

# The Beacon

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



**CEDARS CHURCH**  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Volume 12 Issue 20 / May 20, 2022

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## Upcoming Services

### Equity in our Community

**Sunday May 22nd**  
10:00 a.m.

**In-Person Service in Webster Hall**

**Guest Speakers: Brandi Bispham, Adrian Malatesta, Laura Van Dyke, Renni Bispham Keri Schmit, Worship Associate**

Have you heard about Critical Race Theory and the challenges to school curriculums in places like Texas and Florida? Do you think that would never happen here? Think again.

Join Worship Associate Keri Schmit with four local equity crusaders for a panel discussion of current issues related to equity, diversity, and inclusion in our schools, local government, and community.

### The Perfectly Imperfect Example

**Sunday May 29th**  
10:00 a.m.

**In-Person Service in Webster Hall**

**Rev. Zackrie Vinczen**  
**Mike Cox, Worship Associate**

Clinton Lee Scott wrote that "It is easier to venerate saints than to learn the human qualities of their sainthood."

Join us for this service as we consider the perfectly imperfect examples of saintly people.

### 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 22nd**  
10:00 a.m.

**In-Person Service in Webster Hall**  
**[Live-Stream Service Link](#)**

**11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour**

**Tuesday May 24th**

**1:30 p.m. Marvin Evans Reading Group**  
**[Virtual Discussion Link](#)**

Use Passcode 2022 if required

**Thursday May 26th**

**7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees Meeting**

## News and Announcements



### Special Collection Peaceful Morning Farm

Cedars holds a Special Collection monthly for community outreach as a way to educate our congregation about the work of various non-profit organizations that reflect our values and to channel our generosity in support of them.

Rescheduled this month, the Social Justice Committee has chosen to collect money for Peaceful Morning Farm, a local organic farm on Bainbridge Island. All money donated in the Sunday offering on May 22nd will benefit Peaceful Morning Farm. These gifts will be used to grow organic fresh produce for local food banks including Helpline House and Fishline. The farm is run entirely with volunteer labor, with the mission to help those in need, promote healthy eating, and foster awareness of sustainable agriculture.

Peaceful Morning Farm is in the process of receiving non-profit status and is currently accepting donations directly through Helpline House. Monies received through the Special Collection will be sent to Helpline House and designated for Peaceful Morning Farm through their partnership. For more information about their work, visit

#### Peaceful Morning Farm

If you would like to receive a tax deduction for your donation, please write a check payable to Helpline House with a note in the memo "Peaceful Morning Farm" to place in the offering basket or send it to the Cedars Church Office by May 30th.

### Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday June 5th after the Worship Service



The Cedars Board of Trustees will host the Annual All Congregational Meeting on June 5th directly after the service. People can participate in-person or via zoom.

Click here for the Zoom link

<https://zoom.us/j/91044542687?pwd=dDJwNm9vNWFSaUdKcWJhTmNsNTgydz09>

Meeting ID: 910 4454 2687  
Passcode: 443344

### Our Congregational Mission

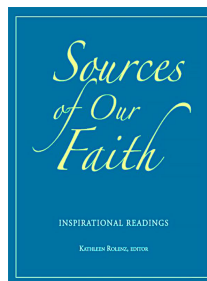
*Worship with open hearts  
Nurture a learning spirit  
Serve justice with compassion  
Love without judgment*



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



**Rev. Zackrie Vinczen**



### Sources of Our Faith: Spiritual Reflection Group

Currently open and continuing through May, the Cedars Community is invited to join Rev. Zackrie for a regular time of reflection on the

sources of our Unitarian Universalist faith. This gathering will take place on zoom and is a time for participants to engage in thoughtful reflection on a variety of readings found in the book "[Sources of Our Faith: Inspirational Readings](#)," written by Kathleen Rolenz.

Next Meeting: 5/28

For more information, please contact **Rev. Zackrie** at [minister@cedarsuuchurch.org](mailto:minister@cedarsuuchurch.org)

**Parent Chalice  
Circle**

We will discuss and vote on the Annual Budget for 2022-2023. The Board and the Budget Leadership Team have worked hard to present a budget that will allow us to maintain Cedars programs and foster growth during this time of opportunity after two challenging years of the pandemic and congregational change. In addition, we will vote on our slate of new Board of Trustee candidates: Andrea Barnes, Rod Kempkes, Dean Sampson, and Herb Hethcote who is renewing his term. Currently there are no candidates for the Nominating Committee. Please join us and lend your voice and gifts to make Cedars of the future thrive.

It is very important that we have a **quorum** at this meeting so that the votes are valid. We need 30% of the members to attend either in-person or via zoom. Therefore, we want and need as many people to attend as possible. If you cannot be present in-person or online via zoom for this meeting, but would like to vote, please e-mail Carol Ann Davidson, **Board Secretary**, for an absentee ballot (cadavidsonpt@yahoo.com). Absentee ballots will count as regular votes but **do not** count toward a quorum under the Cedars Bylaws.



