



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at Stony Brook

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

The Unicorn

Volume 45, Issue 5

September 3 - September 16

Table of Contents:

Grateful Thoughts	2
Labyrinth Journeys	3
Grounds & Sounds Cafe	7
'Kids Explosion.. Kurland, South Africa'	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:

- Rev. Barbara Coeyman (Barbara's Corner)
- Deb Little (The Baghdad Lecture)
- Linda Volkerz (RE)
- Linda Mikell (Labyrinth Journeys)
- Paul Glatzer (Animal Blessing Service/Racial Concerns)
- Frances McGuire (LI Leadership)

Barbara's Corner

Hello, Everyone. I am so pleased to serve as interim minister of UUF SB for the coming year. Interim periods between settled ministries are times of transition: a time for congregations to identify where they are coming from, who and where they are now, and what they would like to be in the future. As a time of transition, this is an excellent time to experiment: to try out new and different ways of doing and being together. This is not to say that there is anything 'wrong' with the ways things are now, but interim periods are good times to consider what else might be possible. Interim periods are times for risk-taking and thinking outside the box.

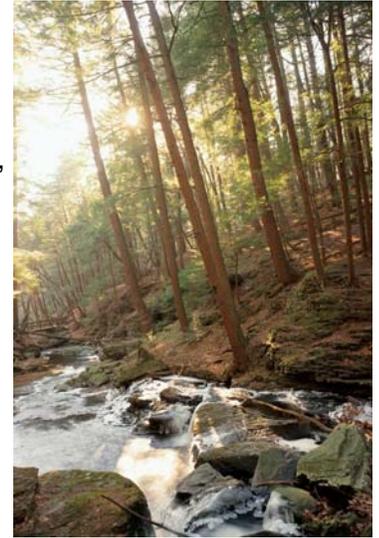
The interim minister is there to help congregations make this transitioning a positive, productive experience. I have served two interim ministries prior to coming here. I enjoy the interim process, which asks of us ministers different approaches and attitudes than settled ministry does. In particular, we are called to work with congregation on the Five Pillars of Interim Ministry, that you will be hearing more about from me as we go through this year together. I look forward to a good year of working with you, as we share our ministries with one another.

I am a relatively new minister. I received preliminary fellowship in ministry from the Unitarian Universalist Association in 2002, after graduating from Austin (Texas) Presbyterian Seminary in 2001. I served various ministries in central Texas: several part-time parish ministries in Houston and San Antonio; hospital chaplaincies; as community wedding officiate; and as a staff chaplain for Planned Parenthood of the Texas Capital Region. I moved to the northeast from Texas in August 2005, serving as interim minister in Portsmouth, NH, and Bridgewater, MA. Prior to ministry, I was a professor of music history at West Virginia University, and lived in Pittsburgh, PA, where my two children, Patrick, now 23, and Amanda, now 20, were born. My doctoral study in music was at the Graduate Center of City University of New York. As a musician, I specialized in French Baroque opera, women's studies in music, and early music performance, and I continue to perform on the viol. I have also been a keyboard player most of my life. I am also an avid social dancer: I enjoy contra dancing a lot, but my greatest passion is English Country Dance.

Interim ministers are called to work primarily with congregational leadership: that is, with members most directly involved in this process of transitioning to settled ministry. However, I do hope to meet all you, members and friends, of all ages. If you haven't done so yet, please come introduce yourself to me next time you are around the fellowship building.

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

Thanks to all our summer leaders for volunteering to teach. They were: **Maria Kata, Cindy Stewart, Donna Brennan, Deborah Little, Stefani Scott, Nancy Lynch, Melissa Elliott and Wendy Englehardt.** Our childcare helpers were **Katie Parker, Katharine Lynch, Elyn Wolfe and Mary Mc Donough.**

Thanks to Marion and Art for letting us use the beach property for the clam bake, to Lou for doing the clam bake and to Dorothy Hoffmann for helping to sew the new table cloths. Thank you to Millie and George to putting in an herb garden and to Helen Nagy for giving us a set of "real" plates and bowls.

Welcome Lunch for Rev. Coeyman

Please join us for a potluck lunch and informal concert to officially welcome Rev. Coeyman on Sunday, September 9th immediately following the service. Rev. Coeyman will be preaching that morning for the first time. Please plan to join us and bring a main dish, salad, or beverage.



