



Unitarian Society of Hartford

Building Community Since 1830

Rev. Terry Cummings, Interim Minister

50 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105

Tel: (860) 233-9897 • Email: hartforduysociety@gmail.com

Website: www.ushartford.org

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

DECEMBER 1, 2021



December 5th, 2021, 10:30am

"Hope, Love, and Renewal"

This Sunday's place in the Christian calendar of Advent is the inspiration for our service being dedicated to love, hope, waiting, and renewal, which have universal meaning across faith traditions. Our music this Sunday will be provided by member Sarah McKenzie and her fellow musician and singer Kate Howard-Bender, as Sam Moffett takes a well-deserved weekend off.

Board member Peter Meny will also share a moment about what the USH Board has been up to lately and what it is working on.

This Sunday we will also make space for sharing "Matters of the Heart" with one another (often referred to as "Joys and Sorrows" in other congregations). We would love to hear about recent births of new family members, share your sorrow at a recent bereavement, and lift up any meaningful life passages or events that you would like to share with others. Please refer to Rev. Terry's weekly column, below for information on how this will take place.

Rev. Terry Cummings, Interim Minister
Sarah McKenzie & Kate Howard-Bender, Musical Guests
Margaret Leicach, Worship Associate
Buffie, Zoom & Coffee Hour Hostess
Deb Meny & Elsie Rickard, Greeters
Dana Donovan & Tina Davies, Ushers
Kathie Ferguson, Chancel Art
10:30am Worship Service

Also join us in ZOOM [HERE](#).
 Closed captions are available.
 Meeting ID: 952 8306 7113
 Passcode: 014277

11:30am - Fellowship Time will be immediately following services in Fellowship Hall.

For those that are attending by Zoom, please remain on Zoom to chat with others at the end of the service.

You can also watch the Sunday service at <https://vimeo.com/unitariansocietyhartford> or on the USH Facebook page.



A Letter from The Minister~

Dear members and friends of the Unitarian Society of Hartford,
A couple of days ago I had my first experience of snow falling on my new home here in Connecticut.

Harrumph! Snow already!?

It was just a sprinkle,
nothing to write home about as they say, but that small sprinkling of snow was a reminder that

winter weather is on the way.

Don't get me wrong, I love the change of seasons. They remind me that we are powerless to change the magnetic pull of the sun, the planets, the moon, and the stars; there is nothing we can do to change the tilt of the earth relative to our sun.

What a glorious reminder of the power of nature, and the authority of the laws of physics.

Climate change is real, of course. And the warming winters are having catastrophic effects on wildlife around the globe. This is no time to wish for the absence of cold days and snow.

Shakespeare warned about the dangers of climate change over 400 years ago in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, in which the fairy princess,

Titania complains.....:

*Contagious fogs; which, falling in the land,
Hath every pelting river made so proud
That they have overborne their continents.
The ox hath therefore stretch'd his yoke in vain,
The ploughman lost his sweat, and the green corn
Hath rotted ere his youth attain'd a beard.
... Therefore the moon (the governess of floods),*

*Pale in her anger, washes all the air,
That rheumatic diseases do abound.
And through this distemperature, we see
The seasons alter: hoary-headed frosts
Fall in the fresh lap of the crimson rose,
... The childing autumn, angry winter, change
Their wonted liveries; and the mazed world,
By their increase, now knows not which is which.*

Prophetic words indeed.

One of my favorite spiritual events in this December month of holy days and holidays is the winter solstice, and we are planning to have a special solstice celebration in Fellowship Hall on the evening of Tuesday, December 21st. Please watch for further announcements as we finalize our plans for the service and, of course, we may ask for volunteers to pay a role in welcoming back the light.

This Sunday's place in the Christian calendar of Advent is the inspiration for our service being dedicated to love, hope, waiting, and renewal, which have universal meaning across faith traditions. Our music this Sunday will be provided by member Sarah McKenzie and her fellow musician and singer Kate Howard-Bender, as Sam Moffett takes a well-deserved weekend off.

