

News of *Hope*



New Hope, A Unitarian Universalist Congregation

August 2019 57885 Grand River Ave., New Hudson, MI www.newhopeuu.org 248-474-9108

An Ancient Egyptian Poem To The Sun

All cattle are resting in the fields,
The trees and the plants are
growing,
The birds flutter above the marshes,
And all the sheep are dancing,
All winged things are flying,
They live when you have shone
on them.

Sometimes in August, when the sun beats down mercilessly and the flies and mosquitoes are buzzing relentlessly, it is easy to wish the sun would just go away. Oh, not permanently, just long enough for things to cool down and quiet down. Dripping with sweat and struggling to breathe, we can forget that the sun is why we exist, why our planet is so productive, why it is warm enough to cradle life. Without the sun, there would be no life on Planet Earth. If we try to remember this during the dog days of August, maybe we would feel better. Of course, we could also remember awful windy, snowy, freezing winter days. This too might help us to appreciate August.

August looks to be a good month for New Hope. Our Social Justice project will be supporting the **Michigan Humane Society – Livingston County** by collecting items such as dog and puppy kibble; cat and kitten food. Also gently used towels

and cash donations are appreciated. See **Deb Edford's** social justice column in this newsletter for more information. Our annual **Animal Blessing Service** will be held on August 25. Everyone is invited to bring an animal friend – on a leash, in a box or in a photo, a stuffed representation, or in a story. This service is always lots of fun!

We will be starting the month of August with a **service honoring immigrants**. There have been terrible stories in the news about people, trying to enter our country, who've been abused and maligned. There are children who have been neglected and mistreated. This is a situation we are all concerned about and wish we could fix. I think that letters to the President and Leaders of Congress might be in order. Join us as we think about where we, and our country, would be without immigrants.

Also this month, we will take a Sunday to learn about our **Unitarian Universalist General Assembly**, which was held in Spokane, Washington at the end of June. Through video, we will all be able to experience some of the music, stories and preaching during this year's meeting. It is inspiring to see so many UU's gathered together in one place. It reminds us that we are part of a much larger group of people, who all share the same principles and ideals, and who all want to make the world a better place through love and justice. May it be so!



On the third Sunday of August, we will learn about the **Reverend James Reeb**, a young minister who answered The Call To Selma in 1965. Many times when I was involved in district and national committees, I admired the sculpture of James Reeb hanging in UUA headquarters at 25 Beacon Street in Boston. I'd never heard the whole story about his life. There is a new NPR podcast about his life and death called "White Lies" which investigates the details of his death and the trials of his attackers. It is important for us to honor the sacrifices that have been made, and continue to be made, for civil rights and social justice for all people.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the **Charity Poker Fundraiser** in July. The proceeds from this event help New Hope to pay our bills and meet our responsibilities. Special thanks to **Dennis Strasser** who organizes this event for us and **Mike Kelleher** for his technical/financial support.

Thank you also to our wonderful members who volunteered to lead July services. **Deb Edford** showed the documentary "From Paris to Pittsburgh" about climate change. **Patricia MacArthur** led a service on the different kinds of love. **Kathy Zaenger**, with **Robyn Huff-Naffin's** help, presented the Akashic Records. **Sue Myers** did a follow-up on "Safe Church Policy".

I had a very nice vacation month. We visited friends in New York City, and went to a family memorial service in Atchison, Kansas. I've been helping Monica recover from jaw surgery, and doing some gardening, reading and just plain relaxing. It's been lovely, but I am missing you all and New Hope. I will see you soon!

Love, Kathy

Sunday Celebration of Life Schedule for August 2019

Meditation Group meets every Sunday before services at 9:30 AM. All are welcome.

SUNDAY, August 4, 10:30 AM – “In Appreciation For Our Immigration Nation”
What would we be without immigrants in these United States of America? Where would most of us be if our ancestors had immigrated to another place or hadn't immigrated at all? “We The People” means every single one of us. It is time to admire and honor our immigrants, without whom there would be no America.



SUNDAY, August 11, 10:30 AM – “What Happened At Our Unitarian Universalist General Assembly in June?”

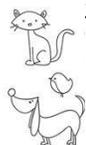
Each year the Unitarian Universalists hold an annual meeting to decide on the important questions facing our faith and to celebrate the principles and ideals, which we all hold in common. There is wonderful music and singing, stirring stories and inspiring speeches, and workshops to learn about the latest thinking in all things UU. Today we will enjoy a sampling of this great event.



