The mission of the South Nassau Unitarian Universalist Congregation is to provide a sanctuary of beauty and harmony where: We search in freedom for meaning and truth; we draw inspiration from many religious and philosophical sources while acknowledging the Judeo-Christian heritage of Unitarian Universalism; we embrace diversity and welcome people of all ages, races, and orientations; we affirm that our children and youth are an integral and important part of our religious family; we strive toward a social awareness that leads to transformative action in our community and to living in balance with the environment. Ours is a nurturing congregation where children and adults find acceptance and fellowship, feel empowered and grow spiritually.

The Open Line

Sunday, April 15, 2007
Worship 10:30 am

A FIRM FOUNDATION
SNUUC's first annual Founders Day
Rev. Catherine Torpey

Greeters: Paula Fullar & Rita Hines
Ushers: Leslie Farrington Griggs & Billur Weigell
Coffee: Volunteer Needed
Yuuth Snack: Corina Family
Welcome: Martha Chamberlain
Social Action: Hildegard Schubert
Ways & Means: Rita Tancredi
Lock-up: Anne Fleming

Sunday, April 22, 2007
Worship 10:30 am

CHANGING CLIMATES
In honor of Earth Day
Rev. Catherine Torpey & the Junior Youth

Greeters: Laura D’Angelo & Brian Larkin
Ushers: Martha Chamberlain & Natalie Gray
Coffee: Lisa Itts
Yuuth Snack: Brower & Diggle Fox Families
Welcome: Rita Hines
Social Action: Leslie Farrington Griggs
Ways & Means: Alice Spatt
Lock-up: Paul Sherrock

Congratulations SNUUC on our 58th Anniversary!
On April 14, 1949 the South Nassau Unitarian Fellowship was established bringing together adherents, staunch advocates and believers of the “free mind principle!”

Please bring your completed RE TASK FORCE SURVEY to SNUUC this Sunday!
The RE Task Force was created to advise SNUUC's board on several topics as we seek to replace the irreplaceable Susan Nykolak as Director of Religious Education. The survey asks a variety of questions to get a sense of what you are thinking and feeling as we proceed at this important moment in SNUUC's history. The first decision the Board needs to make is whether we will seek an "interim" DRE (someone who would not be eligible to be hired permanently), or an "acting" DRE (someone who is hired for one year but would be eligible to be hired permanently). The advantage of having an "acting" DRE is that if we like the temporary person, we can hire them. The disadvantage comes if we decide that we do not want the temporary person to remain on. It can be uncomfortable, having gotten to know the person all year, to tell them they aren't wanted as the permanent DRE.

Please help to guide the Board's decision-making process on this and other decisions by filling in the survey that was handed out on Easter Sunday (April 8). There are 3 separate surveys; one for adults, one for youth, one for children. If you did not receive a copy of the survey, please contact the office, or any member of the Task Force: Denise Hibbert, Rosemary Olander Beach, Arden Fekett or Tom Weingarten.

Please note that the RE Task Force is a temporary group advising the Board. A search committee has not been formed.

Minister’s Office Hours
Tues and Thurs 10-3, Wednesdays 12-6
I also welcome meeting at other times, as possible. Since I'm sometimes in meetings, or away at minister's gatherings, it's always best to call before dropping in.

Office Manager Hours
Alternate Mondays & Tuesday through Friday 9:00 -1:00

Director of Religious Education Hours
Susan Nykolak
By appointment 623-1204
Youth Coordinator Hours
Paula Rosenberg
By appointment 623-1204

Next issue deadline: April 22
It will cover Sundays April 29 and May 6
Adult RE!

The Great Decisions class on Mexico is scheduled for Friday afternoon, April 20 at 1:00 in the foyer. If you would like to participate, please buy the book from Catherine and read the section on Mexico in advance.

Tuesday, May 1 at 7:30 is the next installment of Readings in Liberal Religion." We'll be reading Ralph Waldo Emerson's Harvard Divinity School Address. Get a copy from Catherine, or download it www.emersoncentral.com/divaddr.htm

District 2007 Annual Meeting

The Metro New York District Annual Meeting takes place in Stamford, CT on Friday, April 27 and Saturday, April 28. All UUs are encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting. The theme is Rich, Warm, and Full: Nurturing Our Congregational Life.

