

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 15 / April 12, 2024

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Upcoming Services

Say Yes to Love! Say Yes to Cedars!

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

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen
Gregory Cook Worship Associate

Delve into an exploration of love and connection as we explore what it means to say yes to Cedars.

A Gathering of Perspectives

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

Worship Associates
Nancy, Johanna, Gregory

Join your Worship Associates, Gregory, Johanna and Nancy as they share their personal points of view about Earth Day; what Earth Day brings to mind, and what it means to each of them.

Join us in the discovery and celebration of the importance of dedicating a day, week, month or hopefully your entire life of days, weeks and months to the well-being of Mother Earth.

Current Week Calendar & Links

Your Cedars community invites you to participate in services and activities, get information, enjoy fellowship, and pause for reflection.

[View the detailed Calendar.](#)

Sunday, April 14th
10:00 a.m.
In-Person Service in Webster Hall
[Live-Stream Link](#)
Coffee and Social Time following

Saturday, April 20
7:00 p.m.
Stewardship Reception Celebration
Prue's House
9600 Mandus Olson Rd. Bainbridge Island

News and Announcements

Saying yes energizes me

I love my chosen communities. Cedars is one of the most

important communities to me. You may have noticed that I say YES to many things in our Unitarian Universalist Congregation. From social action, to teaching the next generation about our values. From the simple act of arriving early and setting up our space on Sunday, to serving on your Board of Trustees. I wouldn't say yes if I didn't think it was important.



Spring is our time to reflect on Stewardship. This is another time when I say YES with our finances. We give generously to Cedars because who we are and what we do together is important. For the next four weeks, we will be discussing stewardship in many ways, starting with some resources on the website. Go to **Say Yes to Love, Say Yes to Cedars** and you will learn a little, laugh a little and hopefully find ways that you can say yes!

Jeff Philip
President, Board of Trustees



General Assembly 2024

General Assembly (or GA) 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.

Although typically organized as a physical assembly of congregational delegates, this year's GA will instead be virtual, with "Love Unites, Stories Ignite" as an organizing theme celebrating love as a profound and binding force transcending boundaries and historical traditions within our faith communities and beyond, while our stories and the power of storytelling can ignite change, inspire compassion, and help us build a more just and equitable world.

The 63rd General Assembly will take place virtually **Thursday, June 20 through Sunday, June 23**, and you can now view the GA schedule to see the lineup of informative workshops, inspirational worship services, and more!



**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*



Rev. Zackrie Vinczen

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 **Peter Spencer** for music accompaniment.

Sunday Hymns:

1. **Bright Morning Stars (#357)**
2. **There is More Love Somewhere (#95)**
3. **What Wondrous Love (#18)**

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

Article II: Principles or Values?

The UU community is abuzz about the proposed changes to Article II in the UUA Bylaws. That Article outlines some of the core elements of the Unitarian Universalist movement in the United States (Canada and other countries have their own guidance). In June we will vote on whether to change them.

We had an in-person Cedars Center discussion of the proposed changes last week and plan to continue the conversation in a Zoom session later in the month. For now, here are links to relevant information:

- [Final Proposed Revision to Article II](#)
- [Save the Seven Principles Website](#)
- [UU World Magazine Article](#)
- [Present Text of Article II](#)

April Special Collection

Cedars holds a Special Collection monthly for community outreach and 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.

On April 21st, the Social Justice Committee has chosen to collect money for the **Puget Sound Restoration Fund**. The Fund works throughout Puget Sound on diverse projects to restore iconic marine resources and a healthy ecosystem. For more information about this program visit [their website](#).

If you would like to receive a tax deduction for your donation, please write a check payable to Cedars UU Church with Puget Sound Restoration Fund in the memo to place in the offering basket on April 21st or send it to the Cedars Church Office by April 30th.

For more information contact **Mike Cox** at 206-799-3725 or toxman57@gmail.com.

Super Supper and Community Kitchen Sign-Ups

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

again is exhilarating. To volunteer your assistance, please email Jeff Philip at president@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.:

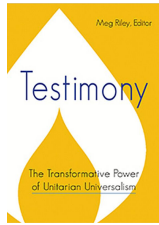
- May 8th: Encounters in the Wild
- June 12th: TBD

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
360-930-9339

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 or **Rod Kempkes** at rdkempkes@gmail.com



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.



Climate Smart Challenge

Electrical Transmission Reform

At our April 15th Monday meeting we will join the **Climate Changemakers** to hear about transmission reform in our power grid. You can sign up for the event at the link below. We will start at 4:45 to discuss the event and then go over to a special 5:00 pm presentation about a new five-week climate advocacy campaign on **Zoom**.

