



The Harbinger

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.gnhuu.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

Announcement, and Thoughts from Rev. Doug

I am very pleased to announce that the Gathering at Northern Hills has hired a new Administrator. Adrienne Campbell will begin working three days a week for the congregation on Tuesday, December 5th. She will determine her regular work hours and announce them once she has settled into the role.

Adrienne applied for the position after several circumstances fortuitously aligned. I posted the GNH Administrator job description with Cincinnati Police Officer Louis Arnold who directs the CPD Community Outreach office. He regularly sends blast emails with job openings he hears about to his wide circle of friends, colleagues and acquaintances.

Several days prior to my job post with Officer Arnold, Adrienne mentioned to a friend that she would like to find part-time work. She recently retired from full-time employment as the office manager of a painting contractor company. Adrienne is a Notary Public and a CPA - along with having other significant office management skills.



Adrienne Campbell

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Adrienne's friend suggested she look for work with a church but both agreed such positions can be difficult to find. Soon thereafter the friend saw our job posting in an email from Officer Arnold. She told Adrienne who then submitted an application. GNH Board Vice-President Ann Bobonick and I met Adrienne and we were immediately impressed with her qualifications, her friendliness, and upbeat personality. As Adrienne quickly told us, God or some higher power must have had a hand in bringing her to GNH!

Please stop by the office some afternoon in December to say 'hello' to Adrienne and introduce yourself. I know you will be as happy as I am that she is a part of our congregation "family."

Adrienne's hiring comes after we sadly said good-bye to Susan West. She is now using the ten hours a week she worked for us to rest and take care of personal needs. Fortunately, she is still a part of the Cincinnati UU community as she continues as a part-time Administrator at First Unitarian.

Since Susan West departed, however, I've realized how much I take for granted what others do for me and for the church. With the wonderful assistance of member Sue Cline, we have continued to publish GNH's Harbinger newsletter, print weekly

Sunday programs and announcement inserts, as well as assemble our Sunday PowerPoint projector presentations.

I knew all of those tasks are important but, without a professional Administrator, Sue Cline and I spent long hours figuring out how to do what Susan West accomplished quickly. Susan did that work while also managing many other responsibilities too. Needless to say, my appreciation for the Administrative abilities of Susan West, Sue Cline and Adrienne Campbell have grown a lot. They often work behind the scenes but without them, GNH could not function.

And this fact reminds me of the many others who labor quietly in the shadows to make life easier for me and others at GNH.

Our building is cleaned, its grounds are kept tidy, our technology equipment is maintained and run, our finances are managed, coffee is made, programs are folded, our children are taught, etc, etc. all by folks who do so without fanfare and often with little thanks.

In our neighborhoods, countless tasks are performed that keep public spaces maintained, utilities running, and hotels, restaurants and hospitals cleaned. Indeed, much of the everyday work in our nation is performed by people who get little recognition but who serve diligently. And, I mostly take for granted these people and their work.

To change that, I want to begin noticing all the ways GNH and our world function because of those who work behind the scenes. I want to thank them, praise them and offer them small tokens of my appreciation. Most importantly, I want to be grateful for the ways my life is made easier because of the often hidden that work others do...



Upcoming Events

Nov. 29 – Yoga – 6:45 – Quimby Room
Dec. 3 – Souper Sunday – 11:45, Quimby Room
Dec. 3 – New Member Class, 12:00
Dec. 3 – Children’s RE Team, 12:00
Dec. 4 – Yoga – 6:45, Quimby Room
Dec. 6 – Yoga – 6:45, Quimby Room
Dec. 8 – Service Planning Team – 12:30, Meeting Room
Dec. 10 -- Congregational Meeting – after service, Sanctuary
Dec. 10 -- Social Justice Action Team -- after congregational meeting, Sanctuary
Dec. 11 – Yoga – 6:45, Quimby Room
Dec. 13 – Yoga – 6:45, Quimby Room
Dec. 13 -- Serve Lunch at Lighthouse, 11:00-1:0
Dec. 13 -- Cook for Valley Interfaith, 1:00-3:00, Quimby Room and Kitchen
Dec. 16 -- Holiday Party, Windows on the Green, 6:00-10:00 p.m.
Dec. 17: -- Sweets and Treats, after the service, Quimby Room



