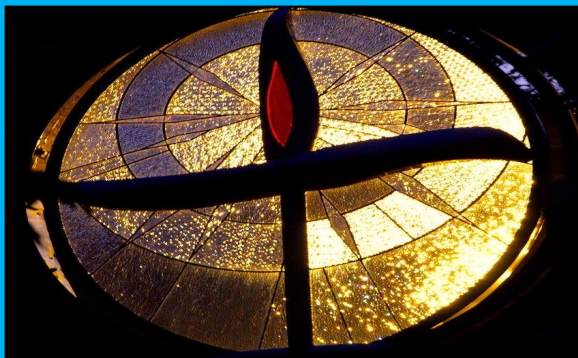


The Gathering at Northern Hills, A Unitarian Universalist Community



# 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 agree-  
ment with our purposes and  
principles.***

***Website:***

***<http://www.gnhuu.org>***

***Join GNH Sunday  
Morning Services  
at 10:45***

***or Join GNH on Zoom***

***<https://zoom.us/j/91833287637>***

***Please email  
gnhuu460@gmail.com  
to receive additional  
Church information***



*At the sound of the tolling midnight bell  
a brand new year will begin.*

*Let's raise our hopes in a confident toast,  
to the promise it ushers in.*

*May your battles be few, your pleasures many,  
your wishes and dreams fulfilled.*

*May your confidence stand in the face of loss  
and give you the strength to rebuild.*

*May peace of heart fill all your days  
may serenity grace your soul.*

*May tranquil moments bless your life  
and keep your spirit whole.*

*unknown*

# Sanctuary Services

Join GNH Zoom Sunday Morning Service Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/91833287637>

## GNH Website

Be sure to check out GNH's updated web site—[gnhuu.org](http://gnhuu.org)—

*GNH currently offers* hybrid services.

You may attend in our sanctuary or online via our Zoom Link:

**All past service videos can be found on the church webpage: [gnhuu.org](http://gnhuu.org)**

Click where it says "**View the latest service videos here**" and the most recent service video will appear. At the top right of the video you will see a three line icon, click this to access other service videos.

## Masks Consideration

[COVIDACTNOW.org](http://COVIDACTNOW.org) states that our area is at a **MEDIUM**

level of community risk for COVID,

Please consider your personal situation and make the choice that is right for you.

# SUNDAY MESSAGES

## **This Sunday, January 25, 2026**

Member speaker Andrew Ketterer will share his spiritual journey.

**Next Sunday, February 1, 2026**, Guest speaker Christine MacConnell will share her journey through addiction and how she found her way out and maintains her life through spiritual practices.

**Sunday, February 8, 2026**, Guest speaker Sabura Rashad, whose talk on "**Building a BLUU Boat Home in a Beloved Community**" had to be postponed from December 14 due to snow, is planning again to be with us to explore the Black experience within Unitarian Universalism.

## **Sunday, February 15, 2026**

Join Les, Steph, and Michael Tacy for a music-centric service about the many faces of love in a talk titled "**Love Beyond Romance: What Sustains Us After the Cards Are Put Away.**"

## Konscious Konscience

Welcome members and friends to 2026. Growth challenges each of us most days and sometimes comes with not a small dose of pain. In the coming year, many facets of a world built on the shifting sand in Jesus' parable will continue to crumble, increasing the chaos of life. GNH may be called to stand up for our principles in novel ways. One reframing of worrisome anticipation of challenging changes that we can try sees them precisely as an incubator for growth. We reflect on patterns that have ceased to serve us to gain insight, inciting creative action. If, as a community ever mindful of the belonging we cultivate in our being together, we answer the call of this tumultuous time by manifesting our principles in our response, we may discover that the concern, created by the unknown course that these changes will take, finds its match in how it shapes our becoming.

One fact helps in this reframing: when we stand up for our principles in the midst of the transformations happening, we also demonstrate--in a manner more sincere than any words we could offer--that GNH has the grit it takes to be a foundation for living well in a world that has forgotten itself. It can be a place where our brothers and sisters in our larger community can build on that foundation a spiritual home.

