



# The Open Line

SOUTH NASSAU

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

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September 11, 2011 10:30am

Rev. Catherine Torpey

*When the Waters Recede*

Water Communion

Please bring a bit of Water from your Summer for our Ceremony

**Coffee:** POT LUCK! Andrea & Tom Weingarten **Ushers:** Doris Brass & Debbie Scharf

**Lock-up:** Rosemary Olander Beach

**Welcome:**

**Social Action Table:**

**Ways & Means:**

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September 11, 2011 12:15pm

Rev. Catherine Torpey

*Prayer Service for the 10th Anniversary of September 11, 2001*

September 18, 2011 10:30am

Rev. Catherine Torpey

*If You Were a Universalist*

John Murray Day

RE Kick Off Day!

**Coffee:** Unicrafters

**Ushers:** Rita Tancredi & Robin Norris

**Lock-up:** Arlene Brown

**Welcome:**

**Social Action Table:**

**Ways & Means:**

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September 25, 2011 10:30am

Rev. Catherine Torpey

*If You Were a Unitarian*

Michael Servetus Day

**Coffee:** Volunteer Needed

**Ushers:** Jayne Davison & Andrew Spatt

**Lock-up:** Steve Lester

**Welcome:**

**Social Action Table:**

**Ways & Means:**

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

**Office Hours** Tuesday and Wednesday 10-3, Thursday 12-10

The Minister welcomes meeting at other times, as possible. Since she's sometimes in meetings, or away at minister's gatherings it's always best to call before dropping in.

**Acting Director of Religious Education, David Silver**

Hours by appointment [DRE@SNUUC.org](mailto:DRE@SNUUC.org)

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Secretary,

Treasurer, Peter Larsen

# *Muusings*

## *from the Minister*

Dear friends -

The highlight of this summer for me was the chance to perform my first wedding here in our sanctuary – giving legal recognition to the marriage of Alix Stoll and Priscilla Gray. This wedding was bigger than just the joy of two people who love one another being legally joined as a family; it was the beginning of an era of equality and justice for same sex couples at SNUUC and throughout New York. I hope that this new era of equality will spread throughout the country and the world.

Here at SNUUC, we also begin a new era with the arrival of our Acting Director of Religious Education, David Silver. He has already been hard at work with the Religious Education Committee, headed by Ilene Corina and Lisa Bilello, to give our children and youth a fun and enriching year. Please give him a warm welcome. Many of you are already giving him the welcome any new DRE most wants: a full complement of nurturing adults to lead classes and help run the program!

We at SNUUC are also lucky to be joined this year by a seminary student, Eve Stevens, who will be with us as part of her seminary training. By offering Eve a chance to complete her Field Education requirement with us, we not only benefit from her energy and enthusiasm, but we also do a service to the greater UU movement by helping to nurture a new minister. Eve will work with the congregation in a variety of capacities, including occasional preaching and being a support to our Religious Education program.

I look forward to seeing all of you for another fabulous new year!

Yours in faith, hope and love,  
Catherine

# Pot Luck Dinner

## September 10

### **Kick Off Pot Luck Dinner**

We look forward to seeing **EVERYONE** at our Annual Fall Kick Off Pot Luck Dinner this Saturday, September 10 at SNUUC! Dinner begins at 5:30. Please bring food enough for at least 8 people. If your name begins with:

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

Many thanks to Ellen Minzner who has offered to coordinate this year's potluck. Please contact her to see how you can help; assist her by arriving early to help set-up, help out in the kitchen serving the food, stay after to help clean-up or put away tables and chairs.

If you are able to help out, please e-mail Ellen at [emkpsyd@yahoo.com](mailto:emkpsyd@yahoo.com). Thanks!

## RE Family Night and Teacher Orientation

Please join us this Friday evening September 9 for our fall RE family night and teacher orientation. We will gather at 6:00 for pizza and student registration. Your RE committee will provide the pizza and we ask that you bring a dessert or side dish to share.

The Teacher Orientation will begin at 7:00 pm for our fall teachers. Child care will be provided during the training. At the orientation, Acting DRE David Silver will review the teaching teams for this semester, hand out and review the curriculums and go over the nuts and bolts of the program. Teachers will have an opportunity to meet with their teaching teams to set schedules and review the materials. Some fun and surprises are also planned. Teacher attendance at this meeting is strongly recommended.

