

# The Beacon

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



**CEDARS CHURCH**  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Volume 14 Issue 2 / January 12, 2024

[Website](#) [Faith Formation](#) [Calendar](#) [Our Staff](#) [Contact Us](#) [Join Cedars](#)

## Upcoming Services

### Brunch & Banter: Hope in the Time of Climate Change

**Sunday January 14th**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**In-Person Service in Webster Hall**

**Mike Cox, Service Facilitator**

Join us for a time of gathering, sharing a meal, hymns, and meaningful conversation based on these questions:

"Does your faith call you to take action on climate change? In what way?" and "What individual and collective actions can we take to address climate change?"

Bring your curiosity, questions, and wisdom to share—plus, your favorite Brunch-y dish! Let's connect and celebrate human togetherness.

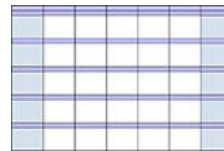
### Working with Shadows

**Sunday January 21st**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**In-Person Service in Webster Hall**

**Rev. Zackrie Vinczen**  
**Gregory Cook, Worship Associate**

Ursula K. Le Guin once wrote, "To light a candle is to cast a shadow." In this service, we will reflect on this insight as we consider the shadows our own light casts.

### Current Week Calendar & 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 January 14th**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**In-Person Service in Webster Hall**  
**No live-stream available**

**Monday January 15th**  
**Martin Luther King Jr Day**



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

### Our Congregational Mission

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

## News and Announcements

## UU, Cedars, and You



Following the Sunday Service on **Sunday, February 4th**, Rev. Zackrie and the Community Life Team will be hosting a casual conversation about Unitarian Universalism and our Cedars community for those of you who are curious and would like to learn more.

Great conversation as well as light refreshments will be provided in the Island School Library. We try to offer these opportunities a few times each year so we hope you will be able to join us.



**Rev. Zackrie Vinczen**

## Somewhere Over the Rainbow



*Somewhere Over the Rainbow* is an LGBTQ+ support group providing education on important matters affecting queer individuals as well as a safe space for connection.

The group discusses a wide range of topics related to the LGBTQ+ community, particularly concerns and challenges affecting the mental health of queer people, and will be facilitated by **Kenny Davis**, a local Licensed Mental Health Counselor Associate with Caretta Counseling Alliance, who has volunteered to offer this program for Cedars and the wider community.

**The next meeting is February 8th, 7 pm at the Cedars Center.**

**Topic:** Challenging Negative Thoughts

We look forward to seeing all colors of the rainbow in attendance and hope to see you there.

## Exploring Meditation

Join us for a monthly meditation gathering at the Cedars Center (located at 284 Madrona Way #128 in Winslow).

Throughout our session, we will delve into a variety of meditation techniques. As we meditate together, you'll have the opportunity to explore these techniques deeply. As the session draws to a close, there will be a chance to pose inquiries and, if you wish, share your personal meditation experiences with others.

## Musical Notes

Much hard work and dedication goes into providing music 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 offer special thanks to **Meredith Patterson** for music accompaniment.

## Sunday Hymns:

**For the Beauty of the Earth (#21)**  
**Blue Boat Home (#1064)**

## Children's Faith Formation Needs You



An enthusiastic group of parents has begun planning children's programming. Program activities will be scheduled in the Island School library on selected Sunday mornings and the help of other adults will be welcomed.

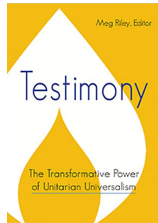
Seeing an active children's Faith Formation effort getting off the ground again is exhilarating. To volunteer your assistance, please email Jeff Philip at [president@cedarsuuchurch.org](mailto:president@cedarsuuchurch.org).



Mark your calendar for the following dates from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.

- January 24th
- February 28th
- March 27th
- April 24th
- May 29th
- June 26th

If you would like more information, please reach out to **Rev. Zackrie**.  
[minister@cedarsuuchurch.org](mailto:minister@cedarsuuchurch.org)  
**360-930-9339**



### **Testimony - The Transformative Power of Unitarian Universalism**

Offered by our own Skinner House Press, this illuminating book

shares personal stories from people whose lives have been dramatically transformed by Unitarian Universalism, finding renewed purpose and personal meaning in UU values and through participation in a congregational community such as Cedars. Together these vignettes paint a portrait of the real, felt impact of Unitarian Universalism.

