

Unitarian Society of Hartford



Nourishing Spirit, Building Community, Working for Justice

Unitarian Society of Hartford
Building Community Since 1830
50 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105
Tel: (860) 233-9897 • Email: hartforduusociety@gmail.com
www.ushartford.org

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

JULY 13, 2022



July 17, 2022: 10:00 a.m.

"Joyful, Joyful"

**Artist's Way Group, Pulpit Guests
Carol Simpson, Worship Associate
Sam Moffett, Director of Music
Annie Witzler, Interim Coordinator of Religious Education**

Matters of the Heart:

Electronically by 9 am Sunday: New G-Mail site is HartfordUUHeart@gmail.com

In-person – use MOH basket for written cards on Sunday morning

10:00 a.m. Hybrid Worship Service

Summer Services held in Fellowship Hall

Join us in ZOOM [HERE](#).

See Order of Service [HERE](#)

Closed captions are available.

Meeting ID: 931 0388 7934

Passcode: 128493

**11:00 a.m. – Coffee Hour – immediately following services,
in person and ZOOM**

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

From the Board

We were hoping to report some good news from our ministerial quest, but that now needs to wait a while. Here's the condensed version: we had two Zoom interviews, with predominantly positive impressions all around; references were provided and verified; we made a verbal offer... which shortly thereafter was declined with regrets.

Needless to say, this was disappointing.

Here are relevant paragraphs from the email we received:

"I am deeply grateful for your invitation to serve, but I have decided not to take an interim position this fall.

It has been a joy to meet you, and, while I think some of the challenges you face are daunting, I think that a seasoned minister with a clear sense of the “interim task” would enjoy working with you. It is clear that you are a strong congregation.

The decision to choose not to take an interim position at this time is a reflection of my personal situation. When the time comes, I hope a future minister in Hartford will invite me to come and preach for you and to meet you IRL (in real life) as it were.

I hold you and your congregation in my humanistic prayers and Universalistic heart.”

Now, it’s back to the drawing board. Our primary interface with UUA’s transitions office, Rev. Keith Kron, is out of the office this month. Eve has again reached out to the UUA, and has heard that they are working to connect us with other prospective candidates.

Congregational Matters

Important Congregational Hearing on July 17

What for? On Sunday, June 12, the Building and Grounds Sub-council (B&G) voted 12-0 to move forward a process for informing the congregation of benefits and process for pursuing a nomination of the Unitarian Meeting House to the National Register of Historic Places. The first step will be a hearing on the matter occurring after the service on

July 17th. The outcome of the hearing will determine next steps, if any. You can read more from the published article [HERE](#).

Where is the hearing? The hearing will be in Fellowship Hall about 5 minutes after the service also occurring in Fellowship Hall.

What is the purpose? To inform the congregation, receive questions, accept opinions, and generally discuss the matter.

So, what do I know? You can know quite a bit. You can follow the link above. And, you can find further information with [this one](#). In addition, a full brochure explaining the National Register is currently posted on the wall of the Ambulatory adjacent to the office. It may be moved subsequently to Fellowship Hall.

The B&G sub-group guiding this matter consists of Toni Gold, Jim Venneman, and Laura Cipriano. They look forward to discussing the project with you.

Summer Services

Living Fully

"Again the chance

To do the work

To see the world exactly

as it is and still

write it a love letter ...Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer.



July 17 through July 31

10:00 a.m.

Fellowship Hall, in person and livestreamed

Pulpit Guests/Worship Associates:

July 17 – *Joyful, Joyful* — Artist's Way Group/Carol Simpson

July 24 – *Saving Grace: A Tribute to UU Saviors*

Judy Robbins/Rick Tsukada

July 31 – *Both Sides Now: Living in the Contrast*

Brian Harvey/ Rick Tsukada

Come to Summer Worship at USH!

Sue Smolski, Worship Associate Coordinator

USH Community

USH's Banner Project!

by Sue Smolski and Evan William

Last winter, Evan Williams and Sue Smolski began to focus on our USH banners from two very different perspectives. Evan (in photo, right) came with an intense wish to quiet the swaying and soft clattering of those banners on the sanctuary walls that hang above the heating registers. Sue arrived with a strong desire for organized archival information about our numerous banners.



