



The Open Line

SOUTH NASSAU

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

March 3, 2013 10:30am
SNUUC Window Sermon Series
The Ankh and our Quest for Meaning
(last of the series)

Coffee: Selina Benson
Lock-up: Brian Larkin

Ushers: Nicki Barry & Andrew Spatt
Welcome: Membership Team

March 10, 2013 10:30am Turn Your Clocks Ahead! Allison Palm
Time to Care: A service in honor of Patient Safety Awareness Week
Come to the UU Summer Camp Fair after the service!

Coffee: Volunteer Needed
Lock-up: Peter Larsen

Ushers: Doris Brass & Andrew Spatt
Welcome: Membership Team

March 17, 2013 10:30am
Covenant Feast
A "rich-UUal" meal

Coffee: Volunteer Needed
Lock-up: Jim Crocetto

Ushers: Anne Fleming & Jayne Davison
Welcome: Membership Team

March 24, 2013 10:30am
Dreams in the Desert: Passover

Coffee: Volunteer Needed
Lock-up: Jean Smyth Crocetto

Allison Palm

Ushers: Robin Norris & Andrew Spatt
Welcome: Membership Team

March 31, 2013
Easter
Here Comes the Sun

Coffee: Volunteer Needed
Lock-up: Mary Canada

Rev. Catherine Torpey

Ushers: Andrew Spatt & Volunteer Needed
Welcome: Membership Team

Rev Catherine Torpey, Minister - Minister@SNUUC.org
Catherine is in the office several times a week and works from home on other days. Monday is her day off. Please feel free to call her at any time to talk or to make an appointment.
Allison Palm, Ministerial Intern Thursday 11-4 PalmAlli@gmail.com
Director of Religious Education, David Silver
Hours by appointment DRE@SNUUC.org
Office Manager & Editor, Lisa Bryson-Brockmann
Office open each 3rd Monday & every Tuesday through Friday 9-1

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Vice President, Steve Lester
Secretary, Selina Benson
Treasurer, Peter Larsen

Musings from the Minister

Dear friends -

Congratulations, SNUUC, for making a firm commitment to be as inclusive and accessible to all people as we know we want to be. I'm referring, of course, to the vote to fund the renovation of our bathrooms to make them wheelchair accessible. This choice makes it clear that we as a community truly wish to invite in all who would seek a faith that is open and liberating - a religion that is all about being connected.

In that same bi-annual meeting, you made the choice to have a smaller and - the hope is - nimbler board. I believe that your acceptance of the recommendation to alter the by-laws in this way indicates the confidence and trust you have in your fellow congregants to make wise choices. When each member of the board understands that they work for the good of the whole congregation, rather than advocating for any particular segment of SNUUC, then a smaller board is just as connected and accountable as a larger one. I hope that this change releases more energy for people to serve the congregation in other, equally valuable ways.

So things are really moving around here - things are heating up. And it ain't just because spring's a-comin'. There is a Covenant Feast planned for March 17 and I couldn't be more excited. Spruce yourselves up, come ready to eat and chat and share stories for a ritual meal - or, since we're kicking off stewardship season, a "rich-uual" meal! This will be a Sunday morning you won't want to miss.

Yours in faith, hope and love,
Catherine



Caring Committee

A new Caring Committee has been formed over the past couple of months to help ensure that the congregation is being attentive to the pastoral needs of all its members. We meet monthly to identify needs in the congregation and find support for those who need it. The committee is led by our minister, Catherine Torpey, and the current members are Ilene Corina, Polly Stevens, and our Ministerial Intern, Allison Palm.

Feel free to be in touch with any of us if you know of a pastoral need, or if you are looking for support.

We are also looking to expand this committee, so if there is a member that you think would be well-suited to this committee, please let us know!

Thoughts from our Ministerial Intern

Last night I attended a War Resisters League book event that featured two books chronicling the stories of people who had gone to prison for their work for peace. One of the interesting issues that came up was the contrast between peace activists who are in prison because they *chose* to engage in some sort of civil disobedience, and the majority of the prison population--who are not there by choice at all. Most of the people in these two books had the resources and the support to make it alright to go to prison for a little while. This is a stark contrast to the majority of those who are incarcerated. One striking statistic that came up is that 70% of the people at Riker's Island are being held while they await trial on less than \$2000 bail. Essentially, they are in prison because they are poor.

Our Morning Forum book for the next three weeks is "The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness" by Michelle Alexander. Alexander examines some of the flaws of the American prison system, focusing on the ways in which people of color are disproportionately incarcerated, often for small crimes, and often on less than \$2000 bail. The inspiration for the title came from a single line that Alexander heard: "The war on drugs is the new Jim Crow."

