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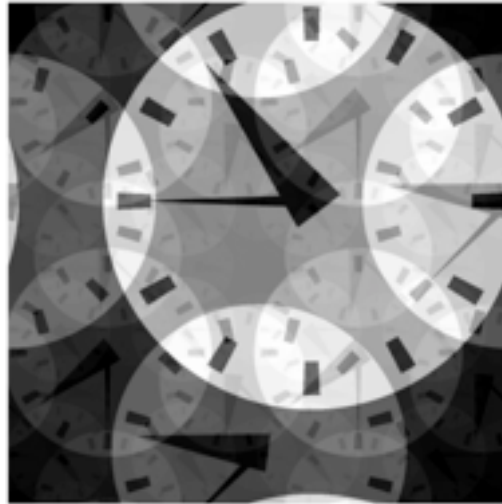
**Website: [www.ushartford.com](http://www.ushartford.com)**

**Office Administrator's Hours: Sunday through Thursday, 9:00am to 2:00pm,  
or email/call for an appointment.**

**May 26, 2021**

**Building Community Since 1830**

**Revs. Cathy & Heather Rion Starr, Co-Ministers**



**May 30th, 2021, 10:00am**

**"Marking the Time"**

**Revs Cathy & Heather Rion Starr, Co-Ministers**

**Rayla D. Mattson, DRE**

**Sam Moffett, DMM**

**Margaret Leicach, Worship Associate**

**Buffie, Coffee Hour Host**

**10:00am Worship Service - Join us [HERE](#)**

**Meeting ID: 952 8306 7113**

**Passcode: 014277**

**11:00am - [Fellowship Time](#) will be immediately following services in  
Zoom. Coffee Hour will resume as usual next Sunday.**



**May 30th - Final  
Worship Service  
together, 10 am**

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

#### **HELLO USH FAMILY!!**

Story time with the DRE

- <https://www.facebook.com/UnitarianSocietyOfHartford>

Sunday June 20th we will have talk back with the DRE. All children, youth, parents, caregivers and RE volunteers are encouraged to attend as we discuss plans for the upcoming church year.

Rayla D. Mattson, Director of Religious Education

860-233-9897 ext. 104 | [ctraylab@gmail.com](mailto:ctraylab@gmail.com)

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

### Interim Minister Updates

#### **Interim Minister Update:**

We have matched with our top preference and are very excited to be moving forward with our interim minister candidate! Contract/agreement negotiations are underway as well as a background check. We will provide more information soon, as we complete the required steps in the UUA process.

~Submitted by Lisa Galinski

## Social Justice at USH

### For anyone interested in becoming more involved with GHIAA, The Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance

They are offering a 6-week Leadership Training Institute this spring via zoom. Please note that participating in an Orientation session is REQUIRED. They are offering two orientation options below.

Leadership Institute Training Dates/Times: Six Tuesday Evenings from 7:00pm – 9:00pm:

1. April 27, 2021 **Completed**
2. May 4, 2021 **Completed**
3. May 11, 2021 **Completed**
4. May 18, 2021 **Completed**
5. May 25, 2021 **Completed**
6. June 1, 2021

This is an excellent training for anyone interested in social justice work, not just related to GHIAA. If you are interested in taking this Core training please contact Dana Donovan, [danadonovan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:danadonovan@sbcglobal.net) and we will send you the link to sign up.

## Church Community & Business News

### **Stewardship Follow-up**

Thanks to all who have pledged. If you haven't yet but intend to, please let Peter Meny, [pmeny9@gmail.com](mailto:pmeny9@gmail.com), our pledge follow up lead, know your intentions re: pledging so he won't need to call.

As always, 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

### Summer Worship - "Embracing and Releasing"

Summer worship at USH is lay-led by thoughtful, observant, caring and committed members of our congregation. This year the theme of

"Embracing and Releasing" will bring sermons opening us to contemplation of the array of emotions and insights we have encountered in the many months since March 2020. So much has happened; our lives, our sleep, our families and friends, the very structure of our days have been affected yet we keep on keeping on.

We will open with General Assembly on June 27 and on the 4th of July we are welcomed to All Souls UU, New London. The calendar for the lay services is currently a scaffold; titles will change and more information will develop as sermons and worship are written and revised but most importantly, take a look at our wonderful speakers and anticipate a summer of embracing and releasing.

