



# NORTHERN LIGHTS

September 2019

6700 Winton Road  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45224  
(513) 542-4010

[churchnhumc@outlook.com](mailto:churchnhumc@outlook.com)

Friend us on Facebook

### Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday  
1 pm to 4 pm

### Join Us For Worship On Sunday Morning

- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School
- 10:00 AM Nursery
- 10:00 AM Worship
- 10:20 AM Children's Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Fellowship Hour

### NHUMC STAFF

Kevin Gruver, Pastor  
 Joanna Kenyon, Worship Music Leader  
 Donna Medlock, Choir Director Emeritus  
 Dr. Ian Scott, Pianist  
 Sara Croxton, Nursery Director  
 Patrice Callery, Children's Choir



October Newsletter

Deadline - Monday

September 16 @ 1 PM



## Upcoming Events

### September



- 2 Labor Day
- 8 Rally Day
- 8 Adult Sunday School Resumes
- 10 Small Group Resumes
- 12 Kid's Clothing Closet
- 16 Newsletter Deadline
- 17 Lunch Bunch
- 25 Breakfast Fellowship





Dear Church Family,

Northern Hills UMC is a blessing from God to everyone in our community because of our unique cultural diversity and our striving to be a church for all people. We know that everyone stands in need of God's grace and love for the forgiveness of their sins, and many times this is found in a healthy church that welcomes anyone and everyone.

The current situation of our country and communities near and far are much different than that of love and welcoming. We know of two terrorist events by American citizens in the past month in El Paso and Dayton, which targeted immigrants or was driven by hate for different groups of people. People will often stereotype a group of people by their physical looks or cultural activities because they are different. The cultural tensions have risen in our country over the past years as to point out our differences and divisions, rather than our commonalities and strengths. Sociologists used to refer to America as a melting pot, but the metaphor fails because our cultures and differences will not and were not created to melt and blend together. The new metaphor for American society is a tossed salad, because there are so many different ingredients and tastes that make the salad better. A plain lettuce salad is pretty boring, compared to a Cobb Salad that has a different taste with every bite. America is stronger when we recognize and respect our differences.

I have read a wonderful book talking about this topic of recognizing one another for whom God made us to be, called, "Fear of the Other," by William Willimon. He points out the situation of America that I described, then points us to Christianity's central ethos of, "love your neighbor." We all have Others in our life who are different than us, and we might not understand everything they think or do. Yet before we jump to stereotypical conclusions have we gotten to know them individually? The reality is we are afraid of the unknown, whether it is an event in the future or a person different than us who we have not talked to yet. What breaks down walls and barriers in our society is a simple conversation. Who should be leading the charge to breakdown walls and barriers in our society? Christians, those called to love your neighbor no matter who they are or where they come from. Willimon also uses the verse, "Perfect love cast out fear," (1 John 4:18). Have you ever loved a person before you really knew them, maybe giving them the benefit of the doubt? Have you ever paused for a moment to think about a person with their good qualities versus their weaknesses? We probably do that with people we are close to and consider friends, and we decide to love them anyway. But have you ever considered a stranger might have good qualities and from there, "I will begin to love them like Christ has loved me."

Northern Hills UMC, we have something special in the life of our church that runs counter cultural to our American society today. A church for all people should not just be our motto at Northern Hills, but should be lived out in our lives daily. Let us continue to be a church for all people, as we individually love strangers like Jesus calls us to do.

Blessings,

*Pastor Kevin Graver*



## Mission and Vision



A new mission statement for Northern Hills was recently approved by the Administrative Council. According to [businessdictionary.com](http://businessdictionary.com), a mission statement is a written declaration of an organization's core purpose and focus that normally remains unchanged over time. The following mission statement was adopted by Northern Hills UMC:

**To move with the Holy Spirit to make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of all people and all cultures within the world.**

A vision is defined as the effect of the mission, something to be pursued as an accomplishment. Northern Hills UMC's vision statement remains the same:

**Love  
God, Love Neighbor, Love Each Other**

---

## 2020 Census

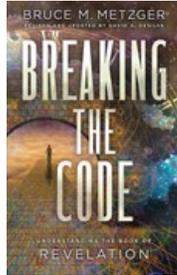
We recently had someone stop by the church asking if anyone would like to be a census taker for the 2020 United States census. The job runs now through the Fall of 2020. It pays \$19 an hour, has flexible hours, paid training and you are paid weekly. He also said you could work from home. You must be 18 years old, a US citizen and have an email address. Apply at [2020census.gov/jobs](http://2020census.gov/jobs). If you have any questions or suggestions, please email [joseph.a.dickhaus@2020census.gov](mailto:joseph.a.dickhaus@2020census.gov). He needs 5,400 people and currently has 535 applications. There are flyers in the church office.

