Faith Development, Fellowship, Service to our
Religious Community and to the World

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
OF THE NORTH HILLS
(UUCNH)

Program Guide

2019 - 2020

2359 West Ingomar Road
Pittsburgh, PA
412-366-0244
www.uucnh.org
Program Guide

This guide describes the many ways to participate in our church. Anyone is welcome to attend any activity or group listed in this guide. Meetings of most groups are held at the church unless otherwise noted. Since plans do sometimes change, we recommend calling the contact person listed for more information.

You can also look at the calendar on the church’s web site for updated information at: www.uucnh.org.

Our Mission

By building a loving religious community that
Nourishes the spirit,
Celebrates life, and
Cherishes the connectedness of all things,
We will transform ourselves and our world.

2019 - 2020 Board of Trustees

President — Mary Ellen Johnson
Immediate Past President — Susie Wood
Vice President — Julie Kant

At Large Members:

Ed Patton
Don Nelson
Kathi Finch
Kathy Ke
Getting to Know Us

The Unitarian Universalist Church of the North Hills is a vibrant religious community that offers activities for spiritual growth, for putting our faith into action, for serving the church, and sometimes just to have a little fun and fellowship!

This guide highlights many of the things that happen at the church that you can get involved in right now. Please do! For it is in living, working, and playing together that we discover the many fruits of being in community! Some of the groups and activities listed are ways that you can get involved to support the mission of the church. Others are ways you can be fed by what the church has to offer. We hope that you consider a good balance of both, as service and being served make this circle of community possible.

Consider how some of the activities listed here might match up with your own personal sense of ministry. In our congregation we believe in the shared ministry of the church, as well as a shared commitment to our world.

If you have any questions about any of the activities, groups or committees listed, please feel free to contact us. You can usually join a committee, team or activity any time throughout the year.

See you in church!

Rev. Jane Thicksten – minister@uucnh.org
Meet the Church - Informal sessions held after church about once every two months. After coffee hour, we gather to meet one another, watch a video, have an open-ended question and answer time, and share a little more about this church and Unitarian Universalism.

Exploring Unitarian Universalism - If you have attended a Meet the Church session, have an interest in learning more about Unitarian Universalism, or are interested in knowing what it means to be a member of our Church, this class is for you. We will cover a number of topics and there will be opportunities to learn, ask questions, and share your thoughts. Contact Bernita Clover.

Signing the Membership Book and Member Sunday - Becoming a voting member of UUCNH requires signing the Membership Book usually during a special Sunday Service. Contact is Bernita Clover at connections@uucnh.org.

Sundays at UUCNH

Services begin at 10:30 am every Sunday throughout the year. For the topic of the service consult the Newsletter, call the church office (412-366-0244), or visit our web site at www.uucnh.org.

Children preschool age through 6th grade, have class on Sundays from September through May. Children attend the first part of the service with their parents and are sung out to their classes after about the Time for All Ages.

Youth (grades 7 through 12) meet together through the Youth Group on two Sunday mornings a month, and for special events as scheduled.
Special services include:

- April 12 – Easter Sunday*
- April 19 – Earth Day Celebration*
- May 3 – Coming of Age Service*
- May 17 – Youth Bridging & Teacher Appreciation Service*
- June 7 – Flower Communion*

*Intergeneration services, no Faith Development program for children

UUCNH Choir - The choir rehearses Thursday evenings and performs Sunday mornings from September to May. Choir Director: Mary Doubleday - doubleday.mary@gmail.com.

Faith Development Groups for Adults

The DLFD coordinates all adult Faith Development courses and discussion groups. Whether you are a newcomer or a long-term member, our goal is to meet the needs of UUCNH adults who wish to enrich their spiritual lives. Please contact Dana Poss at dlfd@uucnh.org or contacts below with your interest.

Humanist Discussion Group - Meets every Fourth Sunday from 12:00 - 1:30pm. Contact: Dick Myers - dmyers.rlm@gmail.com.

Jesus Discussion Group - To explore and discuss the historical Jesus meet with us every Third Sunday from 12:00 - 1:15pm. Contact: Tony Palermo - Tpalermo@consolidated.net.

Library - Loans books from our large collection relating to Unitarian Universalism, philosophy, religion and spirituality. Contacts: Julie Kant - jkant@gmail.com, Midge Miles - momiles822@verizon.net and Maggie Wilson - maggierow@att.net.

