



**Unitarian Universalist Church  
of the North Hills**

**INTERCOM**

**AUGUST 2017**

## **PASSIN' THROUGH**

Greetings, members and friends of UUCNH! I'm excited and grateful to be your partner in interim ministry. I'm convinced we have a good match (except for that Steelers thing...) and am looking forward to getting officially started August 1. I'll do a more proper introduction in the September Intercom, but want to do a little "housekeeping" ahead of that:

- I've been scheduling team/committee meetings for August and September, but won't have access to the minister's email account until 8/1;
- My initial office hours will be 9-1 T, W,Th and by appointment. Be sure to call or text ahead in case I have off-campus meetings;
- I'll be doing the "Getting to Know You" Q&A on July 30. Drop in if you can.

Meantime, if you'd like to know some more about interim ministry, follow this link to the "field manual" on this specialized work: [http://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/transitional\\_ministry.pdf](http://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/transitional_ministry.pdf)

Thanks and see you soon,

Don

## **UPCOMING SUNDAY SERVICES**

### **August 6, 2017**

#### **REFLECTIONS ON LIVING LIFE TO THE FULLEST...**

*Hannah Baldwin-May*

A lifelong member of our church community, Hannah Baldwin-May, is a 24 year old, former ICU nurse who suddenly became ill herself 18 months ago. Her illness has progressed and she is fed and hydrated via IV and often bedridden. She turned to writing as a coping mechanism, and throughout the past year and a half, she blogged about her experience with a chronic illness and eventually became a published writer. Hannah has overcome many obstacles and wants to share some of her views with you on the importance of living your life and following your dreams.

### **August 13, 2017**

#### **MENTAL ILLNESS AND OUR UU COMMUNITY**

**Christina Newhill**

Mental illness affects all ages, genders, races and ethnicities worldwide. One in 5 families in our country is affected by mental illness in a partner, a parent, a child, a friend or in themselves. Formal psychiatric care is critically important for many, but equally important for the journey to recovery is social support including that provided by faith communities, such as ours. This week's reflection will discuss how UU churches have a great potential for welcoming those affected by mental illness and connections will be drawn between our Principles and the challenges faced by individuals and families living with mental illness.

### **August 20, 2017**

#### **OF TRAPEZES AND IDEAS**

*Rev. Don Rollins*

In his first service as UUCNH's interim minister, Rev. Don Rollins will introduce us to some of the basics of transitional ministry. Turns out they're a lot like the changes in our own lives. Come join us as we begin this journey with Don.

August 27, 2017

**TOP TEN REASONS LIBERAL RELIGION STILL MATTERS**  
**Rev. Don Rollins**

As with all types of communities, it's important for religious liberals (UUs and beyond) to remember who they are and what they're about. Don will lead us as we take stock of our ministry, within, among and beyond.



**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

*Robyn's Ramblings*

After attending General Assembly and Summer Institute, I have a lot of unpacking to do. Not clothes, those are done, but of all the information I took in during that time. At General Assembly, I took several seminars on white supremacy and white privilege and learned a great deal about myself and the work that needs to be done, while also knowing full well that I am at the beginning of that journey with much more to learn. At Summer Institute, I took a week-long seminar on understanding UU theology. The themes of the services were about addressing and leaning into the elephant in the room. That thing that you would rather not see but is right there taking up so much space that it is uncomfortable to move around. The combination of these two experiences has given me a lot to think about.

First, what is my personal elephant in the room: what is that issue or concern in my personal life that I am avoiding leaning into? What is the elephant in the room at our church? What are we uncomfortable as a congregation to lean into? What is that issue that we can feel the tension around so we avoid? I am not sure what exactly the elephant is, but I know it is there. It is my hope through this interim process that we can identify the elephant and examine it and work to escort it out of the room through healthy conflict and consensus.

