USH E-News

November 12, 2023

"Nourishing Spirit,
Building Community,
Working for Justice"

Sunday Worship: November 26, 10:30 a.m.

"Three Days"

Grief can color our days and nights in fascinating, poignant ways. A look at how grief transforms and informs our lives.

Reverend Bob Janis, Minister
Rick Tsukada, Worship Associate
Meredith Newman, Director of Music
Sarah McKenzie, Vocalist
Georgi Lekov, Pianist

★★★★★★★★

Matters of the Heart
To have a six or better read from the pulpit on Sunday morning, e-mail Matters of the Heart by noon on Wednesday. Please include the text, indicating exactly what you would like to have read.

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Services are livestreamed every Sunday on Zoom and Facebook
Zoom: Meeting ID: 826 2388 7844
Passcode: 148403
Virtual Coffee Hour to follow
* Note: Zoom Coffee Hour ends at noon
Fast Lecture

Join us on Zoom

Upcoming Worship Services

November 26 – "Three Days", Reverend Bob/Rick Tsukada, Worship Associate/Meredith Newman, Director of Music/Sarah McKenzie, Vocalist/Georgi Lekov, Pianist

November 31 – "Thanks-Giving", Reverend Julie Ann Silverman-Bryan, Worship Associate/Meredith Newman, Interim Director of Music/ Benjamin Malvey, Pianist.

November 30 – "Waiting in Valor" Reverend Bob/Ann LaFave-Bryan, Worship Associate/Meredith Newman, Director of Music/Sheila Hogan/Georgi Lekov, Pianist.

December 4, Thursday, 8 p.m. - Chapel Service with Reverend Bob

Milestone Message from Rev. Bob...

Last Sunday evening, I was privileged to attend a Kristallnacht service – a remembrance of the Nazi pogrom in 1938 organized by Rabbi Donna Berman and the Charter Oak Cultural Center, and hosted by Congregation Beth Israel in Hartford. It was a powerful service, with a number of Holocaust survivors and survivor Nina Jacobs sold her story of her early years, a time of heartbreak and unimaginable suffering. (you can read a brief summary here).

It's a reminder of just how cruel we can be to each other, and how we never forget what humanity is capable of.

At the same time, being with people of goodwill of multiple faiths, being stirred by music and lighting candles in the darkness, reminded us all that we can help bring healing and light to our world, and overcome the darkness. It's a time for doing the work of getting to know our neighbor, making the effort it takes to live together in peace for a moment, for an hour, or, G-d willing, for generations. The alternative is terrible. May we look out for each other, this week and always.

Shalom, peace to all peoples.
Rev. Bob

USH General Interest

HUMC Pie Delivery Saturday November 25 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

The front entrance to the building will be used by Hartford's Man's Chorus for their annual pie fundraiser. Dark members will drive up and pick up their pre-orders. Handicap Parking will be located during that time.

Artist's Way Announcements

1. This Friday, November 24, Artist's Way Action members will be at the Thanksgiving Day Parade in Hartford. Our Fellowship Hall around noon. Following lunch, we'll view the movie, "I am Nina Simone" about Joan Baez. We'll watch it in classroom 6 then talk about our experiences with the film.

2. Artist's Way on Zoom invites those who are interested to join in a "Gratitude Circle" on the Artist's Way Facebook page. (These have been ongoing and on the Sunday evenings.) This year's book is **The Art of You** by James Marino. We'll begin our new cycle of Artist's Way on Zoom on Sunday, January 7, 2:30 – 4 p.m. If you're interested, give Diane Heyman a shout out via her email, and she'll connect with you to give you all the information.

"THE MIDW" – A social group for anyone in their 20s, 30s, or 40s

Hi everyone,

Last year, we inaugurated a 20s-30s-40s group that was given the clever name "The Midw" *(pronounced as most should once a month, sometimes on USH, and sometimes at Sue's events around town)*.

This summer – and fall – there has been something of a hiatus. There's been a lot going on.

But we are rejuvenating it. After discussion with a few people, we thought the best thing might be to have a regular monthly Zoom MIDW in-person gathering.

