



“A Guilt Free Faith”
Volume 4, Issue 4

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



3723 Sweden Walker Rd
Brockport, New York

The Principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association

The member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association covenant to affirm and promote:

- *The inherent worth and dignity of every person;*
- *Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;*
- *Acceptance of one another and encouragement of spiritual growth in our congregations;*
- *A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;*
- *The right of conscience and the use of democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;*
- *The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;*
- *Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.*

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.*

IMPORTANT DATES

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2012 AT 11:00 AM
 Congregational Meeting & Vote on Revised Budget

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2012 AT 7:00 PM
 BUUF Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting*
 Fellowship Hall at the Garland Church
All members of the Congregation are welcome to attend.

**The BUUF Board of Trustees holds its regular monthly meeting on the third Thursday of every month in the Fellowship Hall at the Garland Church. The Board of Trustees is eager to hear from members and friends of the Congregation.*

Brockport UU Fellowship

Services are held every Sunday of the month. The 1st, 3rd, and occasional 5th Sundays are regular church services. The 2nd Sunday is “Second Sunday Sampler”. The 4th Sunday is always something different, still church, but less traditional and more participatory.

Children’s Faith Development Program is on the 1st, 3rd, and occasional 5th Sunday, unless an Ingathering service is being held.

The Toddler’s and Young people’s play area is available on the 1st, 3rd, and occasional 5th Sunday.

Book Discussion Group meets the 2nd Tuesday, 6:30-8:00PM at LiftBridge. For more information go on line to: www.brockportuu.org

SUNDAY SERVICES AT A GLANCE

1st Sunday	December 2
Worship Service	10:00 AM
Children’s Faith Development	
2nd Sunday	December 9
Second Sunday Sampler	10:00 AM
3rd Sunday	December 16
Intergenerational Service	10:00 AM
Congregational Meeting	11:00 AM
4th Sunday	December 23
Service	10:00 AM
4th Sunday Evening	December 23
Service and Christmas Candlelight Dinner	
5th Sunday	December 30
Worship Service	10:00 AM

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday, December 2, 2012 - The First Sunday Worship Service

ENTERING THE DARK

Please bring a non-perishable food item for the Brockport Ecumenical Food Shelf

Topic: **Entering the Dark**—As we move into the darkest time of the year, we'll consider darkness and light and the cycles of life, and we'll remember and honor our loved ones who have died.

Officiates: Rev. Peggy Meeker and Worship Associates

Song Leader: Cora Schrader

Piano: Scott Wright

Time: 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM Worship Service (*Toddler's and Young People's playroom available*)
10:15 AM – 11:00 AM Children's Faith Development
11:00– 12:00 Noon - Refreshments and Conversation

Location: Historic Garland Church - 3723 Sweden Walker Rd, Brockport, New York

Sunday, December 9, 2012 - The Second Sunday Sampler

COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR VETERANS RETURNING FROM IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN

Coordinator: P.J. Benedetti

Topic: **Community Support for Veterans Returning from Iraq and Afghanistan**

Presenters: Wendy Sullivan, Counselor at the Rochester Vet Center will speak about the issues facing returning vets.

Time: 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM Refreshments provided (*No childcare is available at this time*)

Location: The Historic Garland Church - 3723 Sweden Walker Rd., Brockport, New York

Sunday, December 16, 2012 - The Third Sunday Worship Service - Intergenerational

"THE JOURNEY TO CHRISTMAS", An Intergenerational Play

Please bring a non-perishable food item for the Brockport Ecumenical Food Shelf

Topic: **An Intergenerational Play: "The Journey to Christmas."** It's becoming a tradition—we'll celebrate the season...Come and be part of the story!

Officiates: Rev. Peggy Meeker

Time: 10:00 AM–11:00 AM Worship Service (*Toddler's and Young People's playroom available*)
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING (Members and Friends) / VOTE ON REVISED BUDGET (Members)
11:00 AM – 12:00 Noon Refreshments and Conversation

Location: The Historic Garland Church - 3723 Sweden Walker Rd, Brockport, New York

Sunday, December 23, 2012 - The Fourth Sunday Service

NEW BIRTH OF LIGHT IN THE WORLD

Please bring a non-perishable food item for the Brockport Ecumenical Food Shelf

Topic: On this Sunday between the Winter Solstice and Christmas, we'll celebrate the ancient story of the new birth of light in the world.