Living Kindly Workshop – Meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month from January, 2020 thru June, 2020 to discuss the book A Year of Living Kindly by Donna Cameron.
Faith Development Groups (continued)

**Meditation with Friends** - Meditations are both silent and guided, beginners and experienced are welcome. Meets second and fourth Tuesday evenings 7:00pm at UUCNH church. Contact: Sue Luebbert - luebbert.unicorn@gmail.com.

**Philosophical and Spiritual Insights (PSI)** – This year, we are examining the way Chemistry creates the first molecules capable of Life on Earth. From there, we will delve into Human Evolution, the Big Bang and God, Eternal Life or the Problem of Evil. Contact: Tony Palermo - tpalermo@consolidated.net.

**Sisters in Spirit** - 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 opens to new members in April and October.

**UU Christian Perspectives** - Not sure if you’re a “Christian” anymore? You’re in good company! First-time visitors and longtime members alike are welcome to share their perspectives on how our Christian backgrounds influence our diverse spiritual journeys. The group meets second Sundays from 9:15-10:15am. Contacts: Edie Swihart - edie.claire@verizon.net and Joe Meier - meierke@msn.com.

**UUCNH Coffeehouse**

Come share a talent, or just enjoy a really good time with UUCNH friends and their friends. The format is open-mic and will be held in the West Room (sanctuary). A $2 donation is requested to offset the costs of refreshments, but not required. Nonperishable food items will be collected for North Hills Community Outreach. Note: The coffeehouse is a substance-free environment.
Fellowship Groups

Book Group – Meets once a month on the second Friday of the month from 7:30 – 9:30pm. Contact Ruth at rah8184@gmail.com for title of book being discussed for said month.

Break Forth Ensemble - - This brass and woodwinds group gathers twice a month to play. Contact David Miles at miles@ohiou.edu with interest.

Camping Trip – A group camping trip for five days in the Allegheny National Forest, typically towards the end of July. Contacts: Abigail Vaughn - abigailkvaugh@gmail.com and Rachael Smart - thesmartfamily3@yahoo.com.

Chair Yoga - This class is for any person of any age, body type or fitness level. Contact: Barbara Pane - barb@pane.net.

Craft Group - Meets Thursday mornings at 10:00am—12:00pm to work on craft projects, both individually and as a group. Proceeds from yearly craft sales support the church. Contact: Irene Dinning - dinning1@comcast.net.

Families Group - A group for young families focusing on the unique needs of families and having fun with children. Contact: Kristen Clarke - kclarke717@gmail.com.

Quilting Group - Meets second Tuesdays at 10:00am at church to work on quilting projects and to share techniques with one another. Contact: Peggy Trevanion - birdies4@comcast.net.

Ukulele Group – Meets twice monthly for ukulele fun; beginners welcome. Contact: Sandy Faulkner sfaulk50@aol.com with interest.

Yoga with Amy - Meets 1st Sunday from 6:30 – 7:30pm, beginners welcome. Please contact Amy for more information. Contact: Amy Wilks - amywilks@gmail.com.
Service to our Religious Community

Audio Wranglers - Provides audio-visual support during Sunday Services, including microphones, video projection and service recording. Contact: Bruce Travers - bruceetravers@yahoo.com.

Building and Grounds Committee – Responsible for the maintenance of the church and strategically planning updates to the facilities. Also, organizes volunteer work days twice a year to help with basic repairs and cleaning.

Children’s Memorial Fund - Grants monies to meet the needs of children in the community who have exhausted other avenues of help. Examples include grants for wheelchairs and computers for children with learning disabilities. Contact: Greg Jarold - oldjar@aol.com.

Coffee Hour - Volunteer to co-host Coffee Hour after one Sunday Service each year. Offer your services during the annual sign-up period. Bring healthy snacks and prepare provided beverages. Contact: Tassi Bisers - tbisers@yahoo.com.

Compassionate Service Team - Develops and coordinates programs to address various social action concerns; provides donations to Northside Common Ministries and North Hills Community Outreach, chooses monthly Share the Plate recipients. Contact: Rachael Smart - thesmartfamily3@yahoo.com.

