

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



The Free Spirit

Rev. Valerie Freseman, Minister
email: FirstUMinister@optimum.net Church Office: (631) 765-3494 (call or email for appointment)
Office Hours: Tues. & Thurs. 9:30am – 3:30pm
Church Web Page – <http://FirstUniversalistSouthold.org/>, email address: SoutholdUU@optonline.net

July 1, 2023

Services – at Holy Trinity Church

Sunday, July 2, 11:00 a.m.

Picnic Brunch Service

We will be enjoying a picnic brunch as our service this Sunday. It will be at Holy Trinity with shared readings and a celebrative gathering. There will be opportunities for shared reflections and poems about the holiday and summer. Bring food you enjoy for brunch to share.

Susan Johnson, lay leader

Sunday, July 9, 11:00 a.m.

“Migrant Labor on the North Fork”

Steve Wick

Sunday, July 16, 11:00 a.m.

“Use Your Inside Voice”

A sermon by Rev. Victoria Sanford.

Susi Young, lay leader

Sunday, July 23, 11:00 a.m.

“Report from the GA”

Our delegates will give a report on this year’s General Assembly of the UUA.

Patte & Brian McManus, lay speakers

Sunday, July 30, 11:00 a.m.

“An Atheist Can Be Religious”

Mary James, lay speaker

Free Spirit, July 2023

Coming Attractions!!! ** Questions? Please email us at SouthholdUU@optonline.net **

July 5th – Covenant Group. Southhold Free Library, 4:00 p.m. Topic: “Oneness”

July 9th – Coffee & Conversation. It’s been a long, painstaking journey, but we are finally here – our building permit is in hand and groundbreaking is set. Please join the Board and Building Team after today’s worship service to ask questions, share concerns, and hear details on next steps.

June 11th – Social Action Committee & 8th Principle Task Force. Southhold Library and Zoom, 4:00 p.m.

July 16th – Movie Series: Prophetic Voices, Part 3. Holy Trinity, 2:00 p.m. FREE

July 22nd – Groundbreaking!!! Church grounds, 2:00 p.m.

July 25th – Board Meeting. Parsonage and Zoom, 4:00 p.m. All are welcome via Zoom.

Covenant Group

IMPORTANT: We will be meeting Wednesday, July 5, 2023, 4:00 pm, at the Southhold Free Library. Tuesday the library will be closed. All are welcome. We meet upstairs by the elevator.

Our topic this month is “Oneness.” I will be reading *Oneness With All Life* by Eckhart Tolle and *Oneness vs the 1%* by Vandana Shiva.

Bring a high and a low to share. Also, if you come to our services on Sundays at Holy Trinity in Greenport, please bring quarters for the Greenport Laundromat, and nonperishable items for the Holy Trinity food pantry.

“Being at one with what is, at one with the present moment, doesn’t mean you no longer initiate change or become incapable of taking action. But the motivation to take action comes from a deeper level, not from egoic wanting or fearing. Inner alignment with the present moment opens your consciousness and brings it into alignment with the whole, of which the present moment is an integral part. The whole, the totality of life, then acts through you.” – Rachel Carson

In peace,
Ginny Cornell (Ginc289@optonline.net)

News from the Building Team – Groundbreaking !!!

At long last, we have received our building permit and set the date for the groundbreaking for the new building. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!** And join us on Saturday, July 22nd, on the church grounds at 2:00 p.m. for this long-awaited, much-anticipated, historic event. Several special guests have been invited to join us, including Rev. Jef Gamblee, Rev. Kimberley Debus, local GEM ministers, and town dignitaries. The ceremony will be brief but joyous, and we hope everyone will be able to attend. We have rented a tent and chairs, so this is a rain-or-shine event. If you need transportation, please contact the church office and we will be happy to help make arrangements. **Let the celebration begin!**

Free Spirit, July 2023

Documentary Film Series – *Prophetic Voices*
Part 3: *Backs Against the Wall - the Howard Thurman Story*

Join us for the third film in this 5-part series. *Prophetic Voices* is a special collection of five award-winning documentary films profiling remarkable religious figures from one of the most turbulent times in history. Through their writings and prophetic witness, they shaped our culture's moral and ethical response to the chaos of the 20th century.

The Howard Thurman Story will be shown on Sunday, July 16th, 2-4 p.m., at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Greenport. For information, contact Patte McManus at pattemcgoo@yahoo.com

Summer Solstice Concert

Our concert was a huge success! We would like to thank everyone who came and donated to our Building Fund, and give a special thanks to the musicians who shared their talents with us:

Pianists: Charlotte Day and Michael Balsamo
 Violinists: Jim Budzik and Ben Eager
 Soprano: Lauren Sisson

We would also like to thank Robin Sweeney for donating a basket of cheer for us to raffle at the concert. Thank you to all who brought food to share, and last but not least, to all who attended.

