



UNITARIAN  
UNIVERSALIST  
CHURCH OF THE  
NORTH HILLS

INTERCOM

NOVEMBER 2016

# THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF THE NORTH HILLS

NOVEMBER 2016

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WEDNESDAY 9-1  
THURSDAY 9 -1

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(ALL INTERCOM SUBMISSIONS  
GO TO DAWN)

SUNDAY SERVICES START  
AT 10:30 A.M.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES RUN  
CONCURRENTLY WITH THE SERVICE.  
NURSERY CARE IS PROVIDED.

COFFEE HOUR WITH COFFEE AND  
CONVERSATION FOR ADULTS  
AND CHILDREN IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWS.



## THOUGHTS SCOTT BEGOT:

There is something strange about Halloween -- a want to be scared. Or even a delight in being scared. I am a gentle, sensitive, easily-troubled soul and have never enjoyed the fright of the season. When I was younger, when friends wanted to go on a scary graveyard walk, I passed. And scary movies! I have never liked them. The empathy and trepidation I felt for the victims in these movies far outweighed the thrill of the exhilaration of a scare.

Overtime, I have become desensitized. I watch horrible things on TV now. But they still make me sad. I feel a resistance anytime the TV offers up some sordid scenario. This reminds me of how powerful empathy is and how it can also be something that can be easily passed over. We can imagine the worst or can witness through fiction or the news the far stretches of how hard life can be. We might say, "That is horrible. I am so glad that is not me." A true and strange take on the Golden Rule. But empathy is at the heart of our religious life.

There is a big divide between seeing oppression or hardship and working to help those to whom the trial is happening. As religious people, we are called to respond to the experience of the marginalized and downtrodden. The work is ours to bridge the gap between "that is horrible, I am so glad that is not me, and I wish that were not how things are" to "that is horrible, I wish that would never happen to anyone, and I am going to dedicate to that work."

I can get scared. I know evil exists. Very real evil. My defense is not to deny this but rather to remember where it is that I religiously ground myself -- love is real and we can make love manifest in the world. As Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that."

Thoughts Scott Begot (cont'd)

I just watched a Halloween Curious George special with my kids. The spooky stuff was all in fun so that neither I nor my kids needed to worry about being scared.

All is well. Kid shows always end well. In our world, I do not have faith that all will be well. To simply believe this would be to believe in pre-ordained magic. I do have faith in the power of love. And I do believe that we have the possibility to bring about the world we dream of. There is something about Curious George that gives me hope. George is imperfect and messes up a lot, but George's heart is true and loving. He is learning. He is always going forward. Sounds like a Unitarian Universalist to me. Let us be some of the people to bring that light and love into the world that MLK spoke of.

With gratitude,

*Scott*



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

There are two things I'd like to discuss this month. The first deals with Michlena Wolf's resignation from the Board. We, as a Board, were very sorry to see her leave (for personal reasons, not due to any strife within the Board) and sorry for the loss of her voice and perspective from our deliberations. The vacancy does, however, allow us to see what functioning with a smaller Board feels like. At the January congregational meeting the Governance Task Force will be asking, amongst other things, for an amendment to the bylaws to reduce the size of the Board. Michlena's position will be filled only if the congregation rejects this amendment. I'm sure a lively discussion will take place.

The next item I want to discuss is homelessness—religious homelessness. One of the largest and fastest growing religious factions these days is the “Nones”, that is that group of people who do not identify with any organized religion. It is an oft heard refrain that many of us were UUs for years without knowing it because we didn't know of the existence of Unitarian Universalism. How many Nones are out there in the area surrounding our church who would find a spiritually and intellectually fulfilling home in UUism? For that matter, how many of those who are churched are in an unhappy relationship with their religion and might be UU's but for knowing of our existence? We may have an opportunity to find out.