SUNDAY, August 18, 10:30 AM – “The Reverend James Reeb, A Modern Day Martyr”

James Reeb was a young Unitarian Universalist minister who answered Dr. Martin Luther King's Call To Selma, Alabama in March 1965. Along with clergy from many denominations, Reeb gathered on Bloody Sunday to march across the Edmund Pettis Bridge to protest racism and inequality. He was accosted and fatally beaten by a group of white men, who took offense at the outsiders who had come south to help win civil rights for all people. Come and hear this important story.

SUNDAY, August 25, 10:30 AM – “Blessing Of The Animals ”



It is our tradition here at New Hope to hold a Blessing of the Animals Service at the end of August. Our animal brothers and sisters play a large part in many of our lives. We enjoy watching the woodland creatures and sharing our lives with our various pets. Please bring a favorite animal friend to church on this day, on a leash, in a photo, in your pocket or bag. We'll share some fun stories and learn about the animals that bring joy to our lives.

Have an August full of friends and fun!



KATHY SILVER, DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

*Our Services are held on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Services last until 11:30 a.m.

All are welcome to attend regardless of faith, race, age and sexual orientation.

We hope you'll stay for coffee and conversation after Services.

Hospitality

Please consider signing up for Sunday hospitality. The duties are simple and are posted on the refrigerator along with the sign up sheet. Many thanks to those of you who continue to provide this valuable service to our congregation.

August 2019

- 08/04/19 Corinne
- 08/11/19 Bonnie & Robyn
- 08/18/19 Deb
- 08/25/19 -----



Social Justice



Our Social Justice project for August is the annual collection for pets. We will collect items for the Michigan Humane Society-Livingston County again this year. Collection will begin August 4th and end August 25th. Items to be collected include: puppy & dog food (kibble / canned); kitten and cat food; Tidy Cat kitty litter; newspaper; New or gently used towels; Kong Classic dog toys; Purina Pro Plan focus training treats and cash/checks. Items will be delivered to the Facility the week of 8/25.

August dates to remember

August 6
Lunch Bunch, 12:30 pm at Bakers on Milford Road. RSVP to Casey Caseyklb@gmail.com

August 8
Book Club, 7 pm at New Hope, book is Commonwealth by Ann Patchett

August 12
Board Meeting, 6:30 at New Hope

August 15
Women of Hope , 6:30 at the Turtle Creek Picnic Area in Kensington Park, bring a dish to pass and your drink

Greeter Sign-up

To welcome everyone who comes each Sunday, we seek two Greeters to be here by 10:15 each week: One near the front door to show them where to hang coats, the sign-in sheet, hospitality area and the community room. The Second to give the visitors a visitor's bag, nametag and tell them about the congregation.

This will help our congregation grow in size and community.

One Sunday is open for greeters for August – after that is wide open. Anyone can send me an email to let me know which Sunday they'd like to be greeter: kzaenger@comcast.net

Thanks,
Kathy Z.



August 2019

08/04/19	Corinne & Mike
08/11/19	Bonnie & Robin
08/18/19	Deb
08/25/19	-----

I WANT TO BE WITH PEOPLE

By [Dana E Worsnop](#)

Often people say that they love coming to a place with so many like-minded people.

I know just what they are getting at -- and I know that they aren't getting it quite right.

I don't want to be with a bunch of people who think just like me.

I want to be in a beloved community where I don't have to think like everyone else to be loved, to be eligible for salvation.

I want to be with people who value compassion, justice, love and truth, though they have different thoughts and opinions about all sorts of things.

I want to be with independent-minded people of good heart.

I want to be with people who have many names and no name at all for God.

I want to be with people who see me in me goodness and dignity, who also see my failings and foibles, and who still love me.

I want to be with people who feel their inter-connection with all existence and let it guide their footfalls upon the earth.

I want to be with people who see life as a paradox and don't always rush to resolve it.

I want to be with people who are willing to walk the tight rope that is life and who will hold my hand as I walk mine.

I want to be with people who let church call them into a different way of being in the world.

I want to be with people who support, encourage and even challenge each other to higher and more ethical living.

I want to be with people who inspire one another to follow the call of the spirit.

I want to be with people who covenant to be honest, engaged and kind, who strive to keep their promises and hold me to the promises I make.

I want to be with people who give of themselves, who share their hearts and minds and gifts.

I want to be with people who know that human community is often warm and generous, sometimes challenging and almost always a grand adventure.

In short, I want to be with people like you.