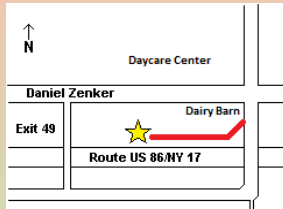


Welcome to the  
Unitarian Universalist  
Fellowship of Big Flats.

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

*Cory McCall*

*Elizabeth Brown-Shook*

Programs

*Jeni 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

# December 2012 Uni-Verse



## December Service Schedule

**December 2:** *Spirituality and Anarchism* - Lee Griffith is the author of [\*God Is Subversive: Talking Peace in a Time of Empire\*](#), in which he emphasizes ordinary and faithful -to-the-gospel practices that bring peace. *Service Leader:* Jenny Monroe.

**December 9:** "Language and Reverence" with Reverend Darcey Laine - Former president of the UUA Rev. Bill Sinkford posited that Unitarian Universalists needed to develop a "Language of Reverence." A great brouhaha followed as UUs around the country came out on both sides of the issue. Do Unitarian Universalists need a Language of Reverence? What might a language of reverence look like for us?

**December 16:** **Curt Osgood** and **RJ Siegers** share nearly a hundred strings together when performing. Curt, who has been playing hammered dulcimer for over 30 years now, has appeared at numerous festivals, coffee houses, contra dances and other venues about the state. The hammered dulcimer with its harp-like sound is augmented by Rob's backup on guitar, banjo and mandolin. Siegers has won fretted instrument guild awards in several state competitions and plays with ensembles about the Southern Tier. Together they present selections from numerous backgrounds including Celtic, French Canadian, Americana, 'Old-Timey' and tunes both old and new. Siegers, on banjo, is renowned for his renditions of classic jazz and blues tunes from the 20s and 30s. They're sure to put in some Holiday classics also. A fun presentation for all! *Service Leader:* Danny Maloney.

**December 23:** UUFBF Holiday Performance "When Jesus Was a Kid." *Service Leaders:* The Deerys and Elizabeth Brown-Shook.

**December 30:** *RE for the Fellowship as a Whole* - Colleen McCall, Carolyn Scopelliti and Jen Spicer recently attended a workshop on religious education. Come and listen to what they've learned, and discuss our upcoming RE program.

## January Preview...

**January 6:** Fellowship member Ron Telford discusses the repression of personal spiritual discovery through the concept of Original Sin and the Tree of Knowledge.

## Carolyn's Column

In any thriving organization, there is some conflict. It is healthy when it is somewhat open - not to visitors - but it should be visible to those who are fully involved. This is especially true in democratic organizations.

The current main issue on our Board is the expansion. I will call one side 'party-poopers,' or realists, and the other side visionaries, or dreamers, (Some folks have not voiced opinions).

The visionaries promote taking big, and sometimes irreversible, steps toward expanding our building. They talk about capital drive cam-

paigns and bank loans and fund-raising events. They say "If we build it, they will come." They don't let numbers bog them down. I am truly grateful to the dreamers for the love, passion and work they bring to our group.

The party-poopers stare at the treasurer's reports and do research about loans. They look at our membership, and although they are not the visionaries, they try to envision potential members and consider them as well. They say, "We can't afford it" and, "Maybe in ten or twenty years." One member said to me, "I think it is wrong to let them believe in this pipedream." Last month in this very space I said, "The math just doesn't work." Fortunately for us all, it is part of our faith that diversity of opinions doesn't mean divisiveness.



## 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
December 2	Allen, Miller/Dodson, Mann
December 9	Potter and Vikin
December 16	Wilson, Shook
December 23	Spicer, Divens-Bruffey, Wosinski
December 30	McCall, Stevenson, Hurley
January 6	Deery, Telford, Ricotta
January 13	Frost, Glenn/Martin
January 20	Maloney/Halm, C&J Peck

The plans that led to the \$260,000 estimate can be modified, but only so much. We can borrow money, but only so much. We can give, but only so much. Fortunately for you, the math is not complex, and you can do it for yourself. The treasurer's report is now available to members online (see Leslie's Column in this newsletter for details). Come to a service, or contact me to get the password.

I might switch sides on this issue. I just want to see empirically-based numbers and math that works. For me, personally, realism is a big part of being a Unitarian Universalist.

... So is dreaming.

P.S. I'm grateful to the poopers/realists, too.  
P. P. S. These remarks may be over simplified, but they warrant consideration.

