



50 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105
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Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10:00 to 3:00
or call for appointment

USH -Enews March 23, 2016
Worshipping Together Since 1830
Sunday Service 10:30 AM
Revs. Cathy & Heather Rion Starr



Image: <http://savingparadise.net/>

Sunday Service 10:30 AM - March 27, 2016 "Saving Paradise" - Rev. Cathy Rion Starr - Much of Christianity focuses on salvation through Jesus' death and resurrection, yet Christians through the ages have seen the heart of their faith as a story of liberation and celebration of life. Let us come together and celebrate the life-giving forces we encounter.

We will have a special collection for our Ministers' Discretionary Fund, which supports congregants in times of need, and there will be an Easter egg hunt for our children after worship – please contact Rayla if you would like to help with it!

E-News Contributors Please Take Note: The deadline for USH-Enews submissions is Tuesday at 12 Noon. Thank you for helping us get the E-news out in a timely fashion.

Highlights In This Week's Enews:

Sunday Service Recap: March 20, 2016 | Did You Know? -A Note From Rev. Cathy | RE News You Can Use: EASTER EGG HUNT! - RE at USH is 'Way Cool', by Diana Heymann | Church Business News: Annual Report Submissions Due by April 15th | Stewardship Campaign News! | Get Ready for the Election (the USH one)

Winter/Spring 2016 Programs for Adults and Families

New Family Friendly SGM Starting April 1st

USH Book Club: April 7 - The Shell Collector by Anthony Doerr

Great Decisions: April 3 -The Future of Kurdistan

USH Performing Arts Series 2016 - Betty Jo's Fan Club: April 16th

Upcoming Special Events and Other News

Racial Justice: Save the Dates | BLUU Risk Statement

Memorial Service for Roy Cook April 2nd

Regional Cultural Competency Training at USH April 10th

Refugee Update: Items Still Needed, see below for details

Meals for Kristen: Twins Expected Soon! | Edith M. Fundraising for Lupembe Health Centre | Cluster Connections Last Chance to Register | Pi-Hsun's Upcoming Concerts in the Area | Fight for \$15 Rally April 14th | Shoreline Spring Fest.-Artists Needed | Murray Grove Summer Camp Registration Open

Check out our online Calendar for Upcoming Events:

<http://www.ushartford.com/events/>

(Please double check the calendar for your event 1 to 2 weeks prior to make sure it's correctly posted. Form for Calendar Requests at end of Enews

Email corrections to calendarchanges@ushartford.com -Thank you!

March 20, 2016 Sunday Service Recap by Kayla Costenoble



Photos:

Harriet Gardner

Keep on Movin' Forward -- Subtitle: Welcome Sweet Springtime, We Greet Thee With Snow - "Contemplate what you want to be for," Rev. Heather urged us during our annual Pledge Sunday, March 20, 2016. It was a cold, sunny, wintry day, during which a great number of great things were going on. Her opening words welcomed us to chaos, abundance, irony (first day of spring snow), complexity, courage (to step forward into the unknown of the USH), perseverance, determination, and GENEROSITY. Worship Associate Lisa Galinski promised us a "fun, rousing, amazing service," which it was.

Pre-service, we feasted on the Stewardship Committee's free breakfast of pancakes (plain, chocolate chip, blueberry, gluten-free), eggs (real or fake), bacon (real or turkey), fruit and/or syrup, and, in case you were still hungry, oatmeal. And listened to Stewardship Committee Chair, Peter Meny, suggesting we eat a lot and give a lot.

With all the grief, pain and sadness around us, "Now, more than ever, we need a sanctuary," Rev. Heather said. It is our responsibility to be part of the ongoing stream of humanity. During our Turning Inward time, we read Responsive Reading 461:

Nothing worth doing is completed in our lifetime;

Therefore, we are saved by hope...

Nothing we do, however virtuous, can be accomplished alone;

Therefore, we are saved by love... Rev. Heather then sang "Keep on Moving Forward," the title of today's service and the theme of this year's Pledge Drive: "Gonna keep on moving forward, Never turning back."

Real-life experiences often serve as metaphors for our ministers; I love it. Last weekend, Revs. Heather and Cathy, plus Robin, were driving home from Monson, MA. Robin, not the best long-distance traveler, likes/needs frequent stops. One was at a tennis court converted into a skate park where Robin discovered the half-pipe. This contraption requires you to step back, get a running start, and believe you're going to get to the top. Robin was not eager to listen to her mother's advice on how to achieve this. And Rev. Heather reminded

us, again, nothing worth doing is completed in our lifetime. “We have a desperate need for evidence of goodness...justice, healing, and honest respect for dialog.”

