

# The Beacon

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



Volume 10, Issue 36 September 18, 2020

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## Upcoming Services

**Giving Service**

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**Sunday, September 20th**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**Virtual Worship Service**

**Keri Schmit and Mike Cox,**  
**Guest Speakers**  
**Jenny Weaver, Worship**  
**Associate**



Mahatma Gandhi said "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others". In this service we will consider this quote and hear stories from several Cedars' members on their journeys of "Giving Service".

Link to this service [Sunday Service](#)

Coffee Hour after the service. [Coffee Hour](#)

*Image from pngimagesfree.com.*

**Our Congregational Mission**

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*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**

**Poems in Conversation**

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**Sunday, September 27th**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**Virtual Worship Service**

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

Some of my favorite poems are poems that seem to exist as a conversation between themselves and other texts. Stories from ancient places are brought into the present and expanded on by such poetic conversations. In this service, we will pause to consider our relationship with such works of poetry and why these conversations play an important cultural role.



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**Rev. Zackrie Vinczen**

## News and Announcements

**Leadership Learning Opportunity**

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**Harvest the Power--Leadership Course**  
**Registration ends today; Course begins next week**

**Cedars Calendar**

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To view our detailed calendar [click here](#). Then click on the event title to reveal a drop down with more information and an event description. **Links to virtual meetings are in the event description.**

*Taking advantage of online options, your Cedars community invites you to share events, get information, enjoy fellowship, and pause for reflection.*

**September 20**  
**10:00 a.m. (Virtual) Sunday Worship Service**  
*See Link in Upcoming Services.*

**September 23**  
**7:30 p.m. (Virtual) Choir Practice**

Serving in leadership roles within a congregational setting can be a deeply spiritual and rewarding experience. These roles also can require us to develop skills and perspectives that differ from other organizational leadership structures.

Recognizing this, I would like to invite current, past, and future leaders to join in an exploration of spiritual leadership with me. This exploration will make use of the *Harvest the Power* curriculum and help us to develop an understanding of healthy leadership practices within a church setting.

This class will take place in six 2-hour sessions. **These sessions will take place from 3:00-5:00 p.m. on the following dates: 09/26, 10/03, 10/10, 10/17, 10/24, and 11/07.** To register for this class, use this link: [Harvest the Power](#)

Registration will be open until **September 18, 2020.** Please reach out to me with any questions about this class.

-Rev. Zackrie Vinczen

## Celebrating Life by Honoring our Dead

**An online workshop for individuals and families  
Led by Johanna Munson and Kathryn Jay**

Join us to explore how those who have died have affected our life. How can remembering them help us open up to talk about death? What ways have we learned to cope with the idea of death, and how can we create an affirmative approach?

The workshop begins with choosing a person or an animal to honor, then bringing in memories that call that person close. We'll honor them in the second session by exhibiting creative works made during the intervening week-- sculpture, collage, poetry, music- anything goes! Images from this session will be recorded and compiled into a video to be shown to a wider audience.

In the third session we'll turn to how to approach the topic of our own death, and reflect on how we'd like to be remembered. The 4th week we'll share our creations in a compilation video, along with the impact of the workshop. All are invited to join in that session.

This online workshop takes place on Zoom in four sessions, 10/6, 10/13, 10/20, and 10/27 (all Tuesdays) from 7:00 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. Please commit to participating in all four sessions. There is a registration fee of \$20 per household, and proceeds go to Cedars UU Church. Registration is limited to 30 participants. You can register by clicking this link:

[Workshop Registration](#)

Continuing Connections Team

## Social Action News

Cedars' Special Collection for the month of September will be for the Bremerton NAACP Legal Defense fund to support their project on police accountability and citizen review boards in Kitsap County.

The Bremerton NAACP Legal Defense Fund has initiated a project to meet with police officials of all law enforcement departments in Kitsap County. The purpose is to discuss and establish programs of accountability regarding restraint tactics, citizen review boards and diversity.

Link to [Choir Practice](#)

**September 24**

**10:00 a.m. (Virtual) Morning Reflection**

Link to [Morning Reflection](#)

Pass code: 1959

Link and pass code can be used each week.

