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Unitarian Society of Hartford

"Nurturing Spirit, Building Community, Serving the Local"

UUSF E-News
May 2, 2022

Sunday Worship:
May 3, 10:30 am

"Spiritual Program"

Riding off on these "moving forward together", Rev. Bob explores the spiritual program of our Unitarian Universalist faith. Discussion and exercises of our UU Wind Rose that stand "Looking to a Bright Future of faith" as well as spiritual direction Ministry, we'll look at different ideas around our "spiritual program".

Ministers of the Heart
Carl Shields, Worship Associate
Meredith Neumann, Director of Music

★★★★★★★★

Ministers of the Heart
To have a joy or sorrow read from the pulpit on Sunday morning, send the information to Ministers of the Heart.

★★★★★★★★

Services are Streamed live every Sunday on Zoom and Facebook.
Zoom: Meeting ID: 893 4000 0000 Pass: 7654
Passcode: 1ofpeace
Virtual Coffee Hour to follow
Facebook: Search for Unitarian Society of Hartford
Find Out Live

JOIN US IN ZOOM

May Services – Children's Time at the Top!

Hi, all –

We are trying a little experiment in May – having a Time For All Ages at the top of the service. Rev. Bob will be preaching on the wind rose, which will have a bunch of youth light the chalice, followed by a brief story or talk. Then we'll recite the covenant, and sing the children to their classes.

We think it's important to put our children "first" – on the program and also in our hearts. We're excited you're here! The Time For All Ages will be a time for all ages to gather, sing, and be together in community, as much as is possible through phone still some. If you're coming in, we invite ya all!. If someone in your family would like to light the chalice we'd love to have them do it! Please let Rev. Bob (minister@hartfordfirst.org) or me get on the program. Thanks and see you Sunday!

Yours faithfully,
Rev. Bob, Barbara, and Worship Associates

Upcoming Worship Services

May 1 – First Thursday Vespers with Rev. Bob/Donna David, Worship Associate

May 22 – "O Magnum Mysterium" – We Are Not Alone
Rev. Bob, Mission Data Survey, Worship Associate; Meredith Neumann, Director of Music/Soprano Soloist, Pianist

May 29 – Travel Story (Non Member Ceremony)
Rev. Bob, Pianist/Donna David, Worship Associate; Meredith Neumann, Director of Music/Soprano Soloist, Pianist, Flute

May 24:
Rev. Bob, Mission Data Survey, Worship Associate; Meredith Neumann, Director of Music/Group Labor, Pianist

Mid-Week Message from Rev. Bob...

I wanted to share a few bits of "leftover gratitude" from what was a particular rich Sunday morning. We had a lot of people in the sanctuary, and a lot of people serving during the chalice and Joys and Sorrows (thanks to Kayelynn for pulling the chalice together, and to Jim for being our "Joys and Sorrows" guy in the sky! Sighs). Followed by a church-in-welcome our stewardship campaign, and then a wonderful Coffee Hour. Lots of "good" stuff happening, and lots of good friendship. It was a stunning concert, capped off by a stunning and moving Responsorio in Blue.

In my "thank your office" for concert, I somehow neglected to mention Chris Kelly, who was our chief rigging mentor/and on a trailblazer adventure. Chris and I noted our pizza over a period of several weeks, and it was a magnificent job, and we were so lucky to have Chris. Chris is a great guy, and a great friend, and he is a gentle master of the craft. We were so lucky to get him.

And there were so many other people that pitched in to make that Sunday what it was – from Ann and Karen and Karen and everyone helping out in the kitchen, to Jim and Ann and Jim and Ann and Jim and Ann and everyone who was generous and encouraged, as our outstanding President, Nina Elgin, who was a genuine "school I dream of by name."

I also want to thank Mary-Gail Harrison, who gave me a wonderful tribute, and who is a great friend and a great leader. Mary-Gail's comments were about a Church of Kinds of Stories Gail so our "USH Pool Lessons" lesson (or four but pretty – she has a third book coming out) do check out the first one! But Mary-Gail said that I was a good minister because I was a good listener, and I consider yourself a good but have written a poem once or twice a month for the last 20 years, and I'm a good listener because I'm a good minister. Ministry and worship service is very particular and I choose the readings accordingly. But I always love reading people's poetry and writing.

Finally, on this is was the official celebration of our stewardship campaign, if you haven't yet, please consider pledging to the church. We need it, we need it from our future. It means so much to have nearly more wonderful Sundays like this Sunday, and we need your support to make that happen. We are a small but dedicated and thoughtful fellowship. It's been a great campaign that has helped us to think of ways to make this community so important. Thanks of yourself and keep on singing!

