



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at Stony Brook

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

The Unicorn

Volume 45, Issue 7

October 1– October 14

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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:

- Rev Barbara (Barbara's Corner)
- Linda Mikell (Labyrinth Journeys, Victorian Ladies)
- Marian Ulrich (Worship Associates)
- Anonymous (A Unicorn Surprise)
- Milly Michos (Landscape Outlook)

Barbara's Corner: October as UU History Month

The interim ministry period is a time for discernment and exploration. This congregation is in a process of defining the present by examining its current identity. For instance, many of you recently took part in a challenging yet productive workshop to review the Mission Statement for UUFBSB. This congregation is also in a process of looking to the future. That mission workshop also included visioning for the forward direction of the congregation. Identifying present and future: necessary and appropriate activities for a congregation in transition as it searches for a new settled minister.

A third important component of the discerning process --- equal to defining the present and forecasting the future --- is recalling and evaluating the past. Whether we like it or not, whether we are even aware of it or not, the past is always with us, in our personal lives as well as in congregational life. The JANUS workbook---the guidebook for interim ministers---reminds us of the importance of history: "One of the vital tasks a congregation in transition needs to accomplish is to understand its history, anger, grief, habits, and achievement." Congregations in transition are called to ask, what have been significant events in the past life of the congregation and what memories and emotions are associate with these events? How do these events influence our view of the present and the future?

Therefore, on Sunday October 7, after the short congregational meeting and soup lunch, we invite everyone --- newcomers and old-timers --- to stay for an important and thought-provoking activity called the 'History Wall.' Perhaps some of you have done this exercise before, in different contexts. As a group, you will be called on to create a collective timeline of the history of this congregation. The timeline will be drawn on large sheets of paper mounted around the sanctuary. You will be asked to note on the timeline significant dates in your relationship with the congregation and other significant dates in it history: the founding, the opening of a new building, the date you joined the congregation, the start of a new ministry, a marriage conducted in the building, etc. You will also be asked to reflect on what any particular date means to you: not to issue opinions about events, but to realize your own personal feelings.

The History Wall will remain on display for the month of October. For those who cannot attend on October 7, and for all who think of other dates and events to add, there will be other opportunities to post items on the wall. Additionally, the wall will be available for the entire month for everyone to read and reflect on.

This History Wall exercise has proven to be an effective tool in helping congregations in transition covenant together as they look ahead to their future settled ministry.

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

9/23-Thank you to those who shared their gifts with us this morning. **Jeff Kochnower** was the Worship Associate. **Denise Fillion, Janet Hanson, Aron Zolkowicz**, and **The Unicorn Singers** shared their gift of music. The warmth of hospitality was extended by **Lou Cherry** as Coffee Host and **Stephanie Regan** as Greeter. **Katie Trieller** and **John Williams** were the Welcome Assistants. The beauty of our shared space was enhanced by a floral arrangement donated by **Joan Feyk**. The altar was created by **Barbara Diamond** and nametags were created by **Lynn DiGiovanni**. **Helen Nagy** sends our weekly visitors a welcome card. **Board Members** served as ushers.

9/30-Thank you to those who shared their gifts with us this morning. **Deborah Little** was the Service Leader and **John Williams** was the Worship Associate. **Levana Cohen, Greg Galluccio, Jonathan Shapiro**, and **Dan Weymouth** shared their gift of music. **Peggy Cohee, Barbara Coley**, and **Harriet Ha-Sidi** were the Readers. The warmth of hospitality was extended by **Lou Cherry** as Coffee Host and Greeter. **Conni Chalcraft, Peggy Cohee**, and **John Williams** were the Welcome Assistants. The beauty of our shared space was enhanced by flowers donated by **Stefani Scott**. The altar was created by **Barbara Diamond** and nametags were created by **Lynn DiGiovanni**. **Helen Nagy** sends our weekly visitors a welcome card. **Board Members** served as ushers.