The growth in membership of GNH comes not just from our efforts to get out the word about us but also from the quiet prominence of our principles seen in action by those who heard that word and decided to take a look. The strength of what we already share here sustains the "walk" to our "talk". This well may be the unplanned gift we present, which may call future members to us. Believing in principles so deeply shared that we enact them innately, rather than merely proclaiming them, could be the calling card we didn't even know we were going to put out there.

If you feel a sense of waking up to things you knew you knew deep down but hadn't sincerely accepted, most likely this is a dubious awakening. You may feel anger and fear and confusion at revelations you wish you could unsee. Solace comes not from escape or denial but faith that our common purpose to live well together can prevail. So let us count on the growing pains of change coming with some palate-cleansing joy born of the fruits of our past labor in making this home together.

The Service Planning Team, already galvanized by the valuable feedback we received at the forum service on January 4th, wishes for each of us that the coming year will bring the surprise of little joys to match our anticipated challenges. We already see ways the feedback can shape the team's process; and we feel excited that our services can evolve to reflect things we learned from you. Please remember to engage in ongoing communication with us.

## UUMUAC now has Podcasts

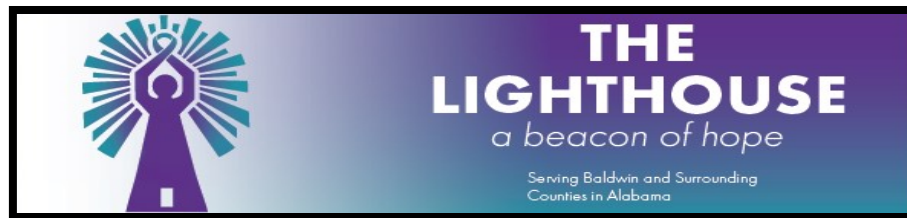
UUMUAC, the Unitarian Universalist Multiracial Unity Council, is now offering a growing library of podcasts that features sermons from our 40-plus monthly Vespers services, along with newly digitized recordings by founding member the late Finley Campbell. These short, accessible episodes make a welcoming experience for people who want to listen to them while driving, walking, crafting, or simply taking a quiet moment. Our Vespers services are already on YouTube and new podcast episodes are being added regularly to our feed on <https://rss.com/podcasts/uumuac-you-me-act>. These thoughtful and inspiring audio recordings are perfect for people who support liberal religion and multiracial unity, but don't have time for a full-length service. To help others discover this new resource, please share, rate, and comment. If you have additional feedback, or want to help with the conversion process, contact [Bjeanwalsh@outlook.com](mailto:Bjeanwalsh@outlook.com). For more information about UUMUAC, visit our website [UUMUAC.org](https://UUMUAC.org).





## Date to Assemble Hygiene Kits is February 15

It's time to assemble hygiene kits for Lighthouse Sheakley Center for Youth. After the service on February 15, we will once again assemble kits with a target of 250 kits. We look forward to help from another enthusiastic group of volunteers. Looking ahead, we plan to assemble kits around the middle of May, August and November with a goal of 1,000 kits for the year. We no longer receive any grant money, so we encourage member donations to support this valuable GNH outreach activity. If you are aware of a possible source of grant funds, please notify Pete Patterson.



## WAN Donations to Our Charities



The GNH Women's Action Network (WAN) is pleased to report the following recent donations to our preferred charities. The donations include \$100 each to the Lighthouse Sheakley Center for Youth, Valley Interfaith CRC, UpSpring (homeless children) and Sweet Cheeks Diaper Bank. We will continue with quarterly donations from our GNH Outreach Fund that is supported by member donations the Kroger Community Rewards program.

# Book Club

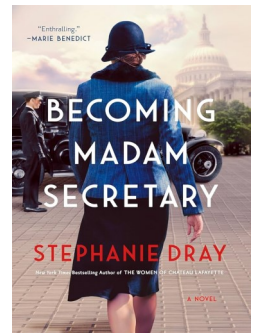
Will Meet on the 1st Friday each month

February 6, 2026

GNH Quimby Room at 1:00 PM

February 6, 2026 Becoming Madame Secretary

by Stephanie Dray



March 6, 2026 Why Fish Don't Exist by Lulu Miller

April 3, 2026 Life And Art by Richard Russo

May 1, 2026 Football Sissy by Jack Brennan

June 5, 2026 The God of The Woods by Liz Moore

# GNH BOOK CLUB

## TUESDAY DISCUSSION GROUP

**Every Second Tuesday**

**Discussion via Zoom**

**The next meeting will be on The Second Tuesday,**

**February 10, 2026**

**from 3:00 to 4:00 pm via Zoom.**

This is an informal meeting of a casual group of GNH members and friends.  
**ALL are welcome and encouraged to join this session.**

