a Bodhi tree, Siddhartha awoke as the Buddha. And somewhere today, the next generation of spiritual leaders is waking up to the realities of the world.

In this service, we will explore what it means to awaken to the possibility of transformation.

### Current Week Calendar and Links



*Your Cedars community invites you to participate in services and activities, get information, enjoy fellowship, and pause for reflection.*

To view our detailed calendar [click here](#). Then click on the event titles for more information.

**Sunday May 23rd**  
10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service  
[Virtual Sunday Service Link](#)

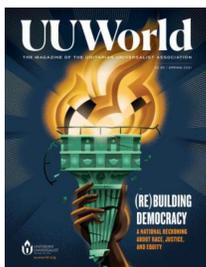
11:00 a.m. Congregational Coffee Hour  
[Virtual Coffee Hour Link](#)  
Use passcode 1959 if required  
or by phone using 1-253-215-8782

**Wednesday May 26th**  
7:30 p.m. Choir Practice  
[Virtual Choir Practice Link](#)

**Thursday May 27th**  
10:00 a.m. Morning Reflection  
[Virtual Morning Reflection Link](#)  
Use passcode 1959 if required  
6:00 p.m. Board of Trustees Meeting  
7:00 p.m. Meditation Group  
[Virtual Meditation Link](#)

**Friday May 28th**  
7:00 p.m. Movie Essentials Group

## News and Announcements



## (Re)Building Democracy

This very relevant theme is featured in the Spring issue of the UU World, our national denomination's inspirational and insight-loaded periodical that

comes to mailboxes as a benefit of membership.

This special issue of the magazine examines how we might create a more just, equitable, and antiracist society, explores the fault lines of injustice in our nation, and imagines how we might rebuild our democracy.

An introductory editorial by UUA President Reverend Susan Frederick-Gray, notes that our commitment to democracy is not just political or moral, but grows from our affirmation of the inherent worth and dignity of every person and the knowledge that we are all interconnected. It reflects the fact that our theology is not so much concerned with the afterlife, but is accountable to human experience and the conditions of people's lives here and now.

If you haven't seen it, the magazine is also accessible online at [uuworld.org](http://uuworld.org)

## Cedars' Annual Meeting

Cedars' bylaws include requirements for an annual business meeting held prior to June 30th, the end of the church year, for electing members of the Board and Nominating Committee and to conduct other business deemed necessary by the Board.

**The meeting will be held virtually again this year, following the Sunday Service on June 6, and a thirty-percent quorum of members is required for the conduct of business.**

Candidates identified by the Nominating Committee to fill open Board positions include **Mike Cox, Robyn Teske** and **Jeff Philip**, with **Dawna Kramer, Kassia Sing, Herb Hethcote**, and **Carol Ann Davidson** continuing. **Reverend Zackrie Vinczen** also serves as a non-voting, ex-officio member of the Board.

**Judy Willot** has been identified as a candidate for the Nominating Committee, with one open position remaining. Continuing members are **Johanna Munson** and **Susan Shaffer**, with **Carol Ann Davidson** serving as the Board representative.

A proposed 2021-22 budget has been reviewed and tentatively approved after many months of work by the Budget Leadership Team composed of **Frank Petrie, Fran**

## Our Congregational Mission

*Worship with open hearts  
Nurture a learning spirit  
Serve justice with compassion  
Love without judgment*



**Cedars UU Church is a  
Welcoming Congregation  
and Green Sanctuary**



**Rev. Zackrie Vinczen**



## Faith Formation at Cedars

### Chalice Lighting as a Spiritual Practice

You may have noticed a number of different folks lighting and extinguishing the chalice in our Sunday services. It's part of an effort to get more people involved and make sure we "see" each other even when we can't meet in person.

Do you want to light the chalice? It doesn't have to be a solo affair either! Families and couples can do this together. We all look forward to seeing you. More information about doing this is available [here](#).

## Bridging

In our Unitarian Universalist faith, the Bridging Ceremony celebrates the transition of our youth from their high school experience into young adulthood. This ritual helps us -- youth and families and all church members -- recognize and honor this important threshold moment. Right now, in these days where school is online and all the traditional

## Korten, David Barnes and Reverend Zackrie..

A summary of this year's **Belonging Initiative** is also planned as a feature of the meeting.



### Staff News

I'm excited to share the news that our staff team at Cedars is growing!

On June 1st Carolyn Kerns will be starting at Cedars as our Office Administrator.

Carolyn recently graduated with a bachelor's degree in public relations from Northwest Missouri State University. She is originally from Lincoln, Nebraska and is new to the area. She's looking forward to getting to know all of you and exploring Washington.

