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The Beacon

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



CEDARS CHURCH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Volume 15 Issue 48/ November 27, 2024

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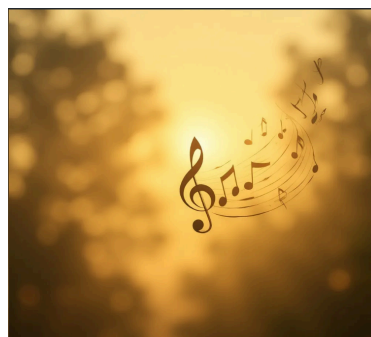
This Week At Cedars

Sunday Service, December 1
10:00 am

Singing on the Side of Love

Hosted by the Music Committee
Gregory Cook, Worship Associate

Join us for a special service where we reflect on the hymns that have resonated through our hearts each month from February to November. In this soulful gathering, we'll explore the melodies that have shaped our spiritual journey, delving into the rich tapestry of emotions woven into these hymns.



Wednesday, December 4

*****Meditation Group**
*****5:30 - 6:30 pm**
*****Cedars Center**
***Please see below for more details

[View detailed calendar here.](#)

Upcoming Service

Sunday Service, December 8
10:00 am

However Long the Night

Rev. Kate Lore, Guest Minister
Nancy Philip, Worship Associate

We are entering what is for many of us a magical time of year. For others, though, these days come with sorrow and stress. How do we navigate the complexities of the holiday season?



News and Announcements

Board News

Update on Transitional Ministry

The Transitional Ministry Study Group, composed of Herb Hethcote, Jeff Philip, Patricia Erdmann, Liz Motter, and Rod Kempkes, has begun meeting and will be recommending to the Board that Cedars should begin pursuing **part-time contract ministry** as the preferred type of professional ministry to meet the needs of our community at this time in our history. The Board will be asked to approve this recommendation at its December 10 Board meeting.

This group also plans to provide an update to the congregation on its progress in finding and hiring a part-time contract minister after the Sunday service **at The Island School on December 15, approximately 11:15 am**. If you have any questions or feedback that you would like to provide to the study group, please reach out to one of the members of the group or send your comments by email to president@cedarsuuchurch.org.

Childcare for Sunday Services

In order to be more **welcoming to families** with little ones, the Board would like to begin providing **childcare at our Sunday services** as we have done in the past, before the pandemic. The Board is currently investigating options to provide this type of service to families that are interested in attending on Sunday mornings, but without childcare, it isn't possible for them. **If you would like to help with this effort, please reach out to Sandy Spears at sandy.spears@att.net or Rod Kempkes at rdkempkes@gmail.com.**

- Cedars Board of Trustees

Caring for Our Cedars Community

In October, the Board of Trustees hired Rev. Jessica Star Rockers in an on-call agreement to provide pastoral care services during our current period of transitional ministry. Jessica's role in pastoral care is to provide a caring, listening presence, spiritual support, and hope in times of need. It is a ministry of listening and companionship. Rev. Jessica can be contacted directly through revjessicatar@gmail.com.



Cedars also provides support for our members and friends in times of need through our Cedars Care Team. This support is often in the form of providing meals and rides to Sunday services for folks who need them and is currently organized by Joyce Jensen, Susan Shaffer, and Liz Motter. If you would like to help with their efforts or know of someone in our Cedars community who may need assistance in this regard, please reach out directly to Joyce, Susan, or Liz or send a message to careteam@cedarsuuchurch.org.

November Special Collection

Once a month, Cedars holds a special collection for an organization or cause selected by our Social Action Committee during our Sunday morning service. This month, our collection was for Helpline House, and Maria Metzler, their Executive Director, spoke to us about what they do in the community.



December 8 Special Collection—YWCA Alive Shelter

Donations for Women and Children Experiencing Domestic Violence

Starting December 8, Cedars will collect donations of NEW socks, underwear, and pajamas (all sizes) for women and children. We will also collect VISA, Target, and Safeway gift cards. They will be donated to the YWCA Alive Shelter, whose vision is dedicated to ensuring the personal safety, rights, welfare, and dignity of those who experience domestic abuse while building partnerships and increasing community awareness to create positive social change. For more information, visit their website [HERE](#).

