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*We are a welcoming congregation that celebrates diversity,
strives to advance equity, and is all about inclusion.*

UUCOP This Week

Wednesday, July 8, 2026



Bottom: Recreation of the image with descendants of the Founders, [CBS News](#), 2017.

With Love from Rev. Alice Diebel

Dear Friends,

As I reflect on this past weekend and its 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, I am inspired by all our young nation was trying to do. We were trying to become free of oppression as well as trying to stay together in strength of purpose. It was imperfect but for 250 years, it has been a good guide.

We hold these truths to be self-evident... I was inspired by this declaration of interdependence from Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg who wrote about a different part of the declaration.....whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends...

"May we meet the next days of this country with accountability for--and all possible repair toward--each of its previous chapters. May we dissolve all the harmful structures upon which it was built. May we create a more whole future in which every person and community here--and all interconnected systems of the Earth--may thrive. May we serve the Holy through our care for one another, through work for collective liberation: through love made real. Amen."

In the spirit,
Rev. Alice

Upcoming UUCOP Services

and in-person on **Sundays at 11:00 AM.**

Our physical meeting location is **North Coast Works Building, 417 Howard Street, Petoskey.** Come in-person and stay for coffee and conversation



Image: 417 Howard Street, Petoskey

July 12: Triangle Service: Hope is a Thing with Feathers with Rev. Ruth Riedel.
Hope is delicate, but it is not fragile. Let us find the beauty and strength in a hope that nurtures and sustains us. *Zoom and in-person service.*

July 19: Being a Community of Care with Hilary Lake, MDiv.
Amidst the great uncertainties that we are facing for our collective future, it's undeniable that we will need each other and to remember how to care for each other and the Earth. All of us have ancestors who lived this wisdom somewhere in the world, and there are teachers we can look to who teach and or have taught aspects of it from their own cultures. Drawing on her lived experience, Hilary will show us how we can tend to each other and our own local community in the face of all the unknowns of our lives. *Zoom and in-person service.*

July 26: Artificial Intelligence with Rev. Alice Diebel.
What's real? What do we need to watch for? *Zoom and in-person service.*

Joining Sunday Services by Zoom

To join, click [here](#) for or follow the "Join the Service" button below for Zoom gathering information. Once you have accessed the webpage, click on the red "here" to join.

UUCOP Request for Proposals

First Round Deadline: August 1

You are invited to send us ideas, proposals, and plans for programs that address concerns about local children, youth, or other environmental and social justice needs in this community.

Send your initial proposal (up to 2 pages) to petoskeyunitarians@gmail.com or to PO Box 873, Petoskey, MI 49770, by August 1, 2026. We will review all proposals received by that date.

Please see the revised [request for proposals](#) for more information about this UUCOP community initiative.

UUCOP Coffee & Conversation



Our popular coffee get-togethers will be back this summer! This year, we will return to our favorite venues and explore a couple additional coffee shops in our area. Mark your calendar now to save **10:00 AM** on the following dates!

Friday, July 17—Dutch Oven, 7611 US-31, Alanson

Tuesday, July 28—Roast & Toast, 309 E Lake Street, Petoskey

Wednesday, August 12—Petoskey Farms, 3720 Atkins Rd, Petoskey

Thursday, September 17—Julienne Tomatoes, 421 Howard St, Petoskey

historic bakery and cafe located in Alanson, Michigan, famous for its unique European pastries, a wide array of breads, including its trademark cinnamon loaf.



UUCOP Dinner Out



The UUCOP Dinner Out is scheduled for **Friday, July 31** @ Vivio's (4531 S Straits Hwy) Indian River. Our meeting time is TBD and look for updates as plans firm up.

UUCOP Book Club News

The UUCOP Book Club is undergoing some changes. The previously scheduled Book Club session scheduled for August 16th has been cancelled.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: If you know of a book that you would like to recommend for reading and review by the UUCOP community, please contact Tom Beukema at tforb@core.com or 231.550.1403 by July 21st.

The next scheduled Book Club Meeting is September 20th @ 2 PM. Location TBA.

Place, date, and time are subject to change. If you are interested in hosting a Book Club meeting, please contact Tom.

Register for the 2026 Triangle Congregations Retreat

Dates: Friday, October 16 (evening) to
Sunday, October 18, 2026

Location: Garden Grove Retreat,
6411 State Street, Garden, Michigan
49835.

If you haven't already, please complete the [Triangle Retreat Registration](#) (red button). This link will ask about your preferences for retreat sessions and take you directly to the site to book your room and choose your meal options.

For more information about the retreat, click on [Event Information](#) (black button) for details about the meal plan. The Triangle Retreat Registration form can also be accessed via this page.

Remember to book your room and choose the meal options for each member of your party.

How to book your room and meals for the October retreat

Follow the registration link <https://form.jotform.com/261135146307046> and register for the retreat. Once you submit your registration you will be taken to the site to book your room.

Select your room and click "check out"

ren more memorable!

Add the quantity of Unitarian Universalist Retreat meal packages you need (one per person) and continue checking out!

If you are having trouble registering you can call Tracey at 231-622-5026 to book and pay for both your room and meal package

Registration Form

Event Information

climate grief support group



Summer Hiatus

**UUMFE Climate Grief Support Group Sessions Are
Scheduled to Resume on August 7.**

Eco-Action: Making an Impact



Webinar: How to Talk to Your Neighbors (and Your HOA) About Your Garden

Details: Author and activist **Lorraine Johnson** gets into the how: how to talk to neighbors who don't get it yet, how to respond to HOA complaints or bylaw challenges, and how to build support in your community for the kind of garden that actually does something for the ecosystem. This **free** webinar is sponsored by [Wild Ones International](#).

Date: Wednesday, July 22

Time: 7:00 PM ET

Location: Online

Register using the button below.

Register

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