2018

INTERCOM

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CHURCH OF THE NORTH HILLS
American history is full of instances in which a single event, person or unrest triggered an entire movement: Kent State; My Lai; Stonewall; Columbine; Occupy; Black Lives Matter; Parkland; MeToo – each one a crystallizing moment in time, each one signaling long overdue change is in the air.

Although not on the same scale, our denomination is nearing the one-year mark since an internal controversy sent shockwaves through our Association. Sparked by a pattern of discriminatory hiring practices, top-level leaders resigned and a new movement was begun – a movement to examine how we, too, participate in white privilege and supremacy.

Since then, we’ve had some wonderful breakthroughs, as well as some clear indications we have a long way to go - all of which was to be expected given the gravitas of the task before us. You may recall that I led a service on white supremacy last fall. The goal was to prepare the way for white folks to listen and learn, helped along by materials from Black Lives UU. (For more on what they offer, check out their website: blacklivesuu.com)

Since then, I have been encouraged by your overall openness; which has been a support to me as I do my own discernment around privilege and supremacy. We’re in this together, folks. Later this month I’ll be doing another service on white supremacy, this one designed entirely by UUs of color! (The service itself is scripted.) The goal this time is to let our people of color tell us about their experience, and talk about how whites can be allies for wholeness.

As a follow-up to the service, next month I’ll be training some UUCNH facilitators on an anti-supremacy dialogue model designed especially for UUs. (Let me know if you’re interested. I’ve trained some non-UUs here in the North Hills, but the time is right to bring it to you.)

So, let me ask you to hang in with this learning process, even when it seems confusing or not worthwhile. We’ve been given a painful but overdue opportunity to become the diverse movement we imagine. Let’s not let it pass us by.

Blessings,
Don

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**PASTORAL SCHEDULE**

Rev. Don Rollins’ Schedule - Office hours are 9 am - 1 pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and by appointment. Please call 740-988-7834, text or email (minister@uucnh.org) before coming in – sometimes he has off-campus meetings. Mondays are his “weekend” and Fridays are reserved for writing.
UPCOMING SUNDAY SERVICES

April 1, 2018
THE THIRD JESUS
Rev. Don Rollins

Easter is a great time to revisit the historical Jesus. Don will borrow from biblical scholars to make the case for a Jesus that is intellectually defensible, yet emotionally engaging.

April 8, 2018
THE FEARLESS BENJAMIN LAY: THE QUAKER DWARF WHO BECAME THE FIRST REVOLUTIONARY ABOLITIONIST
Professor Marcus Rediker

Perspective and inspiration: Do you feel the need for more of both? Come hear the story of Benjain Lay, Quaker abolitionist, environmentalist, and activist.

April 15, 2018
THE PROMISE AND THE PRACTICE OF OUR FAITH
Rev. Don Rollins

In our denomination wide efforts to recognize and dismantle white supremacy, Don will lead us in the specially designed service from UU Minister of Worship Arts, Erika Hewitt.

April 22, 2018
JACKSON LAKE: SWIMMING TO THE OTHER SIDE
Rev. Don Rollins

UUs Poet and author, Wendell Barry, counsels us to ground our environmental activism in a particular place, be it a patch of earth, a river or a stretch of highway.

April 29, 2018
SUSTAINABILITY AT UUCNH
An Update From The Green Sanctuary Team

A team of graduate students from Carnegie Melon University, organized by Matt Mehalik, will report their findings after a 6 week in-depth survey of our energy practices at UUCNH. Come hear their recommendations as we move forward on the path to Green Sanctuary certification.
ROBYN’S RAMBLIN’S

Jimmy Buffet once said, “Searching is half the fun: Life is much more manageable when thought of as a scavenger hunt as opposed to a surprise party.” While I am not a parrot head, the man has got a point.

The search is on…so we need a committee to do the searching.

Last night, the board briefly met with our UUA transitions officer to begin the first steps of search for our new settled minister. Step 1…get people to search. Of course, for something this important we need to get the right team. It is for this reason we are asking you. By the time you read this, you should have received an email asking you to pick names of individuals you feel would be a good fit for our search team. You may, of course, suggest yourself, but please put down other names as well.