Rev. Heather presented some USH facts we might not have been aware of. Fifty new members have joined in the past few years, giving us a total of 192 current members. There are 50 youth in the Religious Education program. We have installed 132 solar heating panels; each will be contributing 270 watts of energy. We have 17 part-time employees taking care of us; one goal of a successful Pledge Drive is to get them up to \$15/hour. Walking 20 times around the sanctuary = one mile.

Although our current membership is big enough that we can be actively engaged, Rev. Heather said, we are still running up the side of that ramp. Staying where we are, without some additional push, actually means we are falling backwards. We need to redouble our efforts. Then we opened and filled out our pledge cards and placed them in the large blue bowl, which is used for so many important events, at the foot of the chancel.

Sunday was the last day at USH for Sarah Puckett, our very talented piano Acting Accompanist. And it was a great last day. She played two unusual, for us, pieces by Henry Cowell, one of the first experimental piano composers. There’s always something new and different from our music department—thank goodness. Sarah also accompanied the Choir, and us, as we romped through some special music for Pledge Sunday, including the Beatles’ “Obla di Obla Da” with appropriate lyrics for Pledge Sunday written by our own Tina Davies. Sarah’s last act on Sunday was accompanying the classical music singers following the service, including her own solo performance. Good luck, Sarah, we’ll miss you.





Did you know? - A note from Rev. Cathy

There's so much happening at USH, that even we, your ministers, don't know all of it. It's truly wonderful! Here are two pieces of news that you may not know.

The good news:

The Ministers' Discretionary Fund is a special fund that the ministers use to support congregants in need, as well as special projects as they come up. In recent months, the fund has been used to pay for therapy for a member with depression, for pizza for volunteers & those arrested in the Moral Monday action in the fall, for food for a family in need, scholarships for the Women's Alliance retreat, and more.

If you find yourself struggling to pay an important bill, put food on the table, or tend to your mental health, or wishing you could attend a USH event but lack the funds, please know that this fund is for you and do contact Revs. Cathy or Heather. The fund is separate from our operating budget, and only the ministers will know of your request.

We will receive a special offering to support the Ministers' Discretionary Fund this Sunday, 3/27. Thanks to you all for your support of USH and one another!

The bad news:

Our Black Lives Matter lawn signs are regularly stolen from our lawn. We've lost count, but it's at least 7 times in the last few months. Our solar sign and other signs have never once been stolen, so clearly the message of "Black Lives Matter" is prompting this action. I ask you to consider what would lead someone to steal our signs? What changes do we need in the world so that the signs are not stolen and Black lives are respected? What is your piece of that work?

If you see the signs missing, please let Rev. Cathy know, and please do put up new ones!

Let us pray with our feet

Let us ponder with our minds

Let us build bridges with our hands

Let us strengthen our resolve to create the Beloved Community.

RE News You Can Use! Hippy hoppity Easter is here!

This Sunday, there will be childcare during service from 10:15-11:45 infants and toddlers ages birth to three. There will be a Time For All Ages followed by an all ages activity in the Fellowship Hall.



Immediately after service there will be an Easter Egg Hunt! We are still looking for a few more people to assist in hiding the eggs, helping the younger ones hunt for eggs and handing out prizes at the end. The DRE is also in need of an additional volunteer to assist her during service with the one room activity. Please contact the DRE if you are able to help. Thank you!

image: www.ymcachicago.org **Rayla D. Mattson ,Director of Religious Education** Unitarian Society of Hartford 860-233-9897 ext 104 860-839-5001 – cell I only check my email on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday. If you need to reach me outside of those times, please feel free to text or call my cell.

RE at USH: Is it COOL? Or is it “WAY COOL”

Last Friday night, March 18th, Fellowship Hall became the site of meeting, eating, reading, and sharing for the new RE sub-council (committee) along with a variety of children, Rayla (our DRE), Rev. Cathy, and Martha Bradley (Chair of Spiritual Life).

First, we did some reading and then shared what sparked and excited us about what we'd read:

* Our curriculum from age 3-12 is based on our UU Principles and Purposes... The value of this is providing the firmest of foundations in our values. From age 12-20 the focus is on other religions.

We like the concept of the “Way Cool” approach which embodies differing formats: worship, classroom outreach, and arts.

To begin this journey, Rayla shared next year each age group will have connections to the community in the form of a Service Project linked to Social Justice.

* We learned that our vision is that we want more for our children than just a place to put them during Sunday services. It takes fully 25% of the congregation to be actively involved to make “experiential religious exploration happen.”...that “Either the entire congregation owns the educational ministry of the church or it is simply a euphemism for babysitting.”

