



Uni-Verse

September 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

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| 09/06/09 | Small Group Ministry format continues. |
| 09/13/09 | Welcome Back Sunday - Water Service Coming back together each fall, we have a special ceremony in which we each bring a small sample of water from a place we visited this summer. Whether it be from your garden or from somewhere far away, bring it and tell a little about your summer as we blend these waters with that from our collection from years past. Nursery volunteer: Diane Muffley |
| 09/20/09 | Rev. Darcey Laine - The Ethics of Lunch Just deciding what to eat for lunch is a complex ethical act. Consider the beings that we eat, the farmers who grow our food, the petroleum needed to get it to our table, the political and industrial systems which guide our food supply and the impacts on soil and water. No wonder Unitarian Universalists around the country voted to make this our 4 year Study Action Issue. The issues are overwhelmingly complex, so let's start with this simple question "What's for Lunch?" Nursery volunteer: Jeni Paquette |
| 09/27/09 | Yoga Program with Colleen Colleen LaDelia will share her inspiring path to yoga as well as her vision for empowering wellness and compassion in her student's lives. Nursery volunteer: Diane Muffley |
| 10/04/09 | Association Sunday |

President's Ponderings

Hello fellowship

This month's topic: Children

I was told rather recently that my children are too large a piece of my life and I will regret it later on. I do not know the relationship this person has with their children but I felt sorry for this person. My father spoke recently at a family reunion about his relationship with his parents and discipline. How much he wanted to please his father was evident by near tears. When he spoke of his mother, as well, he stated that he always knew why he was in the doghouse and how he appreciated that. He also expressed a desire for the next generation to follow suit as this was important to him. I know I am rambling but bear with me. We all pick up rearing pointers from our parents, not all of them necessarily good. But there has been a break down in a lot of families where values and lessons, discipline and self-respect are missing. This has taken a measurable toll on society as a whole. Am I a dreamer? Perhaps so, but there are too many children without loving nurturing homes. I am worried. How do we fix it? Can we? I think back to the person who told me my children are too big a part of my life, and wonder. Do they need a parent intervention? A teacher from Diven and I will be approaching the principal soon with a parenting mentor type program. Details are still being worked out. As suggested at small group on Aug. 9th, it will be a one family at a time approach. If anyone is interested in joining us, call me at 483-8699.

Moving forward to save the world,

Tamara



Fellowship News

50 years ago in Syracuse

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." Exactly 50 years later, we will gather in the very same Ballroom that they did to examine what they accomplished, how far we have come since 1959, and how far we have yet to travel.

Wanted: Someone from the Big Flats congregation to attend the **St. Lawrence District Conference**, October 30-31 in Syracuse and report back to the congregation on Sunday November 1.
www.sld.uua.org/50thAnniversary/50thanniversary.html

UUFBF next board meeting is 09/13/09, 9:30 AM at the Fellowship. All are welcome.
A clean-up of the shed is scheduled for 10/09/09.

UU Education

The High School group will be working on the cottage, to create a proper and inspiring space for youth, as well as preparing to teach the children on the last Sunday of the month, (Teen Teach Sunday). Fifth to eighth grade students will embark upon the new UUA curriculum, Amazing Grace--Exploring Right and Wrong. Dave Muffley will lead September 13, Arthur Brenner on the 20th, and back to Dave the 27th. The Pre-K to fourth grade children will continue the harvest from the garden they planted in the Spring, then make muffins from the, fresh picked, patty pan squash to help nourish the whole fellowship. It is a tangible representation of the spiritual food that we give each other through our fellowship. The children will donate the remaining produce, (squash, tomatoes, onions), to the food bank to help feed the larger community. Seeds will be saved for next Spring. September 20 they will start on the UUA Faithful Journeys curriculum, which teaches how Unitarian Universalism translates into life choices and everyday actions. Sept. 27 they will continue under leadership from our high-school group.

Wanted: Volunteers for the Nursery on Sundays.

Sign up to cuddle babies on Sunday mornings! We would like to get at least 6 volunteers who will rotate duties. Volunteers will be listed along with the worship schedule.

Adult Education

Interested in setting the agenda for this year's Adult RE activities? Come join us for a brief lunch meeting at Panera following the service on Sunday, September 13 (sorry, lunch not included). Do you have ideas of topics you want to discuss, activities, or books you want to read? Join us on the 13th!