Our new search team will be providing an extremely important ministry. They will be the team we trust to find us a good candidate for a new minister. Our previous search team did such an amazing job and look at the wonderful six years that we had with Rev Scott. It is a lot of work and requires a great deal of time and a great deal of commitment (minimum of 20 hours monthly and added time for travel and interviews, and willing and able to step out of all other leadership positions). Our UUA rep shared a list of do’s and don’ts for search team members. I have it condensed for you below. When considering individuals in the church, please keep in mind the following characteristics:

The kind of person to seek:

- One who has an understanding and commitment to the nature, purposes, and activities of the church
- One committed to the idea that multiple theologies, life styles, social concerns, ages, etc. should exist within the church
- One who is patiently able to work for consensus, not majority rule or minority tyranny.
- One with the time to be thoroughly and continually involved.
- One open-minded about a ministerial profile
- One who constantly remembers the needs of the congregation and who will not allow the Search Team to become an autonomic entity
- One with a history of UU involvement, not necessarily long-term, but it may be too much to ask someone new to our community to serve on this team.
- One who you, as a member/friend of the congregation, have confidence in.
- One who can balance the confidentiality of the process with the eagerness to keep the congregation informed of the team’s progress
- One who works well with others.

The kind of person to avoid:

- One with limited and high-intensity interests; who defines the church in narrow, exclusive terms.
- A person with rigid requirements regarding ministerial profile including gender, marital status, age, sexuality, etc.
- One with authoritarian ideas coupled with little respect for differences (e.g., the militant Humanist, the intolerant Christian, the rabid Peacenik)
- One who agrees to requests but is unable by temperament or time limitations to follow through
- One who feels that “they now best.”
- One who enjoys creating drama to see how it will play out

So who do you have in mind? The board will reach out to the individuals with the most votes and ask if they are willing and able to take on this important role. A vote will be taken by the members to finalize the team at the May 20th annual congregational meeting. Thank you for taking the time to consider this important step in the process.

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:  mswihart@spang.com  
412-369-9321

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

Lynn Richards:  lynnbessar@gmail.com  
724-776-4183 H

UU CLUSTER NEWS

Check out our local Cluster Website  at www.uupittsburgh.org  to see what is happening with other UU's in our area, and for UU events that are open to all.
SPRING HOLIDAYS AND RENEWALS

During April we welcome the renewal and vitality of nature as we celebrate the holidays of Easter and Earth Day. As we retell age old stories at Easter we will remind ourselves what is truly meaningful about this living holiday. Today, Unitarian Universalists celebrate Easter for a couple of reasons, first, to celebrate the renewal and rebirth of life in the spring. And second, we celebrate the story of the resurrection of Jesus as the hope for transformation, or progressing to a better place, going forward. We see the story of the resurrection as a symbol of hope, of joy and promise in ourselves and in our world. This is a time when we especially think of the ideals that Jesus taught...of love and justice. And those of us who celebrate the Jewish Passover mark its ageless story of liberation.

I find renewal and hope in the ongoing witness and participation in what happens in our classes on Sunday mornings and at other times with our children and youth. A few years back a parent shared her thoughts with the congregation about what makes our approach to religious education unique. She spoke about her daughter’s experience in Sunday school. She said, “Lauren, who is now 8, has talked of peace in times of war…she has learned the danger of categorizing people by hair color, eye shape, or religious beliefs ... she has learned that men loving men and women loving women is OK, as long as we all love someone ... she has met other children that will question issues and authorities and beliefs and hopefully they will come through and find their answers together. She is growing up to be a person that I admire and am proud to know”.

Here at UUCNH I see the same thing...children and youth whose voices are encouraged, and values affirmed, ‘surprise’ us as they express themselves and their values with messages of hope chalked on the sidewalk and messages of outrage on signs at a gun control rally. I know I am not the only one who feels heartened with these expressions of faith, knowing that this religious community affirms their right of conscience to publicly exclaim their beliefs.

