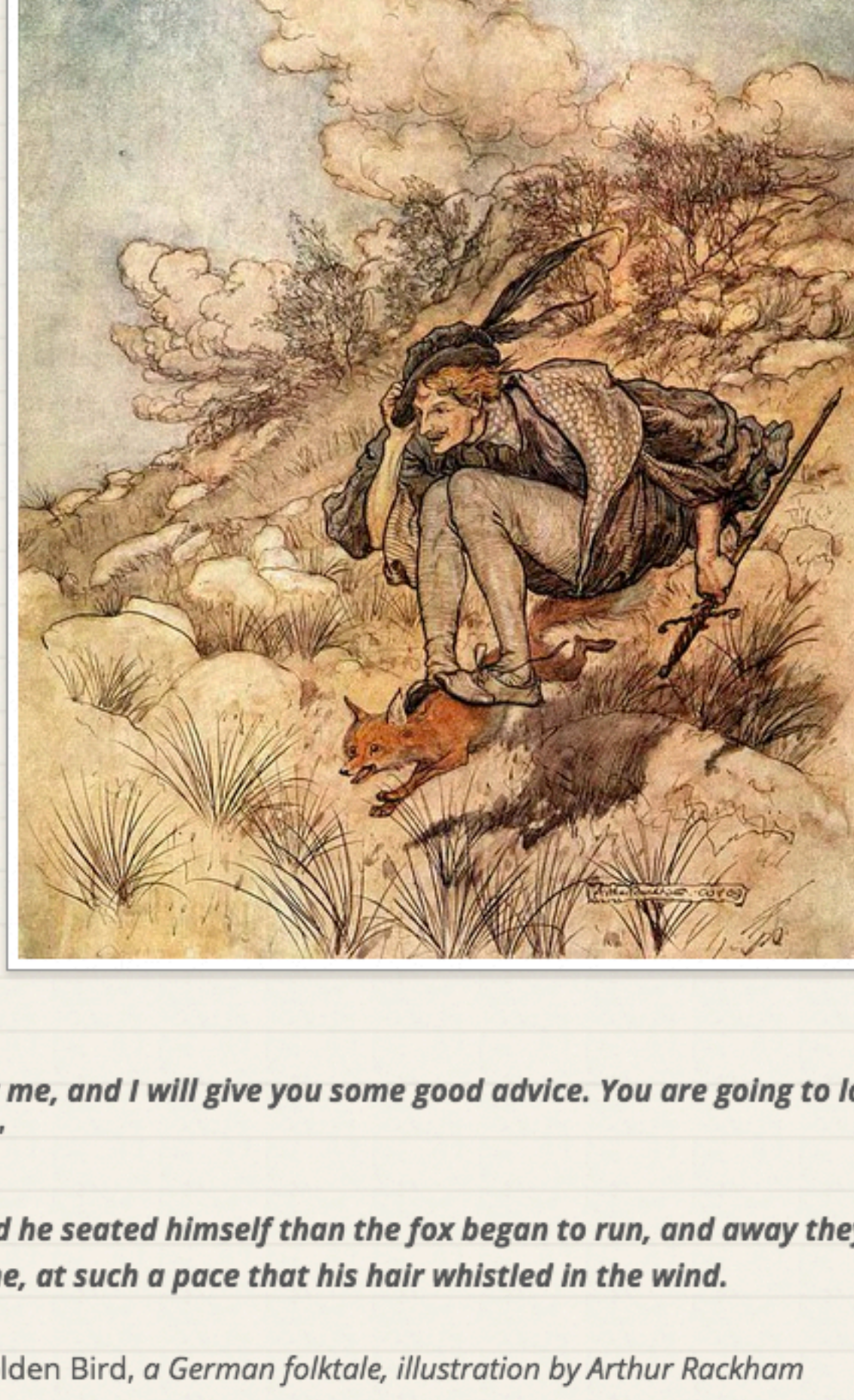


# Seeking Wisdom, Faith & Gold

A MEETING OF THE ERASCIBLE SAM & FOLLY SOCIETY (UVA)



*"Do not shoot me, and I will give you some good advice. You are going to look for the golden bird..."*

*No sooner had he seated himself than the fox began to run, and away they flew over stick and stone, at such a pace that his hair whistled in the wind.*

