



“A Guilt Free Faith”

Volume 3, Issue 6

MESSAGE FROM OUR MINISTER

Rev. Peggy Meeker

Reflections on Valentine’s Day

Those of us who were at 4th Sunday in January made Valentine’s cards to thank or celebrate people in our lives who have taught us or shown us something about love. The idea comes from the UUA’s Standing on the Side of Love campaign, which seeks to harness the power of love to stop discrimination and oppression. For the last couple of years, Standing on the Side of Love has encouraged Unitarian Universalists to re-imagine Valentine’s Day as being not only about romantic love but also a time to celebrate all the unsung heroes of “courageous love”, the kind of love that stands up for acceptance, inclusion, diversity, equality, and community.

So I’m encouraging all of you to try this! To begin with, it’s good to give some thought to the people in your life that demonstrate that kind of love. And those of us that gathered on our 4th Sunday had a good time making the Valentines. It’s not something that adults often get to do! There’s something about cutting and pasting in the old-fashioned way, not in an electronic document but with scissors and construction paper and glue-that is quite satisfying. Plus, when you’re done, someone you care about will get a unique and very meaningful thank-you!

February at BUUF will bring worship services ranging from theology (I’ll be covering Transcendentalism and Humanism) to the Brockport Helping Network to Leap Day (a whole extra day this year!) but don’t let Valentine’s Day pass by without taking the chance to thank someone in your life for standing on the side of love.

Our Mission Statement

**The Brockport Unitarian Universalist Fellowship,
A diverse and supportive spiritual community,
Seeking truth and transformation through,
Respect and compassion for each other and our world.**

Brockport Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

“A Congregation for All Ages”

Services held at
The Historic Garland Church
February 2012 NEWSLETTER



3723 Sweden Walker Rd
Brockport, New York

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WHAT BUUF HAS TO OFFER YOU:

Worship Services held every Sunday at the Historic Garland Church at 10:00AM .

Adult Education on the 2nd Sunday of the month.

Children’s Faith Development & Toddler’s And Young People’s Playroom available on the 1st, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of the month.

Book Discussion Group meets 2nd Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00PM,

Small Group Ministry: “The Seven UU Principles and You” Group will meet on the 3rd Sunday of the month, from January 2012 through July 2012 11:15AM-12:30 PM.

February Service Schedule at a Glance

- 1st Sunday Worship – February 05, 2012**
Experiencing Transcendence
- 2nd Sunday Sampler – February 12, 2012**
The Brockport Helping Network
- 3rd Sunday Worship – February 19, 2012**
Cherishing our Humanism:
- 4th Sunday Worship - February 26, 2012**
Leap Day

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SERVICE SCHEDULE

Services are held at The Historic Garland Church - 3723 Sweden Walker Rd, Brockport, New York

***1st Sunday Worship, February 5, 2012**

Officiates: Reverend Peggy Meeker

Topic: Experiencing Transcendence: Winter is still with us, but nature is busy underground and the earth is already beginning to awaken. Experiencing transcendence is a little like that:

Time: 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM Worship Service

10:15 AM – 11:00 AM Children's Faith Development

11:00 AM – 12:00 Noon - Fellowship Hour

**Toddler's and Young People's playroom available. Childcare provided.

*** Brockport Ecumenical Food Shelf Sunday. Please bring a non-perishable food item(s).**

****2nd Sunday Sampler - Sunday, 12, 2011**

Coordinator: David Markham

Speaker: Jean Sauberan, Member of the Governance Board of the Brockport Helping Network

Topic: The Brockport Helping Network

Time: 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

**No childcare is available at this time

****3rd Sunday Worship - Sunday, February 19, 2011**

Officiate: Rev. Peggy Meeker

Topic: Cherishing our Humanism: Humanism has had a checkered past in Unitarian Universalism—controversial in the early 1900s, dominant 50 years ago, and now losing its influence. We'll look at the good and the bad about reason and science, and see what humanism has to offer us.

