



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:

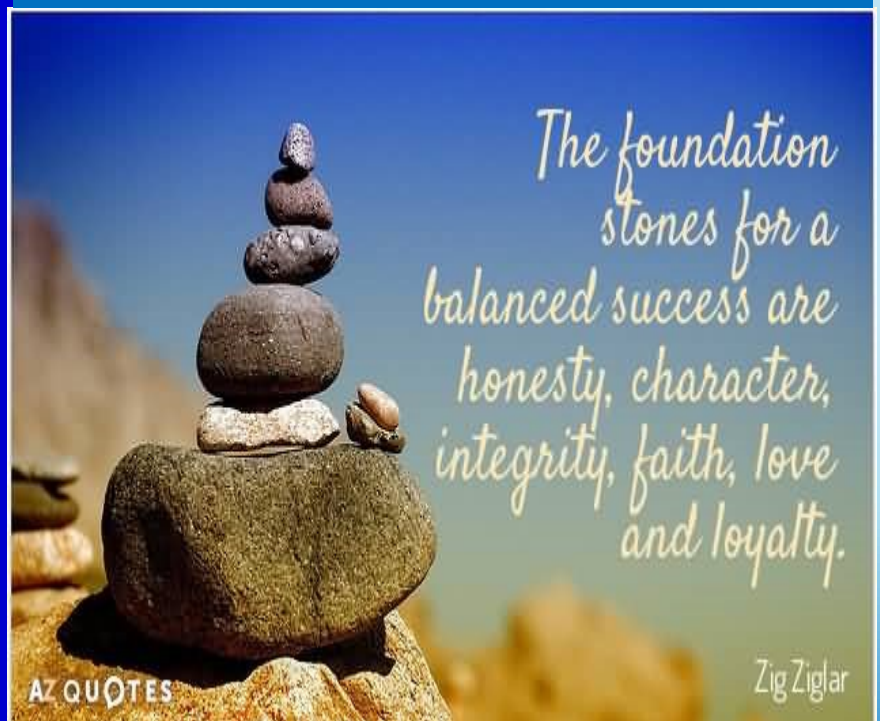
<http://www.gnhuu.org>

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



The foundation stones for a balanced success are honesty, character, integrity, faith, love and loyalty.

Upcoming Events



- **This Sunday, September 8, Coffeehouse and Pet Blessing Service:**
Standing on the Solid Foundation of Ideals: the UUA's 7th Principle.
“Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.” Rev. Doug

“
Sept 1 - Sept 31 - Shambhala Meditation Group, Every Tuesday,
7:00 – 8:30 pm, Quimby Room.

Sept 8 - Social Action Justice Team Meeting, 9:15 am, Sanctuary

Sept 8 - Coffeehouse Family Service & Pet Blessing, 10:45 am

Sept 8 - Congregational Conversation, 12:00 pm

Sept 11 - Lunch preparation at Lighthouse Youth Services, 11:00 am

Sept 21 - Volunteer at the Freestore, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Sept 22 - Membership Team Meeting, 12:00 pm

Sept 24 - GNH Women's Group, 12:00 pm, Quimby Room

Upcoming September Sunday Messages

Theme for the Month: “Standing on the Solid Foundation of Ideals”

- **This Sunday, September 8, Coffeehouse and Pet Blessing Service:**
Standing on the Solid Foundation of Ideals: the UUA's 7th Principle.
“Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.”

- **Sunday, September 15th:** Standing on the Solid Foundation of Ideals: the UUA's 4th Principle.

“A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;”

- **Sunday, September 22nd:** Music Director Michael Tacy speaks. Topic TBD.

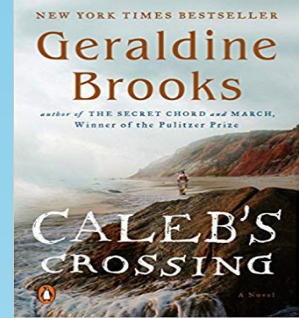
- **Sunday, September 29th:** Member Joel Araujo guest speaks. Topic TBD.

GNH ANNOUNCEMENTS

GNH Book Club –

September 6, 2019, 1:00 pm, Conference Room,
September's Book of the Month.

Caleb's Crossing by Geraldine Brooks



Pet Blessing Service, This Sunday,

September 8th, 10:45 AM,

**We will meet in the Sanctuary. (No "Pee zone- or worse - allowed!
LOL!)**

Pets of all sizes, shapes and kinds are welcome. Join together as we honor and bless our fellow creatures.