Catherine has been asked to moderate a discussion on children's programming at the Metro NY District Choir. All willing voices can participate! Children's programming will be offered for grades K-8 (childcare for younger children, too). Youth grades 9-12 are also especially invited to attend.

Sign up by going to www.uumetrony.org/am07

Fifth Sunday Giving

Fifth Sunday Giving is a program that allows the members of SNUUC to contribute to outside organizations or agencies of their choice in the months when there is a fifth Sunday. Speak to Doug Breiding or Gail Compton if you have an idea for an organization that may benefit from our collection.

Our next 5th Sunday Giving will be Sunday, April 29 when we will ask for donations to an organization called "Smile in a Bag". This group makes up gift bags for hospitalized children.

"Free Minds, in a Free Congregation, working for a Free World" Canvass 2007

The Stewardship Canvass team is energized and reaching out to all of us in the coming weeks. When your Canvasser calls, open your free mind to the spirit of the Rev. Carleton Fisher's lovely phrase, and open yourself to having a thoughtful conversation about what you treasure of SNUUC, and about the financial support you will pledge to give in the coming year.

Support Our Faith — Pledge Generously
**Fundraiser of the Year**

Let's make it the best ever!

Your account before you leave!

Care during the auction.

Bring your checkbook to settle.

**Contact Rosemary Olander Beach if you require child-care during the auction. Bring your checkbook to settle.**

**What's being offered and plan your purchases. If you cannot attend, assign a bidding proxy so you won't miss out on all the fabulous and creative offerings.**

**Auction booklets are handed out soon at the Ways & Means table - be sure you get yours so you can study the offerings and plan your purchases. If you cannot attend, assign a bidding proxy so you won't miss out on all the fabulous and creative offerings. Contact Rosemary Olander Beach if you require child-care during the auction.**

Bring your checkbook to settle your account before you leave!

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**Cinco de Mayo Fiesta - May 5th**

**Our biggest fundraiser of the year is almost here!**

Everyone is invited to our Cinco De Mayo Fiesta dinner at 5pm (doors open at 4:30). Junior youth to adult $10, children ages 5 & up $5. Children under 5 eat free! Dinner is by paid reservation only and includes your bidding number. Make your reservation at the Ways & Means table on Sunday or call the office. Bidding begins at 6pm sharp! This is our biggest fundraiser of the year! Let’s make it the best one ever!

Auction booklets will be handed out soon at the Ways & Means table – be sure you get yours so you can study what’s being offered and plan your purchases. If you cannot attend, assign a bidding proxy so you won’t miss out on all the fabulous and creative offerings. Contact Rosemary Olander Beach if you require child-care during the auction. Bring your checkbook to settle your account before you leave!

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**Benefit Concert**

Come and enjoy music with local artists in Spanish and English and appetizers typical of Central America this Saturday, April 14, 7pm in the sanctuary. This benefit concert will be an artistic, multi-cultural event to support both the Soya Project, which feeds poor hungry children in Nicaragua, and the art and cultural Yerbabuena Theater in Brentwood, Long Island whose purpose is to promote art and cultural understanding between Latin and North Americans. **Advanced tickets are $10.**

This event is sponsored by CAUSA (The Salvadoran American United Community in Action) and the SNUUC Social Action Committee. Speak to Mima Obers Cortes for more information.

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**Help Needed Please**

Would you be willing to go out of your way bit to help a fellow congregant? The Membership Committee is trying to coordinate rides for congregants who need transportation to SNUUC. This might be on a Sunday or for a special event or maybe a meeting during the week. If you can go out of your way once in a while to help out please call Lori Strumeyer or Martha Chamberlain. Thank you from the Membership Committee.

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**Building Use Etiquette**

If you are part of a group or committee that uses the building during the week please be sure to clean up after yourselves, wash any dishes and check all of the outside doors to be sure our building is secure.