The emphasis here is not on the place, a “village” but participation as a “villager” (all adults not solely parents) taking greater responsibility for the spiritual lives of our children in the 21st century. This means a 24/ 7 approach: i.e., reading, discussing, lighting a chalice at home, spending time in prayer and or meditation as a family, talking about good deeds outweighing gossip when it comes to neighbors...spending a portion of a Sunday morning in a religious exploration classroom or activity... This way we become more of a “neighborhood”.

* Our verdict is that by taking Sunday school out of the “traditional ‘box’ and creating Way Cool Sunday School, we experience new kinds of growth ...diversity in all its facets, programmatic growth with all its headaches and

opportunities, and most importantly, spiritual growth.” - Submitted by Diana Heymann



Church Business News

Annual Report 2016 Reminder - Attention Contributors - It's time to begin collecting submissions for the 2015-2016 Annual Report which will be distributed at the Annual Meeting set for Sunday, May 15th, 2016. *The deadline for submissions is Friday, April 15, 2016 but earlier is fine, too! This will enable us to have the reports available the Sunday before the meeting. Please email content to ushlindaclark@gmail.com with 'Annual Meeting' in the Subject. Please send as a word document or put the content of the report in the body of the email. Thank you! - **Linda Clark**



Stewardship Campaign off to Great Start! -

We're off to a great start! On Stewardship Sunday 73 members and friends made pledges totaling \$174,000! This amount represents 58% of our goal of \$300,000. Now it is up to the rest of us who couldn't make it on Sunday to get us to our goal. Every pledge is important.

Members of the Stewardship Committee will have a table set up in the lobby this Sunday and next. We will have your pledge card and all the information you need. Stop by and make your pledge so we can keep on movin' forward! **The USH Stewardship Committee - Peter Meny, Chair; Ginny Hedrick, Laurie Kelliher, Deb Meny, Joe Rubin**

Election to Replace Retiring Board Members From Your USH Nominating Committee: Four Board members will be completing their terms on June 30th and the congregation will be voting on people to replace them during the Annual Meeting on May 15th.

* John Brancato will complete his one-year term as President-Elect and become Board President.

* Louise Schmoll will complete her service as Treasurer.

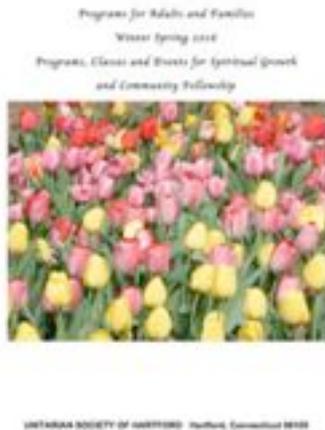
* John Clapp will be stepping down as Chair of the Council on Administration.

* Tina Davies will be stepping down as Chair of the Council on Community Within.

The Nominating Committee is seeking members who would like to serve on the Board in those four positions.

If you have any questions about any of the open positions or about the process of electing new Board members, please talk with any member of the Nominating Committee or any current Board member; President Virginia de Lima, President-Elect John Brancato, Treasurer Louise Schmoll, Secretary Margaret Leicach, Administration Chair John Clapp, Community Within Chair Tina Davies, or Spiritual Life Chair Martha Bradley.

Nominating Committee: Bill LaPorte-Bryan, Chair; Ron Friedman; Diana Heymann; Judy Sullivan; Chris Wilt Submitted by **Bill LaPorte-Bryan**



2016 Winter/Spring Programs for Adults and Families

USH Calendar of Events: www.ushartford.com/events/

We wish everyone a Happy Spring. Please note there will not be a Programs Table on Easter Sunday. Upcoming programs include: The Guru In You – Experiencing the Transcendent Self, facilitated by Judy Robbins and Rick Tsukada, will begin Wednesday, March 30. The next Saturday Morning Salon: What Moves Us, is March 26,

Transitions, a Small Group Ministry, will start Saturday, April 2, and the Friday Pizza and Movie is April 8.

The Winter Spring 2016 Programs for Adults and Families catalog is now available online. Go to <http://www.ushartford.com/>. At the top of the page, click on Building Community and then Adult & Family Programs. In the bottom right corner, click on Catalog Winter Spring 2016.

You may call Janice Newton (860.677.1121) or email her at [janicecnewton\(at\)sign\)gmail.com](mailto:janicecnewton(at)sign)gmail.com), for more information.

PROGRAMS:

Saturday Morning Salon: What Moves Us: Saturday, March 26, April 23, May 28, June 11, 10:00 AM – 12 Noon.