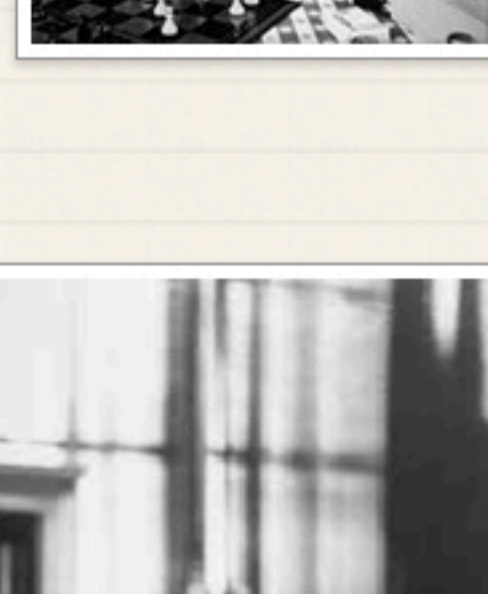
~ from The Golden Bird, a German folktale, illustration by Arthur Rackham

## Samuel + Erasmus institute

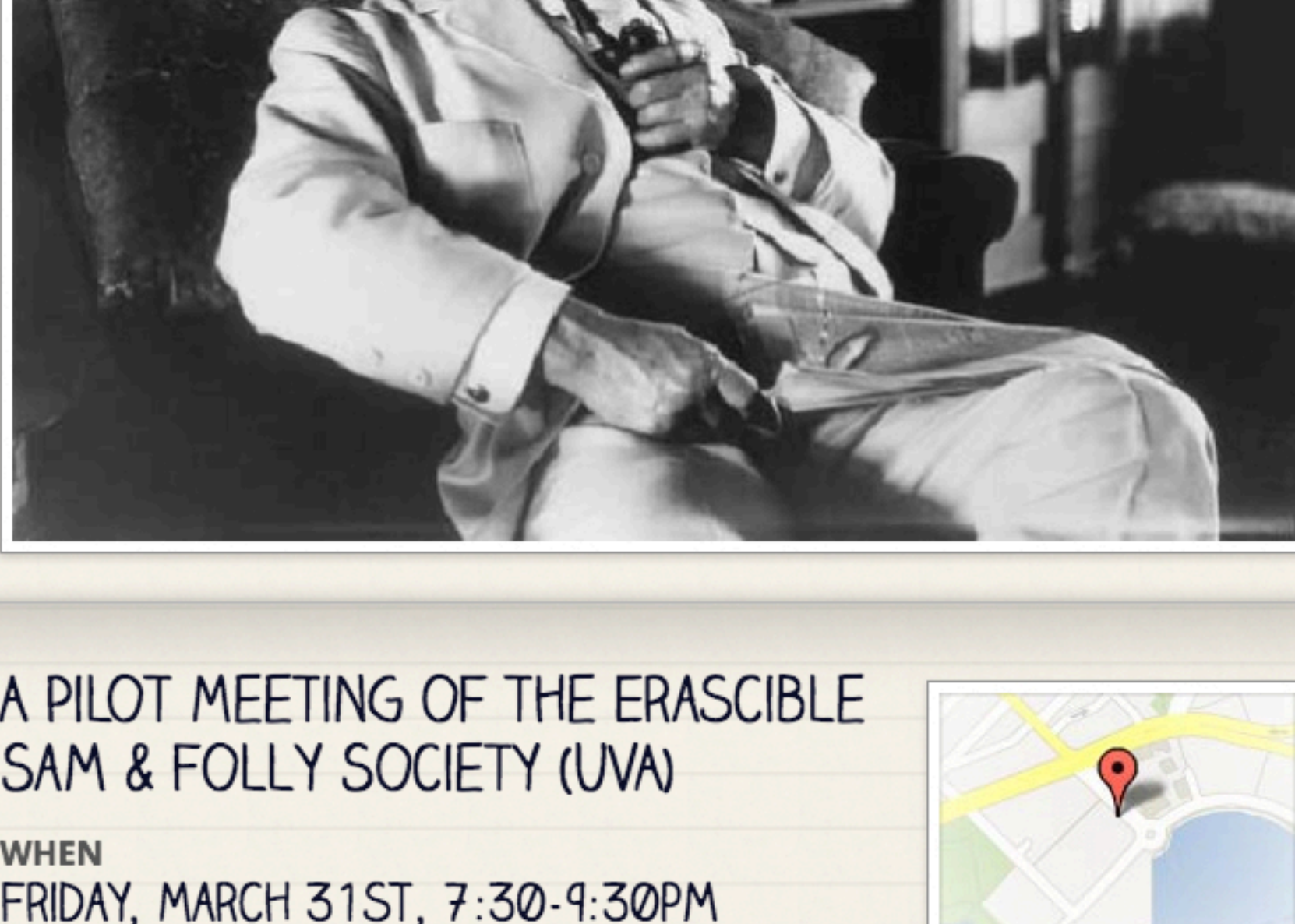
ideas • conversation • friendship

Mark your calendars and join us for a SEI Society Meeting on Friday, March 31! The meeting will strive to be in keeping with the spirit of our namesakes, Erasmus and Sam Clemens: deeply human, open, humorous, and sometimes finding wisdom that others find foolish.