Secondly, I have been looking at our faith. How inclusive are we? The Reverend leading our seminar spent a week talking about UU history and where we are now. He believes that we have reached a time where we are trying to be somewhere between secularism and religious. He believed that we, as a faith, affirm the sacredness in all things and oppose the commodification of people. And finally, he believed that we are a faith of inclusive pluralism. We pull beliefs from many sources and embrace that rather than sticking to one path. Whether you agree with all of this or not, I have started to wonder where our church stands on each of these. Are we finding a balance between secularism and religion or do we lean heavier one way or another? In our actions and values do we see the sacred in all things and fight those that would commodify the world? Are we inclusive of multiple belief systems? Do we openly embrace those beliefs that lead us to love?

Finally, when we look at our focus areas as a church—those areas that came from our dreaming sessions: Growth, Social Justice and Connection—what do these really mean? If we're to achieve these goals, what would they look like? How would our church look? How would our congregation behave? What would be different than today?

These questions are going to be what the board will struggle with over the next church year. We would love to hear your input. What do you believe the elephant in our room represents? How do you see our UU faith evolving, and how are we as a congregation handling this? Finally, what would we look like if we achieved our dreams? Please find me or any board member at coffee hour and share your thoughts on anything above. We welcome your feedback. You elected us to speak for you, please share your thoughts with us.

~ Robyn

## LAY PASTORAL CARE TEAM

The Lay Pastoral Care Team members are available to provide support within an atmosphere of safety and compassion and are a visible reminder of UUCNH's care, concern and connections. You are encouraged to contact any Team member, at the addresses or numbers below, if they might be of help or comfort with your pastoral care needs or those of another in our UUCNH community:

Kathy Cypher: *alkate@consolidated.net*;  
724-625-7912 h;  
724-316-4694 c

Susan Powers: *susan-a-powers@comcast.net*;  
412-427-7300

Marsha Albright: *mkalbright@gmail.com*  
412-487-4565

Mark Swihart *mshwihart@spang.com*  
412-369-9321

Chris Hill *chill613@comcast.net*  
412-366-9553

Lynn Richards *brich@consolidated.net*  
724-776-4183 H



## COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

### A WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

We're so glad you came! We hope that you were greeted warmly and felt at home. If you have any questions on your next visit, please feel free to stop and chat with any of our ushers or greeters. If they don't know the answer, they will gladly try to find someone who does! If you would like to learn more about Unitarian Universalism in general or about our congregation in particular, we will have informational sessions every week, held after church in the sanctuary. These interactive sessions, called "Getting to Know UU," will last one hour and will cover a variety of topics on a rotating basis. Longtime members and first-time visitors alike are welcome, and for those contemplating membership, attendance is especially encouraged. Childcare is provided, and you will have time to grab a snack at coffee hour before each session begins. We hope to see you there!

### MEMORIAL GARDEN

In remembrance of his enjoyable visits to our church, a small portion of the ashes of Frank Warrington Heny were spread by his former wife, Jeannine (Jen) Fontaine, on July 6, 2017 under the tall evergreen tree in the Memorial Garden. Frank was born May 1, 1936 in Bulawayo (then Rhodesia) and passed away on May 16, 2016 in the U. K. His active life included studies for the ministry, farming, teaching, serving as editor for an international journal on theoretical linguistics, creative work as a photographer, and massage therapy training in his later years.

### UU CLUSTER NEWS

Check out our local Cluster Website at [www.uupittsburgh.org](http://www.uupittsburgh.org) to see what is happening with other UU's in our area, and for UU events that are open to all.

# GETTING TO KNOW UU!

*Weekly after-church sessions*

Did you ever wonder how we came to meet in a barn? Do you know if Unitarian Universalism has Christian roots? Is anyone in our congregation involved in the effort to end mass incarceration? What do UUs teach kids about the Bible, why do we light a chalice every Sunday, and what the heck do ukuleles have to do with anything?

Come find out! We hold interactive Getting to Know UU sessions in the West Room at noon each Sunday. One of eight topics will be presented each week, with the schedule repeating throughout the year. Visitors and longtime members alike are welcome to join in for one or all! Each session will last no more than one hour, and childcare will be provided.

The upcoming sessions of Getting to Know UU sessions are listed below. If you can't make a session that interests you this time, don't worry – we'll revisit each topic again in the fall. Keep an eye out for further updates!

