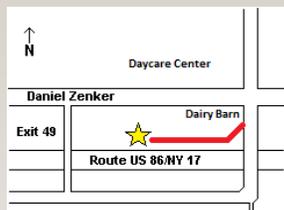


Welcome to the  
Unitarian Universalist  
Fellowship of Big Flats.

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  
*Jackie Wilson*

Vice President  
*Ron Telford*

Secretary  
*Jeni Paquette*

Treasurer  
*Sonia Vikin*

Trustees  
*Danny Maloney*  
*Carolyn Scapelliti*

Programs  
*The Board!*

Religious Education (RE) Chairs:  
*Carolyn Scapelliti*  
*Janice Fitzpatrick*

Newsletter  
*Chris Telford*

Pianist  
*Barb Bonvelli*

Historian  
*Jen Spicer*



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!

# March 2016 Uni-Verse

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Big Flats, NY



## Service Schedule

March 6: *Nature, Culture or Economy – Who Rules? ~ with George Honadle, friend of UUFBF.* He will present examples from around the world of how environmental forces influence human cultural and economic behavior. ~ *Service Leader: Jeni Paquette*

March 13: *We're on a Mission, with Rev. Darcey Laine ~ A mission is like a "reason to be." It is the idea that keeps us going, that helps us know what we are about in good times and in bad. It is the idea that helps us orient ourselves when we are lost, the idea that helps us choose when there are so many good things to choose from. What is our mission here at UUFBF and how do we know if we are "on it?" Join us as we discern our mission.*

March 20: *Unitarian in Transylvania after the 1989 Revolution; the Universality of liberal religion; and the UUA Partner Church Program ~ with member Gary Fitzpatrick ~ Service Leader: Janice Fitzpatrick*

March 27: *The Meaning of Easter ~ with member Ron Telford ~ Service Leader: Chris Telford*

## *Joseph Priestley, submitted by Janice Fitzpatrick*



Joseph Priestley was born in Fieldhead, Yorkshire, England on March 13, 1733. He was educated for the Dissenting ministry and became an outstanding theologian. He wrote many books on religion, including the influential "History of the Corruptions of Christianity" (1782), which Thomas Jefferson credited with his conversion to Unitarianism... He is best known for chemistry, the hobby he took up in his mid-thirties. He took part in a group of accomplished religious thinkers (called the Lunar Society because it met when the full moon promoted safe travel) who also engaged in science. Priestley is credited with a number of discoveries, including oxygen and a method of curing scurvy at sea, which was used by Captain Cook on his voyages. Priestley's inventions included anesthesia, carbonated water, a process for measuring the purity of the air, and pencil erasers. Extremely liberal in his politics, Priestley was forced to leave England for America in 1794 after a mob burned his home and laboratory over his support for the principles of the French Revolution. He received numerous honors during his lifetime. He died on February 6, 1804 in Northumberland PA; his home is now an interesting museum in that town, which is on US Rt. 15, not far south of Bucknell, PA. Joseph Priestley is considered one of the founders of Unitarianism in England.

*Most of this information is from the book "This Day in Unitarian Universalist History" by Frank Schulman.*

**Thanks to Colleen, Leslie, and Chris for helping out with the RE class.**



**Thanks to the suggestion from Carolyn, and the execution by Sonia, there is now a rocking chair in the Nursery.**



**Also seeking donations of hard boiled eggs and Easter egg coloring kits for the March 20 egg coloring RE activity. In addition, donations of wrapped candy for the plastic eggs would be welcome. Eggs will be hidden and then found on Easter Sunday, March 27.**

*Thank you, Janice*

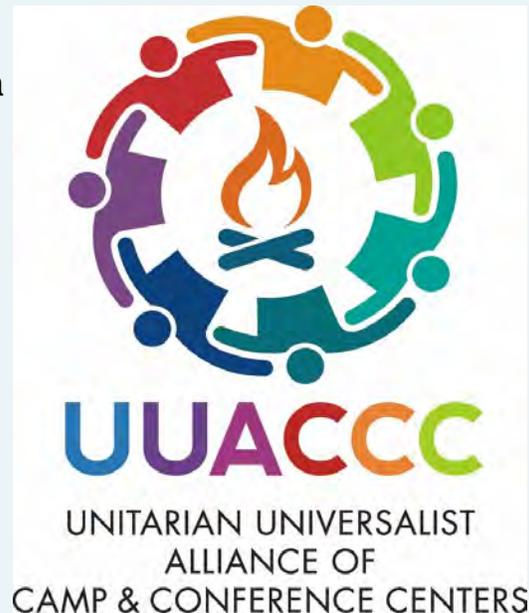
Dear Fellow Unitarian Universalists-

Over the last few years, the UUACCC (Unitarian Universalist Alliance of Camp and Conference Centers), has been working with Carey McDonald, the Outreach Director for the UUA, on how our UU Camps and Conference Centers can better communicate with our congregations so that UU's throughout the world can become more aware of the opportunities for fellowship beyond the walls of the congregation.