Time: 10:00 AM–11:00 AM Worship Service

10:15 AM–11:00 AM Children's Faith Development

11:00 AM – 12:00 Noon Refreshments and Conversation

**Toddler's and Young People's playroom available

Small Group Ministry called: "UU's Seven Principles and You" - Get coffee and join us upstairs for the 2nd of 7 sessions. The Group will meet on the 3rd Sunday of the month, January 2012 through July 2012 from 11:15AM - 12:30PM

****4th Sunday Worship - Sunday, February 26, 2011**

Officiate: Rev. Peggy Meeker

Topic: Leap Day: This week we'll have a Leap Day on Wednesday, February 29th. There will be a whole extra day in February. It could just be a day like any other, or it could be a special gift. What might we do to make it a gift to others and ourselves?

Time: 10:00 AM–11:00 AM Worship Service

11:00 AM – 12:00 Noon Refreshments and Conversation

**Toddler's and Young People's playroom available

When you are in need of assistance you don't need to go through life's hardships alone, the Brockport UU Fellowship is there with caring support for you and your family.

- If you are experiencing difficulties in your life, or if you or someone in your family is in the hospital and you would like a pastoral call, please let Rev. Meeker know, at 224-6312 or pmeeker@frontiernet.net. *All information is confidential.*
- If you or a loved one needs emergency meals, transportation to church or shopping, or wants home visits, etc., please contact members of the Caring Committee: Jean Sauberan (721-1663), Cora Schrader (637-3840), or Carol Taillie. Also, Cindy Perotti is available to make visits to residents at The Landing and Biekerk Nursing Home.

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BOOK GROUP NEWS & NOTES

Date: Tuesday, 2/14/2012 - 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM
Location: Lift Bridge Book Shop, 45 Main Street, Brockport, NY
Contact: Rev. Peggy Meeker

February 14th: *Price and Prejudice* by Jane Austen—one of the most popular books in English literature, this is the story of Elizabeth, the second of five daughters of an English country gentleman, and of issues of class, manners, morality, education, and marriage in the England of 200 years ago.

March 13th: *The Madonnas of Leningrad* by Debra Dean—a moving novel that shifts between Germany's siege of Leningrad during World War II and the siege of Alzheimer's against the mind and memory of Marina, an elderly Russian woman in Seattle who is preparing for her granddaughter's wedding and thinking back on her days as a docent at Leningrad's Hermitage Museum. (Note: we chose a novel two months in a row in order to participate in the Writers & Books program "If All of Rochester Read the Same Book," which will be bringing the author to Rochester for several events on March 28-31. For more information, see www.wab.org or call Writers & Books at 585-473-2590.)

Remember, we meet the second Tuesday of each month from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Lift Bridge Book Shop at 45 Main Street in Brockport, and the Book Shop offers a 20% on most book club purchases.

Your suggestions for books to discuss over the coming year are welcome. We try to choose a variety of books, both fiction and nonfiction, that will enable us to explore spiritual topics, current events, and Unitarian Universalist values. We also try to choose books that are available in paperback and in the Monroe County Library system and that are a reasonable size (say, 250 pages or less).

The Book Group is free and open to the public. Come and bring your friends. For more information contact Rev. Peggy Meeker at 224-6312 or pmeeker@frontiernet.net

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY – UU's Seven Principles and You

Get coffee and join us upstairs, in the area at the back of the Sanctuary, for the 2nd of 7 sessions. The Group will meet on the 3rd Sunday of the month, January 2012 through July 2012 from 11:15AM - 12:30PM

Small Group Ministry is a way to gain a better understanding of Unitarian Universalism and explore your spirituality more deeply, in a more intimate and confidential setting, with 7 to 9 people in a group, plus a group facilitator. Carol Taillie, Cora Schrader, and Jean Sauberan will take turns facilitating. The group meets monthly and once a group is formed, bonds build.

We ask that you make a commitment to attending regularly. Perfect attendance isn't required, but members of the group count on each other to make the experience supportive and rich. It is after church, you're already here. Meeting dates: Sundays, 2/19/12, 3/18/12, 4/15/12, 5/20/12, 6/17/12, 7/15/12 from 11:15AM- 12:30PM

Questions about the topic to be discussed will be sent to each participant, prior to the Session. The questions are meant to get you thinking about the topic. Don't feel you have to come with an answer to every question—just see where the questions take you. To learn more, contact Cora Schrader at cora14420@hotmail.com or (585) 637-3840.

