



## Unitarian Society of Hartford

**Building Community Since 1830**

**Rev. Terry Cummings, Interim Minister**

**50 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105**

**Tel: (860) 233-9897 • Email: [hartforduociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartforduociety@gmail.com)**

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

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

**JANUARY 19, 2022**



**Left:** In 1871, Celia Burleigh, a life-long activist and reformer, became minister of the Unitarian congregation in **Brooklyn**, Connecticut. This made her the first woman ever ordained in Connecticut and the first woman ordained in the Unitarian church.

<https://connecticuthistory.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2012/08/BrooklynUnitarianChurch-e1343863764771.jpg>

**Right:** George Whitefield.

<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/51/Georg>

**January 23rd, 2022, 10:30am**

**"Transition, Transformation and Dreams"**

**Rev. Terry Cummings, Interim Minister**  
**Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries**  
**Margaret Leicach, Worship Associate**  
**Buffie, Zoom & Coffee Hour Hostess**  
**Kathie Ferguson & Dana Donovan, Greeters**  
**Ginny Hedrick & Susan Hope, Ushers**  
**Helen David, Welcome Table**  
**Diane Cadrain, Chancel Art**

**10:30am HYBRID Worship Service**

**Join us in ZOOM [HERE](#).**

**Closed captions are available.**

**Meeting ID: 931 0388 7934**

**Passcode: 128493**

**11:30am - Fellowship Time will be immediately following services in**  
**ZOOM ONLY.**

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



### Ministers Musings

Dear members and friends of USH:

Now that the holidays are behind us, there is an opportunity to think about, and dream of, the future for the congregation. After six months as your interim minister, I see a future filled with possibilities, as well as some challenges. The two are related, because in facing life's challenges, unexpected possibilities emerge.

This Sunday, my homily will be about ***Transition, Transformation and Dreams***. I will share a reflection on the different dimensions of being a Unitarian Universalist minister and invite you to think about the qualities that you would like to see in my successor.

Our Director of Music Ministry, Sam Moffett, will be present in the sanctuary and they will accompany our service both on the organ and the piano.

The following Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup> will be a Rainbow Service, dedicated to the **LGBTQ+** community.

After the January 30<sup>th</sup> service there will be a congregational "Town Hall" meeting via Zoom, during which members of your Board will share some information about the new minister search process and options. Please look for further information about the meeting in the next few days.

As the COVID pandemic begins to show some signs of improvement we are still proceeding cautiously. In-person attendance will be limited to 25 people who have been fully vaccinated through the February 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday service. Please let me know by email by the Thursday before if you plan to attend the Sunday service in person ([revterryush@gmail.com](mailto:revterryush@gmail.com)).

In addition, please be aware that the Board recently adopted a COVID 19 Policy for all USH staff and Volunteers. Until further notice all USH Staff

and Volunteers will be required to be fully vaccinated (two shots plus a booster, depending on the vaccine) in order to be in the Meeting House. A copy of the full text of the Policy will be up on our website in due course. In the meantime, please reach out to me if you would like to read the policy before then.

With respect to volunteers, the vaccination policy affects volunteers who work with children, those who actively participate in Sunday services, or otherwise need to be physically present in the Meeting House in order to do what they do. You do not have to be vaccinated if all you do is sit on a committee and attend meetings via zoom.

I hope that you will join our service that begins at 10:30 a.m. this and every Sunday, either in person or online.

**In Faith and Love,  
Rev. Terry Cummings**

### **Good Neighbor Offering**

The Good Neighbor Offering for January will be held on Sunday, January 30th. The recipient will be our immediate neighbor, The Village For Families and Children. Most of us are familiar with the Village but for anyone who isn't:

**The Village For Families and Children** is a social service agency serving hundreds of children and their families in Greater Hartford. The main campus for The Village is located in the red brick buildings next to USH.

The Village provides inpatient and outpatient services for children and families in need as well as working with schools in Hartford. Some of the inpatient population has been removed from a traumatic home situation, some are in transition between psychiatric facilities and the community. In addition, many children and adults receive outpatient counseling, group and psychiatric care.

