



UNITARIAN  
UNIVERSALIST  
CHURCH OF  
THE NORTH HILLS

INTERCOM

MAY 2017



THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
CHURCH OF THE NORTH HILLS

MAY 2017

2350 W. INGOMAR ROAD  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15237  
412-366-0244

OFFICE EMAIL:  
OFFICE@UUCNH.ORG  
WEBSITE: UUCNH.ORG

BOARD PRESIDENT:  
IVAN BAUMWELL  
PRESIDENT@UUCNH.ORG

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

REV. SCOTT RUDOLPH, MINISTER  
TUESDAY 12-4  
WEDNESDAY 9-1  
THURSDAY 9 -1  
AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT  
EMAIL: MINISTER@UUCNH.ORG

LYNNE FERRARI  
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR,  
ONLINE INTERCOM  
M-F - 9-3  
OFFICE@UUCNH.ORG

DAWN FITZGERALD-SWIDAL  
INTERCOM EDITOR  
ROWAN@OCTOBERMORNING.COM  
(ALL INTERCOM SUBMISSIONS  
GO TO DAWN)

SUNDAY SERVICES START  
AT 10:30 A.M.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES  
RUN CONCURRENTLY  
WITH THE SERVICE.  
NURSERY CARE IS PROVIDED.

COFFEE HOUR WITH COFFEE AND  
CONVERSATION FOR ADULTS  
& CHILDREN IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWS.



THOUGHTS SCOTT  
BEGOT

*On April 23, 2017 at the Unitarian  
Universalist Church of the North  
Hills:*

- *People were greeted with warmth as they walked through the front door.*
- *Folks met before church at a Green Sanctuary meeting to figure out how our church can better live out our values of respect and care for the Earth.*
- *People met after church for a small group Covenant Circle meeting to listen deeply and share deeply with one another.*
- *There were handshakes and hugs.*
- *I heard laughter and saw tears (of joy and sorrow).*
- *People shared in this community their grief around death in the family.*
- *There were babies! There were elders. And there were a lot of people in between.*
- *Some people were of like-mind. Some people disagree. All is well.*
- *Before church, the brass group was practicing and filled the church with a jubilant sound drifting through the hallways.*
- *People who have had difficulties with their health brought the news of their recovery to us to share in the joy.*
- *We sang together. (Where else do most of us get to sing with other people?)*
- *Someone came to their first Unitarian Universalist service ever and was deeply moved by what they experienced.*
- *Others came back after being away for a little while.*
- *A couple came yet again, after having come for the last 56 years.*
- *People cared for one another.*
- *An atheist sat next to a theist during church.*
- *Coffee was brewed and food provided by two smiling, willing volunteers. (Have you done coffee hour yet this year?)*

*Thought Scott Begot (con'td)*

- *Children played and learned. They wondered and made art. They had an experience of being in a loving environment.*
- *People reached out to help other people moved by compassion found in their own heart.*
- *We heard preludes op.28 no. 1 Agitato & no. 4 Largo by Frédéric Chopin; op. 101 no. 7 in G-flat, Pocolento e grazioso by Antonin Dvorák; and "Malgré Tout" Tango in F-sharp minor (Despite All) by Manuel Ponce.*
- *People were grateful for how this church has been there for them.*
- *A small group walked the Memorial Garden considering a future service.*
- *Long held traditions were kept. New ideas took hold.*
- *People shared their financial resources to support all that we are and create together.*
- *People came to the community that helps them shape their ethical and moral life.*
- *We convened for a congregational meeting to make decisions together for the future of the congregation.*
- *People continued to lift up hope and to walk together to that distant place that hope calls us toward.*

*I witnessed and experienced such kindness.*

*And here is the thing... this Sunday morning was not particularly out of the ordinary. This is the sort of stuff that happens at church EVERY week, month after month, year after year. People choose to gather in our religious community on Sundays and this is the environment that this congregation creates. It is a blessing to be a part of.*

*With love,*

*Scott*

## STEWARDSHIP TEAM

This year's Stewardship pledge drive continues over the spring and summer as members and friends continue to submit their pledges of support for UUCNH's 2017-2018 church year.