**June 27 - General Assembly: Live-streamed country-wide UU worship**

**July 4 - All Souls New London with Rev Carolyn Patierno**

**July 11 - Judy Robbins "A Summer's Day with Mary Oliver"**

**July 18 - Rick Tsukada "A Requiem: We are Sorrow, We are Beauty, We are Love"**

**July 25 - John Bengston "How to have hard conversations"**

**August 1 - Lisa Galinski "Crossing the Edge"**

**August 8 - Sue Spaniol/Artists' Way "The Gift of a Year"**

**August - Out interim minister will join us for a two year exploration**

All services will remain on-line until Ingathering September 12th when, fingers crossed, we will resume in-person worship at the Meeting House with a live feed to your home.

~ **Submitted by Laurie Kelliher, WA Coordinator**



### **Meetings at the Meeting House!**

It was a delight to see so many faces — some fully-vaccinated souls unmasked, even! — at our flower communion drive-through. There was a sense of emerging from a dark, lonely cave into sunlight and laughter, and a promise of more bright days to come.

**Some of you have asked about whether in-person gatherings are happening at the Meeting House, and the answer is yes!**

A few guidelines are in order, none of which are new. If you're like me, though, you might notice that some of the personal software-- which allows functioning as a civilized person--has been overwritten during the pandemic. I, for one, have gone rather feral. Thus, I need some gentle reminders when it comes to real human interactions.

**Here's what to do if your group wants to meet in person at USH. The list isn't exhaustive... someone always comes up with some additions... but it'll get us started:**

Check the events calendar on the website. The calendar is your friend. Any planned usage of space should be included here.

Assuming you see no conflicts for day, time, and space, contact Buffie at [hartforduusociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartforduusociety@gmail.com) to schedule the space and get your event onto the calendar. Copy Rayla in as well at [ctraylab@gmail.com](mailto:ctraylab@gmail.com); she may be dealing with a rental prospect, and needs to know how our space is being utilized.

If your gathering includes some people participating from home, arrange for one of USH's Zoom links to be reserved. One of the benefits (?) of this pandemic comes from broadening virtual connections; let's take advantage of this to continue including those unable to be here in person.

When you do meet, at the end of your gathering please take a few minutes to tidy up and leave things organized for the next group. (You know... re-set the thermostat; turn lights out; don't leave dirty dishes, etc.)

**These basic acts of courtesy and consideration once were second nature and will be so again once we reacclimate. Be gentle with yourselves and with each other, and enjoy being together again.**

**Dear Friend of USH: Are YOU Interested in Becoming a Member of USH?**

We will be hosting a New Member Ceremony during the first week of June. Because of COVID-19 restrictions, we will have a small, safe, and simple in-person gathering outside at the Unitarian Society of Hartford

(USH) Meeting House. At this time, you sign the USH Membership Book which means that you are making a conscious choice to join our congregation with all the rights and responsibilities that come with membership. Once you officially become a new member, we will announce it in the E-news and during a Sunday service. We will also post a short biography and photo introducing you to the congregation.

Prior to joining, we hope you will have been attending some of our Sunday services, participated in the "Inquirers Series" and explored Unitarian Universalism through reading and other activities. We also ask potential members to meet with one of our ministers or other lay leadership. When you feel you have all the information you need to make an informed decision, you are ready to sign the Membership Book.

**Here are some things you can receive by being a member of the USH community:**

- A supportive community, open to meeting your spiritual, social, and emotional needs
  - A place to continue your spiritual journey in safety
- A place to be renewed and inspired each week in the company of friends
- A place where you may join with others to do good works in the larger community.

**Here are some things YOU can give to the USH community, as you are able:**

- Your presence in our worshipping community
- Your participation in small group activities where you can meet other members and continue your spiritual journey.
- Your commitment to some form of service within and beyond our society
  - Your gifts of money, time, and talents.