Our church was recently contacted by the Milner Foundation, a foundation started by a group of UU's to promote the growth of our religion. Starting the week of 10/24 they will be launching a direct mail post card campaign in our area introducing Unitarian Universalism and directing people to a web page for more information about UUism. This program comes at no cost to us, will work synergistically with the efforts of our Communications Team, and will be an interesting component to increasing our community profile. Stay tuned and be prepared to welcome newcomers.

Ivan Baumwell  
President UUCNH Board of Trustees

# UPCOMING SUNDAY SERVICES

MONTHLY THEME: RELATIONSHIP

**November 6, 2016**

## **Standing With Standing Rock**

Rev. Scott Rudolph

Last week our congregation responded with generosity of spirit and resources to send Rev. Rudolph to answer the national interfaith call for clergy to be present on November 3 in Standing Rock, North Dakota as the local Native American tribes continue to resist the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline. Scott is there now representing our church and Unitarian Universalism to offer peaceful prayer and witness with over 350 other faith leaders. On Sunday he will offer reflections on this experience as we begin our November theme of Relationship.

**November 13, 2016**

New Member Sunday

## **Process In Process**

Rev. Scott Rudolph

Each moment is a becoming of the next. Inside each moment is possibility. Process Theology looks to how our lives unfold. I find I am just curious what I may have for lunch.

**November 20, 2016**

## **Thank You.**

### **(You? Who Are You? And Who Am I?)**

Thanksgiving Service

Rev. Scott Rudolph

At this this time of year we are reminded of our blessings and all that we have. We will have a joyous multigenerational service this morning as we take a moment to pause and give thanks. We are a part of an incredible network of humanity. All praise be unto this!

**November 27, 2016**

## **Why Food Waste Is A Moral Problem**

Leah Lizarondo

(No Sunday School)

We waste 40% of our food while 1 in 7 goes hungry. 412 Food Rescue directly responds to this disconnect. Learn how the organization works and why the solution depends on YOU.



## IN THE INTERIM

### *Transition-*

*Noun: 1. The process of a period of changing from one state or condition to another: synonyms: change. passage. move, transformation, conversion*

*Verb: 1. Undergo or cause to undergo a process of period of transition.*

Transition! For two years UUCNH will be in transition in Faith Development leadership between the departure of the former DLFD and the arrival of the new one. This is a time of tremendous opportunity - for reviewing the past and imagining and defining what the future can be without losing anything in the meantime. That is the beauty of having an Interim – to take advantage of the opportunity to have a healthy, productive and illuminating transition time.



I'd like to share this column by Interim Children and Youth Director at First Unitarian Church Pittsburgh, Steven Mead, as it aptly describes how to BEST use this time of transition between former and new settled professional Faith Development leadership. <http://first-u-pgh-re-families.weebly.com/in-the-interim.html>.

Our Transitions Team of Stephen Fuegi, Melissa Nelson, Dawn Lindsay will be helping to plan activities and opportunities for sharing thoughts, memories and dreams in the time we have together. Look for a "history wall" on the second floor, that will have a timeline marked with significant dates in the life of the congregation. You are invited to put a post-in note on the timeline with significant dates in your and/or your families' life related to the church....(eg. Baby dedications, meaningful services/classes/groups you've been a part of, whole church activities, special music, etc).

Let's make the most of our time together!

In good and growing faith,  
Jennifer Halperin

## FIRST DAY OF CRAFT GROUP HOLIDAY SALE IS ON NOVEMBER 20TH

Come visit us in the East Room for the first day of the Craft Group's annual Holiday Sale which is on Sunday, November 20. You will find wonderful handmade items for your holiday gift-giving or as a something special for yourself. We'll be here from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm, an hour before and an hour after church services. The second day of the sale is two weeks later, on December 4th .

Remember that many of our items are one-of-a-kind. So shop early. You don't want be disappointed. All proceeds are used to fund "unbudgeted" church projects.