Thanks Go to Our Indispensable Ed Mikell

Thanks go to Ed Mikell (yet again!) for raising the drop on either side of the lobby entrance with pebbles. He also donated the pebbles. Not only does it look nice, it will prevent falls. Ed also organized the team that cleaned and polished the new floor, which eliminated the scrapes down the hallway and made the sanctuary floor gleam. What would we do without you, Ed?

Thank you to Helen Nagy, Rosemary Schumann, Art Ulrich, and John Williams. They volunteered their time on 9/20 by collating and labeling the Unicorn and also by helping to get the Congregational mailing out the door..

I was talking with Dorrie Prouty - a long time associate of our UU now living in North Carolina - and she would like to share with us: Lang has just turned a milestone, his 85th birthday; Their Grandson has received his Law degree from Univ. of Houston; their oldest granddaughter is now engaged to a lawyer; and their youngest granddaughter is in the Peace Corp in So. Africa having just completed her 1st year of a 2 year commitment. Thanks. Mae

There is still time to join [Build Your Own Theology \(BYOT\)](#), the [Lifespan Enrichment program](#) held on Tuesdays: Oct 9, 23, and 30, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. in the Green Room, led by Rev. Coeyman.

Please contact Rev. Coeyman no later than Monday October 8th at minister@uufsb.org if you do wish to attend. New members will not be accepted after the October 9th class.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE from your MINISTERIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE:

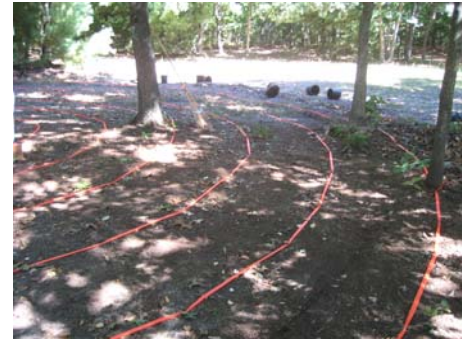
It finally happened.....the Mission/Vision Statement Workshop was finally held on Sept. 22nd, facilitated by Rev. Orlanda Brugnola, UU Minister. However, the Mission/Vision Statements are only drafts, they have to be agreed upon by the congregation. So, this is our plan: before the final vote occurs, you will all have TWO opportunities to give your input on the draft Mission/Vision Statements, **one on Sunday morning Oct. 14th and the other on Sunday morning Oct. 21st, between 9:15-10:15**. Childcare will be provided. **The Congregational Meeting to vote will be Oct. 28th**, after the service. Any questions? call me at 724-2405 or e mail. _____.

Nov. Book Discussion Group Information

The next Friday afternoon book discussion group gathering will be Friday, November 9th. We will meet at 1:30 in the sanctuary. The book for discussion is *Loving Frank* by Nancy Horan. This is a book about the life of Frank Lloyd Wright, Unitarian Architect. All are Welcome. If you have any questions, concerns, etc please e-mail Arlene Cherry at afcherry@gmail.com. or call her.

Labyrinth Journeys

Here is a picture of the beginnings of our outdoor labyrinth. On Wednesday, September 19th, Milly Michos and Ed and Linda Mikell began measuring for our future permanent labyrinth. It will be a design called the Eaglecrest Labyrinth. It will have 7 circuits, but be very similar in design to the medieval labyrinth. The center has a double tree around which will be a lovely bench designed and built by George Michos. The bench will have six sides to mirror the six petals of the center lotus. The spot chosen is well protected overhead by trees so dappled sunlight makes it a comfortable walk even on the hottest of days. This temporary labyrinth is built with flagging ribbon and long nails. It will be used as an “earth promise walk” for people at our Fall Festival. Final arrangements for the permanent labyrinth are still in the planning stages. Perhaps white bricks sunk into the ground for the walls (so they’re visible in the evening). I like the idea of walking on the forest floor, rather than mulch. Milly calls it duff. Perhaps duff will be enough!



Come walk our **indoor** labyrinth on Thursdays at 1:30 pm. Our next evening walk is Tuesday, October 9th at 8:30 pm. Come join in the Tai Chi on the candle lit labyrinth at 8 pm. All are welcome.