Any questions, please contact David Silver at [dre@snuuc.org](mailto:dre@snuuc.org) or call the office for his phone number.

Thank you for all that you do to support our children and the religious education program. We could not do it without you. We look forward to seeing you on the 9th,

Please RSVP for dinner to Ilene Corina [icorina@aol.com](mailto:icorina@aol.com)  
RE Committee

# OUR BOARDWALK

The summer seems to have come to a dramatic conclusion here on Long Island, what with both an earthquake and Tropical Storm Irene wrapping up August. I hope everyone's had time to recover and rest. After reading through the emails sent by other metro UU congregations about storm damage, I was especially grateful that at SNUUC we only lost a few tree branches -- none of them even damaging anything on the way down.

We on the board plan to start the year energized by a new acting director of religious education, David Silver, a familiar face to many as a LIAC officer and a member of the Huntington Fellowship. We also are welcoming, for the first time, an intern, Eve Stevens, who is a seminary student. We're so happy to have them start the year with us.

Among the SNUUC activities planned to kick off the year are the Religious Education registration and orientation event on Sept. 9, the annual "new year" potluck on Sept. 10, and the water ceremony that kicks off our congregational year on Sept. 11. In addition, we'll be kicking off the new year with a Leadership Council meeting, a gathering of board members and committee representatives, at 7 p.m. Sept. 26.

I hope that you'll make a point of attending these events!

The board is especially grateful for the members who have stepped up to lead and populate such vital committees as Ways & Means, Membership and Art. If you haven't signed up to work on a committee, please speak to a board member as soon as possible. We'll be publishing a new list of committee chairs and/or members in the next issue of the Open Line.

Gratefully yours,  
Rosemary Olander-Beach, president  
Board of Trustees

## the Board thanks...

**Lisa Bilello, Brian Larkin and the Rev. Catherine Torpey** for their fruitful search for an acting director of religious education.

**Jose Henriquez** for cleaning and painting the floors and otherwise getting SNUUC in tiptop shape this summer.

**Ken Lawson** for securing our outdoor trash container before Tropical Storm Irene arrived, and **Jose Henriquez and Ken Bellafiore** for cleaning up the fallen branches after Irene had left.

**All the members who turned out August 14 for the annual cleaning of SNUUC!** Including (in no particular order); Risa & Joe Centenni, Ben & Emily Sobel, Ellen Zaehring-Gach, Judith Vaughan, Catherine Torpey, Kyle Schuessler, Ilene Corina, Bob McGough, Mary Brower, Ted & Danny Tiller, Lori Strumeyer & Deb Scharf, Steven & Matt Corina, Alice Spatt, Jean Smyth-Crocetto & Jim Crocetto, Peter Smyth Rafferty, Peter Larsen, Kai Stoll, Natalie Gray, Alix & Priscilla Gray Stoll & Natalie who is new to SNUUC. *We really appreciate everyone's help!*

## Our UU Community

On this 10th Anniversary of Sept 11, 2001 there are many ways to commemorate the day. In addition to our 9/11 Prayer Service at 12:15, the LI Council of Churches newsletter lists these Interfaith events.

### Interfaith Commemoration of the 10th Anniversary of 9/11

#### "Living as People of Faith in a Fearful World"

Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 3:30 - 6:00 PM

Temple Sinai of Roslyn, 425 Roslyn Road, Roslyn Heights, 516-621-6800

The program is led by leaders of local Muslim, Jewish and Christian Houses of Worship. Co-sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council of Long Island.

For a flyer for this event, visit the website:

[www.interfaithalliance-li.org/events/2011/911Commemoration.pdf](http://www.interfaithalliance-li.org/events/2011/911Commemoration.pdf)

### Interfaith 9/11 Commemoration at East Meadow Mosque.

The LI Muslim Society and the Islamic Center of LI are hosting an interfaith service of "Remembrance and Resolve" on Saturday, Sept. 10, at 4 p.m. at 475 East Meadow Av. in East Meadow. Speakers will include the Rev. Tom Goodhue, Rev. Mark Lukens, Rabbi Michael White, and Imam Shamsi Ali.

### 9/11 Memorial Service in Garden City on September 11.

3:00 - A moderated open forum at the Cathedral of the Incarnation. An opportunity for us to gather informally to share our memories and thoughts on this day.

