



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at Stony Brook

380 Nicolls Road, Setauket, NY 11733 (631)751-0297

The Unicorn

Volume 45, Issue 9

October 29—November 11

Table of Contents:

Grateful Thoughts	2
Labyrinth Journeys	3
The 2007 Good Earth Fall Festival and Granny's Attic	4
Landscape Outlook	5
Worship Notes	6
Grounds & Sounds Cafe	7
Upcoming Services	8

E-Unicorn—send timely announcements to loucherry@gmail.com

For **OOS** send by Wednesday to office@uufsb.org

Send **newsletter** articles to uufsbnews@uufsb.org

our **Advocacy List Serve**: uufsbadvocacy@googlegroups.com

Announcement Board displayed during coffee hour.

If you'd like to be on staff please let us know.

Contributing Reporters:

- Linda Mikell (Labyrinth Journeys)
- Linda Volkerz (RE, LIAC)
- Pat Killian & Stefani Scott (2007 Fall Festival)
- Rev Barbara Coyeman (Worship Notes)

Barbara's Corner: Long Island Leadership Institute

Along with several other members of UUF SB, I recently attended the opening session of the Long Island UU Leadership Institute, held at Shelter Rock congregation. The plenary speaker was the always engaging national moderator of the Unitarian Universalist Association, Gini Courter, who had many wonderful insights and tips about leadership to offer. Others in this congregation who attended may say differently, but for me the most important part of her conversation with us were her strategies for strengthening congregations.

And of the various strengthening strategies, several had to do with communications. She talked about several, but the one that resonated most with me was her reminder of the importance of talking with others rather than about others, when we need to convey concrete information, or express feeling and opinions about situations, or to clarify what you think has occurred with another person in a previous conversation or experience. That is, she reminded us about the importance two-sided conversations back and forth, rather than three-sided, triangulating conversation involving a third-party.

Talking to someone directly is much more productive than talking about someone to someone else. If we want to clarify information, asking the person directly to review what was said or decided, is much more accurate than asking someone else what they think was said. Also, talking directly is faster and more efficient than asking a third party: less energy, more efficiency in conducting a reality check. Probably the most important reason to speak directly to someone is that experience we can have of looking that person --- that source of information, that source of joy, even that source of conflict if that's what the conversation is about --- directly in the eye. Especially if we have feelings to convey, that direct, one-on-one rather than through a third party, is always the best. Just one reason to avoid email when we have intense or personal information to express: we can't look the receiver of our emails in the eye when we hit the 'send' button.

But it's not only personal reasons that we want two-way rather than triangular conversation. Especially in religious communities, we want the two-way because, as various theologians such as Martin Buber and Thandeka have expressed, somewhere in that space between you and me lies the holy. When we are in two-way dialogue with another person, we have the opportunity to experience the holy in that nebulous space where we are not quite sure where you end and I begin. Looking directly into the eyes of another, one of the noblest and loftiest ways to connect with each other.

Triangles in any group, especially in religious communities, can create communication gridlock, especially if they are allowed to proliferate. Two-way connections, on the other hand, are direct lines, on which we can build beautiful shapes and structures. Let's remember moderator Courter's advice: let's talk to one another, not about one another.

Blessings

Rev. Barbara

Grateful Thoughts

We thank all these people for their dedication to the life of the Fellowship. Send your thank you's to: uufsbnews@uufsb.org

10/21-Thank you to those who shared their gifts with us this morning. **Gil Hanson** is the Service Leader. **Rev. Coeyman** is the Worship Associate. **Elyn Wolfe** is the MC. **Paige Hempe**, the **Children's Choir** (under the direction of **Lee Morris**), and the **Senior High Class** will share their gift of music. **Zoe Dunmire**, **Andy O'Brien**, **Arianna Dunmire**, **Katharine Lynch**, **Annie Morris**, **Lauren Takakjian**, **Cara Gullotta**, **Paige Hempe**, and the **Senior High Class** are participating in our UU Holy Days worship service. **Jackie Chartrand** and **Vivian Fisher** are the Welcome Assistants. The beauty of our shared space is enhanced by a floral arrangement created by **Joan Feyk** in honor and celebration of **Joan's and Richard's 57th** wedding anniversary. The altar was created by **Barbara Diamond** and nametags are created by **Lynn DiGiovanni**. **Helen Nagy** sends our weekly visitors a welcome card. **Board Members** will serve as ushers.