~ Carolyn, President

## Calendar and Community Events and Happenings!

- Dec 1, **Saturday 5p-10p:** *Corning's "Sparkle" Christmas*
- Dec 7, **Friday 6p-8:30p:** *Bath "Spirit of Christmas" in Pulteney Square*
- Dec 8, **Saturday 4p-9p:** *"Christmas in the Park," Hammondsport, NY*
- Dec 8 & 15, **Sat 11a-3p:** *Winter Farmer's Mkt, Corning, NY*
- Dec 9, **Sun:** *First Day of Chanukah*
- Dec 11/12, **Tues/Wed 7p:** **Shrek, the Musical** at *The Clemens Center*
- Dec 15, **Saturday:** *"The Mercy Seat" at 171 Cedar Arts, Corning, NY*
- Dec 20, **Thursday: 5:30-7:30** **CMOG 2300: "Salsa"**
- Dec 21, **Friday:** *Winter Solstice - Potluck followed by a Bonfire at UUFBF! 6pm*
- Dec 25, **Tuesday:** *Christmas*

## Leslie's Column

As you have read in *Carolyn's Column*, we will be making the monthly treasurer's reports available, to those members who are interested, via our website:

[www.bigflatsuu.org](http://www.bigflatsuu.org). The report is actually cumulative, each column representing a month in our fiscal year, which runs from July through June. At this writing, November is not yet over, so only the year through October is available.

The various receipts and expenditures are listed only as categories. If you would like more information on any line item or dollar amount, please ask me. Accompanying notes appear at the bottom of the spreadsheet to explain certain budget items for that month. These do not accumulate like the money figures, but change every month.

Again, just ask if anything puzzles you.

You may have noticed or taken part in congregation members' counting the collections every week and filling out small tabulation slips to go with the money. Doing this was strongly recommended in the UUA treasurer's

handbook as a fiscal policy that protects both the treasurer and the Fellowship against accusations of theft or fraud. So if you're asked to count the money, you now know why!

In mid-December, I'll be sending out the usual mailing telling members how much they've contributed this fiscal year toward their pledge, as well as how much our records show that they've given in the calendar year—the latter for tax purposes. (It doesn't include cash donations, like Sunday collections.) Let me know as soon as possible if our records disagree! Some of you, I'm certain, will be surprised to see that there is a zero on the line for "pledged amount." In such a case, you may believe that you've pledged, but in fact I have nothing on paper, in email, or otherwise to indicate that. If you do not get a letter at all, it means that I have no record of any contributions for this fiscal year so far, or for the calendar year 2012. And, of course, any contributions made after the letters are sent out (or, even better, hand-delivered on a Sunday) will not be included in the amounts on the letter you receive. (I really didn't have to tell you that!)

Thank you for supporting your fellowship (and UUA and St. Lawrence District)!

~ *Leslie*, Treasurer

## Meaningful Movies at Park Church

The Meaningful Movie program sponsored by The Park Church will move to the second Thursday of the month for the fall-winter season. Films will begin at 7 PM, preceded by a potluck supper at 6:30 in Beecher Hall at the church, 208 West Gray Street. Movies and suppers are free and all are welcome.

December 13

### The United States of ALEC

A documentary expose of the  
American Legislative Exchange Council

Remember learning "How a Bill Becomes a Law?" This Bill Moyers-Common Cause film shows what that filmstrip/textbook/animation left out. The *American Legislative Exchange Council* writes "model bills," spoon feeds them to our elected representatives at the state and national levels, and helps them get passed. Find out who funds ALEC and who benefits from these laws.



## Solstice Bonfire

Friday, December 21,  
Bring-a-Dish Potluck at 6pm, followed by an  
**AWESOME BONFIRE!!!!**

Want to include something in future newsletters?

**Easy!**

Email Chris (by the 15th of the month before) at [ceemarie1971@verizon.net](mailto: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](mailto:calendar@bigflatsuu.org)  
password: bigflats  
Create/change events!

