

# Uni-Verse

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
Member of the Unitarian Universalist Association  
607-562-3017

## **Sunday Services, September 2007**

*A religion where people of diverse beliefs, come together as one faith.*

### ***Sunday Services***

10:30 a.m. at the Fellowship  
just off Hibbard Road and  
Route 17.

All are welcome for coffee  
and conversation following  
the service.

### ***Children's Religious Education Classes***

10:45a.m. Sunday mornings  
(September – June).

#### **Sept 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Welcome Back Water Ceremony**  
Please bring a sample of water to represent your travels this summer, whether physical, intellectual or spiritual. We'll take time to share what those travels have been as we rededicate ourselves to our congregational purpose. Be prepared to smile for the annual group photo of Fellowship members and friends to be taken after the service.

#### **Sept 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Running with Patience**  
Rev. Barb Blom is the intern minister for the UU Church of Cortland. She has been there two years and is beginning her third year. She is currently working on her doctorate at Colgate Rochester Corzier Divinity School. She adopted two boys, 6 and 12 and three dogs who keep her young. One of her great passions is skiing. She has been teaching skiing for twenty plus years. "I am looking forward to spending some time with all of you in Big Flats!"

#### **Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> Us Versus Them: When Cultural Barriers Dissolve**

While in Viet Nam, 1970-73, fellowship member Dave Muffley was privileged to be a guest of the Cao Dai, a religious sect known throughout Vietnam and Cambodia, at their home temple in Tay Ninh, along the border of those two countries. Dave will relay his personal story of this encounter, what he learned about their "enlightened teachers" and its impact on his outlook about "people different."

#### **Sept 30<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Why Many Churches are Losing Members**

Ron Owens attends the fellowship often even though he's a commissioned lay preacher with the Geneva Presbytery and has preached in 47 central NY churches. He'll be sharing what he's learned in our midst and how he hopes to influence others to align with greater integrity their words with their actions.



## Welcome Back

*With open hands we welcome back all our friends, and greet new ones not yet met.*

### President's Pondering

Dear Fellowship,

There is no louder place than a nest void of children. While many parents drool at the thought of a week of no bambinos, I do not concur.

The neighborhood kids have a sense of my depression, coming around asking, can we play on the swing set? Well, that doesn't even make a dent. Can we get in the pool? Okay there's a fracture in the armor of mire. We're hungry. Now we're moving in the right direction.

"Would you like a sandwich?" I ask. "In how many pieces?" I say. Trying not to get too happy. Do you need a towel? What would you like a drink with that sandwich? Now I am on a roll, did anyone clean your ears this morning? Then another rides up on his bike. Yaya, can I get in the pool? Sure, I say feeling almost needed. "That's good" he says "cause I already have my swim shorts on!" Oh good, are you hungry? Now you guys make plenty of noise but no fighting, make me feel right at home I think to myself. Don't let me digress back to that empty... so empty, dry, starving-for- a- hug- place.

What is it honey, I say, squinting through my blurry view. Are you okay? Are you hurt? We just wondered if we could have more juice please. A slap back to reality.

Moving forward in a crowded, yet empty, backyard,  
Tamara



## Announcements

### Octagon Fair

It's the 40th annual Octagon Fair this year. The fellowship will again have a booth at the fair. This has proven to be a great fund raiser as well as a way to get ourselves out in to the community.

The fellowship is asking for donations of books and plants, as well as your time. Set up and tear down is covered but people are needed to work the booth. Look for a sign up sheet at the fellowship. Plus we have a canopy to keep us dry!

The date is September 29, 10 -4



### T.G.I.I.F!

Thank Goodness it's Intergenerational Friday  
Now here's something to look forward to every third Friday of the month, a fellowship get together for all, young and old.

September 21, 5:30pm

Game Night. Bring a favorite game if you wish and a dish to pass. Hint: Don't like to cook.

Bring a pizza or a box of popsicles the kids will adore you.

October 19, 5:30pm Bonfire

Let's recreate the harvest moon bonfire of last fall. Food, music and s'mores oh my! The RE children will have cleared some brush and assembled a mighty pyre. See it roar under a quarter moon.

November 16, Let's Bowl

Place and time to be announced. Suggestions welcome talk with Colleen McCall.



## "Graceful Living"

### Life Coaching

A class for women beginning in October Jenny Monroe, Mindful Change Life Coach, will facilitate a course at the fellowship, meeting once a month on Tuesday or Wednesday evenings, 7 to 8:30 p.m., from October through May. It will also be a fundraiser for the fellowship, as \$50 of the \$65 per person fee will be donated to the fellowship. Each of the eight meetings will have a focus: Gratitude, Resistance, Acceptance, Creativity, Emotions, Frivolous Fun, Uniquely Me and Legacy, spelling out the intention of the course: GRACEFUL. Between meetings there will be assigned reading, journaling, and creative assignments. Six are needed to open the class and the maximum will be twelve.

Signup at the fellowship

or contact Jenny at 524-8439

or [jmonroe@stny.rr.com](mailto:jmonroe@stny.rr.com).