We will again fund health care for our employees and for those who come to us through our search process for an Interim Minister and a director of Life Span Faith Development.

How much more from the list of hopes and dreams we can fund will depend on this last month or two of collection. Our committees and teams will be funded. We could use so much more for our buildings and grounds, for our really great physical plant.

If you have submitted this year's pledge and paid last year's pledge, thank you so much. If you still owe something through the end of June, please fulfill your current pledge and then submit as much as you can for our new year.

We look to renewal, to fresh hopes and dreams and to the wonderful people we have yet to meet. Let's join together for this new journey and for a fresh year of discovery.

Thank You.

Lou Bartolomucci, Chair  
Stewardship Team



# UPCOMING SUNDAY SERVICES

## MAY'S THEME IS BELOVED COMMUNITY

**May 7, 2017**  
**CELEBRATING SMALL**  
**Stephanie Gannon**

It is good to gather together as one religious community on Sunday mornings with everyone together. A different thing happens when we come together in smaller groups.

**May 14, 2017**  
**BELOVED COMMUNITY**  
**Rev. Scott Rudolph**

In a Beloved Community, there is enough for everyone. Beloved Community is a vision of what could be in our world. Our moral decency would not allow for things like hunger, poverty, or racism. To create such a world, we must be loving and allow others to love freely.

**May 21, 2017**  
**UH-HUH, NUH-UH, AH-HA, AND HUH...**  
**Rev. Scott Rudolph**

A world of ideas swirl around us all the time. We process these ideas and react to them. Some ideas are rebuffed. Others are incorporated. As Unitarian Universalists, we gather among many different personal theologies. In our church, we are all learners. In our church, we are all teachers.

**May 28, 2017**  
**CONFRONTING RACISM**  
**Andrew Frantz**

It's hard to talk about race in America, but it's important that we do so. Guest speaker Andrew Frantz will explore the topic through his own experience (as a White person), through the writing of Ta-Nahisi Coates, and through the recent hiring controversy at the Unitarian Universalist Association. Through the courage to confront and discuss racism we can begin to dismantle it.

Andrew Frantz serves the UU Fellowship of Wayne County (in Wooster, Ohio) as ministerial intern while enrolled at Meadville Lombard Theological Seminary.



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It was sad news when Scott informed us of his leaving UUCNH. We wish him and his family the best as he furthers his career and professional development in the different environment provided in Bend, Oregon. I think most of will agree that Scott's ministry was outstanding for our congregation in many ways. Week after week for six years he inspired us individually and as a congregation to better live out our UU principals.

From the vantage of long-term membership, I and our other long-term members can reassure you that our congregation has never been stronger or healthier. We have weathered ministerial change several times as our church has evolved and many times from a much weaker position. With the help of Scott's leadership, we are poised for more growth and more prominence as a UU, liberal religious voice in our region.

On April 23rd, a Special Congregational Meeting was held to allow the congregation to decide how to fill the pulpit until we hire a new Settled Minister. On the recommendations of Scott, the Board, and the UUA Handbook on Transitional Ministry, the congregation voted to hire an Interim Minister for a two-year interlude before calling a Settled Minister. Of course, the announcement of Scott's relocation and its consequences were not the only newsworthy items this past month.

Stewardship, led by Lou Bartolomucci, announced the results of this year's canvass. It was arguably the most successful annual pledge drive in our church's history. We certainly set a record for the most money pledged. Also, I don't know that we have ever come so close in pledges to what was asked for in the budget. All of this means not only the ability to keep the lights on and to pay our staff, health insurance included, but also the ability to fund our dreams. It reflects the health and strength of our church and the commitment and optimism of our members and friends.

Now more than ever, it is important for us to remain engaged and to continue the generous donations of our time, effort, talent, and financial support to UUCNH. I feel that the best way we can honor Scott and all he has done for us is to not drop the ball and lose the momentum we have in becoming a stronger, more caring, more connected, and more just religious community. The better we live up to Scott's legacy, the more success we will have in attracting a qualified Interim Minister and ultimately another outstanding Settled Minister who will lead us in the next chapter of our evolution. This is my beloved community, our beloved community, and I look forward to staying engaged, as I hope you do too, as we move ahead.

