2018

INTERCOM

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CHURCH OF THE NORTH HILLS
Google the words “stewardship” and be prepared to be amazed at the variety of ways that word is used. As for me, my personal favorite is a sermon title credited to enterprising if theologically evangelical pastor: “It’s All His Anyway.”

Stay with me here, folks. For the germ of the otherwise sexist and off putting title is not as antithetical to liberal religion as you might think.

If the idea is that we are called upon to use our resources of time, gifts and money in the service of something bigger, that’s a message even a UU can glom onto. Heck, change the title to “It’s All Love’s Anyway” and there may be a sermon in there.

The point, as we ramp up for your annual stewardship campaign is that generosity to UUCNH is an investment in something important. To you. To your kids. To the world.

And that something is part noun, but also part verb: love.

I hope you’ll join us for stewardship service on Sunday, March 18. Although I bear no shame in asking our folks to support their own unique and precious communities of spirit, I promise not to browbeat or bore (I hope). The goal is to remind you that UUNCH is, at its core, a laboratory for love. Love the noun, and love the verb. ‘Cause when it comes right down to it, all we have belongs to love anyway.

Blessings,
Don

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

March 4, 2018
APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY: WE GOTTA DO WHEN THE SPIRIT SAYS DO...
Rev. Don Rollins
UUCNH Ministry Council with DLFD Search Committee

During the month of January we met in small groups to tell our stories following the Appreciative Inquiry Process. Come hear what we learned and what our next steps will be. If you were not able to attend, you will be provided the opportunity to respond to the questions so that your stories can be included.

March 11, 2018
SILENT VICTIMS
Pam Surano

A 400% increase in incarceration rates over the past few decades has produced a surge in the number of children left behind—the silent victims of crime. As the only organization in Allegheny County with a distinct focus on this population, Amachi Pittsburgh has been on a mission since 2003 to make these children and youth whole. What do they do? We can we do? - Reminder: Daylight Savings Time Starts Today -

March 18, 2018
TOP TEN REASONS TO RAISE YOUR PLEDGE
Rev. Don Rollins

So many good things are going on as UUCNH makes ready for a new settled ministry and era. As we kickoff the 2018-19 stewardship campaign, Don has a list of reasons why this is a great time to give.

March 25, 2018
RIC MASTEN: LET IT BE A DANCE
Rev. Don Rollins

UUs of a certain age will recognize the name, Ric Masten. Poet, troubadour and author, Ric spent the better part of 40 years ministering to our congregations. Don will trace Ric’s life. And sing his signature song, “Let it be a Dance.”
ROBYN’S RAMBLINGS

Close your eyes... oh wait, don’t do that, you won’t be able to read this.... Ok keep your eyes open but try to envision what our future will be like. In less than 2 years, we will have a settled minister. What new and exciting changes will he, she or they bring us? Who will we be then? What is your vision for the future of UUCNH? I know I have lots of ideas, lots of things I would love to see for us. Now, take a step back, because the question for today is what do we need to do to make that vision become reality? What steps do we need to take?

This is what I think about a lot. If I were a minister or DLFD, what is it about this church that would make me want to join us? How would we be staffed? How do we operate? How flexible are we? On a personal level, I am always self-evaluating, trying to find ways to better myself. As your board president, I am doing that with our church as well. I am constantly evaluating us and what can we do better, what do we do well.

Some things on my mind right now –

• Stewardship season is coming. Funding this church is so important, but also important is understanding that our fiscal health will be a huge sell to a new minister.

• We have had a strained relationship with Bellwood for far too long. They are a community service that our church offers and we need to work together more. We have members that are current Bellwood parents and Bellwood alumni. I have had the pleasure of hearing some old stories and spending time with the Bellwood folks, what a wonderful offering they are.

• We are very short on written policies which make each board member work harder.

• Are we staffed and positioned for growth? We had a bump in membership after Trump was elected but we didn’t really maintain it. How come? What could we have done better?

• Are we flexible enough to manage unexpected changes particularly in finance but all across our church?

• Can we do more with technology, not only to add flexibility but also to be greener in our work?

• How do we become a beacon of social justice in the North Hills? Do we want to lead or follow, or both?

There are a ton more, but I won’t take you down the rabbit hole of my thoughts. I will just finish by saying that I am sure each of you have evaluated our church at some point, pondered our future and our possibilities. What thoughts do you have? You don’t have to be board president to help those dreams become a reality. Join a committee, or team and share your ideas. Let’s create a future for UUCNH together. OK, you can close your eyes now... oh wait, you have the rest of the intercom to read. Nevermind.