Officiate: Rev. Peggy Meeker

Time: 10:00 AM–11:00 AM Worship Service
11:00 AM – 12:00 Noon Refreshments and Conversation

CHRISTMAS SERVICE AND CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT DINNER

At 6:00 PM, share in a short Christmas service with special holiday music, ending with the singing of "Silent Night" by candlelight followed by a beautiful dinner prepared by Matt O'Donnell and his helpers.

Location: The Historic Garland Church - 3723 Sweden Walker Rd, Brockport, New York

Sunday, December 30, 2012 - The Fifth Sunday Worship Service

LIGHT AND RENEWAL

Please bring a non-perishable food item for the Brockport Ecumenical Food Shelf

Topic: On this last Sunday of the year, will lead a service focused on renewal and light.

Officiate: Student Minister Aimee Mallery

Time: 10:00 AM–11:00 AM Worship Service
11:00 AM – 12:00 Noon Refreshments and Conversation

Location: The Historic Garland Church - 3723 Sweden Walker Rd, Brockport, New York

**Introducing
THE COMMITTEE on MINISTRY**

If you have never heard of the Committee on Ministry, you are not alone! This group is charged with evaluating and supporting the ministry of the CONGREGATION. Of course Rev. Meeker is part of the ministry of BUUF, but so is the Board, the committees and each and every one of us. We all are the Brockport Unitarian Universalist Fellowship!

The Committee on Ministry meets regularly, and always the framing question is “How is the congregation?” Our November meeting focused on communication and how a healthy congregation requires both the abundant sharing of INFORMATION and support for having difficult conversations in an atmosphere that is SAFE and LOVING. We can do better in both areas.

December is the season when we reflect on the gifts we have been given, including this opportunity to plant a beacon of life affirming Unitarian Universalism in the Brockport area. Think about the gifts you bring. Yes, they are many! We have all we need to be that star of hope – that light in the darkest of times! The Committee on Ministry looks forward to working with YOU in moving the ministry of this community toward compassionate conversations and exuberant sharing of our good news! We look forward to talking and collaborating with you.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS from your Committee on Ministry,

Beth O’Donnell, chair

Libbie Clifford

Karen LoBracco

Rev. Peggy Meeker

Submitted by Karen LoBracco – Nov. 30, 2012

BOOK GROUP NEWS

DECEMBER 11, 2012

Date: Tuesday, 12/11/2012

Time: 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Location: Lift Bridge Book Shop, 45 Main Street, Brockport, NY

Contact: Rev. Peggy Meeker at 224-6312 or pmeeker@frontiernet.net

December 11th: *The Good Man Jesus and the Scoundrel Christ* by Philip Pullman—in this novel, Pullman, the author of the trilogy *His Dark Materials*, puts forth his own version of the Christian Gospels, emphasizing the power of Jesus’ teachings but challenging the story of his life.

January 8th: *In the Neighborhood: The Search for Community on an American Street, One Sleepover at a Time* by Peter Lovenheim—the account of a Rochester journalist whose community was rocked by a murder-suicide, and who set off on a quest to get to know his neighbors by spending a night in each of their homes.

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. The Book Shop generally offers a 20% discount on book club purchases. We welcome your suggestions for books to discuss over the coming months. 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

CHRISTMAS SERVICE / WINTER HOLIDAY CELEBRATION DINNER

CHRISTMAS SERVICE AND CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT DINNER

At 6:00 PM on Sunday December 23, join members, friends and guests of the Brockport UU Fellowship in a short Christmas service with special holiday music, ending with the singing of "Silent Night" by candlelight. Following the service, we will feast on a beautiful dinner prepared by Matt O'Donnell and his helpers. The service and dinner will be held at The Historic Garland Church - 3723 Sweden Walker Rd, Brockport, NY.



NEWS FROM THE DISTRICT

District Assembly 2013

A Joint Venture of the St. Lawrence & Ohio-Meadville Districts

The St. Lawrence and Ohio-Meadville Districts will join together April 26-27, 2013 in Jamestown, NY for an energetic, stimulating assembly with the theme "Out of Bounds: Moving Beyond Our Boundaries." Rev. Peter Morales, President of the UUA, will be the keynote speaker.