The meeting will feature a brief discussion on the experience and meaning of faith (see quotes below), a reading and discussion of a poem by Wendell Berry, a short German folktale, and, if time and energy allow, a song by Bob Dylan.



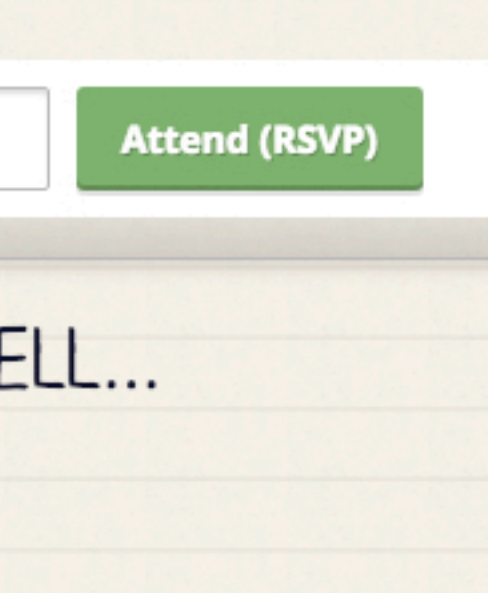
Reach out with any questions and please rsvp.



## A PILOT MEETING OF THE ERASCIBLE SAM & FOLLY SOCIETY (UVA)

WHEN  
FRIDAY, MARCH 31ST, 7:30-9:30PM

WHERE



[Get Directions](#)

First Name

Last Name

Email Address

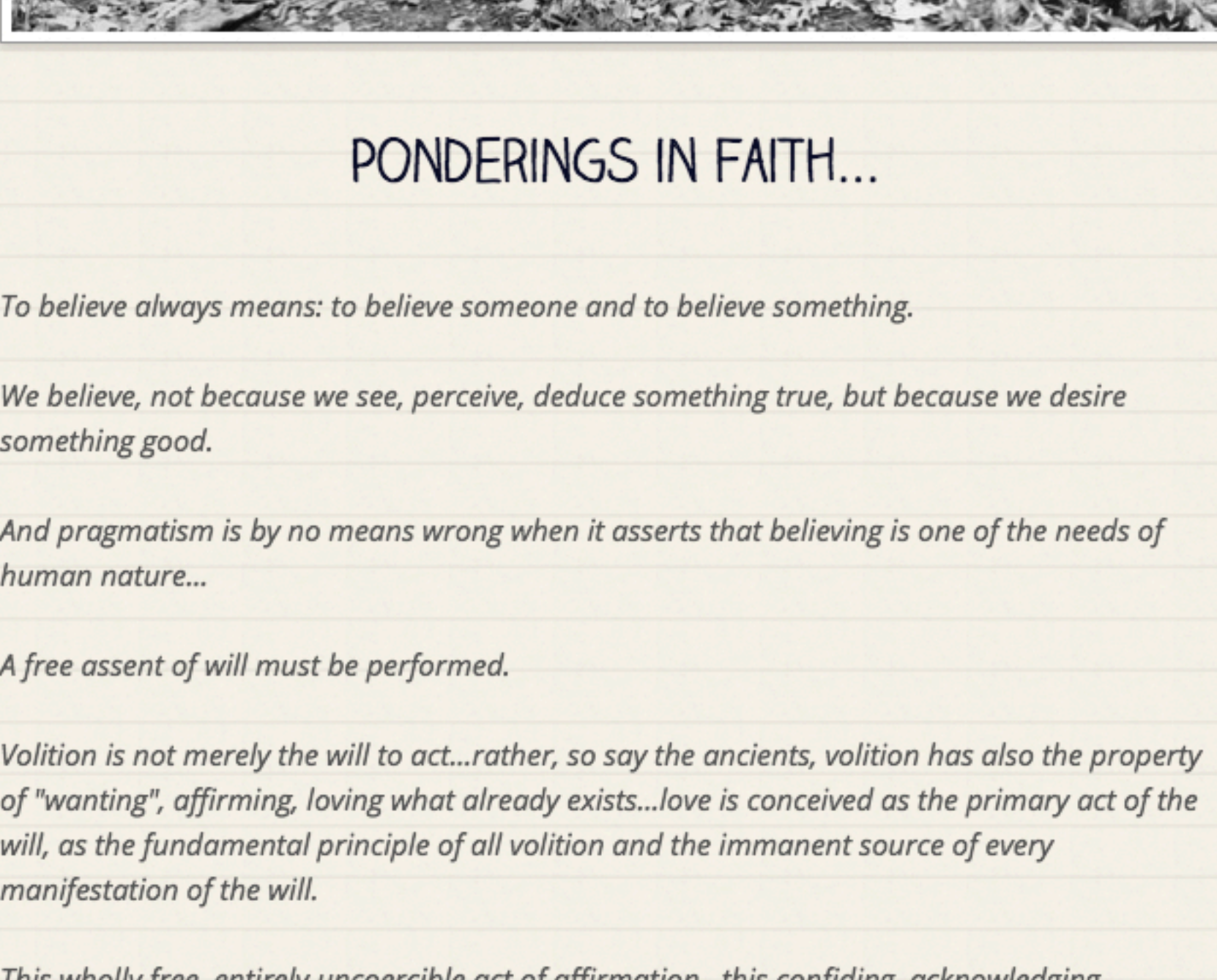
Attend (RSVP)

