



Sunday Services - Begin at 10:30 and last approximately 60-75 minutes and are available both in person only until September.

August 2026

Summer Lite

AUGUST 2 THE TREE OF YOGA

Speaker: Denny Fiscus, Facilitator: Pat Lorei

Denny will present, via analogy, the 8 limbs of classical, modern-day Yoga, which outlines the progressive framework and serves as a comprehensive guide for self-realization rather than just physical exercise. A condensed historical sketch of Yoga or, how "East meets West" is included, as well as an examination of the Yoga Sutras, the aphoristic "Bible" of Yoga.

AUGUST 9 THE ART OF IMPROVISATION

Presented by: Pat Lorei and Kelly Armor

Improvisation is at the heart of jazz and is also essential to many forms of music based in the oral tradition. It is a skill that anyone can learn and get better at. Join us for an interactive morning full of music and thoughts about making it up as you go! This service is great for all ages!

AUGUST 16 MYSTICAL MESSAGE - HOW A CAREER CHOICE BECAME A PATH TO DEEPER SPIRITUALITY

Speaker: Michele Paich, L.M.T., Facilitator: Dixie Morrow

Your body is truly a temple that should be nourished with great care and mindful choices. Join us to explore how self-care can promote not only physical wellness, but can lead to understanding the mind / body connection. Let's turn inward for truth and meaning and learn to trust the wisdom of our bodies.

AUGUST 23 OUR ANNUAL CORN ROAST AT PAVILION 1 PRESQUE ISLE: 11 AM A CELEBRATION OF 45 YEARS OF COMMUNITY, ABUNDANCE & GRACE

Speakers: CL Minister Bobbie, Josh Brown, and Ann Bomberger

Facilitator: CL Minister Bobbie

For 45 summers, our UU congregation has gathered around the fire and the corn, in a place of green and gold, of smoke and laughter, of husks and hands and the most familiar of faces. Neighbors becoming family, children growing taller, in one simple, holy act: coming together, giving thanks, and sharing a meal. Before we eat and linger, we pause, because the food, the people, and 45 years of gathering are themselves a kind of miracle. *All are welcome, see details in the flyer below.*

AUGUST 30 UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

Speakers: Dixie Morrow and Bobbie Colt, CLM

We'll reflect on the relationship between our UUerie principles and the values expressed in Article II of the Unitarian Universalist Association bylaws. How do the values relate to the principles? We'll use a small group gathering format in which everyone will have an opportunity to share their thoughts and experiences as they wish.

UUerie Board of Trustees:

President: Kelly Armor

Vice President: Dixie Morrow

Secretary: Steve Sullivan

Michael Balsan

Chris Brown

Andrew Greene

Marcella Smith

Diane Guthrie, Treasurer

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.*



BIOGRAPHY OF OUR SPEAKER ON AUGUST 2

Denny Fiscus is a student of Yoga. He has practiced and taught Yoga for 24 years with a current focus on the therapeutic application of Yoga for individual improvement, expansion and healing. He is a Certified Advanced Level Integral Hatha Yoga teacher, a Certified Meditation Teacher, an advanced-trained professional with the Center for Mind Body Medicine (CMBM), a trained Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA), and a member of the International Association of Yoga Therapists (IAYT). He resided 2 years at the Satchidananda Ashram in Yogaville, Va., investigating ancient Hindu scriptural teachings.



BIOGRAPHIES OF OUR PRESENTERS ON AUGUST 9

Pat Lorei is a long time member of UU Erie, has served on just about every committee and as president of the Board of Trustees. He currently leads the UU Erie choir and many have heard him supply saxophone and guitar to Sunday services. He plays his sax in several rock and polka bands in the Erie area.

Kelly Armor currently chairs the Living Worship Team. She is a public folklorist at Erie Arts & Culture where she helps communities sustain their folk art traditions and leads the jazz and world music trio, *Kelly's World*, where she provides flute, percussion and vocals.



BIOGRAPHY OF OUR SPEAKER ON AUGUST 16

Michele Paich has been a licensed massage therapist since July of 2000 and a seeker of holistic practices for many years prior. A friend of UU Erie since 2002 and a member since 2010, she has had many roles within our congregation including serving on the Board of Trustees from 2012 - 2015 and most recently our Spiritual Exploration Coordinator from 2022 - 2025. Her greatest joy is being Danieh's mother and is also a nature enthusiast, a dream weaver, a cloud watcher, a sun worshipper, a moon lover, a star gazer, a creator, and destroyer.

