



# The Open Line

SOUTH NASSAU

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

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June 3, 2012 10:30am

Rev. Catherine Torpey

**Coming of Age**

**Avery Benson, Luc Esformes, Dylan Larkin, Sean Nanos & Ian Rieger**

**Coffee:** *Volunteer Needed*

**Ushers:** Nicki Barry & Andrew Spatt

**Lock-up:** Selina Benson

**Welcome:** Liz DiMaggio

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June 10, 2012 10:30am

Rev. Catherine Torpey

**Bridging with RE Teacher & Volunteer Appreciation**

**Welcome Summer BBQ at 12:00** Please bring a side dish or dessert to share

**Coffee:** *Volunteer Needed*

**Ushers:** Andrew Spatt & Volunteer

**Lock-up:** Ken Bellafiore

**Welcome:** Liz DiMaggio

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June 17, 2012 10:30am

Guest Preacher David Silver

**Honoring Father's Day and the Father Figures in our Lives**

**Snack/Greeter/Usher:** *Volunteer Needed*

**Lock-up:** Brian Larkin

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June 24, 2012 10:30am

Guest Preacher Hollis Huston

**Good Old Days: The End of Conservatism**

**Snack/Greeter/Usher:** *Volunteer Needed*

**Lock-up:** Peter Larsen

**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.

**Director of Religious Education, David Silver**

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

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Secretary, Jim Crocetto

Treasurer, Peter Larsen

# Musings

from the Minister



## What I Learned In RE This Year

As our congregational year sprints to the finish, I can't help but think how much I received from being part of our Religious Education Program. This past semester I was lucky enough to be one of the teachers involved in a series of classes in which members of the fabulous Junior Youth explored episodes of the classic 1960s sci-fi series "The Twilight Zone."

Popcorn theology, as our RE Director David Silver likes to call it, is not new to our program. We have done a series of classes based on episodes of the Simpsons for a few years with Junior Youth. Twilight Zone was different. There was no set written curriculum. We were essentially winging it. I knew things would take off when the entire class was at the edge of their seats (some with their hands over their faces peeking between their fingers) while they watched the bandages being slowly removed from the face of the main character in "The Eye of the Beholder" – the episode about a woman who undergoes a series of operations to "look normal" and we find out that in her world, what people call ugly we would call beautiful. So who decides what's "normal" or beautiful? A good question is always fresh.

Some episodes, like "The Silence" (about a man who bets he can go a year without speaking), generated strange twists in the conversation that followed. The story is a bit of a dark "Gift of the Magi" as the man who accepts the bet (spoiler alert) has his vocal chords cut in order to win. The man who bet him must admit he is the lesser of the two at the end of the episode but confesses he does not have the funds to pay what he wagered. But the class discussion took an interesting turn. We talked about how we do or don't harness enough willpower to live up to the commitments we make to ourselves. For a generation that is growing up with on-demand, 24-7 media and communications, the question seemed rather profound. If you really want something, what sacrifices are you willing to make to attain it? Our kids all agreed, they could not have won the bet to stay silent for a year.

So the Twilight Zone worked. And I believe it worked because 1. We have wonderful kids who were engaged with the teleplays and the issues raised by them and 2. Good stories ask good questions. That's a lesson to be learned in the SNUUC RE Program or anywhere else for that matter (even in the Twilight Zone).

Brian Larkin, Board President

Dear friends -

As another congregational year comes to a close, I once again find myself very grateful for all of you. We have another hard-working, conscientious and dedicated board full of generous-hearted, caring people. The May congregational meeting was upbeat, efficient, and - in some people's estimation, the highest praise - brief. We had a little delay in getting started, and I heard no one get crabby and you all stayed patiently, delaying your after-SNUUC snacks while the board got what it needed together. I thought to myself, "What a delightful bunch of folks we have gathered together in this place."

Speaking of delightful people, David Silver completed his year as our Acting Director of Religious Education, and, as you'll see in the official notice given in this Open Line, we are proud to have engaged him permanently. I look forward to continuing to work with him. I can't thank the volunteers in RE enough - especially the RE committee and all the teachers who are bringing up the next generation of UU's.