Ivan Baumwell—President, UUCNH Board of Trustees

## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TEAM (LDT) NOMINATIONS

LDT is chartered by the Bylaws with nominating Board members and LDT members for election by the Congregation at the annual meeting. We are pleased to announce our slate of candidates for Board of Trustees (reflecting the changed size for the Board) and for an LDT Voting Member:

- For Board of Trustees – 3-year terms: Susie Wood (President's Track), Don Nelson
- For LDT Voting Member: • Sandy Faulkner (full 3-year term; currently completing one-year interim appointment to unexpired term of former member of LDT)

2016-17 LDT – Joe Meier, Ed Rockman, Stacy Conlin, Chuck Berry, and Sandy Faulkner

# GATHER THE SPIRIT WEDNESDAY EVENING

May 3rd  
Potluck  
6:00 p.m.

Evening Worship  
7:00 p.m.



Every 1st Wednesday of the month in this worship service, we will create a space for "that transcending mystery and wonder which moves us to a renewal of the spirit."

The services will be following a different format than our more traditional Sunday morning service.

There will be music, reflection, sharing, silence, and ritual. Children are welcome at the service. Childcare will be provided in the nursery for toddlers and younger ones.

Come join us as we gather the spirit!

## 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:

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

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

**Tom Brown**  
mrteb@comcast.net  
412-915-9156

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

**Kathy Cypher**  
alkate@consolidated.net  
724-316-4694 c

# UUCNH RUMMAGE SALE



*graphic by lynne ferrari*

## RUMMAGE SALE HOURS!

May 19th: 8am to 2 pm

May 20th 8 am to 12 pm

## CHURCH MEMBERS PREVIEW:

May 18th 6-9 pm

## DONATION DROP-OFF TIMES:

May 14th after church

May 15th: 9am to 9pm

May 16th: 9am to 9pm

May 17th: 9am to 9pm

May 18th: 9am to 3pm

If no one from the rummage sale team is present, please place your times in the Sanctuary.

## We need volunteers!

You can sign up here:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090E4DA-FAE2AA0FE3-2017>

Or you can use the sign-up sheet located in friendship hall at church.

We need paper and plastic bags for checkout during the rummage sale, please bring them when you drop off items for the sale!

# GOVERNANCE TASK FORCE (GTF) UPDATE

As a result of our upcoming ministerial changes, including the search for an interim minister, the GTF took time to consider how to proceed. After consultation with Reverend Scott and discussion with others, we have concluded that we should proceed as originally planned. We have been told that having our proposed new structure in place and operating will be a plus in the transition both to an Interim Minister and, later, to a new settled minister. A major recommendation we have made is to revisit the new structure periodically after implementation. Doing that will allow for input from both the Interim and a new settled minister as they work with the new structure.

With minor tweaks in the schedule, GTF is proceeding to implementation during the upcoming Church year, beginning this summer. We presented our proposals to the Board at its April meeting. The Board has agreed to propose the following motion at the Annual Meeting after services on May 21, 2017:

- Moved that we approve the implementation of the organization structure as defined by the organization chart proposed by the Governance Task Force dated: 4/18/2017

Second, we are working to ensure that we have fully and adequately informed the Congregation about the proposals. We held one informational session earlier and expect to have held a second session by the time this is published. Our current recommendations have been greatly informed by the feedback we have received from the Congregation.

We have created a GTF page at UUCNH.ORG under the Members tab (<http://uucnh.org/governance-task-force-drafts/>) where we place draft documents for the Congregation's information. These are updated regularly as we refine the documents.

As of this writing, there are four .pdf documents available:

- Draft Charge, Authority and Responsibilities (CAR) documents for the Ministry Council and for the Covenantal Relations Committee.
- The outline used for our April informational presentation to the Congregation
- Draft Proposed Organization Chart

Check them out!

As always, we welcome your questions, comments and suggestions for change. Please approach any one of us. We'd love to interact with you.

