



50 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105
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Website: www.ushartford.com
Office Administrator's Hours (adjusted for COVID-19): Tuesdays,
Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 9:00am to 1:00pm, or
email/call for an appointment.

MARCH 3, 2021

Building Community Since 1830
Revs. Cathy & Heather Rion Starr, Co-Ministers



Image: UUA.org

March 7th, 2021, 10:00am

"Loved Into Being - UUA 2021 Stewardship Service"

Rev. Cathy Rion Starr, Co-Minister

Rayla D. Mattson, DRE

Sam Moffett, DMM

Rob Spector, Worship Associate

Buffie, Coffee Hour Host

Faith in Unitarian Universalism isn't just an intellectual exercise: it's "heart" work. This week we will hear a sermon from UUA President Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, as well as vibrant music, storytelling, and testimony from USH members that will help us to grow in spirit, in courage and in generosity. Join us for this Stewardship Adventure.

Worship leaders include Rev. Chris Long and Rev. Mariela Pérez-Simons. UUA leaders in the service are Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, Rev. Erika Hewitt, and Rev. Vail Weller.

**10:00am Worship Service - Join us [HERE](#)
Meeting ID: 952 8306 7113
Passcode: 014277**

11:00am - [Fellowship Time](#) with USH immediately following services in Zoom.

RE News You Can Use: Rayla D. Mattson, Director of Religious Education

HELLO USH FAMILY!!

**Please join us for our next several get togethers~
Storytime: (20+) [Unitarian Society of Hartford | Facebook](#)**

3rd-8th grade will meet for games on Friday from 6:00-6:45pm.

<https://zoom.us/j/93125142093?pwd=SDhzMVI5UjBkNIFmVDFUUjh3Ukl5dz09>

Dungeon and Dragons will meet on Friday at 7:00pm in Zoom and on Discord. Please contact Bradshaw for more information. <https://zoom.us/j/97622529565?pwd=bnF3YkJhUG11VTZJUmE1Q2RFOGI1dz09>

Rayla D. Mattson, Director of Religious Education
860-233-9897 ext. 104 | dre@ushartford.com

I only check my email on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.



**Hello USH People!!
Would you like to "Easter" with us
during online services for the
holiday? Lets make it fun for
everyone!**

**Please contact Rayla or Buffie for
opportunities as we plan along the
way ~**

Rayla D. Mattson, Director of Religious
Education

860-233-9897 ext. 104 |

dre@ushartford.com

I only check my email on Tuesday,
Wednesday and Thursday.

Programs for Adults and Families



Intern Minister Dianne M. Daniels is offering a 6-week e-course on Journaling. Live class

sessions will be conducted over **Zoom**, and the Teachable platform will hold the course content, lectures, and audios.

The course starts Wednesday, March 10 - let me know if you would be interested in attending. I have two times: a 12-noon course for those who can make it, and an evening course (let Dianne know if 6 pm or 7 pm would be better) for those who need it. USH Members in good standing are

eligible to enroll at no cost - part of my "Thank You" for giving me the opportunity to serve as your Intern Minister. Questions? Contact Dianne at ushinterndd@gmail.com. Enrollment will close on Monday, March 8, to give Dianne time to prepare.

Adult Programs:

Artist's Way Group: Meets on Mondays 6:30 – 8 p.m. via Zoom using Mira Kirschenbaum's book ***The Gift of A Year*** as the basis for our conversation. We focus on living creatively, with the appreciative eye of an artist; creative expression of all types and stripes is celebrated, though not required. If you're interested in joining us, mark your calendar now, and look for contact info here in early September. Contact Tina Davies for more info at daviesush@gmail.com.

The USH Book Club: Meets **monthly**, on the **2nd Thursday**, 2:30 – 4:30 pm, via Zoom. All adults in the USH community are welcome. Please contact Ginny Allen at fiddlenurse1@gmail.com if you'd like more information or if you want to join. An email with Zoom link will be sent a day or two before the meeting.