The Guru In You: 5 Wednesdays starting March 30, 6:00 – 8:00 PM.

Small Group Ministry: “Transitions”, Saturdays, April 2 – May 21, 9:00 – 11:00 AM.

Friday Pizza and Movie: April 8, 5:30 PM, featuring “A Serious Man”.

Ballroom Dance: Thursdays: Monthly enrollment, 6:00 – 8:00 PM.

Great Decisions: First and Third Sundays (end date May 15), 9:00 – 10:00 AM.

USH Book Club: Thursday, April 7, 5:30 PM.

Drum Circle: 3rd Tuesdays, March 15, 6:45 – 7:45 PM.

Tai Chi: Wednesdays, 5:30 – 7:00 PM.

Emei Qigong: Tuesdays, Beginning Learners: 6:15 PM, Cultivation, 6:30 PM,

Deeper Learning and Understanding: 7:15 PM. Contact Diana Heymann (860-461-0908).

Emei Qigong: Wednesdays, Tutorial: 4:45 PM, Internal Cultivation/Practice: 5:00 PM,

Contact Diana Heymann (860-461-0908).

Meditation and Dharma Gathering: Wednesdays, 5:45 – 7:00 PM.

Authentic Connection & Communication:

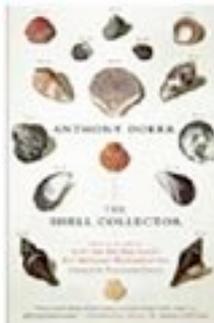
An NVC Practice Group, Wednesdays, 7:15 PM.

Family Friendly Small Group Ministry (FFSGM) will start on April 1st at 6:00 PM at the Meeting House. This group will meet for six sessions. What is FFSGM? It's a small group ministry for folks with small children - no need to find a babysitter because free childcare is provided.



Participants will meet at 6 pm on Friday, April 1st (the other 5 session dates will be agreed upon by group members with the availability of Fellowship Hall considered as well). There will be a simple supper, such as pizza with a salad. Cost of food may be shared by participants. After dinner, the group will meet for an hour and a half to discuss readings and questions. The meeting will end at 8:30 pm. Come sign up for this small group ministry to be facilitated by Paula Bleck.

If you would like to sign up for this, please contact Janice Newton, email: Janice Newton(at sign)gmail.com or call her at 860-677-1121. There is a small registration fee of \$5. Don't miss out on this opportunity to connect with families at the Unitarian Society of Hartford.



USH BOOK CLUB Thursday - APRIL 7
5:30 PM Hosted at Richard and Jean Groothuis' Home

THE SHELL COLLECTOR: STORIES by Anthony Doerr The "perilously beautiful" (Boston Globe) first story collection by the author of the acclaimed Pulitzer Prize-winning #1 New York Times bestseller All The Light We Cannot See. The exquisitely crafted stories in Anthony Doerr's debut collection take readers from the

African Coast to the pine forests of Montana to the damp moors of Lapland, charting a vast physical and emotional landscape. Doerr explores the human condition in all its varieties—metamorphosis, grief, fractured relationships, and slowly mending hearts— conjuring nature in both its beautiful abundance and crushing power. Some of the characters in these stories contend with hardships; some discover unique gifts; all are united by their ultimate deference to the ravishing universe outside themselves. “If you have stopped reading short stories because they have turned pretentious, silly or meaningless,” began Nancy Connors’ review in the Plain Dealer, “The Shell Collector is good reason to come back to this most American of forms.” The Boston Globe said the stories in the collection “don’t so much blur or diminish our place in the scheme of things as they blow open one’s perspective,” the LA Times declared it a “show-stopping debut,” and Library Journal called it a “tour-de-force”.

The USH Book Club Meets on the first Thursdays of the month

From 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Please talk to Richard Groothuis if you have any questions. 860-678-1030; rgroopofus@comcast.net

Upcoming Books:

May 5: The Little Friend- Donna Tartt

June 2: Spring Chicken: Stay Young Forever (or Die Trying) - Bill Gifford -

Submitted by Richard Groothuis



GREAT DECISIONS Meetings – April 2016 April 3 9:00 AM In Servetus

The Future of Kurdistan – Jean and Richard Groothuis, Discussants

Kurdistan, a mountainous region made up of parts of Turkey, Iraq, Iran and Syria, is home to one of the largest ethnic groups in West Asia: the Kurds. Now, most in the West know them for the small, oil-rich autonomous region in northern Iraq called Iraqi Kurdistan—one of the U.S.’ closest allies in the Middle East, and a bulwark against the expansion of the so-called Islamic State. What does the success of Iraqi Kurdistan mean for Kurds in the surrounding region?