## Friends of the Farms

**Community Apple Cider Project  
September 24-17, starting at 8:00 a.m.**

**Are you overwhelmed with apples?  
Is your tree dripping with fruit?  
Let us take them off your hands!**



Local farmer and ciderist, Michael Chick of St. Lô Cider, will turn your overabundance into a fresh, hyper-local cider made from Bainbridge Island apples. A portion of the proceeds will go directly to **Friends of the Farms'** new Young Farmer's Advisory Committee, a connection that will help support and encourage the next generation of farming on Bainbridge Island.

Apples will be accepted at the island's Johnson Farm for Community Apple Cider Project events starting at **8:00 a.m. on September 24-27.**

See [info@friendsofthefarms.org](mailto:info@friendsofthefarms.org) or **Jane Martin** for more information.

## 2020 Northwest Justice Summit

**JUJustice Washington  
October 10, 2020 & December 5, 2020**



JUJustice Washington's board and staff are delighted to announce plans for the *2020 Northwest Justice Summit*. In light of the dramatic and tragic events of the past several months, the 2020 summit will be online and split between two weekends: **October 10 and December 5. Please save the dates.**

*Pre-summit Indigenous events* will be offered on the evenings of **October 9 and December 4.**

Cedars Special Collection will support the one-on-one meetings of this collaborative project which address local issues of policing.

This is a link for an interview with Tracy Flood, Bremerton/Kitsap NAACP President.

### [BKAT interview](#)

Checks should be made out to NAACP Bremerton/Kitsap Unit 1134, and sent to the Cedars Center office.

For more information contact **Betty Petras**

## News from CCBG

### Cross Cultural Book Group

As a black woman in America, I find these to be troubling times. While raising my children, I taught them all to be proud of their African ancestry, regardless of what they learned, heard, or witnessed.

Now I am reading **Caste** by **Isabel Wilkerson**, which tells me that we all have been infected, and it is not enough to inoculate one's own family. *There is no mask to protect us against this pandemic of racism. We must eradicate it in this country, this world.*

-Barbara Golden

## Morning Reflection

### Every Thursday Morning, 10:00 a.m. Virtual Meeting on Zoom

During each Morning Reflection session, which is led by **Rev. Zackrie**, participants gather for meditation and discussion of Stephen Mitchell's translation of the **Tao Te Ching**.



After finishing with this inspirational source in a few more weeks, the group will shift its focus to **The Prophet** by Kahlil Gibran.

## Cedars Creativity Fair 2020

### Coping with Social Isolation See What Others Have Been Doing

As first announced several months ago, we have organized a Cedars response to the social isolation in which we all now find ourselves. Missing each other, our identity as a congregational community is suffering, although we are coping as individuals.

Our response has been to re-imagine and present a virtual version of the several after-service **Creativity Fairs** that were held in Webster Hall in recent years. Organized to provide opportunities to see and appreciate artful products and demonstrations of the creativity present in our talented and capable congregation, those fairs also helped us get to know each other better.

Now, the **2020 Cedars Creativity Fair** has opened. Presented as an album of photos on our **Cedars Facebook page**, it is open to everyone, but it also is just a beginning. Everyone is invited to share what they've been doing or creating during this time of isolation.

The theme of the summit will be *Committing Ourselves to the Great Turning*.

*Racial justice, environmental justice, RIMS (Refugee, Immigrant, and Migrant Solidarity), and legislative advocacy* will be the focus of a sequence of plenary sessions on **October 10**. The online format allows us to feature national, regional, and local panelists. This format allows you to attend all of the sessions, or just those of greatest interest to you.

The **December 5th sessions**, following the 2020 elections, will be geared toward justice organizing and actions for congregations, justice partners, and JUJustice Washington in 2021 and beyond.

Summit registration and program information will be coming your way in the next few weeks.

For more information and other justice news, go to the JUJustice network website at [JUJusticeWA](#)

## Cedars Movie Group Discussion

### **Marriage Italian Style** Friday, September 25, 7:00 p.m. (6:45 p.m. start-up for check-in)

#### **You're Invited!**

The Cedars Movie Group meets monthly for social evenings and discussion of a selected movie that participants have viewed previously. This month, the group will meet virtually to discuss the 1964 comedy/drama, **Marriage Italian Style**.