PUMPKING PREPAREDNESS/PLANNING MEETING: The PUMPKING ARE COMING!!!! Oh no, is it possible the pumpkins are coming?? They are. When, you say??? Well, the spooky pumpkins will be coming the week of Oct. 2nd. That means we have to prepare NOW.. So, please meet me after the service on **SUNDAY SEPT. 15TH** and we will divide up the many fascinating, exciting, oh so wonderful tasks.

You all did such a terrific job last year, so let's make this year an even greater experience for us all. It's hard work but rewarding. Questions, comments, thoughts, e mail Joanne Hammer. [_____](#). And, don't forget to mentally mark your calendars for putting in at least one three hour session behind the pumpkin stand. We're open from the time of unloading until HALLOWEEN.

MISSION/VISION STATEMENT WORKSHOP:

It's finally here. Your Ministerial Search Committee has been trying to re-schedule this workshop ever since we were rained out by the Northeaster on April 15th, so I am extremely pleased to let you know that REV. ORLANDA BRUGNOLA from First Unitarian Church in Brooklyn will be facilitating the workshop on

SATURDAY SEPT. 22ND, from 10am - 3 pm.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW.

Lunch will be provided.

Let's have a nice, healthy turnout for this critical event. Joanne H., chair MSC.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

will be held at the fellowship on Friday evening Sept. 21st, at 6:30 pm. This is an auction item therefore, if you signed up at the auction, you have already paid. Whoopee!!! If you did not sign up at the auction, you are still welcome to indulge, however please let me know your interest by Sept. 14th, so I can plan.

Joanne H.

The Music Committee will meet on September 9th at 9:15am

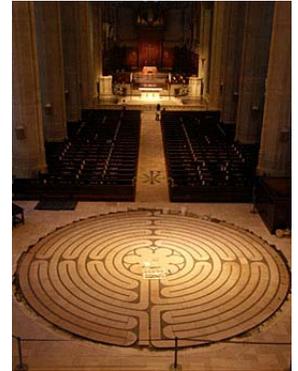
to plan the schedule of music for Sunday services for the next few months. All interested musicians are invited to attend. We welcome vocal or instrumental soloists, ensembles as well as pianists to accompany hymns. Bring your calendars and your ideas! Any questions – please contact Julie Doczi. [_____](#)

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 Liblick. [_____](#). A more detailed list of events will be sent to the WOMBATS mailing list.

Labyrinth Journeys

This is a picture of the newly constructed labyrinth inside the Grace Cathedral in San Francisco, California. As you can see the edges still need to be completed. The cathedral always had a labyrinth, but it was a huge carpet with the labyrinth woven into it. I am told that this is the first stone labyrinth to be put into a cathedral in 600 years. Grace was where I took my training to become a labyrinth facilitator. It is a magical place and one I recommend visiting when in San Francisco. I will be lucky enough to walk this labyrinth in October when I travel to California for labyrinth council meeting.



Our labyrinth has been beautifully cleaned and sealed so it looks brand new!!! Just in time for our first "open labyrinth walk." We have had many walks at the Fellowship, but they have all been fully facilitated by me or other labyrinth assistants. This time the walk will be "open." People will enter the sanctuary and walk the labyrinth any time between 8:30 and 10 pm on Tuesday evening, September 11th. Because of this significant date, it will be a walk of Remembrance, Peace and Hope. There will be harp music accompanying the walkers, provided by professional harpist, Karen Strauss. We will have Tai Chi on the labyrinth at 8 pm. We still walk every Thursday afternoon at 1:30. Come join us for peace and restoration.



Tai Chi and Chi Gong at UUFBS

On Tuesday, August 21st of this year, Jane Brody wrote a New York Times article entitled, Cutting Cholesterol, an Uphill Battle. She states, "Americans tend to turn far too quickly to drugs to solve their health problems. Drugs should be the last resort, if there are reasonable measures people can take first to control a problem." She mentions some "lifestyle changes" among which were studying Yoga and Tai Chi. "These forms of exercise, which are accessible to just about everyone who can walk, even the elderly, have reduced LDLs by 20 to 26 milligrams when done for 12 to 14 weeks."

