

The Gathering at Northern Hills is a congregation of free people

As such, we celebrate diversity and welcome to our services all persons, irrespective of race, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, or faith.

We invite and welcome to our membership those in agreement with our purposes and principles.

Website:

<http://www.uunhf.org>

For current calendar information, visit the website and click on the calendar link at the bottom of the webpage.

Rev. Doug Slagle, Minister
Sunday Services & Religious
Education:

Sunday at 10:45

Nursery Care Provided

The Harbinger

Rethinking Racism



Join us for the 8th Rethinking Racism on **Thursday November 17th from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Gathering at Northern Hills!** An Open Space format will be used again as we continue these important conversations and build relationships. We welcome you to attend again

or for the first time. Rethinking Racism is a multiracial alliance challenging white individuals and organizations to acknowledge and end racism. Our movement's initial effort is bringing large groups of people together for open exchanges that will encourage authentic unity, address denial and provide further pathways to justice. We believe the relationships created will lead us from conversation to actions that will begin to transform racist structures. You can access the flyer on the [IJPC event page](#) - please share it widely or share the event with friends on [Facebook](#)! Please [RSVP](#) to help us estimate space needs: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/rethinking-racism-tickets-28655551526>. Best, Allison and the Rethinking Racism Collective

November Birthdays

Barb Kent - Nov 1; Rachel Anderson – Nov. 7; Ty Austin – Nov. 10; Mary Lou Aufmann – Nov. 14; Seth Israel – Nov. 16; Angella Daniels – Nov. 21; Penny Shore – Nov. 27; Leo Schmahl – Nov. 30



Thoughts from Rev. Doug



I want to say a few words here about the recent election. For many of you, for myself, the results were upsetting. And we know the months and years ahead will be challenging. I cannot tell you how many people, even complete strangers, reached out to me in the hopes that this community might offer some help or consolation. My own daughter contacted me in the early morning hours after the election sobbing and in tears. Like many wonderfully idealistic young people, she could not imagine a new government that may be so inconsistent with her values.

In light of all the deep grief I've heard and felt myself, I thought seriously about abandoning plans I'd made for this service and conduct instead, one focused on mourning and healing. But as I pondered, I realized that while expressing grief is helpful, to change what we normally do would be to abandon our values in the face of defeat. I will not do that.

216 years ago, our nation held a transformational election between President John Adams and his Vice President Thomas Jefferson. Both were from different parties but Adams had succeeded George Washington and so his party, the Federalists, had been in control for 12 years. The election between Adams and Jefferson was bitter, hard fought and filled with terribly personal attacks. Jefferson won the election in what is still called the Revolution of 1800. Early on inauguration morning, Adams petulantly vacated the White House in the dark of night and refused to attend the swearing in ceremony. He could not imagine how Jefferson, who advocated for what Adams believed were the hopes of an uneducated rabble, had won. Nevertheless, the inauguration took place and our nation's history of peacefully transferring power between opponents was established. America not only survived but thrived.

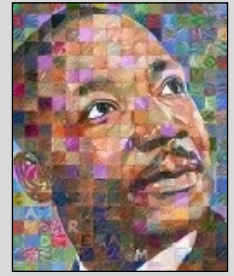
This past week President Obama promised he would peacefully and honorably transfer power too. Hillary Clinton graciously conceded defeat even though she won the most total votes. They lived out Michelle Obama's famous encouragement to go high no matter what. They also emphasized our need for national unity and how, even as we may disagree with him, we must support the new President. As Jennifer Schmahl said to me this week, she cannot hope the pilot of our national airplane crashes and burns because, after all, she's a passenger.

If we are patriots, we will respectfully speak our minds when we disagree with our leaders, but we will still hope for their success in building both an economy that works for everyone, and a nation that is safe and secure.

I've repeated to many people this week the well-known words of Martin Luther King, Jr. **"The arc of the moral universe is a long one, but it bends toward justice."** Those words are both comforting and hopeful. But I also want to repeat words from the speech Dr. King gave the night before he was killed - a speech that seemed a premonition of his death.