As we approach the holidays which acknowledge suffering and the renewal of hope and new life, may we do so together.

Please join us!

In Peace,

Jennifer Halperin
Interim Director of Lifespan Faith Development
CALENDAR

- **April 1** – Easter Sunday – Young children have combined activities.
  
  Easter egg hunt directly after the service on the lawn (weather permitting).
- **April 8** – Regular am classes.
- **April 13** – **15** – Pittsburgh Cluster Jr. High Social Action Conference – Grades 6 - 8 or age equivalent.
- **April 15** – Regular am classes.
  
  Young Adult Brunch 12:00 – 1:00 pm (Upstairs).
- **April 22** – Regular am classes.
- **April 29** – Earth Day Celebration – Multi-age activities, no classes.

YOUTH NEWS

MIDDLE SCHOOL JUSTICE CON PITTSBURGH, PA

The First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh will be hosting a Junior High Social Justice Conference (ie: Con) for youth in grades 6-8. The Con will start **Friday evening April 13th and ends Sunday morning April 15th**. Youth Cons are a lot of fun and this one will focus on social and environmental justice topics through hands-on workshops, games, art and activities. There will also be a worship service and a talent show. Cons are also a great way to meet other UU youth outside of our church. Many lasting friendships have been formed at Cons.

If you or your youth has questions, we have a handful of experienced Con goers amongst our youth group and several adults (Ron, Robyn, and Rachel) that have been to Cons.

- Registration link: [https://www.uua.org/central-east/events/youth/omd-pittsburgh-jr-high-justice-con-418](https://www.uua.org/central-east/events/youth/omd-pittsburgh-jr-high-justice-con-418)

The cost is $25. Registration ends on April 9th. Please reply to me Jennifer Halperin at uucnhdlfd@gmail.com if your youth is signing up so that we can plan for having enough adult sponsors attend.

"You have made people listen. You have made people care, and you have taught us that whether we are poor or prosperous, we have only one world to share. You have taught young people that they have the power to change the world."  -Kofi Annan
FAMILIES GROUP

UUCNH families are warmly invited to come to our monthly gatherings! We try to keep costs low, have fun and get to know one another, and include a service element. Please contact Families Group coordinator, Dawn Lindsay, for more information. Email her at northparkmom@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENT: We’re going on a hike, won’t you join us?

WHEN: April 14, 2018 1:00 pm
WHERE: North Park – White Loop Trail
MEET AND PARK: Pie Traynor Field Parking
BRING: a Snack to share

SERVICE: We will be picking up litter on the trail. Dawn will bring gloves and trash bags. For more information contact: Dawn Lindsay at northparkmom@gmail.com.

UPCOMING 2018 EVENTS SPONSORED BY THE FAMILIES GROUP

April – Earth Day Hike at North Park – Saturday, April 14th
May – Playground and Biking at North Park – Saturday, May 12th
June – Carnival at UUCNH Picnic – Sunday, June 3rd
July – OFF (Family Camping Trip @ Allegheny National Forest, July 18th – 22nd)
August – Picnic at North Park - Friday, August 24th
September – TBD – Saturday, September 22nd
October – Halloween Party – Saturday, October 27th
November – TBD – Saturday, November 10th
December – All Church Tree Trimming Party, TBA

Mark your calendar!
ADULT FAITH DEVELOPMENT

The Adult Faith Development (AFD) team coordinates all adult Faith Development courses and discussion groups. Whether you are a newcomer or a long-time member, our goal is to meet the needs of UUCNH adults who wish to enrich their spiritual lives.

UU PAMPHLET SERIES WITH THE MINISTER

Mark your calendars for the 4th Sundays of the month, 9 am – 10 am. Rev. Don Rollins will convene a group for an informal review of one aspect of Unitarian Universalism as described in a pamphlet written by UU authors.

- April 22nd – Additions Ministry
- May 27th - UU: A Spiritual Home for LGBTQ People

CALLING ALL UU SINGLES!