April 17 - 9:00am In Servetus

Cuba and the U.S.- Paula Jones, Kevin Gough and Guest – Discussants

The U.S. announced in December 17, 2014, that, after decades of isolation, it would be taking major steps to normalize relations with Cuba, its neighbor to the south. The announcement marked a dramatic shift away from a policy that

has its roots in one of the darkest moments of the Cold War—the Cuban missile crisis. Although the U.S. trade embargo is unlikely to end any time soon, American and Cuban leaders today are trying to bring a relationship once defined by antithetical ideologies into the 21st century.

Final discussion schedule:

May 1: the Politics and Demographics of International Migration – Ed Savage, Discussant

May 15: The Koreas, Sherry Manetta and Brian Harvey, Discussants

June 5: Mideast Alliances, Mike Winterfield, Discussant

Unitarian Society of Hartford Performing Arts

50 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105



**JACQUES LAMARRE HAS DONE IT AGAIN!
WORLD PREMIERE PLAY READING ON
SATURDAY, APRIL 16th AT 7:30**

BETTY JO'S FAN CLUB

A new comedy by Jacques Lamarre

Starring Virginia Wolf

Poor Betty Jo! She has no job. Her husband has left her. Her kids hate her. What is a woman to do? Curl up and die?! Shucks, no! She starts a fan club -- dedicated to herself. When her fans' devotion starts to get a little too fervent, can Betty Jo maintain control over the masses? A world premiere reading of a new one-woman comedy from the extraordinarily successful Connecticut playwright behind *I Loved, I Lost, I Made Spaghetti* starring Herstory Theatre founder and Spotlight Radio host Virginia Wolf.

Reception to follow the reading... A goodwill offering of \$15 is suggested, with all proceeds going to the USH General Fund and matched by an anonymous donor.

The final event of the 2015-2016 Performing Arts season! Don't miss it. **Patrice Fitzgerald for the Performing Arts Sub-Council**

Upcoming Special Events and Other News

Racial Justice Save the Dates - Moral Monday CT, Hartford Rising, local unions, and more are planning a March for Fairness on Monday, April 4th, the 48th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King's Assassination. Stay tuned for more info!

Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ), is holding an open Member Meeting here at USH on Friday, April 8th from 5:30-8pm. If you are interested in organizing White people to be active in the struggle to dismantle racism & white supremacy, please come! Childcare will be provided. For more info and to RSVP: <https://www.facebook.com/events/726494984153695/>

For more info, or to help organize the USH contingent, contact Rev. Cathy.

BLUU Risk Statement to UU Congregations *from the Organizing Collective of Black Lives of UU*

Prophetic Unitarian Universalist ministers speak truth to power both within and outside the walls of the congregations they serve. As Black Lives Matter continues to emerge as a force for social transformation and collective empowerment of Black people, more and more UU ministers will find themselves in the uncomfortable position of negotiating the gap between their call to be prophetic voices in the world and the expectation that they be neutral, stabilizing presences among the congregants they serve.

As Black Unitarian Universalists, we affirm those clergy who, at significant personal and professional risk, dare to rise in solidarity with Black people who are brutalized by police, as was the case recently in Wausau, WI.

In faith, The BLUU Organizing Collective

For the entire article go to: <https://medium.com/@BlackLivesUU/bluu-risk-statement-to-uu-congregations-9730cee5300e#.koqqt5av4>

- **Submitted by Rev. Cathy**

MEALS FOR KRISTEN - Kristen Pildis, a Pre-Kindergarten teacher and member of the Religious Education sub-council, and her husband Jeff are expecting twin girls with a due date of April 11 or before. During the busy time when the babies arrive home, we would like to offer our support and provide some meals for them. The following website has been set up for them and their daughter Avery. The website is <http://www.takethemameal.com/> with Recipient Last Name: Pildis and Password:9849. If you prefer not to use the website and would like to be added to the meal schedule, please call Nancy Reed at 860 521-1082 or email [ndreed\(at sign\)comcast.net](mailto:ndreed(at sign)comcast.net).





APRIL 10, 2016 12:30PM-5:00PM
REFUGEE CULTURAL
COMPETENCY TRAINING &
MEET THE MUSLIM
LEADERSHIP & POTLUCK

Syrian, Iraqi, Afghani, Muslim cultural training

As we ramp up to bring multiple refugee family's to the Greater Hartford area it is imperative we understand the culture of the people we are hosting. Imam Sami Abdul Aziz (Lighthouse for Humanity: Bloomfield Muslim Community Center) and Chaplain Aida Mansoor (Muslim Coalition of CT) will lead the training.



