



“A Guilt Free Faith”  
Volume 3, Issue 7

**Brockport Unitarian  
Universalist Fellowship**  
“A Congregation for All Ages”  
Services held at  
**The Historic Garland Church**  
**March 2012 NEWSLETTER**



3723 Sweden Walker Rd  
Brockport, New York

**MESSAGE FROM OUR MINISTER**

**Rev. Peggy Meeker**

**Reflections on Late Winter and Early Spring**

Parts of the Northeast are getting quite a winter storm as I write this column, but around Rochester and Brockport it seems to be just another little bit of snow sandwiched between 40-degree days. I could get used to this kind of winter! I've hardly had to shovel at all, and unless I'm longing to go skiing or snow shoeing, a little bit of snow seems just right. It's pretty to look at from the window over my desk, and I don't get tired of it because it doesn't stay around long enough!

I don't know what our weather will be doing over the coming month, but I do know three things that will happen for sure: Daylight Savings Time will boost our lengthening days, St. Patrick's Day will give us a chance to love all things Irish, and then it will be spring. And so the seasons move on through the year, and the year moves on, and so do we!

Leap day will be long past by the time spring gets here, but the question it raised for me. If you were given a whole extra day, with no responsibilities, what would you want to do with it? It is worth carrying into spring and beyond. Too often time marches on relentlessly, and we're so busy trying to keep up that we lose track of how we'd really like to be using our days. We lose track of the things that bring us joy. And then our days lose their life.

This month, as winter releases its grip on the land and earth turns toward birthing and new growth, what do you want to nurture in your own life? Let's move together into spring, supporting each other and stirring with new life.

**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.**

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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 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month.

**Children's Faith Development & Toddler's And Young People's Playroom** available on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month.

**Book Discussion Group** meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00PM,

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

**March Service Schedule at a Glance**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Worship – March 4, 2012**  
Unitarian Universalist Paganism
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Sampler – March 11, 2012**  
TBA
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Worship – March 18, 2012**  
Change and Transformation
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Worship - March 25, 2012**  
Exploring our Relationship with water

**SERVICE SCHEDULE**

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

**\*1st Sunday Worship, March 4, 2012**

Officiates: Reverend Peggy Meeker

Topic: Unitarian Universalist Paganism: Our exploration of UU theology has arrived in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and one of the biggest influences on Unitarian Universalism in the 20th century has been neo-paganism, which has enriched our religious movement with influences ranging from ancient Goddess religions to an earth-centered spirituality.

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).**

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**\*\*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Sampler - Sunday, March 11, 2011**

Coordinator: David Markham

Speaker: TBA

Topic: TBA

Time: 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

\*\*No childcare is available at this time

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**\*\*3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Worship - Sunday, March 18, 2011**

Officiate: Rev. Peggy Meeker

Topic: Change and Transformation: We'll celebrate the spring equinox, the earth's transformation from winter to spring, and an important strand in UU theology-process theology-that is based on change and transformation.

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 3<sup>rd</sup> of 7 sessions. The Group will meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, January 2012 through July 2012 from 11:15AM - 12:30PM

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**\*\*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Worship - Sunday, March 25, 2011**

Officiate: Rev. Peggy Meeker

Topic: We'll begin an exploration of our relationship to water-the source of life and a resource that needs our protection, both around the world and here in our own community. Fourth Sundays are intergenerational-everyone is welcome. (And you don't need to bring children to enjoy it!)

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

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**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](mailto: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.

**BOOK GROUP NEWS & NOTES**

Date: Tuesday, 3/13/2012 - 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM  
Location: Lift Bridge Book Shop, 45 Main Street, Brockport, NY  
Contact: Rev. Peggy Meeker

**March 13<sup>th</sup>:** *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](http://www.wab.org) or call Writers & Books at 585-473-2590.)

**April 10<sup>th</sup>:** *Amish Grace* by Donald B. Kraybill, Steven M. Nolt, and David L. Weaver-Zercher. An exploration of the forgiveness extended by the Amish after a gunman killed five children and injured five others in a one-room school in Nickel Mines, Pennsylvania, in October 2006.