A film of surprising depth, which is more drama than comedy, it is about an unequal love affair played between Sophia Loren and Marcello Mastroianni over a couple of decades during and after World War II. Director Vittorio De Sica's storytelling is accomplished with a light touch, gradually disclosing the past and showing just how unequal things are. The film was nominated for Best Foreign Language Film in 1965.

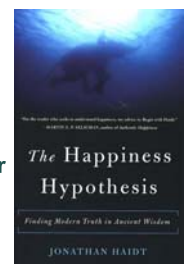
The film is available for streaming on Amazon Prime, and the discussion will be hosted by **Amy Genova**, using the Zoom meeting platform.

For a link and password, email **Pat and Dean Sampson** for information, and join the discussion!

## Book Group News

### **Marvin Evans Reading Group** Tuesday, October 13, 1:30 p.m. Virtual Discussion Using Zoom

The Marvin Evans Reading Group has selected **The Happiness Hypothesis** by Jonathan Haidt for its next discussion, scheduled for **October 13**. This insightful book explores concepts, understandings, and perspectives on happiness and meaningful living espoused by significant thinkers of the past, examining them in the light of contemporary psychological research, and extracting lessons that apply to our modern lives.



Alan suggests that readers might also appreciate a TED talk by author Jonathan Haidt. Search for *Jonathan Haidt on Religion, evolution, and the ecstasy of self-transcendence* on YouTube; a transcript is also available on [www.ted.com](#).

Please join us by sharing what you have been doing, and enjoy the growing show! Use the link below to find the show!

### [Creativity Fair](#)

**Richard Wilson and Bonnie Yocus**  
Facebook Page Administrators

A recent addition to the show:



Olympic National Forest Scene  
Photo by Kassia Sing

For more information, contact **Alan Miller** or **Mary Romeo**.

### Update from Fundraising Committee

#### Cedars Members and Friends Boost Annual Fundraising!

Despite the pandemic, contributions from Members and Friends made for a successful fundraiser. The **Cedars Fundraising Committee** wishes to thank all contributors who purchased seats for over 40 donated events and activities. Cedars Events always have been popular, providing special opportunities for community participation and goodwill. Event Sales comprise a significant part of our overall fundraising efforts every church year.

We all were deeply disappointed that, due to COVID-19 restrictions, most events offered in the 2020 Event Sales had to be cancelled. Despite the cancellations, 90% of the funds generated through ticket sales are still in Cedars' coffers as donations or pledges! Because of your generous responses, over \$6,000 was raised to support our church. **We thank you!**

Churches everywhere are challenged financially during this pandemic. Your Fundraising Committee is exploring fun, virtual-event fundraising ideas for this church year. Stay tuned, and we welcome your thoughts and suggestions as we plan for the future.

*With deep appreciation for all you do to support Cedars UU Church, The Fundraising Committee:*  
**Jane Martin; Bob Meredith; Dean Sampson; Pat Sampson; and Patti Shannon, Chair**

### Pastoral Care Team

#### Pastoral Care and Covid-19

In recent discussion within the **Cedars Pastoral Care Team**, **Rev. Zackrie** confirmed that he would appreciate being informed if any member of 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.

**-Pastoral Care Team**

### Staying Connected

#### Zoom Meetings

Some connections are through Zoom. If you are new to Zoom or just unsure about how to use it, here are some helpful tips for [Using Zoom](#).

### 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](#).

### 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 version is available on the Cedars website under News after 12:00 p.m. on Fridays. Copies also will be available in-person at Sunday Worship Services when they resume.

### Connect with Cedars



**Services and Children's Religious Education**  
Sundays at 10 a.m.  
Currently on-line due to COVID-19

The Island School  
8553 NE Day Road  
Bainbridge Island

**Cedars UU Center**  
284 Madrona Way NE, #128  
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110  
(206) 780-0373  
Office closed due to COVID-19

**Parking Hints**  
Guide to Cedars Center Use

**Rev. Zackrie Vinczen, Minister**  
For an appointment, e-mail [minister@cedarsuuchurch.org](mailto:minister@cedarsuuchurch.org)  
For an urgent matter, call:  
(360) 930-9339 (Pastoral Care)

**Office Manager:**  
Volunteer staff

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