"The New Jim Crow" is this year's UUA Common Read. Each year the folks at the UUA pick one book that they think all UUs should read--I haven't finished the book yet, but I figure if it is the one book they chose for this year, it must have some important things for us for us to hear.

I hope you will join us on one of the next three Sundays to engage with this fascinating text. We're meeting on February 24, March 3 and March 10 at 9am for coffee and conversation. Feel free to come even if you have not read the book! I'm looking forward to what I'm sure will be a series of stimulating conversations.

In faith,
Allison



Sunday Service MARCH 17, 2013

Why is this Sunday different from all other Sundays?

Come to the **COVENANT FEAST** (a "rich-UUal" meal) and find out...

10:30 a.m. to noon, Sunday March 17, in the Sanctuary.

Bring your whole family and dress up in your Sunday Best!

Your Stewardship Team has planned an extra special 90-minute inter-generational service to shine our inner lights upon our monetary giving to SNUUC - an every-year "rich-UUal" made more special this year. We will break bread together with the purpose of making our annual financial pledges to SNUUC for the coming congregational year.

The Stewardship Team, supported by the Board of Trustees and the Minister, wants and requests **100% participation of all SNUUC members** at the Covenant Feast. So, mark your calendars and join in anticipation of a wonderful service.

Association Appeal

SNUUC's Association Appeal for 2013 continues. This is a special collection of \$90 per member to fund our congregation's membership in the larger Unitarian Universalist community -- national, regional and local.

If you have already given, please accept our gratitude. Last year we received 61 members' dues. This was an increase from the 40 we received the year before and we hope to collect even more this year. If you have yet to give, please remember that once again we are sending to the UUA, the Metro District and LIAC only those dues we raise during this special appeal. Speak with a Board member or the office to get your Association Appeal form, or just send your check to the office. Please give as soon as you can.



*Flowers for the
chancel can be
donated for any reason;*

in memory of a loved one, to honor or celebrate a special event or just because you like flowers on the chancel! Your commemoration will be listed in the Order of Service and the Open Line.

Please sign up on the Chancel Flowers Calendar on the bulletin board in the foyer and donate \$20 to pay for the flowers. Speak to Lisa in the office for more details.

Among Ourselves

We share the news of the passing of Helen Joy on Tuesday morning, February 5. Helen joined SNUUC in 1971 with her late husband, John. She was a dedicated volunteer at the Thrift Shop and a faithful member of the Unicrafters. A one-time member of the board of trustees, she was well known and admired especially for her ability to recite amusing stories and poems from memory. **Our memorial for Helen Joy** will take place on Sunday March 3 at 12:15pm in our sanctuary. The family is from out of town, and would be very grateful for help in putting the food and coffee out for the reception. This would be a wonderful way to honor a woman who has given so much to SNUUC over many years. If you are available to help, please let Lisa or Catherine know. Many thanks.

Thank you Anne Fleming who gave a donation to the SNUUC Memorial Fund in memory of Helen Joy. Here is a sentence from the letter Anne wrote about Helen; "She had the spark of life and fun that, for me, makes a congregation come alive." Thanks Anne!

We give a hearty welcome to new member Julie Buckley. Be sure to say hello to Julie at coffee hour!



Our Passover Seder is Sunday March 24. Ilene Corina and David Silver would love to keep this tradition alive at SNUUC. Please join us for a Unitarian Passover Service followed by a traditional

Seder meal. All congregants and members of their families, friends and others in the community are welcome. We need to know if you will be joining us by March 15. Please let Ilene or David know of your interest.

Ways \$ Means

We're still locked in winter, but spring is coming and with it our incomparable Talent Auction, the biggest fundraiser of the year.

Rita Hines and her Talent Auction helpers will soon be handing out promissory notes which are due back to them the second Sunday in March.

Please jump in and make an offering, however humble, and return your note promptly so we have plenty of time to compile the booklet and get it to you. Then prepare to rock your social calendar for 2013 and 2014!

The New & Improved Morning Forums with coffee, bagels & only Great Books continues in March.



Discussion of *The New Jim Crow*, a UUA Common Read by Michelle Alexander begins on Sunday, February 24 at 9am in the RE wing. That Sunday the first section will be read together: copies will be provided. Discussion continues on Sundays March 3 and 10. March 24 begins a discussion of the book *Beyond Revenge: The Evolution of the Forgiveness Instinct* by Michael McCullough. Copies of the books are available from Eric Shefferman on Sundays. **Join this interesting discussion group on Sunday mornings at 9.**

UU Summer Camp Fair

will take place after service on Sunday March 10. Learn all about the great summer options for congregational members of all ages through the UUA, Metro NY District and LIAC. Information about camps, seminars, classes, workshops and work/study options will be available for you to look through.