One of the surprising things we have learned is that many UU's are not even aware that we have camps and conference centers and how much they mean in the lives of UU's who do know. We are hoping you can help us take a small first step in changing that.

We would very much appreciate it if you could do whatever you can to share the article below in your congregation's newsletter, email blasts, or other forms of communication.

In Fellowship, Dan Gottfried, UUACCC, Executive Director, Unirondack



## **Beyond the Walls of Our Congregation**

As Unitarian Universalists, we often find ourselves wishing we could live in a world that more closely reflects our values. We want more of what we share within the walls of our congregation to exist outside the walls. Many of us dedicate our lives to creating small pockets of community that reflect our values.

It can come as a surprise to many Unitarian Universalists that there is already an established network of such communities throughout the United States and Canada. It's our Unitarian Universalist Camp and Conference Centers. And they have formed an alliance to help spread the word, the Unitarian Universalist Alliance of Camp and Conference Centers (UUACCC).

Each center is a unique place, often located in a spectacular natural setting. Most operate year-round or close to it, offering retreats, conferences, and summer camp experiences that reflect our UU values. They offer similar experiences to the summer institutes and assemblies but because they are center based they are able to do so on a continuous basis throughout the year with a great many opportunities for learning and growing in community.

Adults and families are often surprised to learn what a wide range of opportunities for fellowship, self-discovery, and learning Camp and Conference Centers provide throughout the year. And all take place in natural settings of unparalleled beauty.

***(Cont'd on next page)***

*(Cont'd from page before...)*

For those of us with children, the centers that offer summer camp experiences for youth are especially important. It can be challenging for our children to find peers who share their values, and a place to belong where they can live those values. Unitarian Universalist Camp and Conference Centers are often a home away from home for young people.

In the words of a camper from Unirondack, a UU summer camp in the Western Adirondacks of New York State:

" You taught me to seek out the innate goodness in every human being. You taught me that there is no fully good person, and no consummation of evil...that everybody is a rainbow. You just have to pick which colors to see,...You taught me how to love. You taught me that love doesn't have to be between man and woman...that any two people can love each other. Love is holding hands, love is sitting together, reading together, singing together, holding each other up, holding each other back, and letting each other go. Goodbye Unirondack. I love you. And now I'm ready to go love some more."

Transformative UUnique experiences like this young person describes are an everyday occurrence at our Unitarian Universalist Camp and Conference Centers. There is something for everyone: youth, families of all kinds, and adults. Visit the UUACCC website to find links to UU experiences beyond the walls of our congregation.

For Immediate Release

February 24, 2016

### **Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Big Flats Celebrates 60 years**

*The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Big Flats is celebrating their 60 year anniversary this month. We offer a safe and welcoming place for all people, regardless of race, gender, age or sexual orientation. Every Sunday service features a local speaker on a variety of topics, with time for feedback and discussion. All are welcome to our Sunday services at 10:30. For directions and more information, visit our website at [BigFlatsUU.org](http://BigFlatsUU.org).*



Jeni Paquette, Secretary

Want to include something in future newsletters?

**Easy!**

Email Chris (by the 15th of the month before) at [ceemarie1971@twc.net](mailto:ceemarie1971@twc.net)

**Meaningful Movies - February 10, 2016**  
**7 PM Beecher Hall, The Park Church**  
**208 West Gray St., Elmira, NY 14901**  
**Church phone: 733-9104**



SPARE PARTS is a true life story about four Hispanic high school students who form a robotics club under the leadership of their school's newest teacher, Fredi (GEORGE LOPEZ). With no experience, 800 bucks, used car parts and a dream, this rag tag team goes up against the country's reigning robotics champion, MIT. On their journey, they learn not only how to build a robot- they learn to build a bond that will last a lifetime.

IT TAKES A TEAM TO BUILD A DREAM.

# SPARE PARTS

**Rating:** PG-13 (for some language and violence)  
**Genre:** Drama, Kids & Family  
**Directed By:** Sean McNamara  
**Written By:** Elissa Matsueda  
  
**Runtime:** 1 hr. 54 min.

## Spring Equinox Bonfire



**Sun Mar 20**

**Dish to Pass - 5pm**

**Bonfire afterward**

*Long time member Joel Labovitz is seeking companionship, to accompany him on outings, i.e. museums, Soulful Cup,, the library or to visit him at his home.*



*See Jackie for more info or suggestions.*

### 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
Mar 6	Telford, Wilson
Mar 13	McCall, Stevenson, Spicer
Mar 20	Brenner, Fitzpatrick
Mar 27	Maloney/Halm, Martin/Glenn
Apr 3	Scopelliti, Paquette, Allen
Apr 10	Potter, Wosinski
Apr 17	Telford, Wilson
Apr 24	McCall, Stevenson, Spicer

### CRAFT-N-CHAT

Bring your fave hobby or craft and enjoy some coffee and company, away from the hustle and bustle!

**Wed 3/17,**  
**10-2 @ the**  
**UUFBF**



Join our Facebook Page!

Search for "[Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Big Flats](#)" and click 'LIKE'