**Please contact me if you are interested in becoming a member in June or if you have questions. [The deadline for joining in June is May 24, 2021.](#) We will have a small in-person gathering on Wednesday, June 2, 2021 at the Meetinghouse. We will follow appropriate social distancing methods and will honor your special requests if possible. [We will welcome the new members at the June 6 Sunday service.](#)**

**Some of you have expressed an interest in waiting until USH opens for regular services. We are hoping to open in September 2021 and will probably hold a new member ceremony live, in front of the congregation in late fall.**

**~Carolyn Carlson, [carlsoncjc@gmail.com](mailto:carlsoncjc@gmail.com)  
860-462-9757**

### **Making Progress: Upgrading Tech to Stream Services from the Sanctuary**

A small group of Buildings & Grounds folks and friend spent a full morning at the Meeting House, helping our incipient live-streaming project move further along. At this time, all the mounted camera feeds are hardwired into a digital mixer, and we now can select among four video images from the sanctuary. There's yet much to be done: audio synch, graphics, learning the system. But we've taken the leap from idea/concept to real time video, and it looks amazingly good! Even with low lighting, details are clear.

At USH's Annual Meeting this Sunday, you can see an extremely brief clip, thanks to the combined talents of the Covaults, of what's been accomplished. It looks simple, but it wasn't all that easy. Please take the opportunity to thank our B&G/Video team for fast-tracking this project and following through on countless details in its birth.

### **Here are a few candid shots from Saturday below:**

1. Who are these masked men?  
(Paul Cipriano, Stu Spence, and Kevin Girouard, running cables into the office)
2. Jon Covault painstakingly attaching cable terminals
3. Each cable houses 8 color-coded wires; each wire has a specific function
4. Hooked up, and trouble-shooting on the monitor

**Submitted by Tina Davies, Chair, Community Within~**



## Programs for Adults and Families

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.





## Caring Network

### **From the USH Caring Network:**

Valerie Klokow would like some help with meals. Standing and cooking have become very difficult for her. She does not feel it is safe for any of us to bring meals to her home. She would welcome gift cards from GRUB HUB, or from restaurants that deliver meals. **IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT THE RESTAURANTS DELIVER THE MEALS.** Thank you for any help you can give.  
~Janice Newton

**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.

## Church Community Celebrations and Memorials



**USH Child Dedication**  
Please join us in welcoming our newest member Marie Lorén Maldonado-Rivera, who was dedicated to the Unitarian Society of Hartford, along with Reverend Cathy Rion Starr, and family this past Friday, May 21st, 2021.



**Our very special Sunday Sexton, Jaz Perez-Acevedo, graduated from St. Joseph University on Saturday, May 15 with a degree in Public Policy. Congratulations and best wishes for a happy and successful future, Jaz.**

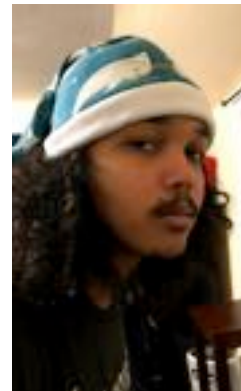


**Please help me congratulate Kennedy Mattson!**

**She will be the youth participant at the Sophia Fahs Lecture at GA this year June 25th at 5:00pm. She will be speaking along with two college students as they center the voices of BIPOC youth and young adults.**

**We also congratulate Bradshaw Mattson!**

**He was hired to be one of the youth of color staff on the GA planning team this year. I hope many of our youth will attend and support him as he moved into a national leadership role.**





### **Hispanic Women Leaders Award**

**Please join us in congratulating USH Member, Doris Maldonado for receiving this prestigious award.**



### **Personal News of the Congregation**

We are sad to inform you of the death of USH member Paul Christie on March 26, 2021. Please see obituary [HERE](#).

There will be a USH Zoom memorial service on June 15th at 10am so please join us [HERE](#).

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

## **News in the Larger Community**

### **Virtual Nonprofit Workshop Series JUNE 2021**

**Upcoming Events**

***\*Please note: registration is required for each individual workshop in advance***

**MOBILIZE YOUR BOARD TO RAISE FUNDS**

**Thursday, June 10, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm**

**Presenter: Judith Margolin, [www.needagrant.org](http://www.needagrant.org)**

**In these challenging economic times, nonprofit board members no longer have the luxury of saying, "I don't raise funds." This webinar delivers the tools to both incentivize board members and to help them become more comfortable**

with the fundraising process. It provides an ideal opportunity for nonprofit staffers to participate with their board members. Topics covered include: who should and should not be on the board, what policies and structures need to be in place to facilitate board fundraising, how to achieve a state of grantseeking readiness, and how to develop an action plan to move toward a fully engaged board. Specific attention is paid to the various roles board members can and should play vis a vis your organization's prospects and donors. [Click here to register](#)

**BOARD MEMBER BOOTCAMP**

Wednesday, June 23, 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Presenter: Mae Maloney, Leadership Greater Hartford

Newly appointed nonprofit board members or serving board members that have never received formal board training will learn about the ten basic responsibilities of nonprofit boards as well as the duties of individual board members, relationship between board and staff, and common issues facing nonprofit boards. PowerPoint presentation and other handouts will be emailed to participants. [Click here to register](#)

All workshops are offered at no cost to participants through a partnership between Hartford Foundation for Public Giving and Hartford Public Library

**REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL WORKSHOP IN ADVANCE**

If you have any questions, please email [nonprofitslearn@hplct.org](mailto:nonprofitslearn@hplct.org).