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 generally 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](mailto:pmeeker@frontiernet.net)

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**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 3<sup>rd</sup> of 7 sessions. The Group meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, January 2012 through July 2012 from 11:15AM - 12:30PM. This month we will meet on Sunday March 18<sup>th</sup>.*

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](mailto: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](mailto:klobracco@uua.org) Phone: 585-637-4605

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

<p><b>Date:</b> Sunday, March 4, 2012  <b>Time:</b> 10:15 AM – 11:00 AM  <b>Teacher:</b> Kristen Phillips  <b>Topic:</b> "Justice for All"  <b>Lesson:</b> This session teaches children about injustice and inequality in our world, and the importance of working for justice. Participants will hear a story about a kingdom in which many people do not have enough food. A dog that is larger-than-life comes to the palace and refuses to stop barking until the king has redistributed the wealth and everyone in the land has been fed. During the activity period, children will experience injustice first-hand, and then have the opportunity to turn that injustice into justice. Participants will be encouraged to be like the dog in the story, acting as allies to anyone who is oppressed, suffering, or being treated unfairly. "Fairness" will be added to the Moral Compass.</p>	<p><b>Date:</b> Sunday, March 18, 2012  <b>Time:</b> 10:15 AM – 11:00 AM  <b>Teacher:</b> Beth O'Donnell  <b>Topic:</b> "Courage"  <b>Lesson:</b> This session introduces and encourages the virtue of courage, and defines it as the ability to stand up for what we believe is right despite our fears. It also relates to the sixth Unitarian Universalist Principle — the goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all — as it calls the children to find the courage to work toward this goal. An African folk tale introduces the children to a young woman who finds the courage to stand up to a hungry lion to save her cousin. The children will then be guided to remember times when they have found the courage to do something risky. Through a game the children will be introduced to assertiveness techniques to feel more empowered to express themselves when conscience calls. They will end by expressing, by drawing, a situation in which they would like to see themselves being more courageous. "Courage" will be added to the Moral Compass.</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](mailto: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

\*\*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Sampler - March 11, 2012

Topic: TBA

Speaker: TBA

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

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

**BUUF & BEYOND: NOTICES, EVENTS, AND ACTIVITIES****BUUF's Spring 2012 "Next to New Sale"**

We need your help! Set up Thursday, May 3 and Friday, May 4  
Saturday, May 5, 2011 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
The Historic Garland Church – Fellowship Hall

The more we have to sell the better. If you have family members or friends who are looking for a new home for some of their possessions, encourage them to donate their items to our *Next to New* sale. We will accept clothing (clean and in good condition), books, household goods, garden items, sporting equipment, electronics, appliances, small furniture, books, toys, and craft items. (Basically anything the isn't junk, dirty, or broken!) Also, please save the nice shopping bags with handles they give you at better stores or with larger purchases. We will need them for packing items when people purchase large amounts at the sale. Please join those who have already offered to volunteer for this very important fundraiser.

**Please contact Jean Sauberan, Coordinator at 721-1663 if you can HELP!!**

**St. Lawrence District Unitarian Universalist District Annual Assembly 2012****“TRANSCENDANCE”**

Friday, April 27, 2012 Friday at the First Universalist Church (150 South Clinton Avenue, Rochester, NY)

Saturday, April 28, 2012 at the First Unitarian Church (220 Winton Road South, Rochester, NY)

Contact: Linda Friedman - [davelin@frontiernet.net](mailto:davelin@frontiernet.net)

For information go to the St. Lawrence District Calendar website: <http://www.sld.uua.org/calendar1.html>

Registration: <https://sluud.wufoo.com/forms/st-lawrence-district-assembly-2012/>

**Passing the Torch** Webinars Spring 2012: Sessions meet March 12, 26, April 6, 25. [Flyer www.cerguua.org](http://www.cerguua.org)

