

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 40 / October 7, 2022

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Upcoming Services

The Gnostics

Sunday October 9th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall

Rev Zackrie Vinczen
Nancy Philip, Worship Associate

Gnostic is a term often applied to heretical sects of Christians in the 2nd century. Despite the catch all nature this title offers, there was a broad range of diversity in the rituals and myths of these groups.

In this service, we consider some of the beliefs held by various gnostic groups and the lessons they offer us for our own spiritual journey.

When Myth Becomes Reality

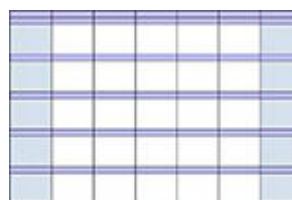
Sunday October 16th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall

Rev Zackrie Vinczen
Johanna Munson, Worship Associate

Given enough time, the origin stories of just about any organization become steeped in myth. Sometimes this is intentional and other times not.

In this service we will look at examples of such origin stories and the reason myth becomes reality.

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.

Saturday October 8th
2:00 p.m. Climate Café

Sunday October 9th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall
[Live-Stream Service Link](#)
Coffee hour immediately following

7:00 p.m. Parent Chalice Circle
[Zoom Link](#)

Wednesday October 12th
1:00 p.m. Elder Spiritual Study Group

Thursday October 13th
7:00 p.m. Film Fans

News and Announcements

Cedars Town Meeting

Thank you to everyone who attended our information session after the Worship Service on October 2nd. The Board appreciates your input, both through the survey (You can

Our Congregational Mission

*Worship with open hearts
Nurture a learning spirit
Serve justice with compassion*

download the **Summary of the September Survey**) and the dialog we had on Sunday. We will be discussing our path forward at the October 18 Board Meeting.

Acting Together for Congregational Health:

As we continue to open our congregation to new folks, what can you do?

- **Participate:** Join in the events that are available to you.
- **Be Radically Welcoming:** Give people the warm welcome you would appreciate if you were new to a community.
- **Share Your Affiliation With Cedars:** Simply tell others that you are a part of Cedars. If you are comfortable, even invite people to join in an upcoming event.

There are many people in Bainbridge and North Kitsap who would value a community like ours. Let's help them find us and be a part of us.

Your Cedars Board of Trustees

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 people at Cedars UU Church care deeply about each other. We trust that each person will act responsibly to protect themselves and others using masks, distancing, and other precautions. Following these guidelines will allow more people to gather and join in experiences safely.

Your Cedars Board of Trustees

Climate Café

Saturday, October 8, 2022. Sign-in 1:45-2:00pm, Event 2:00pm-4:15pm

**Eagle Harbor Congregational Church, Dining Hall
105 Winslow Way W, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110**

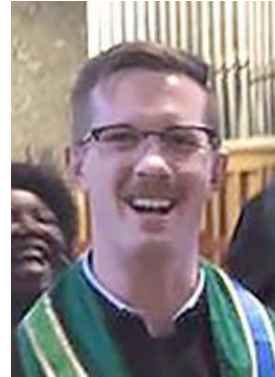


The Climate Café is a safe place for people to come together in circles of trust to share and bear witness to the varied personal perceptions they may have about the future of our Earth home and our interconnected life. This is not a place for educating, promoting or convincing, but one of compassionate companioning one another on this shared

Love without judgment



Cedars UU Church is a Welcoming Congregation and Green Sanctuary



Rev. Zackrie Vinczen

Message from the Minister

As we move into the darker part of the year, there can be a tendency for many folks to turn inward. When I think of this part of the year, the thought of cuddling up at home with a book and my dogs becomes tempting. And despite this impulse, this year at Cedars, our leadership is inviting people to remain engaged. That doesn't mean that you still can't cuddle up with a book and dogs and get cozy, but we hope you won't only do that. Journalist Finley Peter Dunne once said that the role of journalism is to "comfort the afflicted, afflict the comfortable." At times, it feels appropriate to apply this adage to Cedars. And while it's not my goal to afflict any of you, I do believe we can play an important role in bringing comfort to those who are already feeling afflicted. For me, this is how I understand the call our mission statement offers when we say, "serve justice with compassion."

The word compassion originates with the Latin word "compati" (suffer with). When we serve justice with compassion, that means we are committing ourselves to a degree of discomfort. Compassion invites us to give something up and meet people where they are. Compassion moves us beyond ourselves into deeper understanding and relationship. The past two years have caused many of us to focus our attention inward. But now is the time for us to get beyond ourselves again, and ask the question "how can we help?" How can we help address hunger in our own community? How can we help assure resources for housing and healthcare are available? How can we

journey.

This Climate Café draws on a proven café model of a shared listening process that will allow for concerns, fears, visions, and hopes to be expressed in a safe and welcoming environment. Like the worldwide model it emulates, we hope that this might grow into a similar non-profit venue style for safe and productive ways to voice the very human aspects of climate change and our common future together with the Earth.

TO REGISTER: Email your name & phone # to climatecafe.earth@gmail.com
EVENT IS FREE donations are welcome to offset costs of facility rental.
RESERVATION IS REQUIRED Seating is Limited. No admission after start.

Participants are encouraged to bring a simple finger dessert to share at our mid-event break. To register, email the address given above.

Walking the St. Olav's Way

Who was Saint Olav? Why is there a collection of "ways" in Norway and Sweden bearing his name? And why would anyone want to walk hundreds of miles to visit the place he is supposedly buried? After our Sunday service on October 23 please join Cedars Member Rod Kempkes to explore these questions and enjoy a slide show about the 350 mile walk he took this summer with his daughter, Erin, and wife, Carolyn, from Oslo to Trondheim along one the St. Olav's ways, one of many ancient pilgrimage routes from the middle ages.