‘Aspects of the Black Experience..’The Little Rock Nine.....Then and Now..1957-2007

Join us on **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28TH at 11 :45 am** after the Service as the technology of television reporting takes us back to 1957 . Television then takes us 40 and 50 years later to allow those nine young students, now in their 60’s, to reflect on just what that experience at Central High School had done to them. Their experiences were in effect a microcosm of the racism that existed then and unfortunately may still exist today in a different form. Only by understanding and witnessing the history of certain critical events in our past can we as a people hope to overcome that painful past. This look back at Little Rock is an attempt to gain such understanding ..

(This is the rescheduled program from last Spring when our visitor from South Africa came to share her experience)

BANISHED.. a new movie opens today in New York City., one that for the first time seriously looks at the ‘*eviction of Black Americans*’ from dozens of towns and counties throughout the South. This examination of the period after the Civil War until the early twentieth century documents how town after town through much of the South, managed to *evict* or *eliminate*, their **entire** ‘Black’ population. These events, almost completely overlooked in most textbooks on American History are simply ones *we* ought to know about to enable us to understand the legacy of racism that has come down to us today..

(As this movie makes its way out to Long Island venues, we will make every attempt to alert the members of the Fellowship as to place, dates, and times.)

Paul Glatzer, Chairperson..Racial Concerns Committee

Looking ahead in worship services this fall:

This fall we have dedicated two different worship services to important rituals related to membership in this free faith association. First, Child Dedication Sunday will be November 11th. This ceremony is open to children --- of any ages --- of members of this congregation. Second, the New Member Service for the fall will take place on Sunday December 9th, when new members will officially ‘sign the book.’ One of the requirements for participation in this ceremony is the introductory course ‘UU 101,’ which this fall will be offered on Saturday November 17 (see the Lifespan Enrichment Programs brochure for more details) for prospective new members who have not already had the class, or for anyone (current members included) wishing to review the meaning of membership in our free faith association.

More details about both services will follow in upcoming newsletters. Both ceremonies --- Child Dedication and New Member --- will be offered again during worship in the winter or early spring. *Rev Barbara*

COPIES OF SERMONS It is my tradition to have a printed copy of my sermon ready on Sunday mornings for anyone, particularly religious education teachers, who cannot be present in the sanctuary, and for those who cannot attend be present at all. Sermon copies will be available in a box marked ‘Rev. Barbara’s Sermons’ in the fellowship office starting after the September 23rd service. Feel free to take a copy.



Requests from Victorian Ladies

Once again the Victorian Ladies will be selling all kinds of jewelry at our Fall Festival. Please support this effort by donating a few pieces you no longer care for.

This is always a very popular and profitable table at our fairs. We've been making lovely bead earrings for sale as well. Also. . . the Victorian Ladies have been working on hand knitted velvet roses to wear on sweaters, coats and blouses for the winter. They make wonderful gifts so please take a look. We've also got lots of fall decorations to brighten your autumn days at very reasonable prices.

The **WOMBATS** are a group of UU "Fun Adults" loosely around twenty-to forty-something. The group is for people who like to gather for good conversations, meals, games or other mutually enjoyable activities. We try to plan two or more activities for each month. We are a mix of married and single members and we try to provide babysitting for parents with young children. If you would like more information about this group, please contact Stephanie Regan _____, or Keith Liblic. _____.

A more detailed list of events will be sent to the WOMBATS mailing list.

Upcoming "Fun Adult" Events:

- Movie Night - Sept 28
- Halloween Mixer - Nov 3

Brown Bag Lunch With Rev. Barbara: Starting in October on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month from 12:00 Noon until 1:00PM.

Come and have lunch with our interim minister.