MARCH 11 – *A Peace to End All Peace: The Fall of the Ottoman Empire and the Creation of the Modern Middle East* – David Fromkin

Caring Network: This year's meeting dates via ZOOM. **2021:** 3/14, 4/11, 5/16, 6/13. Meetings will be ZOOM meetings at **12:15pm**.

20's/30's Group: If you would like to join, please email Tara Cote at tcote11@gmail.com.

Disability Support Group: This group has moved its gathering online. Please reach out to the facilitators for more info. In this group participants discuss the challenges of physical disability (chronic illness, chronic pain, impaired senses, impaired mobility) and emotional pain (loss, mental illness) and the stresses of caretaking a loved one. What is said in the room stays in the group. Email **Don Hope** for more information at donhope48@gmail.com or call at **860 463 7982**.



Unitarian Society of Hartford
Inquirer Series
An Introductory Program for
Newcomers and Friends and
Interested Members
Spring 2021
Draft as of February 15, 2021.
Presenters have

not

yet been confirmed

The purpose of the Inquirer Series is to welcome newcomers into the Unitarian Society of Hartford community. The goals of the Inquirer Series are as follows:

- * Make our church values and culture transparent and known to newcomers so that they may make an informed decision about membership in our church.
- * Introduce newcomers to church ministers and lay leaders.
- * Establish a "safe space" for newcomers to learn more about Unitarian Society of Hartford in the form of a regularly scheduled small group designed for their needs.

Welcome, Introductions and About Unitarian Universalism
Sunday, March 21: 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

- * Unitarian Universalism History, Principles and Sources: Laurie Kelliher
- * Questions and Answers with the Minister: Rev. Heather Rion Starr

Worship and Spirituality

Sunday, March 28: 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

- * Worship and the Liturgical Year: Sue Smolski
- * Adult Spiritual Programs: Peter Meny

Community Partnerships

Sunday, April 11: 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

- * Social Justice: Rev. Cathy Rion Starr
- * Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Agency: Dana Donovan

Education and Faith Development for All

Sunday, April 18: 11:15 – 12:15 p.m.

- * Life-Long Learning and Adult Programs: Dianne Daniels

- * Faith Development for Children and Youth: Rayla Mattson
- * On becoming a Member: Rev. Heather Rio Starr

**To Register contact Carolyn Carlson at
carlsoncjc@gmail.com**

Church Community & Business News

Building & Grounds: Moving Forward and Keeping the Congregation Well Informed

In our 2/24 USH-Enews, Building and Grounds sought comments and suggestions on a proposal. The proposal responds to Board Listening Session, in which USH members and friends stressed the desirability of having streaming services from the Sanctuary and/or Fellowship Hall. This streaming capability would be valuable particularly now, but also in the future when we return to full attendance.

A zoom session on March 1, a discussion of B & G plans and commentary by congregation members produced useful and thoughtful suggestions.

In the session attended by 19 individuals, Jon Covault and Paul Cipriano explained the proposed plan to upgrade our electronic ability to stream services and related content from the Sanctuary. Thoughtful reactions, comments, and observations then informed the Zoom discussion for the next 75 (or so) minutes.

There was unanimous agreement on two general principles.

First, during this time of accelerated change in the life of USH, the project should go forward both to prepare for what the future **will** deliver (think, make our Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall well equipped for current and future inhabitants of our landmark Meeting House). In addition, we will both symbolically and actually be making desirable electronic improvement to our historic building.

Second, keep the congregation members fully informed as the project moves forward. This is especially important as what might be termed "informational inclusion" is both essential to the collective feeling of belonging to "Team USH", and a challenging goal when, dispersed under Covid conditions, we meet by electronic means.

On specific issues, we learned the chancel audio system was upgraded just about when Covid arrived a year ago. Consequently, it is ready to feed audio to parts of the streaming apparatus. Participants also noted the contemplated electronic items are not aesthetically prominent, so the degree of member concern does not reach that for the pending upgrade to Sanctuary lighting. (Yes, that project is still in progress).