For more information go to: <http://www.ohiomeadville.org/districtassembly>

Fundamentals of Healthy Youth Groups (Buffalo)

The St. Lawrence District is sponsoring the Fundamentals of Healthy Youth Groups at the UU Church of Buffalo, NY scheduled for January 11 - 13, 2013.

This is the core training for adults who are youth advisors and for youth who are or want to become leaders. It focuses on philosophy, core skills, and self-reflections to help YOU become the best leader you can be. Ideally each congregation sends a team of youth and adults. We know that teams better bring the learning home and we want youth and adults to practice their leadership skills together because youth and adults working together is fundamental to youth empowerment. Religious educators, youth religious education teachers, and other adults who work with you are highly encouraged to attend. Registration starts at 6 pm and programming begins at 7 pm.

The weekend is jam packed from 7 pm Friday evening until Sunday morning. We sleep at the church (just like youth overnights!), play together, and learn in a multi-learning mode style. It is a "working" youth event, so expect to actually sleep (youth and adults) and come committed to being present and a part of the whole training.

Register at <http://www.sld.uua.org/calendar1.html>

MORE NEWS FROM THE ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT

Invitation To Join Interfaith Impact of New York State (IINYS)

All UU Activist and *Agenda for Change *subscribers are invited to join the IINYS mailing list which will entitle you to receive periodic newsletters and editorials, action alerts and other communications on state justice issues. Please visit the IINYS website at

<http://interfaithimpactnys.org/>

If you would like to be added to the IINYS mailing list, please respond to Robb Smith, IINYS Executive Director, at *robb@interfaithimpactnys.org *and ask him to put you on our mailing list (name, congregation, address, phone number and e-mail address).

You may also enjoy the social justice website set up by Rev. Peggy Clarke who serves both the Metro-NY and St. Lawrence District as social action staff. <http://www.uujusticeweb.org/>

NEWS FROM THE BROCKPORT COMMUNITY

From: The Brockport Ecumenical Food Shelf

Holiday Greetings from the Brockport Food Shelf!

Your response to the Food Shelf's call for help with this year's Holiday Basket program has been heart-warming. Many groups and individuals from our community's churches have donated both their time and money to contribute baskets for the holiday season.

From the generosity of the churches and other groups, over 200 baskets have been donated. Thank you and the members of your church for your continuing support of the Food Shelf.

In October, we served 149 families, which included 204 adults, 123 children, and 39 elderly. In November, we had already served 134 families on the first three Thursdays we were open.

Our current needs include canned corn, baked beans, soup, and cereal. Toothpaste, shampoo, and deodorant are also appreciated by many of the people who come to the Food Shelf.

As always, monetary contributions are appreciated, and all contributions are tax deductible.

Kathy Hayes
Brockport Food Shelf
Director

***Please bring donations for the Brockport Ecumenical Food Shelf to Church on Sundays
See Bill Clifford or Jim Foote for information on becoming a Food Shelf Volunteer.***

MORE NEWS FROM THE BROCKPORT COMMUNITY

St. Luke's Harvest Kitchen - 2nd Sunday

December 9, 2012 from 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 14 State Street, Brockport NY

Every 2nd Sunday of the month, from 3-5 PM, St. Luke's opens its kitchen and parish hall to the community to enjoy its offerings of homemade soups, bread and beverage. Tables are set up for eating, playing cards, coffee and conversation, or just relaxing. There is no charge, but donations are gladly accepted. The Clothing Closet is also open from 3-4:30 pm. For more information call (585) 637- 6650 or e-mail Rev. Krista Cameron at stlukes@frontiernet.net.

First Baptist Church: *THE GATHERING TABLE* - 3rd Sunday

December 16, 2012 from 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

First Baptist Church, 124 South Main Street, Brockport NY

On the 3rd Sunday of each month, from 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM, First Baptist Church hosts *THE GATHERING TABLE*. All are welcome to join them for a meal and enjoy the company of others. The meal is free, but donations are appreciated.