Connections Team - Welcomes new members, helps newer members integrate into the life of the church, and deepens connections among current church members. Contact Bernita Clover - connections@uucnh.org.

Finance Committee - Creates the Annual Budget, monitors all income and expenses compared to budget throughout the year, advises the Board on financial matters and oversees the Endowment Fund. Contact: Dennis Doubleday - dennis.doubleday@gmail.com.

Fundraising Team –The team creates events and activities to raise funds for the church. Contact: Ellen Saksen - ellen.mcdevitt@gmail.com.
**Flower Coordinator** - Provides displayed flowers for Sunday services. For providing flowers in honor/memory of someone or to bring an arrangement, contact Rebecca Hovermale at beccahovermale@gmail.com.

**Helping Hands** - If you have a need, or if you know of someone in our congregation who is in the hospital, has had a baby, is dealing with grief, or anything else that the church would like to reach toward with love, please contact our minister, Rev. Jane Thickstun.

**Memorial Garden Committee** - The Memorial Garden is located behind the church. Contact: Irene Dinning - dinning1@comcast.net.

**Stewardship Committee** - The committee runs the Annual Stewardship Campaign to solicit pledges to support our operating budget; talks with new members about pledging. Contact: Robyn Travers – witcheypoojr@gmail.com.

**Worship Team** - The Worship Team plans and coordinates all Sunday services that are not led by the Minister, and works with the Minister to enhance the overall quality of Sunday services and to recruit Worship Associates. Contacts: Christina Newhill – newhill@pitt.edu and Mike Vasseur – mvasseur83@gmail.com.

**Serving the Larger Community**

**Systemic Change Team** – Addresses the root causes of injustice in our world through community organizing; maintains liaisons with the PA Interfaith Impact Network and the UU PA Legislative Advocacy Network. Contacts: Steve Fuegi - sdfuegi@gmail.com and Elizabeth Perkins - liz.f.perkins@gmail.com.

**Compassionate Service Team** – Partners with outside groups for the purpose of helping to meet the immediate needs of those struggling in our community and to effect change in the larger systems. Contact: Rachael Smart - thesmartfamily3@yahoo.com.

These groups include North Hills Community Outreach and Northside Common Ministries and participation in the annual Peoples Pride March.
Hunger Garden – Throughout the summer months, produce from the garden combined with donations from church members and leftovers from a local CSA, are sold at the church’s Sunday morning Farm Stand. Proceeds are split between North Hills Community Outreach and Northside Common Ministries. Contact: Dick Myers - dmyers.rlm@gmail.com.

Serving UUCNH Church Community

Craft Group Spring Sale (2020) – Will be held on April 5th in the East Room. Proceeds go toward special projects at UUCNH.

Giant Eagle Grocery Cards - UUCNH benefits from your buying Giant Eagle Gift Cards at no extra expense to you! Gift Cards sold during Coffee Hour at the bench by the church office in Friendship Hall.

The Larger Unitarian Universalist Community

The Greater Pittsburgh Cluster
Check out our Cluster Website at http://uupittsburgh.org/ to see what is happening with other UU’s in our area and for UU events open to all!

Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly
“GA” is the annual business meeting of the UUA. More than 4,000 Unitarian Universalists gather to vote on the business of the UUA and to attend more than 500 events (including workshops, worship services, lectures, etc.). For information about the UUA, go to www.uua.org.
Did you know that UUCNH...

Has Free Trade coffee, tea and cocoa, that can be purchased each Sunday in Friendship Hall?

Recycles? We have bins in the kitchen for plastic, cardboard and paper recyclables.

Has many ways for you to get your event or group publicized:

1. Our website at uucnh.org has a complete listing of our groups, committees, events and so much more.

2. Our weekly news known as The Intercom-News is delivered electronically each Thursday morning. Hard copies are available in the lobby as well.

3. Order of Service is produced weekly and contains the church calendar and several announcements. Contact the Office Administrator for more info.

The website calendar does not include personal phone numbers due to privacy reasons.
The Unitarian Universalist Church of the North Hills

Reverend Jane Thickstun – minister@uucnh.org

Director of Lifespan Faith Development – Dana Poss – dlfd@uucnh.org

Office Administrator – office@uucnh.org

Church Office Hours
Monday-Thursday 8am - 2pm & Sunday 9am - 1pm
Or by appointment – 412-366-0244