It is Lisa Bryson-Brockmann who will be organizing these words onto the page as you read them now. We can never thank her enough for the outstanding work she does for us day in and day out. And Jose Henriquez quietly and always with a smile cleans up after us and helps keep our congregational home in good order. I am grateful to both of them.

And, of course, very close to my heart is our fabulous Joe McAuley and the choir, who really make worship work week after week. I always know that they will enhance whatever I have thought up for worship and make it more beautiful - even when I throw ideas at them days before Sunday. (And sometimes even on Sunday morning!)

Finally, a bittersweet farewell to Eve Stevens, our Field Education student. I know how fond you all became of her this year, as I did. We wish her well as she continues her education toward ministry. Lucky will be the congregation who has the sense to scoop her up.

I hope that you are as grateful to this community as I am. It is truly a place to nurture the soul.

Yours in faith, hope and love, Catherine

**Are you part of a SNUUC committee or group and would like to use the space for a meeting or event some time between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013?** Then you must attend the Congregational Council Calendaring meeting on Wednesday, June 6 at 7pm in the foyer. Bring your calendars and ideas. Speak with Catherine if you have any questions.



## *South Nassau Unitarian Universalist Congregation*

May 2012

Dear members and friends of SNUUC:

It is with great pleasure that we announce that the Board of Trustees has hired David Silver to be our permanent Director of Religious Education. David has been serving as Acting Director of Religious Education for this past congregational year. We have been impressed with his dedication, good humor, affability, organizational skills and dedication to Unitarian Universalism. David also has shown commitment to our children and to their families.

This spring, we convened a Director of Religious Education Search Committee composed of Bill Bryson-Brockmann (chair), Rosemary Olander, Jim Hawkins, Matt Larkin, Lorrie Bellafiore and our minister, the Rev. Catherine Torpey. Dana Reinecke was the liaison from the Board of Trustees. The committee advertised widely and interviewed several candidates. David was their enthusiastic choice. We are grateful for the dedicated service of the search committee and also for the work of the Religious Education Committee, chaired by Lisa Bilello and Ilene Corina. Lisa and Ilene have worked closely with David this year.

We look forward to continuing to work with David and to build on his impressive skills in order to nurture, educate and inspire our young people - those who we are blessed to have among us now and the many who will come through our doors in the future. Religious education is the future of any congregation; with David on board, we see our future as bright indeed.

Yours in faith,

Brian Larkin, President  
(the Rev.) Catherine Torpey, Minister

# Among Ourselves

Many thanks go to the people who made donations the SNUUC Special Occasions and Memorial Gift Fund in memory of Dorothy Seacord, Virginia Terris, Arlene Brown and Lucile Berg. These donations were given by Anne Fleming, Barbara Singer, Edward & Susan Prest, SSDS Sunshine Fund, Rita Tancredi, Alice & Carl Spatt, Ivy Greenburg, Susan Terris, Edward & Lois Goodwill, James & Beverly Seacord, Zelda & Burt Goldstein, Alan Berg, Lisa & Bill Bryson-Brockmann and Bonny Levenson. Thank you all very much.

**Congratulations Coral Kennelty Cohen** who graduated May 13 with a double major in Sociology & Psychology from Austin College in Sherman, Texas. Coral was the student chosen to read the prayer at the Baccalaureate, and she received the "Oscar C. Page Servant of the Year" Award.

**Corey Bilello** is graduating from Calhoun HS in June. He will be attending Nassau Community College's honor track then onto SUNY @ Stony Brook for engineering. Congratulations Corey!

**Congratulations Jessica Fassman**, who is excited to be graduating from the Fashion Institute of Technology in NYC.

**Do you have a High School or College graduate that you would like to brag about?** Send the office a note and we'll include the celebration in the next Open Line.