A UNICORN SURPRISE- From a long time member

While waiting for someone at the Fellowship on a cool September afternoon, I had time to spare and because I hadn't been there for a while, decided to take a walk around the grounds. Appreciating the essence Unicorns I came upon the Unicorn in the woods. I thought to myself, "How nice-how sweet". Walking a little further and to my amazement I saw a sign that said "Poetry Path". Looking deeper into the woods I saw that there were many trees that had poems on them. Walking down the path I read poem after poem; each one significant, each one thoughtful, and each one meaningful. Further down the path with the spiders coming down from the trees and various other insects flying around, I knew I could not be mad because I was in **their** home as was expressed in some of the poetry. All of a sudden there was a divide in the path with the poem "The Road Not Taken" on a nearby tree and that poem has always been one of my favorites. Shortly after the poetry path ended I came upon the Memorial Garden. Stepping down into the garden I began reading names of people, most of whom I had known and I thought, "It was a privilege to have known you all". After leaving the garden, I looked at the Fellowship and said to myself, "what a sweet place this is". Thinking back on my religious path, the religion of my childhood in no way could have given me the experience I had today.

Scene at the Fellowship



Pictured here are Lou Cherry and Jeff Kochnow cleaning up after a VERY successful coffee hour on our wonderful sunny deck.

Thank you so much for your gracious hospitality.



UUA.ORG



UUWORLD.ORG



UU-UNO.ORG



LIACUU.ORG



UUMETRONY.ORG



UUSC.ORG



UUMINISTRYFOREARTH.ORG



UUFBSB.ORG

A Shared Ministry- On September 15th from 9:30 to 1:00 eight of the Worship Associates met with the Reverend Barbara Coeyman for a special Workshop subtitled Planning & Leading Worship: An Integrated Approach. It was a very worthwhile meeting giving all of us an opportunity to get to get familiar with our understanding of what constitutes worship, our individual strengths or weaknesses in leading a successful (meaningful) worship experience and just plain getting to know a little more about each other. **For most people crossing our threshold the Sunday Service is their first, and sometimes only continuing, contact with the Unitarian/Universalist community. So why do people come on Sunday? How do we keep them coming? The clergy view the worship service an essential part of their ministry – ministry being the service provided - and we the Unitarian/Universalist laity of a liberal religious tradition view it as part of a ‘shared ministry,’ This is the essence of the Worship Associate program. Barbara had a well-developed plan for our meeting starting off with about 30 minutes of brainstorming about worship. Being typical UU’s there were almost eight different views of what constituted worship. This did lead to the next learning stage where we became more practical and examined definitions of religion, spirituality, worship, liturgy and ritual. The word religion we were reminded comes from the Latin word ligare which is to bind, hence re ligare is to bind again. Barbara called our attention to the relationship of the words worship and worth. When we worship we are seeking to establish our worth or worthiness. After all in our first principle we state, “We believe in the inherent worth and dignity of every human being.”**

Next we discussed how and why UU worship is different and how we want to organize a meaningful and worthwhile worship experience for everyone. We looked at the integration of music, the spoken word, the repeated word and the silences. The liberal UU approach does not include a spoken or recited creed but nonetheless we gather to re- connect with others, to re-establish worth and hope to leave renewed for another week.

Lastly we all tried out our best speaking styles before the microphone. The meeting was useful to all of us. Barbara got to look at the talents and capabilities of the worship associates who were present. The Worship Associates all learned different things about worship and a great deal about Barbara’s approach and how she will work with us. There are other shared ministries and opportunities for service in the Fellowship and part of the work of the Interim Minister is to help us revisit our programs. This is a good time to see where we are, consider where we would like to be and plan how to get there. There are always new possibilities for transformation and there are possibilities for everyone.

LIST FOR SPRING 2007- Deborah Little: _____ Frances McGuire: _____
 Ginger Williams: _____ Harriet HaSidi: _____ Stefani Scott: _____
 Mike Nashleanas: _____ Marian Ulrich: _____ Dixie Comeau: _____
 _____ John Williams: _____ Jeff Kochnowar: _____
 Rosemary Schumann: _____

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OWL Sexuality Course Begins: Our Whole Lives (OWL) is a series of sexuality education curricula for five age groups: grades K-1, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12, and adults. The program provides accurate information and Unitarian Universalist values (for children, youth, adults, and families). The Long Island Area Council sponsors a course for 7th to 9th grade youth and open to youth from all UU congregations. Brochures are available in the RE office. There will be a mandatory parent meeting. The fee for is \$125. (Please speak to the DRE if this poses a financial hardship. Scholarships are available.) For more information, call Linda Volkersz, at 631-751-6089 or lvolkersz@juno.com

LIAC Corner- The Long Island Council of Unitarian Universalist Congregations is a way for all UU families on Long Island to connect. I have recently taken on the role of President to attempt to connect the people and projects associated with Unitarian Universalism with other families throughout Long Island and Queens.