10/28-Thank you to those who shared their gifts with us this morning. **Frances McGuire** is the Worship Associate. The **Unicorn Singers** and **Ann U. Hirsch** will share their gift of music. **Jackie Chartrand**, **Loretta Clemente**, and **Katie Trieller** are the Welcome Assistants. The warmth of hospitality will be shared by **Lou Cherry** and both Coffee Host and Greeter. The beauty of our shared space is enhanced by a floral arrangement donated by **Conni Chalcraft**. The altar was created by **Barbara Diamond** and nametags are created by **Lynn DiGiovanni**. **Helen Nagy** sends our weekly visitors a welcome card. Board Members **Megs Shea** and **Irv Frankel** will serve as ushers.

Thank you to Helen Nagy whose collating assistance was very much appreciated by getting the 10/14 edition of the Unicorn out the door and to the post office.

Thank you to John Williams who helped to collate the 10/21 Order of Service.

A big THANK YOU to the following people who worked at the Pumpkin Patch during the week of Oct. 14th: Gerry Selya (who put in lots and lots of hours), Rosemary Schumann, Gretta Johnson-Sally, Nancy Hunter, Claudia Dunmire, Greg and Michele Maggio, Joan Rubenstein, and Mena Ostapchuk, Cathy Leesha, Maria Kata, Walter Seekircher, Roseanne Pizzardi, Phil Carter and Ellie Marx. You're the best!

This is the last week of pumpkin selling - we finish on Oct. 31st - so please, please let me know when you can work. It's easy and fun. The times of operation are: 11:00-1:30, 1:30-4:00 and 4:00-6:30. So, pick a time that's good for you and let me know when you can work. Many thanks. Joanne H. johamm@aol.com

Urgent! We do not have enough Hymnals for services so you are requested to bring to UUFSSB any hymnals you may have taken home for your personal use. It is incumbent upon you to return property you have borrowed for your personal use. Did you know that last year we purchased about 30 new Hymnals and we still don't have enough for Sunday Services! Please look around your library/den/office or home and see if you're one of those people we're talking to. Don't assume you're innocent until you've actually checked it out!

1ST & 3RD THURSDAY LUNCH WITH THE MINISTER

In November, lunch with the minister is cancelled for November 1. Lunch will be held on November 15. It's a brown bag, noon to 1 p.m. Come for the hour, or any part thereof. No advance notice needed.

Social Betterment Collection to go to "Guest at Your Table."

The November social betterment project will be for "Guest at Your Table", a project our Fellowship has supported for many years. Moneys raised for the "Guest at Your Table" are used to support human rights work in the areas of economic justice, environmental justice, civil liberties, and rights in humanitarian crises.

Starting in November that we start Social Betterment Collections as a "Share the Plate". The social betterment will be for an entire month. Pledges will not be a part of this and people will be instructed to identify their pledge in the memo.

Social betterment collection September: Coalition of Immokalee Workers (\$252)

Labyrinth Journeys



This past week my “labyrinth journey” brought me to San Francisco and the Grace Cathedral. This is a picture of their brand new stone labyrinth just installed and dedicated this month. Grace Cathedral is atop Nob Hill in San Francisco and is the place where I studied to become a labyrinth facilitator. It was great to be back in the enormous quiet of the cathedral. This cathedral is a “sister” cathedral to Chartres in France where the original Chartres Labyrinth is located.

We walk our beautiful indoor (or outdoor) labyrinth on Thursdays at 1:30 pm. All are welcome. Our next evening labyrinth walk is Tuesday, November 13th at 8:30 pm. Come see where your journey will lead you.

CHILD DEDICATION

Child dedications represent the community’s commitment to its covenant to nurture children in this congregation in the values of this free faith. This year, child dedication is scheduled within worship services, once in the fall and once in the spring. In the fall, child dedication day is Sunday, November 11. If you are a member in good standing and have a child or children you wish to be dedicated on November 11, please contact interim minister Rev. Barbara at minister@uufsb.org no later than November 1 to schedule an appointment to discuss the dedication.