**Did you know SNUUC is on Facebook?** It's a great way for you to keep up with the congregation between Sundays or if you can't make it to service. Find out what's going on, post pictures, let us know what you're doing, what causes you're involved in, and stay connected. Make SNUUC your Facebook friend and join the group SNUUC - South Nassau Unitarian Universalist Congregation. **Young Adult UUs have a new Facebook page through the UUA.** Check it out at <https://www.facebook.com/HubYAUU>

## Committees at Work

**Committee Chairs are reminded of the Congregational Council Calendaring meeting on Wednesday June 6 at 7pm.**

**We need the dates of all SNUUC happenings for July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.**

**We hope you will be able to attend but if that is not possible, please send your SNUUC calendar dates to the office.**

**The next Board meeting** will be on Wednesday June 13 at 7:30 in the foyer.

**The RE committee** will meet on Tuesday night, June 5 at 7pm at SNUUC.

## the Board thanks...

all the people who helped to make our  
Talent Auction a great event  
on Saturday night May 12,  
especially Rita Hines, Liz DiMaggio  
& Bobby Newman!

## Talent Auction News

**Many thanks to all who participated in our Talent Auction 2012!** The lists of who purchased your offerings are available at the Ways and Means table on Sundays or SNUUC office on weekdays. If you were unable to attend our popular Talent Auction in May (or forgot to bring your calendar!) there are still some openings available for items. The "leftovers list" is available online <http://www.snuuc.org/Forms/TA12leftovers.pdf>. Talent Auction offerings take place all year long. Here are some of the events taking place in June, all with unlimited attendance. Join the fun! If possible, let the person offering the event know that you will be attending.

### Footnotes Concert

Date: Friday, 6/22, 7:30 PM, @SNUUC  
Offered by: Ian Cathcart & Kristen Seyfried  
\$12 per person

Enjoy a night of great entertainment as Ian and Kristen showcase their talents on the big stage. All are welcome!

### Brainstorming w/ Cheap Wine & Snacks

Date: Friday, 6/8, 7:30 PM, @ Liz's home 2073 Decker Ave, Merrick

Offered by: Liz DiMaggio \$5 per person  
An informal discussion about what you'd like to see SNUUC involved in. Talk about projects that are important to you which we can effectively work on at SNUUC. Opinions of youth, newcomers and experienced are greatly appreciated. All are invited, 21 and older to drink. The more the merrier!

### Wine, Women & Song(s)... and Stories

Date: Friday, 6/29, 7:00 PM, @SNUUC  
Offered by: Barbara Singer and Anne Fleming  
\$15 per person paid at auction or \$20 per person at the door.

Enjoy a special evening of light entertainment provided by song stylist Barbara Singer & storyteller Anne Fleming who will share their favorite songs and stories in the Sanctuary at 7:30 p.m. Come early at 7:00 pm so you can sip wine and enjoy munchies in the "candlelight cabaret" aka the foyer.

*Adults only*



# In the RE Wing

This is my first column as the permanent Director of Religious Education. My journey in this role officially began last August 15 and I am now in a position to carry on the work that I have put into this program for the foreseeable future. I am thankful that you have chosen me for to lead this program and I am confident that I will continue to work well with Catherine, the RE Committee and the congregation to provide meaningful religious education and community building opportunities in the RE Wing and beyond.

What were some of the highlights of the past RE year for me? Among them were: having the pleasure of working with some very creative, dedicated and committed RE teachers and friends of the RE Wing: our Fall RE registration and Pizza Party: Halloween Party: Social Action Holiday Care Package Sunday: Jr. Youth Service: Christmas Eve Service: Holiday Art Party: Senior HS Service: Teacher Appreciation Breakfast: Intergenerational Luncheon: the contributions in the RE Wing of Ministerial Intern Eve Stevens: The Easter Sunday Service and Easter Egg Hunt: Senior HS Games Night: Earth Day Social Action Sunday with Sharon Kennelty Cohen: the Midnight Run: the musical contributions of Ian Cathcart and Phil Kennelty Cohen: getting to know our wonderful children and youth and the pleasure of working with Catherine, who has been so supportive of me and our program.

The RE Committee will be meeting over the next few months to plan activities and events for the upcoming RE year. I will submit curriculum for our children and youth that will be educational, creative and fun. And above all, I promise that I will give my best effort to ensure that next year will be even better than this past one.

