

First Universalist Church of Southold
PO Box 221 Main Road
Southold, NY 11971



The Free Spirit

Church Office: (631) 765-3494

Office Hours: Tues. 11-2, Wed. 10-2, Thurs. 11-2

Church Web Page – <http://FirstUniversalistSouthold.org/>, e-mail address: SoutholdUU@optonline.net

June 1, 2018

Services

June 3, 2018 at 11:00 a.m.

“I Know Something... (you don't know) ...About Someone”

If you always wanted to be a tattle-tale, here's your chance! Thing is, this service takes a different turn. We are going to tell something "**good**" about another person in this congregation. Who inspires you? Or (if you can't bring yourself to tell something about someone)...what is it we do, as a denomination or church family, that makes you feel good about being here? To be part of this sharing, contact Irene at: 631-765-2024 or iritastewart@gmail.com

Irene Stewart and the congregation

June 10, 2018 at 11:00 a.m.

“In the Presence of Evil”

Sermon written by the Rev. Dr. Donald McKinney.

Mark Sisson, lay speaker

June 17, 2018 at 11:00 a.m.

“Millions and Billions”

John Forestieri, lay speaker

June 24, 2018 at 11:00 a.m.

Title: TBA

Judith Speyer, lay speaker

Coming Attractions !!!

June 5th – Covenant Group. Southold Library, 4:00 p.m. Topic: “Immigration”

June 11th – Theology on Tap. North Fork Taps & Corks, 7:00 p.m. Topic: “Immigration”

June 19th – Board Meeting. Parsonage, 7:00 p.m. All are welcome.

June 23rd & June 30th – Thrift Sale. Church grounds, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Do you have a news item, announcement, or picture for the *Free Spirit*? You may send it to Susan Pond at suepond@optonline.net, or mail it to the church post office box.

The deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month. Thank you.

Covenant Group

Please join us Tuesday, June 5, 4-5 p.m., at the Southold Free Library. All are welcome. Bring a friend. Also, bring a high and a low to share for the month.

Our topic will be "Immigration."

In Peace,
Ginny Cornell

Theology on Tap – Monday, June 11th

Join us at Taps and Corks, behind Michelangelo's Restaurant in Feather Hill, Southold, at 7 p.m. Plenty of parking. Bring your own snack. We will have a lively discussion!

Ginny Cornell and Susi Young
Church Ministries

Notes from the Building Team

The Building Team has a long report in the Annual Meeting Report (May 20, 2018) explaining our "timeline" – the progress we've made, and where we stand now.

As I write this, we are (still) waiting for the Town Planning Board to review our "site plan." (First application to the Planning Board, June 2017 / second, Oct. 2017 / third, Nov. 2017) We "re-filed" in March 2018, and again in May 2018. **Re-printing and re-filing the Application and Site Plan is costly, time-consuming and annoying.**

We continue to stay in contact. Our liaison, attorney Bill Moore, and our architect, Peter Marren, speak (email, phone, visit) with the Planning Dept. each week. There has been no movement – that we know of – on the part of the Planning Dept.! (Other than they misplaced our application a few times.)

While we are waiting for Town review, our LEED consultant, Neal Rosen, has met with a representative from Kolb Mechanical (HVAC contractors). They are considering upfront costs, operating costs, and environmental costs for our heating/cooling systems.

Our contractor/builder, Eugene Burger, is preparing the second cost analysis, as best he can without Site Plan review and approval from the Planning Dept./Board.

We are pleased that the Fund-Raising Committee has started a GoFundMe campaign. If you have not seen it...check it out!

We are building a church for the next 200 plus...years. **Think Positive!**

Irene Stewart
Building Team Chair

Congratulations and Welcome!

Welcome and best wishes to Chloe Belle Sisson, born on April 28 to Jake (son of Lauren and Mark) and Colleen Sisson. Chloe was born 3 weeks early – just 5 pounds, 1 ounce – but the proud grandparents report that she is growing by leaps and bounds. Jake, Colleen and Chloe live in Somerset, NJ.

Congratulations to first-time parents, Jake and Colleen, and first-time grandparents, Lauren and Mark!

Fund-Raising Campaign

If you haven't taken a look yet, please be sure to see our fund-raising campaign, "First Universalist Rises from Ashes," on GoFundMe: <https://www.gofundme.com/rebuildfirstuni>

You can help make this campaign a success by spreading the word – via email, Facebook, Twitter, or your favorite social media.

We also have issued a \$1 challenge to every UU congregation across the country – we have emailed or written to over 1,000 congregations, challenging them to raise \$1 from each of their members to donate to our Rebuilding Fund. Responses have already started coming in, through GoFundMe and USPS mail. We are very grateful for the support of our fellow UUs throughout the country.

Passings

We recently learned of the passing of Rev. Sarah Barber-Braun and Rev. Peter Lee Scott. Sarah was our minister from 1997 – 2002. She died on Dec. 17, 2017, at the age of 92. Peter was our minister from 1987 – 1996. He died on Dec. 20, 2017, at the age of 84.

Many of us remember both of their ministries with our church. Our condolences go out to their families and friends.

Gardening by the Sea

As I write this, we are remembering our loved ones and friends who have served to defend our country and those who sacrificed their lives for our freedom.