Evan approached the Building and Grounds Sub-council, proposing clear, air-deflector covers be installed over the heating vents. She also secured the affected banners by inserting dowels or slats in channels along their lower edges, providing extra weight and stability. Meanwhile, Sue was mulling over the process of creating Archival Information Documents and knew the Chancel Artists would be a good place to start.

It may have been right after a service, or at Coffee Hour, that a mutual

interest in our banners was discovered and a working team was created. A thorough inventory of all our banners has now been completed. Further, we have a timeline for the rest of the Archival Project and will share this in the eNews next month. We will seek information from the congregation early in the fall, regarding the origin, purpose, and history of some still unprovinanced banners.

More immediately, Evan's additional focus on refurbishing any banners in need is in the spotlight. We wanted to let everyone know that the banners on the front lobby walls in the stairwells will be taken down (thank you, Kevin). Evan will refurbish the Accessibility Banner and clean the White Tapestry banner (see photos below).

Photography:Evan Williams



Share Your Snacks for Summer with
USH!



Summer is the time of year when we relax, travel, and most importantly...snack! Share photos of your summer snacks with us on Facebook with the hashtag **#USHSummerSnacks** and show us what we should be craving! Be it ice cream out with friends, fresh salads from the garden, steaming lobster by the shore, or cotton candy at the local fair, we want to see it! Share on Facebook with the hashtag **#USHSummerSnacks**, or email your submissions to re4ush@gmail.com or hartforduusociety@gmail.com.

And don't forget to donate to USH's food pantry partners... summer should be a time of plenty for all, though the reality is sadly otherwise for many. Contact Diana Heyman at heydiana42@gmail.com for additional information.

See some delicious looking submissions below !!



**Scrumptious Stir-Fry from
the Pinney Household**

Our office admin Buffie whipped up a delicious summer stir-fry of chicken and vegetables, seasoned with turmeric, cinnamon, and black pepper served over jasmine rice! Too bad we can't smell through our screens!

Stop by to ask her for the recipe!

Social Justice



The Village for Families and Children Uniform Fundraiser 2022

The children pictured above were back in school last fall, wearing

their school specific uniforms, green tops and tan bottoms.

It may seem too soon to think of returning to school, but for some families whose finances are strained, the need to plan for buying uniforms is more immediate. The cost of each uniform, one top and one bottom is about \$30.

The Village for Families and Children has an Annual Uniform Fundraiser, to help families buy uniforms for their children. For the past nine years, The Unitarian Society of Harford has contributed to this fundraiser. Let us

continue that tradition and show our support of The Village by donating again this year. Contributions of any size are welcome.

You may donate in the Sunday offering basket, or via our [online giving portal](#) (remember to indicate “The Village”). Checks may be mailed to the church (Unitarian Society of Hartford, 50 Bloomfield Ave., Hartford, CT, 06105) with **Village** in the memo line.

Thank you for continuing to show your commitment to The Village for Families and Children.

Food Bank Information

Food donations for all area towns go down in the Spring and Summer months while hungry individuals and families remain.

If you are a West Hartford resident, the Food Bank is at West Hartford Town Hall.

Here are this week's needs:

soups
canned pasta (spaghettios)
baked beans
canned chicken
mac & cheese (packaged)

If you live in another area town, you can check on your local needs by going online. Some towns like Bloomfield, Hartford, East Hartford, Glastonbury, and Manchester have multiple sites from which to choose.

Please give as you are able! Thanks!

~Diana Heymann

Chalice Clubhouse

HAPPENING IN SUMMER:



The Chalice Clubhouse at USH

The Chalice Clubhouse is a fun, child-centric curriculum fostering individuality and free-thinking, using the Seven Principles as our guiding compass. For summer, we will have a freeform classroom set up with different activities available from week to week for children and youth to participate in, including arts and crafts, opportunities for dramatic play, cooperative games, meditation sessions, and much more!

