



# The Open Line

SOUTH NASSAU

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

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**Come to Our Annual Fall Kick-Off Pot Luck Dinner this Saturday, September 8!**

If your name begins with: \*A - H bring Dessert \*I - O bring a Salad or Vegetable \*P - Z bring Main Dish  
Dinner begins at 5:30. Please bring food enough for at least 8. Questions? Call Rosemary Olander Beach

Please help by arriving early to help set-up or stay after to help clean-up

\*\* Congregational Council Calendaring meeting is at 4:30 \*\*

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**September 9, 2012 10:30am**

Rev. Catherine Torpey

***Let the Waters Bring Forth Abundantly  
Water Ceremony***

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

**Coffee:** Carrie Mason Draffen

**Ushers:** Andrew Spatt & Volunteer Needed

**Lock-up:** Jim Crocetto

**Welcome:** Liz DiMaggio

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**September 16, 2012 10:30am**

Rev. Catherine Torpey

***Standing on One Foot  
Jewish High Holy Days***

**RE Kick Off Day!**

**Coffee:** Verna & Arnie Herman

**Ushers:** Andrew Spatt & *Volunteer Needed*

**Lock-up:** Jean Smyth Crocetto

**Welcome:** Liz DiMaggio

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**September 23, 2012 10:30am**

Rev. Catherine Torpey

***Kill Cool: Why Universalism is Tougher than it Seems***

**Religious Education Open House 10:15 - invite your friends!**

**Coffee:** *Volunteer Needed*

**Ushers:** Rita Tancredi & Andrew Spatt

**Lock-up:** Mary Canada

**Welcome:** Liz DiMaggio

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**September 30, 2012 10:30am**

Preacher, Allison Palm

***To Begin Again in Love: Forgiveness and Reconciliation***

**Morning Forum begins 9am; discuss the film *The Bible Tells Me So***

***Memorial Service for Rose Kuhn 12:30***

**Coffee:** POT LUCK! Selina Benson coordinating; please bring something!

**Ushers:** Doris Brass & Robin Norris

**Lock-up:** Jay Gach

**Welcome:** Liz DiMaggio

**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

Dear friends -

*I'm coming home, I'm coming home. Tell the world I'm coming home. Let the rain wash away all the pain of yesterday. I know my kingdom awaits and they've forgiven my mistakes. Tell the world I'm coming back where I belong. I've never felt so strong, feeling like there's nothing that I can't try - and if you're with me put your hands high!*

*("Coming Home" by J. Cole and Alex Da Kid)*

What a blessing to have the opportunity each fall to start fresh. Whatever the "pains of yesterday" have been, we can always make the choice to let the rains wash away our hurts and disappointments. We can also leave our successes behind us if in any way they hinder us - as successes sometimes can, by distorting our expectations of what we are capable now, or what we want in this new time and place.

And what better place to begin again fresh than in this congregation, where we are committed to being the BEST people we can be - no matter how many times we have fallen short.

This fall, we begin fresh with a wonderful intern, Allison Palm. To my knowledge, this is the first time that SNUUC has hired an intern minister, just as Eve Stevens was our first Field Education minister and Kelly Murphy Mason was our first community minister. It is exciting to see us nurturing the larger UU ministry in this way, and it is re-vitalizing to have aspiring young ministers in our midst. I know you'll support Allison with the same love and kindness you have shown me and other leaders in the congregation.

We also begin our new Sunday "Morning Forums." Please attend these as regularly as you can - David, Allison and I are looking forward to seeing what works for you, what interests you, how we can deepen your experience in this, your religious home.

Welcome home - and if you are reading this online, check out this video, made by a UU congregation in Rochester, New York:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vbJ32h-YpQA&feature=youtu.be>

Yours in faith, hope and love,  
Catherine

## Meet Our Ministerial Intern Allison Palm



I am so excited to be starting a two-year, part-time internship at SNUUC this fall! I will be with you regularly on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays this year, and will, among other things, be doing some preaching, leading "Morning Forums" along with David and Catherine, and working with the Membership Committee.

I am a lifelong UU and am originally from central Minnesota. I came out to the East Coast about six years ago to finish up my undergraduate degree at Boston University. There, I studied religion with a focus on religion and politics. After graduating, I started working in the Religious Education program at The First Church in Belmont, MA. Over my four and a half years there I served in various capacities, working with Children's, Youth and Adult Religious Education, and as Student Minister last year.