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.
REFLECTIONS

It has been a joy participating in the monthly youth advisor meetings this year. The advisors are a cohort of people who are dedicated to youth ministry AND have much fun while exploring the meeting topics on their own...contributing to their own spiritual growth.

Stan Crow was a Youth advisor extraordinaire and mentor of mine. He was a UU religious and community educator dedicated to “actively involving seekers in spiritual growth and creative social justice work.” He wrote to his congregation regarding youth programming:

“We want to provide:
• Positive experiences of community with other youth and adults;
• A chance to consider social injustice and encourage them to work for justice;
• Encouragement to articulate their personal faith in an atmosphere which makes space for a diversity of beliefs;
• Support from adults who live our UU Principles and expect the youth to do the same;
• A chance to feel supported, recognized, and welcomed as part of our faith community.”

Interestingly enough, these are shared values and goals that have come through here at UUCNH from small group conversations, and through the Ends Statements the Board presented at the mid-year congregational meeting. This is a ministry that reflects who you are now and how you move forward as a multigenerational congregation, continuing to build bridges between the generations.

In Peace,
Jennifer Halperin
Interim Director of Lifespan Faith Development

DLFD SEARCH UPDATE

There are two new pages in the UUCNH Faith Development website. The FIRST describes the small group conversations that were held in October, 2017. The SECOND summarizes the results and shows a thematic analysis of responses. The results of these conversations helped shape the job description and desired strengths of potential applicants. The closing date for applications is March 11th.

CALENDAR

• March 3rd – Mystery Pals Reveal Ice Cream Social & Games @ 4 – 5 pm
  Regular am classes
• March 4th – Regular am classes – 3rd & 4th combine with 5th & 6th for a
  Children’s Chapel with Jennifer Halperin
• March 11th – Regular am classes
• March 18th - Regular am classes
• March 25th – Regular am classes
• April 1st – Easter Sunday – Young Children have combined activities
  Easter egg hunt directly after the service on the lawn (weather permitting)
OUR WHOLE LIVES

Our Wholes Lives for 1st & 2nd Grade continues during regular class time (10:30 – 11:40 am) every Sunday in March, concluding March 25th. Children of that age who are not enrolled are welcome to attend either the PreK/K class or the 3rd & 4th grade class.

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: Mystery Pals Reveal Party and Ice Cream Social - March 3rd @ 2PM

Our Mystery Pals program finishes up on Saturday, March 3rd at 4 pm with an Ice Cream Social and games at UUCNH. Sound like fun? For more information, please contact, Dawn Lindsay at northparkmom@gmail.com. Come and fun together!

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 16th – 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
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 – Begins New in March, 2018

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.

- March 25th - UU Views of God
- April 22nd – Additions Ministry
- May 27th - UU: A Spiritual Home for LGBTQ People

HUMANIST DISCUSSION GROUP

Facilitator: Dick Myers
Contact: dmyers.rlm@gmail.com
When: March 25, 2018 @ Noon– 1:15 pm
Where: East Room

Socrates (c. 470 – 399 BCE) believed that all people had something to contribute to human thought and understanding. That’s why he took his philosophy “to the streets,” engaging those he met with his famous questions. In his book "Socrates Café," philosopher Christopher Phillips develops a technique to get the practice of philosophy out of the Ivory Tower and back into the public square. Using Phillips’ methods, together we will generate A Big Question (such as “What is truth?”, “How should we practice justice?”, or “Why have children?”), and tackle it through deep inquiry. The goal of Socrates Café is to come away with more questions than you came in with; we don’t try to solve anything or find consensus. The idea is to find the questions behind the question.

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

Facilitator: Tony Palermo
Contact: tpalermo@consolidated.net
When: March 18, 2018 @ 12:00 – 1:15 pm
Where: Upstairs after the service

Why did Jesus die in Jerusalem? And how did so many versions of the events afterward develop? We’ll delve into this landmark in human history next time. See Tony Palermo for details or email him at tpalermo@consolidated.net.

MEDITATION WITH FRIENDS

In March, weather and last minute crises permitting, we will meet on Tuesday the 13th and Tuesday the 27th. Meetings are from 7:00 to 8:30 pm in the sanctuary. 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/.

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 to the list or if you have any questions please contact Sue Luebbert, at luebbert.unicorn@gmail.com or at (412) 366-9553.