With that in mind, the first Zoom is THIS FRIDAY, November 24, 8-9 p.m. I MEAN MIDW.

Please feel free to drop in and say hi. We hope to have an informal in-person gathering, if enough people express interest. We could do something involving nostalgic breakfast cereals... *please drop in to the Zoom or drop a note* to Rev. Bob (**minister@hartfordhua.org**) to let us know your availability. We'll schedule it when the most people can be there.

Thanks, all! See you Friday!

Warm regards,
Rev. Bob

Yuletide Festival
Saturday, December 2: 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Only 3 1/2 weeks to go 'til the Yuletide Festival, which promises an afternoon of camaraderie, cheer, music, food, and we understand Santa himself may be stopping by. There'll be a variety of vendors selling their wares, including We're still looking for musicians and storytellers to perform throughout the day in the Chapel, and vendors to take part in the "Merry Mart" that will be located in the Fellowship Hall. We're also looking for workshop leaders and helpers to lead crafts and food workshops.

Visit the wood table as you enter Fellowship Hall to see the latest line-up of activities and sign up to help with a variety of needs. **If you would like to be added to the email Festival list** to stay informed of meetings, and to join the Slack of conversation please tell Karolina in the office or email Diane.

Mince your light by sharing your time and talent to make this first ever Yuletide Festival a successful and magical new tradition in our USH year!

Magdalene Circles on the 2nd Saturdays of the month, 2-5 p.m.

Are you interested in expanding your intuition? Tuning into your inner voice? Exploring your relationship with yourself? Learning sound meditation as a relaxation practice? We invite you to try us out.

Participatory sound, with small drums, Tibetan bowls, rattles and voice, is incorporated in the practice. Beginners are welcome. Extra instruments are available to borrow. As an ongoing group since 2008 you are encouraged to contact Lisa Burrell for orientation prior to your first meeting with the group.

Meeting House Presents —
Slamboviar Circus of Dreams Trio Unplugged
Friday, November 21
Click HERE for more information

"A breath of fresh air in a sometimes stagnant world – performing as a live act – with varied eclectic influences and great musicianship. Plus moustaches, hats and a great sense of their interesting and thought provoking lyrics for the curious adult mind."
– Ian Anderson, Jethro Tull

"They take the stage by storm!" – NY Times
"Lungo is an awesome songwriter" – Garth Hudson, The Band

Voted "Best Band" by upstate NY's Chronogram Magazine for their witty, rockin' psychedelic, the Slamboviar' deep connection with audiences and their "Best Live Band" by Hudson Valley Magazine, Slamboviar, Lungo Brown, Incredible String Band, Syd Barrett, and more, the Slamboviar' musicianship and critically acclaimed songwriting stand on their own.

Ardath Lungo (resident shaman of Slamboviar), leads with roots described as "soothing and bewitching as a snake oil tonic." Longtime bandmates Tim Lloyd (Slamboviar, Lungo Brown, Jethro Tull) and Jeff Pinkus (Slamboviar, Lungo Brown, Melvin Gibbs) bring the Slamboviar tone. Wunderbeb longed psychedelia hints at southern rock and British folk combined with solid songwriting – a slice of Americana Pie that is irresistible!

Doors open at 6:15 for people with prepaid tickets and at 6:30 for general admission. Show start at 7:00.

Tickets to individual shows can be purchased in advance and they will still be available at the door starting at 6:30. Tickets are $30.

Please join us for this exciting event!

More info, contact: Jamie Ross, 718-914-1610, **office@ushct.org**

Our Author's Talk Series continues with *Glad to the Brink of Fear: A Portrait of Ralph Waldo Emerson*
Presented by biographer James Marcus. Followed by time for questions, with signed copies of the book available

Wednesday, November 29 at 6:30 pm
Fellowship Hall, Hartford Ethical Society, Hartford, Hartford
Free and open to the public

Glad to the Brink of Fear speaks to our modern engagement with fate and freedom, race and inequality, love and grief. It shows, too, how Emerson's desire to be a "transparent eyeball" and his hard-won insights into the nature of the self never grows old. He remains, in short, a vital and incisive American guide.