**August 6: What is a Unitarian Universalist?  
Kathy Ke (UU History, Principles & Sources)**

Come join this week's Getting to Know UU session as we take a look at the history of Unitarian Universalism and consider the seven principles and sources of inspiration we value today. Visitors and longtime members alike are welcome! Feel free to pick up some snacks at coffee hour and then head back into the sanctuary; this interactive session begins at noon and will last one hour. Childcare will be provided.

**August 13: The Church in the Barn  
Cris Graham (Campus tour and UUCNH History)**

Come join this week's Getting to Know UU session as we take a tour of our wonderfully reimagined dairy barn and reflect on the history of our congregation. Visitors and longtime members alike are welcome! Feel free to pick up some snacks at coffee hour and then head back into the sanctuary; this interactive session begins at noon and will last one hour. Childcare will be provided.

**August 20: Together on Sundays  
Ivan Baumwell (Worship and the Liturgical Year)**

Come join this week's Getting to Know UU session as we focus on our Sunday morning services and explore the importance of this time together. Visitors and longtime members alike are welcome! Feel free to pick up some snacks at coffee hour and then head back into the sanctuary; this interactive session begins at noon and will last one hour. Childcare will be provided.

**August 27: Our Work in the World  
Carol Ballance (Social Action and Community Service)**

Come join this week's Getting to Know UU session and see how we're working to make the world a better place through social justice and community service. Visitors and longtime members alike are welcome! Feel free to pick up some snacks at coffee hour and then head back into the sanctuary; this interactive session begins at noon and will last one hour. Childcare will be provided.

## UU THINGS TO DO

### PLEASE SAVE THE DATE...

Sunday, October 15, 2017 @2:00 pm-3:30 pm

Celebrating openness and welcome as part of October Gay History Month

**“Welcoming, Affirming, Embracing... Together We Can!”**

A public interfaith witness of welcome and inclusion for LGBTQIA persons, their families, and allies by varied faith communities.



### THE HUNGER GARDEN

Once again, our small garden is a substantial contributor to the Farm Stand. Enjoy all the offerings, including any with minor blemishes – it’s indication that these were not grown in a soup of pesticides! Yellow wax beans are prolific, with green beans soon to follow and the occasional zucchini and yellow squash. Cucumbers will soon be a significant crop, followed by tomatoes, with just enough peppers to make a nice spaghetti sauce. In spite of the relatively wet spring/summer, the tomatoes haven’t been hit by blight yet, and the zucchinis have so far been spared core borers – the nemesis of all squash plants. Again, thanks to Sue Broughton for help with watering and harvesting this month.



## August 2017 LFD NEWS – SUMMER SUNDAYS 2017

### HORTON HEARS A UU FUN LESSONS WITH DR. SEUSS and MAKERSPACE



We are pleased to offer 9 Sundays of multi-age children’s Religious Education classes for Summer 2017.

There will be two classes: preK/K and elementary. The self-contained lessons are based on the stories of Dr. Seuss, using a curriculum developed by UU religious educators.

Please mark the following dates on your calendars: **August 6, August 13, August 20**

Nursery care is available all summer long.

## SUNDAY MORNING CHALICE LIGHTERS

Each Sunday morning one or two children light the chalice in the service. This is an important part of our time together as a multi-generational community. We invite you to be a part of this by signing up for a Sunday via the link here....and there is information about the Flaming Chalice as a symbol of our faith to make the act more meaningful.

Chalice Lighters Sign-Up: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090e4cafa82aa1fe3-sunday>

## ADULT FAITH DEVELOPMENT

- **Owning Your Religious Past**

UU Seminarian and church member John Ballance can offer another series of “Owning Your Religious Past” this summer if there are 8 – 10 interested participants. This 4 session program invites participants to explore their religious journey in a way that promotes greater self understanding and personal peace. What do you leave behind? What do you bring to the present? What do you redefine? Dates will be every other Wednesday evening beginning late August and August for 4 sessions. July 19, August 2, 16 and 30. 7 – 9pm.