**United States<sup>TM</sup>  
Census  
Bureau**

# Small Group

Small Group will resume at 10AM on Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. We will be studying the book of Revelation and using a supplementary book, Breaking the Code, by Bruce M. Metzger. The books are available for purchase in the office for \$11.00 each.

Small Group is open to everyone. It is a non-judgmental place to learn, ask questions and enjoy fellowship. If you would like to learn more about Small Group, please contact Pastor Kevin.



---

## Community Service



This summer we had opportunities to serve in our community. Our first opportunity was helping at Valley Interfaith on June 19 sorting donated clothing. Our next opportunity was also at Valley Interfaith on July 23 when we helped to assemble backpacks for the back to school event.

Valley Interfaith distributed the school backpacks August 5<sup>th</sup> through August 15<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Kevin, Nancy Phelan and Jane Victor volunteered to help on Tuesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>. It was very gratifying to see so many children getting much needed school supplies, uniforms and haircut vouchers.

We received an email from Emily at Valley Interfaith thanking us for volunteering. She said they served 395 families and 1192 children the first week and 17 families and 44 children the second week for a total of 412 families and 1236 children. They had to assemble an additional 200 backpacks mid-week to accommodate all the children.

Each year Valley Interfaith asks local churches and organizations to help with school supplies. This year Northern Hills gave 500 glue sticks.

---

## Prayer Requests:

Prayer requests may be submitted to Pastor Kevin, written on a prayer request card and placed in the offering plate or emailed/phoned to the church office. Prayer requests will be removed after 30 days unless you request otherwise.

Steve Bretz, friend of Dee Scott, stage 4 pancreatic cancer  
MaKayla Borg, third grade student with brain tumor, given by Linda LeVally  
Ben Bradley, Carolyn Bradley's son, under much stress  
Jeff Bradley, Carolyn Bradley's son, job interviews  
Ellen Brewster, LeVally's former neighbor, on double transplant list  
Bill and Vanessa Callery, as Vanessa recovers from an auto accident at Glendale Place Rehab  
Mattie Cooperwood, health concerns  
Leland Davis, son of Mark and Deb Sensel-Davis, difficult times  
Colby Delaney, Virginia Hewan's cousin, recovering from surgery for a collapsed lung  
Linda Dunaway, Nancy, Blake and Jane's cousin, ablation procedure on 8/28 for afib  
Claudia Ehrle's mother in Jamaica  
Jean Gaines, son is in the hospital with cancer, prayers for strength and healing  
Joe & Rella Hadley, Joe is recovering from shoulder surgery July 19 & Rella from knee injury  
Family of Ann Huffman, Virginia Hewan's sister, on her passing 8/17  
Lois Jones, mother of Fred Jones, in rehab recovering from hip surgery  
Debbie Kaster Harrell, high school friend of Linda LeVally, stage 3 lung cancer  
Michael Minton, former colleague of Linda LeVally & Jackie Stigall, stage 4 melanoma  
Nancy, friend of Carolyn Savage, lung cancer  
Elbert Nelson, traveling mercies as he travels in Europe  
Richard Owens, high school of Linda LeVally, colon cancer  
Carol Rhyner, recovering from hip surgery on 8/14 at Twin Towers  
Mason Samuels, Claudia Ehrle's nephew, rheumatoid arthritis  
David Scott, Dee Scott's husband, health issues  
Bob Sensel, upcoming open heart surgery  
Family of Louise Short, Laura Beverly's mother, on her passing 8/4  
Lynne Stroupe, friend of Judy Hornsby, husband in hospice with a heart valve problem  
Will Sunderhaus, 4 year old son of Case LeVally's friends Brian & Stephanie, leukemia  
Cathy Thompson, friend of Judy Hornsby and Carol Rhyner, cancer  
Jack Westermann, LeVally's college friend, recovering from open heart surgery and on dialysis  
Linda Wulff, friend of Dee Scott, stage 3 cancer and major surgery  
The families and friends of the mass shootings victims in El Paso, TX and Dayton, OH  
Our world and all the people in it



The Northern Hills Church family, Bishop Gregory Palmer, District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Todd Anderson, Assistant District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Suzanne Allen, Pastor Kevin Gruver and their families.