Congregational Conversations Continue

Plan to attend the upcoming Congregational Conversation which will be This Sunday, **September 8**, from **9:00 am -10:30 am** and a second opportunity at **12:00 pm**, after the service. These conversations are being held as the next step for congregants to tell the board what is important in planning a strategy for GNH for the next five years. The loosely structured conversations focus on three broad categories of major topics that emerged from the April survey, and can be expressed by the words of our unison affirmation:

- Creating a welcoming community
- Encouraging spiritual growth
- Fostering responsiveness to our world

All members and friends of GNH are invited and encouraged to attend one or several of the conversations. This is an excellent way to express your personal viewpoints and to hear what your fellow congregants have to say.

Lighthouse Youth Services Lunch Preparation.

GNH will next serve lunch at the Lighthouse Sheakley Center, **Next Wednesday, Sept 11** at 11:00 am - 1:30 m. Please contact Ginny Paterson if you can help.

Columbus UU March to: “Do Something! End Gun Violence

Now” will be held on **Wednesday, September 18th** at the Ohio Capital steps, from 12:30 PM to 3 PM.

Looking for a Fun Serving Activity for Adults and Youth?

Please volunteer at the Freestore, 1250 Tennessee Avenue, **Saturday morning, Sept. 21**, 9 AM to 11:30 AM.

Youth ages 10 and up, with an adult, are welcome. Come help address food insecurity in Cincinnati. Please notify Rev. Doug if you plan to



Shambhala Meditation Group

Every Tuesday, 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

The Shambhala Meditation Group welcomes newcomers and experienced meditators alike. Questions/RSVP: contact Ann Bobonick.

THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

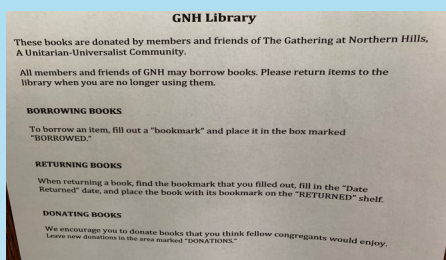
Mr. Leslie Edwards is recovering at home, 8489 Mockingbird Lane, 45231 where he will be cared for by his daughter. **Please, no visits - but cards are welcome!** **MJ Pierson** is recovering at home from an ankle injury. Contact Patti Wiers or Rev. Doug if you know of any member Care needs or concerns.

New GNH Library

A free lending library for GNH friends and members now resides in the Conference Room (down the hall to the left as you exit the sanctuary, past the office, on the right). The rules are simple: Check out a book by filling out a colored “bookmark” form and placing it in the bookshelf section marked “Borrowed.” Return the book when you are no longer actively using it.

Much of the initial inventory has been donated by members of the GNH Book Club, who meet regularly in this room from 1:00 – 2:00 PM on the first Friday of each month. We welcome donations from everyone! If you have a book that you have enjoyed and think a fellow congregant may enjoy, please consider giving it to the library. If you have a book that you thought you would enjoy but have never gotten around to reading, bring it in—maybe someone else will get to it before you do!

Any member or friend of GNH is welcome to access the library when the conference room is not in use. Come by to see what is there.



Unitarian Universalist Justice Ohio

September 2019 News

Web: www.uujo.org Follow us on FaceBook: UUJO

A march, rally, & time of silent witness/prayer to end the growing culture of violence and hate. **Sept 18, 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm**

Facebook event page & more information at: [https://](https://www.facebook.com/events/664622084020033/)

www.facebook.com/events/664622084020033/

Volunteer to make signs or be a march marshall or pass out flyers. There is an online meeting for volunteers on **Sept 4 at 7pm** at: **[https://](https://www.facebook.com/events/489698681605673/)**

www.facebook.com/events/489698681605673/

Openings Available for September's Auction Social Events

A few spots remain for **Jackie Clarkson's and Dave Hester's Oktoberfest Party on Saturday, September 21, at 6:30 p.m.** Join Jackie and Dave at their Wyoming home for **"The Wurst Party Ever"** (vegetarian friendly), including beer, brats and fun! Cost is **\$25 a person** and all proceeds go to support GNH and its activities. Contact Jackie Clarkson (clarksters@gmail.com) if you would like to attend.



GNH Endowment Fund to be Officially Funded!

