



## Movies With Spirit

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## 2014–2015 Calendar

**Sept. 20, PHILOMENA (2013), Old Dutch Church, 272 Wall St., Kingston** — Based on a 2009 book by BBC investigative political correspondent Martin Sixsmith (Steve Coogan), this biographical drama, directed by Stephen Frears, focuses on the true-life efforts of an aging Irish woman, Philomena Lee (Judi Dench), to search for her son who was taken away from her decades earlier after she became pregnant out of wedlock and was forced to live in a convent. Winner of 22 festival and critic awards. *"Clever, wrenching, profound."* — The Washington Post. *Rated PG-13.*

**Oct. 18, NEBRASKA (2013), St. John's Episcopal Church, 207 Albany Ave., Kingston** — Director Alexander Payne's award-winning black-and-white road film stars Bruce Dern as Woodrow T. "Woody" Grant, an irritable old Montana man who's convinced he's won a \$1 million magazine sweepstakes, and Will Forte as his estranged, youngest son, who believes the sweepstakes is a scam but grudgingly agrees to drive his dad to Nebraska to claim his winnings. As they drive, they visit friends and relatives to whom the dad owes money. Bob Odenkirk and Stacy Keach costar. Winner of 14 festival and critic awards. *"A desolate comedy drama about fathers, sons, life's highways and missed off-ramps."* — The Boston Globe. *Rated R.*

**Nov. 15, ABOUT TIME (2013), Flowing Spirit Healing/Woodstock Sufi Center, 33 Mill Hill Road, Woodstock** — This award-winning British romantic comedy drama by director Richard Curtis tells the story of Tim Lake (Domhnall Gleeson), who discovers at age 21 he can time-travel and later learns from his father (Bill Nighy) the men in their family have always had this ability. Tim can't change history, his father says, but he can change what happens in his life. But the ability to create life "do-overs" can lead to challenges, his father warns. Tim later meets Mary (Rachel McAdams). They fall in love. But an unfortunate time-travel incident later means they didn't meet. So they meet again for the first time and Tim tries to win her heart. *"A charmer."* — Film Threat. *Rated R.*

**Dec. 20, BOYS OF BARAKA (2005), New Progressive Baptist Church, 8 Hone St., Kingston** — In this award-winning documentary, 20 boys, age 12, from Baltimore's most violent ghettos are taken 10,000 miles away to an experimental boarding school in Kenya's outback. Many had emotional issues and violent tendencies as a result of coming from broken homes or being raised by parents with drug addictions or criminal records. Removed from these influences, the boys receive a strict academic and disciplinary program at the Baraka School that lets them face their issues and start putting their lives on the right track. *"It's galling to think American kids must go abroad for a chance to turn their lives around. But it's also inspiring to see the changes that are possible."* — Houston Chronicle. *Rated R.*

**Jan. 17, SEDONA (2011), Woodstock Reformed Church, 16 Tinker St., Woodstock** — This comedy drama tells two stories of self-discovery during a day in Sedona, Ariz. One follows

successful advertising executive Tammy (Frances Fisher) and the other, uptight lawyer Scott (Seth Peterson). Tammy drives from Portland, Ore., to Phoenix to land the biggest client of her career, but a wrong turn and a freak accident land her in Sedona, where she must wait while her car is repaired. Scott, a workaholic vacationing with his life partner Eddie (Matt Williamson) and their two young sons, goes on a hike in the forest among the majestic red rocks when 7-year-old Denny (Trevor Sterling Stovall) gets lost. During the ensuing frantic search, Scott realizes his priorities are mixed up and starts to put his life into much-needed perspective. Meanwhile, Tammy's encounters with quirky locals and several incidents force her to face her own fears. *"Sends out enough good vibes to put a smile on your face, and perhaps even prompt you to search for a bit more meaning in your own life."* — TV Guide. *Not rated.*

**Feb. 21, FOLLOWING THE NINTH: IN THE FOOTSTEPS IN BEETHOVEN'S FINAL SYMPHONY (2013), Christ Episcopal Church, 20 Carroll St., Poughkeepsie —**

Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, with its grand "Ode to Joy" chorale finale, is widely regarded as one of the most inspiring classical music works ever written. This stunning documentary, by Kerry Candaele, examines the symphony's legacy as an anthem — to Chinese revolutionaries who used it during the Tiananmen Square uprising, to an East Berlin woman who considers it an "Ode to Freedom" after tearfully hearing Leonard Bernstein conduct a massive orchestra playing the piece in celebration after the Wall fell, to Chilean women who sang the "Ode" outside a torture prison to inspire dissidents held inside during Pinochet's military dictatorship, and to Japanese who sing it in huge performances each December, including after 2011's deadly earthquake and tsunami. *"Each anecdote builds upon the next to create that rarest of films: a documentary as ineffable and transformative in its reach as it sets out to be."* — The Village Voice. *Not rated.*

**March 21, WALKING THE CAMINO: SIX WAYS TO SANTIAGO (2013), Episcopal Church of the Messiah, 6436 Montgomery St., Rhinebeck —**

This award-winning documentary, by Lydia Smith, follows a half-dozen pilgrims, ages 3 to 73, as they attempt to walk the traditional 500-mile Camino de Santiago, or Way of St. James, from the Spanish-French border to Galicia in northwestern Spain. Driven by an inexplicable calling and a grand sense of adventure, the pilgrims of all backgrounds, and for reasons that are sometimes nor religious, throw themselves, heart and soul, into the journey, with only a backpack, a pair of boots and an open mind. Over the miles, some face debilitating injury, others find unexpected romance, no toilet paper when they really need it, grief, doubt, hunger, laughter and exhaustion. *"Smith allows these people to speak their minds, and, as the journey progresses, the talk, not surprisingly, becomes increasingly depth-charged."* — The Christian Science Monitor. *Not rated.*

