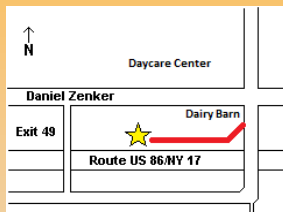


Welcome to the
Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship of Big Flats.

We are an intentionally
inclusive congregation,
welcoming all!

UU of Big Flats, NY
48 Hibbard Road Extension
Big Flats, NY 14814

<http://www.bigflatsuu.org/index.php>



UUFBF Chairs

President

Carolyn Scopelliti

Vice President

Cathleen Deery

Secretary

Karen Reynolds

Treasurer

Leslie Potter

Trustees

Corey McCall

Elizabeth Brown-Shook

Programs

Joni Paquette & Friends

Religious Education (RE) Chairs:

Jen Spicer

Elizabeth Brown-Shook

Newsletter

Chris Telford

Accompanist/Choir

Elizabeth Brown-Shook

Sanctuary Addition

Tamara Miller

Capital Campaign for Sanctuary

Jensen Monroe



Formal Services are held
September through mid-June

Sunday mornings

10:30-11:30

with a casual coffee hour
following.

Informal Summer Services
are held mid-June through
the beginning of September.

No matter what time
of year...

Please join us!

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Big Flats, NY

September 2012 Uni-Verse



September Service Schedule

September 2: *Last Summer Small Group Service* - Topic Open!

September 9: *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 re-dedicate ourselves to our congregational purpose. Also, be prepared to smile ☺ for the annual group photo of Fellowship members and friends to be taken after the service. *Service Leader:* Cathleen Deery and Family

September 16: *Far From Home: Elmira's Confederate Prison Camp* - During the Civil War, over 150 prison camps were established across the North and South. One prison camp was established in Elmira, New York. Opened for only 369 days between July 1864 and July 1865, 12,123 Confederate prisoners of war walked through the prison's gates. Join Kerry Lippincott, education coordinator at the Chemung County Historical Society, as she examines Elmira's Confederate Prison Camp. *Service Leader:* Corey McCall

September 23: *The Hydrogen Society* - Frank Potter will tell us about hydrogen and renewable energy. *Service leader:* Leslie Potter. *Note:* There will be a congregational meeting and potluck after the service to inform the congregation about our expansion plans.

September 30: *The Dark Side of the Moon: the Value of Darkness in Spirituality* - Dr. Constance Sullivan-Blum is Folk Arts Coordinator for The ARTS Council of the Southern Finger Lakes. She will talk about the evolution of her spiritual journey and her unfolding understanding of the value of aspects of life often rejected in spirituality such as anger and grief.

October Preview...

October 7: *Grace House, Elmira, NY* - Terry Batrone and Cheryl Butler will tell us about a home being refurbished for prisoners released on parole.

Carolyn's Column

It has been a point of pride that our religion fully includes "gay and straight together," but these days it is so much of a non-issue that it seems hardly worth mentioning. The current concern for our Fellowship is "atheist and theist together," or more inclusively, "atheist and others, including those who do not like labels, together."

The Fellowship needs divergent views, and we value that diversity!

Sadly, I have heard some expressions of concern about what seems to be

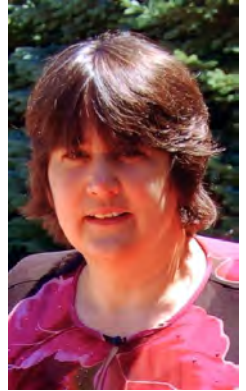
some room for improvement in how we, as a group, treat guest speakers. I personally feel that questions and discussion should reflect curiosity about the speaker's subject and perhaps how he or she came to hold his/her views. The speaker probably should not be caste into the role of pupil, while he or she is standing in front of a group.

But, what is more distressing still, is that some of our members have not felt accepted because of their

theology. I love the song "All Gods Critters got a Place in the Choir," which is not about God, and not about a choir, it is about belonging. It is about coming together as a functional organization without exclusivity or conformity.

It expresses how I feel about us.

~ Carolyn, President



Calendar and Community Events and Happenings!

Mondays, 3pm: *Grove Park Farmers' Market*

Thursdays, 10am: *Elmira Farmers' Market* (North Main & West Church)

Thursdays, 10am: *Corning Farmers' Market* (Centerway Square)

- September 3, **Monday**: *Labor Day*
- September 5, **Wednesday**: *1st Day of School!* (Elmira & Corning)
- September 9, **Sunday**: *National Grandparents' Day*
- September 17, **Monday**: *Jewish Holiday - [Rosh Hashana](#)* (Jewish New Year)
- September 22, **Saturday**: *Autumnal Equinox*
- September 22, **Saturday**: *[Strides Against Hunger 5K](#)*, 9am, Elmira
- September 22, **Saturday**: *Elmira College Octagon Fair* - See Leslie's Column in this issue!
- September 26, **Wednesday**: *Jewish Holiday - [Yom Kippur](#)*
- September 21 & 22, **Sat/Sun**: *[Jazz & Harvest Festival](#)* - Corning



- September 21-23, **F/S/Sun**: *[Heebasquabee Treatops Festival](#)* - Homegrown Music-Fest in Hector, NY featuring our own Danny Maloney (9/21 at 5pm)!!!

- September 22, **Saturday**: *Elmira College 45th Annual Octagon Fair* - See Leslie's Column in

this issue!

- September 28-30, **F/S/Sun**: *Wineglass Marathon Weekend* - Corning/Bath
- September 30, **Sunday**: Full Moon

CLEMENS CENTER for SEPT/OCT 2012

Friday-Saturday, September 7-8, 2012 at 8 p.m.

