



# The Harbinger

Northern Hills Fellowship

Volume 03/04 #6    September 21, 2003    For news and events – Sept. 24 – Oct. 11

*Northern Hills Fellowship 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.*

**SUNDAY SERVICES and RELIGIOUS EDUCATION at 10:45 A.M.  
NURSERY CARE PROVIDED**

**Forum meets at 9:30 A.M.**

**September 28:** Opinions Needed: This Sunday Dave Beato will be reviewing the difficulty he has in accepting conventional beliefs in the efficacy of prayer and ceremony, the concept of a caring God, and hope for an afterlife. Anyone who has contrasting ideas supporting any or all of these concepts is urged to write out and present them as each subject is reviewed. We wish to demonstrate the variety of beliefs held within our congregation rather than debate. For additional information, leave a message for Dave Beato at 729-3306. Worship Associate, Morris Hudgins.

**October 5:** “Redemption and Restitution”. The Rev. Dr. Morris Hudgins. As we approach the Jewish High Holy Days, I suggest we give some thought to these topics. How can a relationship be restored after a wrongdoing? Are there acts which are beyond redemption and restitution? How does one forgive the wrongdoer? I will look to the Jewish faith for help.

**October 12:** “Salvation—one step at a time”. The Rev. Dr. Morris Hudgins. This is a follow-up to last week’s sermon. Is there such a thing as salvation for a Unitarian Universalist? I believe there is. Salvation for me is wholeness and it comes one day at a time. I will tell you more on Sunday.

**The Mission of Northern Hills Fellowship is  
to create a religious community that  
celebrates human diversity, encourages spiritual growth,  
fosters responsiveness to our world community,  
and commits to the future of our children.**

FELLOWSHIP OFFICE

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MINISTER: The Rev. Dr. Morris Hudgins  
Office Hours: Mon., Wed., Thur., Sat., 9-12 a.m.  
Call for an appointment at other times.

OFFICE COORDINATOR: Joan Wolking  
Office Hours: Tue., Wed., Thur., Fri., 1:30 -5:00 p.m.  
Sun. 10-11 a.m. 12-1 p.m.

DIRECTOR OF LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS  
EDUCATION: Laura Stanton  
Office hours will be published when available.

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Next Harbinger deadline, October 5  
for news and events October 8 – October 25

SUPPORT NHF -  
BUY KROGER GROCERY CERTIFICATES  
One of the easiest ways for us all to support NHF is by buying Kroger certificates. They are available in \$20 and \$50 denominations and can be used like cash at any Kroger Store. Certificates are sold in the Quimby Room each Sunday after the service. Five percent of sales benefit the Fellowship.



**FEATURED UU: Susan B. Anthony (1820-1906)**, suffragist, women’s rights advocate, author, educator, temperance advocate; co-founded with Elizabeth Cady Stanton, the National Women’s Loyal League (supporting emancipation of the slaves in border states, 1863); co-founded with Stanton the National Woman Suffrage Association (New York, 1869) and later became president of its successor, the National American Woman Suffrage Association (1892-1900); wrote *History of Women’s Suffrage* (six volumes, 1881-1922); member of the American Hall of Fame; Quaker, then Unitarian. Susan B. Anthony is the only woman to appear on a United States coin.

**ITEMS TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR**

**Youth Group Organizes Community Service Project**

For the second straight year, the NHF Youth Group is organizing a group of NHF volunteers to help elderly and disabled folks with house & grounds chores, during the Cincinnati-wide PRE-PARE-AFFAIR.

Date: Saturday, Nov. 15

Time: Meet at NHF at 9 am; plan on working through the early afternoon.

We will rake leaves, pick up yard debris, clean gutters, close storm windows and put away lawn furniture.

Last year, we had 15 NHF'ers (both youth group and adults) participate. Let's see if we can double that number this year! We are always looking for social action projects -- here is one that almost anybody can participate in.

If you are interested, please email Sam Wolinsky, [yponeykar@fuse.net](mailto:yponeykar@fuse.net), one of the youth group coordinators, by September 26. He has a form you need to fill out. Or call him at 851-3994. Thanks to the youth group for providing the entire church with this opportunity to give back to our community!

**Book Club** – If you like a good read –and a long read, The Book Club discusses *Ahab’s Wife* Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 7:30 PM.

Call Evelyn Chidester (521-2653).