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CHILDREN’S FAITH DEVELOPMENT

Children’s Faith Development Coordinator: Karen LoBracco
 e-mail klobracco@uua.org Phone: 585-637-4605

Children’s Faith Development Lead Teachers: Kristen Phillips and Beth O’Donnell

<p>Date: Sunday, February 5, 2012 Time: 10:15 AM – 11:00 AM Teacher: Kristen Phillips Topic: “Do No Harm” Lesson: This session introduces non-violence as an aspect of goodness, which is integrally connected with justice. Reflecting the sixth UU Principle, which promotes "the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all," this session draws on the Buddhist and Hindu notion of non-harm, or ahimsa. It also draws on Christian scripture: "Put your sword back into its place; for all those who take the sword will perish by the sword." (Matthew 26:52)</p>	<p>Date: Sunday, February 19, 2012 Time: 10:15 AM – 11:00 AM Teacher: Beth O’Donnell Topic: “Making a Difference” Lesson: This session introduces the concept of responsibility. It reinforces the ideas in the seventh UU Principle, respect for the inter-dependent web of all existence, by demonstrating the idea that our action or lack of action makes a difference in an interdependent world. It encourages the children to feel empowered to take action when love, faith and conscience call.</p>
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Kids ages four and older join us every week in the sanctuary for the first portion of our worship service. Faith Development classes begin after the Message for All Ages, when we “sing the children out”. As you may have noticed, we always have two adults partnering in our children’s program. If you are interested in being a helper, for more information or to volunteer yourself or your family, please contact me, Karen LoBracco, at klobracco@mindspring.com or 585-637-4605.

UU Parenting <http://blogs.uuworld.org/parenting/?h3> is a Blog by Unitarian Universalist religious educator, author and parent Michelle Richards. Parents, grandparents and caregivers are invited to read and respond to her postings about current issues and concerns.

ADULT EDUCATION: *SECOND SUNDAY SAMPLER

David Markham, Adult Education Coordinator

****2nd Sunday Sampler - February 12, 2012**

Topic: The Brockport Helping Network (BHN)
Speaker: Jean Sauberan, Member BHN Governance Board,
 Jim Foote, BHN Assessment Team,
Time: 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM **No childcare is available at this time
Location: The Historic Garland Church - 3723 Sweden Walker Rd., Brockport, New York

The Brockport Helping Network is a grassroots, community based initiative encompassing the Village of Brockport, and the Towns of Clarkson and Sweden within the 14420 and 14430 Zip Code areas. The Mission of the Brockport Helping Network is to come together as partners in our community and leverage our collective strengths, utilize the community’s existing services, develop new services to fill gaps, and extend our goodwill to those with needs in the 14420 and 14430 ZIP Code areas”. Come and learn more!!

If you have any ideas of topics or a speaker for Second Sunday Sampler, please contact David Markham at davidmarkham@gmail.com.

BUUF & BEYOND: NOTICES, EVENTS, AND ACTIVITIES

A CALL FOR “CHALICE LIGHTERS”

“Chalice Lighters” is a program dedicated to the growth of Unitarian Universalist congregations in the St. Lawrence District (thirty-four congregations across New York State, except the New York City area, and into Pennsylvania). A Chalice Lighter is a person who pledges to contribute \$20 or more twice a year to a “Call” for a project being funded. If you want to learn more about the Chalice Lighter Program go to www.sld.uua.org/conggrowth/chalichelighters.html. If you are interested in becoming a “Chalice Lighter”, and helping another congregation do what we’re doing!, please email sldadministrator@verizon.net, call 716-882-0430, or write to the St. Lawrence District, PO Box 1045, Buffalo, NY 14240.

ROCLA - Rochester Committee on Latin America - February Program

Guatemala: Crafts and Resistance, Cultural Identity and Community

Wednesday, February 1, 2012 at 7:00 PM

Downtown Presbyterian Church

- 121 N Fitzhugh St. Rochester

Contact: Gail Mott (585) 381-5606

Marilyn Anderson, artist, author and activist, will talk with us about *Guatemala: Crafts and Resistance, Cultural Identity and Community*. Marilyn has been an active ROCLA* member since 1982 when she and Jon Garlock visited Chiapas and the camps of Maya refugees who had fled the violence of the civil war raging then in many parts of Guatemala.