Meeting ID: 884 9815 0384

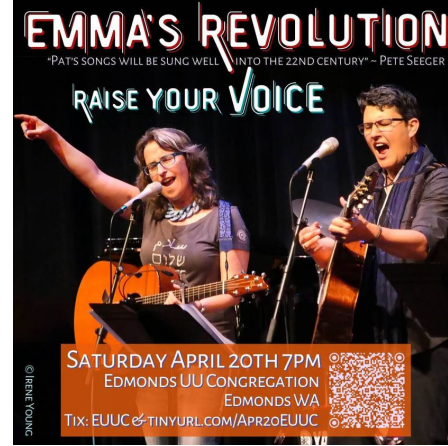
Passcode: 507721

Phone if Needed: 253 205 0468

If you have any questions, please contact **Mike Cox** at 206-799-3725 (toxman57@gmail.com) or **Sandy Spears** at sandy.spears@att.ne

Exploring Meditation

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



Emma's Revolution

Edmonds UU Church
8109 224th St SW
Saturday April 20, 2024
7-9 pm

The singing duo, **Emma's Revolution** is coming to Edmonds UU Congregation!

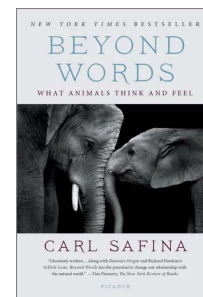
"Known for fearless, truth-telling lyrics and melodies you can't resist singing, Emma's Revolution is the dynamic, award-winning activist duo of Pat Humphries & Sandy O."

This is their "Raise Your Voice: Get-Out-The-Vote Concert." They are pushing back against voter suppression and inspiring engagement in this crucial election year, where democracy is on the line.

Tickets available [here](#). For more information please email concerts@euuc.org.

Evans Reading Group

Organized 16 years ago as the Spirituality Book Group, this Cedars reading group assumed a new identity as the Evans Reading Group in 2020 to honor the Rev. Marvin Evans after his passing.



In our time together, the group has read and discussed more than 60 books selected to intrigue and hopefully enlighten us in seeking "Salvation by Bibliography" as our late friend Marvin used to say, and we are pleased to invite your participation with us in our ongoing practice.

Because we found our recent selection by Carl Safina deeply fascinating and inspiring, we have chosen another book by the same author as our next

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.

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

- April 24th
- May 29th
- June 26th

If you would like more information, please reach out to **Rev. Zackrie**.
minister@cedarsuuchurch.org
360-930-9339

Cedars Creativity Fair 2024

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. Please feel free to join an on-going process of sharing news and details about the creative interests and accomplishments of each other as members and friends of Cedars UU Church. If you have something to share, send a photo and description to office@cedarsuuchurch.org.

See What Others Have Been Doing

Jeff and Nancy watching the eclipse with a friend!



selection.

Interweaving decades of field observation with exciting discoveries about the brain, Safina's ***Beyond Words*** explores similarities between human and nonhuman consciousness, self-awareness, and empathy, suggesting that we need to re-evaluate our understandings and interactions with animals. Wise, passionate, and mind-opening, this book is ultimately a graceful examination of humanity's place in the world.

Join us for an interesting discussion via Zoom at **1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 28th**. If you would like to be on our email list, let **Mary Romeo** know.

Film Series: Who is My Neighbor?

Our neighbors at **Grace Episcopal Church** are hosting a film series exploring themes of immigration and individuals experiencing homelessness.

The showing of the first film has passed, but you can still attend the showing of the second film next Tuesday.

Tuesday, April 16,
6:30-8:30 pm
Watch the award-winning documentary *Stories of Us: Camp Second Chance* and stay for a **discussion with the filmmaker Melinda Raebyne**.



More information [here](#).

ReFashion 2024
Sunday
May 19
IslandWood

Runway 1-2pm
Fashion In the Forest 2:30-4pm
Awards 4:30pm

Tickets available at islandwood.org

More info at refashionbainbridge.org

RAINBRIDGE Community Foundation | town & country MARKETS | Zabara | HEYDAY FUND | Bainbridge Disposal

ReFashion 2024

The 8th annual **ReFashion Show** is happening on **May 19th at IslandWood!** Check [here](#) for ticket information.

ReFashion's committee and community

partners are dedicated to bringing you the latest in sustainable fashion on Bainbridge Island and the Seattle area, educating the public on the environmental impact of clothing choices through speakers, workshops, fashion shows, conferences and web resources.

More information [here](#).

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.

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)

Faith Formation Lead

faith.formation@cedarsuuchurch.org

Carolyn Kerns, Office Administrator

Available remotely Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
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 \(website\)](#)



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

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