Questions revealed the equipment acquisition will make possible transmission of services to those at home when installed, both before we return to full attendance at the Meeting House and after, but will also be more responsive to the needs of challenged individuals not otherwise able to participate in USH activities, always an important concern. There will be associated ability to participate in meeting and similar events.

Worship Associates present, Laurie Kelliher, Margaret Leicach and Sue Smolski expressed enthusiasm for the potential of the new equipment as existing arrangements have been, shall we say, a bit of a challenge from within the Sanctuary. Producing future streaming services with the backdrop of the Chancel will be a wonderful improvement both under Covid requirements when only the "actors" are present and in the future with full attendance.

The next project briefing is scheduled for Fellowship Hour on March 14th.



Unitarian Society of Hartford <https://www.ushar>

50 Bloomfield Avenue
Hartford, CT 06105



<https://www.ushartford.com/nourishing-spirit/music/meetingh>

MEETING HOUSE PRESENTS

Days are lengthening and we are remembering the wonderful music-filled nights of other years. We are still waiting to hear about when we can reopen for in-person concerts. In the meantime, here are links to some concerts by performers we plan to feature when we reopen.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kiUGgAOa-gQ&fbclid=IwAR2pxqwDinKQD_10X5akC5-9QzdB_tZAPnD5HGgWXmtxJYe86Mb1JVrDPUC

Join us for another Maestro Bistro followed by a presentation on New England Barn Dances, part of the Winter VMFC weekend! This month's bistro features Chris Brinn, Julia Plumb, and Mark Roberts & Andrea Cooper. Donations welcome to paypal.me/MaineFiddleCamp

Scott

Cook https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WSOPgrXf_X8 (online on demand)

<https://www.scottcook.net/> "As good a modern folkie as we have these days. A voice perfect for the genre. An understanding beyond the norm."

SUSIE ON SUNDAY! Susan Werner every Sunday eve 7 PM Eastern

watch with [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/)
or [Facebook Live](https://www.facebook.com/)

Event by Vance Gilbert - Sunday, March 7, 2021 at 7 PM EST
 Vance Gilbert: Singer Songwriter Performer vancegilbert.com
 Online: greenwichvillagefolkfestival.org

Price: Free

Public · Anyone on or off Facebook

The Greenwich Village Folk Festival is proud to present another great event with amazing music. This months show includes Patty Larkin, Vance Gilbert, SONiA disappear fear, Dan Navarro, Tret Fure, Robert Ross, Sloan Wainwright, Dan + Claudia Zanes, Shanna in a Dress and Louise Mosrie Coombe.

Watch it at www.greenwichvillagefolkfestival.org, or
www.facebook.com/GVFF2020

or on YouTube at

==> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GGjyXFt0rU&feature=youtu.be>

Listen to it on www.folkmusicnotebook.com

This is a free concert, a "Gift To The Community." However, we do take donations (which we share with you folks)

at <https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1386248>

[Sean Heely & Kevin Elam LIVE STREAM from Creative Cauldron](#)

Friday, March 12, 2021 7:30pm – 8:30pm

Seán Heely & Kevin Elam's Celtic Duo is excited to be back with Creative Cauldron for a special St. Patrick's show! Wear your green and grab your Guinness for an evening of Irish favorites! We'll bring the Pub to YOU! :-)

March 20, 2021 Reggie Harris

River of Grass Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 11850 W State Rd 84 #1, Davie, FL 33325, USA

1. Reggie in concert at <https://www.facebook.com/ROGCafe/>

2. River of Grass Service- 10am ET

March 21, 2021 @ 9:30 am - 10:30 am

Reggie leads morning service

at <https://riverofgrassuu.org/index.html>

Theme: Commitment

3. Lincoln Conversations - 7pm CT

March 24, 2021 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Concert on history