Brendan and Kristine Cucinello would like to announce the dedication of their nine month old daughter Briana Kristine on November 11th during the Child Dedication service. We look forward to sharing this special time in our lives with our family and friends in the congregation.

NEW MEMBER EVENTS

Don’t forget to sign up for ‘UU 101,’ an introduction to Unitarian Universalism and to UUFBSB. The fall session of UU101 will be held on Saturday, November 17, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. This course is intended for newcomers looking ahead to membership, for those who recently became members but may not have taken this course previously, and old-timers wishing a review of the ‘basics.’ The class will be led by a variety of staff and lay leaders of the fellowship, coordinated by Rev. Coeyman.

Please register by contacting the office no later than Wednesday, November 14. Childcare will be provided, but reservations must be indicated by the registration deadline. The next signing of the book for new members will be during worship on Sunday, December 9. UU 101, or an equivalent class elsewhere, or prior membership in another UU congregation, is requested for those interested in membership in UUFBSB.

Wanted: UU Penpals for UU Prisoners

‘Looking for a social justice project that UUs can do alone or in groups, in their own homes, whenever it’s convenient? Over 300 prisoners have joined the UU Church of the Larger Fellowship (CLF) seeking liberal spiritual support by mail. About half of them are writing to a (non-incarcerated) UU ‘penpal’ through CLF’s “Letter Writing Ministry”, but dozens more CLF prisoner-members are still on the waitlist.

All letters to/from prisoners are sent through the mail (so UUs without web/email can participate), and all letters from prisoners are forwarded through CLF’s prison ministry (prisoners are told only their penpal’s first name). The CLF’s prison ministry staff makes the ‘matches’ and remains available to all letter writers for advice/support. Individual UUs are welcome to apply, or a group of UUs from the same congregation can apply and ask to be ‘matched’ all at the same time (if they want to form an ongoing study/support group).

Please visit CLF’s website www.clfuu.org/prisonministry to review the Guidelines for the Letter Writing Ministry and request an info-application packet, or write to the CLF Prison Ministry, 25 Beacon St, Boston, MA 02108 PrisMin@clfu.org



The 2007 Good Earth Fall Festival and Granny's Attic was blessed by nearly perfect crisp autumn weather. Attendance by the public was somewhat lighter than what had been hoped, but in the end the results were a little better than last year and we also had fun.

There were some new features to this year's Festival. Some non-for-profits were invited to put up displays, there were a few vendors selling environmentally friendly and fair trade products, we sold some food grown by our local CSA (the Hamlet Organic Garden), and we had the Haunted Forest with a Gypsy Fortune Teller for the young at heart. In addition, the Three Village Garden Club offered demonstrations of flower arranging in the Blue Room. We hope to build on these efforts in years to

come, making the Fall Festival an attraction which will compete with all of the other numerous activities available to Long Islanders on October weekends.

Delicious soups and apple pie were enjoyed by all. The Victorian Ladies plied their handicrafts in the Sanctuary while some of our talented musicians provided music to shop by. The book sale was once again, quite popular. As usual, members of the congregation brought large quantities of games, toys, household items and, of course, mounds of clothes for sale under our various tents.



This year's festival faced some interesting challenges. Perhaps the biggest was that no one was allowed to bring anything to be sold until the day before the sale. And everything had to be left outside under the tents because Grounds and Sounds Coffee House was using the Sanctuary on Friday night. (A performance by some top singers, which was excellent, by the way.) But, UUFBSB once again displayed one of its core strengths – our members really pulled together as always. From putting up the tents, to organizing the wares, to manning the jobs and activities on the day of the Festival, to cleaning up and taking everything down, folks were always there to lend a hand.

In previous years, we filled dumpsters with the unsold items. This year, we learned the power of the word, Free. Perhaps the most significant and wonderful event of the Festival happened at the end of the day on Saturday. A family arrived who had lost everything to a fire. We gave them anything that they could use and that really made our day and reminded us what UUFBSB is about, it is about compassion and caring for others.