Upcoming Sunday Messages

December 2017 Message Theme

“It’s a Wonderful Life” Holiday

Join us as Rev. Doug explores some of the themes that present themselves in this favorite film of the Holidays,

December 3: Music Sunday, Michael Tacy speaks, **“Practicing Honesty”**

December 10: Hanukkah, **“L’Chaim”**

December 17: **“Not Getting What You Want”**

December 24: Candlelight Christmas Eve Service, **“Jesus Values: The Real Reason for the Season”**

The service will be GNH 'traditional': family oriented, (children are welcome throughout the service), lots of music, a brief message, candlelight congregation singing and some fun surprises! (Because it's a Sunday, we will not hold an early evening service to allow volunteers and staff to be with family or friends.)

Annual Congregational Meeting

Our annual Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday, December 10, after the service in the Sanctuary. Candidates for 3 open Board of Trustees positions are: Bob Freer, Linda Gutowski, and Cheryl Leksan.

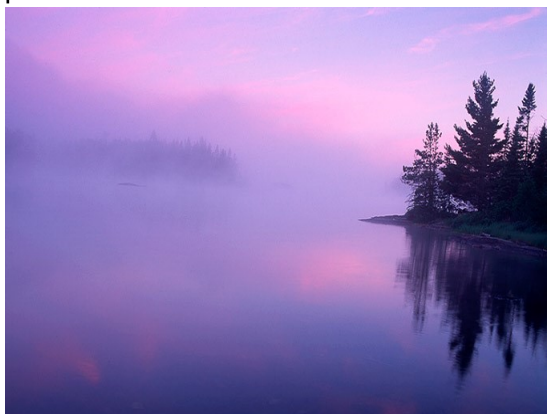
RSVP DEADLINE December 10 for the GNH Annual Holiday Party

Don't Forget:

Please join fellow GNH members and friends at our Annual Holiday Party, Saturday, December 16th, 6:30 to 10:00 p.m., Molloy's on the Green, 10 Enfield St., Cincinnati OH, 45218. \$25.00 per person. Snacks, dinner, dessert, coffee and tea included. A cash bar will be available. Entertainment and games too! *RSVP via email to revdoug@gnhuu.org or call the office and leave a message --we'll get you on the list.*

We don't want anyone to miss the party. Arrangements can be made for those on a limited holiday budget, please contact MJ Pierson at mjpier0410@aol.com.

Member News



Follow Jeff and Carolyn Lachter as they make their four-month sojourn through southeast Asia and New Zealand by checking their blog. Just paste the address in your browser and travel vicariously with them. JeffCarolyn.blogspot.com

Kernals for Life

Be on the lookout in the next Harbinger for further news of a "Kernals for Life" evening program to be hosted by GNH on Tuesday, January 9. GNH is offering this free evening for its members and the wider community. The evening will provide evidence based, easily adapted strategies for parents, grandparents, teachers and anyone living and working with primary school children. The easy, effective strategies offered will support children's success in these challenging times. If you would like to help out in publicizing this event or hosting on that evening, contact Ann Bobonick, ann.bobonick@gmail.com

Valley Interfaith Community Resource Center

Our friends at Valley Interfaith need our support year-round, including donations of empty plastic containers to distribute laundry soap, cereal (all kinds), peanut butter, canned meat (such as tuna), toothbrushes, toothpaste, men's and women's deodorant, body wash, shampoo, cleaning products, garbage bags, powder laundry soap (unscented & hypoallergenic), toilet paper & size 4-6 diapers or any size pull-ups. For additional needs, go to www.vicrc.org, click on "Be an Advocate", then "Donate Items/Manna List." Please put your donations in the large basket by the stairs in the GNH's lobby outside the Quimby Room. Thank you!



Sweets & Treats Coming in December

Don't forget about Sweets & Treats in the Quimby Room on **Sunday, December 17**, after church service. This is a sale of homemade food items (cheesecakes, cookies, preserves, candies, spiced nuts, etc.) with proceeds going to benefit GNH. Start thinking now about what you can make for others to buy as gifts or to enjoy over the holidays.



