



# Uni-Verse

November 2009

"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**  
**Member of the Unitarian Universalist Association**  
**607-562-3017 www.uuonline.net**

### 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.

All are welcome for coffee and conversation following the service.

### Children's Religious Education Classes:

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

### Sunday Service Schedule

November 1	<b>It Happened in Syracuse, Fifty Years Ago</b> Fifty years ago, shortly before noon on Saturday, October 31, 1959, a very important vote was taken in the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Syracuse, in Syracuse, New York. After years of discussion, representatives of what was then the American Unitarian Association (AUA) and the Universalist Church of America (UCA) overcame the final obstacle and voted to adopt a common statement of purpose and a formal Plan for Consolidation, creating the new "Unitarian Universalist Association."
November 8	<b>Rev. Darcey Laine "Dreams and the Rational Mind"</b> Everyone dreams. Sure, some of us don't remember our dreams, and some of us wish we didn't, but science has proven that all mammals dream. Why? And what does it all mean? What happens when we shine the light of consciousness and reason on the sleeping mind?
November 15	<b>Homer Wilkins "No Man is an Island"-- If He Builds Bridges"</b> John Donne's "No man is an island, entire of itself" stands in stark contrast to Kahlil Gibran's "Your life is an island separated from all other islands and regions". These two opposing statements can be reconciled by the concept (and actuality) of bridging. In this service we'll explore two related kinds of bridges: one's ties with other people and the connections between the different phases of one's own life. In my own experience, these two kinds of bridges are closely related. The ability to build and maintain such bridges is an important aspect of being human. The discussion will be illustrated by stories from personal experience as well as from the lives of others.
November 22	<b>Rev. Janet Ernise "Paper-Cut Theology"</b> We are programmed "for healing - body, mind, and soul." Can congregations be places of healing, too? Guest At Your Table boxes will also be distributed.
November 29	<b>Bread Sunday with Colleen McCall</b> Believe it or not, breaking bread together is still a tradition we share, even though few of us make it ourselves these days. Share a family tradition, a special memory, that secret recipe and/or a tasty loaf. All are welcome and encouraged to bring bread for this intergenerational service.

## Fellowship News

### Big News! Children's Choir!

Our music director, Elizabeth Brown Shook, with assistance from Anna Deery, is leading a children's music program that will meet Sundays from 12:00 to 12:30. They will begin by preparing a performance of "December in Our Town" to present to the Fellowship.

### Religious Ed News

The Pre-K to 4th grade children are progressing, with great energy and enthusiasm, through the *Faithful Journeys* curriculum, which covers integrating the 7 UU principles into everyday life. We welcome new students Cameron and Colin. The smaller 4<sup>th</sup> to 8th grade group is progressing with quiet enthusiasm through the UUA's ethics curriculum designed for that age group. We welcome new student Kristina.

### Nursery Volunteers for November

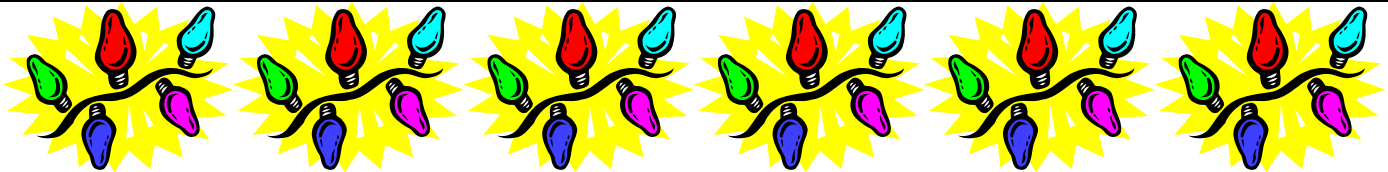
Nov. 1 Jeni Paquette  
Nov. 8 Dianne Muffley  
Nov. 15 Niki Parsons  
Nov. 22 Carolyn Scopelliti  
Nov. 29 Tamara Miller

### Adult Education

Our film series continues on Tuesday, 11/10/09 at 7 PM, Big Flats Community Center. Film title TBA. Discussion will follow on Sunday, November 15, 9:30 AM at the UU Fellowship in Big Flats. All are welcome!

