



# The Open Line

SOUTH NASSAU

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

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**September 13, 2009**      **10:30 am**

Rev. Catherine Torpey

**Water Ceremony *Gather the Spirit***

***A Reminder to bring Water from your Summer for our Ceremony***

**Greeters:** Verna & Arnie Herman

**Coffee:** Mary Brower

**Social Action Table:**

**Lock-up:** Anne Fleming

**Ushers:** Andrew Spatt & Rita Tancredi

**Welcome:** Verna Herman

**Ways & Means:** Arlene Brown

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**September 20, 2009**      **10:30am**

Rev. Catherine Torpey

**Standing on the Side of Love: Thoughts on Making Universalism Real**

**Back to RE with John Murray Day Games!**

**Greeters:** Martha Chamberlain

**Coffee:** Thrift Shop Visioning Task Force

**Social Action Table:**

**Lock-up:** Tom Weingarten

**Ushers:** Lisa Itts & Danny Gagliano

**Welcome:** Lori Strumeyer

**Ways & Means:** Mary Canada

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**September 27, 2009**      **10:30am**

Rev. Catherine Torpey

**To Tell the Truth: a Service for the High Holy Days**

**Greeters:** Linda Nanos

**Coffee:** *Volunteer Needed*

**Social Action Table:**

**Lock-up:** Rosemary Olander Beach

**Ushers:** Jayne Davison & Anne Fleming

**Welcome:** Martha Chamberlain

**Ways & Means:** Rita Tancredi

**Rev Catherine Torpey, Minister** - [Minister@SNUUC.org](mailto:Minister@SNUUC.org)

**Office Hours** Tues and Thurs 10-3, Mondays 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.

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Board President, Robert Esformes

Vice President, Rosemary Olander Beach

Secretary, Barbara Singer

Treasurer, Tom Weingarten

# *Muusings*

## *from the Minister*

Dear friends –

I hope you're as excited as I am to be starting a new congregational year at SNUUC. At General Assembly this past June, our UU Association of Congregations elected a new president, Peter Morales. I will be interested to see what new directions he has in mind for us.

What excited me most at GA was a campaign called Standing on the Side of Love – it is a year-long effort to elevate Unitarian Universalism's voice in the public square, to influence public attitudes about the worth and dignity of all and to mobilize quick and effective responses to incidents of exclusion, oppression, or violence based on intolerance of people's identities. We at SNUUC have proven ourselves over and over again to be incredibly open-hearted – easily and joyfully embracing people of every race, ethnicity, gender identity and sexual orientation. We as a congregation could do more, though, to publicly advocate for this kind of treatment of others throughout society. The Standing on the Side of Love campaign provides a framework and support system for doing so.

Exactly what our participation in this campaign will look like will depend on all of us. Please check out the campaign's website at [www.StandingOnTheSideOfLove.org](http://www.StandingOnTheSideOfLove.org). If you are on Facebook, become a fan of the campaign to receive updates, and share ideas with other UUs.

Together, let's stand on the side of love publicly the way we do so well within our walls.

Looking forward to standing with you this year!

In faith, hope and love,  
Catherine



STANDING ON THE SIDE OF

# LOVE

We received this e-mail on September 3 from Adam Gerhardtstein who is the Campaign Manager for the Standing on the Side of Love Campaign.

Dear Supporter,

I wanted you to be one of the first to know that the new-and far improved-Standing on the Side of Love website launched late last night.

You can use the new website to:

- Register events in your local community
- Download Standing on the Side of Love (SSL) web buttons and graphics
- Access resources on how to start a SSL team in your community
- Leave a love note about what SSL means to you
- Submit your story about Standing on the Side of Love in your community
- Donate to the campaign

And much more!

We're very excited about using this website to connect with you and to help you connect with others.

Visit [www.StandingontheSideofLove.org](http://www.StandingontheSideofLove.org) and get connected today.

Love, Adam

### **Calling all party-animals!**

Uh, I mean, party-planners! But seriously, would you have read an item calling for "party planners"? Anyway, we're looking for a few good women and men to help plan a SNUUC anniversary gala. If you're interested in helping out with this fun, time-limited volunteer opportunity, please contact Rosemary Olander-Beach by phone or e-mail at [rosemary.olander@verizon.net](mailto:rosemary.olander@verizon.net).