# GOVERNANCE TASK FORCE (GTF) UPDATE

GTF continues work on the design of a new governance structure for the future of UUCNH. Our targets are to present an update to the Congregation at the mid-year meeting in January 2017, along with necessary Bylaws changes. We hope to present final recommendations at the annual meeting in June 2017. We think the broad outlines of our recommendations are in place and we have made great progress on details.

We recently made a presentation to the Committee of Chairs Retreat, where the reception was positive. We are planning meetings with interested members for December and January before the mid-year Congregational meeting. Watch for announcements.

Since our last report we have clarified the role of the Board. If you have been following our activities, you know that we have defined governance as those activities that are foundational and support ministry. Ministry is the work we do to carry out the mission of our Church – building loving religious community to assist in transforming ourselves and our world.

The Board would be responsible for

- 1) policy development and review;
- 2) oversight for Ministry Activities;
- 3) (paid) personnel – engagement and management;
- 3) finance – budgeting and accounting;
- 4) stewardship, fundraising, etc.;
- 5) management of our real estate – buildings & grounds, memorial garden and rentals

We have also changed the titles and responsible areas for the new Ministry Coordinators. The Community Life coordinator would be responsible for such areas as Connections, coffee hour and hospitality and our Fellowship Groups. The Faith in Action Coordinator would have the Systemic Change Team, Compassionate Service Team, and Children's Memorial Fund. The Church Relationships Coordinator would be responsible for Denominational Affairs (UUA, Central Eastern Region (CER), and the Pittsburgh Cluster), Communications and Publicity and Bellwood.

We are developing documents for governance and ministry that clarify the Responsibility, Authority, Support, Consultation and Information receiving (RASCI) roles for the various committees and teams. We hope these will provide members of the Congregation with quick and understandable snapshots of what the groups are accountable and responsible for and how they interact.

At the January congregational meeting, we expect to propose an amendment to our bylaws that would reduce our Board size from 9 to 7 and make the Secretary a Board member, thus reducing the Board's personnel needs by 3.

As always, we welcome your questions, comments and suggestions for change.

This is YOUR church.

GTF-Joyce Kepner, Sue Broughton, Bob Delaney and Ed Rockman – Scott Rudolph, ministerial consultant.



## SYSTEMIC CHANGE TEAM



### November

- Sacred Conversations, November 6 – 12:45-2:45p.m. in the West Room. This is the third conversation (in a series of four) on Race. These conversations are offered by PIIN (PA Interfaith Impact Network) as part of PIIN's effort to end systemic racism. Imagine creating Beloved Community with every person treated with dignity and respect. We are walking that road, it will be muddy and long, but we will get there. Please come and participate in this vital conversation. Light lunch and childcare provided. Contact Steve Fuegi if you have questions.
- Get involved in monitoring the upcoming election! We encourage you to volunteer to serve as non-partisan election observers by signing up with Common Cause and their partners at <https://protectthevote.net/> or with the ACLU at <https://action.aclu.org/secure/election-protection-volunteer-form>.
- Election Day – November 8. Exercise your most fundamental right as an American. Please get out and vote!
- UUPLAN (UU PA Legislative Advocacy Network) annual meeting November 11-12 in Harrisburg. You can register at [uuplan.com](http://uuplan.com). Ballances can take one more passenger.
- Gamaliel Network (parent organization to PIIN) has just adopted a national policy to prioritize working for change in Mass Incarceration.
- Reproductive Justice. UUPLAN's Reproductive Justice Team has received a grant to conduct "Roving Roundtables" at UU congregations in the state. They will be addressing issues included in the PA Agenda for Women's Health. These issues include making accommodations in the workplace for pregnant and nursing mothers, increasing the minimum wage and equal pay for women. If you would like to have a roundtable at UUCNH please let Carol Ballance know.

## MEDITATION WITH FRIENDS

We meet from 7 to 8:30 on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday evenings of the month - Nov. 8th and Nov. 22nd.