[GLITZ AND GLAMOUR](#)

Saturday, September 15, 2012 at 5 p.m.

[BOLLYWOOD EXTRAVAGANZA](#)

Friday-Saturday, September 21-22, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.,

Sunday, September 23, 2012 at 2 p.m.,

Friday-Saturday, September 28-29, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.,

Sunday, September 30, 2012 at 2 p.m.

[A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC](#)

Tuesday, October 23, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.

[DRUMLINE LIVE](#)

Monday-Tuesday, October 29-30, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.

[WEST SIDE STORY](#)



Our Fellowship will be forming an

ADULT CHOIR

The first rehearsal will be **September 23 at 12:30**. The choir will sing on the first and second Sunday of the month beginning October 7.

Members wishing to join should contact

Elizabeth Brown-Shook at

739-9548 or melaniesmama@gmail.com.



About the speaker:

The Rev. Dr. Art Suggs received his B.S. and M.S. in physics from Purdue University. However, before continuing on to the PhD and a career in Physics, he fell in love with theology, and diverted to seminary at Princeton. There he decided to enter the ministry. In the world of faith, religion, and spirituality, there are two areas that have fascinated him since early adulthood -- the relation of religion with science, and the relation between Christianity and other religions. In 2005, he graduated with his Doctorate of Ministry from San Francisco Theological Seminary with an emphasis and dissertation on interfaith dialogue.

About STIC:

Founded in 1995, the Southern Tier Interfaith Coalition is an educational organization established with the determination that all faiths could work together for the common goals of justice, compassion, appreciation, love, stewardship and service. Various public programs and activities are sponsored throughout the year in the greater Elmira-Corning region. For more information, or to become a member, go to www.st-interfaith.org.

Southern Tier Interfaith Coalition

Invites you to its 2012 Annual Meeting

Sunday, September 30, 3:30 p.m.

The Park Church, Beecher Hall

208 W. Gray St. Elmira, NY 14901

Directions: www.theparkchurch.org

After a brief business meeting,

Rev. Dr. Arthur Suggs,

First Congregational Church UUC
Binghamton, NY

will give an illustrated presentation,

***Finding God in the Universe:
Divine Physics***

Want to include something in future newsletters?

Easy!

Email Chris (by the 15th of the month before) at ceemarie1971@verizon.net

Want to Add an Event to the Online Calendar?

Anyone can!

Go to <http://www.bigflatsuu.org>
Click on "Calendar"
Click on the small "Google Calendar" logo in the lower right corner.

Log in using email: calendar@bigflatsuu.org, password: bigflats
Create/change events!

REMINDER

All members are welcome to attend board meetings, which normally take place the second Sunday of the month prior to the service (9:30, unless you hear otherwise...



Join our Facebook Page!

Search for "Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Big Flats" and click 'LIKE'

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A Few Words from Leslie...

Thanks to everyone who pledged!

It means so much to the Fellowship - not just making it possible to pay the bills, but as a statement of faith in our future as a congregation.

It also makes members part of the larger commitment to UUism, the

liberal faith (using liberal in the traditional, not political, sense!).

If you haven't made a pledge for the new fiscal year which began on July 1, it's not too late. Whether you have \$10 or \$10,000 (no, we don't have any of those!) to give between now and next June 30, every bit is deeply ap-

preciated. If filling out forms isn't your thing, you can always email me: lesliepotter@hotmail.com, or call 607-301-4006. Thanks!

Now let's talk about the OCTAGON FAIR 2012!

Elmira College will again be hosting Octagon Fair, a "Welcome Back, Students!" event held every September on the quad at the College. We have been participating for eons, or so it seems, with our booth featuring ornery pins and bumper stickers, houseplants, and used books. This year Octagon Fair will take place on **Saturday, September 22, from 10 AM to 4 PM.**

We'll need volunteers, of course! If you can give any time that day, please sign up either by emailing me (lesliepotter@hotmail.com) or calling (607-301-4006). Most appreciated would be a two-hour stint, say from 10-Noon, Noon-2, or 2-4, although we'll hardly turn away anyone who wants to work all day or for just one hour! We can also use help with set-up and tear-down. It's fun, we get to see all sorts of other interesting booths, and sometimes we even attract someone to our fellowship!

Even if you can't work in the booth, you can help with donations of used books and houseplants. If you start a couple new plants now from an older donor plant, that's good enough to sell, especially if it's in some cute or funky pot (think pretty cup, teapot that's lost its lid, unused kitchen containers, etc.). Last year after Octagon Fair, we got rid of all the leftover books (most went to local libraries) because of mice problems in the little "house" next to the fellowship building, so we're starting out fresh with those.

There'll be a sign-up sheet at the Fellowship, or just contact me directly. *Thanks for pitching in!*

~ Leslie, Treasurer



Fellowship Hosting Schedule

Hosting is a service we provide one another. If you are unable to host on the day that you've been assigned, please make arrangements for someone else to take your place.

Date	Hosts
Sept 9	Allen and Miller/Dodson
Sept 16	Potter and Vikin
Sept 23	POTLUCK LUNCHEON - BRING A DISH!
Sept 30	Wilson and Mann
Oct 7	Spicer, Divens/Bruffey and Wosinski
Oct 14	McCall, Stevenson and Hurley
Oct 21	Deery, Telford, Ricotta
Oct 28	Frost, Ballard & Glenn/Martin

Much was accomplished at our RE workparty! We now have a new and larger nursery, as well as a new small high school space. More room was created for The Peace Kids, in their cotage. Special thanks to Tom Reynolds who moved the most by weight, and to Maggie Young who designed the nursery.