# OUR BOARDWALK

It's that time of year again, when we come to together to begin a "new year" at SNUUC! The congregation's potluck is September 12, the evening before our annual water service. I hope to see all of you there!

In June, the Board of Trustees said goodbye to Travis Compton, the youth trustee, as he began a new phase of his life -- college! The board is grateful for his time and for the youthful energy he brought to board meetings.

The board also bids farewell to Joe McAuley and Rita Tancredi as the intrepid leaders of the Thrift Shop Committee. We so appreciate their constant efforts over the years and will certainly be calling on their knowledge and expertise in the coming months as the committee transitions to new leadership. Thank you, Joe and Rita!

One of the many tasks that Joe performed for the Thrift Shop was keeping track of sales tax and making bank deposits. The board is grateful to Lisa Bryson-Brockmann, our already hard-working SNUUC office manager, for graciously **volunteering** to perform this task for the congregation in coming year.

In the meantime, Bonny Levenson, who is the chair of the recently formed Thrift Shop Visioning Task Force, has taken a leadership role in organizing Thrift Shop meetings. We certainly appreciate her continuing efforts!

Many of you may have heard that the Thrift Shop's landlord is in foreclosure. Although this development may eventually have an impact on our operations, our tenancy is not in immediate danger.

Finally, the Board of Trustees spent some time relaxing this summer, with a barbecue held at my home for the July meeting, when we also met with Bonny Levenson to answer questions from the Thrift Shop Visioning Task Force as it works on its planning mission.

At the August board meeting, which I did not attend, our treasurer, Tom Weingarten, presented a final report for the 2008-09 fiscal year. He reported that the 2008-2009 operational budget was closed by our bookkeeper with a reported \$1,903 deficit, compared to an originally approved \$18,855 deficit budget. The Board of Trustees is grateful for the congregation's financial stewardship, as well as gifts from friends and former congregants, that continue to fund our dreams.

I'm looking forward to a year of fun and, yes, hard work -- whose reward will be the growing of our SNUUC family.

See you at the potluck!

Rosemary Olander-Beach, vice president

## This Week at SNUUC!

**Join us this Friday at our South Ocean Art Gallery Opening Reception.** The exhibit is called *Art in Nature* and features 3 photographers and 2 painters, all capturing subjects in nature. The artists are Carolyn Melillo, Shawn Ehlers, Martie Last, Rochelle Redfield and John Kearns. Joe McAuley is the musician. The Opening Reception is in the foyer on Friday, September 11 from 7-9pm. Meet the artists, view and discuss the art, listen to music and enjoy an evening with friends.

**Our Annual Fall Kick-Off Pot Luck Dinner is this Saturday,** September 12 at SNUUC, rain or shine, dinner begins at 5:30. Come at 4:00 and play kick ball, volley ball and other fun games out on the lawn before the pot luck.

### **Please bring food enough for 8.**

If your name begins with:

- \* A - H please bring Dessert
- \* I - O please bring Salad or Vegetable
- \* P - Z please bring Main Dish

(additional Main Dishes are always appreciated!)

Many thanks to the Membership Committee who are hosting this event and will also provide the beverages. Please assist them by arriving early at 4:00 to help set-up or stay after to help put away tables and chairs and move the walls.

**Rev. Catherine Torpey will preach on Sunday September 13** at 10:30. The service is our Water Ceremony and Catherine's sermon is titled *Gather the Spirit*. Please bring a bit of water from your summer for the ceremony.

### **CHOIR NEWS:**

If you've been thinking about joining the choir, now is the time. Attend three choir rehearsals on Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. to see if we can make beautiful music together.

Call Ellen Zaehring-Gach or Joe McAuley if you are interested.

# Among Ourselves

Christie Allen, Emily Brodeur and big sister Sedona are excited to welcome their new baby, Avery Noelle, born on July 30. Congratulations to the proud family!

After recovering from surgery and a bout of bronchial pneumonia, the thriftees are happy to welcome back Dorothy Curran, Manager of the Thrift Shop. Dorothy was sorely missed, and we are grateful she has returned to good health!