For more information about Jenny's life coaching practice, go to

[www.summonedbyjoy.com](http://www.summonedbyjoy.com)



### Social Justice –

Please help spread the word:

Our fellowship has invited Marc Adams, founder of Heartstrong, to present the Sunday morning worship on December 9th. We're also attempting to facilitate his speaking to other audiences in the region while he is here. So if you know of PFLAG or other gay and lesbian support groups, please let Jenny Monroe know. Marc's presentation style is open and conversational. He articulates his story and the vision of his HeartStrong organization with acute analysis and from the authority of his own, lived experience. Offering no pretense as he discusses the damage done to GLBT people within the fundamentalist and evangelical community, Marc also avoids the

shrillness and caricature that sometimes accompany religious liberals' critiques of the Religious Right. As we Unitarian Universalists seek to bring our message of inclusive religious life into broader public view, Marc's perspective augments the information we have at our disposal and gives greater moral clarity and impetus to our struggles against oppression. You can find out more information about Marc and his work at

[www.heartstrong.org](http://www.heartstrong.org)

[www.meetmarcadams.com](http://www.meetmarcadams.com).



## Fellowship Business

### Octagon Fair

We are asking for sturdy, good looking plants and books in fair condition to sell at the fair, as well as your time and moral support.



### **Children's RE:**

Carolyn Scopelliti, our brilliant new RE director, has created three age groups to identify the varied needs of our very special group of religious education students. We

welcome the opportunity to incorporate new families as we grow and perhaps the addition of a nursery group when there are more little ones.

The youth group will work closely with Alta Stevenson learning about neighboring religions and attending churches of other faiths in the area. The grade school and pre-K, Kindergarten group will often have one teacher or more depending on availability and interest. The youth group will be asked periodically to teach a lesson to the youngest group

answering the question, "What do you value about Unitarian Universalism or your religious education?" All are encouraged to consider assisting with one Sunday. Please share your passion.

To kick off RE and a return to "regular" services the children will be cooking up a batch of fresh spaghetti sauce from the fellowship garden on September 9. Corey McCall will share his expertise and provide supervision in the kitchen. Join us after the service for a spaghetti lunch. Donations will be accepted for the Southern Tier Food Bank. At the end of the month Matthew Glen, a new member and organic farmer, will work with RE students to prepare the garden for the next growing season.

## Community Events

Fall Luncheon Lecture Series at Watson Homestead

Tuesday, September 25th, 10 a.m. lecture and lunch

Dr. Daniel O'Connor, professor emeritus of St. Lawrence University in Canton, NY

Dr. O'Connor will present: Normative Islam -- Sunni and Shia in Iraq. He will present an historical overview of Islam from its formation by Prophet Muhammed, the Koran, the Five Steps, and outline the geographic and political aspects of historic and contemporary Muslim factionalism.

Dr. O'Connor is a Dead Sea Scroll specialist and for the past 40 years taught Religion and Philosophy at St. Lawrence and participated in numerous archeological digs in the Middle East.

For reservations contact

Watson Homestead at 962-0541

whomestead@stny.rr.com.

Cost is \$25 for lecture (10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.) and includes a buffet luncheon 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Corning Vicinity Faith Community

Projects for the fall semester:

The CROP Walk in Corning will be held on Sunday, October 28.

Please pre-register for the walk to support local hunger programs and sign-up friends to walk with you and or sponsor you. Meet at Centerway Square at 1 p.m. the walk to Painted Post and back begins at 2 p.m. Kids and dogs on leashes welcomed! The annual AIDS Awareness and Remembrance Event will be held at Corning Community College on Thursday, November 29th. The fellowship will again be assisting CVFC to bring in squares from the National AIDS quilt and with program expenses. Our liaison to CVUF is Jenny Monroe.

Religion and Science

The monthly meeting starts up again on October 2nd at 7 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Corning (First and Walnut streets). This is a lively group of scientists, humanists, atheists, and theists who enjoy listening to a presentation followed by discussion on the first Tuesday evening monthly through the year.

## Arts in the Area



**Four Fridays** hosted at the new Community Arts building at 413 Lake Street in Elmira. Enjoy

music, poetry, artists, food and more from 4-8pm each Friday in September.

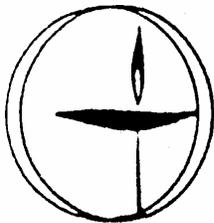
**Cedar Arts Center**

Fall session begins Sept. 10 at 171 Cedar Arts Center. Colleen McCall will be teaching classes in teen wheel throwing, parent/child ceramics, adult handbuilding and a few Saturday workshops on tile making and clay house portraiture. Schedules and registration online at [www.171cedararts.com](http://www.171cedararts.com)



A picture for the kids to color

Address correction requested



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

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**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.

<b>DATE</b>	<b>HOST</b>
Sept 9	Stevenson, Wilson, Strimple
Sept 16	Muffley, Martin/Glen
Sept 23	Allen, Dodson/Miller
Sept 30	Halm/Maloney, Divens-Bruffey
Oct 7	Wosinski, Vikin, Potter
Oct 14	Spicer, Deery, Scopelliti
Oct 21	Monroe, Mc Call
Oct 28	Stevenson, Wilson, Strimple

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