(Continued)

Thoughts From Rev. Doug (continued): He said: **“Somewhere I read that the greatness of America is the right to protest for rights. And so just as I said, we aren't going to let dogs or water hoses turn us around. We aren't going to let any injunction turn us around. We are going on. We've got some difficult days ahead. But it really doesn't matter with me now, because I've been to the mountaintop. [God has] allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over. And I've seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land.”**



His words are as true today as they were then. We cannot and must not allow grief to cause us to lose hope. Let us each put on our hiking boots and let's climb the mountain together. A Promised Land of justice, love, tolerance and peace remains our goal today - just as much as it was weeks ago.

I wish you each much peace and joy.

A Note from Barry Young, Our Hospitality Chair

Penny Shore and Robin Crahan are retiring from their many years as Hospitality Coordinators. I am grateful, as I am sure are all of our members are, for their years of service and hard work. Please tell them that the next time you see them. We all appreciate how efficiently and smoothly things ran under their tenures.

I am happy and honored to be taking over the roll as Hospitality Coordinator for The Gathering at Northern Hills. Most people probably know me as "The Kilted Cake Guy" married to Kimball Roots "The other Kilted Guy". I look forward to serving the church in this capacity and hope that I can do as good a job as my predecessors.

We will continue to use Sign Up Genius (if it ain't broke don't fix it) for scheduling, as this is the easiest way to coordinate everyone. We will also be adding some new members to the schedule.

Going forward I will be calling and emailing everyone on the Hospitality schedule the Wednesday before you are scheduled for Hospitality to confirm you are scheduled and answer any questions you may have. My phone number is 513-823-1095 and my email address is barryyoung@yahoo.com.



Chili Cookoff

If you've been craving chili, now is the time to start practicing at home! The GNHUUC Chili Cook-off will be on Sunday, Dec. 4. Bring your pot of chili to be judged by the congregation and to be enjoyed by all. If you can't bring a pot of chili bring some sour cream, cheese, chopped onions, or a dessert. This is our third annual Chili Cook-off led by chili diva Cheryl Leksan. The weather is cool and perfect for a nice bowl of chili.

Upcoming Events

- Nov. 16—Yoga—6:45—Quimby Room
- Nov. 17—Rethinking Racism—6 p.m.—Sanctuary and Quimby Room
- Nov. 21 - Yoga – 6:45 p.m. – Quimby Room
- Nov. 23 - Yoga – 6:45 p.m. – Quimby Room
- Nov. 28 - Yoga – 6:45 p.m. – Quimby Room
- Nov. 30 - Yoga – 6:45 p.m. – Quimby Room
- Dec. 4—Membership Team Meeting—12:15 - Minister’s Office
- Dec. 4—Annual Chili Cook-Off— 12:15—Quimby Room
- Dec. 5 - Yoga – 6:45 p.m. – Quimby Room
- Dec. 7 - Yoga – 6:45 p.m. – Quimby Room
- Dec. 9—Service Planning Meeting—1:30—Minister’s Office



November Messages:



November begins the end of year holiday season by bringing together family and friends to celebrate all we have received over the past year. In gratitude, we give thanks for the gift of life, the people around us, the beauty of nature, and the basics of life like food and shelter. At

the Gathering at Northern Hills, we also celebrate the gift of our congregation and all the ways it enlightens, comforts and empowers us. GNH gives us inspiration, friendships, opportunities to serve the wider community, and a way to live out our human purpose by making a difference in the world. Without our beloved community, most of us would feel an emptiness and void. With all of this in mind, we'll use the November Sunday services to explore how we can better express thanks to family, stranger and church through three variations on "**Attitudes of Gratitude.**"

- 11/20: An Attitude of Gratitude: Sharing Our Talent**
- 11/27: Social Justice Themed Sunday**

Holiday Schedule

The Freestore will be closed on Saturdays in Nov. and Dec. so they can prepare for their Holiday food distribution drive. As a result, the Gathering at Northern Hills will not serve Nov. 19 and Dec. 17.



Save the Date

Sheryl Rajbhandari of Heartfelt Tidbits will present a forum on **Sunday, Dec. 4,** from 9:30-10:30 preceding the service. She will focus on “adopting a refugee family” and on the various ways that individuals can support refugee resettlement in Cincinnati.