Broad questions about crafts and resistance will be considered along with the important role of Maya women weavers. In considering weaving as metaphor and its everyday place in people's lives Marilyn will draw from her efforts as a photographer, artist and author. She first learned to weave on a back strap loom in the 1960s, later moving to work on human rights issues, Fair Trade and collaborations for Maya children's crafts education. Slide images will accompany the talk covering the 1970's and her last three Guatemala trips after 2000.

The talk is open to the public free of charge. Downtown Presbyterian Church is wheelchair-accessible and looped for those with hearing loss.

* ROCLA - Rochester Committee on Latin America

OUT REACH: BROCKPORT ECUMENICAL FOOD SHELF

Here is a list of items needed. Thank YOU!



SOUP	JUICE	PASTA
DESSERTS	SNACKS	CEREAL
MAYONNAISE	RICE	JELLY
CANNED VEGETABLES	DRIED BEANS	CANNED BEANS
PASTA	POWDERED MILK	CANNED FRUIT
TEA/COFFEE	BOXED MEALS	CANNED MEALS
TOMATO SAUCE	PEANUT BUTTER	COOKING OIL
CANNED TUNA /CHICKEN	SHELF STABLE MILK	BOXED MAC AND CHEESE

PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS: SHAMPOO, CONDITIONER, SOAP, TOOTHPASTE, TOOTHBRUSHES,

HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS: TOILET PAPER, PAPER TOWELS, DISH SOAP AND LAUNDRY DETERGENT

INFANT PRODUCTS: DIAPERS – ALL SIZES



Padre Alejandro Solalinde Guerra Struggles to help brutalized migrants

Tuesday, February 14th, 2012

7:30pm

Basil Hall (rm 117), St. John Fisher College

3690 East Avenue, Rochester, NY

The National Human Rights committee of Mexico estimates that over 11,000 migrants were kidnapped in Mexico in a six-month period in 2010. The shelter founded by Padre Alejandro is part of a system of over fifty shelters and food kitchens that have emerged along the unauthorized migratory route to the U.S.

"I am reflecting on the meaning of Migration. It is the path of the poor. I am convinced that they are changing the world with their presence...Of whatever culture, politics, religion, or gender, they are constructing a common denominator of humanity."

Sponsors: The Padre's visit is being co-sponsored by 13 local organizations belonging to the Greater Rochester Coalition for Immigration Justice (GRCIJ). These include Catholic Charities of Wayne County, Justice Council of the First Unitarian Church of Rochester, Migration Working Group of the Presbytery of Genesee Valley, Rochester Committee on Latin America, St. John Fisher College, Sisters of Mercy, Sisters of St. Joseph, Spiritus Christi Church, The Interfaith Alliance of Rochester, Wayne Action for Racial Equality, and Worker Justice Center of NY.

Greater Rochester **Coalition**
for **Immigration Justice**

WESTERN NEW YORK HEALING DRUM CIRCLE

When: The 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month
Time: 1:00PM – 3:00 PM,
Location: The Fellowship Hall at the Historic Garland Church
Facilitator: BUUF Member, Jeff Mann is the facilitator.
Donation: \$4.00. Refreshments served.

To learn more go to Jeff's website: <http://www.jeffmandrums.net>

To contact Jeff: jeffrey@jeffmandrums.net

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BROCKPORT UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

Board Meeting Minutes, January 19, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:20pm.

President Don Zimmer, Vice President Cora Schrader, Treasurer Bernie LoBracco, Jim Foote, Carol Taillie, and Pastor Peggy Meeker were present.

The chalice was lit, followed by Check In.

The minutes for the 12-15-2011, Board meeting were reviewed and two updates added. The motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Cora Schrader and seconded by Carol Taillie. The 12-15-2012 minutes were approved. Additions to the agenda were a report from Social Justice Leader Jim Foote. A discussion on communications protocol was also added.