Thanks to all who helped make this year's Festival a success! You are so blessed.
In Fellowship Pat Killian and Stefani Scott



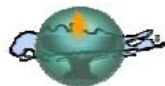
UUA.ORG



UUWORLD.ORG



UU-UNO.ORG



LIACUU.ORG



UUMETRONY.ORG



UUSC.ORG



UUMINISTRYFOREARTH.ORG



UUFBSB.ORG



Landscape Outlook: Fall Cleanup, Saturday, November 10, 2007..

Leaving the Leaves in the Woodlands, or Duff as We Know It. Yes, we will clean off the leaves from the parking lots and the walkways during the Annual Fall Cleanup on November 10, 2007. We will leave the leaves in the woodlands. It creates the 'duff' on the woodland floor and is vital to the health of our woodlands. Here is the reason in a nutshell. Or acorn shell.

Our property is part of the Temperate Broadleaf Deciduous Forest, known for the autumn turning of the colors of its leaves to brilliant reds, oranges, and golds and the falling of the leaves to the forest floor. The autumn leaf fall (duff) provides for an abundant and rich humus which begins to decay rapidly in spring just as the growing season begins.

This humus is *absolutely vital* to the continued health and growth of the oak forest of our woodlands. So we will leave the leaves in the woodlands this fall and next spring. In addition, part of our clean up after every large event will include the raking of leaves back over the woodlands lest we kill the very forest we profess to love so much.

Other gardening events: The **Sanctuary Entryway** has changed. Boulevard Cypress and Blue Star juniper fill in the areas around the flowering abelia while the evergreen laurel are now along the solid wall instead of near the windows. The use of many evergreens will give all-season green and minimize maintenance.

The **Labyrinth** has been laid out and is in use. The path to it goes from the mulched patio off the deck, around the Memorial Garden, through the rhododendrons to the Labyrinth entry. A wooden bench circles the tree in the center of the labyrinth. Come and enjoy! A mulch path, the **Eastward Path**, now leads east from next to the Barbeque, past Julia's Garden to the north side of the Labyrinth and connects to the Poetry Path. Groundcover will be planted between this path and the fence surrounding Julia's Garden.

SEE YOU SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2007, 10:00 a.m.

Bring leaf rakes, gloves.

Coffee and FRESH Bagels provided.

If you have little time to work, come and take a walk through the pathways.

..'The Little Rock Nine...then and now'.....(Due to the congregational meeting this program has been rescheduled for *Sunday, November 18th at 11:50 am in the Green Room....*)

"We headed down a path from which there was no turning back, because when we thought of alternatives, the only option was living our lives behind the fences of segregation and passing that legacy to our children."

"Does anybody really think we wanted to go to Central High School because we wanted to sit next to white people? We wanted to go to Central High School because they were getting Rhodes Scholarships there. We wanted equal access to opportunities."

Melba Patillo Beals, (1994 & 1997)

"Forty years ago (now 50 years), a single image first seared the heart and stirred the conscience of our nation....Elizabeth Eckford walked to this door for her first day of school, utterly alone. She was turned away by people who were afraid of change, instructed by ignorance, hating what they simply could not understand. And America saw her, haunted and taunted for the simple color of her skin, and in the image we caught a very disturbing glimpse of ourselves. It was Little Rock that made racial equality a driving obsession in my life."

President Bill Clinton, (September 25th 1997..

For students from 10 to 18, and for adults of all ages, this program , a compilation of videos, will take us back and bring us forward and allows us to see, through the eyes and words of those who lived it, how horrendous that time was and how far we have come on matters of race, but also how far we have to go..

Paul Glatzer..Racial Concerns Committee

WORSHIP NOTES

Friends, a few notes about up-coming activities in worship in the coming weeks that I invite your cooperation and participation in.

Starting Sunday, November 11, at 10:20 a.m. we will prepare the sanctuary for worship by playing soft recorded music. We ask that the various preparations that routinely occur before worship (music warm-ups, social hour preparation, sound set-up, etc.) be finished by then so that we can achieve as quieting a mood as possible in the sanctuary. We are not asking for you to tip-top around. We simply seek a calmer atmosphere to make worship all the richer.