Single people, share covenant, have fun, and meet someone!

Join UUMS’s (Unitarian Universalist Mingling Singles). We’re like-minded singles who will get together for fellowship and socializing. We’ll meet on the third Friday of the month.

The first topic of discussion will be, “How do you approach and start a conversation with a stranger”. Our first meeting will be April 20th, from 6:00 – 7:30 pm in the East Room. Then at approximately 7:30 pm, we’ll move our gathering about a mile away to the Franklin Inn Mexican Restaurant and Bar, where we’ll continue our fellowship.

Whether you’re gay, straight, transgender or fluid...happily single or looking to find a soul mate, join the UUMS’s! For questions or for more information, contact Richard at (724) 814-0808.
What does it mean to be “well-educated”? Is education important to society? Is education necessary for self-fulfillment? Is the purpose of education primarily vocational? Who's responsibility is it to educate? Who should bear the costs? Does everyone have the "right" to be educated? How should children be educated, in what areas and by whom? Should people be taught the similar information and in the same way? Should "life-time learning" be a priority? How do other countries deal with the challenges of education? Is a college education overrated? What areas of education could be improved and how? On April 22 at noon in the East Room, Jon Hamrahi will facilitate a discussion of this topic.

As always, if you are not on the email distribution list that gets additional information about upcoming meetings, please contact dmyers.rlm@gmail.com.

In modern day terms, one might describe Mark’s gospel as Jesus 1.0, Matthew and Luke’s as 2.0 and John’s as 10.0. We’ll discuss why at this session. See Tony Palermo for details - tpalermo@consolidated.net.
MEDITATION WITH FRIENDS

In April we will meet in the Sanctuary on **Tuesday the 10th and Tuesday the 24th from 7:00 to 8:30 pm**. Our usual pattern is to meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, and you can always check by going to: [http://uucnh.org/calendar/](http://uucnh.org/calendar/).

We welcome anyone interested in mindful meditation, whether you have little or no experience in meditation, or you have practiced for years. At each meeting we practice silent meditation, and walking or another form of movement meditation. Generally, a third to a half of each meeting deals with a different aspect or form of meditation which varies meeting to meeting. Examples from recent meetings are: guided meditation, readings or talks (audio or video) from wise teachers, and sound meditation with crystal bowls.

I send updates and a reminder of each meeting the day before to anyone on the meditation email list. To add your name or if you have any questions please contact Sue Luebbert, at luebbert.unicorn@gmail.com or call 412-366-9553.

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PSI [PHILOSOPHICAL, SPIRITUAL INSIGHTS)

Facilitator: Tony Palermo
Contact: [tpalermo@consolidated.net](mailto:tpalermo@consolidated.net)
When: April 8, 2018 @ 12:00 – 1:15 pm
Where: Growth Room (Upstairs, follow the signs)

So apparently, Men are from New York, Women are from Philadelphia, not distant planets as often theorized. But how did they get that way? Nature and nurture both contribute. We’ll discuss at this session. See Tony Palermo for details. [tpalermo@consolidated.net](mailto:tpalermo@consolidated.net).

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SISTERS-IN-SPRIT

Facilitators: Rachael Smart
Michelle Broge-Connor
Contacts: [thesmartfamily3@yahoo.com](mailto:thesmartfamily3@yahoo.com)
[brogemm@gmail.com](mailto:brogemm@gmail.com)
When: April 11, 2018 @ 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
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 
When: April 8, 2018 @ 9:15 – 10:30 am 
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!

YOGA

Amy Wilks will be offering yoga classes twice a month at UUCNH. These will be gentle flow classes suitable for all ability levels. Please dress in comfortable clothing and bring water and a yoga mat. Contact Amy with any questions at akwilks@gmail.com.

