



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 31, 2021

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



www.redandthepeanut.blogspot.net

April 4th, 2021, 10:00am

"The World is Transforming Around Us - We Cannot Go Back"

*Resurrection means that the worst thing is never the last thing. -
Frederick Buechner*

**Dianne Daniels, Intern Minister
Rev. Cathy Rion Starr, Co-Minister
Rayla D. Mattson, DRE
Sam Moffett, DMM
Peter Meny, Worship Associate
Buffie, Coffee Hour Host**

**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.**

March is Stewardship month at USH.

Stewardship is the responsible overseeing and caring for of something considered to be worth caring for and preserving. We are stewards of our homes, our families, our communities, our environment, – because these are all things worth caring for and preserving, no matter what.

One of the things I find worth caring for and preserving is my UU faith, and USH – my spiritual home. During the month of our stewardship drive, we ask you to consider what makes USH worth caring for and preserving, for you, personally. How does USH serve you, meet your needs, enhance your life and well-being? How does USH help you to be your best self?

Is it through meaningful connections with people you care about, and whose support you can rely on? Is it through opportunities to learn and grow as a person -- to use your gifts in the service of others? Is it through joining with others to support causes that make a better life for all of us? Is it by guiding you to explore and express your values? Is it through nurturing your spirit and fostering hope, during these particularly challenging times?

This past year has been extraordinarily difficult by any measure. The impact on everyone, emotionally, spiritually, physically, financially, has been considerable. Still, USH relies on the stewardship of its members and friends. Keeping USH alive and vital will need all of us to invest our human and financial resources.

Your financial contributions are vital to maintaining this faith community, especially during these times of uncertainty and transition, when its message of hope and love are most sorely needed.

Please take the time to consider what you can give, and then complete your pledge form, either online at our [website](#), or when you receive it in the mail. Even if you plan to continue the pledge you made last year, please confirm that amount for 2021.

You can give by check, credit card, or automatic withdrawal from your checking account – either monthly or in a lump sum. Gifts are tax deductible. If you encounter difficulties or have questions, contact me or our accountant Brian Mullen. Please give as generously as you can to help to maintain USH as a vital and caring community for all of us. Thank you.

~Submitted By Martha Bradley, Board President



Personal News of the Congregation

Bonita "Nita" Hansen

With heavy hearts, we write to USH members to share with you that longtime member Nita Hansen passed away peacefully at home on Friday, surrounded by family and friends.

Bonita "Nita" Karen Hansen passed away on Friday, March 26th at 5:15 am, at home surrounded by her family. Nita was born on November 21st, 1942 in Lakewood, Ohio the daughter of the late Robert and Vivienne Hansen. Her sweetheart of over 20 years Edward Stubbs sadly preceded her in death several years ago passing in 2017. Nita is survived by her sister

Roberta Jane of St. Clair Shores, MI her two nieces, Bonita Karen of St. Clair Shores, MI and Hannah Christine of Roseville, MI. She took great pride in her two great nephews Andrew Joseph and Jacob Sean. At Nita's request, there will not be any services.

We send our love to Nita's family at this time. Cards for the family can be sent to Bonnie Dell, 21224 Lakeland St. Claire Shores, MI 48081.

**Thoughtfully,
Revs. Heather & Cathy Rion Starr**

**Personal News of the
Congregation**

Jane (Moseley) Bronk

We are saddened to inform you of the passing of Jane Bronk on Sunday, March 21st, 2021. There will be a memorial service at Loomis Chaffee in the Fall according to COVID protocols. Those wishing to make a donation in lieu of flowers may do so to the Lewy Body Dementia Association, 912 Killian Road S.W., Lilburn, GA 30047 or by visiting www.lbda.org.

Jane Moseley Bronk, 84, wife of the late Adrian Bronk, died Sunday, March 21, 2021.

Daughter of the Gilbert School's Principal, Henry S. Moseley and Hazel (Arnold) Moseley, she grew up in Winsted, CT. She devoted her entire working life, after