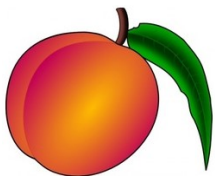


The Giving Tree



Starting this Sunday, Nov. 20 you will find the Giving Tree in the Quimby room. Once again this year, we hope to buy 20 gifts for the families served by Lighthouse Youth Services and 20 gifts for the families served by Valley Interfaith Food Pantry. Please pick an ornament and record your choice on the sign-up sheet. Please bring your gift to church by Sunday, December 11. Lighthouse gifts should be unwrapped while Valley gifts can be wrapped. If you would rather donate money, we will give all cash donations to Up Spring, the agency assisting homeless children's educational needs. Thank you for making this holiday a little brighter for Cincinnati area families in need. Kim Roots and Susan Duncan

A Giving Opportunity



Valley Interfaith Food and Clothing Center has asked GNH to donate **200 cans of peaches by Sunday, December 11**, for their Christmas food baskets. The peaches are coming in, and we

have reached the half-way point! Canned peaches are available at Big Lots of \$1 each, and at Aldi for 89 cents each. Please put your donations in the large basket by the stairs in the foyer outside the Quimby Room. If you would rather give a cash donation, contact Betsy Anderson at 513.825.2061 or mbanderson1@zoomtown.com, or see her Sunday.

New Member Class



We will be offering our next few New UU / New Member information classes on Sundays, Nov. 20 and Dec. 18 following hospitality hour in the Quimby Room. The class covers UU history, the history of

NHF and The Gathering, church structure, ministry and social justice. Members, prospective members and friends simply wanting to know more are encouraged to attend.

Contact MJ Pierson at MJPier0410@aol.com for more information.

December 5 Deadline

Your Pledge to GNH for 2017 is important! Our treasurer and our Board cannot plan a budget for next year without knowing what the income will be.



These last Sundays, Rev. Doug offered a message about the idea that even though many things in life can be reduced to an economic cost, the true **value** of them is more difficult to determine. The cost of running GNH is not cheap. But the **value** of what we receive here is very high. What **value** do you receive from friends you've made here, Sunday messages, music by Michael Tacy, our Children's RE program, our charity outreach to the hungry and homeless, our Social Justice efforts, and our warm hospitality? If you have not already done so, and are a member or regular attender here, please review the **Fair Share Pledge Guide** issued by the UUA and fill out a Pledge form, at the exit to the Sanctuary, today. Thank you!



The Freestore will be closed on Saturdays in November and December so they can prepare for their Holiday food distribution drive. As a result, **the Gathering at Northern Hills will NOT serve November 19 and December 17.**

NEWSLETTER POLICY (September 2008)

All items that appear in the Harbinger should be of general interest to the members and friends of GNH and be consistent with GNH's mission, purposes, and policies.

Newsletter submission should be as brief as possible, with a 500 word maximum. The editor has the right and responsibility to edit as needed to ensure conciseness and readability. The editor also has the right to delay publishing non-time-critical articles as available space may require.

The newsletter editor may refuse publication if a submission is considered inappropriate.

The editor shall consult with the minister and the Trustee who holds the communication portfolio for guidance in what shall be published.

Members of GNH shall have the choice to receive the Harbinger electronically or via paper mail. The newsletter shall be posted on the website. Do not submit names or contact information without the consent of other persons.

The Harbinger mailing list shall not be used for business purposes or for any type of mailings other than those specifically relating to church events.

The Gathering at Northern Hills, A Unitarian Universalist Community

460 Fleming Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45231

Phone: 513-931-6651

Email: northernhillsfellowship6824@gmail.com

Office Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday (Closed one hour for lunch)

Worship Attendance

Nov. 6: 73

Nov. 13: 82

A Message from the Editor

This newsletter is nothing without YOU! If you are a committee chair, or otherwise the driving force behind any of the many activities at The Gathering at Northern Hills, please submit an article! Take note of the dates to your left, check your calendar, read the policy above and send something in. Your beloved community needs to know!

Newsletter Information

Future deadlines: Dec. 1 for Dec. 6
Dec. 15 for Dec. 20
Dec. 29 for Jan. 3

Please have all articles to Susan West by 10 a.m. on the Thursday before the Harbinger is published. Space can be reserved on the rare occasion an article needs to be late.