### Split Estate – Tuesday, October 27, 6:30 PM, UU Fellowship Big Flats

What You Don't Know CAN Hurt You. Narrated by Ali MacGraw. Split Estate is an eye-opening examination of the consequences and conflicts that can arise between surface land owners in the western United States, and those who own and extract the energy and mineral rights below. This film is of value to anyone wrestling with rational, sustainable energy policy while preserving the priceless elements of cultural heritage, private enterprise above-ground, and the precious health not only of people but the land itself.



### Sparkle is coming!

For years (anyone know how many?) our Fellowship has set up a booth on Market Street in Corning's Gaffer District, joining with other organizations and vendors on the first Saturday night in December.

Yes, December! We laugh in winter's face, proving we CAN and WILL be as stalwart as our ancestors whose ability to weather winter's cold and storms was strictly a matter of survival.

The date this year is **December 5**, and we need prove our cold-worthiness for only four hours, from 5 until 9 PM. This is a wonderful community tradition of which we are proud to be a part! Everyone from kids to grannies has a great time. Besides our usual pins and bumper stickers, we'll be selling UUSC Christmas cards and free trade coffee. Of course, the cards and coffee will also be available at the Fellowship. There'll be a sign-up sheet for volunteers at the Fellowship on Sundays through November. Besides help in the booth, we could use the following:

Large white tablecloth or sheet (white is the only color permitted at **Sparkle**; table is 10 feet long); seasonal decorations, especially those we can hang from the booth top and sides; battery-powered lighting, unless someone has a small low-noise generator we could borrow; and clamps to secure the tablecloth and possibly the lighting and decorations. Volunteers should dress extremely warmly—shoes with thick soles and woolen socks are strongly recommended! Of course, this may be the year when Mother Nature actually delivers a welcome surprise, with temps no lower than the 50's. Yeah, sure...

Thanks!

*Leslie Potter*

**News from Second Place East, Inc.**

SOCK IT TO ME SUNDAYS! Our fellowship is assisting the residents of Second Place East, the Homeless Shelter in Elmira, by providing socks for residents. Most residents are adults, although there are also families with children who are assisted by the Shelter program. Second Place East, Inc. is a group of local churches who raise funds and material items to assist the shelter residents and prevent homelessness. One of the other parishes is providing underwear, and we UUs have agreed to focus on socks. These are items that clothes closets do not provide as a rule.

OTHER NEEDS: Hats, gloves, scarves, mittens are also welcome during the winter months.

FURNITURE AND HOUSEHOLD ITESM: Moving to a new apartment means finally having one's own space again, but most apartments are unfurnished. Are you getting rid of old furniture? Beds, dressers, lamps, pots and pans? People moving out of the shelter, who have nothing to take with them, and limited income, would benefit from your donation of material items.

See Marcia Allen at the Fellowship, phone at 733-0747, or email [marcia531@yahoo.com](mailto:marcia531@yahoo.com) to help.

**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
Nov 01	Halm/Maloney, Divens-Bruffey, Wilson
Nov 08	Woskinski, L&J Potter, Mann
Nov 15	Spicer, Deery, Scopellitti
Nov 22	Monroe, McCall, Edwards
Nov 29	Stevenson, Swarthout, Cowles
Dec 06	Martin/Glen, Muffley, Brenner
Dec 13	Allen, Dodson/Miller, Young
Dec 20	Halm/Maloney, Divens-Bruffey, Wilson

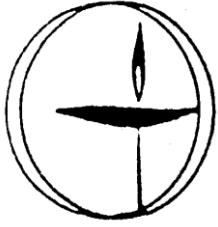
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Eskimo: "If I did not know about God and sin, would I go to hell?"  
Priest: "No, not if you did not know."  
Eskimo: "Then why did you tell me?"

Annie Dillard

*Address correction requested*



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