Parlour Session: Abbie Gardner

Friday Mar 26th, 2021 @ 07:00 PM

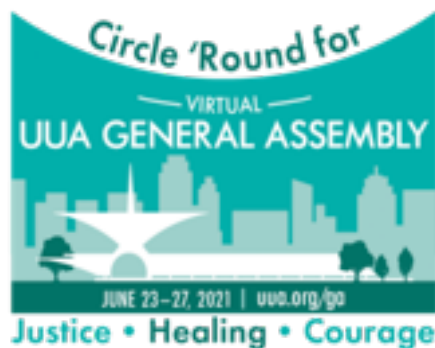
Join us for a live-stream series, concert and conversation, hosted by Dina Hall. Presented over [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

The live-stream is free to watch, but we encourage you to Pay What You Will through the artist's link. All proceeds will benefit the artist. Visit the artist's website at [Abbie Gardner](#).

**We hope to see you soon,
Laura and Paul Cipriano**

Meeting House Presents, Unitarian Society of Hartford, CT

<http://www.ushartford.com/nourishing-spirit/music/meetinghousepresents/>



Here is the link for GA information and

registration: General Assembly: [The Unitarian Universalist Association's Annual Meeting](#)



Congratulations to our Courageous Love 2021 Awardees:

[La Bodeguita de la Gente](#) and [Mutual Aid Hartford/ Apoyo Mutuo](#)

Connect with them here:

[La Bodeguita de la Gente](#) & [MutualAidHartford.com](#) and [@MutualAidHartford](#) on Venmo

How to support:

Contribute to our Good Neighbor Offering to these two groups - send your check to USH (put "Share the Love" in the memo of your check or **donate online**)

Bring your paper grocery bags to USH, and Virginia DeLima will continue to get them to La Bodeguita

Donate directly or get involved: [@MutualAidHartford](#) on Venmo, [MutualAidHartford.com](#) or [La Bodeguita de la Gente](#)

From the USH Caring Network: Please inform the Caring Network of needs, or volunteer your services. If you know of any member experiencing some difficulty, please contact Eve Pech or any member of the Caring Network so we can provide some assistance. A wide range of community services is also available to those in need by calling the Community Info Line at 211.

Social Justice at USH**GHIAA**Greater Hartford
— Interfaith —
Action Alliance**Dear GHIAA
members and
allies,**

A more detailed update with specific alerts on GHIAA's three legislative campaigns (and more) will be coming out next week, but here are some items we wanted to get out before the end of this week.

Welfare lien legislation (HB6516) was passed by the House of Representatives last week and the Senate on Monday!

We encourage you to spend some time watching the debate that happened in the House of Representatives on this bill. View debate on this bill by clicking here. It will give you a feel for how legislation moves and the way the legislature conducts business. Great work, everyone!

Teach ins scheduled on GHIAA's current legislative issues: The Unitarian Universalist Society: East (a GHIAA congregation) is hosting two teach ins on current GHIAA campaigns. Click here to learn more. Join one of these to get the latest updates on where things stand and what you can do! These are scheduled for March 4th at 7pm and an identical workshop is scheduled for March 5th at noon. Email ghiaa@cljct.org for the zoom link.

News from the USH Board of Directors

**There will be a Board meeting this month on March 9 at
6:30 PM**

Your 2020-2021 USH Board

Martha Bradley: President

TBD: President-Elect

Bob Hewey: Treasurer

Sarah Harmon McKenzie: Secretary

Peter Meny: Spiritual Life Council Chair

Jon Covault: Administration Council Chair

Dana Donovan: Social Justice Council Chair

Tina Davies: Community Within Council Chair

Rev. Cathy Rion Starr, Co-Minister (ex-officio)

Rev. Heather Rion Starr, Co-Minister (ex-officio)

The latest financial reports for **Sept-Oct 2020** have been posted, click [HERE](#) to view.

The Board Meeting minutes for **Oct 2020** have been posted. To view the USH Directory, Reports, meeting minutes and other church business information online, click [HERE](#). Contact Buffie Pinney at hartforduusociety@gmail.com for the username and password.