Committees at Work

SNUUC Committees meet regularly and most encourage attendance at their meetings even if you are not a member of the committee. Speak with a Board member if you would like to learn more about a committee.

The Thrift Shop Committee will meet on Sunday, March 10 at noon in the RE wing.

The Board will meet on Wednesday March 13 at 7:30pm in the foyer.

The Membership Team is working to welcome visitors, help new members connect, and provide pastoral care for all members of the congregation. Speak with Allison Palm to find out when they are meeting in March and join them! All are welcome.

The RE Committee will meet on Sunday March 24 at noon in the RE wing.

SNUUC Happenings

Yoga

Gentle Yoga with Spirit classes as taught by Ivy Greenburg, licensed yoga instructor, continue through March. As winter settles in on us, it's time to think of nurturing our spirit with healthy activities that also strengthen and balance our bodies. They meet on Tuesday & Thursday, please e-mail Anne Fleming (afleming528@gmail.com) to get more information.

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

Pilates classes at SNUUC take place on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 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 to register.

Prayer Group

You are invited to join Allison Palm and Diane Hawkins to find fresh answers to the age-old question, "Why pray?"

A new Prayer Group had its first meeting at SNUUC in the sanctuary on February 21, 5:45 to 7:15pm. The group will meet every other Thursday (March 7 & 21).

Allison, Diane and others will look at the shared prayer forms of many faiths and create a practice that you can make your own, by composing your own prayers and reading together the book *Simply Pray* by Erik Walker Wikstrom. For more information, contact Allison at student@snuuc.org or Diane at danish0407@verizon.net.

Our Thrift Shop

Have you been to the Thrift Shop lately? Our Thrift Shop, located at 22 West Merrick Road here in Freeport, is a terrific place to shop and to donate clean, gently used saleable merchandise. *It's also a great place to volunteer some time.* Speak to Joe McAuley, Deb Scharf or Doris Brass, who are all on the Thrift Shop Committee, to find out how you can help.



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.

We need volunteers if we are to continue to have refreshments during our Sunday Coffee Hour. **As you can see from the 1st page March Sundays are available!** It does not have to be elaborate. The minimum asked is to bring 1/2 gallon of milk and come at 10am and make coffee. Ask a friend or a new member to do it with you. Also watch for "pot luck" Sundays where you can bring one thing to share. Choose a date and speak with Mary Brower mlbrowerapr@aol.com or Lisa in the office to schedule. You can also sign up on the sheet; it's on the coffee table on Sunday. Thanks!!



GA in KY!

UUA President Rev. Peter Morales invites you to General Assembly (GA), A Meeting of Congregations on June 19-23, Louisville, KY.

GA is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. Anyone may attend; congregations must certify annually to send voting delegates. [Video recap](#) of GA 2012. The General Assembly [2013 Schedule](#)

Why [Louisville](#)? [Registration](#), [Housing Reservations](#), and [Volunteer and Scholarship](#) Applications will be available March 1. **Speak with Catherine if want to attend GA.**

In the RE Wing

If you or your family has not made definite plans for this summer yet, consider all of the wonderful options available to SNUUC congregants through the UUA, the Metro NY District and the Long Island Area Council of UU Congregations. There are offerings for all ages and interests that could make this one of your most enlightened and enjoyable summers yet.

If you are entering your senior year in HS or are in college, the LIAC administered Student Activity Fund provides a means to earn money while performing social action and community service in our neighborhoods. You can read about the experiences of participants with this program on the LIAC website.

For high school students looking to enhance their leadership skills, there are programs and curriculums on personal development, social justice and political activism being offered from Stony Point, NY to Lanoka Harbor, NJ to Boston, MA.

For UU Summer camp experiences, UUAdirondack offers a beautiful mountain setting in Lowville, NY that can include the entire family and youth for one week to six week programs. Star Island Camp off the coast of New Hampshire, Camp Rowe in western Massachusetts, UUMAC in central Pennsylvania, Murray Grove Camp for grades 4-6 in New Jersey and the Sophia Fahs RE Camp on Shelter Island, NY all offer a variety of educational and recreational programming that will nurture your spirit and sense of family, community and adventure.

Some of my best memories with my daughter are the five summers we spent together at Sophia Fahs camp. I enjoyed it so much that I continue to serve as a counselor and Board member there. My daughter also enjoyed her summer experience at UUMAC. She still maintains many of her friendships she made at these camps. A recent camp reunion at my home with many of her camp friends was a joyous occasion.

Speak with others in our SNUUC community regarding their UU summer experiences, then see me if you need application information or for scholarship opportunities. I know that you will be glad that you did.