## **MORRIS' MUSINGS - Deer Visits**

Have you noticed recently how the deer have been visiting our living space more often? Environmentalists would remind us that the space is theirs as much as it is ours. I must tell you that I love to look at deer. They are beautiful animals.

The woods near the church, the neighborhood and my home are becoming populated with more and more deer. In the last year I have often had to stop and let them cross the road as I drive to church in the morning. I thought deer liked to sleep during the day. Not these deer. One day I drove home and saw two deer crossing the road. Then the same night Marti and I encountered the same two deer on my way home from the theatre. Usually, I stop and watch them saunter into the woods.

Just last week we were having a Worship Committee meeting in the Quimby Room and saw three deer in the labyrinth—a doe and her two fawns. As we watched them the young ones decided to run around the labyrinth in circles. They were having a great time. As Sue Wolinsky said, “They are taking advantage of the labyrinth energy.”

Yesterday, as I was shaving in the bathroom, I looked out my window and saw a young deer eating in the flower garden. I grabbed my camera and took some pictures, then decided to get closer. As I walked quietly around the house the mother who was under the deck heard me and took off into the woods. Quickly the young one ran as well.

I finished shaving, dressed and went by the church. I returned home at lunchtime and found deer droppings all along our front porch. The deer I had frightened into the woods, or other deer, decided they would try the front yard. They found several plants on the porch to their liking.

It is clear that the deer are visiting “our space.” What are we going to do about it? Some people believe that we should have open season on deer. I am thinking about creating a “deer space” with food and a sign: “Safe for Dining.” What do you think?

Deerly yours, Morris

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## **CHANGE IN MUSIC**

Darijus Spakauskas, who has been our NHF Music Director for the past few years, submitted his resignation earlier this month. At the September 18th board meeting, the board formally accepted his resignation, effective September 18th.

Those of you who attended worship this past Sunday may have had the opportunity to meet Les Tacey at the piano. In the near term, Les will provide music during our worship services and will work with Roger Doughty and the choir. This will allow the Human Resources Committee, Music Committee and Worship Committee to work together on revising the role (job description) our Sunday accompanist will play in the future. After that job description is finalized, the HR Committee will recruit candidates for the position.

Discussions will be held with Darijus and various committees to see whether he will continue to be involved with the Challenging Performances Concert Series, continue to offer piano lessons to church children, and to play occasionally for specific worship services in the future.

We wish Darijus good luck as he pursues his doctoral degree at CCM, and works to establish his audio engineering business, and we hope to see him and hear his creative music from time to time. We also welcome Les to Northern Hills.

If you have any questions about our music path forward, contact Sue Wolinsky, HR Committee (851-3994).

**Rise Up and Call Her Name** - This is a continuation of the series, which started last spring. It is based on the workbook titled "Rise Up and Call Her Name" written by Elizabeth Fisher. Each session explores different types of woman honoring based spirituality from all over the world. Meeting dates are Wednesdays (Oct. 1, 15, 29; Nov. 12 and Dec. 3. 7:00 - 9:00pm at Northern Hills in the Quimby Room). Anyone wishing to participate may call Sue Wolinsky (851-3994) or Letty Bergstrom (729-2284). The cost is \$25 (if you have the book, the cost is \$10). Scholarship funds are available.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

For those of you who don't know, I spend a lot of my professional life providing family education classes to parents and other caregivers. I strongly believe that parenting is the most difficult and demanding job there is, and certainly one of the most important. I also believe that parenting can be greatly enhanced with the help of education, support, and other services designed specifically for this challenging task. With this in mind, a *Parent's Corner* has been created on the bulletin board outside my office. I have posted information, classes, and materials that many parents may find of interest.

For example, a list of parent education workshops offered by Jewish Family Service is posted. Registration forms for the Beech Acres annual *For the Love of Kids* Conference are also available. And for those of you with older children, Planned Parenthood is offering some workshops just for you.

So the next time you're at Northern Hills, be sure to check out the Parent's Corner!

Laura Stanton, Director of Children's Religious Education

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### Children's Worship Services

On September 14th, the children and youth at Northern Hills Fellowship had their first Children's Worship Service. During the Service, we discussed the NHF Covenant and the need to provide service to others. Everyone voted and decided to do a service project for animals.

During the service, \$29.58 was collected for this effort. Another offering will take place during the next Children's Worship Service on October 19th. Before then, additional donations can be made. A glass jar will be available in the hallway of the church on Sundays.

Please thank the children and youth for being so caring and generous. And thank parents for teaching their children the importance of being charitable.