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**Chalice Lighters**

Our Chalice Lighters collection for the First Unitarian Society of Plainfield was $907, including a $50 donation from RE. These funds, plus those collected from other congregations in Metro District, will be used by Plainfield to “market itself” in their effort to grow membership. Our grateful thanks go to our generous SNUUC members for supporting one of our sister UU congregations. Alice and Carl Spatt

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**Newsletter Reminder**

If you would like to continue to receive the Open Line and do not make a financial pledge to SNUUC, please complete this form and send it with an annual $20 donation (or more) to reimburse the postage and printing costs. Our mail address is South Nassau Unitarian Universalist Congregation 228 South Ocean Ave., Freeport, NY 11520. You can also read the Open Line online at our website www.snuuc.org; click on the News link from News, Events & Info.

**NAME:**

**ADDRESS:**

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Dear friends: Many of you enjoyed the Easter/Spring meditation I read on Easter Sunday, and so here it is. Perhaps you will begin your own family tradition of using specific types of seasonal meditations.

Easter/Spring Service Meditation: 2007
It is written on the arched sky, it looks out from every star. It is spread out like a legible language upon the Broad face of an unsleeping ocean. It is the poetry of Nature, It is that which uplifts the spirit within us

BREATHE...deeply and slowly

I am Spring – the barefoot bride of winter
I am April….moody…ever changing…and full of possibilities…The earth is my mother…The seeds of change lie within me….BREATHE….what seeds will you plant now?….what are your dreams?….What are the possibilities?….BREATHE..deeply and slowly....

The beauty of the trees,
The softness of the air,
The fragrance of the grass…speaks to me.
(What seeds will I plant? What are my dreams?)
The summit of the mountain
The thunder of the sky, the rhythm of the sea … speaks to me….. And my heart soars.
(What seeds will I plant? What are my dreams?)
Wherever I am, is home….and the earth, is paradise

Breathe and awaken!
Looking forward to our many upcoming seasonal celebrations and events.

Fondly, Susan

SOCIAL ACTION NEWS

Celebrate Earth Day with two SNUUC events and a SNUUC canvas bag!

SNUUC Movie Night, April 20th, Friday, 7:30 pm.
“Who Killed the Electric Car?” In 1996 electric cars began to appear on roads all over California. They were quiet and fast, produced no exhaust, and ran without gasoline. Ten years later these futuristic cars were almost entirely gone. What happened? Why should we be haunted by the ghost of the electric car? Join us to unravel this mystery and learn more about the future of gasoline. Ten years later these futuristic cars were all over California. They were quiet and fast, produced no exhaust, and ran without gasoline. Ten years later these futuristic cars were almost entirely gone. What happened? Why should we be haunted by the ghost of the electric car? Join us to unravel this mystery and learn more about the future of gasoline.

Earth Day Lunch at the Solar Café, Brentwood, NY, April 22nd, Sunday, leaving SNUUC at 11:45am.
Earth Day service at SNUUC under the guidance of Rev. Paul Ratzlaff. Rev. Paul will give an introduction to Buddhism so our youth and parents can experience yet another religious option. Youth from all over Long Island are invited to share in this full yin yang effect. The yin being the Buddhist part, the yang being afterwards when we will go play lazar tag. Once again joining the knowledge of learning and the fun of the play, always in the community of being a UU.

On April 22 the Junior Yuuth will be a part of the Earth Day service at SNUUC under the guidance of Rev. Torpey. A day to get in touch with the earth, nature and all that we can do to make it a better place. Following their service we will be joining the Social Action Committee at the Solar Café in honor of Earth Day. We will be having lunch in a restaurant solely run on solar energy. Reservations are necessary! Everyone is welcome to join us as usual!

Yours in fun & faith, Paula Rosenberg

Scholarships for HS Seniors

The Bess and Maurice Forge Memorial Scholarship honors the life and work of two of our former members. It is awarded to a young person in our community who has demonstrated concern about social and political issues, is interested in activism, and has been involved in community service.

Graduating high school seniors may apply for the Forgie Scholarship. Application forms are available in the office. Please complete and return by Monday, May 7.

If you have questions, please call a member of the Forgie Scholarship Committee; Rita Tancredi, Ilene Corina and Susan Okun.