**The Hartford Gay Men's Chorus (HGMC) will partner with the Unitarian Society of Hartford to co-host its first drive-thru food drive on Saturday, June 12, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. All food donations from "Provide with Pride!" will benefit the pantries of Hands On Hartford**

**and Chrysalis Center. The chorus is going to meet outside in the church parking lot tomorrow 5/19 and 5/26 from 7-8 pm to rehearse the National Anthem for Pride Night on Friday, June 4th at the Hartford Yard Goats. I apologize for the short notice.**

**Here is the link to our spring show: "[Love Can Build a Bridge](#)".**

**Thank you and best,  
Robert Reader**

## UUA General Assembly & Conference Services

We are pleased to announce that our Saturday Morning Worship will be led by a collaborative team from three congregations in the Greater Hartford, CT area. The congregations have been growing in collaboration and covenant for years. A huge welcome to our worship leaders: Rev. Adam Robersmith, Dianne Daniels, Rev. Dr. Josh Pawelek, and Rayla D. Mattson, DRE of USH. In their intergenerational service, that share with you how they learn, practice, pray and dream. #UUConnect #UUAGA



During this pandemic, we have moved nearly everything we do online. As we open up, many congregations will be maintaining online options to participate, too. No matter where you are in the world, you can be a part of a Unitarian Universalist community.

**Rev. Dr. Adam Robersmith,**  
GA Saturday Morning Worship Leader



Imagine a church that encourages members and friends to embrace and honor each other's beliefs and provides opportunities to worship together as one faith. We are a loving, diverse, and open-minded religious community that encourages and empowers you to seek your own spiritual path, wherever it leads.

**Dianne M. Daniels,**  
GA Saturday Morning Worship Leader



We know collaboration among congregations matters because our theology is covenantal, because our principles center our interdependence, because remaining in our geographical silos never keeps us small and parochial at a time when we are called to bear faith proudly with our message of love, compassion, and justice.

**Rev. Josh Pawelek,**  
GA Saturday Morning Worship Leader



Advice for first time attendees to a virtual General Assembly:

Try something new!  
Meet someone new!  
It's OK to be afraid.  
What if it turns out really well?

**Rayla D. Mattson,**  
GA Saturday Morning Worship Leader

**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>**



Here is the link for GA information and registration: General Assembly: [The Unitarian Universalist Association's Annual Meeting](https://www.uua.org/ga)

**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 **Nov-Dec 2020 & Jan-Feb 2021** have been posted, click [HERE](#) to view.

The Board Meeting minutes for **March & April 2021** 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](mailto:hartforduusociety@gmail.com) for the username and password.

**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/](http://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](mailto:revcathyrionstarr@gmail.com) | 860-233-9897 ext. 103

Rev. Heather Rion Starr, Co-Minister  
[revheatherionstarr@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:USHInternDD@gmail.com) | 860-233-9897 ext. 109

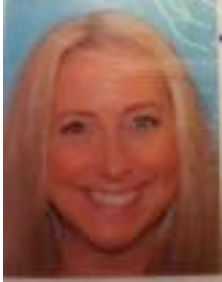
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Brian Mullen, Bookkeeper  
Office or Phone by Appointment | [bmullen@ushartford.com](mailto:bmullen@ushartford.com)



Please contact our Office Administrator, **Buffie Pinney**, with any administrative questions or concerns. Buffie is working Sunday through Thursday from 9am-2pm. While the church remains closed, please email at her at [\*\*hartforduusociety@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:hartforduusociety@gmail.com).  
**Buffie's always happy to hear from you!**

***The deadline for USH-Enews submissions is Tuesday at 12 Noon.***

***Email to: [hartforduusociety@gmail.com](mailto: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/>.