# Celebrating our Church Family in September



Are you or someone in your family missing from our Birthday/Anniversary list?  
Please contact the church office to be added to our list.  
We want to celebrate with you.

## Birthdays

09/01	Ella Beverly
09/02	Skye Godwin
09/04	Mark Davis
09/06	Steve Morrison
09/07	Bob Sensel
09/11	George Vaughan
09/13	Brody Sensel
09/14	Jean Gaines
09/15	Laura Beverly
09/06	Vasilios Nyktas
09/17	Bob Buerkle
09/17	Kim Overton
09/20	Leland Davis
09/25	Jim Armour
09/25	Daniella Agossou
09/25	Aliviah McCarter



## Anniversaries

09/12	Eldrige and Vonda White
09/22	Don and Theresa Merriss
09/23	David and Dee Scott



## Choir



The choir is back from the summer break. Practice resumed August 21st. You don't have to sing like an opera star to join the choir. All you need is a love of music and singing. The choir practices each Wednesday evening at 7PM in the sanctuary. Just show up and enjoy the fellowship of other music lovers.

If you have questions concerning the choir, please contact Joanna Kenyon, our Music Worship Leader.



# DINNER WITH SILENT BASKET AUCTION ON OCTOBER 12, 2019

We are working on a fund raiser to replace the Pumpkin Patch in October. If you have any new or gently used items that you no longer want and could be used to make up a basket, please bring them to the church and mark the box "For Basket Auction." Suggestions are: pottery, jewelry, candles, new dish towels, bath items, cologne, lotions, soaps, kitchen utensils, holiday décor, puzzles, small toys, etc.

Rilla Foster has volunteered to help solicit donations from area businesses, including WCET, WVXU Radio, Playhouse in the Park, Shakespeare Theater, KNOW Theater, Ensemble Theater, Colonel D's Spices, Cozy Cottage Handmade doll clothes, Home Depot, etc.

If you are willing to help or know of other businesses that may be willing to donate, please contact Rella Hadley at 513-942-2660, call or text 513-702-0288 or email [rella.hadley@gmail.com](mailto:rella.hadley@gmail.com).

We had our first planning meeting on Thursday, August 1 at 7 pm. The second meeting is planned for Tuesday, August 27 at noon. If you want to be on the committee, or have ideas to share, please join us.

A letter from the church is available to present to businesses when requesting donations, as well as a W9 when donations are made. Everyone is welcome to solicit donations from businesses they frequent. The letters and W9 are available in the office or can be emailed to you. Contact Jane Victor if you need the letter or W9.





## Finance Update

The August church energy bill was \$1,029.89, which is an increase of \$393.26. The parsonage energy bill was \$202.93, an increase of \$71.63. The extreme heat accounts for most of the increase, but the week of VBS also contributed to increased usage. The August church water bill was back in the normal range. We are still having some issues with toilets leaking or running. If you notice either happening, please contact a trustee immediately.

We are still spending more than we are taking in each month. We are hoping that the Fall will bring higher attendance and higher giving. If you are behind in your pledge and need to know the amount, please contact Nancy Phelan. If you would like to pay ahead on your 2019 pledge, please note pledge on your check or envelope.

We are having a dinner and silent basket auction as a fundraiser to replace the Pumpkin Patch. The proceeds from the dinner and auction will be dedicated to apportionments, just as the Pumpkin Patch proceeds were. Please contact me if you would like to be a part of this event.

Our January outreach was apportionments, but you may give to apportionments any time in the year. Please consider giving to this outreach so we can pay our apportionments in full for four years in a row. Your hard work at fundraising events, your gifts and your prayers make anything possible. The Finance Team thanks you for all you do to help make NHUMC financially strong!

If you know you will miss Sunday worship, you may mail your pledge or offering to the church office to the attention of Nancy Phelan. If you have questions concerning our financial situation, please feel free to contact me. I will be happy to talk finance.

Jane Victor – Finance Chair/Treasurer

---

## Rummage Sale

Believe it or not, we are already thinking about the next rummage sale. The rummage room is getting full of wonderful treasures!! The sale will be Friday, November 15th and Saturday, November 16th with set-up Monday, November 11th through Thursday, November 14th. Since the room is getting full, if at all possible, please hold your items until closer to the sale. After the election on Tuesday, November 5th, you may bring your treasures to Fellowship Hall.

We hope you will be able to save some time to help with the set-up and the sale.

Jane and Judy





# LUNCH BUNCH

September 17th 11:30 a.m.