4:15 - Organ Prelude - Lawrence Tremsky, Canon Musician of the Cathedral

4:30 - Our Service at the Cathedral of the Incarnation Led by the Garden City Clergy Fellowship.

The Right Reverend Lawrence Provenzano, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island, will deliver the sermon. Music from St. Anne's RC Church and Garden City HS.

5:30 - Procession to 9/11 Memorial at Village Green,

6:00 - Service at the Memorial and Reading of the Names of Garden City residents who perished

Taps at Sunset

### Interfaith 9/11 Commemoration in Plainview.

Masjid Al-Baqi in Bethpage and many other congregations are taking part in a 9/11 memorial event at Good Shephard Lutheran Church in Plainview (99 Central Park Rd. 516-349-1966) at 7 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 11.

# Among Ourselves

A good suggestion from Pastor Wolter of Patchogue Congregational Church and the Long Island council of Churches: "Now that the hurricane has passed, take all the food you bought in a panic, and did not use, and donate it to a food pantry. The people we feed at our church live like this every day: some cans but no opener; pasta but no hot plate; soup but no silverware; no electricity or home to use it in."

"Dear SNUUC members, Thank you for your loving recognition of our marriage on August 20th. Many of you came out to attend our wedding ceremony, and so many contributed so much of yourselves, continuing to show us the support that we have always felt in this special congregation. As a couple who have been together raising our family, a legal marriage doesn't change much in our day to day lives, but it does seal the deal that we made to one another many years ago. This was important to us. As we celebrate NYS's step up to marriage equality, we still have a long way to go to find true equality for our LGBTQ brothers and sisters. Together let us continue our work to gain all people their legal rights. With love, Alix Stoll and Priscilla Gray-Stoll"

## BBW

September 24–October 1, 2011 is Banned Books Week (BBW). This is an annual event celebrating the freedom to read and the importance of the First Amendment. Held during the last week of September, Banned Books Week highlights the benefits of free and open access to information while drawing attention to the harms of censorship by spotlighting actual or attempted bannings of books across the United States.

Join us at SNUUC on Friday night September 23 at 7pm as we read from some of our favorite Banned Books. Click on the link below to see one list of Banned Books in the US. Depending on the response, participants will each be given 3 minutes to read a piece from your favorite banned book and facilitate a 5 minute discussion following the reading.

Please bring snacks and refreshments to share. This is an intergenerational event sponsored by the RE Committee. <http://www.oclc.org/research/top1000/banned.htm>

To register to read or to help with this event, contact Ilene Corina.

# the new Leadership Council

Do you have an idea you believe will work well at SNUUC?

Do you want to get a little more involved with this great congregation?

Are you getting ready for upcoming events and activities at SNUUC?

**If you want to... be a part of, organize, spearhead, share your idea or even just think about leading an activity or event, then please come to the new Leadership Council gathering on Monday, September 26 at 7pm in the foyer.**

The plan is to have a focused, thorough and efficient hour or 2 of conversation and sharing so that we can coordinate our efforts and plan for an exceptional year at SNUUC.

Please speak with Catherine and tell her you plan to attend this important gathering.

# Committees at Work

**A number of our committees are looking for new people and new ideas. Please speak with a board member if you are interested.**

**The RE Committee** will meet Sunday, September 18 at 12:00 in the RE wing.

**The Board will meet on Wednesday September 14** at 7pm in the foyer.

**Thrift Shop Committee will not have a meeting in September and will meet on Sunday, October 9 at noon in room 1.**

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* 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 or e-mail her, \*  
\* mbrowerapr@aol.com \*  
\* to sign up for a Sunday or 2. \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

# SNUUC Happenings

## Yoga *Fall* – a time to breathe deeply and re-energize after the sticky, sultry summer. Ready to recharge yourself?

Then please join us for **Gentle Yoga with Spirit** at SNUUC. Tuesday evenings is a 6-week series beginning Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> and running through Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Thursday afternoons will be a five week series beginning on Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> and running through Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-5:30 p.m. (\*\*Note: There will not be a Thursday class on Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> due to the Jewish High Holy Days). Fees for the 6-week series are \$72.50 and for the 5-week series are \$60.00. If you are unable to commit to five or more classes, you can opt for a drop-in fee of \$20/class. As always, we need a paid commitment of at least six class members to offer each series. Please reply to Anne Fleming at [afleming528@gmail.com](mailto:afleming528@gmail.com) if you would like to sign up for either of our fall yoga series.