Yours gratefully,
Rev. Bob

USH General Interest

Dear USH Community,

Tony and wives, Don Hugo and Monday night, We was surrounded by family, at home. It was a beautiful day.

Our deepest condolences and love go out to Don's family, Don's children, and all their family. Don was a marvelous, gentle soul, and will greatly be missed.

A memorial service is planned at U.S.S. – date and further details to be announced.

Honorably,
Rev. Bob

Celebrating our Revitalized Music Program

Have you been enjoying our enhanced USH Choir and Schola Singers? We had an amazing Scottish concert on April 26, featuring Paul Rosario and our choir and Schola Singers. Check out the video of the concert on youtube.com. It's worth the concert hour: https://vimeo.com/728770448/b7a4ffc1ed

This concert was a fundraiser to continue bringing excellence in choral and instrumental music to USH. The concert also celebrated the completion of our sanctuary lighting project, which was made possible by a generous donation for major restoration during the summer of 2019.

The concert raised $10,000. Help us reach our goal of $20,000! We can only dream! away from telling our goal. Every contribution helps, no matter how big or small.

Donate Now

First Friday Discussions

Our monthly first Friday discussion is on Friday, May 6, 7:00 pm. Join us in the library (first floor on the right as you enter our building).

This month's discussion is on **WOMEN AND PLAY**

Straight Talk Group

Reflective Celebration
Saturday, May 2, 2020

Gathering begins at 3 p.m.

Join us in celebration of Reflective or we share around the Maypole

Ritual will be followed by a potluck dinner. Everyone is welcome to bring a dish to share. Please let Ann Marie know if you are planning on attending.

We want to remember those who we have fortunate than us. We will be reflecting Donations of canned or dry goods for the Diverse Food Pantry in Hartford. Please, give from your heart as you are able.

Everyone with an open heart is welcome to our celebration. If all you can bring is yourself – then – so come it for food and for community!

"Kiss Me, Kate"

Saturday, May 21, 2022 Performance
Composed by Cole Porter

Cole Porter's classic backstage musical comedy about a theater company in Baltimore that is about to produce a play-within-a-play known as Shakespeare's **The Taming of the Shrew**. Romance and rivalry between stage Lilla and and off the set.

Tickets available online here
Contact Joe Gerbasi for information.

Show dates and times:
Friday, May 20, 7:30 pm
Friday, May 7, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 21, 2:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, May 22, 2:00 p.m.
Hilliard Auditorium
Tickets: $15 adult, $12 senior

– Submitted by Paula Hirst

Lunch Bunch, May 12, noon — In Fellowship Hall

Bring a brown bag lunch and your favorite beverage, and join other USH folks at a monthly get-together. Let Janice Noonan know beforehand, so we can set a place for you!

New Member Celebration
May 15 – noon
Fellowship Hall

NEW! are invited to join the Unitarian Society of Hartford. – USH will celebrate with a short Membership Ceremony during our Sunday Service on May 15.

We will celebrate, non-members who participated in the membership classes this winter (photograph attendance is not required).

Please contact Lauris Kelldorf or Rev Bob in person, or email: lkelldorf@comcast.net or Rev Bob minister@hartfordfirst.org

Spiritualities of Resilience:
May 30 – 8-9:30 pm

Dr. Lisa Sideli, Director of the Center for Spiritualities Resilience, has designed a contemplative, experiential, and reflective 90 minute facilitation exploration around the health and healing of our souls. Lisa is a Rev. Dr. and a Jungian Analyst with a specialty in Spiritualities of Resilience. Rev Bob has found her work powerful and promises to be an event that will fill your wellbeing and offer some hope.

Click here for more information.

Spiritual Retreat
"Turning Inward, a Spiritual Retreat"
Friday & Saturday, July 14-15, 2020

Reflect on your life, alter ones spirit, and REGAIN with a two day retreat at CSSC. Led by Rev. Bob, Rev. Dr. Lisa Sideli, Rev. Dr. Jim Lynch, "Turning Inward" is a multi-sensory, spiritual retreat. Lodging is in the Lodge at CSSC, and for our inner selves, and listen to the calling of the spirits.

Attendees on both days (Friday & Saturday is a great way to spend a weekend, but we understand that not everyone can do that) will be asked to make some for your budget, all welcome, but please let Rev Bob know (minister@hartfordfirst.org or jadyrobbins@gmail.com).