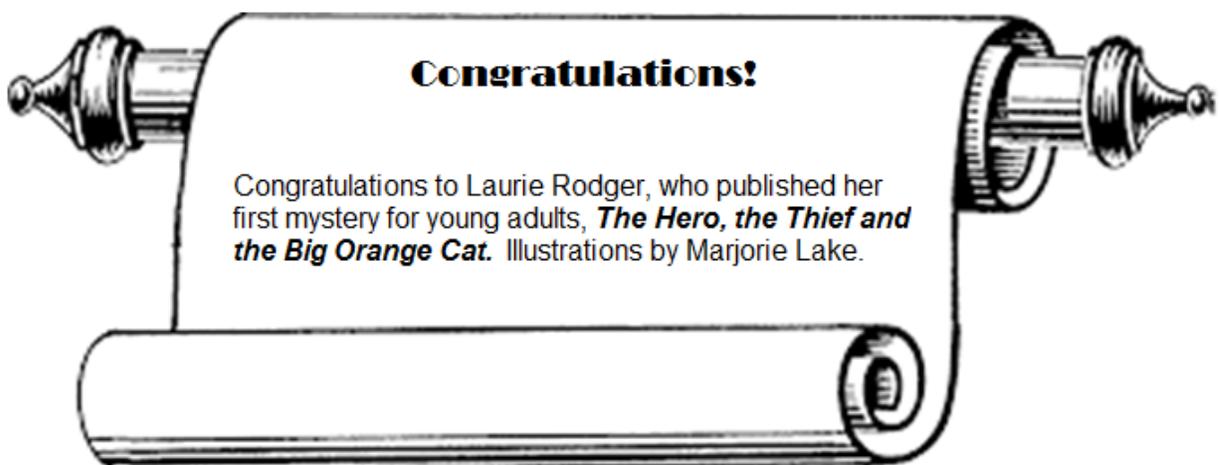
In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields
The torch; be yours to hold it high,

Excerpt from "In Flanders Fields" by John McCrae, May 1915

Even though it is raining today, remember to keep pots watered. They dry out much faster than plants planted in the ground.

Stay well and enjoy the blooming bushes and flowers.

Shalom,
Ceil



President's Post-Its

A big thank you to the Board of Trustees for all their hard work finding a new minister. Valerie Freseman will be joining us as our three-quarter-time minister beginning in August and will be living in the Parsonage. She will be ordained this month in New York City. Looking forward to having her with us.

We said goodbye last month to our wonderful Office Manager, Lisa Voglesonger, and welcomed Nancy Grigonis in her place. I know Nancy will do a great job for us.

We lost a very special member of this church in Donald McKinney. He is missed every day by so many of us. And we also gained a new member when Julie McKinney signed the Membership Book in April.

Best of luck to Ceil Loucka as President of the congregation, and to the new Board of Trustees.

My past four years on the Board were challenging but also a pleasure working with so many devoted and dedicated folks.

See you in church every Sunday.

Respectfully submitted,

Susi Young
Board President, 2016-2018

Annual Meeting May 20, 2018

It is with thanks and gratitude that the Board of Trustees is pleased to report the election of the following positions as approved by the congregation at the First Universalist Church of Southold's 183rd Annual Meeting for the fiscal year starting June 1, 2018. Congratulations to all!

Officers for 1-year term

President – Cecelia Loucka
Vice President – Gale Alexander
Secretary – Randy Wade
Treasurer – Susan Pond
Moderator – Jack Speyer

Previously Elected Trustees

Ed Booth
Ginny Cornell
Mary James
Cheryl Schneider

General Assembly Delegates

Bill Funke (on line)
Unfilled

General Assembly Alternate

Unfilled

Committee Chair positions

Building & Grounds – Ed Booth
Denominational Affairs – Julie Alexander
Finance – Susan Pond
Flowers, Greeters, Hospitality – Ceil Loucka,
Gale Alexander & Julie Alexander
Gifts & Remembrances – Irene Stewart
Membership / Outreach – Laurie Ullmann &
Beth Peterson
Music – Mary James
Publicity – Irene Stewart
Religious Exploration – Beth Peterson
Social Action – Margaret de Cruz & Alan Stewart
Webmaster – Bill Funke
Worship – Ginny Cornell & Susi Young

Nominations Committee 2018-2019

Bill Funke, Judith Speyer, Donya VanBuren,

The Board is also pleased to report that the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 was passed unanimously by those members present. The proposed changes to the church by-laws were also passed unanimously, with one change to the recommended wording for Article XII: Section 1. In the first sentence, the word “congregational” was changed to “membership.” The Section now reads as follows:

ARTICLE XII – DISSOLUTION

SECTION 1: Process – The Church may be dissolved by a two-thirds vote at a **membership** meeting called for that purpose. The duly elected Officers and Trustees are then to make application to the State Supreme Court for an order of dissolution. Upon dissolution, the assets of the Church will be transferred to the Unitarian Universalist Association.

To receive a complete copy of the revised by-laws, you may download them from the church website (<http://FirstUniversalistSouthold.org/>) or contact the church office to request a printed copy (631-765-3494, SoutholdUU@optonline.net).