## Drumming

The DrUUmatics, SNUUC's drumming ministry, has been busy this summer. The group teaches a beginning djembe and dunun class on Thursday evenings from 6-7PM. They meet after that to either practice, rehearse or take lessons themselves. In June the DrUUmatics performed at The Artists' Initiative event at SNUUC, along with a varied group of artists. They also hosted a Summer Solstice drum circle, which attracted a sizable group of drummers from LI. In August, the group played on the Nautical Mile as part of the Free Summer Concert Series, at the invitation of the LI Arts Council of Freeport. They have recently been invited to audition for the Mineola street fair in September! To stay informed of upcoming classes, performances and events, please visit their website at <http://www.druumatics.org>, or their Facebook page (search for DrUUmatics). \*SAVE THE DATE\* The DrUUmatics' big fundraising event, A Day of Drum and Dance, is scheduled for Saturday November 5. Please speak to either Sharon Nanos or Laura D'Angelo with any questions, or if you can assist the group with registration/ administrative/setup/ cleanup help that day.

## Pilates

**Monday Night Pilates** at SNUUC - 5pm, only \$12 per class - no contracts to sign, no commitment, just come and stretch! Questions? Contact Bonny Levenson or Jeanne Menoutis.

## Improv

**Spontaneity, Creativity, Fun!** Improv classes continue at SNUUC in May. No prior experience is required. Classes are held Sunday afternoons from 2 to 4. The spring Improv series commences on September 18. A series costs \$80 for returning students, \$100 for new students. Contact Brian Larkin [bolarkin@optonline.net](mailto:bolarkin@optonline.net) or Michael Rock [xmrock@gmail.com](mailto:xmrock@gmail.com).

# Compassionate Communication

**Is this your year to explore the potential of Compassionate Communication in your personal or professional life?** Rev. Paul Ratzlaff first introduced Marshall Rosenberg's process of Nonviolent Communication (NVC) to SNUUC in 2003. Since then, more than fifty individual members and friends have chosen to participate in one or more of the 13-session series offered at SNUUC in the fall and spring of each year. Each practice group works with the text

*Nonviolent Communication – A Language of Life, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed, by Marshall Rosenberg, PhD.* and related interactive exercises which work to support the teachings presented within each chapter.

Building on this active participation, the Compassionate Communication practice group has become a vital small group ministry at SNUUC, open to all adults and youths (11<sup>th</sup> grade and up). Participants have reflected on the depth of connections made within the group as well as the potential for transformation in their outside relationships as they learn to communicate compassionately and clearly with new skills and empathy.

The next 13-session series begins Saturday, September 17<sup>nd</sup>. Join us in the Foyer from 9:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. for 13 Saturday mornings beginning on September 17 through December 17.

Pre-registration is requested, so if you plan on attending the fall series, or know someone who is interested in joining us, please contact Anne Fleming ([afleming528@gmail.com](mailto:afleming528@gmail.com)) or Barbara Singer ([barbara.singer@gmail.com](mailto:barbara.singer@gmail.com)).

## PULSE

PULSE invites you to an amazing free program on Sunday, September 25, 3:00 at SNUUC; listen, learn and share with Amy Wilson Stronks. Amy's work as a national leader in health disparities is sure to be an inspiration to all who attend. The voice of the community will allow Amy to continue her important work nationally in patient centered care as it relates to communication and patient-centeredness including language access, cultural barriers, health literacy for vulnerable populations and the unique needs of the LGBT Community. For more information or to reserve your seat contact Ilene Corina

# In the RE Wing



## **Introducing our new Acting DRE David Silver.**

Thank you for turning your attention to my first column. As I begin my tenure as your Acting Director of Religious Education, I am thankful for the opportunity that I have been given to work with this congregation and I am excited about what will take place in the RE Wing over the next nine months.

Many planning meetings and brainstorming sessions have already taken place to insure a positive and rewarding experience for our young people this year. This congregation has many dedicated and committed individuals who are working in the RE Wing behind the scenes. What a pleasure to be working as a part of this team.