Live Music returns to our worship!

We are delighted that Elizabeth Brown-Shook will be playing piano for us! When asked for a little background, here is what she shared.

I was born and raised in the tiny village of Hagaman, NY (about 30 miles NW of Albany) and educated in Amsterdam city schools. I received my musical training from the University of Kentucky, where I earned Bachelor's Degrees in Vocal Music Performance and Choral Music Education. I did five years of teaching in the public school system, and one semester in a Montessori school. I have played in Catholic, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Episcopal churches...this will be my first UU experience.

My parents are both deceased, but I am one of six children (of my father, only two of my mom) and have a nephew, four nieces, and two great-nieces! I live in Horseheads with my in-laws, husband John, and 15-month-old daughter, Melanie Jane. My husband and I met on a city bus in Lexington, KY and lived there until November of 2008, when we moved in with my in-laws to help them out and be closer to extended family. (It's harder raising children without family around than we bargained for!)

I am so looking forward to getting started playing with the Fellowship!

Love~

Elizabeth

| Community Events | |
|---|---|
| Saturday, Sept 19 3:00 PM-6:00 PM Corning Museum of Glass | Movie event "Tell" , which recounts the experience of people who lived under Don't Ask, Don't Tell. Joan Darrah, from the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, in Alexandria Virginia, will take part in this event and share her experiences. For more info call Joan at 703-768-5751. |
| Friday Oct 2-Sunday Oct 4 Watson Homestead | Drum Building Weekend Workshop at Watson Homestead Details at www.watsonhomestead.org . Order supplies for the style and size of drum you would like to make and "Stan the Drum Man" brings all the materials and tools for creating your personal drum. Lodging available, or commute and just pay for the meals you eat. For a descriptive brochure about the drum styles available, phone 607-962-0541. |
| Saturday, Oct 24 9:30 AM – 4:30 PM SE Steuben Public Library Corning | Awakening the Dreamer Symposium Registration at 9:30 AM. Local concerned and motivated people will gather, and through a facilitated process, decide what our most urgent local environmental issues are and strategize steps to meet them. Come join us to explore a new global vision built on Sustainability, Spiritual Fulfillment and Social Justice. Save the date now and explore more about the event at www.AwakeningTheDreamer.org . Please share this with anyone you think might like to come. Registration will be \$20 adult / \$10 senior or student. Event is sponsored by Southern Tier Interfaith Coalition. Please give my contact to anyone who is interested. Thank you, Jenny Monroe (607-524-8439 or jmonroe@stny.rr.com) |
| Saturday, Oct 24 Corning | Walk a Peaceful Mile , sponsored by Rape Crisis Center of the Southern Tier. The UUFBF is also sponsoring this event, and encourages people to walk or support a walker. For more info call 1-888-810-0093. |
| Sunday, Oct 25 1:30 PM, Centerway Square Corning | Corning Area Crop Walk Take steps for the hungry and sign up to be on the UUFBF team of walkers. |
| Open | The Cantata Singers of Elmira invites us to participate in this year's curriculum. Call Susan Nagle at 607-796-5034 if interested! |

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.

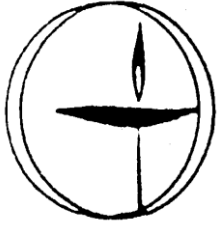
| DATE | HOST |
|--------|--------------------------------------|
| Sep 13 | Halm/Maloney, Divens-Bruffey, Wilson |
| Sep 20 | Wosinski, L&J Potter, Mann |
| Sep 27 | Spicer, Deery, Scopellitti |
| Oct 04 | Monroe, McCall, Edwards |
| Oct 11 | Stevenson, Swarthout, Cowles |
| Oct 18 | Martin/Glen, Muffley, Brenner |
| Oct 25 | Allen, Dodson/Miller, Young |
| Nov 01 | Halm/Maloney, Divens-Bruffey, Wilson |

| Board Members | | |
|----------------------|---|--------------|
| President | Tamara Miller | 607-483-8699 |
| Vice-President | Corey McCall | 607-846-2574 |
| Secretary | Lori Dodson | 607-483-8699 |
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Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot,
nothing is going to get better.
It's not.
Dr. Seuss, The Lorax

Address correction requested



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