With appreciation from the Fundraising Committee,
 Virginia Cava, Ginny Cornell, Mary James, Susan Johnson, Suzette Delia Reiss

News from the Social Action Committee & 8th Principle Task Force

It is June 28th as I write this, the 54th anniversary of the start of the Stonewall Inn Riots, a series of protest events against police brutality, which stretched over six days. This date is known by many as the beginning of Pride. A year later, the first Pride marches were held in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles to commemorate Stonewall and to demonstrate for equal rights.

So proud that our congregation participated in the inaugural North Fork Pride Parade and Festival. Go to our Facebook page "First Universalist Church of Southold (UU)" for pictures of our new Side With Love banners and our booth complete with a goody basket - thanks to About Food in Southold for donating the ingredients and to Virginia Cava for procuring same and getting it together with love to create a wonderful gift basket...And The Winner Is (Was)" – Mary Grace Benolich, long-time member/friend of the church. Thanks to everyone who participated (marched, rode, carried a banner, sold/bought a raffle ticket, etc.). Rev. Valerie, Brian and I were with you all in spirit from General Assembly (GA) in Pittsburgh. Next year it's going to be totally virtual so delegates can be in two places at once (with headphones - LOL).

Gratitude to the Board and congregation on behalf of SAC and our June First Sunday Share the Plate (STP) recipient, **Sound-Justice Initiative (SJI)**. A check will be mailed to the attention of Founder & Director, Kerry Spooner, in the amount of \$ 200.00, to support the nonprofit organization's mission: foster rehabilitation; facilitate re-entry; reduce recidivism; and, cultivate critical reasoning skills in individuals who have had encounters with the criminal justice system.

SAC & 8th Principle Task Force (cont'd.)

SJI recently announced a new course entitled, "Act Local: Civics, Government, Community," providing incarcerated students "with knowledge of democratic principles and the network of institutions and community organizations (to) inspire advocacy and community shaping." To find out more, visit SJI's website <https://sound-justice.org> or Facebook page Sound-Justice Initiative.

Upcoming First Sunday of the Month STP recipients

July - since the first weekend of this month is 4th of July weekend, **in lieu of our usual worship service on Sunday, July 2nd at 11:00 a.m., we will be enjoying a potluck brunch at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church.** Therefore, our July STP collection will be held during service **on Sunday, July 9, at 11:00am.** Our guest speaker will be Steve Wick who will talk about, "Migrant Labor on the North Fork." The **July STP recipient is the Gold Boots Foundation**, created after six North Fork and Shelter Island residents died from ingesting fentanyl-laced cocaine in August, 2021. Founder, Samantha Payne-Markel, sought a way to keep alive the name of her then boyfriend, Seth Thomas Tramontana, whose signature footwear was gold boots. The organization is dedicated to: raising awareness of overdose risk / prevention; funding college scholarships for Greenport H.S. students; and, the goal of bringing grief services to the North Fork, which Ms. Payne-Markel could not find in 2021.

August - Women Cross DMZ (WCDMZ) is a global movement of women mobilizing to promote peace and bring an end to the Korean Peninsula. July 27, 2023 marks the 70th anniversary of the signing of the Korean War Armistice, which halted but did not technically end the war. Peace advocates from across the USA will convene in Washington, D.C., on July 26-28, 2023, to call on President Biden and Congress to support a formal peace agreement with North Korea.

Aiyoun Choi, currently serving as their Board President, will be speaking at a worship service in August about the work of WCDMZ and the continued threats of nuclear escalation and militarization on the Korean Peninsula.

Upcoming Events

- **Prophetic Voices Part 3: "Backs Against the Wall - the Howard Thurman Story"** is about the man who became a spiritual mentor to Martin Luther King, Jr. and the entire Civil Rights Movement

Date & time: Sunday, July 16, 2023, 2-4 pm at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

- **Prophetic Voices Part 4: "Revolution of the Heart - the Dorothy Day Story"** on Sunday, August 20, profiles the Catholic radical and founder of the Catholic Worker Movement.

Date & time: Sunday, August 20, 2023, 2-4 pm at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

- SAC received permission at the May Board meeting to utilize \$ 110.00 which the congregation collected (prior to the COVID-19 shutdowns) for an Opioid Overdose Prevention Clinic. The event is being planned for this summer and will be open to the public. Details hopefully to be determined by the...

- **Next meeting of SAC / 8th Principle Task Force:**

(Please note two changes to the July meeting - change of weekday and space within the library)

Date & time - 2nd Tuesday of the month, July 11, 2023, from 4:00pm-5:00pm

Place: in person at the Southold Free Library in the basement Community Room, which is accessible by elevator OR via Zoom link, which will be emailed the day prior to the meeting.

Closing words from Rev. Michael J. Crumpler, LGBTQ and Multicultural Programs Director: "In the midst of Pride, may we take care of our people. May we find the strength to laugh. May we make space for freedom. And most importantly, may we all make the effort to notice the one who is excluded, left behind, or shut out...now more than ever, May we UPLIFT Pride!"