

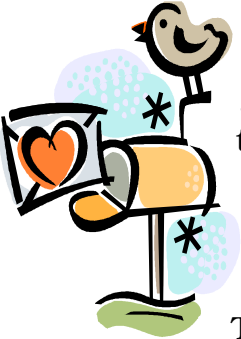


Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at Stony Brook

(631)751-0297

The Unicorn Newsletter August 2010

Greetings from Rev. Margaret Allen



Greetings, everyone, from your soon-incoming minister, The Rev. Margaret “Margie” Allen (I pronounce my nickname with a hard “g”). I am so eager to meet you all! I have been learning about you indirectly through your website and in conversation with District folk, with Carol and other colleagues, and with your search committee. For the last month or so, your new President, Dixie Comeau, and I have been enjoying very helpful and productive weekly phone calls.

Today I write from my dorm room on the campus of Radford University in Radford, VA, the host campus for the Southeast UU Summer Institute (SUUSI) where I will lead the Friday evening earth-centered worship service. My partner Linda, her son Matt, and I have been here since Sunday, July 18th. We spent a day and a half on our way south visiting favorite haunts in my hometown of Roanoke, VA, including the Hollins University campus where I grew up; the wonderful City Market; the Roanoke Food Co-op where I nourished my love of food and cooking over many years; and the hospital where I worked as a cardiac surgery ICU nurse for 14 years. “Oh, Shenandoah!” The landscape, people and traditions of Southwest Virginia sing in my blood. It has been so soul-nourishing to return to my roots here, to bike along and go tubing down the New River, to learn about GPS geocaching and Virginia winemaking, and to worship, learn, and teach among UU friends new and old. Next week (7/26-29) I am off to Boston to attend our denominational training in Interim and Consulting (Transitional) Ministries. Then there is one last frantic week of packing before the Thursday, August 5th Anderson-Allen family move date! We’ve rented a house off of Rt. 347 in the “M” section of the vintage development behind Lowes and Borders: 49 Marwood Pl. It’s a couple of miles from the Fellowship—a good spot for now.

I will begin to appear among you in the flesh on August 16th, a Monday.

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Greetings from Rev. Allen (cont. from page 1)

I'll be setting up my office and acquainting myself with the building and grounds, learning about your congregational routines, introducing myself to you at the Fellowship and in town, meeting local UU and interfaith colleagues, town officials, neighbors, social justice movers and shakers and others with whom I will be collaborating in ministry. Then, starting the Tuesday after Labor Day, the Board and I have planned a progression of parties, play dates, meetings, field trips, one-on-ones, potlucks and conversations that we hope will begin to bring us together as new partners in ministry, cadre by cadre, issue by issue, need by need, shared passion by shared passion. I look forward to leading our Sunday service for the first time on September 12th.

So, I'll see you very soon. It will feel so good to be, finally, in your midst.

Margie

From the Board of Trustees

Dear Members and Friends,

I'd like to use this space every issue to bring you up to date on the activities, priorities, concerns and accomplishments of the Board of Trustees. I hope it will give you a line of sight to aspects of Fellowship life that you may not see, and inspire you to become even more engaged in the ministries and work that make this our beloved spiritual home.

Some quick bullets for this issue:

- 1) We have authorized a search committee to begin the search for our next Director of Religious Education.
- 2) Reverend Margie Allen officially joins us August 16. We are putting together a calendar of meetings, events and private appointment times at which you and she can meet in August and September. We will publish it soon.
- 3) Thanks to all who have completed their 2009-2010 pledge commitments. We still have several thousands of dollars outstanding from last year's pledges. If you have not yet completed your pledge, please do so if you can. We sincerely need you.

Space is limited - much more to come! *Dixie Comeau*

Boy Scout Eagle Project Completed! (Thanks Sean!!!)

Our Junior Fellowship member, Sean Johnson-Sally, Boy Scouts of America Troop 125, Commack, completed his Eagle Project, which was to refurbish and rebuild the Pulpit Garden in the front of our Fellowship. Sean, with the help of other troop members, began the project in September. He did his own fundraising, including several car washes, and completed the project on June 27th. Our unusually severe weather conditions this past winter delayed progress throughout the winter. He still must complete required paperwork before the Eagle rank is actually bestowed on him. We'll let you know when it's official. Thanks Sean and team for all your hard work! It looks great!