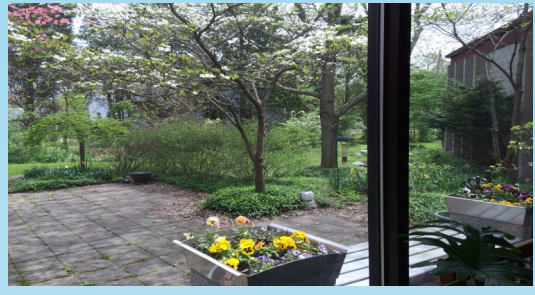
At the Sunday, September 1, Board of Trustees meeting, it was unanimously decided to immediately invest \$10,000 from the Fred Schroeder bequest in the Unitarian Universalist Endowment Fund. The UUCEF is a fund with total assets of nearly \$200,000,000.00 representing the collective endowments from all UU churches. Funds are invested according to UU principles and values. Once a GNH endowment team has been chosen, they will review other options available for managing our investment funds. The GNH Endowment Funds was approved at the mid year annual congregation meeting held this past June 9, 2019.

Keeping our Building Neat and Clean

Fall pruning, weeding and general yard clean up needed.

Your help will save GNH from having to pay a landscaper. This is a much needed task to prevent ant infestation into the building. If you're willing to donate 30 minutes to an hour of time, please see Rev. Doug or Ann Bobonick.

Your help keeping GNH looking nice is very much appreciated Thank you for understanding.



Building Security

Rev. Doug and Sue Cline met with Springfield Township police to discuss congregational preparedness to deal with building emergencies (tornado, fire, active shooter). Several suggestions were made and are in the process of being implemented. Board President Sue Cline and Rev. Doug will present to those attending the Sunday, September 15th service emergency plans for various situations. Details of those plans will be printed in the next Harbinger.



UU Council and Faithify

Heritage UU Church has just been accepted for a Faithify campaign to help fund our green burial initiative here in Cincinnati.

<https://faithify.org/projects/growing-green-burial-the-uu-way/>

Please take a look at the Faithify campaign and consider making a tax-deductible contribution today. Any amount -- \$25, \$50, \$100 or even more -- will help bring a natural burial alternative to the Tri-State.

Heritage UU is currently in contract to purchase (and save from development) 40 acres on the east side of town for the green burial preserve that will be known as Heritage Acres Memorial Sanctuary.

<https://www.heritageacresmemorial.org/>

Heritage UU has until the end of October to complete the purchase. To date we have raised a very impressive \$250,000, but still need at least \$50,000 more to make green burial a reality in Cincinnati.

You can check out some recent media coverage, and a video of the land we are buying, here:

<https://www.soapboxmedia.com/innovationnews/Green-burial-Heritage-Acres-Memorial.aspx>

I hope you will consider making a donation to Heritage Acres through Faithify to demonstrate UU support of this UU-generated project. Moreover, I ask that you spread the word by sharing our Faithify campaign in your congregations and on your social media.

<https://faithify.org/projects/growing-green-burial-the-uu-way/>

Thank you!

Heritage UU Church



Sign Up Now for Inter-Faith Hospitality Network Sept. 29-Oct. 6!



Each year GNH has just two or three opportunities to meet and help homeless families directly through the **Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN)**. Our next IHN week, when three or four families stay for a week at Friendship United Methodist Church, is from **Sunday evening, September 29 through Sunday morning, October 6**. Volunteers may serve as dinner hosts (5:15-7:00 PM), serving food prepared and brought to the church by others; evening hosts (7:00-8:30 PM), playing with children or supervising homework; or overnight hosts (8:30 PM-7:00AM), staying overnight at Friendship and rising early to make sure the families have made their breakfast and lunches and are ready to go on their way to work, school, or the social center.

Meeting and talking with IHN guests is often an inspiring experience and always an educational one. We urge as many people to get involved as possible, whether hosting in various roles throughout the evening or donating and preparing food for the evening meal. Friendship welcomes our individual participation on any evening of the week; a Signup Genius sheet has been published already to allow people to commit to certain tasks and days. Spots are going fast!

We are already signed up to supply food for a turkey dinner on Sunday, Sept. 29. Consider joining a GNH group to provide the food and to serve as the dinner and evening hosts for that date. Families with children are especially welcome to help and join the guests in dinner and after-dinner activities.

Here are links to the sign-up forms:

- Service: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E4EA8A92CAA8-ihnservice7>

- Food: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0e4ea8a92caa8-ihnfood7>

Contact Susanne Bjorner (513-317-1086) or bjorner@earthlink.net if you have questions or need help to sign up.

October 2-5 Opportunities to serve still available at Interfaith Hospitality Network

Thanks to Penny Shore, Norin Gettys, Linda Gutowski, Barry Young, and Kim Roots m who have volunteered to bring food and to serve as overnight hosts for the IHN hosting week at Friendship United Methodist Church September 29-October 5. Although most food slots are taken now, we still need dinner hosts and evening hosts for Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday (Oct. 2-5)-5).