We welcome anyone interested in mindful meditation, whether you have little or no experience in meditation, or you have practiced for years. Join us for one evening, or as many as you would like.

We practice silent meditation, guided meditation, and either walking meditation or another form of movement meditation. Usually there are short readings, often from Pema Chodron and Thich Nhat Hanh. The facilitator often leads the meeting, but anyone who has attended at least one meeting is welcome and encouraged to lead a meeting.

You are welcome to come early to have a cup of tea with us before the formal program starts - church is open and the urn of hot water is available by 6:40.

Questions or comments, please contact Sue Luebbert at [luebbert.unicorn@gmail.com](mailto:luebbert.unicorn@gmail.com), or (412) 366-9553.

## FAITH AND JUSTICE BOOK DISCUSSION SERIES

The Adult Faith Development Team is sponsoring a Faith and Justice Book Discussion Series. This occasional series will provide a forum for the church community to read and discuss books that directly pertain to the development of our Unitarian Universalist faith, and which promote the social justice mission of the church. The first discussion in this series is scheduled for Wednesday, January 25, 2017.

We will be reading *The Third Reconstruction* by Rev. William Barber, this year's UUA Common Read. Rev. Barber is the leader of the Moral Mondays movement, which started in North Carolina and has since spread to state capitols all over the country. He was an inspiring speaker at this year's UUA General Assembly. In this book, Rev. Barber argues that this nation needs to undergo a third reconstruction, that lives up to the promise of the post-Civil War-era Reconstruction, and that of the Civil Rights era. For more information, please see the following link: <http://www.beacon.org/The-Third-Reconstruction-P1139.aspx>

Copies of this book will be available in the church library shortly. We encourage everyone who checks out a copy to return it promptly, so that others have an opportunity to read it. There are also limited copies available in the Carnegie system.



**HAPPY**  
*Thanksgiving!*

**GATHER THE SPIRIT  
WEDNESDAY EVENING  
SERVICE & POTLUCK**



**November 2, 2016**  
**Potluck – 6:00 p.m.**  
**Evening Worship – 7:00 p.m.**

Every 1st Wednesday of the month in this worship service, we will create a space for “that transcending mystery and wonder which moves us to a renewal of the spirit.”

The services will be following a different format than our more traditional Sunday morning service.

There will be music, reflection, sharing, silence, and ritual. Children are welcome at the service. Childcare will be provided in the nursery for toddlers and younger ones. Come join us as we gather the spirit!

**LAY PASTORAL**



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:

**Mark Swihart**

[mswihart@spang.com](mailto:mswihart@spang.com)  
412-369-9321

**Susan Powers**

[susan-a-powers@comcast.net](mailto:susan-a-powers@comcast.net)  
412-427-7300

**Marsha Albright**

[mkalbright@gmail.com](mailto:mkalbright@gmail.com)  
412-487-4565

**Tom Brown**

[mrteb@comcast.net](mailto:mrteb@comcast.net)  
412-915-9156

**Kathy Cypher**

[alkate@consolidated.net](mailto:alkate@consolidated.net)  
724-316-4694 c



## UUCNH CARES FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT



### RECYCLING TELEPHONE BOOKS

Please remember, no telephone books in the Paperretriever bin. In Franklin Park and many other communities (check with your local recycler), they can go in the regular recycling bins. If you can't recycle them yourself, you can bring them to UUCNH and place them in the kitchen recycle bin.

### RECYCLING IN THE KITCHEN

Before you put items in the bins, PLEASE EMPTY AND RINSE THEM OUT. If you're not willing to do that, then DON'T put them in the recycle bin-you're just getting the other stuff dirty, messy, smelly and really yucky. And when it's that way, it contaminates a lot of other clean recyclable materials, so Waste Management can't sort them or get any value for them. They're likely to end up in a landfill. Please take the small amount of time to clean the recyclable before dropping them in the bin. Thanks!

Any questions, contact Chris Hill at 412.366.9553 or chill613@comcast.net.