### Safe Gatherings at Cedars

With care, but also some comfort in the recognition that covid-related constraints on our activities are being relaxed as infection rates drop, our services in Webster Hall are beginning to enjoy the familiar accommodation and settings of our past presence there.

Our seating arrangements have evolved from six feet of separation between seat pairs or family groups, to more flexible separation of pairs or groups in response to current safety guidelines released by COVIDactnow.org.

We have also now been trying to provide a mix of standard seating sections and spaced pairs allowing individuals to choose the protective isolation and arrangement they prefer as we return to the relatively familiar environment of our previous experience.

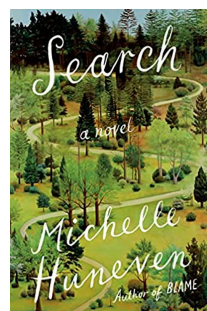
With caution, singing is now returning as an integral part of our worship services. Masks



Parents, Grandparents, and caregivers! You are warmly welcome to join this monthly circle where we share in the questions and experiences of nurturing faith formation in our children and in our own lives.

We typically utilize the UU Principles as touchstones and reference points for exploration.

Contact **Cory Munson** for more information.



### Evans Reading Group

We have extended our reading time and now invite you to join us on **Tuesday May 24th at 1:30 p.m.**

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.

Our May selection, proposed by Joyce Jensen (via Mary Romeo) is **Search**, by Michelle Huneven.

Recently featured on NPR, this novel "gleefully digs into the activities of a New-Agey (UU) church committee trying to reach consensus. But there's also a profoundly spiritual dimension to the story. It raises difficult questions about living one's beliefs in a faith-based community and doesn't flinch when principles and practice conflict."

We will discuss the book via Zoom on May 17th. For more information contact **Alan Miller** or **Mary Romeo**.

### Film Fans

Cedars members and friends organized as Film Fans are continuing monthly gatherings for discussion and analysis of previously watched movies and welcoming participation by others.



Group members typically view selected films on their own and then gather virtually to discuss, analyze, and interpret the month's selection. Film selections are proposed on a

need to be worn while singing but can be taken off during the rest of the service (and during Coffee Hour). Free masks are available for anyone wanting to sing at church.

### Your Cedars Board of Trustees

## Spring Raffle Fundraiser

**Thank you** to everyone who participated in our Raffle Fundraiser following last Sunday's service. We had a lot of fun and enjoyed yummy white cake with raspberry filling too. **Together we raised \$1110 for Cedars!**

Here are the lucky prize winners:

1. Cat basket - Dean Sampson
2. Fun and Chocolate basket – Lee Francis
3. Dog basket – Matt Alder
4. Wine basket - Maggie Chang
5. Chalice necklace - Carolyn Meredith
6. \$50 gift card to T&C/Central Market - David and Andrea Barnes
7. \$100 bill - Jane Martin

Special thanks to **Dean Sampson** for donating the fabulous wines and to **Jane Martin** for creating and donating the beautiful chalice necklace.

### And Save This Date;

We are also Looking forward to seeing everyone at the **Cedars Marketplace**, our next big fundraiser:

**Sunday June 12th:** Our popular Cedars Marketplace (yard sale) will occur. Bring gently used or new items (no clothing) to the outdoor tents and tables behind Webster Hall right before the worship service.

Fundraising Committee members will help tag your item(s) with suggested prices, and we will hold a traditionally treasure-filled sale after church for Cedars Members and Friends.

All funds generated will support Cedars Church operations.

### Cedars Fundraising Committee

## Portland GA Coming

General Assembly is the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists, where we conduct business of the Association, explore the theological underpinnings of our faith, and lean fully into our mission and principles.

That remains true even when we cannot gather physically. In 2021, more than 4,000 registered attendees participated from remote

rotating basis by individual members who then lead the discussion sessions.

The group's current selection, proposed by Mary Romeo, is **Licorice Pizza**, a 2021 coming-of-age comedy-drama available for a small fee on Amazon and described by one reviewer as a movie close to the experience of real life, where not everything has a meaning, and even when it does, it's not clear, at least not right away.

Mary will lead the discussion, scheduled for **Thursday, June 9th, at 7:00 p.m.** in a Zoom session hosted by Jane Martin.

Feel free to spread the word among friends, since Film Fans is not exclusively a Cedars group; rather, it offers a chance to connect with other folks similarly interested in movies and meaty discussions.

For more information contact **Joan Spencer** or **Linda Andrews**.

## Cedars Potlucks Begin Again!

### Please join us as we restart our monthly Cedars potluck series!

Our monthly potlucks will be family friendly events held at members' homes.