Guess what folks!! We have 12 weeks of Tai Chi and Chi Gong starting right here at our Fellowship in September. There is a Wednesday morning class (10 - 11) and two Thursday evening classes (6-7 and 7:15-8:15). Join millions of Chinese who have been studying these ancient arts for peace, health and longevity. Contact Linda Mikell [_____](#) for more information and to pre-register.



On Sunday, August 26, the UUFBS did indeed "go to the dogs....and cats...and rodents...and fowl, but in the most joyous of ways.

Congregation members, as well as many friends in the greater surrounding communities, brought their beloved animal companions to our "**All Creatures Great and Small / Blessing of the Animals**" Service. Through beautiful music, charming poetry, shared thoughts, and of course, the Blessing itself led by our new interim minister, the Rev. Barbara Coeyman, all in attendance learned of the contribution of Unitarian Henry Bergh who in 1866 founded the ASPCA, and in so doing, brought about the counterpart American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty Children.

Exciting too was the recognition of our many outstanding guests: guide-dog-puppies-in-training with their families; working guide dogs with the people they were serving; rescued greyhounds with the president and founder of Grateful Greyhounds; and members of Suffolk County's own SPCA who have done so very much to protect the animals of our own county—and who admirably served search-and-rescue dogs and our nation at Ground Zero on the night of 9/11.

All this took place on newly-polished floors. And guess what? The only clean-up necessary was for two instances of spilled coffee. Our animal friends (over 50!) were on their best behavior, sometimes vocal, but overall amazingly good. Love, compassion, respect and gratitude infused the Sanctuary! A very very special morning! With many thanks to all who participated.....*Paul & Susan Glatzer*



Welcome Back to Children's Fellowship - September 9th at 10:30 am

Our first Sunday is September 9, the Sunday after Labor Day.

Remember that the time will now be 10:30 am
for services and religious education classes.

**We would like all parents to fill out registration forms
if there is new information - change of address or email.**

A registration form can be downloaded from the website, www.uufsb.org

Please leave registration forms on the bookcase outside the R.E. Office.

Also, we still need leaders of some classes.

If you can volunteer to lead or assist in a class, please note that on the form
or speak to Linda Volkerz.

Email Address:

Rev. Barbara Coeyman's is now receiving email at minister@uufsb.org. If you have been using the 'comcast.net' address, please discontinue.

These dates are follow-up to the UU/GA (General Assembly) held in Portland, OR, which I attended.

They are as follows:

1. Friday 9/7, 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary, Sunday, 10/7, 11:40, after the morning service It's Souper Sunday, or bring a bag lunch. The program for the above two dates is a DVD titled "The Pentagon Papers Then and Now: UUs Confronting Government Secrecy"
2. Friday, 11/7, 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary, Sunday, 11/9, 11:45 am after the Sunday service Bring a bag lunch if desired. The program for these two dates is "The Ware Lecture: Rashid Khalidi" He is an expert on the Middle East from Columbia University.

The Ware Lecture is an endowed lecture that is a **highlight** of every UU General Assembly. The first Ware lecture was given in 1922, long before the Unitarians and the Universalists joined hands in 1961 to become the UUA.(Unitarian Universalist Association). It was bequeathed to the American Unitarian Association for its unrestricted use.

Ware Lecture by Rashid Khalidi, Saturday, June 23, 2007, in Portland, Oregon

Rashid Khalidi is the Edward Said Professor of Arab Studies at Columbia University and the head of Columbia's Middle East Institute. In his latest book, *The Iron Cage, The Story of the Palestinian Struggle for Statehood*, Khalidi draws on a wealth of experience and scholarship to elucidate the current conflict, using history to provide a clear-eyed view of the situation today. From their repeated failures at even the rudiments of state-building (in stark contrast to the Zionists) to their embrace of a terrorism "both morally indefensible and disastrously counterproductive strategically," Palestinians have often been their own worst enemy. "In spite of their vigorous sense of collective national identity," Khalidi writes, "the Palestinians have never succeeded in creating an independent state of their own, and have no sure prospect in the future of ever having a truly sovereign state or of possessing a contiguous, clearly demarcated territory on which to establish it."