What's new in Religious Education?

The RE committee has been hard at work planning for our fall religious education program. While we anxiously await a new DRE, we are excited to be implementing a new curriculum made available from the UUA called Tapestries of Faith (found at:

<http://www.uua.org/religiouseducation/curricula/tapestryfaith/index.shtml>). The program embodies a faith development focus for all ages, and nurtures Unitarian Universalist identity, spiritual growth, a transforming faith, and vital communities of justice and love.

Our Sunday program will meet from 10:30 to 11:30 am. We will have two worship circles each week; one for prekindergarten to 3rd grade, and one for 4th to 8th grade (senior high will meet separately). After circle time, we will divide into smaller grade level activity sessions. Our specific goals are to:

- Provide children with ways to share their spiritual selves, through circle worship. In circle we welcome everyone, listen to stories, sing together and learn together.
- Connect the intangible gift of the spiritual self with the 7 principles through activities based on the Tapestry Curriculum and work on eco-social justice Faith Actions with each other, the congregation and the community.

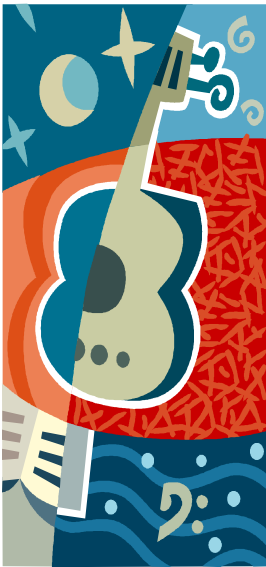
The activities and Faith Actions involve play, dance, art, cooking, letter campaigns and other ways for children to creatively express themselves.

Once a month we will plan to have a "Super Souper Faith Action" project that will involve children of all ages working together. We are very excited about this and will plan to work together with our Social Action Committee. More information will become available in the fall. Stay tuned! We can still use more helpers to ensure that the program runs smoothly each week. If you are available to be a leader or an assistant (even for one Sunday), please let Michele Maggio (maggiofamily@yahoo.com) or Nancy Hunter (nhunter585@aol.com) know. We promise you'll have a great time!

Summer Services Theme: Re-creation of Our Spiritual Home

This summer, the theme of our services "Re-creation of our spiritual home," an exploration of the sources of our UU'ism continues. Earth-centered traditions, music, social justice, transcendentalism, language, and more! Check out the schedule of future summer services on page 8.

Woodlands Folk Festival Needs Your Help Yesterday!

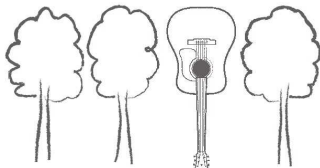


Hi wonderful UU's! I've missed seeing you this summer; summer is like that sometimes. Our Woodlands Folk Festival in October really needs some help to make it the success that we hope it will be. A core group of people have been working tirelessly for the last 4 months and now it's crunch time. We need help getting Sponsors, program ads and raffle items as soon as possible. One person doesn't have to do it all, but we need some someones to step up and make a few calls or knock on some doors. I've already written a wonderful sponsor letter, so that's done! Please contact me (cbjacobs@optonline.net) or Dave Bernstein (dave@webhse.com) to let us know how you're able to help. Thanks in advance! Peace and Cheer, Claudia

Also: **Please start saving any and all coffee cans and other cans that would make good drums!!!** We'll be offering instrument making at the festival.



Woodlands Folk Festival



Long Island

Woodlands Folk Festival Tee-shirts on Sale Now!

Beautiful Woodlands Folk Festival Tee-shirts are now available! Shirts are \$12 each before the festival and \$15 the day of the festival. See David Bernstein to get yours!

THE INTERWEAVE COMMITTEE

UUFSB's Interweave Committee is hosting a

Potluck Picnic

Saturday, July 31st at 12:00pm at the Fellowship

Bring something edible to share and a blanket and /or folding chair if you wish.

Rain or shine. **Everyone welcome.** Bring something edible to share. RSVPs appreciated but not required. For more info or to RSVP, please contact Carol Wynne at 235-2465 or carolcjw@aol.com.