Some of you may already know me from my work with the larger UU community. For those of you who do not, I have been an active member of the Huntington congregation since 2000 and a RE teacher and committee member for many of those years. I am the President of the Long Island Area Council (LIAC) of Unitarian Universalist Congregations. I have served on the Board of Directors of the Sophia Fahs RE Summer Camp for the past five years and I am a youth advisor for the Metro District Youth Adult Committee. I am a certified Our Whole Lives instructor and I work closely with the Coming of Age program. I have also helped plan UU Connect events for the past four years, which encourages families to get together from all of the LIAC congregations. My two college age daughters have both grown up at the Huntington congregation.

What can you expect from me during my time here?

- You can expect me to work closely with our Minister, RE Committee and congregation to make sure our RE goals are being met
- You can expect me to be visible and approachable at congregational events
- You can expect me to listen to your concerns and ideas regarding the RE program
- You can expect me to support, empower and provide a grounded UU education to our youth

As we begin our congregational year, I look forward to getting to know all the children and members of this congregation. I look forward to the first day of religious education classes on September 18. And I look forward to supporting the traditional programs and activities here at SNUUC, and perhaps to starting some new traditions.

As I work on the final details of classes and teaching volunteers, I am grateful to all who have volunteered their time for this upcoming year and who have extended good wishes to me. I am pleased to serve this congregation and community.

According to The Prophet, Service is love made visible. Please let me know how I can best serve you.  
David Silver

## **New Junior & Senior RE Announcements**

1. Planning meeting for the Sr. HS Cluster Con scheduled for September 30-October 2 at the Huntington congregation will take place on Saturday September 10 from 1 to 4pm at SNUUC. All interested adults and youth are encouraged to attend to help us plan this event. Please contact Ellen Minzner or David Silver for additional information.
2. Applications for the LIAC sponsored Jr. HS Our Whole Lives (OWL) program are now available. This program is open to everyone in grades 7-9. First session is Sunday October 16. Please contact David Silver, Acting DRE for applications and additional information.

# SNUUC Calendar September 2011

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

| Sun  | Mon   | Tue                    | Wed  | Thu   | Fri  | Sat  |
|--|---|------------------------|--|---|--|--|
| 4  | 5<br>Pilates 5pm F                              | 6<br>Yoga 5:30-6:30 F  | 7  | 8<br>Drumming Wkshp 6pm RE<br>Choir Practice 7:30 S<br>Yoga 4:30 F                        | 9<br>► RE meet & greet & plan pizza 6pm RE meet 7pm RE | 10<br>► Pot Luck 5:30pm RE<br>LIAC meeting 1:00 RE |
| 11 ► Welcome Fall!<br>10:30 Water Communion<br>12:15 September 11 Prayer Service | 12<br>Pilates 5pm F                             | 13<br>Yoga 5:30-6:30 F | 14<br>LaLeche 9am RE<br>Board Meeting 7:00 F | 15<br>Unicrafters 1:00 F<br>Yoga 4:30 F<br>Drumming Wkshp 6pm RE<br>Choir Practice 7:30 S | 16   | 17<br>NVC 9:45 F                                   |
| 18<br>RE Committee 12 RE<br>Improv 2-4 F   | 19<br>Pilates 5pm RE                            | 20<br>Yoga 5:30-6:30 F | 21   | 22<br>Unicrafters 1:00 F<br>Yoga 4:30 F<br>Drumming Wkshp 6pm RE<br>Choir Practice 7:30 S | 23<br>► Book Banning Event 7pm RE                      | 24<br>NVC 9:45 F                                   |
| 25<br>Improv 2-4 RE<br>PULSE 2-5 F   | 26<br>Pilates 5pm F<br>► Leadership Council 7 F | 27<br>Yoga 5:30-6:30   | 28   | 29<br>Unicrafters 1:00 F<br>NO Yoga<br>Drumming Wkshp 6pm RE<br>Choir Practice 7:30 S     | 30<br>► Foyer Art Reception 7pm F                      | <i>October 1</i><br>NVC 9:45 F                     |

RE Family Night and Teacher Orientation  
Friday September 9, 6:00

Fall Kick-Off Pot Luck  
Saturday September 10, 5:30

Prayer Service for the 10th anniversary of September 11,  
Sunday September 11, 12:15

Leadership Council  
Monday September 26, 7pm

**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.



SNUUC South Nassau  
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