PLEASE BRING
 FOOD! POTLUCK

 RSVP
 WWW.MEETUP.COM
 /LIGHTHOUSE4

 LEARN ABOUT
 ISLAM-MUSLIMS-
 ARABS-CULTURE

 CONNECT WITH
 MUSLIM LEADERS
 FROM THE AREA

 BE INFORMED &
 READY FOR
 REFUGEES

 COME READY TO
 LEARN!

**UNITARIAN SOCIETY
 OF HARTFORD**

50 Bloomfield Avenue
 Hartford, CT 06105

For more info please email
 SamiAbdulAzz@gmail.com

April 10, 2016
 12:30pm-5:30pm

Memorial Reception for Roy Cook - April 2 - 11:00 AM - Can you bring some type of finger food for the reception following Roy's Memorial Service? We expect a large crowd and your donation would be greatly appreciated. Cookies, bars, quick bread, cheese/crackers, veggies, fruit platters are all great choices.

We will be making sandwiches beginning at 9:00 that morning and would love to have 3-4 helpers. Please let Louise Schmoll, Nancy Reed or Janice Newton know if you can assist us. Food contributions should be labeled with the ingredients. Please avoid peanuts. Thank you! - **Submitted by Janice Newton**

Help the Refugees - We are collecting clean, functional, used household items for the IRIS sponsored refugees who will be settled in the Hartford area sometime in the next 2 months. If you have some items to donate, please contact Ed Savage, e-mail edsavage(atsign)ushartford.com or phone/text his cell- 860-966-8155 . He is keeping a checklist of items needed and being donated and will work with you for picking up larger items or bringing your items to church next Sunday.

Your donation can be dropped off at First Congregational Church in Bloomfield, where volunteers are available on Tuesdays 9 am - 11 am and Wednesdays 5pm



ClipartOf.com/213543

- 7 pm. IF you are going to deliver, it would be best to check with Ed Savage so that you can be certain a volunteer will be at First Church to help you. Enter the church parking lot from Tunxis Ave (Bloomfield Ave from the Meeting House changes name). The door in the corner has a sign on it directing you the entry.

Currently, here are some of the categories needed: Highest priority needs are CAPITALIZED.

BEDROOM: bed frames, blankets/comforters, BUREAUS etc.

KITCHEN : DRINKING GLASSES, POTS & PANS, kitchen table & chairs, CUTLERY, etc.

LIVING ROOM: Side tables, TV STAND, tv,

OTHER: Floor lamps, table lamps, computer(With monitor or Laptop)- recent models only (Windows XP to 10, Apple OS 8-10 (Mountain Lion), computer printer.

-Submitted by Ed Savage



The USH Wish List Hello Everyone!

There are 4 items that we could really use at USH:

A Functional 21st century computer that could be used for volunteer tasks

New collapsible functional easels

1 Coat rack tree

Staples gift cards

Please contact Linda Clark at ushlindaclark@gmail.com or 860-233-9897 x100 if you have one of these items and would like to donate it to USH.

Thank you.



Malawi: Lupembe Health Centre in Karonga Faces Electricity Crisis By Bishop Witmos

Karonga — Pregnant women at Lupembe Health Centre in the area of Traditional Authority (T/A) Kyungu in Karonga have been delivering in darkness during night hours for the past two months because Karonga District Hospital did not buy electric units for the health facility.

Chairperson for Lupembe Area Development Committee (ADC), Vincent Kayuni, disclosed this in an interview recently, saying the development resulted into use of torches by nurses to make sure the pregnant women delivered in light.

"It is very unfortunate to note that patients at Lupembe Health Centre are failing to access treatment just because of electricity units that cost less than K10 thousand per month, and as a community, we are worried because this might lead to deaths.

"I am not convinced on why the district hospital is currently failing to provide the units while it is receiving funding," worried Kayuni.

He said the health facility received units for February from the parent hospital following an effort by a Member of Parliament (MP) for the area, Frank Mwenifumbo.

However, a visit to the health facility Friday showed that it continues to face electricity challenges as it was unable to provide immunization vaccine for diseases such as Tetanus, Polio, and whooping cough to children and pregnant women because it cannot refrigerate the vaccine day in and day out.