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Be sure to join us Sunday, September 28th for the RE Teacher Dedication during the Worship Service. And, after the service, please plan to attend the RE Open House. Come by and visit the RE teachers and the newly painted classrooms. This will be a great time to learn more about the wonderful volunteers at NHF and the exciting programs we have to offer!

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A big thank you goes out to Becky Doughty for creating recycling boxes for every RE classroom. They are a big help to everyone!

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## ITEMS OF INTEREST

### Committee on Ministry and Congregational Relations

The Committee on Ministry and Congregational Relations (COMCR) is a vehicle for maintaining and occasionally restoring harmony within our congregation. If misunderstandings arise concerning your relationship with the minister, staff members, or others in the Fellowship, and you are unable to resolve them individually, COMCR's task is to bring both sides together, seek solutions, and assist with the healing process in a confidential, supportive, and respectful manner. If you need help, please feel free to contact any COMCR member, and we will endeavor to work out a satisfactory solution using utmost confidentiality.

The committee would like to thank our outgoing members, Mary Cabrera, Tess Olson, and Kathy Stearns, all of whom have just completed two-year terms of valuable service to this committee. We welcome our new members, Steve Gibson, Marti Sinclair, and Ilse Smith. Committee members Dave Beato (Chairperson), Joe Dapkins, and Ruth Rolfsen, are entering their final year of service. Our minister, Morris Hudgins, is a permanent member, sharing the responsibilities of helping maintain communication, facilitating conflict resolution, and promoting an atmosphere of mutual respect and trust.

-- Dave Beato

(Continued on page 5)

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### **Endowment Committee Forming**

Northern Hills Fellowship is forming an ad hoc committee to launch an endowment program. It is anticipated that the committee will be active for six months to a year, with ongoing responsibilities for a few individuals. The committee needs to draft a mission statement that defines how endowment funds can be used, and how they will be invested. Other committee responsibilities will be to research investment opportunities, and to publicize the program to the NHF congregation. Having an endowment program will help the long-term financial stability of Northern Hills Fellowship, and can provide tax benefits to donors. Several Finance Committee members have already volunteered, so we are looking for a few more people to serve on the committee. Please contact Chris Willis if you want to serve on the committee, or if you have any questions.

### **Are you interested in Voluntary Simplicity?**

It might not sound like a fun subject, but it can be when you take the Cincinnati Earth Institute discussion course on the topic. Voluntary Simplicity means making lifestyle choices, which enrich our inner lives, simplify our overly complex days, help us develop deeper connections to our communities, and reduce our negative impact on the planet.

Voluntary Simplicity is about keeping the material and spiritual in balance, with an eye to the well-being of the world. It may involve some earth-conscious frugality but is not equivalent to voluntary poverty, sacrifice and suffering.

If there is sufficient interest (between 8-12 people) we will offer the course at NHF this fall. The course lasts 9 weeks, with one meeting per week, although the first session is an introduction and the last is a celebration – in the past we have had a potluck dinner. For each of the 7 discussion sessions, participants complete short readings, which are then discussed casually in a 1&1/2 hour meeting. The readings are excerpts from many sources, including the work of Wendell Berry, Paul Hawken, Thich Nhat Hanh and Vicki Robin, who wrote [Your Money or Your Life](#).

If you have any questions or would like to take the course, please call me at 779-9235 or email me at [jwillis@uunhf.org](mailto:jwillis@uunhf.org), letting me know what days work best for you. In the past we have held the course on weekday evenings between 7 and 8:30.

–Jenny Willis

### **Caring Committee**

Founding member Rita Quimby is back home at Llanfair, struggling to recover from a mild stroke. Send a card of encouragement.

If you have joys or concerns you would like to see in the Harbinger, please contact a member of the Caring Committee (Evelyn Chidester, Barbara Kent, Kathy Stearns, Dottie Tabor, Raye Holmes, Ruth Rolfsen).

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*Harbinger Policy*  
(September, 2003)

#### *Harbinger Submissions Guidelines*

1. Please keep the length of your submission to one page (approximately 500 words).
2. Please avoid full page flyers, instead use a concise paragraph.
3. Submissions may be submitted by email (preferably in Microsoft Word or Rich Text format (.RTF)) or made directly through our web site at [www.uunhf.org](http://www.uunhf.org). Handwritten or typed copies may be submitted by contacting Sue Woodruff (981-3323).
4. Submissions must be received before 6 PM on the deadline Sunday.

# October 2003

## Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
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