UUFSB Goods & Services Auction

SAVE THE DATE: Nov. 6TH, 2010

Passage to India, Part II or déjà vu

Hi Everyone,

This is a picture of our congregation enjoying our last Goods & Services Auction.

Mark this important date on your calendar now [Nov.6th]. Your Goods & Services Team is already hard at work to make this event another wonderful experience. There are three things you can do right now to help:

1. Mark your calendar and reserve the date
2. Think up a wonderful event you would like to host (use dates into the spring and summer of 2011).
3. Go to local merchants that you frequent and ask for an ad or raffle prize

This is our biggest fund/fun-raiser. It has been switched from February for three reasons:

1. To avoid the school vacation so younger families can participate
2. February is too close to our annual pledge drive in March
3. In November, we can purchase items and events for friends and family as holiday gifts.

The Fellowship is counting on your support in this very important event.
Sincerely,

The Goods & Services Auction Team: Linda & Ed Mikell (Chairs)

Lawn-Mowing Volunteers Still Needed for August

We still need someone to mow the lawn in August (twice) , so if you can volunteer, please let us know. Thanks! Contact Linda Cortese (overflow@optonline.net) if you can help.

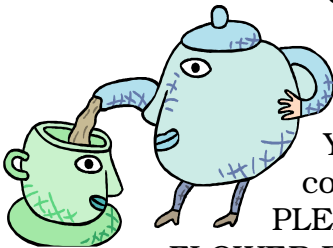
Please Sign Up as Coffee Host or to Provide Sunday Flower

Display! We still need coffee hosts and flower display donations for Sunday services. For coffee hosts, a signup sheet is available next to the coffeepots during coffee hour.

You can also contact Colleen directly at:

colleen.rudman@gmail.com for additional information. Also,

PLEASE Sign up on the lobby bulletin board to make a **FLOWER DISPLAY** for the Sunday pulpit honoring someone you love on their birthday or for some other special occasion. Thanks very much for your cooperation!



Tai Chi and Chi Gong Classes Now Forming

Pictured here is the evening Tai Chi class at the UUFSB. Now is the time to start thinking about whether Tai Chi and/or Chi Gong will be part of your healthy lifestyle. Join the many who have discovered the benefits (balance, joints, serenity) while practicing these ancient Chinese arts.

UUFSB is so fortunate to have wonderful teachers who break down the exercises into "learnable" parts and reassemble them into a whole. We have three morning classes and two evening classes starting in September. Registration will take place during the month of August. Call or email Linda Mikell if you want more information [543-0337 or edlinmik@optonline.net]. Classes are set up in three 12 week semesters during the year. Each semester is \$144. After the teachers are paid the rest of the money goes to the Fellowship. This is a win-win activity. Join us.



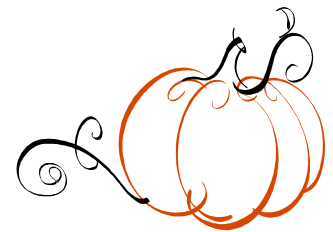
Labyrinth Journeys



This is a picture of a labyrinth that I helped to build in Petaluma California. It's on top of a mountain with beautiful views all around. Whether you walk UUFSB's indoor labyrinth or our outdoor labyrinth, we, too have beautiful views all around. It's your choice at our day and evening walks. We walk every Thursday at 1:30 pm. Our evening walk is the second Tuesday of every month. In August it will take place on the 10th at 8:30 pm. Usually there is Tai Chi on the labyrinth at 8 pm. Come to watch or join in. All are welcome. For further information contact Linda Mikell (543-0337).

Hobbs Farm and Community Neighbor Roots Gardens

We have harvested over 30 lbs now for the Port Jeff Soup Kitchen and LI food pantries in our little UUFSB plot at Hobbs Farm, and learned to make several interesting dishes to serve at the soup kitchen. Student Activity Fund Interns Katharine Lynch, Annie Morris and Katie Parker have been doing just wonderful, wonderful work in the Community, Educational and Visitors gardens, and Nora Baynes (Peggy Cohee's daughter) has become Elizabeth Takakjian's awesome right hand-farm hand. Toby Scott-Killian is home for the summer and helping out tremendously as well. What a difference these young people make! The big fields need harvesting and there is never enough help, so please come one day if you can. I won't be there this Monday, but you can usually find me there on Mondays 9am-12pm, Wednesdays 3:30-5:30pm and Saturdays 9am-12pm.