Starting Sunday, December 9, we will begin what for now we are calling '**Pastoral Joys and Concerns of the Community.**' This is a time during the worship/meditation period to name individuals in this Beloved Community who have either celebrations or sorrows they want the community to know about. Look for notes closer to December 9 with information about contacting worship leaders if you have joys and concerns to announce.

Finally, could I encourage all of us to remember to not talk 'shop' about congregational business during social time after worship services. That's why we call it 'social' time: a time to get to know one another better. Besides, 'shop' talk among established member is excluding to newcomers. Save your committee talk for another time.

A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM REV. BARBARA

Friends, I am pleased to pass on some good news that I just received from the UUA (Unitarian Universalist Association). I learned that at the September meeting of the MFC (Ministerial Fellowship Committee) I was awarded final fellowship in ministry. This is like tenure in academia. The best part I am finished submitting the annual reviews required of ministers during their first years in fellowship.



Time for Poinsettia Flower Orders \$10/each to be delivered for holiday services
Sign up on Bulletin Board Deadline November 18th
Pay at Coffee Hour or Send a Check to the UUFSSB Office. Please note in memo that the check is for Holiday flowers Please sign up for bringing flowers and floral arrangements for other services, too. Email Joan Feyk, feykspeak@aol.com, or call at 751-6785

Fire Drill Re-Scheduled for Nov 4

We have re-scheduled our first fire drill because of the congregational meeting. On Nov. 4, we will have a fire drill immediately after the service. All classes and the sanctuary will have to be vacated.

Trick or Treat for UNICEF

UNICEF Boxes were distributed on Sunday to all elementary and middle school students. If your child is going Trick or Treating, please have them take a box and ask for donations to UNICEF. This is one of the social action projects for the children at the Fellowship. We ask that the boxes be returned Nov. 4th or as soon as possible after Halloween so we can send the donations to UNICEF. Thank you for your support.

LIAC INFORMATION-FREE! Covenant Meeting Tuesday October 30, 2007 7:00 PM

October 30, 7:00 PM Join us as we work on a covenant that can be used in meetings, committees, your congregation and maybe even your home. After a great day of leadership training keep the energy alive! To be held at SNUUC - 228 South Ocean Ave - Freeport LI NY - 11520- Please RSVP to Ilene at (516) 579-4711 or icorina@aol.com

Become a Delegate and help organize events, become a liaison to programs and committees and get to know more UU's! See your minister or board to be nominated. Now all forms for LIAC can found on the LIAC Website. Go to www.LIACUU.org to get the forms and applications you need!

LIAC Monthly Meeting's

Sunday, Nov. 11th Huntington 1:30 - 3:30pm Service is at 10:30 www.uufh.org

Sunday, Dec. 2nd Central Nassau Malette Room 1:30 - 3:30pm Service is at 11am www.uuccn.org

Everyone is welcome to attend the LIAC meetings. If you would like something on the agenda, please send the information at least 7 days in advance and we will try to accommodate you. Bring a brown bag lunch.

The Grounds & Sounds Café

features the best in live acoustic music in a casual, comfortable atmosphere.

Live Music in Stony Brook, NY
Every show begins with an open mic at 8PM
followed by the featured act at 8:45PM.

Normally, shows will run until about 10PM
 Individual tickets are \$15. (\$3 student/senior discount)

Refreshments available.



November 9, 2007 Cathy Kreger <http://www.cathykreger.com>

Singer, songwriter, guitarist, has a unique combination of adult contemporary and old blues, with an alternative folk flair. Noel Paul Stookey (of Peter, Paul and Mary) said "No doubt about it. She has a great voice and really has her act together."

Cathy herself "...like[s] to be stretched like a rubber band, to laugh, to cry, to be entertained. That's what I try to do on stage. If you're interested in feeling your emotions, you'll want to be at my show."