**Women's Spirituality Conference (Transforming Women's Spirits)** May 18-19, 2012 First UU Society of Syracuse, NY [save date flyer](#) Contact: Jody Brown [jfb523@gmail.com](mailto:jfb523@gmail.com) Info: [www.slduwr.org](http://www.slduwr.org)

**SLD Spirituality Deepening Conference** July 29-August 1, 2012 [Notre Dame Retreat House](#), Canandaigua, NY [save date flyer](#) Contact: Kathy McGowan [kathymcgowan9@gmail.com](mailto:kathymcgowan9@gmail.com)

**SLD Board/Leaders Retreat** August 9-11, 2012 Notre Dame Retreat House, Canandaigua, NY Contact: [stld@uua.org](mailto:stld@uua.org)

**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/chalicelighters.html](http://www.sld.uua.org/conggrowth/chalicelighters.html). If you are interested in becoming a “Chalice Lighter”, and helping another congregation do what we're doing!, please email [sldadministrator@verizon.net](mailto: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 - March Program**

You are cordially invited to **ROCLA's Gala Rice and Beans and White Dove Awards Evening MARCH 2, 5:30 PM:** Make your reservations now for an evening of camaraderie, fun, feasting, and celebration! To a background of Haitian music you can bid for the remarkable Silent Auction items, savor rice and beans, salsa and salad from the incomparable Peg Gefell, enjoy a buffet of desserts, and celebrate the 2012 White Dove Award recipients.

**Brian Concannon, Jr., Esq.**, Director of the Institute for Justice and Democracy in Haiti (IJDH), will receive ROCLA's International White Dove Award on behalf of IJDH and its Haitian affiliate, Bureau des Avocats Internationaux (BAI). He will speak on **DEFENDING HUMAN RIGHTS IN HAITI.**

**Bob Kaiser**, ROCLA's Convener, and **Marilyn Kaiser**, Membership Chair, will be honored with ROCLA's Local White Dove Award for their long-term leadership, for tireless completion of day-to-day administrative chores, keeping ROCLA morale high and the organization on course.

The Live and Silent Auctions are a highlight of the evening. **Lory Ghertner, pilot, has offered again this year his fabulous private plane ride over the Finger Lakes.** And Bob Good's rustic cabin in a quiet beautiful setting on top of a hill near Honeoye Lake will be available in the summer.

**TICKETS:** Patron, \$40      Sponsor, \$25      Guest, \$15.

Checks payable to ROCLA/Metro Justice. Patrons and Sponsors will be listed in the program (unless you would prefer that we not do that.)

**FOR RESERVATIONS: The Kaisers, 293-3194; rkaiser3@rochester.rr.com**

We look forward to seeing you at ROCLA's major fundraiser. Your presence and contributions will support ROCLA's work in solidarity with the people of Latin America.

\* ROCLA - Rochester Committee on Latin America

**General Assembly June 20 - 24, 2012 in Phoenix, AZ****WESTERN NEW YORK HEALING DRUM CIRCLE**

When: Sundays – Check website for dates  
 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](mailto:jeffrey@jeffmandrums.net)

**OUT REACH: BROCKPORT ECUMENICAL FOOD SHELF**

**Here is a list of items needed. Thank YOU!**

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

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

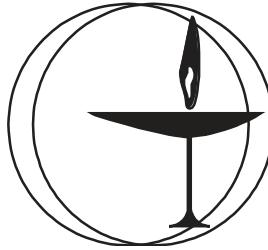
**HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS:** TOILET PAPER, PAPER TOWELS, DISH SOAP AND LAUNDRY DETERGENT

**INFANT PRODUCTS:** DIAPERS – ALL SIZES

## Contact Information

Mailing address:  
76 Westwood Dr.  
Brockport, NY  
14420

**Web:** [www.brockportuu.org](http://www.brockportuu.org)  
Rev. Peggy Meeker, Minister  
[pmeeker@frontiernet.net](mailto: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](mailto: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, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.*