- **Racial Justice in Unitarian Universalism, Then and Now**

Jennifer Halperin will offer a two session potluck supper and film night, showing Wilderness Journey: The Struggle for Black Empowerment and Racial Justice within the Unitarian Universalist Association, 1967-1970, Ron Cordes filmed these interviews of many Unitarian Universalist leaders who lived through those complex times and created this essential historical record. 76 min. August 10, 6:30 – 8:30pm.

The follow-up evening will focus on the current struggle for racial justice in Unitarian Universalism, including Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism (BLUU) and congregational resources. We invite those who attended General Assembly of the UUA in June to talk about how the struggle for Black Empowerment and racial justice is manifesting itself today. August 23, 6:30 - 8pm.

## YOUTH GROUP NUUs

Look for the Welcome sign created by our Youth Group! Thanks to Don Nelson, one of the advisors, for production and assembly!



## CALENDAR

### **August 6**

Summer classes for children age 3 to 11

### **August 13**

Summer classes for children age 3 to 11

### **August 20**

Summer classes for children age 3 to 11

### **August 27**

Summer classes for children age 5 to 11

### **September 3**

Summer classes for children age 5 to 11



## SYSTEMIC CHANGE TEAM

**Systemic Change Team meeting will be August 1, 6:30 - 9:000 p.m. at the church**

*All are welcome to attend*

Get ready for leadership! Ladies only! NTOSAKE, Sept. 14-16 in Kansas City MO. Gamaliel Foundation, the parent organization to PIIN (PA Interfaith Impact Network) is known for their training. The cost is \$375 for room and board. Questions? Contact Carol Ballance.

PIIN begins work on anti-mass incarceration. August 15, 7 p.m. at Sixth Presbyterian Church.(1688 Murray Ave.) We will carpool from UUCNH at 6 p.m. Contact Carol Ballance if you want to ride down.

Please consider becoming a member of UUPLAN (UU Pennsylvania Legislative Advocacy Network). This is oUUr organization! Imagine 6,000 UU voices and values in the public square. Take a look at their website, UUPLAN.com. Sign up for their e-news, it will keep you up-to- date on the happenings in Harrisburg.





## **THE CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL FUND COMMITTEE**

*UUCNH Committee of the Month August 2017*

The Children's Memorial Fund was established with a gift of \$5,000 from Dennis Gilbertson in memory of his wife Virginia and their children, Christine and Eric, who were killed in a plane crash during the summer of 1962. The Fund was established "for the relief of suffering and neglected children throughout the world". Grants are made only from the interest income of the Fund and only when no other source of funding can be found.

In the years since its establishment, the Fund has grown through contributions from church members and friends. Last year, contributions to the Fund totaled \$375. In 2015, former UUCNH member Jeannette Anderson bequeathed the largest single gift which totaled over \$20,000. This year, the value of the Fund exceeded \$78,000. Most of the Fund is on loan to UUCNH at the current annual interest rate of 1% less than the prime rate. During the past year the annual income was over \$1,500 which was added to a remaining balance from previous years of over \$14,000 available for grants.

In February, the Children's Memorial Fund Committee, with approval of the UUCNH Board of Trustees, agreed to fund a grant request of \$2,500 to be used as a startup fund for a new program in Homestead, PA affiliated with "Raising a Reader". This was a particularly exciting way for the Children's Memorial Fund to make a significant change in the lives of many children both today and in the future. "Raising a Reader" is a nationally renowned organization dedicated to "helping families build book sharing routines." The intent is to start with 20 to 25 young children (ages 2-8) offering the opportunity for the children and their parents to engage with each other in a positive and nurturing activity using books and book cuddling. Parent training will be combined with providing a weekly bag of books for each child. Children bring home a Red Book Bag each week of the year that is filled with award-winning books to practice the habit of sharing books. Each child will leave the program with a library card and the skills to access their public library to borrow books. This pilot program will support expansion of the program for future children in the Homestead area and potentially other underprivileged neighborhoods.