David Silver, DRE

## SOCIAL ACTION NEWS

**Calling all Senior Youth and ALL volunteers!  
The Senior Youth led Midnight Run on Friday May 4,  
was such a success that they are planning for a  
Breakfast Run on July 1.**

The Midnight Run is a volunteer organization dedicated to finding common ground between the housed and the homeless. Volunteers distribute food, clothing, blankets and personal care items to the homeless poor on the streets of NYC. That human exchange, rather than the exchange of goods, is the essence of the Midnight Run mission. **They will once again be bringing personal care items and preparing 100 meals to take on this Midnight Run Breakfast Run.** A list of items needed will be given out soon. **Preparation for this Run will take place on Saturday evening, June 30.** If you are interested in helping please or want more information, please see Ilene Corina.

**PULSE of NY** What has New York State done since the 2007 breaking story alerting the public to the reuse of syringes in a Long Island doctor's office? The One & Only Campaign is a public health campaign, led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Safe Injection Practices Coalition (SIPC), to raise awareness among patients and healthcare providers about safe injection practices. **Mary Beth Wenger, NYS Department of Health Project Coordinator will be at SNUUC to talk with the community about the One and Only Campaign. Wednesday June 6, 2012 1:00 - 3:00, Free**

RSVP to [icorina@pulseofny.org](mailto:icorina@pulseofny.org) or call (516) 579-4711. Presented by the PULSE of NY Patient Safety Advisory Council The PULSE of NY, Patient Safety Advisory Council's mission is to have a wide-reaching impact on improving patient safety awareness and health literacy in local communities while strengthening ties with health care providers. PULSE of NY, a grassroots patient safety and advocacy organization is holding a six-month series to help empower patients and their families with information about the hospital or healthcare setting. Visit [www.pulseofny.org](http://www.pulseofny.org)

# SNUUC Calendar June 2012

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<i>1</i>	<i>2</i> COA in Huntington UU 3:00
<i>3</i> <b>Coming of Age</b> RE Appreciation Breakfast 9am RE Improv 2-4 F	<i>4</i> Pilates 5pm F NVC 7-9 F	<i>5</i> Yoga 5:30-6:30 F RE Comm 7pm RE	<i>6</i> PULSE 1-3:00 F <b>Congregational Council</b> <b>Calendaring 7pm F</b>	<i>7</i> Unicrafters 1:00 F Yoga 4:30 F Drumming Wkshp 6pm RE Choir Practice 7:30 S	<i>8</i> Talent Auction Event Brainstorming @ Liz DiMaggio's 7:30 All invited!	<i>9</i>
<i>10</i> <b>Bridging &amp; Teacher &amp; Volunteer Recognition</b> <b>BBQ out on the Front Lawn!</b> Stamping Class 3-6 RE Bonny Levenson & Paula Rosenberg Improv 2-4 F	<i>11</i> Pilates 5pm F NVC 7-9 F	<i>12</i> Yoga 5:30-6:30 F	<i>13</i> LaLeche 9am RE Board Meeting 7:00 F	<i>14</i> Unicrafters 1:00 F Yoga 4:30 F Drumming Wkshp 6pm RE Choir Practice 7:30 S	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> PULSE 2-6 F or RE
<i>17</i> <b>Summer Worship begins</b>	<i>18</i> Pilates 5pm RE NVC 7-9 F	<i>19</i> Yoga 5:30-6:30 F	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i> Unicrafters 1:00 F Yoga 4:30 F Drumming Wkshp 6pm RE Choir Practice 7:30 S	<i>22</i> Talent Auction Event FootNotes Concert @ SNUUC All invited! 7:30 F&S	<i>23</i>
<i>24</i>	<i>25</i> Pilates 5pm RE NVC 7-9 F	<i>26</i> Yoga 5:30-6:30 F	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i> Unicrafters 1:00 F Yoga 4:30 F Drumming Wkshp 6pm RE Choir Practice 7:30 S	<i>29</i> Talent Auction Event Wine, Women & Song @ SNUUC All invited! 7pm F	<i>30</i>

**Congregational Council Calendaring Meeting  
Wednesday June 6, 7pm**

***Come to these Talent Auction Offerings!***  
**Footnotes Concert**

Friday, 6/22, 7:30 PM, @SNUUC

**Brainstorming w/ Cheap Wine & Snacks**  
Friday, 6/8, 7:30 PM, @ Liz's DiMaggio's home

**Wine, Women & Song(s)... and Stories**  
Friday, 6/29, 7:00 PM, @SNUUC

**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  
Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
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