

The Beacon

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



Volume 12 Issue 35 / September 2, 2022

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Upcoming Services

When Perfection Isn't the Goal

Sunday September 4th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall

Rev Zackrie Vinczen
Gregory Cook, Worship Associate

In his book "The Underachiever's Manifesto: The Guide to Accomplishing Little and Feeling Great" Ray Bennett makes an argument against toxic productivity and overwork.

In this Service, we will explore this worldview and consider the wisdom it has to offer us.

Water Ceremony

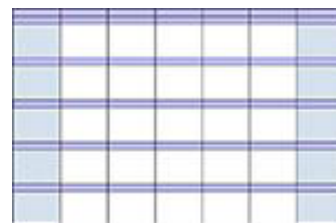
Sunday September 11th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall

Rev Zackrie Vinczen
Nancy Philip, Worship Associate

Each year the Cedars Community gathers together to reflect on our connection to water and each other.

We hope that you will join us for this annual tradition by bringing a small sample of water from your home to pour into our common vessel.

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 September 4th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall
[Live-Stream Service Link](#)
Social Hour Immediately following

Monday September 5th
Labor Day Holiday All Day

Thursday September 8th
7:00 p.m. Film Fans Discussion
[Live-Stream](#)



News and Announcements

A UU Perspective on Labor Day

For most people, Labor

Our Congregational Mission

Worship with open hearts



Day has become an end of summer holiday for having a barbecue and shopping (now rivaling Black Friday), or even a day for changing clothing rules, such as the end of wearing white during the summer (particularly in womens shoes).

Although its origins and purpose are mostly forgotten or only vaguely remembered, Monday's holiday is the annual day in the year when our nation typically takes note of the importance and value of workers who contribute their labor to the well-being of not only themselves but to our economy and to the well-being of our nation as a whole.

This celebration of the value of work is deeply rooted in our American culture going back to the Puritan beliefs about work being a God-given responsibility that benefits both individuals and society. The American myth about how individual hard work leads to riches and respect was promoted by the stories written in the mid-nineteenth century by the one-time Unitarian minister named Horatio Alger and later legitimized by the idea of the Protestant work ethic in its claim as the foundation of capitalism.

How we might appreciate the meaning of Labor Day and UU views on it from a historical perspective was explored a few years ago by the Harrisonburg Unitarian Universalists in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley and shared with the rest of us at this [link](#)

Safe Gatherings at Cedars

Our congregation values using sound science and following advice of health agencies to adapt our safety guidelines to the changing status of the COVID-19 virus. You may find our current **COVID Safety Guidelines on the Cedars Website**. It now includes the current Community Risk Level and a table describing what precautions we are implementing for indoor gatherings. We are currently at GREEN, meaning Masking is optional, but Masks are required when singing.

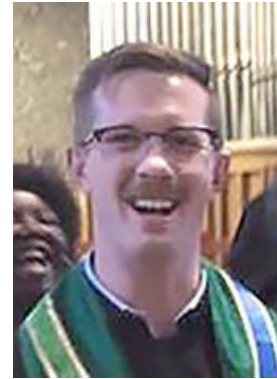
The Cedars Board of Trustees has also decided to no longer require vaccinations at gatherings, though we do ask that all unvaccinated individuals wear masks and maintain appropriate physical distancing at all times. Community vaccination rates in Kitsap County are now at 80% and we know that a few people at Cedars have not been able to obtain vaccines. Our gathering precautions include social and physical distancing and increased ventilation at the current Community Risk Level.

The people at Cedars UU Church care deeply about each other and the community we have built together. We trust that each person will act responsibly to protect themselves and others using masks, distancing, and other precautions. Following these guidelines will

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



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



Rev. Zackrie Vinczen



Parent Chalice Circle

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 meet on the second Sunday of the month and utilize the UU Principles as touchstones and reference points for exploration.

Contact **Cory Munson** for more information.

Cedars Monthly Potluck

Our monthly potlucks are family friendly events!