News in the Larger Community

AIM Alert: Accessibility and Inclusion Ministry Resources from EqUUal

We want to bring to your attention these resources and connections now regularly available for Unitarian Universalists who self-identify as living with disability. If you are a person with a disability, you can go to the EA website to find the weekly theme and the active links to join all connections by

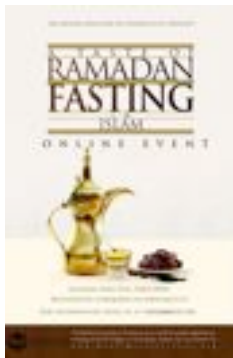
Zoom: **<http://www.equualaccess.org/connect-online/>**

- **Tuesdays @ 3:00 pm** Eastern Time: Theme Chat (with an EqUUal Access facilitator)
- **Thursdays @ 8:00 pm** Eastern Time: Oasis (worship service/spiritual gathering by/for disabled UUs led by EqUUal Access volunteers, ministers, seminarians)

- **Fridays @ 1:00 pm** Eastern Time: Craft & Chat (bring your latest craft project/idea and join in relaxed conversation-- with an EqUUal Access facilitator)
- Individual Pastoral Conversation with a UU minister (by appointment)

Pastoral Conversation appointments are available with Rev. Helen McFadyen or Rev. Barbara Meyers. Please email hmfadyen@uuma.org or bfkmeyers@gmail.com to arrange a private Zoom or telephone call.

Thank You,
Shelly & Helen (AIM Administrative Director Duo)
AIM Alert by Rev. Helen McFadyen, Administrative Director



Annual Taste of Ramadan Event

You are invited to join us for this years MCCT Virtual Taste of Ramadan

Date: Saturday, April 17

Time: 5:00-6:30 pm

Event is free and open to all!

Registration is required

Zoom link will be emailed closer to the date
REGISTER **HERE**

Register by noon 4/17/21

A panel of Muslims from diverse backgrounds will share what Ramadan and fasting means to them.

Panel presentations will be followed by Q and A session
For questions email us at info@mcct.us or call 860-242-1707.



**You're invited to the
Universalist Church of
West Hartford's next
Virtual Cabaret!
Friday, March 19, 7:00 -
8:30**

Would you like to perform as part of the next Universalist Church Virtual Cabaret on Zoom? Join in as one of the acts, or come hang out with us in the audience for the entertainment and a chance to see and chat with friends afterward.

It's not just music—you could read a poem, tell a joke, or juggle. We're always looking for new performers, and it's very relaxed. Children and families are welcome to entertain us, too!
P

Please reserve your spot by Friday, March 12, a week before the Cabaret, so we'll know how many folks are performing. If you're going to watch, no need to reserve—just join us! Contact Patrice Fitzgerald through **MusicArts@westhartforduu.org**

Click the link below to watch our February cabaret Zoom, featuring What A Wonderful World, Crazy Love, When Will I Be Loved, Fly Me to the Moon, Oh, You Beautiful Doll, Who Can I Turn To, A Whiter Shade of Pale, Yesterday, and two original songs. Thanks to all who performed!

<https://youtu.be/OAfTN9jCDm4>

Here are the dates for future Virtual Cabarets:

Monthly on Fridays at 7:00 pm

3/19, 4/16, 5/21, 6/18

Sign in to watch live at those times [here](#). Please contact Patrice at patricefitzgerald@gmail.com for more passcode info.



CommunityNOW:

Please see this online calendar compiling what other UU churches and

organizations are doing during this pandemic. Check out some new programs **here!**

COVID-19 Hartford Community Resources

A way for Hartford residents to connect with Hartford resources and beyond...

For City of Hartford updates go to: <http://www.hartford.gov> and follow <https://www.facebook.com/Hartford311/>. See full article **here.**

~Provided by USH member, Wildaliz Bermudez (<https://wizandjosh.org/>).