For more information and purchase, see the InSpirit Bookstore at [bookstore@uua.org](mailto:bookstore@uua.org).

## **Cedars Creativity Fair 2023**

### **See What Others Have Been Doing**

Our identity as a congregational community is strengthened by the activities and gatherings we enjoy together, as well as by the ways we can find to know each other better.

In past years we organized occasional Creativity Fairs to share individual interests and capabilities following Webster Hall services, and in response to the more recent pandemic we have shifted to on-line or virtual versions of those fairs.

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.

Continuing that sharing of individual interests and creativity, 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](mailto:office@cedarsuuchurch.org).

## **Writing as a Spiritual Practice**

Discover the profound depths within yourself and the world around you through the transformative power of writing. Throughout the centuries, writing has served as a spiritual practice, illuminating hidden truths and connecting us to something greater.

Join the **Cedars Spiritual Writing Group**, a new monthly writing experience facilitated by Rev. Zackrie.

During each of these gatherings, you will be offered prompts that nourish your creative spirit, ignite your inspiration, and invite you into questioning. Moreover, these gatherings will also provide a space for deep reflection, contemplation, and sharing. Whether you choose to attend a single session or embark on the full journey, each gathering will offer the promise of a meaningful exploration of self and soul.

So mark your calendar for the following dates from 5-6 p.m.:

- January 10th: Dwelling in Our Bodies
- February 14th: Moments in Between
- March 13th: Allowing Emptiness
- April 10th: Responding to Art
- May 8th: Encounters in the Wild
- June 12th: TBD

Each session will take place at the Cedars Center in Winslow

If you would like more information, please reach out to **Rev. Zackrie**.  
[minister@cedarsuuchurch.org](mailto:minister@cedarsuuchurch.org)  
**360-930-9339**

## **Super Supper**

Cedars, in partnership with Kol Shalom as members of the Bainbridge Island Interfaith Council, offers Super Supper dinners on the last Tuesday of each month, and is now moving toward a similar role assisting the Suquamish Community Kitchen on selected Wednesdays with free meals for those in need.

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**.

For more information contact **Mike Cox** at **206-799-3725** or [toxman57@gmail.com](mailto:toxman57@gmail.com) or **Rod Kempkes** at [rdkempkes@gmail.com](mailto:rdkempkes@gmail.com)

## Creativity Fair

**Vicki Johnson** shared this unanticipated experience: "A nice surprise on my walk at Pt. Blakely yesterday! Olympic Peninsula Sacred Heart Singers were taking advantage of the wonderful acoustics in the abandoned (and subsequently redecorated) generator building (left over from days when Pt. Blakely was the largest shipbuilding center on the west coast)" and the performance was then confirmed by Rev. Zackrie, who said "I was in there singing with them."



## From the Bookkeeper's Desk

Once again this year, since we know most taxpayers no longer itemize deductions, we will not be sending out 2023 tax letters to all church members. If you do itemize your IRS deductions and need a letter detailing all of your 2023 contributions, please send an email request to

[bookkeeper@cedarsuuchurch.org](mailto:bookkeeper@cedarsuuchurch.org). A letter will be sent to you showing all January - December 2023 payments received by Cedars for pledges, non-pledged gifts, and special collections.

Additionally, in January, pledge statements will be sent out. These statements will reflect all pledge payments received from July through December 2023. That time frame encompasses the first half of the Cedars fiscal year, which ends in June 2024.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at the address above.

**Mandy Maher**  
Cedars Bookkeeper

## 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.

## 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](mailto:minister@cedarsuuchurch.org)  
For an urgent matter, call (360) 930-9339  
(Pastoral Care)

## Faith Formation Lead

[faith.formation@cedarsuuchurch.org](mailto:faith.formation@cedarsuuchurch.org)

## Carolyn Kerns, Office Administrator

Available remotely Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  
[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)



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