Please come to our regular Sunday service on the 23rd if you can. Look for more about that service in next week's Beacon. Rod's talk will begin around 11:15 am after the service in Webster Hall and go for about 30 minutes with plenty of time for questions and answers. All ages are invited to attend his family friendly presentation.



Elder Spiritual Study Group

Calling all Cronos,

comfort the afflicted among us? How can we get beyond ourselves and meet the people we are called to serve where they are?

These are the questions that leadership at Cedars is hoping to wrestle with this year, and we are inviting all of you into this wrestling—helping to create opportunities to learn, grow, and serve together as we resist the urge to turn inward and instead seek to find answers to the question "how can we help?" If this is the kind of church you want to be a part of, you can play a role in making this happen by joining the Social Justice Team's planning efforts, or simply showing up at one of the many service events we are organizing with a willing attitude.

Let's make this year the year that Cedars emerges from the depths of the pandemic as a mission focused congregation set on blessing the world. Let us be a beacon of light in a dark and lonely time.

A UU History for All

After the Coffee Hour following our Sunday Service on **October 16th**, Rev. Zackrie will host an overview and discussion session on Unitarian Universalist history in the library at The Island School. This informative session will trace the origins and development of our liberal faith tradition with time for questions and further discussion about its presence and relevance in our current time.

Musical Notes

So much hard work and dedication goes into providing music each week for our Sunday services. And each week we are grateful for those willing to make music and lead us all in song. This week, we want to offer a special thanks to Audrey Blair for leading music this coming Sunday.

Sunday Hymns:

[We Laugh We Cry \(#345\)](#)

[From You I Receive \(#402\)](#)

[Wake Now My Senses \(#298\)](#)



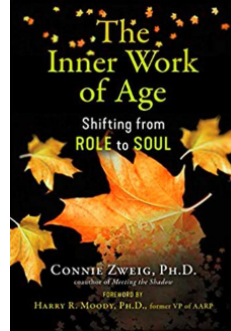
Parent Chalice Circle

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.

Join us on Zoom.

Sages, Elders, and Seniors. Are you interested in a study group on the subject of Spiritual Aging? Donna Moore and Johanna Munson are starting 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](#)) 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, 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, and will need a journal to respond to practices offered in the book.

Registration for this group is now closed. If you have any questions, contact [Johanna Munson](#).

Super Supper Service

Cedars was there for September's Super Supper with Penny Brewer, Bob Meredith, Dean Sampson, John and Marshall Bonow, Rev. Zackrie, Carolyn Kempkes and Jeff Philip as the service team.

Food donations came from Mandy Maher, Carol Ann Davidson, Susan Schaffer, Carolyn Meredith, Emily Mockett, Richard and Sally Wilson, and Jane Martin. The main dishes were purchased using funds from our July Special Collection.

We served about 32 meals and then gave out two more to volunteers.

This month's Super Supper is scheduled for **October 25**.

Contact [Cory Munson](#) for more information.

Cedars Summer Potluck

Please join us for our last summer potluck, from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm on October 15th, at the home of Mandy and Jason Maher at **17830 Angeline Avenue South**, in Suquamish,

Bring a dish to share (main dish, dessert, salad, appetizer, ...) along with your own beverage and your own plates/utensils, and consider carpooling.

Parking is available at Old Man House Park, next to their home.

For more information, contact [Carolyn or Rod Kempkes](#). Our potlucks are family friendly events held at members' homes.

Film Fans October Selection

Cedars members and friends who identify themselves as **Film Fans** are continuing their monthly activities and welcome participation by other movie fans.



Group members typically view selected films on their own and then gather virtually using Zoom to discuss, analyze, and interpret the month's selection. Film selections are proposed on a rotating basis by individual members who then lead the discussion sessions.

Discussion sessions are typically scheduled to occur on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Our October 13th selection is **On the Beach**, the 1959 classic exploring how survivors of a nuclear war face the reality and individual consequences of a future taken from them by the false security of humanity's ultimately devastating weaponry.

"After World War III, Australia is the only remaining haven for mankind. However, wind currents carrying lingering radiation all but condemn those on the continent to the same fate suffered by the rest of the world. When the survivors receive a strange signal from San Diego, Cmdr. Dwight Towers (Gregory Peck) must undertake a mission with Lt. Peter Holmes (Anthony Perkins) to see if there is hope for humanity -- leaving behind Moira (Ava Gardner) and Mary (Donna Anderson), the women they love."

The film is **available for free viewing**.



For more information contact [Joan Spencer](#) or [Linda Andrews](#).

Pastoral Care Update

It's a new year for Cedars and the Pastoral Care team is looking for people who can help with meals or rides for people who are needing an extra boost. Please take time to fill out the [Pastoral Care Volunteer Interest Form](#). We are thankful to the many people who have stepped up in the past few months to help.

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](#) or send an email to pastoralcare@cedarsuuchurch.org.

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 and enjoy the growing show using the link below! If you have something to share, send a photo and description to office@cedarsuuchurch.org.

Cedars Creativity Fair 2022

Jane Martin says "I am happy the Review published a front page article about this special lending library, but... (they didn't even get my name right)."



Public Waste Collection



Styrofoam & Mattress Recycle Collection Event

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 is how to dispose of it without littering our environment or wastefully overfilling our landfills.

Fortunately, In partnership with **DTG Recycle**, Kitsap County is hosting a styrofoam and mattress recycling collection event for Kitsap County households. This will be Saturday, October 29, from 9 am - 3 pm at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds Sheep Barn (enter at Tibardis Rd NW).

Questions? Email solidwaste@kitsap.gov.

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.

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

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)