Thank you. Rosemary Schumann



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Transcendentalism Seminar

We will be reading aloud about UU's and Transcendentalists influence on attitudes regarding slavery from the mid 1840's to the mid 1850's. This was a very critical period in the development of anti-slavery sentiment in the northeastern United States. Meet: 7 to 9 pm Tuesdays September 18, October 2 and 16, and November 6.

Leaders: Gil Hanson and Linda Volkersz

The Baghdad Lecture

After over a year of haggling with the State Department Nesreen spoke to us fulfilling her wish to tell the American people about what we have brought to her nation. We had the opportunity to hear her speak of daily life in Baghdad before she returned to her homeland.

Opinion:

It is already a blood bath. Americans are incredibly "protected" from the truth, but the best social science estimates put deaths of civilians since the occupation at over 1 million. So unless we are willing to put enough troops in to really secure the country, which we aren't... No one can guess at the military deaths of Iraqis. Given that we slaughtered retreating Iraqi troops at the end of the 1st gulf war, I don't see that we are helping anything. Add to that the detention and torture at multiple prisons, the hunger and lack of basic amenities, the enormous refugee crisis. Unless we are willing to put in what is required to fix this with our own troops, we should get out and give money and organize multilateral talks with neighbors and the UN - that's the view of the Friends Service Committee and I think of the UUSC as well. I also think that when the majority of a population says "get out" as has been shown in many surveys, that we owe it to them to treat them as equals and leave. Especially when we are only there for the oil and empire! Deborah L. Little, Ph.D.



Over the last few months, a group of UU lay leaders and ministers have formed a "steering committee" to work with the UU District of Metro NY on an exciting project the development of a Leadership Institute for congregations in the Long Island area.

Our goal is to create a program that would help all of us, collectively, improve skills and strategies for leading our congregations more effectively allowing us to better achieve our goals in a diverse array of spiritual practices and social justice concerns. The program would take place over six Saturdays:

The curriculum will include a variety of general and specific topics that are of vital interest to most congregations. Some examples: understanding leadership styles; dealing with conflict and difficult behavior; how to equip and empower volunteers and create partnerships with staff; doing a power analysis of your congregation; maintaining your spiritual grounding amid the responsibilities of leadership; and developing best practices in communicating with your congregation.

UUFSB Board Members have signed up for the following dates and all members/committee chairs are encouraged to attend at least one session. Car pooling is encouraged.

Oct. 6: Tam Scott
 Nov. 3: Megs Shea
 Jan. 12: Frances McGuire
 Feb 9 TBA
 Mar. 8: Kevin Regan
 April 12 Irv Frankel
 Make up date May 17



Major Floor Clean-up

The following team, headed by Ed Mikell, worked six days on the restoration of ALL the Marmoleum floors in our Fellowship. This was made possible through the donation of the cleaning machine by the Hansons and the Mikells. Here are the workers:

Irv Frankel, Jeff Kochnowar, Tom Krausz, Lou Cherry, Janet Hanson, Alexis Grasso, Frances McGuire, Pat Killian, Toby Killian, George Michos, Milly Michos.

It would have cost the Fellowship almost \$3,500 to have our floors restored by an outside company. The machine was priced at \$6,000. Through these folks' wonderful efforts we now have a brand new Fellowship again.

FALL FESTIVAL IS COMING

Saturday October 13 10 am -5pm
(Haunted Forest Extended until 6 pm
Other Dates and Times TBA)

We Need UUr HELP! Please Volunteer!

Contact Dixie.Comeau@newsday.com

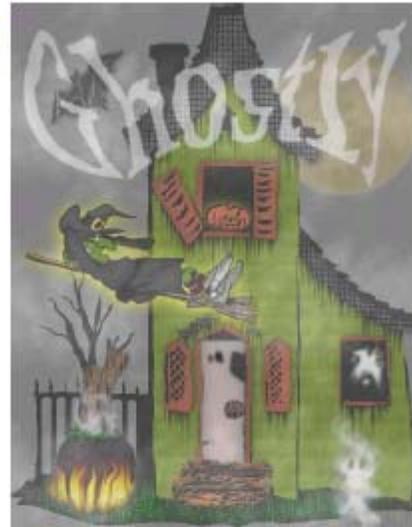
for Granny's Attic

Start Saving Good Granny's Treasures,
PLEASE we ONLY have room for Saleable Items!
NO Broken Furniture or Kitchen Dishes,
No Dirty Toys or "Un-wearable" clothes
Books in cut off boxes!