Our first one, on May 21st, will be at Mandy and Jason Maher's home located at 17830 Angeline Ave South NE, in Suquamish, from 5:30pm to 8:30pm. Please consider carpooling and bring a dish to share (main dish, dessert, salad, or appetizer, as well as your own beverage and plates/utensils.

Parking is available a short walk from their home at Old Man House Park, located next door.

For more information or if you are interested in hosting a potluck contact **Carolyn Kempkes** at [ecrkempkes@icloud.com](mailto:ecrkempkes@icloud.com).

## Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care team is looking for volunteers to help support our community through times of need by preparing meals, providing phone companionship, or offering rides. As such we are putting out a call to the Cedars community to solicit names of people who are willing to help with these efforts.

If this is something you would be willing to assist with, please take a moment to fill out our [Pastoral Care Volunteer Interest Form](#).

In addition, if you find yourself in need of additional support or assistance we encourage

locations around the world. In 2022, we will again have the option of meeting online or in-person!

For those who enjoyed the convenience and accessibility of remote participation, GA 2022 will again support virtual attendance with robust programming and enhanced delegate discussion tools. For those missing the physical experience, GA 2022 will also feature face-to-face interactions, hanging banners, a browsable exhibit hall, meals with friends old and new, local site attractions, and more!

Join us June 22 - 26, 2022 online or in-person in Portland, Oregon. Would you like to be a Cedars delegate? Please contact **Rev. Zackrie** if interested in going. (Expenses not paid by Cedars) See FAQs from UUA.org [here](#).



Cedars was well-represented at the 2015 General Assembly in Portland.

## Cedars Creativity Fair 2022

### 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

you to take a moment to fill out the [Pastoral Care Request Form](#) to let our Pastoral Care team know how we can be of support.

For more information about this effort please contact Rev. Zackrie at [minister@cedarsuuchurch.org](mailto:minister@cedarsuuchurch.org)

## 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.

## Remembering John Peck

A memorial service for John Peck is being planned for June 11. Please save the date, and watch for further details [here](#).

## Super Supper Sign-Ups

Cedars, in partnership with Kol Shalom, offers Super Supper dinners on the last Tuesday of each month. Super suppers are a free meal for those in need provided by members of the Bainbridge Island Interfaith Council.

We now have a regular sign-up for you to use each month so that all in our congregation have a chance to participate. Please consider signing up for one or more slots [here](#).

Please contact **Penny Brewer** or **Emily Mockett** for more information.

## You can be a Climate Changemaker!

Changemakers are energetic, ardent advocates for environmental values making a world-changing difference, especially addressing the challenges of climate change.

Join them in taking an hour per week to call or write friends, utilities, newspapers, and representatives with a bunch of other awesome people. They are present at <https://www.climatechangemakers.org/> and will welcome your joining with them.

For more information contact **Sandy Spears** at [Sandy.Spears@att.net](mailto:Sandy.Spears@att.net)

capable congregation, those fairs helped us get to know and appreciate each other.

Please join the fun by sharing what you have been doing and enjoy the growing show using the link below!

**Cedars Creativity Fair 2022**

**Tyler Weaver** says “So excited to get **And Away We Go** on stage in front of an audience!

You have not heard of this play before, but it's a truly singular, unique, and funny comedy about the history of theater at Rolling Bay Hall, May 13-22 only! Tickets and more info at **Lesserknownplayers.org**”



**Disposable Mask Recycling**

The Green Sanctuary Committee and the Social Justice Committee have teamed up to offer disposable mask recycling. Cedars has purchased a box through the Terracycle program in which we will collect disposable masks which will be sent to Terracycle where they will be taken apart and recycled. To read how the program works, click **here**

There is a bucket placed outside the Cedars church office and at the exit doors after services at the Island School. The buckets will then be brought into our office and masks placed in the Terracycle box. Tell your friends and help reduce waste created by the pandemic!

For more information, contact **Jane Martin** or **Carol Ann Davidson**.

**Join the Tech Team!**

Do you have an interest in technology, sound systems and/or video live-streaming technology? The Tech Team will be in dire need of more help starting in July. We would love to have you join us! We will train you and you will be working with nice and enthusiastic people!

Contact **Carolyn Kempkes** ([ecrkempkes@icloud.com](mailto:ecrkempkes@icloud.com)) if you would like to volunteer or to learn more about what the Team does.

**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.

**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**

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

**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)

**Archer Philip**

**Faith Formation Lead**  
[faith.formation@cedarsuuchurch.org](mailto:faith.formation@cedarsuuchurch.org)

**Carolyn Kerns, Office Administrator**

Hours: 10:40 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Tuesday & Friday  
Available remotely 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Thursday  
[office@cedarsuuchurch.org](mailto: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)



Cedars Unitarian Universalist Church | 284 Madrona Way NE, #128, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

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