SAVE THE DATE: NOV. 11, 2007 @ 2 PM: AUTUMN NOTES, our annual Fall Concert this year, will be presented on: SUNDAY NOVEMBER 11, 2007 AT 2 PM, and brought to you by our own wonderful musicians - DONNA DEMIAN and DAN FOGEL - in addition to some outstanding local talent. How lucky we are!! Tickets are on sale now, and will be available on Sundays during coffee hour. So get into the swing of things and save this important date. A treat will be in store for you. Prices: adults \$20, students, seniors and children, \$13 Questions: contact Joanne H. or Julie D.



CHILDREN'S CHOIR NEWS - INTERFAITH CHOIR OPPORTUNITY

The Thanksgiving Eve Interfaith Service is an annual tradition, providing an opportunity for UUFSB members and friends to join with members of other local faith communities in a shared service of friendship, understanding, and gratitude. This year's service will be held at the North Shore Jewish Center, on Wednesday evening, November 21st. Although it's a busy time of year for many of us, we're hoping that you can plan your cooking and traveling around this special event.

A highlight of the service is the singing of the Children's Choir, and all children enrolled in the UUFSB religious education classes are invited and encouraged to participate! "Quiet Holy Grace" is the selection for this year. We have been singing the song through (and will continue to do so) during Sunday morning worship circles, but additional rehearsals will be necessary to be ready to perform. Parents, please arrange for your children to attend one (or both, if you can) of the two extra rehearsals listed below, **COMING UP SOON**, in addition to the Sunday worship circles. One more additional rehearsal will be planned with the children from the other congregations – details will follow.

Saturday, November 3 10:30 a.m. - 11:15 R.E. wing (green room)

Wednesday, November 14 7:00 p.m. - 7:45 Sanctuary

We will reprise this song at our own UUFSB Sunday service on November 25th.

For more information, contact Lee Morris, Children's Choir Director, at ljmorris@optonline.net

Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship at Stony Brook

380 Nicolls Road
(Route 97 btw 347 and 25 A)
PO Box 602, Stony Brook NY 11790

Phone: 631-751-0297

Fax: 631-751-8336

Email: office@uufsb.org

<http://www.uufsb.org>

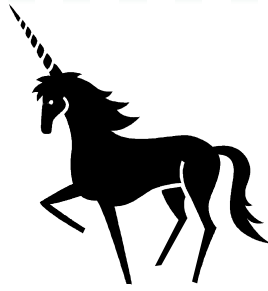
Rev. Barbara Coeyman,
Interim Minister
minister@uufsb.org

Rev. Kate Lehman Minister Emerita
Director of Religious Ed: Linda Volkersz
Admin Assistant: Susan Catanzaro
Board President: Megs Shea

Newsletter Production Team:

uufsbnews@uufsb.org

Joan Guadagno, Roseanne Pizzardi,
Kristine Cucinello



Nonprofit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 27
Stony Brook, NY

Upcoming Services Begin at 10:30 AM

November 4 "Religion in the news"

Richard Ohlrogge

In this year of presidential election, the views of the "Religious Right" seem to be in the news almost daily. Marian Ulrich will offer some reflections on politics and religion for members of a liberal tradition. Much media energy is also spent on the compatibility of science and faith. Richard Ohlrogge titles his reflections. "Religion and Science – where have we been, where are we now, where are we going and how do I know?? " With the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to Al Gore for his work with many other groups and concerned citizen, 'caring for the environment' has become a social, moral and spiritual issue bringing together many religious groups. Rosemary Schumann will offer a few reflections.

November 11 "What Do We Owe Our Children?"

Rev Barbara Coeyman

Today is the fall child dedication day. This ceremony affirms the congregation's covenant to walk alongside the families of these children in offering nurturance and support. In honoring these particular children, we are reminded about our call to support all children around the world.

November 18 "Everyday Spiritual Practice"

Rev Barbara Coeyman

No matter what your theological views, it is important to engage in practices and disciplines that affirm your spiritual connections. It helps to have regular activities and places for reflection and renewal of all sorts. We might find spiritual renewal through extended, elaborate, expensive retreats. On the other hand, we might practice our spirituality in everyday events.

Deadline Next Issue November 11, 2007 at 3 PM. Please send articles to uufsbnews@uufsb.org.