--Rev. Zackrie Vinczen

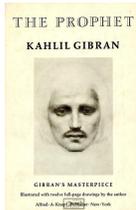
## Cedars Knitting/Crafting Circle

Cedars knitters and crafters are invited to join virtual social gatherings on first Wednesdays of the month at 1:30 p.m. and third Mondays at 7:00 p.m.

Bring your current project, tea or coffee, and snack for virtual sharing and connection. If you don't have a current project in mind, you can knit for charity with your favorite organization or [knitting4Peace.org](http://knitting4Peace.org).

The Wednesday afternoon knitting/crafting group is now hosted by **Linda Andrews**, and the Monday evening group is hosted by **Hilda Wiens**.

Contact **Carol Ann Davidson** for details.



## Morning Reflection

**Every Thursday, 10:00 a.m. Virtual Sessions**

During each Morning Reflection Session, which is led by **Rev. Zackrie**, participants are invited for meditation and discussion of brief sections from **The Prophet** by *Kahlil Gibran*.

## Meditation

**Cedars Meditation Group**  
**Every Thursday, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Virtual Sessions**

trappings of senior year are missing, these rituals are more vital than ever.

Do you have someone in your family who is graduating from high school this year? Are you yourself graduating from high school? Would you help to shape a bridging ceremony at Cedars?

Rev. Zackrie and Kathryn Jay would love to hear from you!

## An Invitation

Do you know any high school students who would like to explore Unitarian Universalism with other high schoolers?



YUUP (the Young Unitarian Universalists Project) is launching a platform to forge connections, work together, support each other, and find leadership opportunities. It will have a variety of different topics and groups within it for UU youth and recent bridgers across the country.

There are a couple of steps to joining the network: first, the youth must fill out the **Youth Drop-In Registry for their region or registry for recent bridgers**. Once the registry is filled out and confirmed by a parent and a minister or church administrator, youth will receive a Mighty Network invitation to get on YUUP.

Spread the word! YUUP is for everyone. We hope to see you soon!

## Chalice Circles

Are you interested in meeting regularly with people to listen and learn and to deepen spiritual connections to yourself and your community? Consider joining a Cedars Chalice Circle!

For more information click [here!](#)

**Kathryn Jay**  
**Faith Formation Lead**  
360-559-2381



## Movie Essentials

**Join us on Friday, May 28th at 7:00 p.m.**

The Cedars Movie Group meets monthly for social evenings and discussion of a selected movie that participants have viewed previously.

This month we will discuss **Summer Hours**, Olivier Assayas's captivating film about a treasure-filled inheritance. A silver-haired

Although the zoom format is not the same as meeting in person, it is a step in committing to a regular meditation practice. Each session includes 5 minutes of chanting, 25 minutes of silent meditation and at least 30 minutes of informal group discussion.



For more information or the Zoom link, contact **Dawna Kramer** at raddjk@yahoo.com or via phone number from the Breeze directory.

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## Cedars Creativity Fair 2021

### See What Others Have Been Doing To Cope with Social Isolation

Our identity as a congregational community has been weakened by the COVID-19 pandemic, and one response has been to re-imagine virtual versions of the several after-service **Creativity Fairs** that were held in Webster Hall in recent years.

Organized to provide opportunities to see and enjoy artful products and demonstrations of the creativity present in our talented and capable congregation, those fairs helped us get to know and appreciate each other.

Please join the fun by sharing what you have been doing and enjoy the growing show using the link below!

### Cedars Creativity Fair 2021

A recent addition to the show:

**Keri Schmit** clearly enjoys costumed roles in her teaching profession. Here she chose to participate in "Crazy Hair Day" with a bold mask and a hat that was given to Miranda in Scotland. She recalls feeling pretty silly wearing this while having deep conversations on the history of racism in our country "and several people asked if it was my real hair? Really???"



matriarch enthroned among her children and grandchildren at the beginning of the film leaves behind a charming country house and a cherished art collection, and her heirs, as is normal, must figure out what to do with it all after her death.

The group discussion will begin at 7:00, but the zoom link will be active by 6:45 to allow social interaction before the discussion. For more information contact **Joan Spencer** or **Jane Martin**.