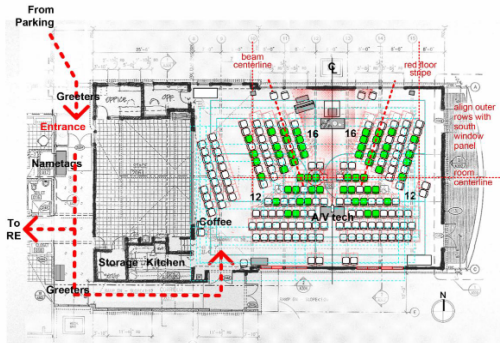
September's potluck will be on Saturday, September 10th at the Cedars Center located at 284 Madrona Way NE, #128, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110-2870 from 5:30pm to 8:30pm. The potluck will be held in the large outdoor area behind the Center as weather permits. Please bring a dish to share (main dish, dessert, salad, appetizer, ...). Bring your own beverage and consider carpooling and

allowing people to gather and join in experiences safely.

We are all in this together, and as we say in unison on Sundays: let's "treat all people kindly because we are one family."

Your Cedars Board of Trustees

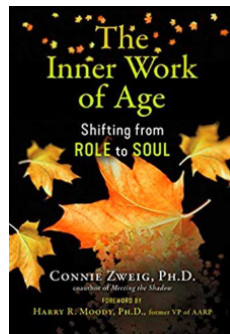
Current Webster Hall arrangement (in green)



Elder Spiritual Study Group

Calling all Cronos, Sages, Elders, and Seniors. Are you interested in a study group on the subject of Spiritual Aging? Donna Moore and Johanna Munson are starting such a group in the fall.

Using The Inner Work of Age: Shifting from Role to Soul by Connie Sweig, Ph. D. as a guide, we will explore the inner obstacles and embrace the hidden spiritual gifts of aging.



Psychotherapist and bestselling author Connie Zweig uses inner work to uncover and explore our unconscious denial and resistance to aging. "Reclaim your creativity and allow mortality to be a teacher." Woven throughout with wisdom from such prominent elders as Ken Wilber, and Rabbi Rami Shapiro, the text shows ways to embrace a fulfilling late life.

You've filled out your Advance Directive forms, posted your POLST and written your Will, now what do you do? (If you haven't done these vital tasks, contact Johanna at johanna@johannamunson.com!) Sit and wait for the Grim Reaper? Not very UU of you. Obviously, we have to have one last discussion group.

Details:

4 sessions, every other week, held on Zoom—no charge

Time/Dates: Wednesdays 1-2:30pm, September 28, October 12, October 26, November 9

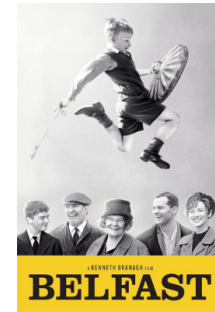
- The book can be purchased at Eagle Harbor Book Company for 20% off, or online
- Participants are encouraged to actively engage in reflection and discussion,

bringing your own plates/utensils. For parking information please see our Parking Guide.

For more information or if you are also interested in hosting a potluck contact **Carolyn or Rod Kempkes** at eckempkes@icloud.com.

Film Fans Return

After a summer hiatus, the Film Fans movie group will return for a new season beginning with discussion of the award-winning **Belfast**, a beautifully filmed semi-autobiographical movie by Kenneth Branagh in which a 9-year-old boy finds himself confronted with the ugly reality of sectarian conflict.



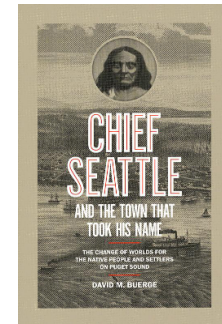
The film is widely available for home streaming preceding the group discussion to be hosted by Linda Andrews and Joan Spencer at 7:00 p.m. on September 8th on zoom.

Contact **Linda** or **Joan** for more information.

Evans Reading Group

We invite you to join us

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 current selection, proposed by Richard Wilson, is **Chief Seattle and the Town that took his name** by David Buerge.

Historian Buerge has assembled disparate accounts of the time from the 1780's to the 1860s—including native oral histories, Hudson's Bay Company records, pioneer diaries, and historic newspaper reporting to tell the story of an era of tremendous flux, turmoil, and violence during which a Native American war leader became an advocate for peace and strove to create a successful racial hybrid community.