GTF – Joyce Kepner, Sue Broughton, Bob Delaney, Ed Rockman and Scott Rudolph, ministerial consultant



# ADULT FAITH DEVELOPMENT & JUSTICE WEDNESDAYS FOURTH WEDNESDAY OF THE EACH MONTH

## ADULT FAITH DEVELOPMENT SERIES

Potluck Supper: 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
Workshop: 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Please join us!

May 24, 2017: ReClaiming Prophetic Witness: Liberal Religion in the Public Square. By Paul Rasor. Book discussion and talk.

## STRONGER TOGETHER PITTSBURGH PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE AT UUCNH!



Saturday, June 3, 2017 – 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

This day will be an opportunity to look at some of the different forms that partnership can take and examine some of the examples of other UU congregations already involved in collaboration. We are entering a time of tremendous transition and opportunity for our Greater Pittsburgh congregations.

We'll consider possible areas of collaboration and determine possible partnership formats. Then work together on areas of agreement to create action plans for implementing the different forms of desired partnership. Congregations are asked to send leadership teams consisting of board leaders, ministers, RE staff, etc. Led by Rev. Joan Van Becelaere.

Cost is \$20 per person and includes lunch and snacks. Childcare available. The registration deadline is May 26. Scholarships available – contact Rev. Scott Rudolph at [minister@uucnh.org](mailto:minister@uucnh.org).

More info and registration:  
[uua.org/central-east/events/region/stronger-](http://uua.org/central-east/events/region/stronger-)

## MAY 2017 LFD CALENDAR

### May 7

- Regular classes
- Children and Youth Faith Development Team - 9 – 10:15am
- Faith Forward – UUCNH Lifespan Faith Development orientation 12 – 1pm in the S Sanctuary following the service. This is the first of 8 consecutive sessions for folks to get to know various facets of the church.
- OWL 7/8 6 – 9pm. Last class and graduation ceremony.

### May 13

- UU Parenting Conversations – 4:00 – 5:30pm. Snack from 4 – 4:15pm. Facilitated breakout groups for adults and children From 4:15 – 5:15pm. Topic: Talking with Children about Death. See description below.

### May 14

- Regular classes
- Faith Forward – Q&A with the Minister. 12 – 1pm. Sanctuary.

### May 21

- Regular am classes – Last day of Children's classes. Summer classes for children age 5 to 11 begin June 25. Nursery care available for children 4 and younger.
- UUCNH Annual Meeting 12 – 1:30pm. Please plan on staying for the congregational meeting! Childcare provided.

### May 28

- Faith Forward – UU History, Principles; Sources. Kathy Ke. 12 – 1pm. Sanctuary.

## 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 below, 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/4090e4ca-fa82aa1fe3-sunday>



## UUCNH YOUNG FAMILIES GROUP

**SAVE THE DATE!** The next event for families with younger children is on Saturday, June 17, 2017. Picnic at North Park! Henderson Pavilion (near the swimming pool). 11:30am.

## ADULT FAITH DEVELOPMENT

### UU PARENTING CONVERSATIONS



We continue our parenting conversations with the topic of “talking with children about death.’ We understand parents are the primary religious educators of their children. In this conversation we will talk about how to help children, even young children, cope with death. We will share from our own experiences and with resources from the Unitarian Universalist Association faith development curricula.

UU Parenting Conversations will take place on the second Saturday of the month, May 13th from 4 - 5:30pm. Children and Youth are encouraged to come! There will be snack time followed by facilitated breakout groups for adults, youth and children. Next date is June 10. Topics will be Money and Talking with Children about Death.



# CONNECTIONS TEAM

## NEW MEMBER SUNDAY COMING UP!

Sunday, May 21st

Recognize and celebrate the newest members of our congregation as they sign our UUCNH book!

If you have attended a session of Exploring a Path to Membership and are interested in joining our church, please contact Amy Skukalek ([amyskukalek@icloud.com](mailto:amyskukalek@icloud.com)) by May 7th so that we can include you in this special celebration. There will be cake!

## 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 try to find someone who does!

If you would like to learn more about Unitarian Universalism in general or about our congregation in particular, beginning in May we will have informational sessions every week, held after church in the sanctuary. These interactive sessions, called "Faith Forward," 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!



