



**Unitarian Society of Hartford
Building Community Since 1830**

Rev. Terry Cummings, Interim Minister

50 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105

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

Website: www.ushartford.org

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

March 2, 2022



March 6th, 2022, 10:30am

"Why We Give"

We celebrate the launch of our annual stewardship drive.

Rev. Terry Cummings, Interim Minister

Jon Covault, Board Member

Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries

John Brancato, Worship Associate

Buffie, Zoom & Coffee Hour Hostess

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 both in person and ZOOM

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

Matters of the Heart

On 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 —

- Online participants: please send me an email with any Matters of the Heart that you would like to share with the congregation by 9:00 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.

I will share your Matters of the Heart from the pulpit immediately before our customary candle ritual. (Please do not share announcements about upcoming meetings or other events, as this will not be a time for general announcements.)

In Faith, Reverend Terry



Minister's Musings

Like most everyone, I have been knocked out of my comfort zone by the horrific war that has sprung from seemingly nowhere in central Europe. Just as the impact of the pandemic began to ease, and we were all beginning to feel hope and renewed energy, the world has been hurled into mayhem. When I was in my early teens, around 10th or 11th grade, we studied the poetry of the First World War in my English Literature class. Poems by Siegfried Sassoon, Rupert Brooke, and

Robert Graves were part of the curriculum, and I will never forget Wilfred Owen's poem *dulce et decorum est*.

The Vietnam War was making the news headlines daily at the time, and I think that my teacher was attempting to instill in us pupils an understanding that war is not to be glorified. There was no sentiment in the U.K., where I was born and raised, to become involved in the Vietnam conflict.

I will always remember a line from one of the poems we read, although 55 years later I can't remember the name of the poem or who wrote it. "You always know that there's going to be a war when everyone starts talking about peace." I was remembering those words a few weeks ago as news began to spread of Russia's military build-up on its border with Ukraine. How prophetic they now seem.

My heart was broken a few days ago when the news media reported the death of a six-year-old girl after Russian troops shelled a supermarket. The photographs of the grieving parents by her dying body conveyed a grief so deep and powerful that I was moved to tears. Her parents' grief-stricken faces brought to mind the words of Shakespeare's King Lear upon the death of his daughter, Cordelia, "Why should a dog, a horse, a rat have life, And thou no breath at all?"

The human tragedy of war is overwhelming, and also incomprehensible to those of us who, like me, have never been involved in it. Watching events

unfold from afar raises some hard questions. We may be witnessing war crimes in progress. The possibility exists that there may be genocide in the offing in Ukraine. Must the west, should the west, allow war crimes and genocide to take place, or should the west intervene?

Had the Allies known the extent of the horror of the Nazi death camps in the 1930s, would/should they have waited for Hitler to invade Poland before taking more decisive action?

As a child I heard too many stories from my father about his experiences in World War II to have any illusion that war is glorious. I hate the very thought of war. Our Unitarian Universalist faith calls us to work for peace. And as we begin our annual stewardship drive, and Women's History Month begins, working for peace has never been more important, nor the need more urgent than right now.

In the spirit of Women's History Month, let us remember in this grim time that Julia Ward Howe, who wrote The Battle Hymn of the Republic, also wrote one of the most famous anti-war verses of all time. Her Mother's Day proclamation, written in 1870 begins:

"Arise, all women who have hearts, whether your baptism be that of water or of tears!

Say firmly:

'We will not have great questions decided by irrelevant agencies, our husbands shall not come to us, reeking with carnage, for caresses and applause.

'Our sons shall not be taken from us to unlearn all that we have been able to teach them of charity, mercy and patience. We women of one country will be too tender of those of another country to allow our sons to be trained to injure theirs."

The Mother's Day proclamation is in our gray hymnal as a responsive reading, #573.

Let us heed her call. Let us all arise, as members of this faith tradition, and as members and friends of this congregation, and raise our voices, and work, in support of the cause of peace.

