

The Beacon

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



CEDARS CHURCH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Volume 10 Issue 43 November 6, 2020

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Upcoming Services

Now What?

Sunday November 8th
10:00 a.m.
Virtual Worship Service

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen
Mike Cox, Worship Associate

Join us as we consider what our recent election cycle has taught us and reflect on the work we have to do now that election day is behind us.

A Zoom coffee hour will follow the service.

A Search for Authenticity

Sunday November 15th
10:00 a.m.
Virtual Worship Service

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen
Jenny Weaver, Worship Associate

The maxim "know thyself" is said to have been inscribed at the entrance of the temple of Apollo. This phrase beckoned to all who came to worship and called them into a deep examination of the self. Join us as we consider the value of turning inward in self reflection.

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 title to reveal a drop down with more information and an event description.

November 7th
3:00 p.m. Harvest the Power
Virtual Session 5

November 8th
10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service
[Virtual Service Link](#)
11:00 a.m. Congregational Coffee Hour
[Virtual Coffee Hour Link](#)
Pass code **1959** if required
or by phone using 1-253-215-8782

November 10th
7:00 p.m. Meditation Group
[Virtual Meditation Link](#)

November 11th
7:30 p.m. Choir Practice
[Virtual Choir Practice Link](#)

November 12th
10:00 a.m. Morning Reflection
[Virtual Morning Reflection Link](#)
Pass code **1959**

News and Announcements



Cedars Fundraiser Please Help Us!

Remember those annual fundraising events when we would dress in costume to enjoy dinner and community fun as we generously addressed the financial needs of

Our Congregational Mission

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

our planned programs and activities?

Unfortunately, we can't gather that way this year, but you can relive some of that costumed fun as a special feature of the Cedars website: Click [here](#) to see your friends enjoying their time together.

Returning to this year, with its pandemic challenge, your financial support is needed more than ever. The fundraising committee asks that you donate money you would have given to attend such a fundraising event (\$55/adult last year), with additional offerings in raffle tickets, dessert dash treats, and paddle call opportunities.

This year, with a donation of \$100 or more, you will receive a special gift: an insulated, stainless steel coffee mug bearing the Cedars logo. We will notify you of days/times for pickup at Cedars Center, or a fundraising committee member will gladly deliver your mug(s).

Many thanks to those who have already donated toward meeting our \$13,500 goal! If you have not yet made your Halloween donation to Cedars, please mail a check to Cedars UU Church, 284 NE Madrona Way, Suite 128, Bainbridge Island WA 98110. Alternatively, you can use the Donate button on our website.

Thank you for your continued support of our beloved Cedars community.



Cedars Fundraising Committee: **Jane Martin, Bob Meredith, Dean Sampson, Pat Sampson, Patti Shannon, Chair**

If you have questions, contact **Patti Shannon** at pattishannon3@gmail.com, 206-755-5139

Meditation has Returned

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

Is this the time to start (restart) meditating?

In these times, the practice of sitting quietly, with attention only on the experience of the present moment, can nourish a sense of calm and control.

The Tuesday Night Meditation Group holds its weekly sessions on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. While the Zoom format is not the same as meeting in person, it is a step in committing to a regular meditation practice.

After a few minutes of informal chat we sit for



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



Rev. Zackrie Vinczen

Chalice Lighting as a Spiritual Practice

Faith Formation at Cedars

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



Do you want to light the chalice? Here's how to make it work.

Find a spot in your home or outdoors where there is room for a table and a chalice. It is probably easiest if you use your phone. Record yourself or have someone record you lighting the chalice and saying the traditional Cedars chalice lighting words:

As we come together to worship, We remind ourselves to treat all people kindly Because they are our brothers and sisters, To take good care of the earth because it is our home, and To live lives full of love and goodness Because that is how we will all become the best that we can be.

Then, take a pause of several seconds (no need to even stop the video) and blow out the chalice, saying these words:

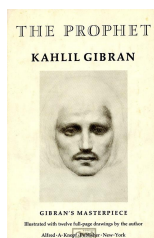
We extinguish this flame, but not the light of truth, the warmth of community, or the fire of commitment. These we carry in our hearts until we are together again .

That's it! Send the video to me at faith.formation@cedarsuuchurch.org

A couple of small suggestions: Make sure that your location has good light and that you speak loudly enough to be captured by the microphone. Also, record your video horizontally rather than vertically so that you will fill the screen.

30 minutes, take a short break to grab a cup of tea, and then have a 30-45 minute discussion about a selected reading.

If you are interested in joining this group or if you'd like some information about beginning a meditation practice, please contact **Dawna Kramer** at raddjk@yahoo.com or by phone from the Breeze directory.



Morning Reflection

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

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

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 of the month 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.

Contact **Carol Ann Davidson** for questions or details.

Cedars Creativity Fair 2020

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 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 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 better.

Now, the **2020 Cedars Creativity Fair** is underway as an album of photos on our **Cedars Facebook page**. Please join us by sharing what you have been doing, and enjoy the growing show using the link below!

Cedars Creativity Fair 2020

Richard Wilson and Bonnie Yocus
Facebook Page Administrators

A recent addition to the show:

It doesn't have to be a solo affair either! Families and couples can do this together. We all look forward to seeing you.

The Chalice Camp Song

My kids and I learned this song when they went to Chalice Camp in Oakland, California. It was written by Rev. Sheri Prud'homme and Laila Ibrahim, who together run Chalice Camp through the Oakland UU Church. Since I learned the song nine years ago, it has become a faithful companion, a tiny earworm that reminds me of what I believe, what I hold dear. My daughter Annie joined me for the singing part!