- Tuesday, April 17th @ 12 – 1 pm, 
- Monday, April 23rd @ 7 – 8 pm 

Amy has been practicing yoga for almost ten years and has all of her clearances including criminal check, child abuse check, and FBI fingerprinting. She is also up to date on her First Aid/CPR training. In order to deepen her own practice and to further develop her personal teaching style, Amy will begin her 200-hour yoga teacher training program in the spring of 2018.
CONNECTIONS TEAM

MEET THE CHURCH

New to UUCNH? Want to Know More? Then join us for Meet the Church

On April 15th from noon – 1:00

These informal sessions are held after church about once a month. After coffee hour, we gather to meet one another, watch a video, have an open ended question and answer time, and to share a little more about this church and Unitarian Universalism. Come and join us!

UUCNH STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

HELP UUCNH BE “FAITHFUL TO OUR FUTURE”!

The UUCNH Stewardship team has launched our 2018-2019 face-to-face canvass with Rev. Rollins “Ten Reasons to Increase your Pledge” service on March 18th. Here is a link to the script from March 18th Stewardship Kickoff: http://uucnh.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Stewardship-Skit-The-Easiest-Yes.pdf. Then we had over 30 members and friends attend and show their talents at the fun and fabulous “Guess Who’s Entertaining UUs?” potluck and musical extravaganza on March 24th. Thank you to all our canvassers, costumed & non-costumed attendees and talented entertainers for making our largest stewardship effort of the year fun and unforgettable.

The Stewardship team is now busy contacting all the willing members and friends of UUCNH to set up half hour meetings to talk about our church, build community and collect your generous pledge. This pledge campaign is so important as it will set the stage for our congregation calling a settled minister next spring. This canvass result will demonstrate our faithfulness to our future by showing what this committed church community can do. Our church is moving ahead with our Faith and Fairness campaign to fight for fair districting in our state. We are finalizing our Green Sanctuary assessments and continuing on our journey to make UUCNH a Green Sanctuary. What other new programs will we create? How will we have an impact in our community and beyond? Your pledge helps us build a budget that will fund our dreams for living our values and making our mission a reality.

Those members and friends whose busy lives make meeting with canvassers a challenge, are invited to consider how much this church and the beloved community means to them and then fill out that Pledge Card. You can find a pledge card on our UUCNH.org website under the “Forms” tab http://uucnh.org/forms/ or on the top of the food pantry cabinet in Friendship Hall. This pledge campaign will culminate on April 15th so please have those face-to-face meetings and turn in your Pledge Card.

Our future is bright and full of possibilities – will you help insure we are truly Faithful to our Future by submitting your generous pledge today? Thank you again for help funding our church and making us Faithful to our Future!

UUCNH Stewardship Team
Stewardship@uucnh.org
FINANCE COMMITTEE

ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE

Visit our website www.UUCNH.org and click on the Giving tab. This will take you to a secure page to make your contributions with instructions on how to get started. You can make one-time gifts or you can create a profile to make recurring contributions.

Another way to access our donation page is to download the GivePlus app. Once downloaded on your phone you can search for our church and make a donation through the app similar to our website. Remember you can also make one time and recurring contributions by using online banking. All banks allow you to set up online banking for your checking account. The advantage to this method is it is FREE for you and the church.

Text giving is also available for making contributions to the general fund. Text your contribution amount to 412-218-3380. You will need to register your personal information on your first text but once you are set up, it’s an easy and quick method for donations.

For more information contact Tom Yeh, Lindsay Scott, or Mary Ellen Johnson with any questions.

UUCNH GROUNDS MASTER PLAN AND MEMORIAL GARDEN UPDATE

At the Mid-Year Congregational meeting in February the Memorial Garden Committee presented an update on their activities culminating in the hiring of the landscape architect firm of Pashek +MTR to create a comprehensive site master plan.

The Memorial Garden was created to honor UUCNH members and their families, to provide a place for their ashes to be scattered or buried, and to offer a quiet place for meditation and reflection. Over the past 35 years 46 members and their families have been honored in the garden in various ways. This area is also used for weddings, concerts, and picnics as well as memorial services.