# CONNECTIONS TEAM

## FAITH FORWARD!

Weekly after-church sessions begin May 7th

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! This May we will begin holding interactive Faith Forward sessions in the sanctuary 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.

Our first round of Faith Forward sessions is 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!

May 7	Learning for a Lifetime
May 14	Q&A with the Minister
May 21	NO SESSION
May 28	What is a Unitarian Universalist?
June 4	NO SESSION
June 11	The Church in the Barn
June 18	NO SESSION (Scott's last Sunday)
June 25	Together on Sundays
July 2	Our Work in the World



# SYSTEMIC CHANGE TEAM



May 1 – Casa San Jose – a new member of PIIN – will be leading a march in support of immigrants' rights, against deportations, and the institutional racism that divides our communities.

The march starts at 3 p.m. from the corner of South Water St. and Hot Metal St. in the Southside Works, and will be followed by food, music, and fellowship at the Pittsburgh Federation of Teachers hall where the march ends. Families and children are invited to participate.

A carpool will leave the UUCNH parking lot at 1:30 p.m. If you have questions, contact Carol Ballance at [cstbwexford@gmail.com](mailto:cstbwexford@gmail.com).



May 3 – Deadline for PIIN (PA Interfaith Impact Network) Banquet. Dinners are \$55.00 per person.

The Banquet is on May 7 at 5 p.m. You may register online at <http://piin.org> . See you there!

May 18 – NORTH (Neighboring Organizations Responding Together with Hope) will have their next dinner. Come meet your religious neighbors as we act together in response to the climate of hate. We have Muslims, Jews, Methodists, Episcopalians, UU's all talking together. Good food too!

Please join us at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 1965 Ferguson Rd, Allison Park, PA 15101 from 6 – 8 p.m.

## GREEN SANCTUARY



## UPCOMING RECYCLING OPPORTUNITIES!



### NOW OPEN - THE 2017 GREEN SANCTUARY CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY AT UUCNH!

The Green Sanctuary team is excited to announce the opening of the 2017 Congregational Survey. This survey is an important part of Step 2 of the Green Sanctuary journey. The 20-question survey will allow members and friends to let the Green Sanctuary team know what practices related to fighting climate change and environmental justice are common in our beloved community. We plan to use this congregational survey again in the future to gauge our congregational evolution related to climate change and environmental justice.

We are currently planning and conducting site, committee and environmental assessments. All of the completed assessments will be used by the Green Sanctuary team and congregation to create our Green Sanctuary projects – aimed at expanding our influence and impact on climate change and environmental justice.

Please go to:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3W76GTZ>  
to complete the 2017 Congregational Survey. The survey should be open until May 20, 2017. Findings are expected to be shared in the summer along with findings of the other assessments. We need all of our members and friends' participation to have the most accurate snapshot of our current congregational practices. Please contact Mike Vasseur ([mvasseur83@gmail.com](mailto:mvasseur83@gmail.com)) if you have problems with the survey.

Thank you in advance for helping make UUCNH a Green Sanctuary!

### Household Chemical Collection

The PA Resources Council (PRC) and other groups are sponsoring three collection events in Allegheny County this summer. The first one will be at North Park swimming pool parking lot on Saturday, May 6th, 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 the information on the Social Action bulletin board, PRC's website, or talk to Chris Hill at coffee hour.

### Hard to Recycle Collections

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 first collection will be on Saturday, May 13th from 9 AM to 1 PM at Galleria at Pittsburgh Mills. If you have any questions, contact Chris Hill at 412.366.9553 or [chill613@comcast.net](mailto:chill613@comcast.net).

# ADULT FAITH DEVELOPMENT

## UU CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVES

Co-Facilitators: Joe Meier, Edie Swihart  
Contact: meierke@msn.com  
When: May 14 @ 9:15am  
Where: 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  
When: May 28 @ Noon  
Fourth Sunday of month  
Where: East Room

In recognition of Earth Day and potential assaults on the environment, the Humanist Group meeting on May 28 will discuss what the priority of environmental protection and enhancement should be in the long list of important issues that will need to be addressed over the next four years. This topic was originally scheduled for the April 23 meeting, and has been rescheduled due to the conflicting congregational meeting that day.

