

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 17 April 30, 2021

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Upcoming Services

What's True for You?

Sunday May 2nd
10:00 a.m.
Virtual Worship Service

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen
Jenny Weaver, Worship Associate

Everyone has their own perceptions and judgments on a given person or situation. To some we may be a hero while at the same time a villain to others.

In this service we will explore these many ways of perceiving and passing judgment and reflect on how to find the truth among the multiplicity of perceived options.

Restorative Justice

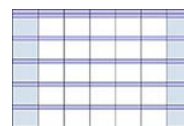
Sunday May 9th
10:00 a.m.
Virtual Worship Service

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen
Johanna Munson, Worship Associate

How do we make a wrong right? What does justice look like? Who gets to decide when the things that have been broken are made whole again?

In this service we will explore these questions and consider what it looks like to see justice restored.

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 2nd
10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service
[Virtual Sunday Service Link](#)

12:00 to 1:30 p.m. In-Person Coffee Hour
Socially-distanced and masked activity
in the Sage parking lot

Wednesday May 5th
1:30 p.m. Knitting/Crafting Circle
[Virtual Knitting/Crafting Link](#)
Use passcode 2020 if required

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

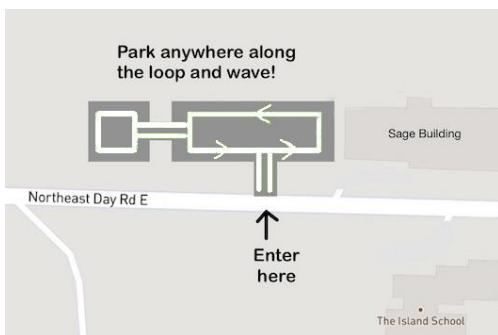
Thursday May 6th
10:00 a.m. Morning Reflection
[Virtual Morning Reflection Link](#)
Use passcode 1959 if required

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

News and Announcements

A Special After-Service Gathering

This Sunday, following the morning service, and instead of our Zoom Coffee Hour, our reconvened **Committee on Ministry** is organizing a special socially-distanced and masked gathering from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Sage parking lot across the street from the Island School. This will also be a chance to meet **Kathryn Jay**, who will be visiting in-person this weekend.



Bring camp chairs and plan to enjoy reconnecting with each other over coffee and cookies after many months of separation.

Justice/Action News

Special Collection for The West Sound Wildlife Shelter



photo by David Barnes

Last Sunday, our Cedars congregation was engaged and appreciated in a special service project at the West Sound Wildlife Shelter. More than 40 of us showed up to pull ivy, plant vegetables, and clean up around the grounds in support of their operation.

Now, recognizing a further opportunity in this effort, we are asking all members to consider making a special donation to this wonderful facility and program.

Our Special Collection allows all members to support this wonderful organization---now financially as a follow up to last week's effort. To participate, especially if you were unable to be there last week, please send a check for the West Sound Wildlife Shelter to our Cedars office for forwarding. Our office address is: Cedars UU Church 284 Madrona Way NE #128, BI, WA 98110.

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

The Social Action/Justice Network Committee

Cedars Knitting/Crafting Circle

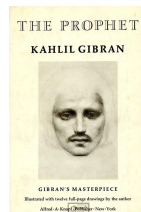
Wednesday May 5th
Time: 1:30 p.m.

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.

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

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.

Evans Reading Group

We invite you to join us
on May 11th at 1:30 p.m.



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!](#)

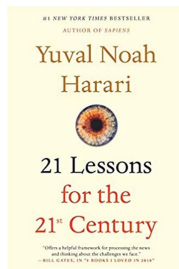
Kathryn Jay
Faith Formation Lead
360-559-2381

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 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](#).



Seeking "Salvation by Bibliography" as our late friend Marvin Evans used to say, we meet to discuss books that can intrigue and might enlighten us.

Pushing beyond the highly acclaimed and previously discussed *Sapiens* that

explored our historic development as a species, author **Yuval Noah Harari** now presents a probing study of today's most urgent challenges as we move into the uncharted territory of the future in **21 Lessons for the 21st Century**.

How do computers and robots change the meaning of being human? How do we deal with the epidemic of fake news? Are nations and religions still relevant? What should we teach our children?

The book is divided into five sections and our plan is to discuss (via Zoom) the third section on May 11th. For more information contact **Alan Miller or Mary Romeo**

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.

Now that 2020 is behind us, a new 2021 Cedars Creativity Fair has opened and the 2020 fair has closed (but remains viewable 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 2021

A recent addition to the show:

Rev. Zackrie and Elliott Smith have expanded their Suquamish Batdog Farm's range to include additional livestock beyond the canine Skagit. New residents include (L to R) **Margaret Hatcher, Cluck Norris and Babawk Obama**.

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](#).

Pastoral Care Concerns

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

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](#).

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.



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

Thank you for helping to keep us safe!



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.

Services and Faith Formation

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
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

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

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

faith.formation@cedarsuuchurch.org

Office Manager

Currently volunteer staff
office@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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