I am excited /about the possibilities. I hope every congregant will think of each of your interests as growing as we reach out to others who may be waiting to partner with someone with similar interests. There is bound to be someone just waiting to work with you on a project but if we don't share this information amongst each other, it just won't happen.

If you are interested in becoming a delegate and work directly with a program or on a committee please tell your minister and / board that you are interested in being nominated.

There are Special Events and Public Relations. There is so much to share!

If you are interested in coming to a meeting just to see what we are about, or have any questions, please call me any time at (516) 579-4711.

Ilene Corina, LIAC President 2007 /2008 South Nassau UU Congregation, Freeport

The Fall Festival

Good Earth Celebration and Granny's Attic



Oct. 13 from 10 am to 5pm at UUFSB

With a Haunted Forest

(for Families from 11am-7:00pm)

Live Music

(all day long)

Earth Labyrinth Walk

For Children

(not a corn maze, but better!)

THE BOOK EMPORIUM

Organic Farm Stand

and Pumpkin Patch

ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY VENDORS and ADVOCACY GROUPS: Such as the SCSPCA, Riverhead Marine Foundation, World Fair Trade, Information on Invasive Species and Master Gardeners from Cornell Ext., Sierra Club, 3 Village Garden Club, LI Greenbelt Trail Conference, "GREEN" Vendors with Natural CLEANERS, and Cosmetics, Organic Vitamins, Unique Garbage Bags that naturally repel INSECTS, CFLs, Sustainable Living Info

Homemade Soups and Baked Goods

Granny's Attic Features: Recycled Fashions, Toys and Baby Boutique, Used Furniture Gallery and More Treasures by the Victorian Ladies!

This will be a One Day/Early Evening Event (Rain or Shine).

For More Information, Please contact Stefani Scott _____

PUMPKINS, PUMPKINS, PUMPKINS: On THURSDAY OCT. 4TH, late in the afternoon the pumpkins will be arriving. (I'll get out a message ASAP regarding exact time). .

So, at this point, what do I need from you? **VOLUNTEERS to UNLOAD.** That's the most important need right now. Please let me know if you can help with this. In addition, I will be at coffee hour on Sunday to sign you all up. **AND.....**what else do I need? I certainly need help selling pumpkins. I will have a sign-up sheet at coffee hour on Sunday. The pumpkin patch will be open most days in Oct. I will be signing people up for 2 1/2 hour slots of time, beginning at 11:00 in the morning, and ending at 6:30 pm.

Thank you all for your help! Please contact Joanne Hammer.



Food Certificates- a convenient way to food shop.

Bring your check book on Sundays to UUFSB, purchase food certificates, and use them like cash- even better than using your plastic at the store.

Food certificates, use them to budget, to splurge or take care of the weekly supermarket trip. Or buy several different ones to get all the supermarket specials. No matter how you do it.. UUFSB gets a little piece of each purchase and you get the full face value of the certificate. **It's a win-win way to shop!**

Recycling ink cartridges - another win-win situation. The landfills just don't benefit from the addition of another item that can be recycled and turned into cash. It's easy. Bring in your spent cartridges! Now we take laser toner cartridges too and they will be recycled.



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.