Many thanks to those who helped to clean up the kitchen and social hall on August 30 in preparation for a new RE year! The crew included Denise and Catherine Hibbert, Linda Nanos, Barbara Singer, Sharon Nanos, Kyle Schuessler, Diane and Jim Hawkins, Bobby Granoff, Jennifer Greene and Catherine Torpey. Also thanks go to Diane and Jim Hawkins, Arnie Herman and JoAnn Fassman who painted the green shed in the parking lot in August.

As of this writing Rita Tancredi is in the hospital being treated for a blood clot in her leg. She's in good spirits and improving each day. We wish her a speedy recovery!

Jayne Davison's Talent Auction Mah Jongg games have become so popular that they're looking for another Mah Jongg set. Do you have one up in the attic that is looking for a home? Please speak to Polly Stevens or Lisa Bryson-Brockmann.

## Ways \$ Means

Do you buy groceries? Then be a part of SNUUC's Grocery Store/Gift Card Program. You buy the cards at face value and use them as you would cash or give as a gift! Proceeds from the card sales help raise money for SNUUC!

The cards can be purchased at the Ways and Means table on Sundays or sign up for monthly mailings from Peter Larsen at [pjl@pjlarsen.com](mailto:pjl@pjlarsen.com).

\*\*\*\*\*  
 \* Sunday Coffee hour is a good time \*  
 \* to talk with friends and meet new people \*  
 \* but it can't happen without your help. \*  
 \* Volunteers are needed to serve coffee. \*  
 \* Please speak to **Mary Brower** if you can help. \*  
 \*  
 \* Sunday ushers and greeters \*  
 \* are another important part of our worship. \*  
 \* Please speak to **Nicki Barry** to sign up to usher and \*  
 \* **Martha Chamberlain** to sign up to greet. \*  
 \*\*\*\*\*

# Committees at Work

SNUUC Committees meet regularly and most encourage attendance at their meetings even if you are not a member of the committee. Check the committee chairperson list on the bulletin board in the hall and call if you would like to learn more about a committee.

**Membership** Committee met on Tuesday, September 8 at 7:30pm in the foyer.

**Ways & Means** Committee meeting Sunday September 13 at noon in the RE wing.

**Thrift Shop Committee** meeting on Sunday, September 13 at noon in room 1.

**Board** meeting Wednesday, September 16 at 7pm in the foyer.

**Social Justice & Environmental** Committees met on Sunday, September 6 and will meet on October 4 at noon in room 1.

Information about upcoming RE Committee, Finance Committee and Interweave meetings will be included in future Wednesday e-mails.

## UNICRAFTERS

### LOOK AT THIS!

Doodle Bugs and Pigs that fly,  
 Dragons that cavort on high,  
 Owls with a glittering eye,  
 Creatures with expressions wry,  
 All this and more,  
 Oh my, oh my!

Unicrafters start regular Thursday afternoon meetings on September 17 from 1:00 to 3:30 PM in the Foyer. Come join us for creative craft expression, great conversation and yummy treats. Experience and talent not a prerequisite. (We will teach you.) There's a job just waiting for you.

Our Unicrafters are; Alice Spatt, Helen Joy, Nicki Barry, Rita Tancredi and Robin Norris

# More SNUUC Events!

As fall returns, how about balancing and stretching yourself with our **Gentle Yoga classes** taught by Ivy Greenburg in the SNUUC foyer? We meet Tuesdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m., or Thursdays, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Fee for either 6-week class series is \$75, payable at the first class. First Tuesday class was September 1st and first Thursday class was September 3 but you can join the group beginning at the second class if there is space available. Please bring a mat or blanket for floor postures. Enrollment is limited by availability of space. Please contact Anne Fleming at [afleming528@gmail.com](mailto:afleming528@gmail.com) or call her at home to reserve your space!

## "What You Say Next Can Change The World"

Compassionate Communication - the 13 session series based on the 13 chapters of Marshall Rosenberg's book "Non-Violent Communication, A Language of Life" - begins again on Saturday, September 26 from 9:45 to 11:45 a.m in the Foyer. This series is open to all adults and youth (11<sup>th</sup> grade and up). If you wish to attend, or know someone who would, please contact Barbara Singer or Anne Fleming to reserve your space and read the first chapter of Rosenberg's book before September 26th. Books may be purchased from Anne Fleming for \$13.00. A suggested donation to SNUUC for this program is \$5.00 for members and \$10.00 for non-members per session.