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)

## PSI GROUP

Facilitator: Tony Palermo  
Contact: [tpalermo@consolidated.net](mailto:tpalermo@consolidated.net)  
When: May 7 at noon

Morality is often spoken of as an Imposition from above, much like Creationism suggests our bodies were formed. Primatologist Franz De Waal begs to differ pointing instead to the morality exhibited by our simian cousins and, very possibly, our common ancestors.

The discussion begins in May. See Tony Palermo for details.

## BARNRAISERS



Facilitator: Rachael Smart  
Contact: [thesmartfamily3@yahoo.com](mailto:thesmartfamily3@yahoo.com)  
When: Resumes in the fall  
Where: Friendship Hall

Barn Raisers is a community group in which members give/receive various services in exchange for time dollars. This is a concept known as timebanking. Types of services vary greatly from babysitting to yard work to help writing resumes to painting. There are so many ways in which we can help each other through timebanking and build community and friendships at the same time. Barn Raisers will periodically host a potluck dinner where members can gather to socialize and discuss exchanges. Our next potluck will be in the Fall, date to be determined.

For more information on the group, e-mail [timebank.barnraisers@gmail.com](mailto:timebank.barnraisers@gmail.com) or see our Facebook page.

# ADULT FAITH DEVELOPMENT



## MEN'S GROUP

Facilitators: Hal Dixler - halleyppgh@gmail.com  
When: Facilitated topic :  
2nd Sunday at noon

Open forum: 4th Tuesday at 6 PM

Where: Sundays in the East Room  
Tuesdays in the Youth Room

The next meeting of the UUCNH Men's Group will convene around noon on **Sunday, May 14**, in the East Room. This is a facilitated meeting, one in which a member of the group leads a discussion of a topic of his choice.

Open Forum will meet on **Tuesday, May 23**.

The Men's Group is open to all men, including visitors, who enjoy exchanging ideas and opinions with others. The principal obligations are an open mind and a gentlemanly disposition.

We meet the 2nd Sunday and the 4th Tuesday of every month. Sunday meetings are scheduled after the regular church service and are usually facilitated by a member. Tuesday meetings are not facilitated: discussion is free-form, with no prior definition of a subject and are scheduled for 6 PM. There is also monthly movie night being discussed.

For more information on the Men's Group, please contact Hal.



## SISTERS IN SPIRIT

Facilitators: Rachael Smart  
Michelle Broge-Connor  
Contacts: thesmartfamily3@yahoo.com  
brogemm@gmail.com  
When: May 10 @ 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 or Michelle Broge-Connor at brogemm@gmail.com .

## JESUS DISCUSSION GROUP

Facilitator: Tony Palermo  
Contact: tpalermo@consolidated.net  
When: May 21 at noon

Having discussed Jesus' life and thinking, it remains to investigate how this religion of Jesus became a religion about Jesus, i.e. how he became divine.

We'll begin the subject in May. See Tony Palermo for details.

# SPRING 2017 COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

## UUCNH QUILTING GROUP

Facilitator: Peggy Trevanion - 412-366-4348  
or [birdies4@comcast.net](mailto:birdies4@comcast.net)  
When: May 16 @ 10:00am  
Where: East Room

The second Tuesday of the month is when the UUCNH Quilters meet to work on projects and share interesting techniques. We meet in the East Room from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bring a brown bag lunch.

For more information, contact Peggy Trevanion at 412-366-4348 or [birdies4@comcast.net](mailto:birdies4@comcast.net).

## THE CRAFT GROUP

Facilitator: Irene Dinning - 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 (such as knitting, crocheting, and embroidery), perfect a craft, or just want to come and visit with interesting people.

Come when you can or every week, but try us out!

## THE UKE GROUP

Facilitator: Sandy Faulkner  
[sfaulk50@aol.com](mailto:sfaulk50@aol.com), 412-366-5973  
When: May 1 & 15 @ 7:30pm  
Where: East Room

We meet the first and third Monday. 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).