The donation box will also be available at the Services on December 15 and 22. Or you can drop donations at the Cedars office on Tuesdays through Thursdays from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. For more information, contact **Mike Cox** (206-799-3725).

In addition, our collection on December 8 will be for the YWCA Alive Shelter. Please give generously. If you would like to receive a tax deduction for your donation, please write a check payable to Cedars UU Church with YWCA Alive Shelter in the memo to place in the offering basket or send it to the Cedars Church Office by December 20.

A message to the UU community

A thoughtful post-election message from your Unitarian Universalist Association, "Our wellspring of hope and courage for the times ahead." You can read the message [HERE](#).



Helpline House Gift Card Donations

Helpline House requests \$25 Gift Cards for Seniors for the Holiday Season from the following vendors:

- *** **Ace Hardware**
- *** **Amazon**
- *** **Eagle Harbor Book Co.**
- *** **Safeway**
- *** **Starbucks**
- *** **Town and Country**

Please bring the Gift Cards to Sunday Service if you want to donate. Naomi Gary will collect them and bring them to The Helpline House by the December 9 deadline. For more information, contact Naomi Gary at Naomiwwgary@gmail.com.



Audio Recordings

Did you miss a Service, or do you want to listen to a great sermon again? The Tech Team is making audio recordings of our Services and has posted several to our website. You can find them in our Service Archive [HERE](#). They are usually uploaded by the Friday following the Service.

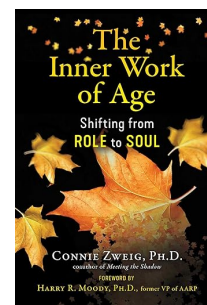


Ongoing Programs

Book Club

The Marvin Evans Book Group will discuss *The Inner Work of Age: Shifting from Role to Soul* by Connie Zweig, on Wednesday, Dec 11 at 1:30 pm, via Zoom. If you would like to be included in our email list, please contact **Mary Romeo** at nmromeo@msn.com.

"Instead of simply slipping into old age, Zweig encourages us to mine our lives for all the gold and silver that's there. Dive into this book to find the wisdom within yourself. As you grow old, learn to become an elder filled with vitality and purpose."



Meditation Group

Join us for meditation practice on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:30 pm at the Cedars Center. We will use mindfulness or Vipassana Meditation audio recordings from the Insight Meditation Center in Redwood City. For questions, please contact **Sandy Spears** at sandy.spears@att.net.

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. We have a regular sign-up for you to use each month to provide various dishes and to assist with setup, serving, and cleanup, so that all in our congregation have a chance to participate. You can find the sign-up for Super Suppers [HERE](#).



Cedars is also now committed to leading the preparation and serving of a free meal to anyone in the community every other month through the Suquamish Community Kitchen. These meals require many helping hands to prepare, serve, and clean up. Please consider signing up [HERE](#) for one of the team member roles on the upcoming date (January 8).

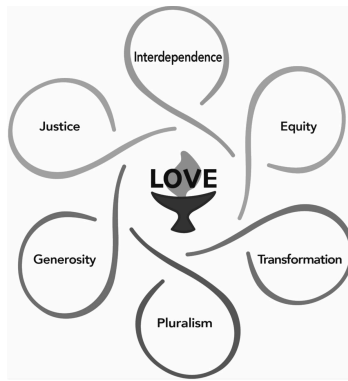
For more information contact **Mike Cox** at 206-799-3725 or toxman57@gmail.com or **Rod Kempkes** at rdkempkes@gmail.com.

Cedars Facebook Conversations

If you're on Facebook, there is a new Facebook group called Cedars UU Church Community Conversations for members and friends to share events, fun stories, etc. Let's keep the coffee hour going all week long! Join the group [HERE](#).



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*

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](#).

Worship Services
Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
The Island School
8553 NE Day Road
Bainbridge Island

Office at Cedars Center
Tuesday - Thursday 9 am - 2 pm
284 Madrona Way, NE #128
Bainbridge Island WA 98110
(206) 780-0373
office@cedarsuuchurch.org

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Cedars UU Church (website)



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

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