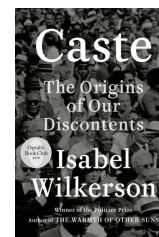
[Link to Chalice Camp Song](#)

Kathryn Jay
Faith Formation Lead
360-559-2381

News from CCBG

Cross Cultural Book Group

We last met on December 5, 2019, in person at the Cedars Center. So much has changed since then that it should not be a surprise that it has taken an entire year to regroup. The most significant change for CCBG is that all meetings will be virtual. For information, suggestions, comments, please email Barbara Golden and include CCBG in the subject line.



Book: Caste, The Origins of Our Discontents by *Isabel Wilkerson*.
Read for discussion, Part One, xv-page 35.

This book has been on the Best Seller List of the New York Times for more than 12 weeks and was the Number One title on that list last week.

Date: Friday, December 4, 2020

Time: 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Virtual discussion access information will be provided closer to the date.

As before, books may be purchased at Eagle Harbor books on Winslow Way, Bainbridge Island. Book groups get a discount, or you may purchase a book on Monday for their 20% store discount.

Shop local, when possible, to keep our small businesses open.

--Barbara Golden

Pastoral Care Concerns

COVID-19 Symptoms? Get tested now!

Public health officials are urging Kitsap residents to get tested as quickly as possible if

SEA-INSPIRED HAIKU
by Donna Moore

After carefully stitching
the multi-pleated navy blue sea
to Earth's lush green bodice,

Mother Nature's work
was overlaid by the ferryboat's wake
of loopy white foam.

Tidily-pleated blue seas
disintegrate in the boat's wake
into an abstract mosaic.

Where shoreline meets sea
lies liminal space worth exploring,
if you allow it.

Eagles inspect from above
foam written on the calm blue sea:
Mother Earth's secret message?

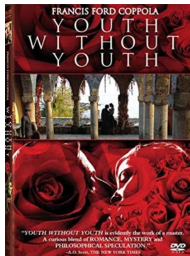
A sailboat's wake resembles
Spencerian script compared to
the ferryboat's broad printing.

Connect the white sails
to complete the picture hidden
in the harbor's calm surface.

Sailboats casually frolic
across the sturdy tugboat's wake.
All work and no play.....

The ferryboat's stern toot
warns the boaters of the First Law of the Sea:
"We can't turn on a dime!"

Sun sparkles on the sea
throwing off silver and blue sequins
like a gypsy dancer's shirt.



Cedars Movie Group

Youth Without Youth
November 20, 7:00 p.m.
(6:45 p.m. start-up for
check-in)

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 again meet virtually
to discuss the film, **Youth Without Youth**.

A love story wrapped in a mystery, the film
follows the spiritual odyssey of an aging
academic who fears death will find him before
he's able to complete his greatest work, and a
miraculous and astonishing transformation that
then changes everything.

It was produced and directed by Francis Ford
Coppola in 2007 and is based on a novella by
the Romanian diplomat, novelist, philosopher
and polymath Mircea Eliade (1907-86), who
spent the last 30 years of his life teaching
comparative mythology and religious history at
the University of Chicago.

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.

--The Pastoral Care Team

New Cedars Zoom License

Cedars UU Church recently 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 this account,
email herbert-hethcote@uiowa.edu with the
name of the meeting, the host, the date, the
starting time, the approximate length of the
meeting (you can go over this time length), if it
is a weekly or monthly recurring meeting, and
your mobile phone number.

Herb will schedule the meeting and send an

The film is available to rent on Amazon Prime Video for \$2.99. The discussion will be hosted by **Barry and Linda Andrews**, using the Zoom meeting platform.

For a link and password or information, email **Joan Spencer**, and enjoy the discussion!

Join the Worship Tech Team

The Worship Tech Team is looking to add a few more members. Since September **Rhonda Peacock** and **Tyler Weaver** have been busy each week editing and broadcasting our virtual services. They've done an amazing job with this, but since we are likely to be holding services this way for some time, we are hoping to have more people in the mix to share the workload.

All that is needed to join this team is a willingness to learn new technology and work with the rest of the team to produce our weekly services.

If you are interested in joining this endeavor, please contact Rev. Zackrie and let him know of your interest.

A Request

Do you have an unused iPad or tablet gathering dust?

Cedars is committed to providing virtual services during our pandemic isolation, but participation requires appropriate equipment. Some of our members or friends consequently don't have access and would appreciate your generosity if you have such devices no longer in use.

Please contact **Johanna Munson** if you can help,

email to you with the zoom information about the meeting including the link to the meeting and an attachment with complete instructions on being a zoom host. Then you can cut and paste this zoom meeting information into an email to those whom you are inviting.

Employment Opportunity

Cedars is currently seeking applicants for part-time employment as Office Administrator. The position provides administrative support and assistance with communications and operational needs at our Cedars Center.

Formal Cedars policy does not permit hiring members of the congregation, but members are encouraged to share news of the opportunity with others. More information is available [here](#) and on the Cedars website.

Sunday Service Links

Although the incorrect link posted for last week's Sunday Service caused some last minute scrambling to share the correct one in time for use, it also helped to disclose the opportunity now available to revisit or share earlier services.

At the YouTube screen reached with a Sunday Service link, you can now access earlier services and other offerings of our Cedars Church channel by clicking on the red dot C or the adjoining Cedars Church name in the lower left corner of the screen.

A Special 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. 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.
The Island School
8553 NE Day Road
Bainbridge Island

Cedars Center

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen, Minister

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

Kathryn Jay, Faith Formation Lead

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

Closed during COVID-19 Pandemic

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)

