



Unitarian
Universalist
Congregation of
Erie

August 2018

The Beacon

Sunday Services—start at 10:30 a.m. and last approximately 60-75 minutes.

August 5 Defining Happiness

Service Leader: *Mary Beth McCarthy*

How often have you said, “I just want to be happy” or “I just want them or everybody to be happy”? But what is happiness? Defining happiness is a timeless topic that has been discussed and debated, beginning with the earliest spiritual teachers and philosophers. Although there is no abstract definition that can perfectly capture what happiness is to all people all of the time, current scientific research appears to have renewed the dialog with some interesting ideas and recommendations.

August 12 Poetry Service

Service Leader: *Liz Yount*

August 19 Summer Reflections and Annual Corn Roast

This is a Sunday service and special event not to be missed! We will gather for a service at 11:30 a.m. at the Beach 11 pavilion. Corn Roast and Potluck to follow at 12:30.

Summer Reflections

Join us for another summer lite service as we commune with nature in the “sheltering arm” of Presque Isle. Our new minister, Rev. Charlie Dieterich, will conduct our short service, and we welcome our fellow UU's from Girard to join our annual gathering.

Annual Corn Roast and Picnic

Following our service and “corn roasting”, we will have a delicious potluck lunch and Howard and Janet's fabulous grilled corn. The pavilion is ours for the day, so many of us will stay to swim, walk the beach, and enjoy the summer at Presque Isle. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the park. Please bring a dish to share, table setting, and drinks. Lemonade, water, and iced tea will be provided.

August 26 Hymn Sing

with *Jan Woods and friends*

Jan and other UU musicians will play some of our old favorite hymns for your singing and listening pleasure. Join in . We'll sing songs from other times as well songs from our current hymn book, Singing the Living Tradition . If you have a favorite hymn that you'd like to hear, please let Jan know by August 15th. You can contact her at (814) 572-1358 or at hurryhillfarm@verizon.net.

Minister:

Reverend Charles Dieterich

President:

Doug Russell

UUCE Board Secretary:

John Galle-Boyko

UUCE Board Members:

Mary Beth McCarthy

Julie Maguire

Melanie Hetzel-Riggin

Ron Brown

Wendy Ormond

Mission

INSPIRE, CONNECT, ACT

We are a vibrant and inclusive religious community.

We:

**INSPIRE personal and spiritual growth;*

**CONNECT in fellowship and service;*

**ACT for peace and justice.*

Vision

We will:

**Share the wisdom of our guiding principles and nurture all who come seeking personal and spiritual growth.*

**Be a welcoming, inclusive, and expanding religious congregation with diverse ideas and beliefs reflected in our services and programs.*

**Establish ourselves as a strong presence in the region through greater community engagement.*

Covenant

We:

**Covenant to promote a culture of compassion and acceptance in our relations with each other.*

**Promise to listen with the intent to understand and to communicate in an honest and respectful manner, even when we disagree.*

**Acknowledge that conflict is an opportunity for growth.*



Ministry Works

I arrive in Erie this month to a congregation already preparing for the autumn and “Church Year” as it is called in the industry. I’m writing this from Norfolk, Virginia, where I will be handing in the keys to my apartment and saying final goodbyes.

Looking ahead, your Sunday Services Committee has already been at work getting a plan in place for UUCE services from September to New Years. Last month I told the committee that it seemed like this year would be a good one to concentrate not just on our Unitarian Universalist principles but also the values behind them. Rather than the seven principles, I have asked the SSC to let us begin with a different list from almost a century ago... the “Four Freedoms.” Franklin Delano Roosevelt introduced this list on the eve of United States involvement in the war against Fascism.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Four_Freedoms

When FDR spoke to the nation he was being clear. The values his government lived by were fundamentally different from those of Mr. Hitler. Mr. Mussolini and the fascists. He declared that everyone in the world should enjoy Freedom of Speech, Freedom from Fear, Freedom from Want and Freedom of Worship. So those will be our themes. (I changed the order so that “fear” comes in October... before the election and just before Halloween!)

Because I am only half-time this year, I will be leading eight of these services and the SSC will be finding speakers for the others. I am especially fond of the short-reflection style of a service, where three members of the congregation spend about five minutes each considering the same reading. Stay tuned, we may put out a call for reflection on some of these themes in the months ahead. We shall see what the autumn holds.

Remember to collect a tiny bit of water from a summer adventure, and also see the Thursday E-mails to learn about my request for letters and pictures.

For now I’ll say Happy August, stay cool, wear sunscreen, and I hope to see YOU at the Corn Roast.