This fall, I am entering my third and final year at Andover Newton Theological School in Newton, MA, where I am getting a Masters of Divinity with a focus on pastoral care and counseling. I just moved to Brooklyn this summer and will be traveling up to Newton once a week for classes for my last two semesters. In my spare time I enjoy biking, ballet, exploring the city, and spending time outdoors.

I've met a few of you over the summer and look forward to getting to know all of you in the weeks and months to come!

## Membership Team

Come to the first organizational meeting of the Membership Team on Wednesday September 19 at 7pm in the foyer, led by Allison Palm.

The revitalized Membership Team will work to welcome visitors, help new members connect, and provide pastoral care for all members of the congregation. Please join us for this first informational/organizational meeting if you have ideas about membership or if you are interested in joining the team. All are welcome.

**Are you part of a SNUUC committee or group and would like to use space in the building for a meeting or event some time between now and June 30, 2013?** Then you should attend the Congregational Council Calendaring meeting taking place an hour before Saturday's pot luck dinner at 4:30. Bring your calendars and ideas. Speak with Catherine if you have any questions.

# Morning Forum

Ever wish you had an excuse to get to SNUUC early every week? To sip your coffee and munch on your bagel whilst pondering the meaning of the universe, learning to live your UU values more fully and bonding with other fabulous people? Well, your wish has come true!

Morning Forums are our weekly Adult Education class. Our ministry staff (Rev. Catherine Torpey, DRE David Silver and our new Intern, Allison Palm) will rotate leadership of an adult education class each Sunday all year. The exact topics will be announced each month in the Open Line, and will follow this basic schedule:

The first Sunday of each month will deal with a theme of Civic Engagement. Second Sundays are a Book of the Month, selected and announced in advance. The third Sundays are sessions of a UU curriculum called "What Moves Us." The fourth Sunday of each month will explore themes from the Bible. They take place from 9am to 10am, usually in the Religious Education wing and all are welcome to come to one or all sessions.

The Morning Forums will begin on September 30, with Catherine leading the discussion on the film "The Bible Tells Me So," which discusses what the Bible does and does not say about homosexuality.

The Book of the Month to be discussed on October 14 is *Saffron Sky: A Life between Iran and America* by Gelareh Asayesh

# RE Open House



## Religious Education Open House, Sunday, September 23 at 10:15am

Help us spread the word...the South Nassau Unitarian Universalist Congregation is inviting families to come explore the religious education program. Parents can relax and enjoy a Sunday service while children take part in a religious education class. There will be a discussion about the curriculum followed by a question and answer period. Refreshments will be served.

Please tell your friends, family and anyone who ever asked the question "What's Unitarian Universalism?" This is the ideal opportunity to come learn about the R.E. program and explore our welcoming community.

# LGBT Outfest

Join us on Sunday, October 7 for our Coming out Service, which will be followed by the new LGBT Outfest Art Show and Concert. Coordinators of the show, Cliff Teachout and Gary Rosenberg are looking for artists and entertainment for the show. All artists, photographers, crafters and entertainers are encouraged to call or email Cliff or Gary,

soulbear@optonline.net, ASAP. There will be an organizational meeting for the Outfest on Sunday September 9 at 1pm at SNUUC, all are invited to attend.

# the Board thanks...

**All the members who turned out in August for the annual cleaning of SNUUC!** Including (in no particular order); Risa, Joe and Kira Centenni, Catherine Torpey, David Silver, Ilene Corina, Lisa Oldendorp, Ted Tiller, Mary Brower, Lorrie Bellafiore, Diane and Jim Hawkins, Selina, Avery and Max Benson. *We really appreciate everyone's help!*

**Worship Planning Meetings** Catherine is adding monthly Worship Planning meetings to the Fall calendar. These meetings will take place on the fourth Wednesday evening of every month at 7pm. Catherine will present her thoughts and intentions for upcoming worships, and anyone who would like to brainstorm readings, music, skits, or ritual elements with her is welcome. These meetings will be open to all.