A sample of past grants includes the purchase of a new commuter to enhance the educational opportunities of three autistic siblings, the purchase of an air conditioner for a two year old girl with chronic lung disease, funding of behavioral health rehabilitation services for a recent graduate of the Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children who was transitioning to an adult training facility, a contribution to a family's first month rent and security deposit payment when they were forced to move after one child with existing severe respiratory health issues suffered ill effects brought on by the growth of mold in their previous home, the purchase of an accessible and adaptable swing seat for the home use of a boy with cerebral palsy who required assistance to utilize a regular swing, the purchase of a four month supply of medication for an eighteen month old epileptic girl with infantile spasms, a contribution to the funeral expenses for a five year old girl who had a complicated medical history including numerous heart surgeries, and payment of the overdue electric utility bill for the financially stressed family of a blind child.

If anyone knows of a case of a child in need where all known sources of financial assistance have been explored but came up empty, please refer the professional involved with the case or a family member to a member of the Committee. All cases will be considered and grants made based on our financial ability and the Fund's guidelines.

The Fund is always grateful for contributions from church members and friends. Through contributions, the Fund can continue to increase its ability to help children in need.

The members of the Children's Memorial Fund Committee are: Carla Baldwin, Greg Jarold – Chair, Kathy Mastantuono, Tony Palermo.



## NOW YOU CAN SUPPORT UUCNH THROUGH AmazonSmile

*You shop. Amazon gives. UUCNH benefits.*

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support UUCNH every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as on Amazon.com.

UUCNH has partnered with Bellwood Preschool to join AmazonSmile. The church and school will split the donations from AmazonSmile, which is 0.5% of all purchases made by everyone who has selected "Unitarian Universalist Church of the North Hills" as their designated charity.

Get started with these easy steps:

1. Use AND BOOKMARK the UUCNH Link to AmazonSmile: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7429191>
2. Sign in. Simply use your existing Amazon credentials, and then start shopping. It's that easy!
3. Please remember to shop our smile.amazon.com link every time. Purchases on the main Amazon.com site do not support UUCNH. To help remember, BOOKMARK OUR LINK.

Spread the word! Once you've checked out, Amazon makes it easy to spread the news with your friends and family by giving you an option to share on Facebook and Twitter. Please be sure to let everyone know you've supported UUCNH.

Questions? Contact the AmazonSmile Administrator at [uucnhoffice@uucnh.org](mailto:uucnhoffice@uucnh.org).



## TRY SOME FAIR TRADE ICED TEA!

UUCNH is offering Equal Exchange Fair Trade Tea in several varieties. Try some iced at your home or office—a box of 20 tea bags is only \$4 (3 for \$10). You'll be supporting UUCNH and giving small farmers a more livable, consistent wage.

The types (all Organic) we have right now are Chai, Rooibos (red tea from Africa), Chamomile and Darjeeling. There are many other varieties, so we'll try some others over time. If there's a specific tea you'd like, contact Chris Hill during Tea Time on Sunday!



## UPCOMING RECYCLING OPPORTUNITIES!

### ● Household Chemical Collection

The PA Resources Council (PRC) and other groups are sponsoring collection events in Washington and Allegheny Counties this summer. On **August 19th**, the collection will be at Boyce Park Four Seasons Ski Lodge parking lot. **September 16th** will have a collection at South Park Wave Pool parking lot. All events run from **9 AM to 1 PM**.

You can bring aerosol cans, batteries, most old liquids, like cleaning products, auto maintenance products, home environment and improvement supplies, hobby products, personal care & pharmaceuticals, and lawn & garden care products. The cost is \$3/gallon-CASH ONLY. See information on the Social Action bulletin board, check PRC's website, talk to Chris Hill at coffee hour, or email him at [chill613@comcast.net](mailto:chill613@comcast.net).

- **Hard to Recycle Collection**

The PA Resources Council (PRC) is also sponsoring collection events this year for tires, electronic waste (computers, TVs, etc.), cell phones, batteries, etc. They will take Fluorescent Tubes-a hard to safely get rid of item! There are fees for this collection, although most electronics are free. See the sheet on the social action bulletin board or go to PRC's Hard to Recycle page for a listing. The next collections will be on Saturday, **August 12th** at Century III Mall and Saturday, **October 7th** at Settlers Cabin Park from 9 AM to 1 PM at La Roche College. If you have any questions, contact Chris Hill at [chill613@comcast.net](mailto:chill613@comcast.net).