For The Haunted Forest:

Contact Roseanne Pizzardi r.pizzardi@gmail.com

or Stefani Scott ecoscott@yahoo.com



We need YUUTH (12-18) and Family Members willing to give their "BLOOD" to be SPOOKY and to make this a great fundraiser AND a FUUN time for all ages.

Our Ideas:

Spooky Cemetery
Spooky Cemetery
3 Witches at the Black Cauldron

The Big Pumpkin

Pirates Cave

Gypsy Fortune Teller

??? Your Ideas???

Prizes given to UUFSSB members
for the best costumes and "Haunted Forest" design
Intergenerational Party on Oct. 26
5-10pm with Walks through the Forest---OOOOooooo
and Dancing to the Monster Mash

We need donations of cast off caskets, black cats, bats, spiders, skeletons, plastic pumpkins and ANYTHING ERRY, but NOT SOoooo SCARY for the Haunted Forest Paths. There will be a Pirate's Scavenger Hunt.



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.

Fall 2007 Performances

9/14/07	Cadillac Moon
10/12/07	Martha Trachtenberg & Tom Griffith
11/9/07	Cathy Kreger



Barbara Aragon and the children with many of the toothbrushes we had sent..



A Young student thanking the UU of Stony Brook for their support...

'Kids Explosion..Kurland, South Africa' Contributing Reporter..Paul Glatzer (Racial Concerns)

In June, Barbara Aragon and Jim Toohey (Three Village Music Shoppe) visited the UUFSB and brought with them the founder of 'Kids Explosion in Kurland Village, Kathy Van Staten. They shared with us their experiences in helping work with the 'Colored' children of Kurland, a severely impoverished village in the midst of a prosperous and thriving coastal 'paradise' to the east of Capetown, South Africa.

Barbara and Jim returned to Kurland in August and carried with them dozens of toothbrushes that many of you donated (along with a sizeable cash contribution as well). They just returned and Barbara sent the following e-mail which I would like to share with you...

Many thanks again for the toothbrushes and all your encouragement. When delivering them at the school in Kurland I came upon a young male substitute teacher in an 'xhosa' combined class grades 1 to 3 who was unaware of my previous announced purpose. When he opened the door and I told him my purpose he looked stunned. He then explained with tears in his eyes that his curriculum that day had him teach the children about oral hygiene and the need to brush their teeth, and not to share toothbrushes, etc. He said his heart was heavy because he knew most of the children didn't have toothbrushes, but he had to proceed. Just as he finished speaking, I KNOCKED AT THE DOOR WITH MANY OF THE BRUSHES YOU HAD SENT!! "Was this the 'force; at work again?..."

Best Regards, Barbara

Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship at Stony Brook

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Upcoming Services Begin at 10:30 AM

September 9th "Coming Back, Going Forward"

Rev. Barbara Coeyman

Today marks the start of the new year for worship, as we begin a second year of interim ministry. Interim years in UU congregations are marked by transitioning and looking forward.

Come, meet the new interim minister, Rev. Barbara Coeyman, and consider new ways of thinking outside the box as we go forward together during this time of transition.

September 16th "Water Ceremony"

Rev. Barbara Coeyman

Water is among the most sacred of the earth's resources, shared by and required of so much of life. Today we celebrate water. Bring waters actually drawn from your travels during the past year, or water symbolizing physical or emotional traveling that you have done recently. In blending our waters from many separate journeys, we symbolize how our fellowship community brings us together in a common journey of faith and exploration.

September 23rd "Time of Turning"

Rev. Barbara Coeyman

The Jewish High Holy Days just completed mark the important time of turning in the Jewish calendar. These Days of Awe remind us as individuals and as religious communities to engage regularly in acts of repentance and forgiveness. Through readings, music, silence, and more, we join together in community as we remember these Holy Days.

Deadline Next Issue September 16, 2007 at 3 PM. Please send articles to uufsbnews@uufsb.org.