



Uni-Verse

June 2010

"Providing a safe and inviting space for religious freedom"
UUFBF Vision Statement

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Big Flats

P.O. Box 103

Big Flats, NY 14814

607-562-3017 www.BigFlatsUU.org

<p>Sunday Services: 10:30 a.m. at the Fellowship just off Hibbard Road, located on the north side of Interstate 86 between exits 49 and 50.</p> <p>All are welcome for coffee and conversation following the service.</p> <p>Children's Religious Education Classes: 10:45 a.m. Sunday mornings, September through June.</p>	Sunday Service Schedule	
	June 6	<p>June 6 - RE Sunday The children will demonstrate what they have learned in RE throughout the year, along with songs from the Children's Choir. Also, those who helped with RE will be recognized.</p>
	June 13	 <p>Flower Communion & Annual Meeting Each year our Fellowship participates in a UU traditional service known as the Flower Communion. Through music, story and the diversity of beautiful flowers, it challenges us to rededicate ourselves to open-hearted acceptance and the release of judgment. Everyone brings a flower, either cut or potted, and takes home another one. Immediately following the service will be a short annual meeting. Presentation and voting will take place on the 2010/2011 slate of officers, board members, the nominating committee and the budget.</p>
	June 20	<p>Michael Deery: "The Nature of Unbelief" Why everything you know is wrong and what you can do about it. Many of us have had the privilege of watching Michael walk, talk, run and grow, come of age and expand in wisdom and service, from cradle to college. Today we celebrate his journey as he "bridges" away from us and into the world.</p>
	June 27	<p>Small Group Ministry Sunday services begin (see Fellowship News)</p>

The man who doesn't read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read them.

Mark Twain

President's Ponderings

Dear Fellowship,

While I'm not in the habit of begging, it is not beneath me. I have learned over the last few years to ask for help when I need it.

At this year's annual business meeting, the Building and Grounds Committee will unveil its plan to expand the building. Also at this meeting, we will distribute special pledge cards for funds specific to this project. We have to show a loan officer that we are serious and will back up what we wish to achieve!

Therein lies the begging. Lori and I are getting married next May. We would love to have our ceremony at UUF of BF. However, it cannot host our union in its present state. We are looking towards Athens, but don't want to.

On any given Sunday, it is obvious we need to expand our space. Please dig deep when you fill out your special pledge form.

Moving forward on my knees,

Tamara

Fellowship News

Summer Small Group Ministry, June 27 to Sept. 5

Our tradition of circling up the chairs and engaging in respectful discourse on a chosen subject begins on June 27. Look for the gold sign-up sheet by the front doors to sign up to facilitate one of eleven available Sunday discussions. The host brings a topic, opening reading and light snack. Childcare/nursery volunteers are also being sought this year so that our parent members may participate.

Small Congregational Growth Task Force:

At the third meeting of this shared St. Lawrence District gathering of representatives from seven small upstate NY UU congregations, we continued to share and learn about growth. Our task force (Colleen and Corey McCall, Carolyn Scopellitti, Leslie and Frank Potter, Renata Brenner, Dave and Diane Muffley and Jenny Monroe) now brings to the congregation a plan for the type of growth we're experiencing at Big Flats: organic growth. Sure we're growing in numbers at Sunday services, that's obvious and wonderful and expanding our space is being addressed by the Building & Grounds committee. And we are growing in religious education, especially for adults; witness the book, movie and now Build Your Own Theology groups this year.

Where the task force has identified a focus for organic growth is in increasing members involvement in the the work of the fellowship. Please look over the list of activities that makes our fellowship effective, meaningful and fun. Choose where your joy and talents lead you to contribute. At the annual meeting on June 13th you will be asked to put your name on a chart by the activities that you want to be involved in. It's an exciting time at the Fellowship - and we have good news to share and great work to get connected with. By deepening our understanding of the Fellowship's internal structure and overlapping activities, we will grow a stronger body -- bones and roots to support our wings!

New Website location

Our website has relocated to www.bigflatsuu.org. Check it out!

