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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 16 Issue 4/ January 23, 2025

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This Week At Cedars

Sunday Service, January 26
10:00 am

Finding Common Ground in a Time of Division

Mike Cox, Guest Speaker
Tyler Weaver, Guest Speaker

We are living in a time of great division within our country. Tyler and Mike will discuss why we believe finding common ground is important for the health of our families, communities and country. We will be breaking up into small groups to explore what we can do as individuals and as a congregation to address these divisions and then sharing those ideas. We believe there is common ground to be found, and it is essential to develop strategies to address our differences.



Mike Cox and Tyler Weaver are both members of Cedars Unitarian Universalist Church.

Childcare will be offered during this service. Click [HERE](#) for details.

Saturday, January 25

Spiritual Odyssey Potluck

12:00 - 2:00 pm

Cedars Center

Please see below for more details

Tuesday, January 28

Super Suppers

4:00 - 7:00 pm

Eagle Harbor Congregational Church

Please see below for more details

Wednesday, January 29

Meditation Group

5:30 - 6:30 pm

Cedars Center

Please see below for more details

[View detailed calendar here.](#)

Upcoming Service

Sunday Service, February 2
10:00 am

Becoming Midwives to a Changing World

Kathryn LaFond, Guest Speaker
Johanna Munson, Worship Associate

In the Celtic world this is a time called Imbolc, known to bring the gift of insight and inspiration. A time to bring our curiosity, our questioner forward, to act as midwives for what brings justice and truth to a world badly in need. How might we discern between how we live currently and what the world is asking of us? And, how can we keep our own hearth-fires alive in the midst of a changing world?

Kathryn Lafond, Intuitive Energy Healer/Health coach, Author, and Wise Woman Herbalist, trained in ancient wisdom traditions, is a life-long seeker who brings spiritual guidance from innumerable mentors. She is devoted to helping us remember the sacred in everyday life.

Childcare will be offered during this service. Click [HERE](#) for details.



News and Announcements

January Special Collection: Food Relief for California

Cedars holds a Special Collection monthly for community outreach 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.



For January we will be collecting funds to support the World Central Kitchen's Relief Team in Southern California. They are supporting first responders and families impacted by wildfires in the Los Angeles area. You can find more information [HERE](#).

Welcome New Members

Liz and Marty Springer joined our community in the summer of 2024. They moved to Bainbridge Island in August of 2020 from Seattle. Their previous UU community was at East Shore Unitarian Church in Bellevue.

Marty is a software engineer and started his own consulting company this year. His main client is Tiller, a personal finance company. Liz is a technology contracts and procurement professional and currently works for UW Medicine. Marty is fully remote, and Liz commutes 1 day a week via ferry, rail and bus to reach her office.



They enjoy camping and hiking. Liz walks their dogs Buck and Bean in the various parks on the Island. Marty is a cyclist; he has participated in the Chilly Hilly ride a few times and other organized rides. They also enjoy attending concerts, - rock and blues are Marty's favorites and they continue to go through Liz's bucket list of 80's bands, having crossed Depeche Mode and Duran Duran off their lists so far.

Their Havanese furry kids, Buck (10 yrs) and Bean (5 yrs), keep them busy and laughing.

Marty joined the Bainbridge Rotary in 2024 and is building his community there, while also volunteering during the Rotary Auction. Liz hopes to engage more with the community and Cedars once her job settles down.

Spiritual Odyssey Potlucks Are Back

We will hold these potlucks on the fourth Saturday of each month from noon to 2:00 pm (except on February 22, which will be held from 7:00 - 9:00 pm) at the Cedars Center. We invite you to gather for a potluck lunch and discussion with friends or members of Cedars who have agreed to share stories of their personal spiritual journeys.

The presentations are informal and can lead to deeper understanding of each other as we discuss where we have come from, as well as what we seek (or perhaps have found) here at Cedars. Contact **Johanna Munson** at johanna.munson7@gmail.com to indicate interest.

New to Cedars Conversation

Are you new to Cedars and wonder what Unitarian Universalism is all about? Do you want to know more about this community? Do you want to know how and when to become a member and what that means for you? If you have questions about Cedars, this is the time and place to ask them!

Come to our New to Cedars Conversation on February 2, in the library at The Island School from 11:15 am to 12:15 pm following the service.

Fill your coffee cup and join the conversation! Please let us know if you would like us to provide childcare by emailing office@cedarsuuchurch.org.



Climate Cafe

The **Climate Café** is a safe place for people to come together in circles of trust to share and bear compassionate witness to the varied personal perceptions they have about the future of our **Earth** home and our interconnected life.

This event will be Saturday, February 1, from 9:00 - 11:00 am at The Island School. You can find more information, including registration [HERE](#).

Childcare on Sunday Mornings!

Good news! We are now offering childcare for families with young children during our Sunday services! Thanks to our volunteers, Sandy Spears, Rebecca Kim, Susan Shaffer, and Mary Romeo, along with our newly hired childcare assistant, Marcus Stroman, we are able to offer Sunday morning childcare again after a nearly five-year absence. If a family you know of has not been able to attend any of our Sunday services because of a lack of childcare, please let them know about this new development! We look forward to welcoming some new faces that otherwise have not been able to come and be with us on Sunday mornings!

For details about how childcare will be provided, click [HERE](#).

Cedars on Social Media

Cedars now has a podcast! We will be posting our Sunday Services on **Spotify** [HERE](#), on the **Apple Podcast** app [HERE](#), on Amazon Music [HERE](#), and on **iHeartRadio** [HERE](#) for easier access to our audio recordings. Our podcast is called “**Sunday Mornings at Cedars.**”

We are also now on **Instagram**! Find us [HERE](#).

And as usual, find us on our Church Facebook page [HERE](#) and our Community Facebook page [HERE](#).

Be sure to “Like” us and “Follow” us on each one!

You can also still find audio recordings of our Services on our website [HERE](#).



Beacon Article Deadline

The new deadline for submitting content for The Beacon is now Mondays by the end of the day. If you would like to add an article, please send it to the Cedars Office at Office@cedarsuuchurch.org.

Ongoing Programs

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 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, Wednesday, March 12.

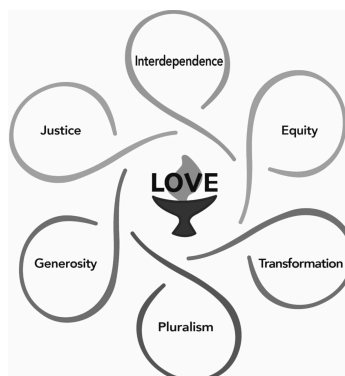
For more information, contact **Mike Cox** at 206-799-3725. or toxman57@gmail.com or **Rod Kempkes** at rdkempkes@gmail.com.

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

Pastoral Care

Rev. Jessica Star Rockers
revjessicastar@gmail.com

Office at Cedars

Michelle Welsh, Office Administrator
Tuesday - Thursday, 9 am - 2 pm
284 Madrona Way, NE #128
Bainbridge Island WA 98110
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[Cedars UU Church \(website\)](#)



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