Last year a generous anonymous gift was received to update the design of the Memorial Garden and create a comprehensive plan for the church grounds by a professional landscape architect. The MG Committee has been working with the Buildings and Grounds Committee, the Board of Trustees and the Green Sanctuary Team during this process.

The next step in the planning is to invite input from the congregation. General meetings are set for:

- Sunday, April 8th at 12:00 pm in the Justice Room (upstairs) and
- Tuesday, April 10th from 7:00 – 8:00 pm in the East Room

If you are unable to attend either meeting please chat with one of the Committee members: Ivan Baumwell (Board Liaison), Chuck Berry, Irene Dinning (Chair), Julie Kant (Project manager), Joyce Kepner, Ginny Love, Alexis Rodefer, Ron Smart, Peggy Trevanion.

Please tell us your dreams for the barn yard!
FAITH AND FAIRNESS – UNITED TO END GERRYMANDERING

April 16th, Fair Districts PA members, endorsing organizations, allies, supporters, and friends are invited to travel to Harrisburg to reclaim our democracy. They’ll be holding a rally in the Capitol Rotunda at 2:30pm to insist our legislators enact HB 722 and SB 22.

Fair Districts PA has buses coming from every corner of the state and are inviting all endorsing organizations to join. They’re subsidizing the cost so all tickets, from every part of the state, will be just $20. Once you’ve signed up at Fairdistrictspa.com a follow up email will provide you with details on how to purchase a ticket. Buses will depart from Pittsburgh. Exact departure locations will be emailed to ticket holders.

In the meanwhile, please visit or call your legislators! We are keenly interested in folks who are registered Republicans! We need your voices right now. If you are willing to make a visit please contact Suzanne Broughton at sbroughton@macconnect.com.
ANNOUNCING PIIN 2018 ANNUAL BANQUET SPEAKER!

Our 2018 Annual Banquet is fast approaching on Sunday, April 15th, and we are looking forward to sharing in a wonderful evening full of family fun and celebration with you. We are also overjoyed to announce this year’s keynote speaker - Ambassador Andrew Young!

Ambassador Young started his early career as a pastor in Georgia, where he became active in the Civil Rights Movement and ultimately worked as a senior aide to Dr. King in the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. A staunch advocate for justice, Ambassador Young marked his career by his commitment to bring Dr. King’s vision of civil rights to the entire nation- serving in Congress and as mayor of Atlanta and becoming the first African American Ambassador to the United Nations.

• You do not want to miss your chance to hear from Ambassador Young as we celebrate PIIN’s eighteenth year fighting for justice in Western Pennsylvania.
• Don’t miss out: purchase your banquet tickets today!
• Sponsorship opportunities remain available for our banquet. If you are interested in learning more, please contact the PIIN Office at office@piin.org or call 412-621-9230.

FOR THE HUNGER GARDEN

Spring is around the corner! Time for soil testing/amending and planning the garden layout.

For anyone who didn’t read last month’s Intercom, we’re looking for a volunteer carpenter to help replace or reinforce some deteriorating boards around the raised beds. Anyone with appropriate know-how and tools is welcome to visit the garden, scope out the situation, and make recommendations. Please contact Dick Myers at dmyers.rlm@gmail.com or 724-759-1810 or catch me at church.
UUCNH STARTS A COFFEEHOUSE!

Are you or someone you know an amateur poet, musician, storyteller or visual artist? Or just up for some good entertainment? Then join interim minister Don Rollins, as he hosts a monthly coffeehouse at UUCNH. The next Coffeehouse is **April 6th, from 7:30 to 9:00 pm**.

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. Non-perishable food items will be collected for North Hills Community Outreach. Note: The coffeehouse is a substance-free environment.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY IS BACK!!

The first Wednesday of each month through June 2018, you're invited to join us for a potluck supper and some quiet time. Our next Wonderful Wednesday will be **April 4th** with a potluck starting at 6:00 pm and vespers led by Don at 6:45 pm. Help with the potluck setup/cleanup will be appreciated.
Equal Exchange For You And The Farmers!

