

March 2011

"Providing a safe and inviting space for religious freedom."

-UUFBF Vision



Sunday Service Schedule

March 6

Re-examining the Examined Life. Dr. Charles Mitchell, Associate Professor of American Studies at Elmira College, returns to the Fellowship.

March 13

Travelogue to Kyiv and Lviv, Ukraine. Last October, Sonia Gilbert-Vikin, along with four members of the Corning Sister Cities Association, travelled to the cities of Kyiv and Lviv in Ukraine. The goal of the trip was to connect with Lviv which is Corning's Sister City. They also visited Kyiv, the capital of Ukraine. Sonja's impressions of the Ukraine will be presented in her slideshow of the trip.

March 20

Voices of Spring-Children's Choir Service. Elizabeth Brown-Shook will direct our choir members: Ella Deery, Emily Dodson-McGovern, Sara Dodson-McGovern, Olive McCall, and Aislan VanNess. Selections throughout the service will highlight the theme of nature and oneness-just in time for March 21, the first day of Spring!

March 27

The Reverend Darcey Laine will present *Giving and the Wisdom of the World's Religions.*

Sunday Services:

10: 30 a.m.

48 N. Hibbard Road
Big Flats, NY

Located on the north side
of Interstate 86 between
exits 49 and 50.

All are welcome for coffee
and conversation following
the service.

Children's Religious Education Classes:

10: 45 a.m. Sunday
mornings, September
through June

Nursery Available during
each Sunday Service

President's Ponderings

Inside this issue:

<i>President's Ponderings</i>	1
<i>Fellowship News</i>	2
<i>Our Community & Beyond</i>	3
<i>Sharing Corner</i>	4
<i>RE News</i>	4
<i>Fellowship at Work</i>	4
<i>Hey Kids!</i>	5

Dear Fellowship,

This is a shout out from the Building & Grounds Committee for help. We have two pre-construction projects to accomplish. The first being the removal of the dead tree between the cottage and the main building. We would like to turn as much as possible into wood chips and use it under the monkey bars. The second project is the removal of the red barn. Renata Brenner has offered to recycle it. Please let me or John Shook know if you can help and when. Helping comes in different forms. We will need wheelbarrows, someone to rent a chipper, a person versed in "chainsaw-ology", someone to make us a nice lunch, etc.

Moving forward in new construction,

Tamara Miller

Fellowship News

UUs Got Talent!

And we're gonna' show it on Saturday, March 26 at 6 p.m.! Even though it's grammatically incorrect, the Membership & Stewardship Committee has chosen this as the theme for our pledge dinner to kick off our annual canvas. Come to the Fellowship for a Mexican buffet prepared by your board and bring your talents to show off. It could be something you created or wrote, it could be musical, magical, theatrical or athletic. All ages are welcome, prizes will be awarded! Pledge packets will be distributed. Volunteers gratefully accepted to come early (at 5 p.m.) to help set up or to stay late and help clean up. Arrriba!

Hands-On Glassmaking with Jenny

Occasionally Jenny Monroe can offer special friends the opportunity to partake in her Road Scholar educational programs sponsored by Watson Homestead. This March happens to be one of those lucky times! You'll meet her group daily at the Studio and immerse yourself in an introduction to glassmaking. Eighteen workshop hours, over four days, are split between glassblowing at the furnace, bead making at the torch and kiln fusing in the cold working shop. If glassmaking is on your bucket list, here's your opportunity! You can attend all of these workshops all for the special price of \$200. Please make your checks payable to Watson Homestead. Contact Jenny for more information and to register at watsonjenny@stny.rr.com or (607) 962-0541. To watch a video about the program go to www.roadscholar.org and search for program #2388.



February's Lasagna Fest was such a great hit that we will be having a potluck/game night at the Fellowship each month. Come join the fun!

Games for UU and YOU!

The first Saturday night of the month is now going to be known as "Games for UU and You". Everyone is invited to bring a "potluck" dish to share and then stay for some good, old-fashioned game playing! Congregation members can bring their favorite games and we will break out into smaller groups to play. This is a great evening out for kids and adults. There is a sign up sheet in the Fellowship to RSVP and indicate your special potluck dish.

Official "Thank You"!

The Fellowship Board and the Religious Education Program extends it's thanks to John Shook and all those who helped with the painting of the nursery, kitchen and office during February. The project included scraping the walls and applying two coats of Dry-Lock in selected areas of these rooms. These improvements certainly make the rooms look better, but more importantly, the flaking paint on the walls had become a potential hazard, especially for the younger members of the Fellowship.

You are Invited

Lori and Tamara have decided to give up their bachelorette lifestyles and make honest women of each other!

Please come be a witness...

On: Saturday, May 21st at 3:30 p.m.

At: Park Church

In: Beecher Hall

At: 208 W. Gray Street

Elmira, NY 14901



To be followed by a reception...

On: Saturday, May 21st at 5 p.m.