## LOOK-ABOUTS WITH WENDELL...

*The world's one song is passing in and out of deaths, as thrush notes move in the shadows, nearer and nearer, and then away, intent, in the hollows of the woods. It does not attend the dead, or what will die. It is light though it goes in the dark. It goes ahead, summoning. What hears follows...*

~ selection from a poem by Wendell Berry

See link below to a collection of his poems--a book to have and keep!



## PONDERINGS IN FAITH...

*To believe always means: to believe someone and to believe something.*

*We believe, not because we see, perceive, deduce something true, but because we desire something good.*

*And pragmatism is by no means wrong when it asserts that believing is one of the needs of human nature...*

*A free assent of will must be performed.*

*Volition is not merely the will to act...rather, so say the ancients, volition has also the property of "wanting", affirming, loving what already exists...love is conceived as the primary act of the will, as the fundamental principle of all volition and the immanent source of every manifestation of the will.*

*This wholly free, entirely uncoercible act of affirmation...this confiding, acknowledging, communion-seeking submission of the believer to the witness whom he believes--this, precisely, is the "element of volition" in belief itself.*

*This curious coexistence of certainty and uncertainty, which not only describes but actually constitutes the psychological situation of the believer, must be considered...*

*...the believer is troubled by a lingering "mental unrest"...searching investigation, probing consideration, conferring with oneself before deciding, being on the track of, a mental reaching out for something not yet finally found...these processes, taken together, may be assumed within the term "mental unrest."*

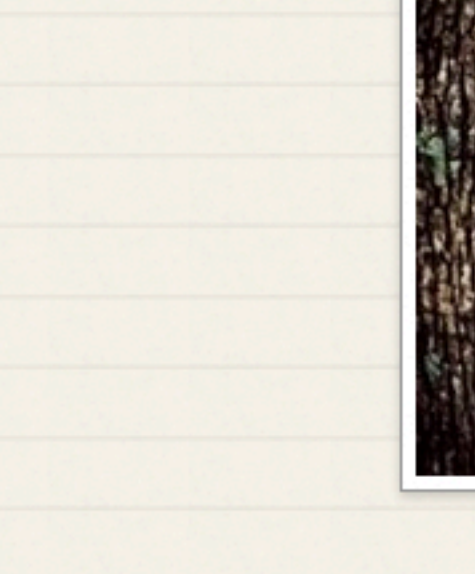
*"The cognition of belief does not quiet the craving but rather kindles it." (Aquinas)*

~ Josef Pieper, from *Faith*



*"If you want your children to be intelligent, read them fairy tales. If you want them to be very intelligent, read them more fairy tales."*