**April 18, THE GRAND BUDAPEST HOTEL (2014), Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, 22 Livingston St., Kingston —**

In this madcap comedy tale of murder, theft, conspiracy and unlikely friendship, writer-director Wes Anderson depicts the adventures of Gustave H. (Ralph Fiennes), a celebrated, charismatic concierge at a renowned hotel in the fictional Republic of Zubrowka, a Central European alpine state ravaged by poverty shortly before World War II. Gustave teams up with one of his employees — a shy, unassuming, orphaned immigrant junior lobby boy named Zero Moustafa (Tony Revolori) — to prove his innocence after he is framed for the murder of wealthy matriarchal hotel guest Madame D. (Tilda Swinton). The film is set amid a backdrop of a suddenly and dramatically changing Continent. *"This movie makes a marvelous mockery of history, turning its horrors into a series of graceful jokes and mischievous gestures. You can call this escapism if you like. You can also think of it as revenge."* — The New York Times. *Rated R.*

**May 16, BOYHOOD (2014), St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 163 Main St., New Paltz—**

Filmed over 12 consecutive years with the same cast, Richard Linklater's groundbreaking ode to growing up and parenting shows a boy's bittersweet growing-up process, from age 6 to 18, which we literally see onscreen, but in a fictional setting. We see Mason (Ellar Coltrane) go to school, argue with his sister, Samantha (Lorelei Linklater, the director's daughter), listen to music, go on trips,



have birthdays and graduations, and experience all moments in between. We also watch his mother, Olivia (Patricia Arquette), struggle with work and men while paying the bills, moving from home to home and earning several degrees. Her ex-husband, Mason Sr. (Ethan Hawke), is in the children's lives intermittently — but when he is present, he works hard to give them experiences and emotional support they may not always get from their hard-pressed mother. *"Linklater has crafted what may be the most ingenious film of the century here and given it a tone like no other."* — The Detroit News. *Rated R.*

**June 20, ONE: THE MOVIE (2005), Vivekananda Retreat, Ridgely, 101 Leggett Road, Stone Ridge** — This independent documentary asks 20 of "life's big questions" of artists, authors, atheists and people on the street, as well as of religious and spiritual teachers. The questions deal with suffering, compassion, terrorism, war, peace, fear, global change and other matters of existence. The big-name spiritual leaders Michigan filmmakers Scott Carter, Ward M. Powers and Diane Powers interview include the Dalai Lama, Deepak Chopra, Thich Nhat Hanh, Robert Thurman, Thomas Keating, Wayne Teasdale and Jaggi Vasudev. *"I can't imagine anybody seeing One and not feeling changed in a deeply personal way. What a remarkable movie!"* — Flix & Pix: The Movie Show. *Not rated.*

**July 18, AS IT IS IN HEAVEN (SÅ SOM I HIMMELEN) (2004), Temple Emanuel, 243 Albany Ave., Kingston** — In this heartfelt tale of inspiration and discovery, renowned Swedish conductor Daniel Daréus (Michael Nyqvist), whose life dream has been to create music that will "open people's hearts," suffers a heart attack at the end of a concert he conducted and retires to his childhood village — a place to which he has mixed feeling about returning. He is soon asked to help members of a local church choir hone their singing skills, and reluctantly agrees. To his surprise, Daniel discovers that the more he draws out the singers' hidden talents, the more he realizes what he missed by living in the big city. Before long, he makes friends and finds love, but also becomes troublingly entwined in the villagers' personal problems. The award-winning film was Sweden's submission for Best Foreign Film at the 2005 Academy Awards. *"[A] tale of love, community and redemption with . . . a true believer's faith in the transcendent powers of music."* — Houston Chronicle. *Swedish with English subtitles. Not rated.*

**Aug. 15, I WISH (KISEKI) (2011), Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Catskills, 320 Sawkill Road, Kingston** — In this gem of a film, 12-year-old Koichi (Koki Maeda) lives with his mother and retired grandparents in the southern part of the Japanese island of Kyushu. His younger brother Ryunosuke (played by real-life brother Ohshirô Maeda) lives with their father 175 miles away in northern Kyushu. The brothers are separated by their parents' divorce, and Koichi's only wish is for his family to be reunited. When he learns a new bullet train line will soon open, linking his town with that of his brother, he starts believing a miracle will take place if he can see the moment when two bullet trains going opposite directions pass each other at top speed, like seeing a shooting star. *"What a kind and wise movie this is."* — (Minneapolis) Star Tribune. *Japanese with English subtitles. Rated PG.*

*Each screening begins at 7 p.m. and is followed by refreshments and a facilitated discussion. Evenings end around 10 p.m. A \$5 contribution is suggested for moviegoers over age 12.*

*The series is organized by Gerry Harrington and has no religious affiliation.*

*For more information, contact Gerry at [gerryharrington@mindspring.com](mailto:gerryharrington@mindspring.com) or at (845) 389-9201. Film and series details are also available at [movieswithspirit.com](http://movieswithspirit.com) and at [facebook.com/MoviesWithSpirit](http://facebook.com/MoviesWithSpirit).*