When you buy a Fair Trade item, you’re supporting small farmers. That means they earn a fair amount for their work, allowing them to pay for healthcare, education and other basic necessities. Consider giving some:

- Organic Coffee-French Roast, Breakfast Blend, Mind, Body & Soul, or Decaf, available in whole bean or drip grind ($9/bag)
- Organic Dark Chocolate bars—with Almonds, With Mint, Caramel Crunch, and Very Dark (up to 80%!) plus Organic Milk Chocolate with a hint of hazelnut ($4 each, or 3 for $10)

And we have a Chamomile, Ginger, Rooibos and Chai Teas ($4 each) to warm you up! (Note: we have some samples out with the tea if you want to try one during Coffee (sic) Hour!)

Pharmaceutical Collection

Americans can empty their medicine cabinets, bedside tables, and kitchen drawers of unwanted, unused, and/or expired prescription drugs for free. Bring them to collection sites located throughout the United States as part of the Drug Enforcement Administration’s (DEA) National Drug Take-Back Day, scheduled for Saturday, April 28th (10:00 till 2:00 pm). It will provide a great opportunity for those who have accumulated unwanted, unused prescription drugs, to safely dispose of those medications. Convenient drop-off locations at Ross Township, Bellevue, Shaler, and Northern Regional Police departments, Passavant Hospital, The Mall in Robinson, and MANY other locations. Check the Pennsylvania Resources Council’s Pharmaceuticals page after April 1st, or visit www.dea.gov for other locations and details.

Household Chemical Collection

The PA Resources Council (PRC) and other groups are sponsoring three collection events inAllegheny County this summer. The first one will be at North Park swimming pool parking lot on Saturday, May 5th from 9:00 AM to 1:00 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 12th 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.
"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

2018 COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

BREAKFORTH ENSEMBLE

**Facilitator:** David Miles  
**Contact:** miles@ohiou.edu  
**When:** April 8, 2018 @ 9:00 am  
April 15, 2018  
**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.

THE UKE GROUP

**Facilitator:** Sandy Faulkner  
**Contact:** sfauk50@aol.com or 412-366-5973  
**When:** April 2nd @ 7:30 pm  
April 16th @ 7:30 pm  
**Where:** East Room

This month we are back to our normal schedule so we will 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: sfauk50@aol.com.

THE CRAFT GROUP

**Facilitator:** Irene Dinning  
**Contact:** dining1@comcast.net or call 412-741-6463  
**When:** Every Thursday, 10:00 am  
**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!
Our Spring Sale is scheduled for **Sunday, April 15**

th before and after Sunday Service, one day only. Please join us to see the wonderful new creations we have crafted just for you and your Mom. Among the treasures are:

- **Dryer Balls** – highly recommended to reduce static electricity and reduce or eliminate the need for dryer sheets.

- **Microwave Pot Holders** to cradle a cup or bowl as you reheat a treat. Wonderful spring patterns. Lovely as gifts.

- **Wooden Buttons** – Crafted in oak, cedar, maple, cherry and another mystery wood by John Ritzert. These buttons are perfect for knitted garments. The button holes are large enough for yarn. They may also be worn as decoration on their own as pins and necklaces. We've made a few.

- **Washable Table and counter wipes** to replace paper towels.

- **Table Runners in spring colors** – yellow and green for your picnic or outdoor table- are machine washable.

- **Light weight Spring Scarves** to carry along as protection against an evening chill or AC set a bit too high.

- **Mother’s Day Cards**.

- **Susan Powers quilt**.

- **Mohair and ribbon meditation shawl**.

- **Soup in a jar**.

- **Baked Treats**.

- **As we say, our items are often one of a kind and affordably priced, so shop early and decide before you walk away. You and maybe your mom will be happy you did.**
"To the Lighthouse follows and extends the tradition of modernist novelists like Marcel Proust and James Joyce, where the plot is secondary to philosophical introspection." The preceding is, of course, a particular reviewer's offering of a technical description of style, technique, and what one could call a particular tradition of genre. But why mistreat such a monumental achievement of personal introspection and perhaps even, a bit of redemption. The book is so much more than mere technique. This novel, by Ms. Woolf, has an ethereal quality that tends to lift the consciousness of the reader in a way that magnifies his, or her awareness of self, both the positive, as well as negative. The writer manages to invoke recognition, not only of the generalities of the human condition, but also, if you are fortunate enough, yourself. A captivating novel by a superb writer.