graduating from Brown University, then Trinity College, to education. She taught at Windham High, Sedgwick Jr. High, and finally at Loomis Chaffee in Windsor, CT, from 1970-2006, continuing as a tutor there until 2011. In 50 years of teaching English, she had an impact on thousands of students, many of whom she kept up with well into their adult lives. She is probably counting my commas as I write this. Jane loved travel, all things literary, music of many kinds, gardening, entertaining, her Labrador Retrievers, and summers at the Cape. My mom could make a killer apple pie and the best Christmas shortbread cookies on earth, knit a complex patterned sweater, walk out on the bowsprit to grab the boat mooring, play Cole Porter on the piano, and did the NYT crossword puzzle in pen. She leaves behind her daughter, Andrea Barton and granddaughter, Macy Athorne both of Glastonbury, CT, a brother-in-law and his wife, Mitchell and Jeanne Bronk of Milton, MA, a niece Helen Bronk of Cambridge, MA, and nephew Peter, his wife Yuen, and their son Matthew Bronk, of Waltham, MA. We give special thanks to her loving and devoted caregiver of the last 2 years, Winsome Pusey. A memorial service will be held at a later date, and interment in Woods Hole, MA will be private. Those wishing to make a donation in lieu of flowers may do so to the Lewy Body Dementia Association, 912 Killian Hill Road S.W., Lilburn, GA 30047 or by visiting, www.Lbda.org. For online condolences please visit, www.carmonfuneralhome.com.



We are sad to inform you of the death of USH member Paul Christie this week. Please look for updates in the Enews as we gather information. Notes of sympathy can be sent to his children, Cara Christie 75 Randolph Pl N Washington DC 20001 and Kysa Christie 4349 Tuller Ave Culver City, CA 90230

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

HELLO USH FAMILY!!

Here is this week's story with our DRE: [\(20+\) Unitarian Society of Hartford | Facebook](#)

Please note there will be no classes this Friday due to the holiday weekend.

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

Chomp-n-Chat with Dianne

Please join Dianne for March's Chomp-n-Chat
Wednesday, March 31st [HERE](#).

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.

APRIL 8's Book – *The Gone Dead* – Chanelle Benz

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**

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.

Community Partnerships

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

Host: Rev. Cathy Rion Starr

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.

Host: Rev. Heather Rion Starr

Life-Long Learning and Adult Programs: Dianne Daniels

Faith Development for Children and Youth: Rayla Mattson

On becoming a Member: Rev. Heather Rion Starr

To Register contact Buffie Pinney at hartforduusociety@gmail.com and log in [HERE](#).

Social Justice at USH

**HARTFORD DEPORTATION DEFENSE
STIMULUS CHECK REDISTRIBUTION**

ARE YOU ABLE TO REDISTRIBUTE A PORTION OF YOUR
STIMULUS CHECK OR MAKE A GENERAL DONATION?

HDD IS TRYING TO RAISE \$4,000 TO SUPPORT:
-\$2,000 TO HELP A FAMILY APPLY FOR GREEN CARDS
-\$2,000 FOR HEALTHCARE COSTS FOR MEMBERS

IF 15 PEOPLE DONATE 1/4 OF THEIR CHECK
WE WILL REACH OUR GOAL!

DONATE AT: bit.ly/donatehdd (all lower-case)

Church Community & Business News

More From our Listening Circles: Looking Forward, and Looking Back

January's listening sessions with board members were conceived before we became aware of Revs Cathy and Heather's plans to move ahead in their lives. This fact necessarily changes how we might apply insights gained: what we might have planned for next year with our settled ministers, we will now be organizing with an interim minister to be selected in May. A transition* does not imply our congregation sitting in a holding pattern for two years — a transition is a period when a lot of work and self-examination can be done. "What worked well? What could have been better?"

The listening sessions actually gave us a slight head start on our transition process. We've heard how you've felt connected to USH, and what some of your hopes are for next year and beyond. Comments covered a wide range

of topics. Here's a sample — a page pulled randomly from the small sheaf of notes gathered in January. These notes include both connections (past) and hopes (future)...

"Appreciating online groups and Sunday services, though miss being in the sanctuary. I look forward to being able to gather there."

"So many people in the congregation are really inspiring and precious."

"I would like to see (in the services) a higher level of spirituality: how can you find inspiration? What helps you look forward? What gives you hope?? I would like to re-center and feel revitalized."

"The building itself is important. If I can't be in the sanctuary (because of Covid) I would at least like to see services conducted from the sanctuary."

"I respond to music. We have had some wonderful musicians — I've missed the variety of music we had. I do enjoy seeing Sam do their thing with multiple instruments & vocal parts."

"Want more "meat" in the service... a more substantial message."

"More pastoral care & personal outreach, particularly to those old, alone, sick, or needing some personal connection. The Caring Network's great but sometimes you need caring attention from the minister."

"I've been visited (by one of the ministers) in hospital and really appreciated it. When I had major surgery in another city, Cathy arranged for a local chaplain to visit. I think they've done in-hospital visits with others (when conditions permitted); it's important to continue this."