~Rev. Charlie Dieterich





The UUCE is Again Participating in Erie Gives Day!

Mark Tuesday, August 14 on Your Calendar!

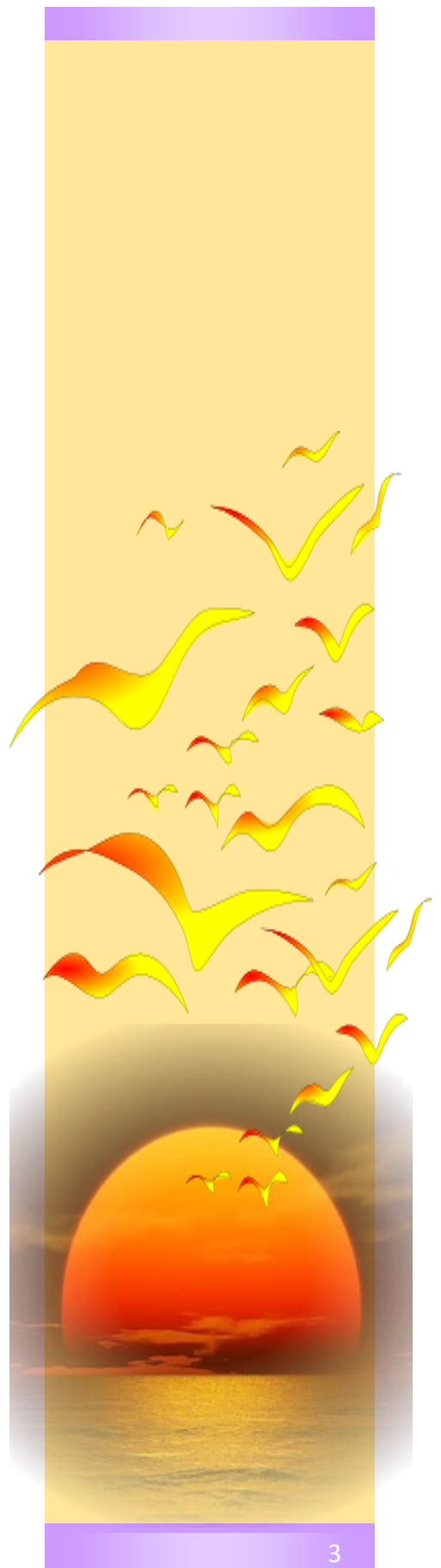
This day of support for local nonprofits will be held on Tuesday, August 14 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. online at www.eriegives.org. Why donate on this day? The Erie Community Foundation and their sponsors will enhance donors' gift by providing a prorated match to each gift made.

Donating is easy. Log on to www.eriegives.org between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.; have a Visa, MasterCard, or Discover card handy. Look up the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie. Decide how much you would like to donate; there is a \$25 minimum donation but the maximum is up to you. The website allows you to donate to up to 10 local nonprofits in one transaction.

If you do not have a credit card, write a check to the UUCE with "Erie Gives" in the donation line any time before August 14. The donation will be entered on that Tuesday so that the UUCE can benefit from the additional funds offered through the ECF.

The UUCE will receive the donations through the Erie Community Foundation during a check presentation ceremony. Your gift will be put to work immediately. We will continue the work of our congregation—community service projects, strengthening our committees, and helping our members become more involved in UUCE, OMD, and UUA activities.

Please donate on this special day!





Book Club

August 22 at 7 p.m.
at the home of
Nanci Lorei.

The book we are
reading is
The Violinist of
Venice
by Alyssa Palombo.



President's Ponderings

Yes, this lazy summer weather has me running about like a mad man. I'm back as president during my last year on the board. I am gathering details about the coming RE year from Susan Galle-Boyko and Rev. Charlie, wrapping up the remnants from the Garage Sale, and confirming with Seaway Window about repairing the broken window in Classroom D (which is thankfully still under warranty). Preparing for Erie Gives Day. We also had the carpets cleaned on July 24, please wipe your shoes! I have dealt with mice and assorted ants making their homes in our kitchen. I am also pondering sprucing up the interior and exterior of the building. Lighter, brighter colors, perhaps? I am partnering with the Finance Committee, with the help of Tom Milinovich, to improve the financial records of the UUCE— Quick Books 101 and more!

Did I mention Erie Gives Day is coming up on August 14th?

On my agenda going forward: the UUCE is participating in the Pride Picnic and Labor Day Parade, Hospitality has found volunteers for the coming year (Thank you all!), pursuing information on a defibrillator for the building, the Act/Social Responsibility's joint event with the MCRC in August, restarting of the Committee on Ministry (very important to provide support for our settled half-time minister) and continuing to help Joanne to provide support to all members of our team.