James Marcus is an editor, translator, and critic whose essays have appeared in the *New Yorker*, the *Times Literary Supplement*, and the *Hudson Review*. He is also the author of *Amazonia: Five Years at the Epicenter of the DotCom Juggernaut*.

A THANKSGIVING PIE a'la MODE and COFFEE' HOUR
November 30

There'll be a **Pie Pot Luck** during Coffee Hour on the morning of the Thanksgiving Day weekend. If you can supply the ice cream, you sign up to bring the pie. Home made, leftover pie or store-bought...all pies are welcome.

Don't let yourself feel constrained by the past Thanksgiving pie and theme – pumpkin and apple pies will be received with delight, but if you're in the mood for, say, a key lime pie, that's entirely appropriate. Same goes for chocolate, cherry, or lemon meringue.

Sign up at the table in Fellowship Hall or just surprise us on November 30.

"Let them eat pie...not cake..."

A wonderful 20-year-old young woman from a long established UU family in Germany would like to be in the USA for about two months (February- March) in order to improve her English in preparation for a state exam in Germany. Her English is actually **very** good — but she is not that confident yet.

She's looking for a home-stay (which can be split up among different families) plus volunteering. She is great with kids and is already a licensed babysitter.

If anyone is interested, kindly contact Shahan.

Social Justice

November Good Neighbor Offering (GNO) – Hispanic Health Council

Our Mission:
To promote equity and address health disparities for Hispanics, Latinos, and other underserved populations through community-based prevention and intervention.

The Hispanic Health Council (HHC) is a nationally recognized, statewide community-based organization based in Hartford, CT. Over multiple decades we have established a strong reputation for providing high-quality prevention and intervention services, commitment to social justice and direct care. Annually we provide services to over 15,000 individuals throughout Connecticut. The great majority of these community members are Latino/a, Black, and White, and the majority of the Latino/a population is contiguous. It is important to note that over 50% of Hartford, the state capital of CT, is Latino or Afro-Latino.

Hispanic Health Council Centers
Community Nutrition Center
Community Garden
Family Wellness Center
Health Promotion & Education Center
Hispanic Health Council Clinic Center
Hispanic Health Clinic and Wellness Center

Good Neighbor Offerings = Good Neighbor Connections

The Social Justice Council is grateful to announce the GNO totals for the months of September and October, 2023:

September: Love International $1,604.10
October: Horace Bushnell Children's Fund: $ 3,127.84

While the purpose of "sharing the plate" with our neighbors is to assist financially with their meaningful work, perhaps the greater gift comes from building and nurturing our relationships within the community.

Thank you for your generosity, and for showing our community that, especially in this difficult time, we continue to stand for the inherent worth and dignity of every person.

Horace Bushnell Update

HORACE BUSHNELL CHILDREN'S FOOD PANTRY THANKSGIVING NEEDS

The Thanksgiving food collection will take place Sunday, November 26 through Wednesday, November 29. All items will be delivered to the pantry on Thursday, November 30.

Here are suggestions for giving:

stuffing mix (herb or chicken), canned French cut green beans
gravy packets, canned baked beans
cornbread mix, canned red, pink, or pinto beans
canned cranberry sauce, canned yams
canned corn, bottled ultra vegetables (of Lipton Bottles, please)
canned fruit cocktail, colorfully representative dessert mixes (boxed fun, hamburger)
canned pie mix/boxed crust mix, cake and frosting mixes, brownie and cookie mixes

"I hope my cup is filled to overflowing!!"
Gratefully, Diane

Religious Exploration

REGISTRATION REQUIRED for RE PROGRAM:
You can register online at this link

TEOANN TO JOHN REUNITED for advising the youth on Sunday. They discussed future activities, watched a video about the Quaker faith and had a lively discussion about it as well.

EXPLORERS CLASS: We had so much fun and read a story called Bungarri Falls, about what it means to be a loving, Unitarian Universalist (Friendship and Support, (2) Problem-Solving and Creativity, (3) Self-Confidence, (4) Celebrating Differences and (5) Empathy and Teamwork.