BIOGRAPHY OF OUR FACILITATOR ON AUGUST 23 AND SPEAKER ON AUGUST 30

Commissioned Lay Minister **Bobbie Colt** serves the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie with compassion and creativity. Known for her warmth and steady presence, she helps nurture spiritual connection through her work on the Pastoral Care, Membership, and Worship Committees. Bobbie is honored to facilitate the **45th Annual UU Erie Corn Roast** on August 23, 2026, celebrating community, fellowship, and the joy of shared tradition.



BIOGRAPHY OF OUR SPEAKER ON AUGUST 30

A member of this congregation since 2000, Dixie currently serves on the living worship team and the Pastoral Care Team. In her latest previous life she was a municipal secretary-treasurer and a part-time photographer of equine events.



ERIE GIVES DAY IS TUESDAY, AUGUST 11!

This is a wonderful way to make a donation, or pay some or all of your pledge as every dollar has a partial match through Erie Community Foundation.

100% of donation is given to the non-profit – no fee will be subtracted.

Ways to give:

- Pay with credit or debit card on Erie Gives Day 8/11/26. Go to ErieGives.org or call 814-454-0843, the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie
- Use a check. The Check contribution form is attached. All checks must be received by 8/4/2026. Since mail has been delayed recently, please consider mailing early or delivering to Erie Community Foundation's pop-up event on 8/4/26 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. & 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. at the Hagen History Center at 356 W 6th OR leave your check and form at UUerie by 8/2/2026. We will deliver for you.
- Give via your IRA with a QCD (Qualified Charitable Distribution) to donate without counting it as taxable income. Contact your financial advisor. Check is made to Erie Community Foundation and sent direct to them. You fill out the Contribution Form and be sure it arrives by 8/4/2026.

Questions. Call Nanci Lorei 814-881-0580

UUERIE'S MEMORY CAFÉ

meets September through July on the first and third Thursday of each month from 1-3 p.m.

There is no café in the month of August.

The café will resume on September 3rd.



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie's Annual Corn Roast

When: Sunday, August 23, 2026

Where: Presque Isle State Park, **Beach 1 Pavilion** [the Runner's Pavilion]

Time: Sunday Service at 11:00. Eat at 12:30. Pavilion is available all day.

Provided: Roasted corn and lemonade. Bring another beverage of your choice. Please note that alcoholic beverages are not permitted at the park.

Bring: A generous dish to share, your own table service and silverware.

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.

The beach is an easy, short walk from the pavilion. Restrooms are next to the pavilion. All the tables are under the shelter.

Need more information? Contact Leigh at Lwko@roadrunner.com

Bring your family and friends. See you there!

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 16, 2026 4:00pm IN PERSON

Attending: Kelly Armor, Dixie Morrow, Christine Brown, Andrew Greene, Marcella Smith, Mike Balsan, Steve Sullivan
Absent: Diane Guthrie

Check In

Chalice lighting

Call to Order [Approval of June Minutes](#) Motioned: Christine Seconded: Andrew APPROVED

Finance Report

- We are in good shape asset wise. Nanci has not yet applied for the tax credit for the solar but it should arrive within this fiscal year. That will bolster the numbers.
- Northwest Bank CD interest continues to drop, the finance committee wants to shift it to Edward Jones account (which has a much greater rate of return) when it matures on August 11. The board had no objections to her doing so, and it doesn't require a vote.
- There was a breach with our debit card so we will be getting a new one.
- The balance on the social justice and bail fund were lowered. There was an anonymous donation to UUerie on Erie Gives that we were told to the SJC and bail fund, but that now has been adjusted accordingly.
- Endowment Fund Gain line item is misattributed. The account number 4235 will not be in future financial reports.
- Nanci left the ministry expenses line items in so if we actually hire a minister we have a place holder.
- Birthday jar money from last fiscal year will go to Hooked on Books for Kids
- Nanci discussed slight income raises for Joanne and Jackson which happens each year.
- Erie Gives: You can deliver checks during an Open House on August 4th, not on the day of Erie Gives. They are flexible with receiving checks from Required Minimum Distributions but the form must arrive on August 4. We'll work harder to thank people who are not members who gave to us. Kelly will work with Joanne to send a reminder to anyone who said on the UUerie Pledge form that they will give their pledge on Erie Gives.

Committee Reports

- Issue for board to address from Building and Grounds: Pat reports, "My feeling is that whatever the price turns out to be for the skylight waterproofing, it needs to be solved. We've been tolerating those persistent leaks for too long. to be for the skylight waterproofing job."
Action: Kelly will let him know he has the support of the board and he should go ahead and get bids.
- [Request from Membership Committee to read report in July Beacon.](#)
Kelly will suggest they reach out to Greeters to see if any of them would like to be on their committee. Are the blue tags putting people off, maybe a different color?