Article from: <http://allafrica.com/stories/201602082477.html>

"I was inspired by USH regarding reaching out to others. The money needed to pay for the electricity bill is not much. I was able to collect some money this past Sunday, March 13th, but it did not reach the \$100 goal that will help them in this dire situation until they come up with a way to fund the clinic to avoid this crisis (hopefully). Thanks to Reverend Cathy for allowing me to sell the items to collect the donations on short notice. I collected \$20 in donations and 10% of the items I sold goes to the clinic. I have \$10 dollars so far. Total amount is \$30. I need \$70 more to accomplish the goal. \$100 is equivalent to about 70000MK. I still have some items left to sell, or can receive and pass on your donations directly. Please talk with me this Sunday."

-Submitted by Edith Mwenelupembe; for more info. email Edith at: yakhonda70@yahoo.com Photo: Harriet Gardner



DO YOU LOVE BOOKS? LOVE A PROJECT? WANT TO VOLUNTEER ON YOUR OWN SCHEDULE?

Consider whether or not helping reenergize the USH Library might be just the right project for you. Now that the USH Archives have been moved from the Meeting House Library into the Margaret Fuller Room, there are shelves available in the Library for expanding and growing our Library into truly being a Community & Congregational Library. Think of the books we could solicit, organize, and make available for checkout. Take a look at the books already there that would benefit from being sorted through, showcased, highlighted, and discussed. Help to make the Meeting House Library truly a library! If this is something you'd be interested in working on, individually or as a small team, please let Rev. Heather know

at revheather@ushartford.com or 541-390-6052. There's no stress about this, it's just one of those things that could use a dedicated and creative presence (or two or three) to help us enliven and make better use of the marvelous Meeting House space.



Update on the USH Archives by Zac Mirecki

On February 10, Rev. Heather joined Zac and Larry to continue work on the USH archives. Larry has worked quickly to arrange boxes in order by letter, keeping the organizational scheme imposed by Margaret Sax. As work continues, we will soon be getting to materials that are yet unsorted and uncatalogued and updating the 1997 inventory of the collection.

Call for equipment! The Archives is in need of equipment to safely play (and potentially record/transfer) audio found on numerous cassette tapes, magnetic reel-to-reel tapes, and LPs. It appears the last time anything was done to the tapes was around 1995 and they are slowly deteriorating. It is doubtful these lectures/sermons/events have been recorded elsewhere. Do you have a reel to reel player or tape deck you would be willing to donate for use in the archives? More importantly, do you know how to operate these safely without causing more harm? I am much more comfortable getting intimate and dirty with 18th century manuscripts than I am with relatively new (but unstable) tapes and do not know the best way to play these safely!

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be on April 27th at 10am. This will be a work date to continue to sort new material and weed out duplicates. Please join us to help out or learn more information.

Seeking Chalice Lighters! - Lighting the chalice on Sunday morning as an individual, a couple or a family is a way for you to take a small part in our shared worship service. It's also a way for all of us to see each other more fully and help everyone remember names more easily! Thanks for signing up to engage in this especially Unitarian Universalist ritual that begins our services.



If you haven't lit the chalice before, please plan to arrive by 10:10am so we can show you the routine before the service begins. <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050b45a5ae2baa8-chalice>

A Call for Office Volunteers!

Could that possibly be YOU? We are in need of volunteers to maintain a friendly office presence. Easy work - or bring a book, knitting and a smile for any visitors or phone calls the office may receive. Please contact Linda Clark (at: ushlindaclark [at] gmail [dot] com or phone the office at 860-233-9897 and let her know if you can spend a few hours a week in the USH Office to help us keep our friendly and efficient office going!



Cluster Connections 2016
“We Are Stronger Together”

Saturday, April 9, 2016, 8AM-4PM In New Haven

This transformative event will be an opportunity for UU congregations in Connecticut to gather together to strengthen our UU community and identify ways to support each other. The program is listed below and can also be found at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/CTUUCcluster2016/>

Registration IS NOW OPEN!!!

Registration fee is \$30 and includes lunch and childcare. To register on-line please go to: <https://clusterconnections2016.eventzilla.net>

Registration closes on March 26, so sign up NOW! For more information on the schedule of activities, please check out our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CTUUCcluster2016/>.

Unitarian Society of New Haven,

700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden, CT (www.usnh.org)

For a complete list of courses offered go to:
<https://sites.google.com/site/site4ctuus/home/cluster-connections-2016>

Dear Friends,

Happy Spring! I just want to let you know that I have several concerts coming up. The concerts that are open to the public are listed below. The May 1st concert is available for live streaming even though it is in D.C. I hope to see you there. Thank you!!