October 12, 2007 Martha Trachtenberg and Tom Griffith

<http://www.momandpoprecords.com>

Martha Trachtenberg is a founding member of the Buffalo Gals, the first all-female bluegrass band. She has sung on records by Marty Stuart, Tony Trischka, Stacey Phillips, Lewis London and Bottle Hill, as well as on commercials for everything from Miller Beer, Campbell's Soup and Kudos to Red Lobster Seafood Restaurants and Easy Bake toy ovens. Her solo for Folger's Coffee brought calls from friends and fans across the country who recognized her distinctive voice. Currently, Tom is working with 600 LBS, a production company based in Smithtown, New York. It's About Time, an album by Martha Trachtenberg that he produced and arranged, has been featured in The New York Times, reviewed in the Long Island Voice, and the Lucy-list, and is being played on WUSB, WPKN, WPRB and other acoustic music oriented radio stations throughout the Northeast. His album, The Better Half, was picked by the LI Voice as one of the Top Ten albums of 1997. *Workshop*

Landscape Outlook

The asters in the Butterfly Garden are in full bloom, thriving on the dry, hot weather while the rhododendron and shrubs planted this spring have needed constant watering. Also thriving in this weather are weeds, and although weeds are only plants in the wrong places, the gardens have to be weeded and this has taken much of the gardening time.

Take a look outside the Sanctuary windows at the newly-laid out labyrinth in the circle of trees just beyond the clover/grass area. A path leads from the patio around the Memorial Garden through the rhododendron glen to the labyrinth.

The Eagle Crest design labyrinth chosen by Linda Mikell and laid out by Linda and Ed Mikell and Milly Michos will eventually be outlined with bricks or stones to be a permanent part of our landscape.

A pathway connecting the labyrinth, Poetry Path, Julia's Garden and the walkway around the back of our building is being constructed the first week of October with chipped wood donated by Usher Tree Service. Take some time on these beautiful autumn days to wander past the herb garden in back of the kitchen to the barbeque pit where you will find this new pathway. Wear comfortable shoes and you will have a delightful walk through our woodlands. It is an excellent way to be immersed in our seventh principle right on our own property.

Work on the Sanctuary Entryway landscaping is planned for Thursday, October 4 and Friday, October 5. Saturday, November 10 is our big Paul Bunyan Fall Clean Up and Johnny Appleseed Planting Day. Set that day aside to give the GOG (GRAND OLD GARDNERS) a much needed hand.

Plant Donations: Bring vinca, lilies-of-the-valley, pachysandra, yellow archangel or other SHADE (no ivy) groundcovers to plant on November 10. The deer are dining on the hosta, so bring it only if you are willing to plant it and will not be upset if it is nibbled away.

Plants are accepted only if ground can be prepared for them and if there is a proper niche for them (i.e., space for sun-loving plants in the sun) AND if they need a minimum of watering. Please check with Milly Michos _____) before dropping off any plants.

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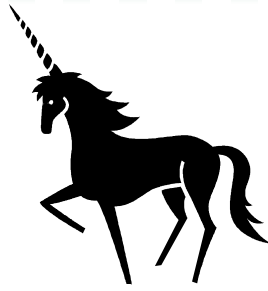
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Upcoming Services Begin at 10:30 AM

October 7th “History as Spiritual Practice”

Rev. Barbara Coeyman

Knowing our histories, personally and as congregations, matters. Especially during a period of transition, knowing the people and events that came before us explains who we are now, and leads us toward the future. Because history and spirituality are both grounded in connections, in this month of October, let's consider history as spiritual practice. And, stay tuned for news about the History Wall, coming in October!

October 14th “The Meaning of Membership”

Rev. Barbara Coeyman

Why do we want to belong to organizations? Why is being part of a community important? How does this meaning of membership translate into faith communities? Let's consider together the importance of the membership process in this free faith of Unitarian Universalism.

October 21st “The preacher, philosopher, educator, scientist”

Senior High

This year's Holy Days Service portrays Joseph Priestley an 18th Century Unitarian minister and an intellectual giant. In his spare time he experimented with gasses and as a result became one of the most famous chemists of all time. He also established the first Unitarian Church in the USA. The service will be followed by a potluck lunch to begin our UU Holy Days during the week of October 21 to 27.

Deadline Next Issue October 14, 2007 at 3 PM. Please send articles to uufsbnews@uufsb.org.