

# The Beacon

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



Volume 10 Issue 45 November 20, 2020

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## Upcoming Services

### Extraordinary, Generous, Seeking: Margaret Fuller, Transcendentalist

Sunday November 22nd  
10:00 a.m.  
Virtual Worship Service

Rev. Barry Andrews  
Johanna Munson, Worship Associate

Religious radical, avant-garde cultural critic, feminist, progressive social theorist, investigative journalist, war correspondent, public intellectual — by any measure, Margaret Fuller was a truly remarkable person.

A Zoom coffee hour will follow the service.

### Sympathetic Vibrations

Sunday November 29th  
10:00 a.m.  
Virtual Worship Service

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen  
Bryan Baker, Worship Associate

If you place two tuning forks near each other and strike one, the other also vibrates. This sympathetic vibration demonstrates a connection that exists between two objects despite the space between them. In this sermon we will explore this connection and consider the ways we resonate with each other.

### 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 20th  
7:00 Movie Group Discussion

November 22nd  
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 24th  
7:00 p.m. Meditation Group  
[Virtual Meditation Link](#)  
7:00 p.m. Interfaith Thanksgiving Service  
[Virtual Interfaith Service Link](#)

November 25th  
7:30 p.m. Choir Practice  
[Virtual Choir Practice Link](#)

November 26th  
[Thanksgiving Holiday](#)  
10:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Gratitude Sharing  
[Virtual Gratitude Sharing Link](#)

## News and Announcements

### 16th Annual Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Please join us at 7:00 p.m. on November 24 for an uplifting evening celebrating our resilience with the theme ***Steadfast, Grateful***. As with so many of our gatherings this year, we will be meeting over Zoom (link is below). Our program includes speakers and

### Our Congregational Mission

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

musicians from many faith communities in North Kitsap. All are welcome!

Please bring a candle and something to light it! In keeping with our tradition of lighting candles to represent each faith group, we will be doing a "roll call" over Zoom. We will fill our screens with points of light from all our homes!

### Virtual Interfaith Service Link



16<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**Community Interfaith  
THANKSGIVING SERVICE**  
*Steadfast, Grateful*  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2020 – 7:00 PM  
Online via Zoom (see link in email)

 Sponsored by Bainbridge Island-North Kitsap Interfaith Council  
www.binkinterfaith.org  
info@binkinterfaith.org

ALL ARE  
WELCOME!

Sponsored by the Bainbridge Island/North Kitsap Interfaith Council (binkinterfaith.org).

## Thanksgiving Day Gratitude

Come and share what you are thankful for!

Cedars UU Church will host a short zoom gathering for Members and Friends Thanksgiving Day morning at 10:00 a.m.

Bring your COVID-19 Bubble! (whomever you live with: partners, children, people, plants, and pets) and share a few brief words of gratitude!

Please join us! **Use this link:**

### Continuing Connections Committee

## Social Action/Community Activities

### Thanksgiving Cheer

Would you like to spread a little cheer this holiday season? The **Bainbridge Island Senior Community Center** is partnering with **Island Volunteer Caregiver** volunteers to provide Thanksgiving meals to those in need. Here's how you can help: provide a card or note of cheer to include with the meal delivery.

- We ask that the card include an uplifting message to their island neighbor.
- Because we are serving people of different faiths, we ask that the message not be religious in nature, but of course, can include messages of thanks, hope, love and peace.
- We ask that the card or note be provided on its own without an envelope (so we have the opportunity



**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 to 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.

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 our traditional 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](mailto:faith.formation@cedarsuuchurch.org)

### The Chalice Camp Song

My kids and I learned this song when they

to match certain letters with certain receivers as appropriate).

- We ask that you sign the letter with your first name, initials, or simply "from your island neighbor."

Drop off cards in a drop box at Helen Nissani's home by the end of the day on Tuesday November 24<sup>th</sup> and a Cedars member will take them to the Senior Community Center.