Board member Peter Meny will also share a moment about what the USH Board has been up to lately and what it is working on.

This Sunday we will also make space for sharing "Matters of the Heart" with one another (often referred to as "Joys and Sorrows" in other congregations). We would love to hear about recent births of new family members, or share your sorrow at a recent bereavement, and lift up any

meaningful life passages or events that you would like to share with others.

Here is how Matters of the Heart will be shared —

- Please send me an email with any Matters of the Heart that you would like to share with the congregation by 9:30 a.m. on Sunday (revterryush@gmail.com); or
- If you are attending the service in-person, index cards and pencils will be provided at the welcome table for you to write them down when you arrive at the Meeting House; or
- Write them in the chat if you are attending the service by Zoom.

I will share your Matters of the Heart from the pulpit immediately before our customary candle ritual, which this week will be earlier in the service than it has been of late. (Please do not share announcements about upcoming meetings or other events, as this will not be a time for general announcements.)

Dear ones, Sunday morning is a special time for all of us, and we will continue to try new things to help improve your individual spiritual experience as well as build community.

Your feedback matters, and I would love to hear from you if you have any concerns about our Sunday services in general.

I look forward to seeing you in-person or on Zoom this Sunday.

With love and in faith, Rev. Terry Cummings

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



Hello USH Family!!

How do you UU? This week in RE we will reflect on the first three UU principles that we've studied so far this year. We will look out how we have incorporated them into our daily living and what we've learned about ourselves and the world around us in doing so.

Rayla D. Mattson, Director of Religious Education

860-233-9897 ext.

104 | ctraylab@gmail.com

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

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

Calling all Secret Santas!!

We have a few more children from SANDS school who need a buddy. Please let me know as soon as you can if you're able to donate funds or purchase a gift for a child during this holiday season.

Thank You,
Rayla D. Mattson
Director of Religious Education

USH Community & Business

Please take note that the next Board meeting will be on **December 14th** at 6:30pm via [Zoom](#)



Holiday Regifting Sale - The Joy of Buying Used

The Holiday Regifting Sale is back this season after services on Sunday, December 5th and 12th. Do your

holiday shopping in Fellowship Hall during coffee and connection hour!

Kids and families are invited to a special sale just for them, on Saturday morning December 11th from 10 am to 12Noon.

You and your children can browse the tables of gifts donated by the congregation during this time, and every sale goes to USH and helps keep us going! In case you haven't enjoyed the Regifting Sales of the past, items usually include toys, games, jewelry, and household decorations.

Kids and their parents will be the only people at the Saturday sale (besides a couple of us from Green Sanctuary who will staff it), so you can browse and buy safely! Please remember to bring/wear your mask.

"It's a great way to find unique gifts and give things a second life – keeping them out of the landfill while raising money for the meetinghouse," Green Sanctuary's Jeff Howard and Mary Sherwin note.

Help out by donating unwanted gifts to the USH Regifting Sale and buying "second hand" this holiday season.

To Donate: Place your formerly loved items--jewelry, toys, decorations and knick-knacks--in the Regifting Bin in the lobby of the Meetinghouse now through Sunday, November 29.

To Help with the Sale: Volunteers are welcome to help sort, finish pricing, and stage gift items on sale tables on Thursday December 2nd from 5pm - 8pm or Friday December 3rd from 5pm to 8pm. To volunteer, please contact Mary Sherwin at mary.sherwin@gmail.com or 860-874-6399.

If you aren't going to use a gift then you can turn it into a donation to a good cause—USH!

***Happy Holiday-Time,
Rayla Mattson, Director of Religious Education
Mary Sherwin and Jeff Howard of USH Green Sanctuary***



USH November 2021 Auction Update

We will be e-mailing auction statements this week to donors and buyers. Many people settled up their account on Sunday – Thank you. If not your statement will show a balance to pay by check to USH with auction in memo line. You can also review your statement by signing into the auction website

<http://www.togetherauction.com/ushartford>

There were 21 un sold items after the Auction. We have reopened the online site for entering bids on these until Dec 10th.