## UU CLUSTER NEWS

Check out our local Cluster Website at [www.uupittsburgh.org](http://www.uupittsburgh.org).

See what is happening with other UU's in our area, and for UU events that are open to all.



### COMMUNICATION CORNER

New Member Sunday  
November 13, 2016

### DEEPENING OUR CONNECTIONS

Saturday, November 19, 6:30 - 8:30  
Brought to you by the Connections Team

A fun evening (with dessert!) for newer members and long-timers alike, geared to getting to know each other better and helping you find greater satisfaction with your church experience.

Child care happily available on request. Contact Tassi Bisers-412-708-3566 [tbisers@yahoo.com](mailto:tbisers@yahoo.com).

**The Future  
of Our  
Democracy**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2016  
9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM  
First Unitarian Church  
605 Morewood Ave, Pittsburgh**

Many feel that the democratic foundation of our nation is threatened; by money, by corporate influence, by a rollback of voting rights, by political gridlock, by partisan media, by voter apathy. Some have called for a “moral revolution” to affect change. How are UUs called to act and respond to ensure that our principles and values are upheld? How is our justice work impacted? How can we work together to change our course?

A morning discussion panel will include:

- Rev. John C. Welch – VP, Student Services and Dean of Students, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.
  - Prof. Bruce Ledewitz – Professor of Law, Duquesne University.
  - Chelsa Wagner – Allegheny County Controller.
  - Rev. Joe Cherry – Minister, Unitarian Universalist Society of Cleveland. Reg. (9:00 AM)
- Morning Session (9:30 AM – 12:00 PM):
- Opening and Panel Presentations with Q&A
  - Business Meeting
- Lunch (12:00 PM – 1:00 PM)
- Afternoon Session (1:00 PM – 3:00 PM):
- Open Space Discussion, led by Rev. Renee Ruchotzke, followed by Worship and Closing

**COME JOIN THE DISCUSSION!**

Meet UUs from other congregations. Build Community. Childcare and Home Hospitality Available. Online registration at [uupittsburgh.org](http://uupittsburgh.org)



**Unitarian Universalists  
of Greater Pittsburgh**

[uupittsburgh.org](http://uupittsburgh.org)

# ADULT FAITH DEVELOPMENT

## UU CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVES

Co-Facilitators: Joe Meier & Edie Swihart  
Contact: meierke@msn.com  
When: Nov 13 @ 9:15am  
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!

Held the second Sunday of every month at 9:15am in the Truth & Meaning (Youth) Room. Co-Led by Joe Meier and Edie Swihart.

## PSI GROUP

Facilitator: Tony Palermo  
Contact: tpalermo@consolidated.net  
When: Nov 13, 2016

PSI Philosophical, Spiritual Insights Group – after the service, upstairs, follow the yellow signs – How many ways can the word God be defined? How have philosophers and pragmatists tried to prove, or disprove, the existence of such a being? And under what conditions would we consider him/her to be “worship worthy?” We’ll cover this perennial subject next time.

See Tony Palermo for details. tpalermo@consolidated.net

## BARNRAISERS

Facilitator: Rachael Smart  
Contact: thesmartfamily3@yahoo.com  
When: Dec 26, 2016 @ 6:30 p.m.  
Where: Friendship Hall

Barn Raisers has switched to an every other month format for our potluck gatherings. Our last meeting of the year will be in December. But, that doesn't mean the exchanges stop.... Winter is on its way, and that means holidays, guests, travelling, winter-proofing your house. Perhaps you need help cleaning in preparation for holiday guests? Arranging a Thanksgiving display? Winter-proofing your house? Or maybe you can pet sit for someone while they are away for the holidays? Or give them a ride to the airport?



There are so many ways in which we can help each other through timebanking and build community and friendships at the same time. For more information on the group, e-mail timebank.barnraisers@gmail.com or see our Facebook page.