NEW FAMILY VISITOR: We had a new family in RE. The mom's family was in a modern music cover-ups and she was a part of the youth group. They have three young children.

TEACHERS NEEDED FOR SUNDAY: As I won't be there on Sunday (I will be driving so and attending the Quaker Service – see next paragraph), we will need someone to lead the RE program. We have a lesson plan, so it is not hard, in part, from Soul Matters. Please let me know if you would like to teach.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26 – Neighboring Faiths: Youth group and older Explorers are encouraged to take a trip to the Quaker Meeting House (part of our "Neighboring Faith" studies. We will depart from USH at 9:45 and drive to the Quaker Meeting House (see address below). We will be back by 11:30. Meeting for Worship runs from 10 – 11 a.m., with some announcements and refreshments afterward. Please be ready with your questions (for after worship) Please also watch this video on how to behave in a meeting:
What to Expect in Quaker Meeting for Worship

Here is a permission form – please complete and give to Shahan or email it to me at shahan@hartfordhua.org

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29: Sung Sunday for Youth and older Explorers. This should be a very meaningful experience – particularly as need and hunger seem to be growing this year and we have so much to be thankful for and are always willing to help.

USH Resources

Unitarian Society of Hartford
30 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105 (860) 523-9587
Fax: (860) 523-9587
Email: office@hartfordhua.org

Office Hours:
Monday – Thursday
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m. – noon
Call First: 860-523-9587

Minister
Thursday 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m. – noon
Call: 860-914-1610

"Board Meetings are held on the Fourth Monday of the month, 6:30 – 8 p.m.
Next Meeting: November 24

2023 – 2026 USH Board of Directors —

Nina Tiga, President
Virginia deLeon, President-Elect
Jim Gaudreau, Treasurer
Gloria Mongeal, Secretary
Laura Ogniero, Community Within Council Chair
Jim Ross, Finance Committee Chair
Karen Schmeler, Finance Council Chair
Michael Michaud, Spiritual Life Council Chair
Sue Ann Bigelow, Nominating Committee Chair
Judy Sullivan, Social Justice Council Chair

Have a question or comment for the Board? Send an email to: usehboardofdirectors@gmail.com.

Click HERE to view the USH Directory, Reports, and other church business documents. Click HERE to view the Bylaws and other governance documents. **Contact the Office for the password and password.**

The latest financial reports for FY 2022-2023 have been posted; click HERE to view.

The Board Meeting Minutes for June 2023 have been posted.

Link for Welcome Team Sign Up Genius

USH Staff:

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office@hartfordhua.org | 860-523-9587 ext. 100
Cell: 860-523-9587

Meredith Newman, Director of Music
musicdirector@hartfordhua.org | 860-526-5423

Shahan Islam, Director of Religious Exploration
shahan@hartfordhua.org | 860-523-9587 ext. 104

Patty Peck, Bookkeeper
usehbookeeper@gmail.com

The deadline for USH E-News submissions is 5 p.m. Monday!

Please write in the 'Subject' field "USH E-News", and include the dates that your submission should be featured. Announcements about upcoming events appear for two consecutive weeks **maximum**, unless other arrangements have been made with the editorial team.

When forwarding information concerning an "outside" event or organization, please limit your text to approximately one-third to one-half page in size. Note that **all material is subject to editing** prior to publication. **Also, please submit editable material** (text and images separately, rather than "poster" formats).

Articles should be sent as email file attachments, (MS Word preferred) and images need to be sent separately as jpeg, jpg, png, tif, bmp, or gif files.

Thank you for your cooperation.
Rev. Bob and Karolina
Production and Technical Expertise: Karolina Wojtyska

The calendar for November can be viewed HERE.

Please consult our Online Calendar regularly for all upcoming events coordinated by the Unitarian Society of Hartford.

Visit our Happenings page on the website for more details.

Unitarian Society of Hartford | 30 Bloomfield Ave | Hartford, CT 06105 US

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