PSI [PHILOSOPHICAL, SPIRITUAL INSIGHTS]

Facilitator: Tony Palermo
Contact: tpalermo@consolidated.net
When: March 4, 2018 @ 12:00 – 1:15 pm
Where: Upstairs, follow the signs

Men are from Mars, Women from Venus? Nope. Psychologist Deborah Tannen suggests New York and Philadelphia are closer to reality. We’ll begin a discussion of the differences in Gender Outlook using her book, You Just Don’t Understand, plus a few other choice inputs...including, hopefully, yours. See Tony Palermo for details. tpalermo@consolidated.net
SISTERS-IN-SPRIT

Facilitators: Rachael Smart
Michelle Broge-Connor

Contacts: thesmartfamily3@yahoo.com
brogemm@gmail.com

When: March 14, 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 or Michelle Broge-Connor at brogemm@gmail.com.

UU CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVES

Co-Facilitators: Joe Meier
Edie Swihart

Contact: meierke@msn.com

When: March 11, 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, March 13th @ 12 – 1pm,
- Monday, March 26th @ 7 – 8pm

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.
MEET THE CHURCH

New to UUCNH? Want to Know More?
Then join us for Meet the Church
On March 18th 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!

SYSTEMIC CHANGE TEAM

FAITH AND FAIRNESS

We still have a long way to go... We’re glad the maps are being changed for the 2018 election in Pennsylvania. However, the real goal is to change the process! We still want a constitutional amendment for Pennsylvania that will take the process out of the politicians’ hands and have the maps drawn by a nonpartisan committee. Two things to do in March!

UUCNH is hosting a March on Harrisburg workshop on March 9 at 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm. March on Harrisburg is advocating to end gerrymandering and to ban gifts to politicians. They are also supporting the Poor Peoples’ March. As if that wasn’t enough Adam Eichen, co-author of Daring Democracy will be speaking.

Do you live in Cranberry Twp.? To build momentum towards passing Senate Bill 22 and House Bill 722 local governments are passing resolutions in support of fair redistricting. We are targeting Cranberry Twp. If you live in the township, please contact Ginny Wolzer at ginny.75.walzer@gmail.com.

We are in need of a data steward for organizing to do phone calls and/or door-to-door canvassing in specific districts. Computer skills and spreadsheet management and ability to “attend” webinars a must. Curious? Contact Carol Ballance at cstbwexford@gmail.com.
FAITHFUL TO OUR FUTURE

Generosity is a given for those of us who attend the Unitarian Universalist Church of the North Hills (UUCNH). We give of our love, our compassion, our time and our money. We give of our hope, our skepticism, our enthusiasm, and our individual and collective songs. We give to the church, we give to each other, we give to causes near and dear to our hearts, and we give food, clothing or gifts to those who are in dire straits.

As we embark upon a Stewardship Campaign to fund UUCNH’s 2018-2019 Fiscal year, we have several important milestones to accomplish. First, the important “save the dates” we’d like you to note in your respective calendars:

- Sunday, March 18th, Reverend Don Rollins, Top Ten Reasons to Pledge – Submit your Pledge.
- Saturday, March 24th, Music and Musicals Celebration Potluck and Karaoke: Bring your family, a potluck dish, and come dressed in your favorite musician or musical character costume...or just as you are. We’ll eat, and then the brave (or encouraged) will sing. More details to follow.
- Sunday, April 15th, instead of staying home to wrap up your tax filings, come to church for a wrap-up Stewardship Sunday – Final Sunday to submit your Pledge card.

Now, how do you get information about pledging? Well, watch this column, sign up to be a visiting Steward (which means you can attend the free Steward Training class), or download this PDF from the UUA (see footnote #1 below). If you wish to be a visiting steward (and we encourage everyone to be one), send an email to stewardship@uucnh.org noting your interest. We need to train you, stat.

Finally, let me leave you with this quote, from “Asking Makes a Difference,” by Jerald L. King:

“Commitment is what stewardship campaigns are all about. The process of putting a stewardship campaign into motion builds our commitment and allows us to put a monetary value on that commitment by financial support of our programs. Our pledge then becomes a secular means of supporting what is sacred to us. The value of money in a stewardship campaign is what it can do in terms of making the congregation’s goals a reality – that requires the time, talents, and money from each as they can give.”

Respectfully yours,
Alex Landefeld
Chair, UUCNH Stewardship Team

ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE

You can now manage your giving online! It’s easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the internet. To get started 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. It allows for the following payments: pledge, share the plate, general fund, Memorial garden, memorials and Children’s Memorial fund. There is also an option to increase your contribution by 3% to help offset the online transaction costs to the church.

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 (the most knowledge choice), Lindsay Scott or Mary Ellen Johnson with any questions.