## **NHCO FOOD PANTRY DONATION CUPBOARD**

### For August: **Canned and Jarred Fruits/Applesauce**

Please don't forget to contribute to the Donation Cupboard for the North Hills Community Outreach (NHCO) Food Pantry located in Friendship Hall. The NHCO request for this month – **Canned and Jarred Fruits/Applesauce** -- to be brought to church.

Also consider bringing laundry detergent, toilet paper, toothpaste, shampoo, bar soaps or other toiletries as they are always needed. And thank you to all who have contributed recently!

**Plastic bags** are always needed by NHCO: If you bring your extras to the church, please drop them off at the NHCO Donation Station where they can be used to sort food at the food pantry.

## **NORTH HILLS COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

*For August 2017*

**Mission Vision** will provide free vision screenings and eyeglasses to underinsured and uninsured adults and children, and SSI recipients, August 15 in the North Hills Community Outreach Millvale office, August 15 from 9am-2pm. Appointments are needed! Please see the flier on the bulletin boards in Friendship Hall; please share with anyone who can use this service.

### **NHCO Millvale is hosting no-cost MOVE UP weight management program**

North Hills Community Outreach's Millvale office is hosting MOVE UP, a no-cost behavioral weight loss intervention program for older adults. Sessions will be held in NHCO's Millvale office, 416 Lincoln Avenue, 9:15 -10:15 a.m., Mondays beginning in August or September, contingent on number of enrollees. The program is offered by the University of Pittsburgh Center for Aging and Population Health Prevention Research Center and includes healthy eating, physical activity and behavior modification techniques.

Interested, qualified adults are invited to enroll. Requirements include: adults aged 60 to 75 who are interested in weight management or weight loss in a community setting; meet a certain BMI; medical clearance; no active cancer treatment; no hospitalization within the past 6 months; no active participation in another weight loss program.

The study is limited to 15 participants and there is no cost. To enroll or learn more, please contact Project Director Lori Kieffer at [lak103@pitt.edu](mailto:lak103@pitt.edu) or 412-383-1306.

## **Fresh produce from gardens accepted at NHCO's pantries**

North Hills Community Outreach has always welcomed fresh produce donations for our clients. To make it easier for local gardeners to donate produce, NHCO has joined AmpleHarvest.org, a nationwide program working to end fresh food waste and hunger. Ampleharvest.org enables local backyard/community gardeners to easily locate neighborhood food pantries to share their excess garden bounty with neighbors in need. Please visit Ampleharvest.org for more information and to locate NHCO's three pantries.

## **Employment help is available at NHCO**

North Hills Community Outreach offers multiple programs aimed at helping people attain self-sufficiency, including employment help. Those seeking help with career counseling, updating a resume, job search techniques and more can contact NHCO Resource Coordinator Jackie Boggs at [jmboggs@nhco.org](mailto:jmboggs@nhco.org) or 412-408-3830 x 3217.



## **Meditation with Friends**

There will be no formally scheduled meetings this summer. However, we hope to meet occasionally, particularly to enjoy the opportunity for walking meditation on our beautiful grounds when the weather is favorable! We practice silent meditation, guided meditation, and either walking meditation or another form of movement meditation.

Any summer meetings will be announced with at least a day's notice via the meditation email list. To add your name to the list, please contact Sue Luebbert at [luebbert.unicorn@gmail.com](mailto:luebbert.unicorn@gmail.com). Meetings will be from 7:00 to 8:30 in the sanctuary. Generally I will look for Tuesday or Wednesday nights as possibilities this summer.

We welcome anyone interested in mindful meditation, whether you have little or no experience in meditation, or you have practiced for years. Questions or comments, please contact Sue Luebbert at [luebbert.unicorn@gmail.com](mailto:luebbert.unicorn@gmail.com), or (412) 366-9553.