Our Clubhouse is open on Sunday mornings to all children and youth present. **Please note that there will be no Time for All Ages during the summer, so youth and children who wish to participate in RE programming should be in the Paysen Miller chapel (which is located directly behind the main sanctuary) when service begins at 10 am, or be dropped off there when their family arrives for service.**

We hope to see you there!



Summer Reading List for USH

Throughout the year, we enjoyed stories during our Time for All Ages that reflected our Unitarian Universalist Principles in action. We met a little robot looking for the meaning of love, a raccoon going off to school for the first time, and Civil Rights icon Ruby Bridges during our reading journeys this year. Missed a story, or would you like to hear one again? No worries!

The complete listing of stories read, or inspired by, our TFAA throughout the last six months at USH is here! Some will be available for children and youth to read at The Chalice Clubhouse this summer, or can be checked out at your local library! The full list is available online [HERE](#), and paper copies will be available on Sundays at The Meeting House.

Happy reading!

Fall Registration for RE is Now



Open!

It's that time of year again... time to register for the 2022-2023 Religious Education year at USH! Forms are available online [HERE](#) and paper copies will be available at the welcome table throughout the summer! Only one form is required per family. Sign up today to be first in line for fun activities upcoming this fall and beyond!

Please contact Annie Witzler (re4ush@gmail.com) for additional information.

Make A Difference



Volunteers Wanted for the Fall!

Love working with kids? Want to try something fulfilling and fun? We are currently looking for volunteers to assist in the running of our RE programming this coming fall for all age groups. Contact Annie Witzler at re4ush@gmail.com or (706)-248-9438 for information on how to get involved!

IMPORTANT NOTE: We ask all volunteers working with children and youth to submit a Connecticut State Background check before they enter our classrooms. Stop by the RE office to pick up a quick, easy form!

Programs & Events

Meetings, Events, 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

July 14 – *Hamnet* – Maggie O’Farrell
 August 11 – *The Vanishing Half* – Brit Bennett

Disability Support Group:

This group meets online the first Saturday of each month at 10:30 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 2022-2023 USH Board of Directors effective July 1, 2022

Eve Pech: President
Dana Donovan: President-Elect
Jon Covault: Treasurer
Sarah Harmon McKenzie: Secretary
Peter Meny: Spiritual Life Council Chair
Paul Cipriano: Administration Council Chair
Judy Sullivan: Social Justice Council Chair
Tina Davies: Community Within Council Chair

The August board meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 9, 6:30 p.m. Access link [HERE](#) and in the USH calendar via this [LINK](#)

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

The **2021/22 Annual Report** is available [HERE](#)

The Board Meeting minutes for **May and June 2022** 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](#).

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. Announcements about upcoming events typically appear for two consecutive weeks maximum, unless other arrangements have been made with the editorial team.

USH Staff:

<http://www.ushartford.org/staff-members/>

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Patty Peck, Bookkeeper – Office or Phone by Appointment
ushtreasurer50@gmail.com 860-233-9897 ext. 102

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

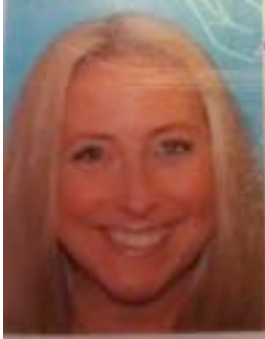


USH Calendar of Events

for July 2022 can be viewed **HERE**.

Please contact **Buffie** with any questions or concerns.

From Buffie's Desk



Please contact our Office Administrator, **Buffie Pinney**, with any administrative questions or concerns.

Buffie works Sunday through Thursday,
from 9 am – 2 pm.

Please email her at

hartforduusociety@gmail.com

Buffie is *always* happy to hear from you!

**Sunday Welcome Volunteers
STILL Needed!!**

See Sign Up Genius Link [HERE](#). Please
contact Buffie



at hartforduusociety@gmail.com for any assistance or additional
questions.

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!