Social Justice

Hartford Operation Defense

We are an immigrant-led organization that works with neighbors to fight for the rights of all immigrants to live with dignity and respect. We believe in a world of dignified, peaceful, and just life. We think ICE, Customs and Border Patrol, and immigration enforcement agents have no place in our neighborhoods.

We raise money for our neighbors as they fight to stay home. We help pay for legal fees, bail bonds, food and the basic living expenses of families facing deportation.

Friends of the UU Justice Ministry:

Take Action With Connecticut UUs

Here is a way to stay connected, informed, and make an impact on important issues, without leaving your home. Connecticut Voices for Children has our back! Weekly Action Memos for this legislative session, Action Groups take place on Zoom, and Connecticut UUs will be sending out down the road a memo, a chance to connect with other Connecticut UUs, and a chance to come together right then and there during our meeting to support the work of our partners.

• Thursday, April 30 at 7:30 p.m. – Part 2 of our Share and Care Group. Connecticut UUs will be sharing how we have been in this special, 50 stepped action, we share stories, strategies, and support each other. Bring your questions and concerns regarding racial justice work.)

RSVP for the meeting here and make a difference with other UUs from across the state and our justice working group!

Blessings,
Rev. Sherrie

Rev. Sherrie Marie Gerbac, M.S.W., M.Div.
Promoter, Bio-Dyn Farm
Contact: 781-862-8774 and sgerbac@gmail.com
Ordained Minister, Church of Spirit
Four Draft of Latest Work: Disembodiedmy Christianity

Horace Bushnell Update

Last Thursday where I arrived at the Panini, the waiter were all set up for the week-long Virtual Poetry Day. The tables were bare. When I went to the counter, I was told that I could not be served an option as well as a refrigerator and freezer, there was nowhere near enough to fill the order. I left with my tail between my legs. Even Tai-ya, its Kosherer and mastermen, under-

Die Happily, needless

–in loving gratitude,
Gloria Hopmann

Nina Elgin
Sunday, May 3, 4 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, May 10, 4 p.m.
Purchase Tickets here

Join us for an spring concert, **Diva Revolution**, a celebration of the music women who defined jazz and R & B. From Ella Fitzgerald to Aretha Franklin, Nina Elgin and Miller's the power and presence of Record cool Lady Lugs, to the glamour of Madonna and Lady Gaga, Nina Elgin, Jeremy Kahn, Jeremy Chappell Roan, this concert is big, bold, and unapologetically feminine. Expect soulful sensuousness, dramatic choreography, and

moments that will have you clapping, cracking, and maybe even singing along.

Diva Donation features special guest artist Christa Steiner, a celebrated singer, actress, and dancer who has been a mainstay in Hartford for over a decade. A 2019 Broadway/Off-Broadway Award recipient for Best Big and Bad Singer, Christa's work has been seen in Hartford Stages' Cabaret, where she was the stage as she continues her advocacy work through Out of the Dark. Mental Health Resources for Youth and presents to transport to Miss Connecticut in June.

The Maybrooks
Nina Mary Elgin
Jeremy Kahn, Piano
Performance Venue: Aetna Theater (Side entrance on Atheneum Square North)

Religious Exploration

SUNDAY, MAY 3 – Time for All Ages Rev Bob
SUNDAY, MAY 10 – Rev Bob preaches on Gaza and Gaza's children, will be sung out. Everyone would like to be in the sanctuary, if safe, if healthy.

MAY 24 of possibly interest – "Tree Collapse, Germany is **SUNDAY SERIOUS** by Rev Bob, will be in the sanctuary, if safe, if healthy. Rev Bob will be in Germany for a Unitarian Ad. Ch. ("Unitarian") with a UU mission from Germany, and will be in Berlin, Dresden, and Leipzig, and will be with the Germans who are interested enough to hold out as a mission. Rev Bob is a Unitarian Universalist.

SUNDAY MAY 31 IS YOUTH SERVICE! This is starting to look big.

Saturday June 13, 2 p.m. to Sunday June 14, 10:30 a.m. – Overnight Sleepover – **Sunday June 14 Pentecost – Sunday Sunday!! We are collecting aquatic** We have contacted the Highland Park Congregational Church, Rev Bob is a member of the Hartford Ministerial Association which included Connecticut UU congregations. So, we will do it again! After Pentecost Sunday, we will have a "Sunday Sunday" – SUNDAY SUNDAY!!!