# Among Ourselves

**We share the sad news of the passing of Rose Kuhn** on Monday August 27. Rose was a charter member of SNUUC when it was founded as SNUC in 1950. She was an active, dedicated member. We will miss her. There was a simple graveside service on August 30. There will be a memorial service at SNUUC on Sunday September 30 at 12:30.

**Thank you Ken Lawson!** Ken paid to have our front lawn spruced up; bushes were removed and soil was spread to even out some of the dips. Thanks Ken!

**College freshman Corey Bilello** sent a note to SNUUC; "Dear SNUUC Family, thank you all for your generous scholarship donation. With this scholarship I plan to further my education at Nassau Community College and to become an engineer."

**Hip, Hip Hurray!** Rita Tancredi has overcome her health problems and has an appointment for hip replacement on October 23. Good luck Rita!

**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 Saturday September 8 at 430, just before the Pot Luck.**

**The next Board meeting** will be on Wednesday September 12 at 7:30 in the foyer.

**The RE Committee** will meet on Sunday September 16 at noon in the RE wing.

Come to the first organizational meeting of the **Membership Team** on Wednesday September 19 at 7pm in the foyer, led by Allison Palm.

### Can You Usher?

Ushers are an important part of our Sunday service. They hand out the order of service, count attendance, collect the offering and help the service run smoothly each Sunday morning. It's an important ministry without a big time commitment. The ushers are looking for people to join them one Sunday a month. Can you help? Please speak with Head Usher Andrew Spatt or Catherine Torpey. Thanks!

## Our UU Community

The UU Congregation of Central Nassau, Stewart Ave in Garden City, invites you to their upcoming **Garden Stage concerts**. Jackson Browne Tribute - Penny Nichols and her band: Glen Roethel, John Redgate & Mark Dann, Sept. 7. On October 5 hear John Flynn and Freebo. All shows 8:30 with Open Mic 7:30 (sign-up at 7). \$18 Adv/\$20 Door. For tickets and information; [calendar@uuccn.org](mailto:calendar@uuccn.org) 248-8891 [www.GardenStage.com](http://www.GardenStage.com), [www.uuccn.org](http://www.uuccn.org)

**The UU Animal Ministry** ([www.uuam.org](http://www.uuam.org)) is sponsoring a class titled **Transforming Belief into Practice**. This one-session webinar will reflect upon Albert Schweitzer's ethic of *Reverence for Life* and what it could mean for our lives and our congregations. Saturday September 8th, 12 – 1:30 p.m. The UUAM also offers **Connecting Our Hearts to All Life: Compassionate Relationships, Care, and Advocacy**. This eight-session online course offers compassionate communication skills, understanding of trans-species intelligence, ethics, animal behavior, spiritual practices, and more! Tuesdays, 6 - 7:30 p.m., September 11 – October 30. You can register by emailing: Rev. LoraKim Joyner at [amoloros@juno.com](mailto:amoloros@juno.com).

**The UU Society of Martha's Vineyard** welcomes you to its annual Columbus Day B&B Weekend. They'll put you up with UU host families, treat you to a seafood supper with after-dinner entertainment, provide transportation to and from the Steamship Authority Ferry Terminal as needed, and welcome you to Sunday services at historic Stevens Chapel. Families are welcome and the Explorers Youth Group will particularly include children who come along—and children under 12 come for free. Cost: \$450 for a well-acquainted party of two; \$250 for single. Extra Day? Sure. Come a day early on Friday or stay an extra night on Monday. \$75 per person. **For more information and reservations** contact Johanna Kobran at (508) 693-7083 or [jnkobran@yahoo.com](mailto:jnkobran@yahoo.com).

# SNUUC Happenings

## Yoga

As Fall approaches, we begin to think about coming inside, centering ourselves and appreciating the abundance in our lives. What better way to be kind to yourself at this time than by joining one of our **Gentle Yoga with Spirit Classes** here at SNUUC? Your body, your mind, and your spirit will relax and replenish as you gently stretch, balance, and strengthen muscles and thoughts. Our classes are taught by licensed yoga instructor, Ivy Greenburg, and meet right in the SNUUC foyer. There are two groups -- 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. The first Tuesday class of the next series is Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> and the first Thursday class is on Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>. Enrollment is limited by availability of space. Please contact Anne Fleming at [afleming528@gmail.com](mailto:afleming528@gmail.com) to reserve your space!