The Clothing Closet

Sundays: 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM and Thursdays: 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 14 State Street, Brockport NY

NEWS FROM AROUND ROCHESTER

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY IN ROCHESTER GUUSTO is a co-sponsor and

When: December 10, 2012 at 5:30PM

Where: Downtown United Presbyterian Church, 121 N. Fitzhugh St. Rochester, NY

What: A community potluck dinner followed by conversation based on the subject of Michelle Alexander's book: *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*
"The New Jim Crow" is the UU's Common Read book for this year

For information: George Dardess (gdardess@yahoo.com) or Gail Mott (interconnect_mott@frontiernet.net)

HARVESTING JUSTICE DINNER

Rural & Migrant Ministry will be hosting the *Harvesting Justice Dinner* to benefit the **Justice for Farmworkers Campaign**. The event will feature a keynote address by The Reverend Dr. Marvin A. McMickle, President of the Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School and an integral figure in struggles for social, racial, and economic justice. The Dinner will also honor Ms. Librada Paz, the 2012 Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights Laureate and will feature music by the Justice for Farmworkers Musicians.

This event will take place at the Temple B'rith Kodesh at 2131 Elmwood Avenue, Rochester, New York. The Reception will begin at 5:30 pm on December 4, 2012, followed by a Dinner at 6:15. For ticket information and other sponsorship opportunities, please contact Laura Lecour at (845)-485-8627 or at rmmllecour@optimum.net or visit our website www.ruralmigrantministry.org

NEWS SPECIALS

SCOTT WRIGHT (BUUF piano accompanist) Co-sponsors Holiday Concert



Scott's Piano Studio & Friends
present
"Sounds of the Season"
A Holiday Concert

All proceeds benefit
Golisano Children's Hospital at URM



YOU ARE INVITED!!

Join us for an afternoon of great music
as professional and student performers entertain you.

Day/Date:	Sunday, December 16, 2012		
Time:	2:00 PM		
Location:	Rochester Christian Reformed Church 2750 Atlantic Ave., Penfield NY 14526		
*Admission:	Seating is limited.		
	Adults	\$10.00	
	Children under 12	\$ 5.00	

**Admission includes a post-concert reception
with refreshments immediately following the performance.*

For more information about reserving your tickets, please contact:
Scott Wright at saw1music@gmail.com or (585) 465-0219.

HURRICANE SANDY: The Central East Regional Group (CERG) of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) has set up the CERG-UUA Disaster Relief Fund. Contributions can be sent to: CERG-UUA, 100 W. 10th St. Suite 1008, Wilmington, DE 19801 or made online at <http://www.cerguua.org/> using PayPal.

Treat Yourself this Holiday Season...

EASTMAN AT WASHINGTON SQUARE LUNCHTIME CONCERT SERIES: Thursdays at 12:15 in the sanctuary at the First Universalist Church Downtown Rochester. The concerts are free and open to the public.

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

Brockport Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Contact Information

Mailing address:
76 Westwood Dr.
Brockport, NY
14420

Phone: 585-224-6312

Rev. Peggy Meeker
Minister
pmeeker@frontiernet.net
(585) 224-6312



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

Web: www.brockportuu.org

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

BUUF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Don Zimmer, President
Carol Taillie, Secretary
_____, Treasurer
Jim Foote, Trustee
Bill Clifford, Trustee

ADVISORS:

Rev. Peggy Meeker, Minister
Karen LoBracco, Consultant to the SLD
Gerry Mitrano, Legal Advisor
Jean Sauberan, Newsletter
George Miller, Checker Reality
Rob Beiswenger – Liaison to BUMC

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Beth O'Donnell, chair
Libbie Clifford
Karen LoBracco
Rev. Peggy Meeker

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

Bill Clifford, Chair
Bob Remele
Jean Sauberan

PROGRAM RESOURCES:

Small Group Ministry Facilitators
Bonnie Beiswenger
Rev. Peggy Meeker, Minister
Jean Sauberan
Cora Schrader
Carol Taillie

Worship Committee:

Matt O'Donnell, Service Coordinator
Carol Taillie, Worship Associate
Don Zimmer, Worship Associate

Hospitality and Caring Committee

Jean Sauberan
Cora Schrader
Allan Gray

Education and Faith Development Coordinators

Children's Faith Development
Karen LoBracco, Dir. Children's FD
Libby Clifford, Asst. Director Childrens' FD
Adult Education
Jim Foote, 2nd Sunday Sampler Coordinator
Adult Faith Development
Rev. Peggy Meeker, Minister/ Facilitator

OTHER RESOURCES:

Jan Milliman, Internet Notices
Kristen & Travis Phillips, Childrens' FD Assistants
Cora Schrader, Song Leader

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Monika Beck Food Shelf Liaison
Jean Sauberan, Brockport Helping Network
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

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.