(Third Tuesday of each month.)

If you would enjoy a little fellowship with various members of your church family, join us at PANERA across from Brentwood

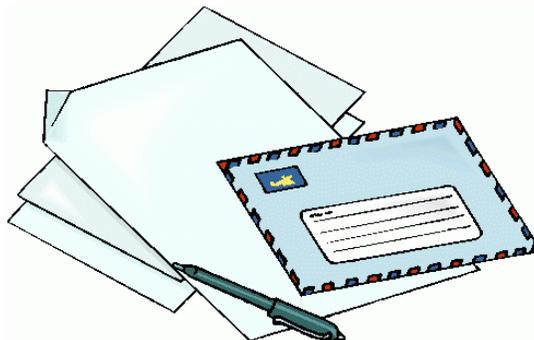
Shopping Center on Winton Rd. The Lunch Bunch is an open group that gathers monthly for food, fellowship & fun!

---

## Ministry of All in Community

Pastor Kevin recently received a letter from one of our former pastors, David Woodyard, concerning a ministry at his church, Powell United Methodist Church, in Powell, Ohio. This ministry is in response to the incarceration crisis in Ohio. They do not visit prisons, but work at helping persons being released from prison get acclimated to life outside. Recently, they decided to start a letter writing ministry to persons still in prison. Nineteen members of Powell UMC have been trained and are committed to writing letters of hope to persons who are incarcerated.

If you know of someone who is incarcerated and you think they would appreciate getting letters of encouragement occasionally, please contact Pastor Kevin. Pastor Kevin will contact Pastor David and have your friend or family member included in the Powell UMC ministry.



# Altar Flowers

If you would like to purchase altar flowers in honor of someone or a special date, in memory of a loved one or to brighten our Sunday morning worship, the flower chart for 2019 is posted in the hall across from the coatroom. Flowers cost \$25.00 and are payable to Northern Hills UMC. (Please note Altar Flowers on the memo line of your check.) After Sunday worship, you may take the flowers you purchased to enjoy at home. (There is a box to carry the vase under the altar at the back.) If you do not wish to keep the vase, please bring it to church. **PLEASE, ONLY ONE ARRANGEMENT PER SUNDAY!**

Direct any questions to Dee Scott (513-681-1605 or 513-253-1297)



Everyone is invited to join us for

## BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP

Join us September 25th 8:30 a.m at the

IHOP at 1217 Omniplex Drive *in Forest Park*

All are welcome to come and share in this time of food and fellowship.



## DIRECTORY UPDATES



Please be sure to notify the church office of any new contact information. You may call (513-542-4010) or email (churchnhumc@outlook.com) your information to the church office.

Below are the most recent changes or additions. Be sure to change any email or phone information in all your devices, such as computers, notebooks, ipads and cell phones.

Watch for information about a new picture directory in 2020.

**Bill and Vanessa Callery** – New apartment number: 503. The rest of the address remains the same. Cell phones and emails remain the same.

# Mission Outreach



Our September outreach is **UMCOR – US Disaster Relief**. UMCOR is a ministry of The United Methodist Church through the General Board of Global Ministries, and their goal is to assist the most vulnerable persons affected by crisis or chronic need without regard to their race, religion, gender, or sexual orientation. They believe all people have God-given worth and dignity.

While UMCOR cooperates with other aid organizations to extend their reach, the most important partners are the people served. They are confident that successful solutions to emergency or chronic conditions begin with the affected population. UMCOR provides these survivors not only temporary relief but long-term education, training, and support.

**UMCOR spends 100 percent of designated donations on the projects our donors specify.** When UMCOR donors give their time, money, and supplies, they join UMCOR as the hands and feet of Christ. Please note UMCOR on your check or envelope.



**Wings of the Morning** was the outreach for August. Wings of the Morning delivers much needed supplies to people in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as well as transporting people in rural areas to clinics for medical treatment. As of August 18<sup>th</sup>, we've received \$337.00.

The July outreach was **Epiphany Ministry of Ohio**. Epiphany Ministry is an ecumenical Christian Ministry for young men and women who are in the custody of Juvenile Justice Facilities. We received \$231.00 for this mission.



Our May and June outreach was **Heifer International**. We received \$1,290.75 and were able to give a milk menagerie for \$1,000.00 and the remaining \$290.75 was given to the Heifer tree project. We received a certificate of recognition from Heifer for our years of faithful giving. It is posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.