We will discuss the book (via Zoom) at 1:30 pm on September 13th. For more information contact **Alan Miller** or **Mary Romeo**.

and will need a journal to respond to practices offered in the book.

Contact **Carolyn Kerns** in the Cedars office at info@cedarsuuchurch.com to register.

Climate Smart Challenge

Save Water While Washing Clothes



The average American family washes about 300 loads of laundry per year. With gardening, biking, or going on hikes, summer can mean dirtier clothes. But being outside more doesn't mean you have to use more water.

Upgrading to an ENERGY STAR washing machine can save you water, energy, and money. ENERGY STAR washers use 40% less water and 25% less energy than regular washing machines. Over the lifetime of the product, models that have earned the ENERGY STAR certification can also save nearly \$370 in energy costs.

For more information on features and models, check out the ENERGY STAR [website](#). You can learn about more ways to conserve water by going to [Climate Smart Bainbridge](#) and watching this short [video](#).



Cedars Creativity Fair 2022

See What Others Have Been Doing To Cope with Social Isolation

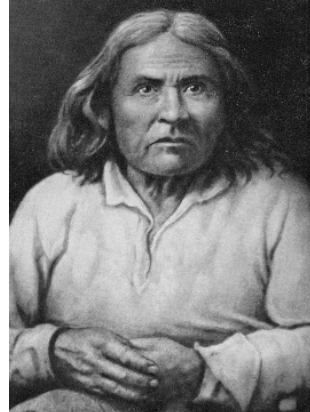
Our identity as a congregational community has been weakened by the Covid-19 pandemic, and one response has been to re-imagine virtual versions of the several after-service **Creativity Fairs** that were held in Webster Hall in recent years.

Organized to provide opportunities to see and enjoy artful products and demonstrations of the creativity present in our talented and 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

David and Fran Korten celebrated sixty adventurous years together this week, sharing fond memories of living and working and



Chief Seattle 1860

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 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

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.

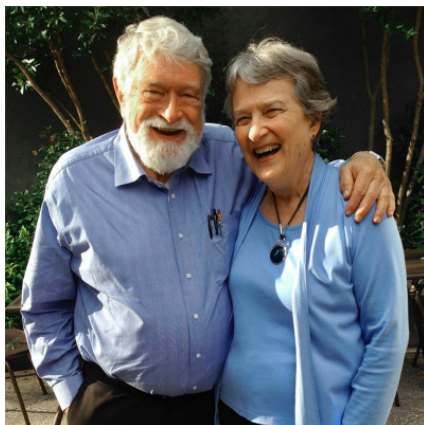
The information will remain confidential if the person so wishes, but Rev. Zackrie's awareness could help with contact tracing as well as determining what support and possible services could be offered by Pastoral Care Team members and perhaps the larger Cedars UU community as well.

Public Waste Collection

Don't store those unused and unwanted chemicals any longer. Before you pack things away for fall, take a moment to look for any unused insecticide, herbicides or other chemicals.

Fortunately, for our safety, Kitsap County will collect select household and lawn/garden chemicals for safe disposal at a household chemical collection event on Saturday, September 17th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 7305 NE Hidden Cove

writing globally, as well as locally, to make the earth a better home for the rest of us.



Road on Bainbridge Island. Details are available [here](#).

Bring any accepted items to our North Kitsap event and enjoy the extra space on your shelves!

Additionally, styrofoam seems to effortlessly gather in our garages and similarly under-supervised domestic spaces as a byproduct of product packaging and package deliveries. The consequent challenge we face is how to dispose of it without littering our environment or wastefully overfilling our landfills.

Fortunately, Kitsap County is also planning a free styrofoam collection event for Fall 2022. Full event details are still being arranged, but will be posted at the same website given above.

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 and [here](#).

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
For an urgent matter, call (360) 930-9339 (Pastoral Care)

Archer Philip

Faith Formation Lead
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

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Do you have an article, event, or announcement?
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Cedars UU Church (website)

