

UU Congregation of the South Fork Holds First Service in New Building

On Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the South Fork (Bridgehampton NY) held its first services in a new building at 977 Bridgehampton-Sag Harbor Turnpike south of the Scuttlehole Road intersection. This building is the culmination of several years of fundraising and sweat equity by this small, but visible, active and socially conscious congregation. The Reverend Alison Cornish, minister of the congregation, said: “The move to our own building is the result of planning, fundraising, dreaming, hard work and also some very good work. Time and again, when presented with obstacles or challenges, the membership has risen to the occasion, and the result is now a home for this congregation that has ‘borrowed’ space from others for the last 20 years. What excites us almost as much as having a home of our own is the opportunity to provide a space for other groups dedicated to social justice and service to meet and grow. We look forward to playing host to the East End’s progressive voices.”

The congregation hopes that the building will stand as a symbol in the community of diversity, religious tolerance, social justice, and multifaith understanding. Mark Ewald, President of the Congregation stated “We are excited by the opportunity that this new Meeting House gives us to serve the East End as a magnet for liberal fellowship, social action and spiritual community.”

The Christmas Eve service was ecumenical and multifaith, led by the Reverend George Wilson, a retired Presbyterian minister. Islam, Hinduism, Christianity, and Judaism were represented. Music included a choir, drumming, and a soloist.

The Christmas Day service was led by Sue Penny, co-chair of the worship committee, who celebrated this day of giving by encouraging participants to share presents of readings, songs, stories and memories.

All future services will be held in this new building.