## JESUS DISCUSSION GROUP

Facilitator: Tony Palermo  
Contact: tpalermo@consolidated.net  
When: Nov 11, 2016

Jesus Discussion Group Third Sunday of October, after the service, upstairs, follow the yellow signs – Probably the most mysterious gospel never to make the New Testament is the Gospel of Q. A sayings document like the Gospel of Thomas [no miracles, no death and resurrection, Q has never been found, but it thought to be the basis for much of Mark, Matthew and Luke.

In addition, its analysis reveals significant insights about the parting of Judaism and Christianity. We'll discuss Q next time.

See Tony Palermo for details at tpalermo@consolidated.net.



# ADULT FAITH DEVELOPMENT



## MEN'S GROUP

Facilitator: Hal Dixler  
Contact: halleyppgh@gmail.com  
When: Facilitated topic: 2nd Sunday at noon  
Open forum: 4th Tuesday at 6 PM  
Where: Sundays in the East Room; Tuesdays in the Youth Room

The next meeting of the UUCNH Men's Group will convene around noon on Sunday, November 13, 2016, in the East Room. This is a facilitated meeting, one in which a member of the group leads a discussion of a topic of his choice.

Open Forum will meet on Tuesday, November 22, 2016.

The Men's Group is open to all men, including visitors, who enjoy exchanging ideas and opinions with others. The principal obligations are an open mind and a gentlemanly disposition. We meet the 2nd Sunday and the 4th Tuesday of every month. Sunday meetings are scheduled after the regular church service and are usually facilitated by a member. Tuesday meetings are not facilitated: discussion is free-form, with no prior definition of a subject and are scheduled for 6 PM. There is also monthly movie night being discussed.

For more information on the Men's Group, please contact Hal.



## SISTERS IN SPIRIT

Facilitators: Rachael Smart  
Michelle Broge-Connor  
Contacts: thesmartfamily3@yahoo.com,  
brogemm@gmail.com  
When: Nov 9 @ 6:30pm  
Where: East Room

Sisters in Spirit is an ongoing self-guided women's group (cis, trans, and gender queer women are all welcome). 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. If you would like to learn more about the group, contact either Rachael Smart at thesmartfamily3@yahoo.com or Michelle Broge-Connor at brogemm@gmail.com.

## HUMANIST DISCUSSION GROUP

Facilitator: Dick Myers  
dmyers.rlm@gmail.com  
When: Nov 27, 2016 @ Noon  
Where: East Room

The Humanist Discussion Group will meet on November 27, at 12:00, in the East Room. With Steve Fuegi facilitating the topic: "Varieties of the Humanist Experience", we will discuss: "What is humanism, anyway?" "What are the varieties of humanism, and what variety (if any) are you?"



## FALL 2016 COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

### UUCNH QUILTING GROUP

Facilitator: Peggy Trevanion - 412-366-4348  
or [birdies4@comcast.net](mailto:birdies4@comcast.net)  
When: Nov 8 @ 10:00am  
Where: East Room

The second Tuesday of the month is when the UUCNH Quilters meet to work on projects and share interesting techniques. We meet in the East Room from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bring a brown bag lunch.

For more information, contact Peggy Trevanion at 412-366-4348 or [birdies4@comcast.net](mailto:birdies4@comcast.net).

### THE CRAFT GROUP

Facilitator: Irene Dinning - 412-741-6463  
[dinning1@comcast.net](mailto:dinning1@comcast.net)  
When: Every Thursday, 10:00am  
Where: East Room

We are a long-time UUCNH group that welcomes other crafters: those who want to learn needlework (such as knitting, crocheting, and embroidery), 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  
[sfaulk50@aol.com](mailto:sfaulk50@aol.com), 412-366-5973  
When: Nov 7 & 21 @ 7:30pm  
Where: East Room

We meet the first and third Monday. 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](mailto:sfaulk50@aol.com).