Presidents Report: The Presidents report had been received prior to the meeting for trustee review. Don Zimmer provided additional information regarding migrant ministry. Two meetings he attended, Brockport Ecumenical Outreach Committee (BEOC) and GUUSTO Meeting, are seeking more ways to help the migrant population. Don also assisted PJ Benedetti with two dinners for Occupy Rochester (12/27/11 and 1/10/12). A third one, with beverage and refreshments, will take place on 1/31/12.

Minister's Report: The Minister's Report had been received prior to the meeting for trustee review. As well as leading the BUUF worship services she attended several meetings. Peggy Meeker assisted with the BUUF sponsored Occupy Rochester meals. She met with our new members during January prior to the new member ceremony 1/15/2012. She also was present at the GUUSTO meeting with Don. Peggy continued member counseling by phone. Her monthly article appeared in the January 2012, newsletter.

Financial Report: The preliminary financial report was received prior to the meeting for trustee review. Bernie LoBracco brought the trustees up-to-date with a comparison report with the 2011/2012 estimated budget. The yearend pledge reports for each member will be mailed before the end of January. Bernie is hoping to have a good balance to carry forward at the end of the fiscal year. As we grow more funds will be needed for next year's expenses. He pointed out that our membership fee to UUA is higher for 2012 since it will be for the full year. The \$150.00 allocated for the 12/27/11 Occupy Rochester movement also covered the 1/10/12 dinner with a donation from PJ Benedetti.

Continuing Business: The Garland church rental agreement has been signed and returned to BUMC. It includes two additional days a month other than Sunday for Fellowship Hall use.

A date in April will be set aside for Stewardship Sunday. The Stewardship Team is Don Zimmer, Ron Beiswenger, and David Markham. Don is working on an updated membership package.

David Markham joined the meeting at 8:30pm. He provided a packet of information regarding a church policy for previously incarcerated people participating in the church services and other congregation functions. It is important to have such a policy in place in today's society. The board will review the information and complete other research. A new committee will be considered after further study by the board.

New Business: Representing the Social Justice team Jim Foote and Cora Schrader met with Jean Sauberan about the Brockport Helping Network. Jim plans on representing our congregation on one of the committees. Jean and Jim will be making a presentation the 2nd Sunday in February. It is an ambitious project. One of the projects planned is a website. Based on additional information a possible donation from our congregation may be requested.

A Communications committee is needed to organize our continuing efforts to draw new members to our congregation. This committee will also be responsible for keeping the present congregation informed. Currently several people are doing this on their own. A more formal approach is necessary as the congregation grows. Initially there are 3 areas to address.

Keeping the Website updated (Dave Markham is presently handling this responsibility)

Disseminating information to the congregation (Information currently comes from several sources and usually given to Jean Sauberan. She emails this info to the congregation. The monthly Newsletter is her responsibility, too.)

Advertising (Currently this is done by David Markham. There is a weekly advertisement in the Genesee Valley Advertiser, the TriCounty edition. There are advertisements in the Suburban News too. Dave is working on other forms of advertising. He just finished business cards which the trustees now have.)

Jim Foote will be getting together with David Markham to get this committee starting with the above three items.

The General Assembly will be in Phoenix, Arizona, in June. The LoBraccos' will attend. New congregations will be announced. This will include ours. Bernie suggested it would be nice to have a banner to display. This will be covered at the next meeting.

The Chalice was extinguished. The meeting ended at 10:10pm.

The next board meeting will be February 16, 2012 at Carol Taillie's residence at 10 Beverly Drive, Brockport NY.

