



GREETERS AND HOSTS

If you are volunteering to host please serve light refreshment.

If you arrive early and wish to greet - kindly welcome guests and invite them to sign the visitor's book.

All members are invited to serve your congregation by greeting and hosting. If you wish to volunteer, contact the editor or sign the sheet in the foyer.

Calendar

- Tues & Weds: Holistic Health Center
- Mon, Weds, Fri: Food Pantry
- 12/8 Live Poets, Islip Library 2-4pm
- 12/11 Board Meeting, 7pm
- 12/14 Eclectic Café, 7:30
- 1/26/14 Spiritual Exploration with Rev. Karyn O'Beirne
- 12/31 UUSSS Pre New Years 7-10pm

Submit articles for the next Newsletter by the **25th of the month** to fscad@optonline.net
Submissions welcome!

The Bay Watch

of the Unitarian Universalist Society of South Suffolk
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December 2013

Statement of Mission

We, the Unitarian Universalist Society of South Suffolk, are a church fellowship that creates a safe home for all people in their spiritual search. We offer services of worship, religious education, and community outreach in an atmosphere that promotes serenity, compassion, mutual support and fun. We celebrate the inner spiritual spark that connects us all.

THANK YOU for turning off cell phones and please, no clapping during Service.

PLEASE NOTE There is no parking in the driveway during Service.

Worship begins at 10:30 A.M.

SERVICES OF WORSHIP

December 1: Pat Wictor – Love and Death

A distillation of thoughts on the topic by UU minister Forrest Church. We are mysteriously given life, and for a brief time blessed with the opportunities to love and serve and forgive one another, as best we can. Death awakens us to life's preciousness and to its fragility.

December 8: Dave Chapman – Strength, Hope and History: Unitarian Universalism and Christmas

In this week's sermon Dave shares some history of the influence Unitarian Universalism has had on the development in our modern celebration of Christmas. Also, he considers what role the Christmas story can have in the life of Unitarian Universalists and what it can help us bring to our larger world.

December 15: Hollis Huston Waiting for Light

The coming Christian holidays are proverbially a time to "be merry," and yet there is a melancholy to this time. I urge you to be merry wherever and whenever you can, because being merry is not as easy as it sounds

December 22: Julie Newhall When You Believe

It's time to light candles and consider the miracles of the season and other miracles in our lives. When did you last experience a miracle?

December 24: Rev. Karyn O'Beirne Candlelight Christmas Eve Service, 5:30

Sing the carols, listen to each other's voices and celebrate Christmas with friends and family. Christmas is for everyone, if we open our hearts wide enough. *Canned goods and food certificates are always welcome to be donated to the Bay Shore Emergency Food Bank, located at the front of our building.*

December 29: Damon Governa It's the End of the World!

The new year is right around the corner. Or is it? Join us as we examine the spiritual roots of New Year's Eve "celebrations." We'll come to better understand them, but (more importantly) we may find our daily attitudes and behaviors shift as a result!

Live Poets Society – December 8

Meetings for gentle critique. If possible bring 10 copies of your poetry. All invited, some satisfied customers frequent our congregation. Islip Library 71 Monell Ave. Islip between 2 and 4pm. LPS will also be meeting January 12 and February 9 at the same time and place. Contact Barbara Donovan for more info 631-581-2214

Board Meeting – Dec 11, 7pm

If you have a special request or idea please come and add your voice to our ongoing debate and day to day decision making.

The Eclectic Cafe

December 14 – 7:30pm



The Eclectic Cafe, Saturday December 14 presents Greg Klyma whose stories blend seamlessly into songs evoking Twain, Guthrie and Sedaris. Mr. Klyma is a prolific songwriter, multi-instrumentalist and seasoned performer who seems to roll in off the road to take us back to the basics: family, love and laughter. Open mic 7:30, feature performer 8:30. Please bring a non-perishable food item for donation to our in house food bank. eclecticcafe.org

Spiritual Exploration – Jan 26

Our spiritual exploration group at UUSSS and facilitated by Rev. Karyn O'Beirne will continue 1/26/14, 2/23/14, 3/23/14 and 6/22/14.

The book being explored together is *The Way of Liberation, A Practical Guide to Spiritual Enlightenment*, by Adyashanti, an American spiritual teacher who studied Zen Buddhism but has developed his own style of guiding seekers to their own liberation. You can order a printed book for \$10, or download an e-book for free at www.adyashanti.org. Other dates may be added as we settle into our exploration and discussion.

UUSSS Pre New Years – Dec. 31

We will be having another "pre" New Years gathering in the sanctuary New years Eve from 7 to 10pm. Pot Luck and games. Bring a dish, snack or your beverage of choice.

Hymnal Quest

While we appreciate that you may have borrowed a hymnal in order to study all the hymns in an effort to be ready to sing out sweet and clear to any hymn called, we really need to round up and return any stray hymnals. If you happen to have one at home, in the car or wherever please return.

Piano Lessons - Erve Beiser

Lessons will be held in the Sanctuary. Suggested donation \$10. Please contact Erve if interested.

Committee Vacancies

Openings are available for a Membership Chairperson. See any Board member with questions. If you would like to help with the Buildings and Grounds Committee or have any questions, suggestions or requests see Brian or Charlie.

Recyclables Cans in the Corner

The congregation has private carting which precludes UUSSS from recycling. When possible please bring a bag home.

T Shirts Still Available

Many thanks to Emily Napear for taking over the inventory and distribution of the new UUSSS T Shirts. If you don't have one yet, and why would you not, the new T-shirts are available in S, M, L, XL and children's M and L. Only \$12 with proceeds toward more UU Pocket Guides for new members. See Emily for more info.



Have something you want to get rid of but would prefer not to throw away? Please contact your editor with details regarding the item to list.

Freethinkers AA Group

The Freethinkers AA group meets Thursday's 7:30pm in the comfy front room, or RE room if necessary.

Contact fscad@optonline.net for more info.

Hosting

If you are volunteering to host, please try to arrive a little early to set up the foyer for coffee and light refreshment. Also, kindly welcome members and guests and hand them a program. Invite guests to sign the visitor's book. If you wish to host please see a member of the board.

Friends and Membership

Thank you to all who have signed the information sheet in the foyer in order to be kept up to date on happenings and getting the Newsletter. For those who would like to inquire as to how to become a pledging member please talk with a board member, Rev. Karyn or a trustee.

Social Justice

Do you have a Social Justice issue that is of particular concern to you? See our Social Justice Director Jack Finkenberg to coordinate possible further action. Information can be found in the foyer. Check the wire basket and bulletin boards and feel free to take any items of interest.

From the Editor- Priscilla dolled up for Christmas. Sat. 11/30 we were scheduled to participate in the Connetquot River holiday parade at 5:30ish. We cast off at 4:30 as the tide was just coming up and proceeded to shoal at the approach. We ran a few lines off the west side, on the “uncharted” (not desert) isle, and alternately heaved and rested to pull her free as the tide continued its slow rise. Finally broke free, lit her up and motored down in time for the fireworks. A cold but fun three hour tour. Happy Holidays, BW



There are seven principles, which Unitarian Universalist congregations affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Connect with Lay Leaders
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