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## Pastoral Care Concerns

**John Peck** is now at Seattle's Virginia Mason Hospital preparing for a bone marrow transplant and further care at Seattle Cancer Care Alliance. His temporary address for cards and mail is:

John Peck  
JP/Level 18  
PO Box 900  
Seattle, WA 98101

**Mary Clear Padilla** is now in Poulsbo's Liberty Shores convalescent and retirement facility recovering from a fall and mild concussion for a few more weeks. Cards and/or afternoon visits would be appreciated (call ahead to arrange at 360- 779-5533). Her temporary address is:

Mary Clear Padilla  
Apt. 115  
Liberty Shores  
19360 Viking Avenue NW  
Poulsbo, WA 98370

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In discussion with the Pastoral Care Team, **Rev. Zackrie** confirmed that he would appreciate being informed if anyone in the Cedars community tests positive for Covid-19.

The information will remain confidential if the person so wishes, but Rev. Zackrie's awareness could help with contact tracing as well as determining what support and possible services could be offered by Pastoral Care Team members and perhaps the larger Cedars UU community as well.

### The Pastoral Care Team

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## Social Justice News

### Reform Our Justice System: Targeting the Poor

Banning debt-based drivers license suspensions is a goal of the Kitsap Equity, Race, And Community Engagement Coalition, **Kitsap ERACE**. The organization's criminal justice team added the objective to its list of

## Amazon Donates to Cedars!

Amazon has a charitable donation program called AmazonSmiles. If you are an Amazon customer, follow the instructions at this [link](#) and you can register so that Cedars will receive a small donation every time you make a purchase, it costs you nothing!

If you are already using AmazonSmiles and want to change your charity to Cedars, sign into your Amazon account and

1. Click on Hello (Name)/Account & Lists towards the top right of the page.
2. Click on Your Amazon Smile at the right.
3. On the right you will see "Your current charity" with a button below "Change Charity." Below that button it shows the charity you are currently helping.

In this donation system, Cedars is currently listed as "Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Bainbridge Island" Location: Bainbridge Island, WA and a renaming request to reidentify us as Cedars is being submitted.

### The Cedars Fundraising Committee

## Guidelines for using Cedars Center

The Cedars Board is making the following restrictions to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission to the few people who must enter the Cedars Center to keep us functioning.

1. Permission from staff or Board Member is required for entry.
2. Sign in when entering and sign out when leaving.
3. Use hand sanitizer when entering.
4. Wear a face mask and practice social distancing.
5. Avoid touching your face.
6. Please disinfect high contact surfaces when you enter and before you leave: door handles, light switches, computer mouse and keyboard, desks, tabletops, countertops, sinks, toilet, and shared equipment such as pens, staplers, and clipboards.

***Thank you for helping to keep us safe!***

collective actions after conferring with those working with impacted people.

Kitsap ERACE is a collaboration of many groups, organizations, and individuals, all striving for racial equity in Kitsap County. More information is available [here](#).

### Regional Activity

Various actions and programs organized or promoted by **JUJustice Washington** for the current month can be reviewed in the monthly news update available for review [here](#).

## Cedars Zoom License

Cedars UU Church has purchased a licensed zoom account through UUA for use by Board members, committees, and affinity groups.

This zoom account has screen sharing, polling, breakout rooms, and no time limits on meetings (the time limit for a free zoom account is 40 minutes). To schedule a meeting using the account, email **Herb Hethcote** and he will schedule the meeting and send an email to you with the zoom information.

For more information click [here](#).



### Note from Rev. Zackrie

The recent United States Supreme Court appointment is worrying to many folks and for many reasons.

If you're a member of the LGBTQ+ community and find yourself suddenly needing to get married for legal protections, contact me, I am willing to officiate small socially distanced weddings in Western Washington.

### Print the Beacon Newsletter

The Beacon is available to download and print each week. Go to [www.cedarsuuchurch.org](http://www.cedarsuuchurch.org). The newest issue is available on the Cedars website under News after 12:00 p.m. on Fridays. Copies will also be available at Sunday Worship Services when they resume.

### 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

**Services and Faith Formation**  
Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

**Rev. Zackrie Vinczen, Minister**  
For an appointment, e-mail

The Island School  
8553 NE Day Road  
Bainbridge Island

**Cedars Center**  
284 Madrona Way, NE #128  
Bainbridge Island WA 98110  
(206) 780-0373

Closed during COVID-19 Pandemic

minister@cedarsuuchurch.org  
For an urgent matter, call (360) 930-9339 (Pastoral Care)

**Kathryn Jay, Faith Formation Lead**  
faith.formation@cedarsuuchurch.org

**Office Manager**  
Currently volunteer staff  
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 The Beacon **by Friday at 11:00 a.m. ONE WEEK BEFORE** the next Friday's newsletter (7 days in advance). See our [submission guidelines](#).

Cedars UU Church (website)



Cedars Unitarian Universalist Church | 284 Madrona Way NE, #128, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

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