The Finance Committee

FOR THE HUNGER GARDEN

Spring is around the corner! Time for soil testing/amending and planning the garden layout. And, 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. 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 Coffeehouse is on the first Friday of each month (except for May), from 7:30 to 9:00ish 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. The potluck starts at 6:00 pm, with the vespers led by Don at 6:45 pm. Help with the potluck setup/cleanup will be appreciated.
**NHCO CITRUS SALE**

**NHCO Citrus Arrives March 3RD /4TH**
Extra Fruit Available!

Our NHCO Citrus orders will arrive on Saturday, March 3rd - picked within the week before. If you ordered some, please come to the East Room after service on Sunday the 4th. If you didn’t order any, but want some, you’re in luck! We did order some extra, so if you want a box, half a box, or just a few pieces, come see Chris Hill in the East Room during coffee hour. If you can’t pick it up then, please contact Chris at chill613@comcast.net.

Thanks for a great turnout—we ordered over 80 boxes of citrus—good for us and great for NHCO!!

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**NHCO FOOD PANTRY DONATION CUPBOARD**

**FOR MARCH:** Crackers of all kinds

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

THE CRAFT GROUP

Facilitator: Irene Dinning
Contact: dinning1@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!

THE UKE GROUP

Facilitator: Sandy Faulkner
Contact: sfaulk50@aol.com or 412-366-5973
When: March 5 & March 19 2018 @ 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: sfaulk50@aol.com.
March's Book Discussion Group is cancelled. You may wish to check out the upcoming books and get a head start on them!

FUTURE TITLES:

- March 9, 2018: Meeting Cancelled
- April 13, 2018: To The Lighthouse – Author: Virginia Woolf
- May 11, 2018: The Known World - Author: Edward P. Jones
- June 8, 2018: Frankenstein; or The Modern Prometheus - Author: Mary Shelley

BREAKFORTH ENSEMBLE

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.
NHCO COLLECTING SPRING DINNER ITEMS

North Hills Community Outreach is collecting items through March 9 to provide a complete Spring Dinner for each family that uses our food pantry. This collection replaces the former Spring Basket collection. Items needed include jar of applesauce, can of pineapple or fruit cocktail, box of mashed or scalloped potatoes, package of dinner rolls or biscuit mix, and butter or margarine. (Families will also receive vegetables and a gift card to purchase a ham or other item to round out the meal.) Financial donations to NHCO are also appreciated. Please donate Monday through Friday, 9 am-4 pm 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 other arrangements.

RUN FOR THE HILLS! NHCO SEeks 5K RunNERS, reLay TEAMS and MARATHONERS

North Hills Community Outreach invites runners of all abilities to run one of the races of the Dick's Sporting Goods Pittsburgh Marathon May 5 and 6, 2018. Registration is FREE when you run for NHCO and help local families in need. Runners can choose the 5K, form a relay team, or run the half or full marathon. Visit www.crowdrise.com/northhillscommunitypitt2018 or contact Harriet at hzklatte@nhco.org or 412-408-3830 x 3204.

NHCO SEEKS FUNDS FOR SHARING WINTER WARMTH

Funds are urgently needed for North Hills Community Outreach’s Sharing Winter Warmth program so that families in need can receive one $50 credit toward a heat or light bill. To donate, please make checks payable to NHCO, write Sharing Projects on the memo line, and mail or deliver to NHCO, 1975 Ferguson Rd, Allison Park, PA 15101. For more information, please call 412-487-6316 opt 1.

NHCO OFFERING MONEY IN YOUR POCKET FREE TAX PREPARATION

North Hills Community Outreach is once again offering FREE tax preparation for low-income individuals through the United Way Money In Your Pocket tax preparation program. Appointments are required and can be made by calling United Way’s helpline, 2-1-1.

Income eligibility requirements:

- For households with ONE PERSON, annual income must be $25,000 or less.
- For households with MORE THAN ONE PERSON, annual income must be $45,000 or less.
- NHCO’s Bellevue/North Boroughs site will be open for tax prep appointments Mondays and Wednesdays, 4:30 to 7:30 pm, beginning January 22. NHCO’s Millvale site will be open for tax prep appointments Saturdays, 9:00 am to noon, beginning January 20.

EMPLOYMENT HELP IS AVAILABLE AT NHCO

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

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 uuchoffice@uuch.org.
INTERCOM SUBMISSIONS

FROM THE EDITOR:

The article submission Deadline for the April Intercom will be on March 21st. Please get your articles into me by March 21st to be included in the April 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.

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.
• 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!
DON’T FORGET
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS ON MARCH 11TH
So turn your clocks ahead before you go to sleep on March 10th

And Remember
St. Patrick’s Day on MARCH 17TH