<http://www.togetherauction.com/ushartford>

You must log in to bid

Using phone # without 860 ie xxx-yyyy

Your pin is last 4 digits of phone number

Send questions to ush.auction2020@gmail.com

Thanks – auction team Mike Covault, Ginny Hendrick, Jon Covault Bob Hewey and Buffie Pinney



DECEMBER LUNCH BUNCH~

We will be gathering on Tuesday, December 14th at 12 Noon. Our speaker will be Marye Gail Harrison. If you plan to attend, please let me know by noon on Thursday, December 9. Please call me at 860-212-6923 (Leave a message for Janice Newton.) or email me at janicecnewton@gmail.com. The Lunch Bunch will meet at Concetta's, Italian

Restaurant, 22 Mountain Ave., Bloomfield. You will be able to order off the menu. Separate checks will be provided. There is convenient parking. We

will meet at Concetta's on the third Tuesday of the month (except December) through June.

The remaining dates for 2022 are: 1/18/22, 2/15/22, 3/15/22, 4/19/22, 5/17/22, and 6//21/22. We are looking for speakers. Are you interested, or do you know someone who would be interested, in speaking to the group? If so, please contact me. Reservations are necessary! Hope to see you on the 14th!



Book Table at Coffee Hour!

Please bring your dollars and find great books that your USH friends have chosen to share with you! AND please continue to cull your bookshelves and donate books that YOU really liked and want to pass on. Fiction, non fiction, cookbooks, mysteries, spiritual,

nature, art, self help and also books for kids and youth—let's get into the spirit of sharing with one another!

Books can be left in the office in a plastic container labeled for book collection. We have a good group of volunteers for this activity. **Any questions, contact Susan**

at susanhope51@gmail.com or 860 463 6407.



**Sing
Along**

Hi folks, we are back to singing on Second Saturdays !

Join us at the next Meetinghouse Sing-Along! Fred Louis and Ed Savage are offering an opportunity to CT Singing families, singers, song-writers and audience members to join in song on the second Saturday of each month from 2 to 5 PM. We will have song-sheets and some loaner copies of Rise Up Singing available. Bring along your own 'Rise Up Singing' if you have one, as we have used it a lot in other months. We will also use the maroon/purple "Rise Again" sequel – 1200 more songs to sample, plus any song-sheets you care to contribute (bring about 20 copies for the group). If the October weather holds, we will meet to the right of the building, in the Memorial Garden patio.

We'll put some chairs in a circle and take turns singing or playing, with those who know the tune or words joining in as they wish. You can come early or come late, whatever fits your family schedule. The UU Meeting House is at 50 Bloomfield Avenue in Hartford. Some of us bring snacks, but that is not required (or organized). Donations to defray building expenses are encouraged. Look for a sign near the front door if you can't see or hear us right away. We will be around to the right of the main entrance, down the (rough) path to the patio.

VAX protocol - OK to sing, socially spaced, if you are vaccinated; even so, masks would probably be a good idea. If you have NOT completed a COVID Vaccination, we ask that you skip the Sing-Alongs for now, to protect you from US.

Contact: Fred Louis (FLouis@yahoo.com) with questions and suggestions.



Sunday Welcome Volunteers

See Sign Up Genius Link [HERE](#). Please contact Buffie at hartforduusociety@gmail.com for any assistance or additional questions.

Programs for Adults and Families

Adult Programs:

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.

Book Selections 2021-2022

Dec 9 The Signal Flame- Andrew Krivak

Jan 13. Mansfield Park- Jane Austin

Feb 10- A Promised Land- Barack Obama

March 10- Finding Higher Ground: An Adaption in the Age of Warming- Amy Seidel

Apr 14- First Friends:The Powerful Unsung (and Unelected) People Who Shaped Our Presidents- Gary Ginsberg

May 12- The Extended Mind:Thinking Outside Your Brain-Anne Murphy Paul

June 9- The Hellfire Club- Jay Tapper

July 14- Hamnet- Maggie O'Farrell

Aug 11- The Vanishing Half- Brit Bennett

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

Disability Support Group:

This group meets on line the first Saturday of each month at 10 a..m. The zoom link is sent a few days prior to the meeting. 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 group stays in the group.