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Budget Report

	Budgeted for 2011/2012	As of 1/31/12
Estimated Total Income	34970	19085.28
Pledges	16770	7737.78
Loose offering	3000	1406
January Coffee Fund		23
Other Contributions	0	880
New Members	3000	0
Chalice Lighter Grant	8000	8000
Fund Raisers	2000	1038.5
2010/2011 Carryover	2200	0
Estimated Total Expenses	34970	16911.05
Minister		
Minister's Salary	17000	9916.62
Minister's Expenses	1000	0
Worship		
Worship Supplies	250	8.59
Worship Music	2000	675
Worship/Dinner 12/23	0	190.62
Faith Development		0
Children	200	0
Young Adult	150	0
Adult	500	0
Outreach/Social Justice	3000	175
UUA Fair Share	1595	1546.7
SLD Fair Share	577	316.12
Hospitality/Caring Ministry		0
Cards and Flowers	100	0
Coffee Hour/Refresh	300	101.77 Pancake Breakfast
Communications		
Postage	200	107.30 Chalice Lighter
Printing and Copying	200	0
Advertising	1400	548.87
Leadership Training	500	489
Rent	3600	2050
Insurance	550	636
Facility Maint./Supplies	250	110 Piano Tuning
Misc. Admin.		
HSBC Fee	36	21
Incorporation Renewal	30	0
BFCU Checks	0	18.46
Misc. Unbudgeted	32	0
Reserve Fund	1500	0

Submitted by Bernie LoBracco, Treasurer

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Contact Information

Mailing address:
76 Westwood Dr.
Brockport, NY
14420

Web: www.brockportuu.org
Rev. Peggy Meeker, Minister
pmeeker@frontiernet.net
(585) 224-6312



Sunday Morning Service address:
The Historic Garland Church
3723 Sweden Walker Rd
Brockport, NY14420

Don Zimmer, President
BUUF Board of Trustees
bigz14420@yahoo.com
(585)395-9449

THE BUUF BOARD, COMMITTEES AND CO-COORDINATORS

BUUF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Don Zimmer, President
Carol Taillie, Trustee
Jim Foote, Trustee
Cora Schrader, Trustee
Bernie LoBracco, Treasurer

ADVISORS / RESOURCES

Rev. Peggy Meeker, Minister
Ron Bieswenger, Liaison to BUMC
Karen LoBracco, Consultant to the SLD
Jean Sauberan, Newsletter Editor
David Markham, Website Manager, Pamphlet Racks

PROGRAM RESOURCES:

WORSHIP COMMITTEE:

Bonnie Bieswenger, Worship Assistant
Carol Taillie, Worship Associate
Don Zimmer, Worship Associate

MUSIC MINISTRY

Scott Wright, Piano
Cora Schrader, Song Leader
Bonnie Bieswenger, Piano
Jim Foote, Guitar
Ian Henderson, Guitar
Jeff Mann, Drums

HOSPITALITY MINISTRY

Annette Mellor, Greeter
Jean Sauberan, Greeter
Kathleen O'Donnell, Greeter
Allan Gray, Greeter

FUNDRAISING - Open

EDUCATION & FAITH DEVELOPMENT

Children's Faith Development
Karen LoBracco, Dir. Children's FD
Libby Clifford, Asst. Director Childrens' FD
Jan and Jason Milliman, Childrens' FD Assistants
Beth O'Donnell, Children's FD Assistant
Kristen & Travis Phillips, Childrens' FD Assistants
Adult Education
David Markham, 2nd Sunday Sampler Coordinator
Adult Faith Development
Rev. Peggy Meeker, Minister/ Facilitator

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

Bonnie Beiswenger, Facilitator
Rev. Peggy Meeker, Minister/ Facilitator
Jean Sauberan, Facilitator
Cora Schrader, Facilitator
Carol Taillie, Facilitator

CARING MINISTRY

Cora Schrader, Cards
Carol Taillie, Phone Calls
Cindy Perotti, Visitation
Jean Sauberan, Transportation

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Bill Clifford, Brockport Food Shelf Liaison
Jean Sauberan, Brockport Helping Network Liaison
Libbie Clifford, BUUF Young Adult Program

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Jim Foote, Music for Social Change
Rev. Peggy Meeker, Standing on the Side of Love
Don Zimmer, Amnesty International/ BEOC
David Markham, Prison Ministry
PJ Benedetti, Occupy Wall Street

The coordinators of programs and committees welcome your participation. Please contact the coordinator or chair and let her/him know of your interest in assisting.

*We gratefully acknowledge the openhearted generosity of the **Brockport United Methodist Church**, whose leaders and members make it possible for us to meet in the Historic Garland United Methodist Church.*