Old Business

1. [Order your t-shirts!](#)
2. Update on Chris Brown and *prospective renter of our kitchen*.
 - a. Does the prospective renter need on site storage, in fridge and/or non-refrigerated?
 - b. How much is she willing to pay in rent?
 - c. Will she ensure that she has all the requirements to staff our kitchen by herself?ACTION, Chris will follow up with her.

New Business:

1. We discussed our understanding of the board's role and responsibilities
 - A. What the board does
 - i. Handling the business of the congregation
 - ii. Making sure we are financially sound
 - iii. Responsible for governance, following the bylaws and instituting policy
 - iv. Working with and empowering committees
 - v. Contact point with the UUA
 - vi. Responsible for hiring a minister
 - vii. Responsible for running congregational meetings
 - viii. Follow the Mission Statement to Inspire, Connect and Act
 - B. The functions of various committee
 - C. Choose new officers
 - i. Kelly Armor President: Motion Steve Seconded: Chris, APPROVED
 - ii. Dixie Morrow Vice President: Motion: Marcella: Second: Andrew: APPROVED
 - iii. Stephen Sullivan Secretary, Motion: Marcella, Second: Dixie APPROVED

Board minutes continued

2. Overview of resources on Google Drive
 - a. Make sure everyone knows how to access Google Drive and set up training for Monday, July 20 at 2:30pm in the library.
 - b. Ask everyone to review for next month [BoT Responsibilities and Duties](#) and suggest edits
 - c. NEXT MONTH Come up with a plan to [update committee descriptions](#) and assign committee liaisons.
3. Dixie will do an overview of the classes the UUA offers and come up with a curated list for us to consider for August's meeting
4. We meet on August 13th, at 4pm.

Next board meeting date – Thursday, August 13, 4:00pm

Motion to adjourn: Andrew Seconded: Chris APPROVED

Adjourned at 6:05pm



We meet on the last Wednesday of the month in the church library at 7:00, except for the month of August. We will meet next in September.

All are welcome.

RECURRING EVENTS

Worship Service in person only.....Sundays at 10:30 AM.
Sandwich preparation for the Upper Room Shelter..... First Sunday of the month after the service.
Buddhist Sangha.....Mondays at 7:00 PM (first Monday of the month Zoom only, in person the rest of the month).
Memory Café.....First and Third Thursdays of the month from September through July at 1:00 PM.
UUErie Book Club..... Last Wednesday of the month from September through July at 7:00 in the church library.
Narcotics Anonymous.....Wednesdays at 7 PM.
Atheist and Agnostic Community.....Fridays at 7:00 PM.
Alcoholics Anonymous.....Saturdays at 8:30 AM.
Game Day Afternoons.....Third Saturday of each month 1-4 PM.



Administrator:

Joanne Davis

admin@uuerie.org Office Hours:
Monday—Thursday 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Fridays 8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

Please direct all mail to:
7180 Perry Highway,
Erie, PA 16509

Leave Voice
Messages
814-864-9300

We're On The Web!
uuerie.org

The Beacon is published
every month.

Have an announcement or
event?

[Submit it here](#)

by the 15th of this month
to be included in the next issue.

Beacon Editor/Layout: Leigh
Kostis and Joanne Davis.

To receive future newsletters
via email link or through the
mail, please register with
Joanne at 814-864-9300 or
admin@uuerie.org.

Weekly Flame

Every Thursday an update of
UUErie events and news for
the week is sent out via
email. If you would like to be
included on the UUErie email
mailing list, please contact
admin@uuerie.org before
9:30 a.m. Wednesdays.



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
kmaguire626@gmail.com



We are now on Instagram.
Just search for The Unitarian
Universalist Congregation
of Erie.

August Birthdays

01 – Leigh Kostis
07 – Val Colt
08 – Linda Graff
22 – Betty Young
22 – Howard Krack



Service Attendance:

July 5 – THE SCEPTIC, THE PILGRIM AND THE PROPHET: TURNING THE WORLD UPSIDE RIGHT, at the Chautauqua Institution – Speaker: Rev. Michael McGee– 9 participants.

July 12 – MANY CLUES, SHARED UNDERSTANDING—Speaker: Josh Brown— no data.

July 19 – ECSTATIC DANCE IN ERIE—Speaker: Susannah Faulkner, – 36 participants.

July 26 – SMALL GROUP GATHERING—Facilitator: Dixie Morrow – 20 participants.