

NYSCU GRANT PROGRESS REPORT

This report of a 2026 grant received from the New York State Convention of Universalists in is due to Tom Hackett, Clerk, 70 Wall Street, Kingston, NY 12401, or electronically to NYSCUTom@gmail.com, ON OR BEFORE 30 SEPTEMBER 2026. Alternatively, you may complete the form online at <https://nyscu.org>. There is a link to the online form on the home page and on the Grants & Loans page.

If there is a visual component to the program, please send a photo or two (labeled, please) or other appropriate visual. If there is an audio or video component, please include as well.

Note: If your project is not yet underway or is just beginning, you may defer your report until 2027. Please inform the Clerk at the above address if this is the case.

ORGANIZATION: Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Plattsburgh

DATE OF REPORT: September 24, 2026

PURPOSE OF GRANT: Increase engagement with members and friends through thoughtful inclusion of food.

AMOUNT OF GRANT: \$1200.00

1. How was the money actually spent?

So far, we have spent \$400 or 1/3 of the grant money. We decided on providing three “large” meals for Fellowship events. These are fully catered meals from locally owned small businesses and will typically cost \$400 on average. Our first meal was provided by the restaurant BIG T'z House of Soul Soul Food Restaurant.

2. By your best estimate, how many people were/are being reached/served?

45

3. How well have the *goals* of the program/project been met, and how has this determination been made?

Our major goal for our program was to create memorable experiences for our members and friends. We have found that food makes every program better and we are grateful to be able to provide local, fresh options to compliment our activities.

4. What *concerns* developed in the course of the program/project?

During the course of our project, the only real concern was how to divide the money between events. We decided that three large meals would create the best return on investment for our Fellowship. A central tenet in our decision making is the use of local, small businesses if possible.

5. Is this program/project complete? No

A. If no, when will it be completed and evaluated, and by whom?

We will have completed our project by the end 2026;

Our second large catered meal is scheduled for November 2026 and will coincide with our Annual Giving Campaign kick-off.

Our third and final meal will coincide with a large gathering at our second annual showing of Black Nativity. Both of these activities draw larger than usual crowds and we feel these are the best targets for the inclusion of catered meals.

For evaluation, our four paid staff members will create a final report of all the program details and how we feel the Fellowship has benefited from it. Our four staff members were the authors of the grant proposal and feel we are the best to write up an evaluation. We also solicit feedback from participants after our events to find out what went well, what could be improved, and what made it memorable (or not).

B. If yes, what are the implications for the future?

6. Would you do the program/project again, or recommend it to others? Explain.

We would absolutely do this project again! We would also recommend this option to other fellowships as a way to increase engagement and make events more memorable.

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Thank you!