## Drumming

**Learn to play that djembe!** Join SNUUC's drumming ministry, the DrUUmatics, to learn West African drumming. The DrUUmatics teach a beginner djembe class every Thursday from 6-7pm in the RE wing. The class is devoted to teaching proper technique and traditional West African rhythms. There is usually a drum available if you can't bring your own. Come on down and give it a try! \$15 per class. Check out the website for more info: <http://www.druumatics.org> or find the DrUUmatics page on Facebook.

## Pilates

**Monday Night Pilates** at SNUUC - 5-6pm, 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. No prior experience is required. Classes are Sunday afternoons from 2 to 4. A series costs \$80 for returning students, \$100 for new students. Contact Brian Larkin [bolarkin@optonline.net](mailto:bolarkin@optonline.net) to register.

**Card Making & Scrapbooking available in the SNUUC RE Wing on Sunday, September 9, 3 to 6pm.** You can make 10 cards in a holiday or celebration theme, an assortment of UU themed cards, or a 4 page Scrapbook Layout. All supplies are included, class is \$20. You must RSVP to be included, please contact Paula Rosenberg for more information. (717) 723-0973 or [paulaluvvs2stamp@aol.com](mailto:paulaluvvs2stamp@aol.com) Bring a friend!

# Compassionate Communication

We know you've heard about classes here at SNUUC dealing with Compassionate Communication. Well, now is your opportunity to learn more, up close and personal! This fall, practice groups are once again forming to work with the text *Nonviolent Communication – A Language of Life*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed, by Marshall Rosenberg, PhD. and to really discover what it means to live with an open heart, open ears, and a real desire to hear one another clearly and compassionately.

Arun Gandhi (grandson of Mahatma Gandhi) said that "Nonviolence means allowing the positive within you to emerge." Building on this concept, the Compassionate Communication practice group has become a vital small group ministry at SNUUC, open to all adults and youth (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 all their relationships as they learn to communicate compassionately and clearly with new skills and empathy.

This fall, we are excited to offer TWO 13-session series, a Saturday morning group and a Monday evening group. The Saturday morning group will begin on Saturday, September 22 and run from **9:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.** for 13 Saturday mornings. Our Monday evening group will begin on Monday, September 24 and run from **7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.** for 13 Mondays. Pre-registration is requested and attendance at the first six sessions (fundamental track) of either series is required of "newbies." So, if you plan on attending one of these 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))



## Coffee Hour Help Needed

We all enjoy socializing after the service; a cup of coffee or tea in hand makes it so much more pleasant. **Please volunteer to do coffee hour on one of the upcoming Sundays.** If you are new or new to preparing coffee hour, invite someone else to do it with you. The only requirement is to bring ½ gallon of milk. Snacks can be as simple or elaborate as you want to make it. The sign-up sheet is on the coffee table on Sundays or call or email Mary Brower at [mlbrowerapr@aol.com](mailto:mlbrowerapr@aol.com).

# In the RE Wing

# Fifth Sunday Giving

## And How Did You UU This Summer?

This is a play on words that I often ask our children and youth in our RE classes: 'How did you UU this week? What did you do to live our UU values?' After speaking with many of our congregants, SNUUC members did plenty of UU related activities this summer since the last 'official' Sunday of the congregational year on June 10.

Many were regular attendees at Sunday services throughout the summer. The guest Ministers and speakers that were selected by Catherine were uniformly wonderful. There was a 'Midnight Run for Breakfast' held on Sunday July 1 that benefited the homeless in New York City, led by SNUUC adults and youth. There was an offsite RE retreat meeting in early July attended by our dedicated RE Committee. SNUUC children, youth and adults attended UU camps at UU Adirondack in upstate New York, UUMAC in Pennsylvania and the Sophia Fahs camp on Shelter Island. There was a congregation clean up and a Board retreat held in August. A committee has been working through the summer on the RE Open House that will be held on Sunday September 23. There were Talent Auction events hosted over the summer that built community and contributed to the financial support of this wonderful congregation. And along with volunteering at the Thrift Shop and Soup Kitchen, these are just some of the UU related activities that SNUUC members participated in over the past 10 weeks.