Gasland, Wednesday, June 9, 7 PM,

Screening of **Gasland**, winner of the Special Jury Prize for documentary at the 2010 Sundance Film Festival. The Heights Theater, 210 E. Fourteenth Street, Elmira Heights, NY. Admission \$5.00. Dan Maloney playing at 6 PM. For more details, visit www.gaslandthemovie.com

Where will you invest your time and talents to support our vision and mission?

SUNDAY MORNING *Our magnetic core experience*

Worship Services:

- Inviting guest presenters
- Annual celebrations
- Lay lead worship services & elements

Music:

- Service elements, accompaniment
- Choir, live music and musicians

Hospitality & Welcome:

- Greeters
- Coffee hour hosting
- Nursery volunteers

Religious Education for youth:

- Teachers and schedules
- Choosing curricula
- Special features & materials

Religious Education for adults:

- Facilitators
- Choosing curricula

Publicity to external sources

MEMBERSHIP & STEWARDSHIP *Caring for our human and financial resources*

Membership:

- Newcomers & initial contact
- Affiliation - the path to membership
- Records keeping: Directory & UUA

Communications:

- Uni-Verse newsletter
- Bulletin boards
- On-line networking

Social Events:

- For Adult members
- For Youth members
- Intergenerational events

Small Group Ministry group liaison

Annual Canvas and Pledge event

Fundraising activities and strategies

Volunteer Coordination: match member's talents to needs of the Fellowship

Leadership Development – UU conferences & events

SOCIAL JUSTICE & OUTREACH

What we do together outside our building with and for others and the Earth.

Tabling at community events:

- Pride, Octagon Fair, Sparkle of Xmas
- Selling things that reflect our values
- Maintaining inventory of supplies

Support to regional activities with partners:

- Second Place East
- Interfaith
- Welcoming Congregation
- Environmental events

First Sunday of the month collections

Sponsor Holiday families

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Our inviting space, how it supports us and reflects our values and growth.

Maintenance, contracts, equipment & furnishings

Improvements: accessible bathroom, aesthetic & green

Seasonal upkeep and membership work parties

Rotating supply captain for consumables inventory

Facility expansion:

- Space needs assessment
- Determine timeline
- Contractors / construction plan
- Financial plan
- Capital campaign preparation

BOARD & NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Our leadership team who assures that Fellowship activities achieve our vision and our mission.

Elected officers and nominating committee members act according to UUFBF Bylaws.

Safeguards financial and real property assets.

Allocates resources and determines work plan of the Fellowship according to congregation's set annual priorities.

Operates with transparency and openly communicates with membership.

Convenes Congregational Meetings.

June 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6 RE Sunday	7	8	9 Gasland 7 PM Heights Theatre	10	11	12
13 Flower Communion & Annual Meeting 10:30	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 The Nature of Unbelief	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Small Group Ministry	28	29	30			

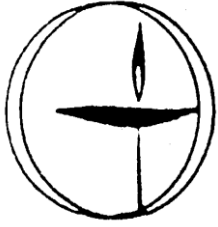
FELLOWSHIP HOSTING SCHEDULE - Hosting is a service that we provide each other. If you are unable to host on a day that you are assigned, please make arrangements for someone else to take your place.

DATE	HOST
May 30	Spicer, Deery, Scopelliti
June 06	Monroe, McCall, Edwards
June 13	Stevenson, Vikin, Cowles
June 20	Martin/Glen, Muffley, Brenner
June 27	Small Group Ministry begins

Board Members		
President	Tamara Miller	607-483-8699
Vice-President	Corey McCall	607-846-2574
Secretary	Lori Dodson	607-483-8699
Treasurer	Leslie Potter	607-739-9624
Programming	Jenny Monroe	607-524-8439
Director	Dave Muffley	570-835-5133
Director	Renata Brenner	607-936-4580
Uni-Verse Editor	Jeni Paquette	607-937-9809

Nursery Volunteers	
May 30	Deery family
June 06	Lydia Bruffey
June 13	Derek Parsons
June 20	Alta Stevenson
June 27	Small Group Ministry

Address correction requested



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
PO Box 103
Big Flats, NY 14814

Please check here _____ and return if you no longer wish to receive this mailing. Thank You