David Silver, Director of Religious Education



Our UU Community

Sr. OWL Applications are now available for the LIAC sponsored **Senior HS Our Whole Lives (OWL) Program**, led by Paula Rosenberg and Ron Ventola. Classes begin on March 10, the application deadline is March 2. There will be an orientation meeting on March 3 at 3pm for parent/guardians at the Huntington Fellowship, UUFH. Please contact David Silver for more details

Sophia Fahs Do you have a child or youth who will be entering 3rd-12th grade next fall? Would your child/youth be interested in attending the 2013 **Sophia Fahs UU Religious Education Camp** on Shelter Island for a week this August? Camp begins at 3 pm Sunday, Aug. 11, and ends on Friday, Aug. 16. Applications are mailed to previous campers with a due date of March 15. Campers' medical forms need to be signed by a medical professional, so you may want to make any necessary office appointments ***now*** in order to meet the March 15 deadline and get the best tuition rate. Adult volunteers are needed! Speak with David Silver to get an application and to learn more.

SAF The **Student Activity Fund** is a grant program funded by the UU Veatch Program at Shelter Rock that enables Long Island UU students to perform significant community service while earning money to help finance their education. The purpose of SAF is to encourage young UUs to live their religious values through internships in social action, advocacy and service provision. Through the years, students have participated in the program in their home towns and all over the world. The program is open to students who will be high school seniors and undergraduate college students next Fall, & whose families are members of Long Island UU Congregations. Read about the experiences of last year's student participants on the LI Area Council website, <http://www.liacuu.org>. Application Deadline is **APRIL 15, 2013**. Applications and more information about the Program are available on the LIAC Website (<http://www.liacuu.org>) or by contacting Linda Pfeiffer, Coordinator of the SAF Program by e-mail (lpfeiffer@optonline.net) or phone (631-584-6854).

LIAC Dinner You are invited to attend the **Long Island Area Council Dinner** on April 6, at 6pm. Guest speaker Reverend Jude Geiger, Minister of Religious Education, will speak on the topic "How do we Attract and Retain Young Families?" at the UU Congregation at Shelter Rock. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$22 at the door. Send checks to: Gretta Johnson-Sally (LIAC Administrator) 5 Reydon Place, Commack, NY 11725 For more information: Call 631-387-5270

SNUUC Calendar March 2013

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 Morning Forum 9 RE Helen Joy Memorial Svc 12:15 Exec Board Mtg 12 M Improv 2-4 RE	4 Pilates 5pm F NVC 7-9 F	5 Yoga 5:30-6:30 F	6 Pilates 5pm F	7 Prayer Group 5:45-7:15 Yoga 4:30-5:30 F Drumming Wkshp 6pm RE Choir Practice 7:30 S	1 	2 NVC 9:45 F COA 2-9pm RE & K
10 Daylight Savings Time Morning Forum 9 RE Thrift Shop Comm 12 RE Rental Stamping Class 3-6 RE Sr Hi OWL 6-10pm RE Improv 2-4 F	11 Pilates 5pm F NVC 7-9 F	12 Yoga 5:30-6:30 F	13 LaLeche 9am RE Pilates 5pm F Board Meeting 7:30 F	14 Yoga 4:30-5:30 F Drumming Wkshp 6pm RE Choir Practice 7:30 S	15 	16 NVC 9:45 F
17 Stewardship Sunday Come to the Covenant Feast at 10:30am! Improv 2-4 F	18 Pilates 5pm RE NVC 7-9 F	19 Yoga 5:30-6:30 F	20 Pilates 5pm F Membership Cmte 7F	21 Yoga 4:30-5:30 F Drumming Wkshp 6pm RE Prayer Group 5:45-7:15 Choir Practice 7:30 S	22 Talent Auction Event 6:30pm F&K	23 NVC 9:45 F
24 Morning Forum 9 RE RE Comm 12 RE, RE rental 12 Improv 2-4 F - Seder 5pm 31 Easter	25 Pilates 5pm RE No NVC	26 No Yoga	27 Pilates 5pm F	28 Worship planning 3pm M No Yoga Drumming Wkshp 6pm RE Choir Practice 7:30 S	29 	30

Ted's Head! An Open Mic fundraiser
for SNUUCs handicap accessible bathrooms
Saturday February 23, 7pm

Come to the *COVENANT FEAST* (a "rich-UUal" meal)
at our Sunday Service on March 17, 10:30am.

The New & Improved Morning Forums
with coffee, bagels &
only Great Books continue in March.

March 10, Turn Your Clocks Ahead & come to the
UU Summer Camp Fair after the service!

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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