I hope your summer gave you the opportunity to live our UU values and to relax, reflect and recharge your energy and spirit. We have a great year planned in the RE Wing with a strong RE program and a new adult programming initiative that has been developed by Catherine that I will be a part of. Our RE registration Pizza Party and Teacher Orientation is Friday night September 14 at 6:00pm and the first day of RE classes is Sunday September 16.

I look forward to seeing you at SNUUC to hear about your summer and to share all the plans that we have for 2012-2013. I cannot wait to get started as we nurture and guide our children and youth to become lifelong UU's that live our faith all year round.

David Silver, DRE

**On months with a fifth Sunday, the monies received during the offering is designated for a not for profit charity.** The Fifth Sunday Giving Committee is looking for members. It is a minimal commitment of one hour every few months. The Committee reviews applications and chooses what charity will benefit from one Sunday's collection plate in a month where there are five Sundays.

The committee is looking for submissions of worthwhile non-profit charities who will benefit from one of our Sunday Collections plates in a month where there are Five Sundays (September and December this year). Someone from the charity or the person submitting the applications must give a short talk before the collection describing the charity and who benefits. Please call or email Mary Brower at [mlbrower@aol.com](mailto:mlbrower@aol.com).

**"Heist"** SNUUC member Lisa Oldendorp in conjunction with MoveOn.org are showing the movie "Heist" at the UU Congregation of Central Nassau, 223 Stewart Ave, Garden City on Friday, September 14 at 7:30 pm.

This is the way it is advertised; "Heist: Who Stole the American Dream?" is a documentary about the roots of the American economic crisis, and the continuing assault on working and middle class people in the United States. "Heist" unflinchingly reveals the crumbling structure of the U.S. economy - the result of four decades of deregulation, massive job outsourcing, and tax policies favoring mega-corporations and wealthy elites, implemented by both the Republican and Democratic parties. "Heist" offers a robust Take Action section with real world solutions for everyday Americans to participate in the restoration of economic fairness and our democracy.

Lisa is considering having a movie night at SNUUC one evening a month. For further information or if you would like to help please contact Lisa Oldendorp.

Teacher volunteers for this Fall are asked to attend our RE Registration Pizza Party and Teacher Orientation on Friday September 14. Registration and dinner begins at 6pm and the teacher orientation will begin at 7pm.

# SNUUC Calendar September 2012

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<i>1</i>
2 Hollis Huston 10:30am <i>Working Hard &amp; Hardly Working</i>	3 Pilates 5pm F	4	5	6 Drumming Wkshp 6pm RE Choir Practice 7:30 S	7	8 <b>Welcome Fall Pot Luck</b> 5:30 RE Calendaring Meeting 4:30
9 <b>Welcome Fall Water Communion</b> 10:30 Exec Board Mtg 12 M Outfest Mtg 1:00 F Stamping Class 3-6 RE	10 PULSE 1-5 Pilates 5pm F	11	12 LaLeche 9am RE Board Meeting 7:30 F	13 Unicrafters 1:00 F Drumming Wkshp 6pm RE Choir Practice 7:30 S	14 RE Teacher Orientation & Registration 6pm RE	15
16 <b>RE Classes begin</b> RE Committee 12 RE LIAC Meeting 2:00 F	17 PULSE 1-3 Pilates 5pm RE	18 Yoga 5:30-6:30 F	19 ESL-Let's Talk 10-1 F Membership Team 7 F	20 Unicrafters 1:00 F Yoga 4:30 F Drumming Wkshp 6pm RE Choir Practice 7:30 S	21	22 NVC 9:45 F
23 <b>RE Open House 10:15</b>  <b>30 Morning Forum 9am RE</b> Rose Kuhn Memorial 12:30	24 Pilates 5pm RE NVC 7-9 F	25 Yoga 5:30-6:30 F	26 ESL-Let's Talk 10-1 F Worship Planning 7 F	27 Unicrafters 1:00 F Yoga 4:30 F Drumming Wkshp 6pm RE Choir Practice 7:30 S	28	29 NVC 9:45 F

**Fall Kick-Off Pot Luck Dinner**  
**Saturday, September 8, 5:30**

**Congregational Council Calendaring Meeting**  
**Saturday September 8, 4:30**

**Religious Education Open House Sunday**  
**September 23 10:15 - invite your friends!**

**Morning Forum begins**  
**Sunday September 30, 9am**

**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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