## **ADULT FAITH DEVELOPMENT**

### **PSI [Philosophical, Spiritual Insights]**

**Facilitator:** Tony Palermo  
**Contact:** [tpalermo@consolidated.net](mailto:tpalermo@consolidated.net)  
**When:** On Hiatus until September

### **JESUS DISCUSSION GROUP**

**Facilitator:** Tony Palermo  
**Contact:** [tpalermo@consolidated.net](mailto:tpalermo@consolidated.net)  
**When:** On Hiatus until September

## SISTERS-IN-SPIRIT

**Facilitators:** Rachael Smart  
Michelle Broge-Connor  
**Contacts:** [thesmartfamily3@yahoo.com](mailto:thesmartfamily3@yahoo.com)  
[brogemm@gmail.com](mailto:brogemm@gmail.com)  
**When:** August 9, 2017 @ 6:30pm  
**Where:** East Room

Sisters in Spirit is an ongoing self-guided women's group (all women are welcome regardless of sex assigned at birth). We meet once a month on the second Wednesday of the month. The group is focused on spiritual, intellectual, and emotional growth as well as creating ties with other women. Group members take turns leading the monthly sessions, resulting in a wide variety of topics and styles of presentation. The group welcomes new members twice a year, in January and July. To learn more about the group, contact either Rachael Smart at [thesmartfamily3@yahoo.com](mailto:thesmartfamily3@yahoo.com) or Michelle Broge-Connor at [brogemm@gmail.com](mailto:brogemm@gmail.com).

## UU CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVES

**Co-Facilitators:** Joe Meier  
Edie Swihart  
**Contact:** [meierke@msn.com](mailto:meierke@msn.com)  
**When:** August 13, 2017 @ 9:15am  
**Where:** Truth & Meaning (Youth) Room

Do you self-identify as Christian, but struggle with issues of doctrine? Or have you parted ways with the label, but still hold some aspects of the tradition dear? Come and share with us as we explore our feelings about the Christian faith and its role in shaping our spiritual lives. Longtime members and first-time UU visitors alike are welcome to drop in and join this ongoing, positive discussion!

Held the second Sunday of every month at 9:15am in the Truth & Meaning (Youth) Room. Co-Led by Joe Meier and Edie Swihart.

## HUMANIST DISCUSSION GROUP

**Facilitator:** Dick Myers  
**Contact:** [dmyers.rlm@gmail.com](mailto:dmyers.rlm@gmail.com)  
**When:** On Hiatus for August  
**Where:**

Following its first full year of meetings, the HDG will take a break and not meet in August. This will give us a chance to get ready for our September discussion, when Diane Sims will facilitate a discussion based on Steven Pinker's book **The Better Angels of our Nature**, which describes how – and why – the overall trajectory of global violence has actually declined over the millennia. For those interested, the book is available in the library network. More on this in the next Intercom, where some interesting links, references and references will be provided.

If you are not on the email distribution list that gets additional information about upcoming meetings, please contact [dmyers.rlm@gmail.com](mailto:dmyers.rlm@gmail.com).

## SUMMER 2017 COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

*"I was bold in the pursuit of knowledge, never fearing to follow truth and reason to whatever results they led, and bearding every authority which stood in their way." ~ Thomas Jefferson*

### THE UKE GROUP

**Facilitator:** Sandy Faulkner  
**Contact:** [sfaulk50@aol.com](mailto:sfaulk50@aol.com) or  
412-366-5973  
**When:** August 7 & 21, 2017 @ 7:00p.m.  
**Where:** East Room

We meet the first and third Monday of the month. Beginners are very welcome. Come have fun. For more information, call Sandy Faulkner at 412-366-5973 or contact her by email: [sfaulk50@aol.com](mailto:sfaulk50@aol.com).

### THE CRAFT GROUP

**Facilitator:** Irene Dinning  
**Contact:** 412-741-6463,  
[dinning1@comcast.net](mailto:dinning1@comcast.net)  
**When:** Every Thursday, 10:00am  
**Where:** East Room

We are a long-time UUCNH group that welcomes other crafters: those who want to learn needlework, perfect a craft, or just want to come and visit with interesting people. Come when you can or every week, but try us out!

