



### **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 by greeting and hosting. If you wish to volunteer, contact the editor or sign the sheet in the foyer.

### **Calendar**

Tuesday: UU on TV, 1pm  
(*New Time for "UU View"*)  
Tues. & Weds: Holistic Health Center

12/8 - Board Meeting  
12/12 - Eclectic Cafe  
12/18, 19 - Theater Group  
12/21 - Labyrinth walk  
12/24 - Xmas eve service

**Submit articles** for the next newsletter by the 20<sup>th</sup> of this month to [carrl@hotmail.com](mailto:carrl@hotmail.com)

## **The Bay Watch**

of the Unitarian Universalist Society of South Suffolk  
28 Brentwood Road, Bay Shore, NY 11706-8011  
631-968-0667 [uusouthsuffolk.org](http://uusouthsuffolk.org) [uusss@verizon.net](mailto:uusss@verizon.net)

**December 2009**

### **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 during Service.

**Worship begins at 10:30 A.M.**

### **SERVICES OF WORSHIP**

#### **December 6: Rev. Hollis Huston – Merry Christmas.**

Though Unitarian Universalists vary in their relationship to the Christian holidays of December, 'Merry Christmas' is a phrase that we all hear, either as an invitation or as an assault. What is the meaning behind the meaning of Christmas that can unlock the spiritual power of this time of year, even if we come from other traditions?

Hollis Huston is a theologically trained Unitarian Universalist who is frequently invited to preach in congregations of his faith. He works as a board-certified hospice chaplain in New York City, serving clients of many faiths while discovering his own

#### **December 13: Rev. Nancy Arnold Without Dark, There is No Light.**

For many people, the darkness at this time of year simulates the suffering and grief of life. As we approach the shortest day of the year, we will consider the value of darkness in our lives and the opportunities it presents.

**December 20: Wendy Moscow - Winter Solstice.** Wendy will lead us in celebration of the ancient celestial festival of Winter Solstice. Wendy Moscow is a UU, eclectic Neo-Pagan for 25 years and founder of Moonfire Spirituality Network

**December 24: Laura DeSario - Unitarian Universalist Christmas Eve Service.** Experience Christmas Eve UU style. Sing the carols, listen to the choir and celebrate Christmas in a new way. SERVICE BEGINS AT 5:30pm.

If you would like to stay after the service and share a warm meal, please bring a dish and beverage to share for the holiday. Canned goods and food certificates are always welcome for the Bay Shore Emergency Food Bank, located at the front of our building.

**December 27: Karyn O'Beirne - Worship with Chocolate.** The holiday season is almost over. Let's take some time to relax in each other's company, reflect on year past and share dreams for the New Year. Hot chocolate will be available (and coffee) for a more intimate end of year service. All are welcome; please bring leftover cookies and treats if you have them to share!

End of year meditation will immediately follow the worship service. All are welcome to experience

the peace that sitting in silence can bring to anyone willing to look within.

## **LABYRINTH WALK AND WINTER SOLSTICE MEDITATION**

Monday, December 21  
7:00pm in the Sanctuary.

Come in from the cold and warm your heart with a meditative walk in the UUSSS labyrinth. Readings, candlelight and soft music will be offered. All are welcome.

## **Caring Corner**

When visiting Millie Eckhoff recently, she sent the following message: "I miss you." Millie resides at Affinity Skilled Living, 305 Locust Avenue, Room 232A, Oakdale, NY 11769. Millie is a poet and artist. Some of her watercolors are on display at the residence. Millie is a vegetarian with a sweet tooth. She welcomes visitors because she appreciates good conversations. It would mean a lot to her to see some of her UUSSS friends.

## **R.E. Schedule**

DEC. 6 & 13 - NO Class for younger children (Ann will be away)

DEC. 20: Class

DEC. 27: NO Class – Holiday Break

# **The Eclectic Cafe**

**Saturday December 12**  
**Rupert Wates**



Showtime is 8:30 PM, open mike at 7:30.

Admission is \$10 for non-members (\$5 for High School students with ID), and \$8 for members. Membership is \$12 a year. Family memberships are also available. Ask at the ticket table for details.

Refreshments are available. We would also appreciate a donation of canned or dry food for local charity. For more information see:

<http://www.eclecticcafe.org/>

## **Free-thinkers AA Group**

The Free-thinkers Alcoholics Anonymous group will meet Thursdays at 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary. For more information contact

[x54bassman@optonline.net](mailto:x54bassman@optonline.net) or [fscad@optonline.net](mailto:fscad@optonline.net).

## **Christmas toys**

On one of the tables in the foyer you will find a sheet for sending Christmas greetings to your friends in our congregation. The sheet will be published in the January Bay Watch.

You will also find a ceramic bowl with Christmas trees on it. Please put into this bowl the money you might otherwise have spent on cards and postage. This money will be used to buy gifts for needy children in our community. This is a long-standing tradition in our congregation that has spread holiday joy to many, including the givers. The John Theissen Children's Foundation will distribute the toys as they did last year. To learn about this foundation log on to [jtcf.org](http://jtcf.org).

## **Social Justice**

Our annual Mittens Tree provides holiday gifts for local families in need. When you bring them in please keep the gifts and mittens together. They will be collected until Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>.

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Check the wire basket in the foyer frequently for items of interest such as flyers and newsletters. Feel free to take any of the various papers home.

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A belated **thank you** to Janet, Elaine, Doug, Amar, Laura Albert and everyone else who helped put together the Service Auction! It was a smashing success and a good time was had by all.

## **Caretakers' Corner**

Doug and Tamar Beecher  
(631) 968-0667

[eagletechie@gmail.com](mailto:eagletechie@gmail.com)

Office Hours: M and W 4:30 pm -  
6:30 pm

*"A CHRISTMAS CAROL" is coming to  
the UUSSS*

Volunteers are needed to help out during the production of "A Christmas Carol" that will be held at UUSSS on December 18th and 19th. Both performances will start at 8:30PM. Volunteers would be asked to help out for the hour before the show. We need two people each night. Please contact Doug if you would like to help out. If you would like to reserve a seat for this production please call the UUSSS office. Tickets will be \$15 per person.

### *GAMES NIGHT*

The Games night series will continue in January. The date will be announced in our next Newsletter.

### *BOOKING EVENTS*

The calendar remains very full. Please keep calling ahead if you need the space for a meeting or event. Have alternative dates in mind when booking events. Thank you for everyone's cooperation.

### *BAY SHORE EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY NEEDS YOUR HELP!*

The Bay Shore Emergency Food Pantry fed 400 people last month out of our old office and the numbers are still growing. The Food Pantry is putting

out a call for volunteers to help in the Pantry. For more information go to the Food Pantry's web site:

[www.bayshorefoodpantry.com](http://www.bayshorefoodpantry.com)

### *THANK YOU*

Thank you to everyone who has been helping around our sacred space; Bill, with Brian's help has fixed the leak in the RE room's ceiling and Ellie, Jim and the Richters watched over the building while Tamar and I spent Thanksgiving with her side of the family, to name a couple. My apologies to anyone I forgot to mention. All of your efforts make our sacred space a better place.

Doug

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