Resources for the food insecure and places to give:

These are tough times for many folks already living paycheck-to-paycheck and/or food insecure. If this is you, please reach out to the Revs so we can mobilize some financial and/or food support for you. Here are a few community resources for food in particular:

- Bloomfield food for kids: Carmen Arace Middle School food pick-up: Breakfast 8:00-9:00am and lunch 12:00-1:00pm. It's a drop-in pick-up only.
- West Hartford Meals for kids and adults: <https://www.smores.com/jxwvz>
- Hartford meals for kids: <https://ct-kids.org/>
- Foodshare has mobile sites for food pick up. Click here for more info: <http://site.foodshare.org/site/PageServer?pagename=coronavirus>

Foodshare welcomes your financial contributions and is in need of volunteers especially right now. They have extra safety precautions in place. If you are not already high risk, please consider signing up. The Universalist Church of West Hartford is

working to keep their pantry functioning and could use volunteers who are not in the high risk categories (underlying pulmonary/cardiac/immune issues or diabetes...and/or 50+ years old). Call Jacob Lee, their food ministry coordinator, at 860-233-3669 x109 if you are interested in helping through the coming weeks and months. See more here: <https://www.feedingamerica.org/research/coronavirus-hunger-research>

For questions about Coronavirus in CT, call 211 to talk to a person 24-hours a day, 7 days a week. The hotline is for general questions about COVID-19. If you're experiencing symptoms, contact your medical provider.



Please contact our Office Administrator, Buffie Pinney, with any administrative questions or concerns. Buffie is working on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays from 9am-2pm. While the church remains closed, please email at her at

hartforduusociety@gmail.com.

Buffie's always happy to hear from you!

More In This Week's Enews:

[RE News You Can Use](#)

[News from the USH Board of Directors](#)

[Social Justice at USH](#)

[Church Business News](#)

[Programs for Adults and Families](#)

[Connection Circles](#)

[Events & News of Our Community](#)

[Meeting House Presents](#)

[Upcoming Events & News in the Larger Community](#)

Missed Last Week's Enews? Click Below:

<http://www.ushartford.com/nourishing-spirit/newsletters/>

See Articles and News for USH and the Surrounding Area you may

have missed or find a link to the USH Facebook Page [HERE](#).

Please consult our Online Calendar regularly for all upcoming events coordinated by the

Unitarian Society of Hartford: www.ushartford.com/events/

To submit a Calendar Request (also for an online USH Zoom Room gathering) click [HERE](#).

To read the USH Blog click [HERE](#).

E-News Contributors please take note: The deadline for USH E-News submissions is *Tuesday at 12 Noon*. Please include the dates that your submission should be included in the 'Subject' field.

USH Staff:

<http://www.ushartford.com/about-us/staff/>

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revcathyrionstarr@gmail.com | 860-233-9897 ext. 103

Rev. Heather Rion Starr, Co-Minister

revheatherionstarr@gmail.com | 860-233-9897 ext. 103

Dianne Daniels, Intern Minister (half time, through December 2021, & not in July or August)

USHInternDD@gmail.com | 860-233-9897 ext. 109

Rayla D. Mattson, Director of Religious Education and Rentals Manager

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Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries

smoffett@ushartford.com | 860-233-9897 ext. 108

Buffie Pinney, Office Administrator

hartfordusociety@gmail.com | 860-233-9897 ext. 100

Brian Mullen, Bookkeeper

Office or Phone by Appointment | bmullen@ushartford.com

*The deadline for USH-Enews submissions is **Tuesday at 12 Noon.**
Email to: hartforduusociety@gmail.com
Please note in the subject line "USH-Enews." Thank you for your submission!*

**Peace – as we come to the close of the USH-Enews week.
Be kind to others – and to yourself.**

Our Unitarian Universalist Principles: The member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association covenant to affirm and promote: the inherent worth and dignity of every person; justice, equity, and compassion in human relations; acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations; a free and responsible search for truth and meaning; the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process, within our congregations and in society at large; the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all; respect for the interdependent web of all existence, of which we are a part. Consider the proposed 8th Principle as well! <https://www.8thprincipleuu.org/>.