## BREAK FORTH ENSEMBLE

Facilitator: David Miles - [miles@ohiou.edu](mailto:miles@ohiou.edu)  
When: May 14 @ 9:00 am  
May 21 @ 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).

## UUCNH FAMILIES GROUP

Facilitator: Carla Bickel  
Contact: [c.marie11@yahoo.com](mailto:c.marie11@yahoo.com)  
When: June 17, 2017 @ 11:30am  
Where: Henderson Pavilion (near the swimming pool) in North Park



- June 17 @ 11:30am: the 2nd Annual Families Group Picnic at North Park. We had a lot of fun at the 1st picnic – this is one you do not want to miss! Additionally, our very own Carmen Thomson of CPT Thomson Photography will be doing mini photoshoots at the picnic! The price will be \$75 for 10 edited photos. All proceeds will be donated to UUCNH.

And mark your calendars for these upcoming event listed below:

- October 1: Fall Carnival at UUCNH.

# SPRING 2017 COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

## BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Facilitator: Jon Hamrahi-jhamrahi@yahoo.com  
When: Apr14th at UUCNH in the East Room  
Moderator: Gene Watson  
Title: Flight Behavior  
Author: Barbara Kingsolver



### Review:

Flight Behavior is a brilliant and suspenseful novel set in present day Appalachia; a breathtaking parable of catastrophe and denial that explores how the complexities we inevitably encounter in life lead us to believe in our particular chosen truths. Kingsolver's riveting story concerns a young wife and mother on a failing farm in rural Tennessee who experiences something she cannot explain, and how her discovery energizes various competing factions – religious leaders, climate scientists, environmentalists, politicians – trapping her in the center of the conflict and ultimately opening up her world. Flight Behavior is arguably Kingsolver's most thrilling and accessible novel to date, and like so many other of her acclaimed works, represents contemporary American fiction at its finest.

If you have read Barbara Kingsolver's novels before, you will know that she is a consummate storyteller above all else. While I would not say that her writing is outstandingly literary, she sure can pull you into her yarn. This book takes place in Appalachia, among people who might be considered today's "poor white trash." What is revealed in this book is their humanity, humor, and honesty, as they confront the shocking consequences of the larger society's flagrant disregard for the earth. What I especially treasure about this book is how the author creates characters and a story which captivate you, all the while making some very cogent political points. This Spring's unseasonably warm weather which we experienced in February reminded me very much of this book: delightful, but not really as February should be.

### Future Titles:

June 9, 2017: This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. the Climate by Naomi Klein  
July 14 and August 11: Strangers in Their Own Land: Anger And Mourning on The American Right  
September 8: Signs Preceding the End of the World by Yuri Herrera (fiction)

## GROCERY CARD FUNDRAISER

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%!

A Giant Eagle gift card can be used at the grocery store to buy a gift card for Kohl's, Home Depot, Advance Auto Parts, Applebee's restaurants and many other businesses.

If, for example, you're remodeling a room and you need to spend \$1,000 at Home Depot, you can do that by buying \$1,000 in Giant Eagle gift cards at UUCNH and then using the gift cards at Giant Eagle to buy \$1,000 in Home Depot gift cards. You just raised \$50 for UUCNH at no extra cost to you! Giant Eagle pays the \$50.

When you use a gift card to buy gas at GetGo, you still will receive any discount on the posted price of the gas that is due you. 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! Thank you, The Gift Card Team

## TRY THE FAIR TRADE TEA-SAMPLES AT COFFEE (SIC) HOUR



## NHCO FOOD PANTRY DONATION CUPBOARD



For May-Fruit Juice (bottles & cans)

UUCNH is offering Equal Exchange Fair Trade Tea in several varieties. We'll have some of these out in the tea box, along with the usual black and decaf tea bags, at Coffee Hour (sic!).

You can also buy some for 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, Ginger (NEW!), Chamomile, Rooibos (red tea from Africa), and Darjeeling. There are many other varieties available from Equal Exchange. If there's a specific tea you'd like, contact Chris Hill during Tea Time on Sunday!