### UUCNH BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

**Facilitator:** Manuel Lombardero  
**Contact:** [manel\\_sl@yahoo.com](mailto:manel_sl@yahoo.com)  
**When:** August 11, 2017  
**Where:** UUCNH, East Room  
**Book Moderator:** Dick Myers, Manuel Lombardero  
**Title:** **Strangers in Their Own Land: Anger And Mourning on The American Right**  
**Author:** Arlie Russell Hochschild

**Review:**

*Hochschild undertakes a careful exploration of the culture where the current political right in the US thrives the most: The South. Specifically, she spent 5 years living in southern Louisiana and becoming acquainted with the lives of everyday people there. She seeks to understand their perspective of life and current events, and works hard to climb what she calls the 'empathy wall', i.e., refraining from any impulses to lecture anybody and instead focusing on trying to see reality from eyes and hearts of those she meets. Throughout, she keeps returning to what she calls the Great Paradox, essentially a contradiction between the anti-government, anti-regulation fervor that is so dominant in right-wing political culture, and the devastating pollution that has wrecked the health of both humans (second highest cancer rates in the country) and natural habitat. To resolve this paradox she is constantly probing her subjects, but above all she is interested in listening to their stories, and from these many conversations she comes up with a 'Deep Story' that serves as a coherent description of their worldview. A strength of 'Strangers' is its currency: Hochschild finished her journey in*

2016, and includes a trip to a Trump rally just prior to the Louisiana primary. Many of her stories involve attendance at Tea Party rallies and conversations with Tea Party activists. And while she sets out to provide a static description of southern political culture, she spent enough time there to be able to see glimpses of transformation and shifting attitudes. Regardless of how well or poorly the book accomplishes its own aims, it should provide good material for discussion. (Manuel Lombardero)

### **Future Titles:**

September 8, 2017: **Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death, and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity** by Katherine Boo; 2012

October 13, 2017: **Signs Preceding the End of the World** by Yuri Herrera; Translator: Lisa Dillman; 2015

November 10, 2017: **Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis** by J. D. Vance; 2016.

## **UUCNH FAMILIES GROUP**

**Facilitator:** Carla Bickel  
**Contact:** [c.marie11@yahoo.com](mailto:c.marie11@yahoo.com)  
**When:** October  
**Where:** UUCNH

## **BREAK FORTH ENSEMBLE GROUP**

**Facilitator:** David Miles  
**Contact:** [miles@ohiou.edu](mailto:miles@ohiou.edu)  
**When:** August 13 & 20 @9:00 am.  
**Where:** Worth & Dignity Room

We play music various sources. The present group includes folks who have been playing a year to those who haven't played for 30 years. For more information, please see David Miles or send a note to [miles@ohiou.edu](mailto:miles@ohiou.edu).



**Mark your calendars for the upcoming event listed below:**

**October 1: *Fall Carnival at UUCNH***

## A GIANT EAGLE GIFT CARD: YOUR PORTAL TO SHOPPING AT MANY PLACES

Did you know that Giant Eagle gift cards can be used to buy gas at GetGo stations or to purchase gift cards to a wide variety of stores and restaurants? But, more importantly, did you know that buying gift cards at UUCNH benefits our church AT NO EXTRA COST TO YOU? In other words, you pay \$25 and you get a \$25 gift card, and UUCNH gets 5%!

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UUCNH uses the income from the sale of gift cards to help fund our budget. We also sell gift cards for Kuhn's and Whole Foods. Look for us after the service each Sunday on the bench by the office window.

*Gift cards: They're not just for groceries anymore!*



*From the editor:*

### INTERCOM SUBMISSIONS in September

The article submission **Deadline** for the **September Intercom** will be on **August 21**.

So please get your articles into me by **August 21** to be included in the **September** Intercom issue. If you need an extension on the deadline, please call or email me and we'll work something out. Otherwise, if your material isn't in by the deadline, it will NOT be included.

If you email your submissions (preferred), please do it **IN PLAIN TEXT ONLY**; please, **do not format** the article in any way. If you have a formatting request, please contact me or include it with your submission. Please send your Intercom submissions to **Rowan@OctoberMorning.com**