At: National Soaring Museum

In: Side

At: 51 Soaring Hill Drive

Elmira, NY 14903

Our Community & Beyond

<i>Dr. Seuss Day</i>	<i>Wednesday, March 2</i>
<i>International Sister Cities Day</i>	<i>Thursday, March 4</i>
<i>Games for UU and YOU!</i>	<i>Saturday, March 5, 6 p.m. (5 p.m.-set up)</i>
<i>Peace Corps Day</i>	<i>Thursday, March 3</i>
<i>Mardi Gras</i>	<i>Tuesday, March 8</i>
<i>Ash Wednesday/Lent Begins</i>	<i>Tuesday, March 9</i>
<i>Daylight Savings Begins</i>	<i>Sunday, March 13</i>
<i>Board Meeting</i>	<i>Sunday, March 13, 9:30 am</i>
<i>Hands-On Glassmaking with Jenny</i>	<i>Monday, March 14-Thursday, March 17</i>
<i>St. Patrick's Day</i>	<i>Thursday, March 17</i>
<i>Corning Small Group Ministry</i>	<i>Tuesday, March 15, 7 pm</i>
<i>Elmira Small Group Ministry</i>	<i>Wednesday, March 16, 7 pm</i>
<i>Bed-In for Peace Day</i>	<i>Sunday, March 20</i>
<i>Ostara</i>	<i>Sunday, March 20</i>
<i>Dine Out Afternoon</i>	<i>Sunday, March 20</i>
Join everyone directly after service for lunch at Garcia's. A 10% discount will be given.	
<i>Earth Hour</i>	<i>Saturday, March 26</i>
<i>Annual Jewish Food Festival</i>	<i>Sunday, March 27, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.</i>

The Jewish Community is holding it's Annual Jewish Food Festival on Sunday, March 27th, from 11am to 3pm at Congregation Shomray Hadath, 1008 West Water Street in Elmira. Enjoy lunch or an early dinner. Experience the ambiance of the Lower East Side of NYC while munching on falafel, kugel, pastrami sandwiches, matzo ball soup and much more. Shop for "tchotchkes" while enjoying the sounds of klezmer music. Tickets are \$9 in advance or \$10 at the door. All tickets include admission and \$3 worth of food tickets. Advance tickets include a chance at a special "early bird" prize. Children 12 and under are admitted free of charge. Tickets are available at Cappy's in Elmira or call the Jewish Center at (607) 734-8122.

Cornell Environmental Law Society

2011 Energy Conference *Saturday, March 31-Saturday, April 2*

Gas Drilling, Sustainability & Energy Policy: Searching for Common Ground will be presented at the Cornell Law School, Myron Taylor & Anabel Taylor Hall, Ithaca, New York from Thursday, March 31 until Saturday evening, April 2. The conference will explore the legal, scientific and business perspectives on Shale Gas Development and hydraulic fracturing ("hydrofracking"). This issue has ignited a fierce battle over energy and the environment in New York State. Eight fast-paced and interactive panels will use natural gas drilling as a lens to explore national energy policy, the global energy market and the integral role the law must play in creating energy security and ensuring a sustainable future. The conference brings together over 45 distinguished speakers from Cornell University and around the country working in law, science, business and government from all sides of the energy debate.

To register please visit: <http://www.lawschool.cornell.edu/research/ELS/index.cfm>



Sharing Corner

World's Largest Community Garden



Would you like to join 10,000 other beginner and established gardeners from around the country as we all plant the same 10 varieties of heirloom vegetables? Together we'll learn, share and grow with each other. You'll get a bi-weekly emailed checklist that will give you step-by-step instructions to get your garden started and thriving, customized to our growing zone. You will also have access to gardening forums to seek and share advice with other gardeners. This will be a lot of fun and with all the help, a whole lot of easy! For all the "dirt", please click on the image at the left or visit:

<http://beekman1802.com/garden/grow-with-us.html>

Religious Education News

Coming of Age

Some of the boys in our RE class will soon be turning into teenagers and we'd like to see them transition to young adults with our mentoring program. Alex, Reader and Bevan will be meeting with their mentors to work on things like personal spirituality & growth through meetings, outings and a camping adventure with the other "coming of age" students at the Athens Fellowship.

Open House

On Sunday, June 5th the RE classrooms will be open to all members of the Fellowship to join the "Peace Kids" (2nd-5th graders) and the preschool to 1st grade students as they welcome you to their Open House. The children and teachers will be on hand to share with you what they've been studying and what they've learned throughout the year. Please save the date so that you can stop by to say "hi" and share in their learning.

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
March 6	Potters, Vikins
March 13	Wilson, Morrell, Shooks
March 20	Spicer, Divens/Bruffey, Wosinski
March 27	McCalls, Stevenson, Hurley
April 2	Deerys, Edwards, Ricotta
April 9	Parsons, Muffleys, Glenn/Martin
April 16	Reynolds, Brenner/Miller
April 23	Maloney/Halm, Bennett/Dayton
April 30	Telfords, Monroe

Fellowship at Work

These are the people to contact if you need help, have a concern or a suggestion.

Board Members		
President	Tamara Miller	(607) 737-8082
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	Renata Brenner	(607) 936-4580
Director	Karen Reynolds	(607) 654-7162
Uni-Verse Editor	Jen Peck	(570) 549-8161

Address correction requested

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Big Flats

PO Box 103
Big Flats, NY 14814
Phone: (607) 562-3017



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



Hey Kids! St. Patrick's Day Quiz

- St. Patrick drove snakes from Ireland by:
 - Playing the flute
 - Banging a drum
 - Eating shamrocks
- While he was enslaved in Ireland, St. Patrick:
 - Herded & tended sheep and pigs
 - Converted the Irish to Christianity
 - Drove snakes away
- Leprechauns are:
 - The national symbol of Ireland
 - Real creatures who drink mead
 - Self-appointed guardians of ancient treasures

Answers: 1-B, 2-A, 3-C

Join
us
this
Sunday



Friends
of the
Library!!

Funding for libraries is being threatened by NY state and the federal government. Take action by visiting:

www.protectnylibraries.org/



Visit us on the web!

www.BigFlatsUU.org



Follow us on

[Facebook!](#)

Join our Yahoo Group!

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/uubigflats/>