**Apportionments:** We pay apportionments to both the Ohio River Valley District and the West Ohio Conference. The District apportionments cover the cost of the staff and local missions. The Conference apportionments include health and pension benefits for clergy who retired prior to the current pension program, staff and missions. Part of these apportionments is given to the larger church for world-wide missions, such as Africa University. You may give to apportionments anytime during the year. As of August, we have paid our District apportionments in full and 53% of our Conference apportionments.

# ***RALLY DAY***



Rally Day is a tradition at Northern Hills signifying the end of summer vacations and the rallying of everyone back to our Fall schedules. We will celebrate Rally Day this year on Sunday, September 8th. We are planning a lunch immediately following worship and activities for the children (more activity information to be announced). The theme for lunch is Ice Cream Social. We will need side dishes, ice cream toppings and desserts. If you would like to contribute something for the lunch, there is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. We hope to see everyone for worship at 10AM, lunch at 11AM and children's games after. September 8th should be a fun-filled day at Northern Hills!

---

## **Sunday Schedule**

Our Sunday calendar schedule has gotten too crowded to print all our activities. We don't want you to miss any Sunday happenings, so below is a list of regular Sunday events for Northern Hills and Keys of the Kingdom.

- 7:30AM**    **NHUMC – Organ Practice (S)**
- 9:00AM**    **NHUMC – Adult Sunday School (L) (September – May)**
- 9:15AM**    **NHUMC – God's Kids Practice - 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays (LL)**
- 9:30AM**    **Keys – Adult Sunday School (P)**
- 10:00AM**   **NHUMC – Worship Service**
- 10:30AM**   **NHUMC – Children's Sunday School (L, PR, & CR)**
- 11:00AM**   **NHUMC & Keys – Fellowship (FH)**
- 11:30AM**   **Keys – Worship Service**
- 1:30PM**    **Keys – Finance Meeting (L)**
- 5:00PM**    **NHUMC—Congolese Evening Worship Service (CR)**
- 6:30PM**    **Keys – Evening Worship Service**

NHUMC Public Calendar, Contacts, NHUMC Building Use, NHUMC Church Calendar, Holidays in United States

Sep 2019 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>Communion Sunday</p> <p>9am - God's Kids Practice</p> <p>1:30pm - Keys Finance</p> <p>6:30pm - Keys Sunday</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Labor Day</p>	<p>3</p> <p>5:30pm - ADK (FH)</p> <p>7pm - Christian Meditation</p>	<p>4</p> <p>11:30am - Aerobics (FH)</p> <p>7pm - Choir (S)</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>11am - Keys Admin Council</p> <p>6pm - Keys Praise Practice</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Rally Day</p> <p>1:30pm - Keys Finance</p> <p>6:30pm - Keys Sunday</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7pm - Admin Council (L)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10am - Small Group (P) @</p> <p>7pm - Bell Choir Practice</p> <p>7pm - Christian Meditation</p>	<p>11</p> <p>11:30am - Aerobics (FH)</p> <p>7pm - Choir (S)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>3pm - Kids Clothing Closet</p>	<p>13</p> <p>6pm - Keys Praise Practice</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9am - God's Kids Practice</p> <p>1:30pm - Keys Finance</p> <p>6:30pm - Keys Sunday</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10am - Small Group (P) @</p> <p>11:30am - Lunch Bunch @</p> <p>7pm - Bell Choir Practice</p> <p>7pm - Christian Meditation</p>	<p>18</p> <p>11:30am - Aerobics (FH)</p> <p>7pm - Choir (S)</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6pm - Keys Praise Practice</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>11:30am - Trustees (L)</p> <p>1:30pm - Keys Finance</p> <p>6:30pm - Keys Sunday</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6:30pm - SPRC (L) @</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10am - Small Group (P) @</p> <p>7pm - Bell Choir Practice</p> <p>7pm - Christian Meditation</p>	<p>25</p> <p>8:30am - Breakfast</p> <p>11:30am - Aerobics (FH)</p> <p>7pm - Choir (S)</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>6pm - Keys Praise Practice</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>1:30pm - Keys Finance</p> <p>6:30pm - Keys Sunday</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>1</p> <p>10am - Small Group (P) @</p> <p>5:30pm - ADK (FH)</p> <p>7pm - Bell Choir Practice</p> <p>7pm - Christian Meditation</p>	<p>2</p> <p>11:30am - Aerobics (FH)</p> <p>7pm - Choir (S)</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>11am - Keys Admin Council</p> <p>6pm - Keys Praise Practice</p>	<p>5</p>