Also, the Farm Stand is open from 4-7pm on Tuesdays and 10am-1pm on Saturdays, selling produce for \$1 a pound. You can't beat those prices. Donations are always welcome! In Fellowship for this Good Earth and all its Children, Stefani Scott

Souper Sunday---August 1st



Souper Sunday is coming up on August 1st, so think about what you would like to bring and then let me know. Cold soups, salads, etc., work best to soothe and satisfy in this sultry season. The next Souper Sunday will be on September 5. Thanks so much. Joanne H. (joanne.hammer@gmail.com).

UUFSB Beach Picnic - Saturday, Sept. 25th

Come out and join us for some fun in the sun!

Location: Otto Shubert in Smithtown (formerly Little Africa Beach)

Date: Saturday, Sept. 25, 12:30pm to whenever

Cost: \$10 parking fee in advance (unless you have a Smithtown town pass

(A COMC table will be set up on Sundays after service to pay).

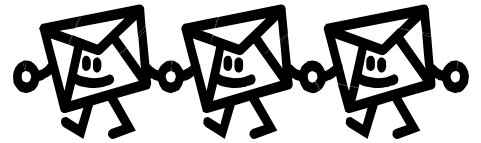
Bring a picnic lunch or charcoal to Bar-B-Q. Swimming, volleyball, paddle ball... bring your own equipment and chairs.

Coordinated by the COMC: Gretta Sally Johnson, Ursula Moylan, Janet Kagel, Shelly Frankel, John Morris, Katie Trieller



Mailing Address Reminder

Please remember that UUFSB's mailing address is PO Box 602, Stony Brook, NY 11790. All correspondence including donation checks should be mailed to the PO Box. In order to be assured that your mail will reach its intended destination, it's important that your mail be sent to our secure post office box. Thank you.



Make your UUFSB Pledge Automatic

When you put UUFSB on automatic payments with your bank bill pay system for this coming year, it helps even out the Fellowship's income and helps us avoid cash flow problems like the one we went through this May. Simply enter UUFSB's address and phone number and your bill pay system will send us a check at the interval you set. If you don't yet use a bill pay system, most banks now offer bill pay free on checking accounts. Contact your bank for information on how to use electronic bill payment.



September Newsletter Deadline -Wednesday, August 25.

We ask that all items for the September 1st Newsletter be in to uufsbnews@uufsb.org by Wednesday, August 25. (Please don't count on us coming after You!)

Other Submissions:

Supplements- Send to uufsbnews@uufsb.org

Order of Service- Send by prior Wednesday to uufsbnews@uufsb.org

Announcement Board- Displayed during coffee hour

We need help producing the newsletter. If you would like to be on the newsletter staff, please let us know.



Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship at Stony Brook

Location:

380 Nicolls Road
Setauket, NY 11733

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 602
Stony Brook, NY 11790

Phone: (631)751-0297

Email:

office@uufsb.org

Consulting Minister:

Rev. Carol Wolff

minister@uufsb.org

Minister Emerita:

Rev. Kate Lehman

Congregational Admin:

Susan Catanzaro

Board President:

Dixie Comeau

Newsletter Production Team:

uufsbnews@uufsb.org

Linda Cortese

Tom Pelletier

Denise Schnittman



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Upcoming Sunday Services 10:30 am

August 1: Earth-Centered Traditions. Denise Schnittman

August 8: Social Justice and Food Rights. Vivian Fisher with Iman Marghoob of Stony Brook University. Flute trio: Julie Doczi, Colleen Rudman and Phil Carter.

August 15: Make a Joyful UU Noise! With Janet Hanson and our wonderful musicians.

August 22: Reflections on Language and Translation. Marian Ulrich

August 29: Topic TBA...Jon Nelson

September 5: Transcendentalist Influence on Unitarian Universalism. Gil Hanson

September 12: Rev. Margie Allen's first service!!!

Next **Newsletter Deadline: Wednesday**, August 25. Please send news articles to uufsbnews@uufsb.org

For additional information on events please visit our **Calendar** at <http://plus.calendars.net/uufsbcalendar>