"I'd like to see more and stronger adult learning programs."

"I miss the Program Table where you could sign up for activities.""

"Bring the vitality and energy of the summer services into the regular year."

And that's only part of one session. You can see we have lots of opinions, some of which are contradictory. You might not agree with some, and you're welcome to share your own views, at any time, with any board member. These areas can be explored deeply and constructively through the transition, even as we find new ways to adapt to a post-pandemic environment.

*Want to know more about the ministerial transition process? The UUA website has everything you could possibly wish. At <https://www.uua.org/careers/ministers/transitions> you'll find enough reading material to keep you busy. Among other resources, look at The

Settlement Handbook and The Transitional Ministry Handbook, for starters.

Submitted by Tina Davies, Chair, Community Within

Unitarian Universalists everywhere: it's that time again!

Mark your calendars for the annual national denominational conference of Unitarian Universalists, June 23-27, 2021. It will again be all-online this year which means that everyone will be online together. Participating online makes it more affordable and accessible for everyone. Please consider whether this is the year you can join in!

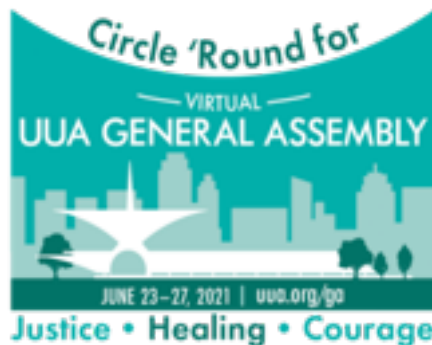
"General Assembly is the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists, where we conduct business of the Association, explore the theological underpinnings of our faith, and lean fully into our mission and principles. That remains true even when we cannot gather physically. Last year, GA had more than 4,900 registered attendees participate from remote locations around the world. Although we give up the face-to-face interaction and hugs that are prevalent when we meet in-person, we retain our dedication to community and make our experience more accessible and more environmentally sustainable."

All information, including registration, is

here: <https://www.uua.org/ga>

I look forward to "seeing" you at General Assembly 2021!

Warmly -- Rev. Heather



Here is the link for GA information and

registration: General Assembly: [The Unitarian Universalist Association's Annual Meeting](https://www.uua.org/ga)



HAPPENINGS
AROUND THE
MEETING
HOUSE:

Here are a few notes about developments around our Meeting House home: Recently spring arrived and the Memorial Garden was cleaned up by the efforts of Paul and Laura Cipriano. It looks terrific! The Hellebores are

especially beautiful at this time of year.

Stop by and take a look at the emerging signs of spring. **Thanks to the Ciprianos~**

The Building and Grounds project to provide streaming capability for services moved forward with selection of equipment. The camera was set up in the Sanctuary and a connection arranged to a TV to show



how it would function in reduced light conditions as well as changing focus and direction. Here is the demonstration in progress.



Kevin discovered all the contents in the kitchen freezer were thawed, making a mess inside and outside of the freezer. It appears that the door had not been properly closed, as a consequence all the contents were lost. Please, if you have an occasion to use the freezer, please check and be sure you have closed the door properly. **And Gertrude, the turkey, has been visiting Buffie.**



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

50 Bloomfield Avenue
Hartford, CT 06105



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

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](https://www.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](#) or [Facebook Live](#)

**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/>



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.

News from the USH Board of Directors

Your 2020-2021 USH Board

Martha Bradley: President

Rob Spector: 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



I hope you are all doing well. Since public concerts are hard to come by, I made this home video with my sister Yu-Chen and the two nieces. It is joined together from CT and CA. I hope you enjoy it. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Pi-Hsun

Mother Goose Suite by Maurice Ravel (1875-1937) - YouTube. I. Pavane for a Sleeping Beauty II. Little Thumb III. Laideronnette, Empress of the Pagodas IV. Conversations of Beauty and the Beast V. The Fairy Garden Piano Pr...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTtXbR9H-9U&t=725s>



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.



CommunityNOW: Please see this online calendar compiling what other UU churches and organizations are doing during this pandemic. Check out some new programs [here!](#)



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

hartfordusociety@gmail.com.

Buffie's always happy to hear from you!

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/>

Rev. Cathy Rion Starr, Co-Minister

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

dre@ushartford.com | 860-233-9897 ext. 104

Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries
smoffett@ushartford.com | 860-233-9897 ext. 108

Buffie Pinney, Office Administrator
hartforduusociety@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/>.