

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 agreement 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



Welcome the season of sunshine and blossoming blooms with these handpicked May quotes, perfect for sharing the joy and magic of spring.

The month of May is pure magic. While April is a mix of cold, dreary days and a few sunny ones here and there, May serves up plenty of truly perfect days, full of sunshine and blooming flowers.

May is a month of rebirth, inspiration and excitement as we close out the first two quarters of the year and look forward to a long, relaxing summer. So let these quotes inspire you and help you celebrate the glorious, colorful, amazing-smelling month that is May.

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—

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

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 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, May 24, 2026, Michael Tacy presents "**Your Brain is Editing Reality**," a discussion of biases, blind spots, and misconceptions, and how they shape our world view and spiritual identity.

Next Sunday, May 31, 2026, Diane Wright returns to peak about "**Every Hour of the Light and Dark: The Birthday of Walt Whitman**." May 31 is the birthday of Walt Whitman, whose life and work continues to influence so many people today. We will consider his connection to the principles of Unitarian Universalism, and the lessons of his life.

Sunday, June 7, 2026, Sera Morris and Khoa Lewis will lead us in a ritual of Pet Blessing.

Sunday, June 14, 2026, Guest speaker **Libby Lockridge** comes to introduce us to "**Craftivism**," using handmade, domestic crafts—such as knitting, embroidery, and quilting—to convey social justice messages.

Konscious Konsense

In the last column our attention focused briefly on some exciting developments for our congregation and its relationship to the other UU congregations in the greater Cincinnati area. We have an entire collective of fellow UUs with whom to spark our creativity. Growth and the attraction of younger members was one of the specific items we noted could find some additional gusto through the activities in which we might engage together with other churches in that group. We've been using the term UU Council to refer to the collective, although it is technically the name of the administrative body of the collection of area churches. It is exciting that after our leadership reached out to the Council asking for our inclusion we have been welcomed heartily. It really is important that our members give due presence in their thinking and participation to this new relationship, so that it can indeed give back and foster these exciting new possibilities. Toward that end I want to remind each of you please to consider making your way to the joint service this coming Sunday at First Church.

I also want to share some information regarding the participation of the area churches in Pride this year. We have involvement in both the Northern Kentucky Pride event, which takes place Saturday 6/7, and the Cincinnati Pride event on 6/27. There will be a table at the joint service on 5/10 for folks to sign up for volunteering or to donate to help cover the costs of our contribution. Please check that out when you are there and support our community within our community!

The goals of our area churches' involvement include letting people know that the communities that comprise the UU denomination are supportive communities in our area. It is an opportunity for us as UUs to join in celebration with the LGBTQIA+ community, to stand in solidarity together, which is especially important in the current cultural and political climate. It is also an opportunity to celebrate church and that the sharing of like values across many different churches and communities is an important piece of the strength we need to show in times like these.

If you have ideas or want to learn of ideas that pertain to these events, aside from that table on 5/10 you can get in touch with me, Khoa, directly either by emailing khoalewis@proton.me or texting (I cannot hear on a live phone call) 859-443-8232. Of the helpful things planned at the booths we populate at the Pride events is a forum for developing your "elevator speech" about what you and WE believe. I hope to see many of you there!!

Namaste, peace and Mahalo!
-Khoa Lewis

Kroger Community Rewards Program: GNH's Latest Quarterly Dividend

GNH has received a dividend of **\$47.86** from Kroger for the quarter beginning **February 1, 2026**, through **April 30, 2026**. This amount is based on **27** GNH households registered for the Kroger Community Rewards Program and how much they purchased with their Kroger Plus Cards during that period.

Register Your Kroger Plus Card to Support GNH!

You can help earn “FREE” money for GNH’s support of local charities, including Up-Spring, Sweet Cheeks Diaper Bank, Lighthouse, and Valley Interfaith Community Resource Center. If you shop at Kroger and have a Plus card, but haven’t 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 NPO# SR254.** If you need help or have questions about registering, contact Betsy Anderson or Pete Patterson, or call Kroger’s tech team at 1-866-221-4141. Thank you for your support!



Lighthouse Shelter for Youth:

Monday, May 25, 2026

Tom Lottman and Allen Jerome will serve lunch at the Lighthouse on the fourth Monday of each month.

Tom and Allen are supported by members of the former Women's Action Network,

renames GNH Outreach Team (Go Team) chaired by Betsy Anderson.

If you have any questions or would like to offer food donations for a Lighthouse lunch, please contact Tom, Allen or Betsy.

Usually, a main dish is served as well as fruit and dessert.



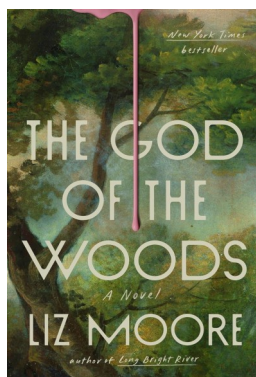
Book Club

Our next meeting is Friday, June 5, 2026

The GNH Book Club meets on the 1st Friday of each month
in the Quimby Room and also on Zoom at 1pm.

Contact [Susanne Bjourner at susanne.bjourner@gmail.com](mailto:susanne.bjourner@gmail.com) for the zoom link)

The God Of The Woods by Liz Moore



We welcome anyone who would like to join our discussions. We usually try to read a wide variety of topics and genres. The book selections are suggested by members, and the club is always interested in hearing book recommendations from anyone interested in joining our discussions.

7/10 Why Fish Don't Exist by LuLu Miller

8/7 How To Say Babylon by Safiya Sinclair

9/4 Icy Sparks by Gwyn Hyman Rubio

10/2 Trials Of Nina McCall by Scott Stern

11/6 The Correspondent by Virginia Evans

12/4 Empire Falls by Richard Russo

GNH BOOK CLUB

SECOND TUESDAY DISCUSSION GROUP
Every Second Tuesday
Discussion via Zoom

**The next meeting will be on The Second Tuesday,
June 9, 2026, from 3:00 to 4:00 pm via Zoom.**

The June Tuesday Discussion Group will focus on the concept of cosmic consciousness and the work of Teilhard de Chardin. Eighty years ago, Teilhard anticipated a radical view of the universe now being suggested by quantum theory and neuroscience. We will watch a short video on Teilhard's ideas and then discuss how it might influence our own spiritual reflections.

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 or Sue Cline scline0149@gmail.com.



Gardening is Good for The Mind and Soul

Don't have a sunny space for a garden? The Gathering at Northern Hills has raised to meet your needs.

Grow vegetables and flowers, enjoy the outdoors and make new friends!

This year GNH has 4'x 8' raised beds available to rent for \$25.00 each.

Ready for planting by Mother's Day,
May 10, 2026.

Spaces are subject to availability and assigned on a first come first serve basis.

Contact Anita Jerome or Linda Gutowski for the application and rule forms.

Familiarize yourself with the garden and compost rules,
then complete and sign the application and email back
before May 3rd.

When the completed application is approved the rent will
be due in full.

"To plant is to believe in tomorrow."

Audrey Hepburn

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) 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 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 if you have any questions.



There is a basket at the back of the sanctuary for anyone who would like to

THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

**Please offer prayers and good thoughts
For all our members' and friends' peace and wisdom
Please contact Adrienne at 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: Tuesday and Thursday
11:00 AM to 4:00 PM



NEXT Harbinger

Our Next Harbinger will be
Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Please have all articles to the
emailed by 12:00 pm.
deadline on Tuesday
May 19, 2026 before the
Harbinger is published.
Space can be
reserved on the rare occasion an