### BRASS & WOODWIND ENSEMBLE

Facilitator: David Miles - [miles@ohiou.edu](mailto:miles@ohiou.edu)  
When: Nov 12 @ 9:00 am  
Nov 20, @ Noon  
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](mailto:miles@ohiou.edu).



## UUCNH FAMILIES GROUP



Facilitators: Carla Bickel  
Contact: c.marie11@yahoo.com  
When: December 3 at 3:30PM  
Where: UUNCH

December 3: Holiday party at church/Ice cream social. Money from ice cream sales to benefit Foster Love Project, providing bags of necessities for children suddenly displaced from their home

And mark your calendars for these upcoming events in 2017 listed below:

- February 5 @ 3pm: Bowling for all ages at Perry Park Lanes
- March 19: Games afternoon, right after church! Pizza provided
- April 8 @ 10a: Fun Fore All
- June 17 @ 11:30a: the 2nd annual Families Group Picnic at North Park. We had a lot of fun at the 1st picnic - this is one you do not want to miss! Additionally, our very own Carmen Thomson of CPTThomson Photography will be doing mini photoshoots at the picnic! The price will be \$75 for 10 edited photos. All proceeds will be donated to UUCNH
- October 1: Fall Carnival at UUCNH



## BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



Facilitator: Jon Hamrahi  
Contact: jhamrahi@yahoo.com  
When: November 11, 2016, 7-9 pm  
Where: UUCNH, East Room  
Moderator: Marilyn Myers  
Title: When Breath Becomes Air  
Author: Paul Kalanithi

Hello Readers,

Thank you to everyone who attended last month's book Abide with me. Perhaps I speak for many in our group when I say the more we discussed the book the more I was able to understand the book's hidden depth and appreciate its nuances. That's what a good discussion should be all about!

An excerpt from Marsha Albright' description of this month's book When Breath Becomes: "The mundane trials and tribulations of our everyday life fall away quickly when we realize that our time has suddenly been shortened. Paul Kalanithi was in his last year of his neurosurgery residency with a promising career ahead of him when he learned that he had stage IV lung cancer. How do you choose how to spend the last year of life? Having Bachelor's and Master's degrees in English Literature and a love of writing which he had intended to utilize in the field of medical research, Paul decided to write about his experience of going from a neurosurgeon treating patients to becoming a patient himself, faced with the life decisions that he had been helping his patients to make."

Future Titles:

December 2016: No Meeting

Jan 13, 2017:

A Fine Balance by Rohinton Mistry

Feb 10, 2017:

Nickel and Dimed : On (Not)

Getting By in America by Barbara Ehrenreich

## TRY THE FAIR TRADE TEA

UUCNH is offering Equal Exchange Fair Trade Tea in several varieties. Try some at your home or office - a box of 20 tea bags is only \$4 (3 for \$10). You'll be supporting UUCNH and giving small farmers a more livable, consistent wage.



The types (all Organic) we have right now are Chai, Rooibos (red tea from Africa), Chamomile and Darjeeling. There are many other varieties, so we'll try some others over time. If there's a specific tea you'd like, contact Chris Hill during Tea Time on Sunday!

## NHCO FOOD PANTRY DONATION CUPBOARD



### For November: Potatoes, 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 - Potatoes 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.

## GROCERY CARD FUNDRAISER



### 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, The Gift Card Team.

## HELPING THROUGH NORTH HILLS COMMUNITY OUTREACH

### NHCO Annual Thanksgiving food collection runs through November 16

North Hills Community Outreach is collecting food items to create complete Thanksgiving meals to distribute to local families in need. Last year, nearly 800 local families received nourishing Thanksgiving meals. Items that make a meal include: grocery store gift cards of at least \$15 for turkey purchase, large boxes of stuffing mix and instant mashed potatoes, canned cranberry sauce, canned vegetables, easy pumpkin pie mix, evaporated milk, muffin mix, turkey gravy mix and napkins. Donations are accepted through November 16, but preferably before October 28 for a timely distribution. All NHCO offices are open weekdays, 9am-4pm, including the main office at 1975 Ferguson Road, Allison Park and NHCO North Boroughs, AGH-Suburban Campus, 100 S. Jackson Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15202. For more information, visit [nhco.org](http://nhco.org) or call 412-487-6316 opt. 1.