If you are not already on the mailing list to receive the Zoom link and preparation email, contact Susanne Bjorner [susanne.bjorner@gmail.com](mailto:susanne.bjorner@gmail.com) or Sue Cline [scline0149@gmail.com](mailto:scline0149@gmail.com).



## **Lighthouse Shelter for Youth**

**February 16, 2026**

**Third Monday of the Month, at 12:00 PM.**

**All drop off food is welcome.**

**Cook and/or Serve Lunch for homeless youth**

***We arrive at the Lighthouse at 11:30 and serve at noon.***

***Contact Cheryl if anyone wants to donate food.***

## **GNH Community Garden**

**See Everyone Next Spring!!**





## GNH CARE TEAM

### For Emergency Contact Information

We would like to keep basic emergency contact information for any member who lives alone or anyone who feels they would like the Care Team to have the information. This would include a family member or friend who could be contacted if there is some concern when someone has not been seen at services & has had no contact with anyone for a while. Participation is purely voluntary.

If you are interested please contact your Care Team members through our designated email ([gnhcareteam@gmail.com](mailto:gnhcareteam@gmail.com)) or speak to one of us at services.

Anita, Becky, Betsy, Linda, Marti, Sue Woodruff, Susanne Bjorner, Ruth

### CARE TEAM BIRTH DATES REQUEST

The Care Team would like to get birthdates for as many members as we can who would like to receive greetings on their birthday. We ask that you email the Care Team with your birth date. Including the year would be optional. "The Care Team would like to celebrate you on your birthday.

Please send your birth date (year is optional) in an email to the Care Team at [gnhcareteam@gmail.com](mailto:gnhcareteam@gmail.com) if you would like to receive birthday greetings. If you have a birthday list you are willing to share we would surely appreciate it. "Please contact Ruth Kraus at [ruth.kraus@yahoo.com](mailto:ruth.kraus@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.



***There is a basket at the back of the sanctuary for anyone who would like to donate cards for the Care Team's use. All donations will be appreciated.***

## THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

### UPDATE ON NORINE GETTYS

On Wednesday (January 14th), she had a kyphoplasty procedure performed for her compression fracture. It was very successful. She is feeling much, much better. Doctor said she should be able to resume normal activities in a couple of weeks.

Thank you to all of the GNH family for their positive energy and support.

**Please offer prayers and good thoughts  
For all our members' and friends' peace and wisdom  
Please contact Adrienne at [ghnuu460@gmail.com](mailto:ghnuu460@gmail.com)  
If you know of any member or friend with care needs.**

## Ways to give to GNH

GNH is grateful for all those who have kept up with their pledges during the pandemic and days of virtual services.

As you know, there are several ways to give of your financial resources to GNH:

- Mail a check to GNH.
  - Ask your bank or credit union to mail a monthly check automatically. Many banks do not charge fees for this service. Check with your bank.
  - Set up monthly or quarterly automatic payments from your investment accounts. Talk to your financial adviser.
- ◇ Use our online giving app, Givelify. Set up your personal confidential account at <https://giv.li/phv85g>. Download the Givelify app to your smartphone using the Apple Store or Google Play. Once you have the app, donating to GNH is as easy as Tap. Give. Done. (Note that Givelify charges GNH a transaction fee of 2.9% on each transaction, so you may want to increase your online donation by a small percentage to compensate.)

## 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**

**460 Fleming Road  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45231**

**Phone: 513-931-6651  
Email: gnhuu460@gmail.com**

**OFFICE HOURS**



## **NEXT Harbinger**

**Our Next Harbinger will be  
Tuesday, February 3, 2026**

**Please have all articles to the  
emailed by 12:00 pm.**

**deadline on Tuesday  
February 3, 2026 before the  
Harbinger is published.**

**Space can be  
reserved on the rare occasion an  
article needs to be late.**