**Drumming** Thursdays from 6 – 7:30pm, a small but dedicated group learns Afro-Caribbean drumming. You are always welcome to join us. \$25 a session for non-members or \$20 for members. There is usually a drum available if you can't bring your own.

**Monday Night Pilates** at SNUUC - 8pm-9pm, only \$12 per class - no contracts to sign, no commitment, just come and stretch! Any questions, contact Bonny Levenson.

**NVC Empathy Sessions** are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month from 7:30-9 pm in the foyer. Everyone who has participated in a 13 week Compassionate Communication Series is invited to join us to practice empathy skills. Speak to Anne Fleming or Barbara Singer.

**"Surfing the Wave of Change" - An astrology program presented by Barbara Singer's daughter, Kathryn Andren - Monday, September 21, 7:30 - 8:30 pm - \$15\***

**See flyer on the bulletin board for more details.**

Are you wondering what in the world is going on? Major astrological cycles this Fall stimulate significant change, new possibilities & opportunities on personal and generational levels. Find out what's in store for you on the eve of the equinox. Learn to prepare for these frequency shifts with Kathryn's keen perception and compassion. Call Barbara Singer to reserve your space. \*\$5.00 of the \$15.00 fee will be donated back to SNUUC.

# Our UU Community

**Learn about the larger, local Long Island UU Community through the LIAC Blast.** The Long Island Area Council oversees the Religious Education Programs including Coming of Age (COA), Sophia Fahs Camp and Our Whole Lives (OWL). UU Connect runs social events connecting young UUs and their families with year round events like apple picking, a NY City trip, game nights and Adventureland. Senior Youth may be dropped off with a UU Connect leader but all younger kids need a responsible adult. For more information on UU Connect see Ilene Corina. To sign up for the LIAC Blast and learn what is new go to [www.liacuu.org](http://www.liacuu.org)

**The Garden Stage at the UU Congregation of Central Nassau offers live music for all.** This Friday, September 11 will feature Sloan Wainwright at 8pm. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$22 at the door. Delicious homemade refreshments are available during intermission. For tickets and information e-mail [calendar@uuccn.org](mailto:calendar@uuccn.org) or call the UCCN office at 248-8855.

**Learn more about the International Human Right to Water.** It is recognized in international treaties and national constitutions, threatened by privatization in many countries including the USA and supported by advocacy efforts of the UUSC. Speaker Patricia Jones who has extensive experience and education on this issue is speaking on Sunday, September 27 from 1-3pm in the Art Gallery at the UU Congregation at Shelter Rock.

**UU Laurie James**, mother of SNUUC member Lynn James Gross, is co-chair of the District Women and Religion Committee. Laurie has received the Margaret Fuller Award, a grant of \$2200 from the UU Women's Federation, for writing *A Medley for Margaret Fuller*, a dramatic staged presentation highlighting the writings of Margaret Fuller. It will be presented at the Graduate Center of City University in New York City on May 6, 2010. The presentation directed by Laurie and free to the public, is part of the Margaret Fuller Bicentennial Celebration, [www.margaretfuller.org](http://www.margaretfuller.org)

# In the RE Wing

# SOCIAL ACTION NEWS

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Welcome (back) to a new year of Religious Exploration! Whether you're a preschooler or a high schooler; a returning family or a new family; an RE Committee member, teacher, or other wonderful volunteer—welcome. We have great things in store for the RE Program!

We'll be kicking off the year with the John & Judith Murray Day Games on September 20. It will be a ton of fun, and we'll be learning some important history at the same time.

John Murray is regarded as the father of Universalism in this country, and Judith Sargent Murray has been called this country's first feminist.

So what was John Murray's Universalism? It was the idea that God is a loving God—and so salvation is for *everyone*, salvation is **universal**.

Today, Unitarian Universalists still **stand on the side of love**, affirming the inherent worth and dignity of *all*.

“**Love** is the spirit [or doctrine] of this church”—thus begins the Bond of Union used by many UU congregations.

We have a message worth sharing, yes? Ours is a loving community that's worth sharing, yes? So why not invite a family you know to come to SNUUC? Tell them that September 20 (or any Sunday, really!) will be a great day for new children to meet the friendly children already here.