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 - Fruit Juices (cans and bottles) -- 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.

## THE DATE IS SET! UUCNH SPRING WORK PARTY JUNE 10, 2017

On Saturday June 10th, from 9am to 2:30pm, Building and Grounds would like to invite the members of the congregation to come and help with tasks that will keep our Spiritual Home in tip top shape. There are several wonderful reasons to come and spend the afternoon with others.

The fellowship! It is such a joy to work along side members of this congregation!

It is a ministry to the building that we use so often. It helps to ensure that we continue to enjoy this special place.

It is Fun! We have special moments and share lunch together.

So come in your work clothes, plan to help with the list of tasks and let's have a wonderful day of fellowship.

Thank You, from the Building and Grounds committee.





## NHCO NOW OFFERS EASY ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR VOLUNTEERS

North Hills Community Outreach now has an easy online registration process for those who wish to volunteer to help seniors. Those interested in volunteering for NHCO's In Service of Seniors: North Program can visit [nhco.org/volunteer-opportunities/volunteer-help-seniors/](http://nhco.org/volunteer-opportunities/volunteer-help-seniors/) and follow the easy step-by-step registration process.

Volunteers are needed to help seniors get to doctor appointments, take them grocery shopping, do light yard work, drive shuttles and more.

For more information, call Cathy at 412-307-0069 x 3313.

## NHCO INVITES WALKERS TO JOIN THEM



Join North Hills Community Outreach in the Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community May 13 at Stage AE on the North Shore.

When you register to walk and /or fundraise for NHCO, 100% of the proceeds support NHCO's programs to help local families in need. Registration is now open at <http://hcf.convio.net/nhco>.

Dogs are welcome. For more information, please contact Maria at [mschristina@nhco.org](mailto:mschristina@nhco.org) or 412-408-3830.

## NHCO IS COLLECTING SAFETY ITEMS FOR SENIORS

NHCO volunteers conduct free "Safety for Seniors" home safety checks. As part of the home visit, the volunteer gives the senior a bag of simple safety items that can be used to keep the home safe. Items needed include: new 9-volt batteries, new smoke detectors, baking soda, new nonslip bath mats, night lights and grab reachers.

Please donate Monday through Friday, 9am-4pm at NHCO Allison Park, 1975 Ferguson Road, Hampton, or NHCO North Boroughs, AGH-Suburban Campus, 100 S. Jackson Avenue, Bellevue, or call 412-487-6316 option 1 to make alternate arrangements. The NHCO Allison Park pantry behind the main building will also be open for donations 6:30 to 8:00pm, Wednesday, May 17, and 9:00 to noon, Saturday, May 20. If you or your company or civic group are interested in volunteering to do safety checks, please contact Cathy at 412-307-0069 x 3313.

All-inclusive tickets (except for auction items) are \$30 for adults, \$15 for children and can be purchased through April 13 online at:

<https://nhco.org/2017-neighborhood-block-party/> or by calling Cheryl at 412-487-6316 opt 1.

## NHCO IS COLLECTION SPRING CLEANING SUPPLIES

North Hills Community Outreach is collecting spring cleaning supplies to distribute to the families who use our three food pantries. Items are appreciated by June 2, but will be accepted year round. Items needed include: laundry detergent, antibacterial wipes, all-purpose cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, dish detergent, pack of sponges and paper towels. Canvas shopping bags are also appreciated.

Please donate Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm at NHCO Allison Park, 1975 Ferguson Rd, Hampton, or NHCO North Boroughs, AGH-Suburban Campus, 100 S. Jackson Avenue, Bellevue, or call 412-487-6316 option 1 to make alternate arrangements. The NHCO Allison Park pantry behind the main building will also be open for donations 6:30 to 8:00pm, Wednesday, May 17, and 9:00 to noon, Saturday, May 20.

## INTERCOM SUBMISSIONS IN MAY FOR THE JUNE ISSUE



The article submission Deadline for the June Intercom will be on May 21.

So please get your articles into me by May 21 to be included in the June 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](mailto:Rowan@OctoberMorning.com).



Spring  
*the season of colors*