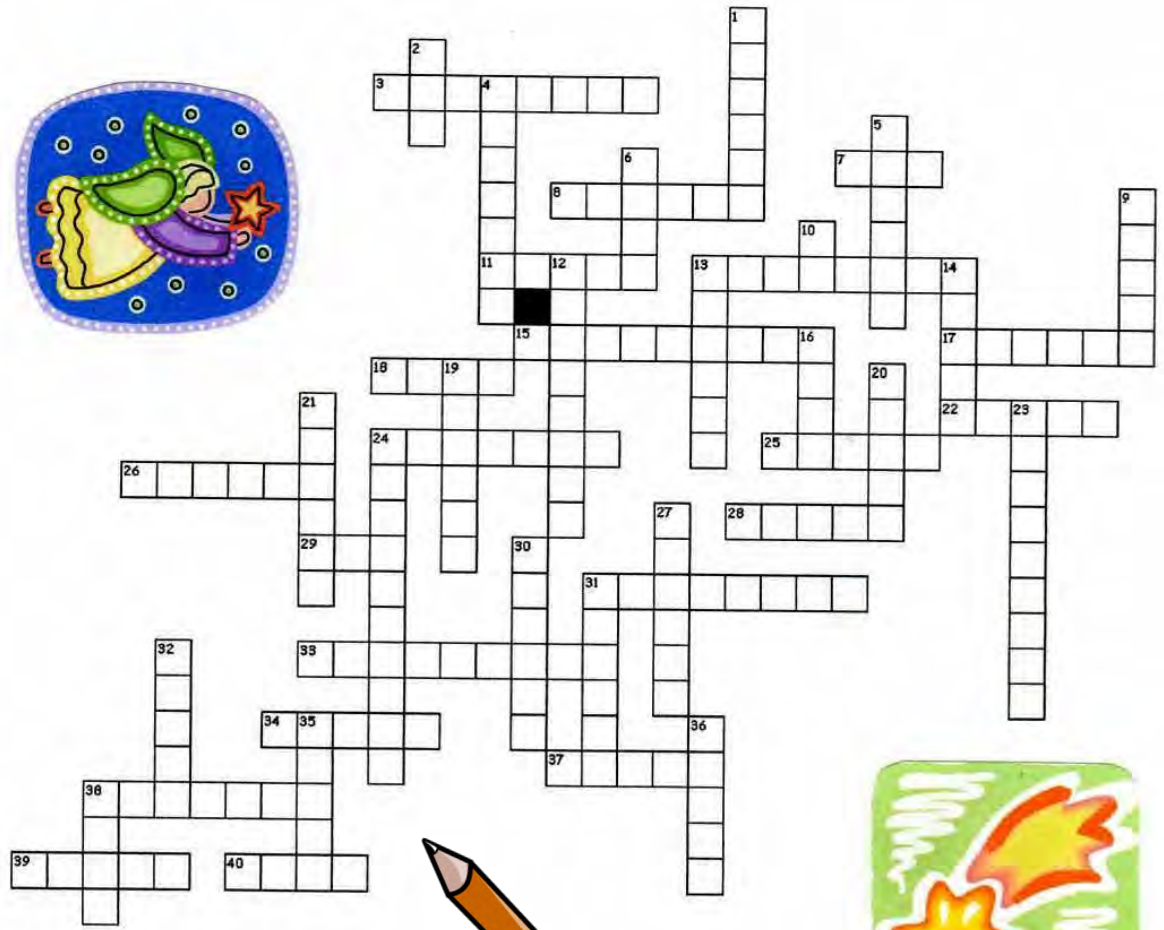
**REMINDER**

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'



# Christmas Crossword

**ACROSS**

- 3. Traditional Scottish wind instrument.
- 7. Opposite of IN.
- 8. Traditional alcoholic drink from Scotland.
- 11. Many people send... to their family and friends.
- 13. I bought some... paper for the presents.
- 15. Winter plant that brings good luck.
- 17. Snow...are ice crystal falling from the sky.
- 18. Opposite of HOT.
- 22. Past tense of SPEND.
- 24. They are made of wax.
- 25. Anagram of *ohyl* (a winter plant used for decoration)
- 26. "... night, holy night"
- 28. Christmas is a festival to celebrate the...of Jesus.
- 29. 24th December is Christmas ...
- 31. Sock filled with goodies on Christmas day.
- 33. They usually drink ...at parties on 31st December.
- 34. You can buy many items at reduced prices at the January ...
- 37. The ...wise men follow a star to reach Bethlehem.
- 38. Traditional British dessert.
- 39. Someone who was born in Ireland.
- 40. Opposite of BADLY.

**DOWN**

- 1. Bird often eaten for Christmas dinner.
- 2. Opposite of HAPPY.
- 4. Patron saint of Ireland.
- 5. Capital city of the republic of Ireland.
- 6. Sweet mince ... are often eaten as a Christmas dessert.
- 9. There's a big fire... display when the New Year comes.
- 10. Opposite of DOWN.
- 12. Santa's sleigh is pulled by...
- 13. Circular decoration often hung in doors.
- 14. The same as presents.
- 16. Currency used in several countries of the European Union.
- 19. Capital city of Britain.
- 20. Someone who was born in Wales.
- 21. In Britain, Santa is also called ...Christmas.
- 23. Capital city of Scotland.
- 24. Many parties are ... on 31st December.
- 27. Past participle of choose.
- 30. Bells ... on New Year 's Day.
- 31. Vehicle for transportation over snow.
- 32. British currency.
- 35. They usually put an...on top of the Christmas tree.
- 36. ...Christmas and a happy New Year.
- 38. Past participle of PAY.

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