Yours for love and fun, exploration and wonder--  
Jennifer

On months with a fifth Sunday, the monies received during the offering can be designated for a chosen not for profit charity. If you have a charity you would like to see receive these monies, please contact Mary Brower or Mirna Obers for an application. Ideally a representative for the charity should give a short speech prior to the collection explaining the charity. If you have any questions see Mary or Mirna, Fifth Sunday Giving Committee.

Join the Social Action & Environmental Committees at their meetings on the first Sunday of the month at noon. Bring your ideas and enthusiasm!

The Social Action Committee sponsors a movie night on the last Saturday of the month. Enjoy thought provoking films along with stimulating discussion and a snack! The date, time and title of the next movie will be revealed in a future e-mail. Stay tuned!

Please recycle your Order of Service and old papers around SNUUC. Look for the recycle bin in the foyer.

## Our Thrift Shop

**Please be sure to attend the Thrift Shop Visioning Task Force Open Forum on Sunday September 20. See the enclosed flyer for more information.**

**Are You a Yard Sale Addict?** If so, you can help our Thrift Shop while enjoying yourself! When you visit yard sales, look around for the following items; glassware, dishes, pots and pans, flatware, art objects, jewelry, shelves and collectibles. These are all very desirable, salable items in our Thrift Shop.

When you find a yard sale with any of these items that are in good, salable condition, you can help in any of the following ways: Purchase the items, donate them to the Thrift Shop and received a tax slip for an income tax deduction. OR 2) Give a Thrift Shop business card to the yard sale operator and he/she would call to have these items picked up at the end of the sale. (There are business cards on the office desk at SNUUC.) The operator will receive a tax slip for the donated merchandise. You can pick up the items or contact Joe McAuley or Dorothy Curran for the pick up. Enjoy yourself and help out the Thrift Shop at the same time!

# SNUUC Calendar September 2009

Meeting places: S-Sanctuary F-Foyer RE-RE Wing M-Minister's Office

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> Yoga 5:30-6:30 F Empathy Circle 7:30-9 F	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Yoga 4:30 F	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> Social Action & Environ 12 rm 1	<b>7</b> Pilates 8pm F	<b>8</b> Yoga 5:30-6:30 F Membership 7:30pm F	<b>9</b> La Leche 9am RE	<b>10</b> Yoga 4:30 F Drumming Wkshp 6pm S Choir Practice 7:30 S	<b>11</b> ♦ Foyer Art Opening Reception <i>Art in Nature</i> 7-9 F	<b>12</b> ♦Kick-Off Pot Luck Dinner 4:00 for lawn games 5:30 for dinner
<b>13</b> ♦ Bring Water from your summer for our Ceremony Ways & Means 12 F Thrift Shop Committee 12 rm1	<b>14</b> Pilates 8pm F	<b>15</b> Yoga 5:30-6:30 F Empathy Circle 7:30-9 F	<b>16</b> Board Meeting 7:00 F	<b>17</b> La Leche 1-3 RE Unicrafters 1:00 F Yoga 4:30 F Drumming Wkshp 6pm S Choir Practice 7:30 S	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> Back to RE! ♦ Thrift Shop Visioning Task Force Open Forum All Welcome! 12 S	<b>21</b> Pilates 8pm RE "Surfing the Wave of Change" 7:30 F	<b>22</b> Yoga 5:30-6:30 F	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Unicrafters 1:00 F Yoga 4:30 F Drumming Wkshp 6pm S Choir Practice 7:30 S	<b>25</b> PULSE 8am-2 F	<b>26</b> NVC 9:30-12 F ♦ Social Action film
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Pilates 8pm F	<b>29</b> Yoga 5:30-6:30 F	<b>30</b>	<b>October 1</b> Unicrafters 1:00 F Yoga 4:30 F Drumming Wkshp 6pm S Choir Practice 7:30 S	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> NVC 9:30-12 F

South Ocean Art Gallery Opening Reception  
Friday, September 11, 7-9

Fall Kick-Off Pot Luck Dinner  
Saturday, September 12, 4:00 for lawn games, 5:30 for dinner

Bring water from your summer for our Water Ceremony  
Sunday, September 13, 10:30

Thrift Shop Visioning Task Force Open Forum  
Sunday September 20 at noon

**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.



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