In this time of Covid The Village has seen a greatly increased workload and backlog so the need to support them is even greater than usual. It has been providing virtual counseling for Families as well as other supports. They have

YouTube sessions on coping with stress, having children at home during Virtual Classes and written suggestions on ways to move forward during Covid.

We hope you will donate generously to this worthy cause.



**Join Us at  
Our Town Hall  
Meeting**

### **Town Hall Meeting**

Please join us [HERE](#) on January 30th, 2022 for our USH "Town Hall" meeting via ZOOM and limited in-person attendance.

**Please watch the E-News for further announcements.**

### **Did UU Know?**



### **USH Member Phyllis Hall Remembers**

Lunch Bunch December 14, 2021.

**Phyllis Hall**, one of the few members who was active before our Meeting House was constructed, recently offered to address the Lunch Bunch. This gave the group a rare opportunity to learn from one of our members who was present during events surrounding construction of the Meeting House. Her remarks were recorded, and later machine converted to text, with the usual number of errors of one kind and another. What follows is a somewhat edited transcription with a few words added, or removed, of her remarkable talk. The parenthetical (xxxx) marks indicate clarifications of confusing parts of the transcription. Any errors thereby introduced are not those of the speaker. - Janice & David Newton

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OK, well this is, I think, supposed to be a speech or talk about the history of our building (Meeting House). This is strictly from my memory and memory isn't all that perfect so please correct me if I'm wrong or add anything that you think would be applicable. We can talk about it later.

I came to Hartford in 1960 from Illinois. We had belonged to the Geneva church there. I'd been a Unitarian for 10 years before that. The church in Geneva was called the Church of The Pioneers. The building was built in 1844. We came to CT in 1960 and moved to Bloomfield. I was looking around for a Unitarian church and whereas the nearest one was down in Hartford on Pearl Street (former location of USH). I went down to Pearl Street and found a very neat small church. It was very efficient. It had two floors. The main floor was the sanctuary and a couple of offices, and down in the basement we had the kids and the social room. I thought that was a very efficient church especially after we came to build the one we built here.

I met Payson Miller. The first time I met him he said to me, "I want you to be on the social problems committee." I said, "OK, I'm on the social problems committee." So, I was then on the committee.

He was a very take-care-of-things person. (He was a take charge type of person) He wrote letters every week to the editor so everybody in Hartford knew he was a very famous person. I really think the reason he wanted us to build the church (current Meeting House) was so that we would be famous around Hartford, too. He was really pushing when he found out what we might build. He really wanted to have it built.

The next thing I want to tell you is about the Endowment Fund. **More, follow the link below and scroll down to the blue words.**

Articles, full or continued, are found in their entirety here:

<https://ushartford.org/did-uu-know/>

## USH Community & Business

**Please take note that the next Board meeting will be on **February 8th** at **6:30pm** via [Zoom](#)**

### **Transparency/Privacy on the Web – Finding Our Balance**

A small team of USH folks is busy reviewing — and revamping — our website ([ushartford.org](http://ushartford.org)). “What’s relevant? What’s outdated? How can we make this more useful?” It’s a work in progress.

As we continue our work, we are interested in **your** ideas and contributions. This site belongs to all of us here at the Meeting House. We’d particularly welcome photos showing ‘Interesting Things Happening’... the Regifting Sale? Soup Sundays? Action at the Auction?

***Here’s where we particularly want your thoughts... how much information should be restricted to “members only”??***

A little history: our web presence is about 20 years old. For the first 15 years, the sole password-protected content comprised data (name, address, phone, email, photo, etc.) of our members and friends. *Your personal information*. Other organizational data (reports, minutes, descriptions, building checklists, etc.) were publicly available. Should someone wish to view our Constitution, our Memorial Garden guidelines, or some policy detail, they readily and easily could do so. About 5 years ago, however, that changed. Currently, the entire ‘Members’ section is accessed *only* through the familiar username/password exercise, blocking a visitor from viewing our foundational documents, board minutes, or other operating information.