### Christmas Child Fund

#### Fishline's Christmas Child Stocking

**Program** allows families to receive support in purchasing holiday gifts for their children! Last year Fishline served over 400 children in the Christmas Child Program.

To help mitigate any potential spread of COVID-19, Fishline is shifting the Christmas Child program a bit this year. Rather than purchasing gifts in a store and bringing them to us, please donate to the Christmas Child Stocking Fund!

All donations to this fund will be allocated to those in need of help purchasing Christmas gifts.

#### Christmas Child Program Link

#### Cedars Social Action Committee

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### 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 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](mailto:raddjk@yahoo.com) or by phone from the Breeze directory.

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### Cedars Fundraiser Continues

#### Please Help!

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

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### Introducing YUUP

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!

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### 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 collective actions after conferring with those working with impacted people.

Your license can be suspended if you can't afford to pay a traffic ticket, and if you can't drive, you can't work, so it's a catch-22!

The Kitsap ERACE team believes that drivers licenses should only be suspended if someone has been driving impaired or recklessly. The majority of convictions in Washington State are for driving with a suspended license.

Please help ERACE make a difference with this goal. Use the online link here to contact legislators: [License Suspensions](#)

Kitsap ERACE is a collaboration of many

Thank you to all who have participated in our Halloween fundraiser. The total now exceeds \$8400 and donations continue! When you make a donation of \$100 or more, receive a gift: an insulated, stainless steel coffee mug with Cedars' logo.



If you have not yet made your donation to Cedars, please mail a check to Cedars UU Church, 284 Madrona Way NE, Suite 128, Bainbridge Island WA 98110. Or, by credit card [here](#), fill in the amount, click "Options" and select Halloween Event. The fundraising committee will contact donors about mug pickup/delivery.

It will be fun to see Cedars logo mugs used during Zoom coffee hours, other Zoom events, and when we get to meet in person. Supply is limited, so please donate today to get yours!

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

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## 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.

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## 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**

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

Contact Penny Brewer of **Cedars Social Justice Committee** for further information.

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## 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.

--The Pastoral Care Team

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## Guidelines for using the Cedars Center

The Cedars Board is making the following



A recent addition to the show:



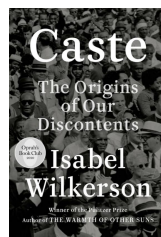
Chaucer and Pushkin sit for a family portrait by Jenny Weaver

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## 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.

**Date: Friday, December 4, 2020**

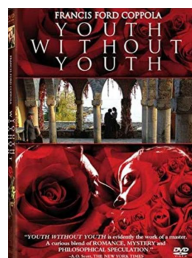
**Time: 1:00-3:00 p.m.**

**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



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## Cedars Movie Group

**Youth Without Youth  
Tonight! 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

restrictions to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission to the few people who must enter the Cedars Center to keep our church 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!***

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## Virtual Sunday Service Announcements Policy

The Cedars UU Board has passed a new communication policy to guide us as we determine what announcements will be posted with Sunday Virtual Services.

The purpose of these announcements is to keep members of the church community informed about upcoming events for the week following the Service. If you or your committee/program would like to have an announcement posted on Sunday, please be sure it fits the required criteria and deadline below.

### Criteria:

- The event or activity is happening during the week following the service.
- It is recognized as an event or program area of the church.
- This event has been posted in the Beacon and on the church calendar.
- It is a one time or the start of a series of events. The event will only be posted at the onset with an RSVP reminder, if needed. Repeat announcements will not be posted from week to week.
- It is not a reoccurring event such as a standing committee meeting etc.

### Deadline:

If you have an announcement you would like to post for the coming Sunday, you must submit it by no later than Tuesday afternoon. Submit all assignments in writing to [office@cedarsuuchurch.org](mailto:office@cedarsuuchurch.org).

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## 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

previously.

This month the group will again meet virtually to discuss the film, **Youth Without Youth**.

Described as 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.

The film is available to rent on Amazon Prime Video. 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!

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## 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.

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## 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.

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 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.

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## 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,

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## 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.

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## 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.

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## 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](mailto: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)