FUTURE SCHEDULED TITLES:

- **May 11, 2018:** The Known World  
  Author: Edward P. Jones
- **June 8, 2018:** Frankenstein; or The Modern Prometheus  
  Author: Mary Shelley

NHCO FOOD PANTRY DONATION CUPBOARD

FOR APRIL: Crackers Of Any Kind

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 is for Crackers Of Any Kind – to be brought to the 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.
NHCO’S NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY – Tickets On Sale Now

North Hills Community Outreach’s Neighborhood Block Party is 5:30-8:30 pm, Thursday, April 26 in The Chadwick in McCandless (Wexford). The whole family is welcome at this all-ages event, which includes multiple food stations, live music by members of Under the Covers and Juniper Six, princess and superhero visits, games, kids’ activities, a silent auction and a cash bar provided by The Chadwick. Tickets are all-inclusive. Tickets are available through April 21 are $30 for adults and $13 for children ages 3-10.  Proceeds support NHCO’s 20+ programs that help local families in need. Purchase tickets online at https://nhco.org/2018-neighborhood-block-party/ or by calling Cheryl at 412-487-6316 opt 1. The event is sponsored by Allegheny Health Network with Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield, People’s Gas, Dollar Bank and The Chadwick.

NHCO COLLECTION SPRING CLEANING SUPPLIES

North Hills Community Outreach is collecting Spring Cleaning supplies for distribution to the families who use its three food pantries. Items are appreciated by June 8, but will be accepted year round. Items needed include: laundry detergent, antibacterial wipes, all-purpose cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, dish detergent, pack of sponges, paper towels and canvas shopping bags. 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.

WALK FOR NHCO IN THE HIGHMARK WALK

Join North Hills Community Outreach in the Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community May 12! 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. This is a great family activity. Dogs are welcome! For more information, please contact Maria at mschristina@nhco.org or 412-408-3830.

NHCO OFFERS GOAL-SETTING HELP FOR THOSE WHO ARE STRUGGLING

People who are low-income and to set employment or education goals can get help at North Hills Community Outreach. NHCO’s Self-sufficiency program, also known as case management or Family Development, helps low-income people set and achieve short- and long-term goals. Our coordinators meet one on one with clients to coach and provide resources and support. Appointments are available. For information, call Abby in North Boroughs (Bellevue) at 412-307-0069, Nicole in Millvale at 412-408-3830 or Shela in McKees Rocks at 412-331-1685 extension 233.

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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%!
- 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 from the Gift Card Team

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:
- Use AND BOOKMARK the UUCNH Link to AmazonSmile: https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7429191
- Sign in. Simply use your existing Amazon credentials, and then start shopping. It’s that easy!
- 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.
FROM THE EDITOR:

The article submission Deadline for the May Intercom will be on April 21st. Please get your articles into me by April 21st to be included in the May Intercom issue. Also, be sure the dates and times you list in your article are accurate and are proofread by you, for they go to print as is. 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.

PUBLICATIONS DEADLINE REMINDERS

The good folks who manage UUCNH’s Intercom, E-NEWS and Order of Service Announcements are often swamped by last-minute requests. Here’s some ways to help lighten their various loads:

- Treat the deadlines as firm: the Intercom is the 21st of each month, the E-NEWS and OOS Announcements are due Tuesdays by end of day.
- Both Dawn (Volunteer) and Sona (Office Manager) are good at what they do, but late submissions mean more work. Also, please submit a “lean” copy, proofread by you.
- Space in the OOS Announcements is limited, so please be patient if your event doesn’t always get listed.

Thank you in advance for your kind attention to our publications details!
Happy Easter
April 1st

April 22nd

Happy Earth Day