~ Albert Einstein



## SAMUEL & ERASMUS INSTITUTE

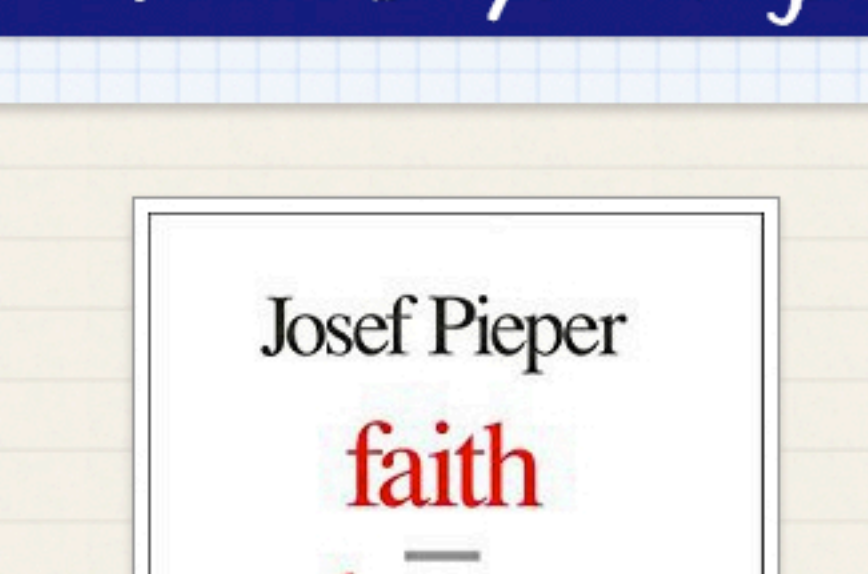
*Give light, and the darkness will disappear of itself. ~ Erasmus*

[jpresberg@samuelerasmus.org](mailto:jpresberg@samuelerasmus.org)

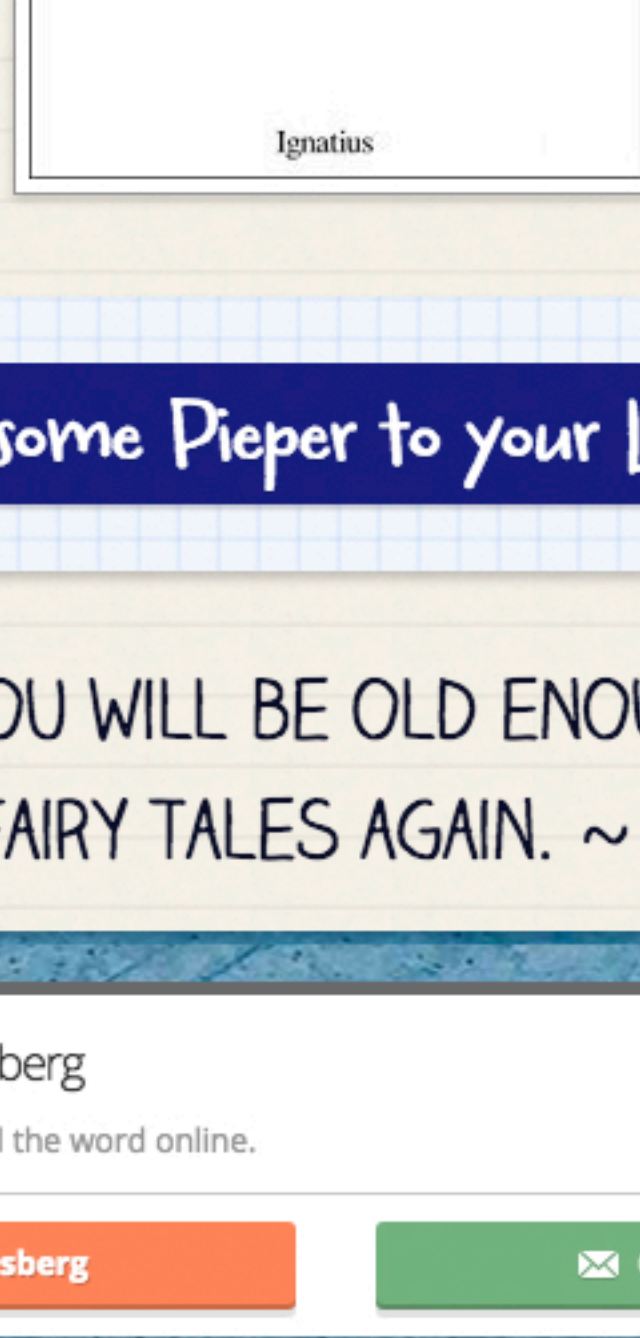
832.693.2889

[samuelerasmus.org](http://samuelerasmus.org)

SEI is a federal 501 (c) (3) tax exempt public charity. Donations are tax deductible.



## Wendell Berry's writings



## Add some Pieper to your Library

SOME DAY YOU WILL BE OLD ENOUGH TO START READING FAIRY TALES AGAIN. ~ C.S. LEWIS

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