Email **Gloria Bent** for more information at bentgloria@gmail.com or call at **860 904-7768**.

Social Justice

STAY TUNED!

Caring Network

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 **Janice Newton** 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.

Meeting House Presents



Unitarian Society of Hartford <https://www.ushartford.com>
50 Bloomfield Avenue
Hartford, CT 06105



Thank you for your support of Meeting House Presents!! If you are receiving this email you have signed up to be on our mailing list or you have purchased tickets online through brown paper tickets and given us your email address.

Regarding covid we are currently following CDC guidelines and require masks and proof of vaccination for all those in attendance. Bring and wear your mask; if you forget, we have a supply and will give you one. The sanctuary is large enough to comfortably accommodate all who are likely to come. We can spread out, maintaining reasonable distance from each other. Seating is every-other pew to facilitate separation. We do this for the safety of our volunteers, performers and fellow concert goers.

We hope you understand. Feel free to contact us with comments or questions. Thank you for supporting independent musicians, live music and Meeting House Presents!

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/>

Meeting House Presents 2021-22 Season
 Concerts are the third Friday of the month at 7:30 pm. at the
 Unitarian Society of Hartford, 50 Bloomfield Avenue Hartford, CT 06105

Dec. 17, 2021 **Reggie Harris and Pat Wictor**
Apr. 22, 2022 **Mad Agnes (4th Friday)**
May 20 , 2022 **Seán Heely**

Tickets are available in advance from [brownpapertickets.com](https://www.brownpapertickets.com) and at the door for \$20.
 Season tickets are available for \$100 for all six concerts and can be purchased at the door
 or after church services.

Reggie Harris and Pat Wictor – December 17, 2021

50 Bloomfield Ave. at 7:30 p.m.

Websites: <https://reggieharrismusic.com/>

<https://www.patwictor.com/>

Tickets: <https://reggieharris.bpt.me>

listen: <https://youtu.be/aiYrnt2V3ao>

Save the dates for spring 2022 concerts. Tickets will be available next year.

Mad Agnes – April 22, 2022 50 Bloomfield Ave. at 7:30 p.m.



Mad Agnes is Margo
 Hennebach, Adrienne Jones and Mark Saunders. Each member arrived at the trio from a
 staggering list of solo accomplishments, including songwriting competitions, recordings,
 and the ability to sleep on any surface.



[One Wild Dove](#) video

Seán Heely duo with bouzouki player Beth Patterson– May 20, 2022
 50 Bloomfield Ave. at 7:30 p.m.
 website <https://www.seanheely.com/>
 video: <https://youtu.be/087ojjDW8IM>

Laura and Paul Cipriano
 Meeting House Presents, Unitarian Society of Hartford, CT
<http://www.ushartford.com/nourishing-spirit/music/meetinghousepresents/>

News from the USH Board of Directors

Your 2020-2021 USH Board

Rob Spector: President
Eve Pech: 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. Terry Cummings, Interim Minister (ex-officio)

The latest financial reports for **FY July-Aug 2021** have been posted, click [HERE](#) to view.

The Board Meeting minutes for **July 2021** have been posted. To view the USH Directory, Reports, meeting minutes and other church business information online, click [HERE](#). Contact Buffie Pinney at hartfordusociety@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/

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. Terry Cummings, Interim Minister
terryuu633@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
ctraylab@gmail.com | 860-233-9897 ext. 104

Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries
smoffettuu@gmail.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
brianmullenush@gmail.com 860-233-9897 ext. 102



Please contact our Office Administrator, **Buffie Pinney**, with any administrative questions or concerns. Buffie is working Sunday through Thursday from 9am-2pm. Please email at her at **hartfordusociety@gmail.com**.
Buffie is *always* happy to hear from you!

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

Email to: hartfordusociety@gmail.com

Please note in the subject line "USH-Enews." Thank you for your submission!