### NHCO Holiday toy drive begins November 9

North Hills Community Outreach is accepting new toys, games, sporting equipment, sports apparel and gift cards for children ages birth through 18, from November 9 through December 14; earlier donations are encouraged! Gifts cards and gifts appropriate for teens are especially needed. Donations can be dropped off at NHCO North Boroughs, AGH-Suburban Campus, 100 S. Jackson Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15202, or NHCO, 1975 Ferguson Road, Allison Park, PA 15101, Monday – Friday, 9am-4pm, and at the food pantry behind the Allison Park building, 9am-noon, Saturdays, November 12 and December 3 as well as 6:30-8:30pm, Wednesday, November 16. For more information, please contact NHCO 412-487-6316 opt 1.

### Financial donations to NHCO can be matched through December

Thanks to an anonymous donor, the first \$25,000 in individual financial donations made to North Hills Community Outreach through December 31, 2016, will be matched dollar for dollar. Donations help local families in need in communities of northern Allegheny County by supporting NHCO's many programs that provide emergency help and self-sufficiency programs. Donations can be mailed to NHCO, 1975 Ferguson Road, Allison Park, PA 15101.

### Shop through AmazonSmile this season and support NHCO

If you shop through Amazon, or your business buys through Amazon, your purchases can support North Hills Community Outreach if you easily switch your login to AmazonSmile. Switching is free and easy, and shopping and prices are the same, but Amazon donates a portion of each purchase to NHCO, helping local families in need. Please visit <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/25-1553057> to switch.

### NHCO General Volunteer Orientations

North Hills Community Outreach will host a Volunteer Orientation session at 10am, Thursday, November 10 in NHCO Allison Park, 1975 Ferguson Road. Volunteer needs include drivers for Free Rides for Seniors shuttles, Salvation Army bell ringers in November and December, drivers to transport seniors to appointments, groups or individuals to hold collections, and more. Please register with Harriet at [h zgibbs@nhco.org](mailto:h zgibbs@nhco.org) or 412-408-3830 x 3204.

# UUCNH COMMITTEE OF THE MONTH

## THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

We are the committee you don't see around the church. In fact you are probably only aware of our existence when we present the budget and the financial report at the annual meeting. Even though we work behind the scenes, we are a vital part of church operations.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the financial aspects of the church but the Finance Committee, working with the Treasurer, is responsible for the details. Some of the things we do are:

- Collect information and prepare a budget to be approved at the annual meeting.
- Monitor income and expenses monthly for budget variances and unusual items.
- Work with our financial advisors to manage the investment accounts in accordance with the Investment Policy.
- Be sure we are in compliance with tax regulations and reporting requirements, including sales taxes, payroll requirements, etc.
- Monitor pledge collections and make sure statements are sent on a regular basis.
- Review insurance policies to be sure we have adequate coverage.

We would love to have new members on the committee. It may sound like a lot of work but we only meet about ten times a year. The work load is greatly reduced because of having our highly skilled individual in the Treasurer's position. All you need is a basic understanding of financial reporting and a desire to make the church operate at its best. If you have any interest in joining our committee, please talk to any of us. You could also come to a meeting and check us out. You might even get snacks!

Mary Ellen Johnson, Chair  
Sue Duda  
Joe Meier  
Stacy Conlin  
Lindsay Scott, Treasurer

## INTERCOM SUBMISSIONS IN NOVEMBER FOR THE DECEMBER ISSUE



The article submission Deadline for the December Intercom will be on November 21.

So please get your articles into me by November 21 to be included in the December 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](mailto:Rowan@OctoberMorning.com).