Our group would like to restore our previous situation, where *only* our members’/friends’ personal information is password-protected. Before making this change, we need to hear from you. What are your thoughts on transparency? Do you believe it best for USH to share information concerning its ways of operating with the world at large? Do you have some reservations? Please share your concerns, if any. ***The Member Information of our Member Directory will continue to be guarded***, regardless of decisions made about other USH documents.

This will be one (brief) topic at the semi-annual Congregational Town Hall Meeting later this month, and you may weigh in then. You can also email our group: [USHwebteam@gmail.com](mailto:USHwebteam@gmail.com), or speak directly with us. Thank you for participating in this democratic process.

**The Web Team: Laura and Paul Cipriano, Tina Davies, Toni Gold,  
David and Janice Newton, Bruce Robbins**



## "Chalice" ZOOM Room Password Change

Please note that the password for the ZOOM room named "Chalice" has been changed. Please contact either **Buffie** or **any Board member** to receive the new password.

**Any attempts to login in as "host" while using the old password will result in a "lock out".**



## JANUARY LUNCH BUNCH~

Because of the current COVID conditions, we have canceled the January Lunch Bunch at Concetta's. Decisions about future Lunch Bunch gatherings will be made on a month-to-month basis. Watch the USH-Enews for further developments. I hope to see you all in February. Stay well!

Janice Newton at [janicecnewton@gmail.com](mailto:janicecnewton@gmail.com)



## Announcing ***UU SpiritLife Conversations***

Our spring program, ***UU SpiritLife Conversations***, is a series of facilitated zoom conversations on spiritual topics, offered on the fourth Saturday mornings, January through May, 9-10:30 AM. ***SpiritLife Conversations*** open to all members of the three Hartford area UU churches



on a drop-in basis – you don't need to register or commit to the whole series. The topic for January 29 will be *Finding Balance In An Unstable World*. Please go to [uuspiritlife.org](http://uuspiritlife.org) and click the Programs tab for complete information. Questions can be directed to Judy Robbins at [judyrobb2@gmail.com](mailto:judyrobb2@gmail.com).

### **Meeting House Sing-Along update**

The UU Meeting House board has canceled in- person events, and we agree that "an abundance of caution" are the words of Year 2022 for now. We will postpone second Saturday Sing- Alongs until COVID contagion rates drop back at least below 5%. Watch for a monthly update from us.

**Contact: Fred Louis ([FLouis@yahoo.com](mailto:FLouis@yahoo.com) )**.

## **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](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.**

#### **Book Selections 2021-2022**

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](mailto: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](mailto:bentgloria@gmail.com) or call at **860 904-7768**.

**Caring Network**

Tara Cote and Paul Jacob welcomed their son, Rowan on January 10th. They have set up a Meal Train website to help them with meals.

Here is the link to get to the Meal Train website: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/9022w5>

**Once you are on the site choose SIGN IN. Choose "sign in with your [MealTrain.com](https://www.mealtrain.com) account." You will need to log in using my email address and password.** They are: [janicecnewton@gmail.com](mailto:janicecnewton@gmail.com) and this password: USH1958! Please be sure to log out when you leave.

If you have trouble signing in, email or call me.

Tara and Paul's address is:  
31 Magnolia Hill CT. Cromwell, CT 06416 #860-748-7046

Thank you, Janice Newton

**News from the USH Board of Directors****Your 2021-2022 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 **January 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.org/about-us/staff/>

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**News from Buffie's Desk**



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 [hartforduusociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartforduusociety@gmail.com).  
**Buffie is *always* happy to hear from you!**



**Sunday Welcome  
Volunteers  
See Sign Up Genius  
Link [HERE](#). Please contact  
Buffie**

**at [hartforduusociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartforduusociety@gmail.com) for any assistance or additional questions.**

**The deadline for USH-Enews submissions to Buffie is by  
**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!**