Dinner hosts are needed. They are on duty from 5:30-7:00, serve the food brought by others, and eat with the guest families.

Evening host are needed. These are especially good opportunities for family volunteering, as it is children's playtime and homework time (7:00-8:30).

Overnight hosts are needed for Saturday night, October 5. At Friendship, overnight hosts have their own bedrooms and are present and "in charge" from 8:30 PM until 7:00 AM the next morning.

If you would like to volunteer for any of these positions, or have questions, contact Susanne Bjorner (513-317-1086 or bjorner@earthlink.net) or follow this link to sign up directly yourself:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E4EA8A92CAA8-ihnservice7>



IHN - Mom



IHN - Volunteer Dancing



IHN Therapy Dog "Daisy"

GNH's Latest Quarterly Dividend from Kroger's Community Rewards Program

The Gathering at Northern Hills recently received a dividend of **\$152.60** from Kroger for the quarter beginning **May 1 through July 31, 2019**. This amount is based on the number of GNH households registered for the Kroger Community Rewards Program (34 this quarter) and how much they purchased with their Kroger Plus Cards during that period. The Kroger rewards we receive go into GNH's Outreach Fund to support our community service projects.

If you shop at Kroger and have not yet registered for this easy way to support GNH's outreach projects, go to www.kroger.com/communityrewards and follow the links. **Please sign up for the former Northern Hills Fellowship and use our new NPO# SR254.** If you need help or have questions about registering, please contact Betsy Anderson, Pete Patterson, or Barry Young or call Kroger's tech team at 1-866-221-4141. Thank you for your support!



Items Needed by Valley Interfaith (Especially Peanut Butter)

The list below includes items most needed by Valley Interfaith Community Resource Center in Lockland. Last week when we dropped off our latest donations to VICRC, they were overjoyed to receive our jars of peanut butter because they had run out. **Kroger's ad this week advertises 16 oz. jars of peanut butter for only \$1.00**, so if you shop there, please consider picking up a few jars for VICRC. You can put your donations in the large basket by the stairs in the foyer outside GNH's Quimby Room. Thanks!

Most needed pantry items include all kinds of cereal, peanut butter, and canned meat.

Most needed personal hygiene items include toothbrushes, toothpaste, men's and women's deodorant, body wash, shampoo, cleaning products, garbage bags, unscented hypoallergenic powder laundry soap, feminine hygiene products, size 4-6 diapers and any size pull-ups, and toilet paper.

Most needed clothing and house wares items include men's jeans (especially small sizes), men's gym shoes and boots (new or gently used), gently used pots and pans, new or gently used queen and king sheet sets, bath towels, new or gently used window box fans, and new or gently used space heaters.

Valley **cannot accept** any furniture, TVs, infant/child car seats or cribs/playpens as well as many household items and baby items due to legal or space restrictions. Thanks so much for your generosity!



GNH VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday Greeters

Need someone who enjoys meeting new people? Greeters are the first people to meet visitors and create a positive first impression of GNH. If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Becky Wilson at rjda-vis019@gmail.com

Ways and Means (Fundraising)

Conducts fundraising through the annual auction, rummage sale, and other event.

“WE WELCOME NEW FUND RAISING IDEAS AND VOLUNTEERS”.

Contact Betsy Anderson at mbanderson1@zoomtown.com

Ushers

Ushers prepare and distribute the order of service, warmly greet all attendees, assist in directing members and guests in seating, assist in the offering, assist in counting of cash offerings after the service. Phyllis Berenson at pberenson@yahoo.com or Mel Levrant at ocarmel@fuse.net



Please Help Take Care of our Church Home!

All able members are asked to volunteer, in some way, to take care of our building and grounds. **WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS FOR THIS WORK!** If you are willing to donate an hour or two to mow grass, do yard work, organize, clean, or do light repairs and maintenance - PLEASE contact Rev. Doug or David Hester.

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

The Gathering at Northern Hills, A Unitarian Universalist Community

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Office Hours Change Effective August 20th
Tuesday, and Thursday, 11:00 am -4:00 pm,
Wednesday 9 am - 2 pm



NEXT Harbinger

**Our Next Harbinger will be
Tuesday, September 17, 2019**

Please have all articles to the office by 10 a.m. by the deadline, Monday, Sept 16, 2019 before the Harbinger is published. Space can be reserved on the rare occasion an article needs to be late.