There are so many reasons to support the Unitarian Society of Hartford, and the war in Ukraine is a reminder of one of them: to live in peace is a basic human right. One that we so often take for granted. Yet one that can be stolen in the blink of an eye.

The work of peace needs us all right now, and it needs our congregation too.

In faith, love, and gratitude, Rev. Terry Cummings

USH Community & Business



Photos by Buffie Pinney **Sanctuary Lighting Project Underway — at last!**

After, *literally*, years of planning and delays the Building and Grounds Sub-Council is so pleased that the electrical work for the new sanctuary lighting is underway. Sunday worship will provide an opportunity for you to look in on the activity for yourself, and remember for years to come this important event when you were present. Yes, the service space will be ad hoc and perhaps unusual — but exciting!

Short-Term Volunteer Opportunity

While we are sad that our long time bookkeeper (and formerly, office manager) Brian Mullen is leaving us, we are happy that he and his husband Steve now have the opportunity to enjoy the next phase of their lives in a warmer climate. If any members have a working knowledge of QuickBooks and are willing to volunteer a few hours per week to help USH while we look for Brian's successor, please reach out to Rev. Terry by email (revterryush@gmail.com), or Brian at brianmullenush@mail.com. (We are looking at outsourcing our payroll to a payroll company, so this volunteer role will not require managing payroll.)

The next Board meeting is **March 8, at **6:30 PM**, via **Zoom**.**



USH Calendar of Events for **March 2022 can be viewed **HERE**.
Please contact **Buffie** with any questions or concerns.**

March Lunch Bunch



Join Us For Lunch!

Right now, it seems OK for us to resume our Lunch Bunch gatherings as long as we are all fully vaccinated (including the booster). If COVID numbers begin to increase again we could rethink that decision. I will notify all who have signed up if that occurs. If you have not been fully vaccinated, please plan to join us for the Lunch Bunch

gatherings at a later date.

We will gather on Tuesday, MARCH 15 at 12 Noon. Jim Venneman will speak about the Brother Carl Hardrick Institute. If you plan to attend, please let me know by noon on Thursday, MARCH 10. Call me at 860-212-6923 (leave a message if I don't answer.) or email me at janicecnewton@gmail.com.

The Lunch Bunch meets 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 meet at Concetta's on the third Tuesday of the month: 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 15th!

Meeting House Presents

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Save the Dates!

\$20 general admission and \$14 for students with ID

Mad Agnes Friday, Apr. 22, 2022

Seán Heely and Beth Patterson Friday, May 13 , 2022

Susan Werner concert **Saturday, April 30, 2022** This special Meeting House Presents Saturday concert is not

included with season tickets, but season ticket holders get a \$5 discount. Ticket price \$25.

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 2022

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**.

Caring Network

From the USH Caring Network: Please inform the Caring Network of needs, or volunteer your services. If you know of any member or friend experiencing some difficulty, please

contact **Janice Newton** at janicecnewton@gmail.com 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.

Your 2021-2022 USH Board of Directors

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

The Board Meeting minutes for **December 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 for the username and password.

Missed Last Week's Enews? Click Below:

<http://www.ushartford.org/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.org/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/>

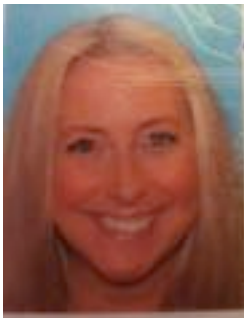
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Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries
smoffettuu@gmail.com | 860-233-9897 ext. 108

Buffie Pinney, Office Administrator & Building Rentals
hartforduusociety@gmail.com | 860-233-9897 ext. 100

Brian Mullen, Bookkeeper - Office or Phone by Appointment
brianmullenush@gmail.com 860-233-9897 ext. 102

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.

Buffie is *always* happy to hear from you!

The deadline for USH-Enews submissions is

Tuesday at 12 Noon.

**Email to: hartforduusociety@gmail.com OR
enewsush@gmail.com**

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



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