Share your love of music!!

The GNH Choir enjoys bringing a variety of songs to Sunday services and even a few special events! If you enjoy music, love to sing in the shower or in your car, then come join us! The GNH Choir is eager to welcome new members and friends to join in the fun! We rehearse at 9:30 am Sunday morning on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month, and perform the 4th Sunday. Please contact Michael (deaf4242@gmail.com) or Lindsey (LindzLee@aol.com) for additional information.

Kroger Community Rewards Update

Members and friends who have signed up for the **Kroger Community Rewards Program** in support of the Gathering at Northern Hills and shopped at Kroger between August 1 and October 31 (Cycle 6, Quarter 2) have contributed **\$168.97** to our latest donation from Kroger. Presently there are more than 33 GNH households who are signed up for this program. If you shop at Kroger and have a Kroger Plus card, but haven't signed up yet for this effortless way to support GNH, go to www.kroger.com/communityrewards and follow the links. **Please sign up for the former Northern Hills Fellowship and use the NPO# 80061.** If you need help or have questions, contact Betsy Anderson, Pete Patterson, Barry Young or call Kroger's tech team at 1-866-221-4141. Thank you for your support!



Advertising



Your Search for Truth
and Meaning Begins Here

Sale on [select justice gear](#) from the UUA Bookstore! Merchandise will be on sale, with items up to 50% off, now through December 31st, but free standard shipping is available on orders of \$50 or more (within the U.S.) now through the 15th! It's the perfect way to declare your commitment to justice and join in community with other Unitarian Universalists. We hope these resources support and inspire all that you do. For assistance please call 1-800-215-9076 or email us at bookstore@uua.org.

Winter Woman Spirit 2018!

February 2nd - 4th

with Holly Near

Unitarian Church of Evanston;
1330 Ridge Avenue, Evanston IL 60201
See website for information and to Register
<http://www.womenandreligion.org/>

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

GIVING TREE -- DUE DECEMBER 10

This year we are asking for 20 gifts for families served by Lighthouse and 20 gift cards for teenagers served by Valley Interfaith Resource Center. The giving tree is in the sanctuary behind the lectern. If you choose a gift for Lighthouse please write your name on the duplicate ornament and deposit it in the box on the tree. This way we can make sure we collect all the gifts. Please do not wrap the Lighthouse gifts. Enclosing a gift bag and tissue paper with your gift is always appreciated. In order to ensure the proper delivery of all gifts, be sure to attach the original ornament to the gift. If you choose to get a Target gift card for Valley Interfaith, you do not



have to record your name. If it's not convenient to get to Target, you can give me the cash and I will buy the gift card for you. Please have all the gifts back to church **by December 10, 2017**. Thank you for your generosity in helping to make the holidays a little brighter for families in need. Kim Roots (kimballroots@gmail.com).

FreeStore FoodBank

No volunteer dates in November and December at FreeStore FoodBank. FreeStore uses its upcoming Saturdays to prepare for holiday food basket donations and is thus closed. GNH's next volunteer Saturday date is January 20, 2018.

IHN

I am looking for a new IHN coordinator. Harriet Courter and I have been doing this for about 14 years and would like to retire. Barry and I will be in Florida next winter and will miss at least one of the hosting weeks. The job is easy, just make sure we have enough volunteers for Tuesday nights at St. Monica and make the announcements for hosting weeks at Friendship and St. Monica. We enjoy great support from the Gathering at Northern Hills and usually have no problem finding volunteers. It's a great program that really helps families in need. Please consider helping (maybe co-coordinators like Harriet and me). Thank you.

Kim Roots



Keeping in Mind

Please keep these members and friends in your thoughts at this time:

- ◇ John Spiess
- ◇ Bob Freer
- ◇ The family and friends of former member Delores McKay, wife of Ben McKay. Delores died November 18 in Orlando.

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

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Office Hours: Noon to 5 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday**

Harbinger Information



Future deadlines:

December 19 – DEADLINE FRIDAY, December 15

January 9 – DEADLINE FRIDAY, January 5

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