Best, Pi-Hsun

With cellist Tanya Anisimova

Sunday, April 3, 2016; 3pm-4pm

Avon Free Public Library

281 Country Club Road, Avon, CT 06001 | 860-673-9712

program: Beethoven, Schubert, and Fa-Re-La

With CitySingers of Hartford

<http://citysingers.org/>



Turning the Key: Songs of Heart and Home

Saturday, April 23, 2016; 4:00 pm

St. John's Episcopal Church; 679 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford; 860-523-5201

Sunday, April 24, 2016; 4:00 pm

Trinity College Chapel; 300 Summit Street, Hartford; 860-297-2012

With Cellist Tanya Anisimova

Sunday Live at the Studio/Live Streaming

Blue House Production, Kensington Soundstage, MD

Sunday, May 1, 2016; 2:00pm

Program: Beethoven, Schubert, Fa-Re-La and Japanese-French-American Masatoshi Mitsumoto's Pierre et Luce will receive its first performance.

Tickets for the live event are \$40.00 per person.

The cost to purchase the live stream is \$10.00

DVDs of the Concert will be available for \$20.00 each

Location:

4213c Howard Avenue, Kensington MD.

Checks can be made payable to Blue House Productions and mailed to
2201 Westview Drive, Silver Spring Md 20910.

If you wish to use a credit card please call 301-589-1001

More info: <https://www.facebook.com/events/237723853233063/>

Photo: hartweb hartford edu

McDonald's

“Each week I give McDonald's more than 30 hours and they give me poverty wages. Income inequality in Connecticut makes it impossible for many working families like mine to survive. April 14th I need you to stand with me and other underpaid workers to demand our legislators and employers raise our wage to \$15 an hour!”

-Destiny Rodriguez, McDonald's worker and member of the Hartford Fight for \$15



JOIN WORKERS AND SUPPORTERS FROM CONNECTICUT ON APRIL 14TH! SUPPORT WORKERS AS THEY STAND UP AGAINST POVERTY WAGES THAT HURT OUR COMMUNITIES

ACTION AT MCDONALD'S, 1303 ALBANY AVE. HARTFORD @ 6:00AM

RALLY AT LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING ON APRIL 14TH @ 4:00PM

RSVP <http://bit.ly/April14FF15>

follow us on Facebook [FB.me/FightFor15CT](https://www.facebook.com/FightFor15CT) and Twitter [@15andaunion](https://twitter.com/15andaunion) - fightfor15.org

Applications Available
For the 7th Annual
Shoreline Spring Festival
(Deadline April 1)

Over 100 exhibitors of fine arts and crafts:
fiber, glass, jewelry, photography,
pottery, woodworking, farm, food, & garden.



Saturday, May 21, 2016

10am – 5pm

Madison Green, Madison CT

Contact Shoreline UU Society

203-245-8720

suus@shorelineunitarian.org

[www.shorelineunitarian.org/
get-involved/arts-and-crafts](http://www.shorelineunitarian.org/get-involved/arts-and-crafts)



Camping in the Grove Summer Camp

July 24th through 28th at Murray Grove Retreat & Renewal Center

Registration is open for Murray Grove's 5th annual summer camp for children going into the 4th through 8th grades in September 2016! Come for some great summer fun getting to know other UU's, swimming in the pool, campfires, and learning about UU values among many other things. More information and registration forms are available via our website,

www.murraygrove.org, emailmurraygrove@murraygrove.org or call 609-693-5558. Early bird registration prices available until May 15th.

For Access to the Members Only Section on the Web Page:

For the username and password for the Members Only section, please email Linda Clark at ushlindaclark@gmail.com

Special Note: Hi Everyone! Please check the online calendar to make sure the Room and Time you wish to reserve is still available before you make a request. This will help in planning your event.

Thank you! Linda Clark, Office Administrator

For events for the online calendar please include the following information:

(Cut and Paste from the E news will work)

Put in the Subject: 'Calendar'

Event Title:

Room:

Time:

Date(s):

Contact Person:

A Short Description:

Cost: (if applicable)

Is Childcare Provided?: (Note if childcare is provided please confirm with the DRE.)

Email Calendar Events to: calendarchanges@ushartford.com Thank you.

The deadline for USH-Enews submissions is Tuesday at 12 Noon.

Email to: ushenews@ushartford.com

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

Peace – as we come to the close of the USH-Enews week.

Be kind to others – and to yourself.

Nuts and Bolts: The member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association covenant to affirm and promote: the inherent worth and dignity of every person; justice, equity, and compassion in human relations; acceptance of one another and encouragement of spiritual growth in our congregations; a free and responsible search for truth and meaning; the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process, within our congregations and in society at large; the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all; respect for the interdependent web of all existence, of which we are a part.