I am looking forward to the cool and relaxing fall, and did I mention that Erie Gives Day is August 14?

~Doug



***You are Invited to the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie's
Annual Corn Roast and Sunday Service***

When: Sunday, August 19, 2018

Where: Presque Isle State Park, Beach 11 Pavillion (follow the park road 6.5 miles from the park entrance)

Map: http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/cs/groups/public/documents/document/dcnr_003286.pdf

Time: 11:30 A.M. Sunday Meditation Service with our new minister, Rev. Charlie Dieterich, followed by potluck lunch at noon

Provided: Roasted corn and lemonade. Please note that alcoholic beverages are not permitted at the park.

Bring: A generous dish to share, your own table service, and a lawn chair

There will be games and plenty of things to do for all ages. We have the shelter reserved for the entire day so you are welcome to come early and/or stay late to have a swim, take a walk, go fishing, kayak, and canoe.

There is a large children's play area at the shelter, drinking water and electricity are available, and pets on leashes are permitted. The beach is an easy, short walk from the pavillion.

Questions: 814-838-2941 or 814-866-2040



Reverend Charles Dieterich
minister@uuerie.org

UUCE Thursday Email Updates

Every Thursday an update of UUCE events and news for the week is sent out via email.

If you would like to be included on the UUCE email mailing list, please contact Joanne@uuerie.org before 9:30 a.m. Thursdays.



Find us on
Facebook

"Please join our Facebook page, Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie! Here you can find Sunday Service announcements, upcoming events, conversations, words of inspiration and much more." For additional information, please contact Kristin Maguire at (krisspins@aol.com).

Secretary:
Joanne Davis
Office Hours:
Mondays and Fridays,
8-11:30 a.m.
Tues, Wed & Thurs
8 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Please direct all mail to:
P.O. Box 3495, Erie, PA 16508

Leave Voice Messages
814-864-9300

We're On The Web!
uuerie.org

The Beacon is published monthly.
We welcome your suggestions and submissions.

The deadline for articles for the September issue is Saturday, August 18.

Send submissions to:
Joanne@uuerie.org.

Beacon Editor/Layout: Joanne Davis
Content Review: Dr. Regis T. Sabol

To receive future newsletters via e-mail link or through the mail, please register with Joanne at 864-9300 or Joanne@uuerie.org.

Remember, you must register to receive a newsletter.

August Birthdays

01—Leigh Kostis
10—Peggy Puleo
18—Michele Paich
22—Howard Krack
22—Betty Young



Service Attendance:

07/01/18—An Independence Day Celebration—Regis Sabol—60 adults, 5 children.
07/08/18—Journey to Chautauqua—16 attendees—Kelly Armor, guest musician.
07/15/18—The Gambia—Danieh Foltz—44 adults.

August 2018

Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1 Girl Scouts 1:30-3 p.m.	2	3 Atheist and Agnostic Community 7 p.m.	4 Alcoholics Anonymous 8:30 a.m.
5 Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Whispering Lake Grove Lughnassadh Service 5 p.m.	6 Buddhist Sangha 7 p.m. Erie Moot 7 p.m. Sunday Services Committee 4 p.m.	7 Homeschool Group 12-2 p.m.	8 Girl Scouts 1:30-3 p.m. One Table Steering Committee 4 p.m.	9	10 Atheist and Agnostic Community 7 p.m.	11 Alcoholics Anonymous 8:30 a.m. Garden Work Party 9-11 a.m. Keystone Progress 1-5 p.m.
12 Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.	13 Buddhist Sangha 7 p.m. PFLAG 7 p.m.	14 Erie Gives Day 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Laughter and Music Group 7-8:30 p.m.	15 Girl Scouts 1:30-3 p.m. Anti Mass Incarceration Meeting 7-9 p.m.	16	17 Multi-Cultural Resource Center 1-3 p.m. Atheist and Agnostic Community 7 p.m.	18 Alcoholics Anonymous 8:30 a.m. Game Day Noon-6 p.m.
19  Meditation Service 11:30 a.m. Potluck Lunch and Corn Roast at Noon Baby Shower 2-7 p.m.	20 Buddhist Sangha 7 p.m.	21	22 Girl Scouts 1:30-3 p.m.	23	24 Atheist and Agnostic Community 7 p.m.	25 Alcoholics Anonymous 8:30 a.m. Erie Sisters 6:30 p.m.
26 Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.	27 Buddhist Sangha 7 p.m.	28	29 Girl Scouts 1:30-3 p.m.	30	31 Atheist and Agnostic Community 7 p.m.	