



The Beacon

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



Volume 10, Issue 37 September 25, 2020

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Upcoming Services

Poems in Conversation

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 in 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.



Link to this service [Sunday service](#)

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

Unsplash photo by Ksenia Makagonova

Widening the Circle of Concern

Sunday, October 4th
10:00 a.m.
Virtual Worship Service

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen
Penny Brewer, Worship Associate

In June of 2020, the UUA Commission on Institutional Change released a report titled Widening the Circle of Concern. This report examined the disparities that exist within our association in relation to "Black people, Indigenous people, and people of color, as well as for LGBTQ individuals, people living with limited economic means, and people living with disabilities." In this service, we will consider this report and the important work it calls us to do.

News and Announcements

UU World Magazine News

At least eight families in the Rogue Valley UU Fellowship in Ashland Oregon have lost homes to wildfires that continue to rage in Oregon and other western states, according to the congregation's minister, the Rev. Sean Parker Dennison. Almost everyone in the

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



Cedars Calendar

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 25

congregation, which has about 150 members, was forced to evacuate, although most have now returned home.

Annie Scott, a member of the UUA's Pacific Western Region Congregational Life staff, says it is unknown if other UUs have lost homes due to the extensive fires.



UU World photo by Courtney Bucolo

The Unitarian Universalist Association's Disaster Relief Fund is collecting donations to assist UU communities and their partner groups affected by the fires, and the Ashland congregation has already received a grant from the fund, according to Rev. Dennison.

UUA Link: [Disaster Relief Fund Information](#)

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

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.

Our 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 Office for forwarding.

For more information contact **Betty Petras**

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

7:00 p.m. (virtual) Movie Group Discussion

September 26

3:00 p.m. (virtual) Harvest the Power session 1

September 27

10:00 a.m. (virtual) Sunday Worship Service

See Link in Upcoming Services.

September 30

7:30 p.m. (virtual) Choir Practice

Link to [Choir Practice](#)

October 1

10:00 a.m. (virtual) Morning Reflection

Link to [Morning Reflection](#) Pass code - 1959

Link and Pass Code can be used each week.

Paying Attention as a Spiritual Practice

Faith Formation at Cedars

Finding ways to pay attention when the world feels overwhelming can help us find and keep our balance.

First shared on the Cedars Facebook page, this video from Kathryn Jay explores rewarding possibilities in this spiritual practice.

[Video link](#)



Pastoral Care Concerns

COVID-19 Symptoms? Get tested now!

Public health officials are urging Kitsap residents to get tested as quickly as possible if they have any COVID symptoms, no matter how mild.

It has taken an average of 3.4 days for positive cases in Kitsap County to get tested for COVID-19 after first experiencing symptoms. This delay increases the potential for spreading the virus to others. People who know they have COVID-19 are more likely to isolate themselves than those who aren't sure.

To reduce this testing delay, Kitsap Public Health is:

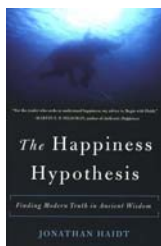
- Urging community members to seek testing immediately if they experience any COVID-19 symptoms, even if their illness is mild.
- Encouraging local health care providers to test symptomatic patients as quickly as possible.
- Working with the Kitsap County Emergency Operations center to develop a community-based testing site to expand testing options for Kitsap residents.

Kitsap residents are urged to create a plan for how they will get tested if they experience symptoms and how they can separate themselves from others while they are sick.

The Centers for Diseases Control website has more information about COVID-19 symptoms. Check with your primary care provider or call 2-1-1 for information on testing locations in Kitsap County.

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.

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.

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

Poetic Pause

What is THAT?

Look up in the sky!
A strange swath of blue!
I had almost forgotten,
How about you?

Through the clump of gray
I thought I spied
The shape of a cloud!
I looked again and tried

To realize that the earth
Is real again, is a place to breathe.
And through the new rain
It is possible to relieve.

Janetmarie Valiga

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.

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:

-The Pastoral Care Team

Cedars Movie Group Discussion

Marriage Italian Style
Tonight! **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!

Leadership Learning Opportunity

Harvest the Power

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

Recognizing this, Rev. Zackrie has invited current, past, and future Cedars leaders to join in an exploration of spiritual leadership using the *Harvest the Power* curriculum to develop an understanding of healthy leadership practices within a church setting.

Registration is now closed, but please reach out to Rev. Zackrie with any questions about this program. 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.

2020 Northwest Justice Summit

JUUstice Washington
October 10, 2020 & December 5, 2020



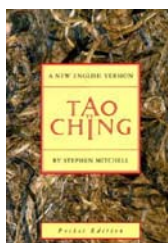
*Opportunity Beach (awaiting the artist)
Photo by Bonnie*

Morning Reflection

**Every Thursday, 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.



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](#).

Connect with Cedars



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**.

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.

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

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](#).

Print the Beacon Newsletter

The Beacon is available to download and print each week. Go to 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.

Services and Children's Religious Education

Sundays at 10 a.m.
The Island School
8553 NE Day Road
Bainbridge Island

Closed during COVID-19 pandemic

Cedars UU Center

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

[Parking Hints](#)

[Guide to Cedars Center Use](#)

Closed during COVID-19 pandemic

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen, Minister

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

Office Manager

Currently volunteer staff

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 Unitarian Universalist Church, 284 Madrona Way NE, #128, Bainbridge
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