



50 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105
 Tel: (860) 233-9897 • Email: firstunitarian@ushartford.com
 Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10:00 to 3:00
 or call for appointment

USH-Enews ~ April 19, 2017
 Worshipping Together Since 1830
 Sunday Service 10:30 AM
 Revs. Cathy & Heather Rion Starr



Image: <https://dmuuc.wordpress.com>

Worship Service: Sunday, April 23rd, 2017 ~ 10:30 AM
"Growing Our Collective Response" ~ Rev. Heather Rion Starr, Co-Minister and the Unitarian Society of Hartford Green Sanctuary Team
Lisa Galinski, Worship Associate ~ Join us for this collaborative, interactive worship weaving together song, action, energy, commitment, gratitude, and a deep love for our shared Earth. Lisa Galinski is our Worship Associate this morning and members of Meeting House Folk will be singing. We will also welcome New and Returning Members this morning!



2017 Annual Report Submissions: Hello all, so far I have received several reports - Thank you. *The deadline for submissions is this Sunday, April 23, 2017. This will enable us to have the reports available the Sunday before the meeting on May 14. If you did not receive an email reminder but will be sending a report, please contact Linda Clark at ushlindaclark(at sign)gmail.com or call 860-233-9897. - **Thank you, Linda Clark, Office Administrator**



RE News You Can Use! ~ This Sunday, April 23, there will be childcare for infants and toddlers during the morning worship service from 10:15-11:45am. There will be a Time For All Ages followed by age appropriate classes.



Soup Sunday April 26th ~ The High School Youth Group will be making our monthly, delicious Chicken-Vegetable and Vegetable soup to sell after service in Fellowship Hall. Soup is \$3. The proceeds offset the cost to donate our homemade soup to the homeless at the Church Street Eats Soup Kitchen. Thank you for supporting our efforts! -**Submitted by Nina Elgo**



Dear USH Members and children,
Last Thursday, the books you gave to the children at the East Hartford Family Shelter were delivered. There were so many beautiful books and magazines for infants and children all the way through high school age. They were sorted and labeled by type: Highlights, Golden Books, infants-age 3, 4-5 year olds, 6-7 year olds, 3-4th graders, 5-8th graders, and highschoolers-adults. You donated all of these in a bit more than two weeks...WOW! YOU ARE A WONDERFUL GROUP! The Shelter is so grateful. -**Love to each of you, The 3rd-5th RE Class. ~ Submitted by Diana Heymann**

Sermon Writing for Lay Preachers, May 20, 2017 at the Unitarian Society of Hartford. Now is the time to register for the UUA WORKSHOP for LAY LEADERS and RELIGIOUS EDUCATORS. Registration ends on May 14. Click [HERE](#) to register. Cost is \$35 - contact Sue Smolski (sue.smolski@gmail.com) if the fee is prohibitive - our goal is to have everyone who is interested be able to attend. Click [HERE](#) for more details on the USH calendar. ~ **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.



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

In This Week's Enews:

RE News You Can Use
Sunday Service Recap
Church Business News
Performing Arts at USH

2017 Programs for Adults and Families
Focus: Resistance is Daily Practice
Upcoming Events and Other News at USH

Upcoming Events & News in the Larger Community

Missed Last Week's Enews? Click Below:

<http://www.ushartford.com/nourishing-spirit/newsletters/>

See Articles and News for USH and the Surrounding Area you may have missed or find a link on the USH Facebook Page Here.

Please consult our Online Calendar regularly for all upcoming events at the Unitarian Society of Hartford:
www.ushartford.com/events/

To submit a Calendar Request go [HERE](#).

Contacts: <http://www.ushartford.com/about-us/staff/>

**Sunday Service Recap by Paul Cipriano
April 16, 2017
“Hunting for Hope”**





Photos: Harriet Gardner

Reverend Heather returned this week to lead the “Hunting for Hope“ service and in her opening remarks, welcomed everyone into the sanctuary to celebrate the arrival of spring: “It is so good to see you. It is so good to see spring springing so beautifully around us. However you celebrate this time of year, in whatever way you choose to mark it, we wish you well on this brilliant, beautiful morning.”

“We are in the week of Passover which reminds us of the courage and strength of those seeking freedom. We are at the end of Holy Week and celebrating Easter Sunday which reminds us that creating a peaceful world through justice and community building here on Earth was the great teaching of Jesus and is our greatest human challenge.”

“We are glad to be here together as an always ever changing community of such human beings. Young and old, new to this place, and long timers, always mindful of the past, and seeking out hope and courage to guide us through this complex, present moment towards a more joyful future.”

Peter Meny, our Worship Associate, also welcomed spring: “We are hopeful and optimistic, knowing that the cold and snow and dark days are behind us. This pivoting from Winter to Spring can bring a feeling of euphoria as we look forward to months of warm sunshine, outdoor activities, barbecues and long summer nights. It’s all in front of us.”

“But for some of us internal or external circumstances make it difficult to find hope as they struggle with loss or illness or broken dreams. Whatever you bring this day, know that you are welcome here just as you are.”

Reverend Heather welcomed the children to the steps of the chancel to share her own experiences growing up Unitarian Universalist with them: “Most of our grownups including maybe the grownups who came with you grew up in some other faiths traditions, so they have had a different experience than you are having growing up and coming here to this church.”

“First of all, that’s a mouthful. Unitarian Universalist. That’s a lot of syllables. You may or may not identify as Unitarian Universalist. We don’t think of you as members of this congregation until you have a chance to decide if you want to be members when you are fifteen.”

“Growing up I didn’t really identify as Unitarian Universalist. I just knew that sometimes I went to The First Unitarian Church in Portland Oregon because my Mom went there. There were times when kids at school would ask me about religion, whether I was a Christian or if I believed in God.”

“I am not here today to tell you what it is all about. That is up to you. That is both awesome and challenging sometimes. In Unitarian Universalism, you get to decide what is meaningful to you and what feels true about the world. That doesn’t mean that we encourage you to wildly make up stuff. We do want you to learn about many different religions, traditions and ways of taking care of your spirit. Think about what helps you be the best person you can be.”

During the announcements, Reverend Heather thanked everyone that had sent in their pledges for the 2017-2018 operating budget. “In just three weeks,” Reverend Heather said, “We have raised \$250,000.00. That’s amazing and awesome. Thank you so much. My hope is that somehow, we can reach our \$327,000 pledge goal in order to fairly compensate our dedicated staff. That is another \$77,000 still to raise. If you have not yet put in a pledge, a first-time pledge, a pledge of any amount, an increase over last year’s pledge, or you can increase a pledge already made, please do so as soon as possible. Your Board, Finance Committee, and congregational leadership have to come up with a balanced budget by the end of May and we need to hear from every one of you to do that. I remain hopeful.”

“In news of larger denomination,” Reverend Heather said “I am thrilled to update you with the news that good things are happening are happening in Boston and throughout our denomination and leadership, as we wrestle with renewed attention on the impact of racism within and throughout our organizations and congregations. Following the resignation of President Peter Morales at the end of March, three Co-Presidents have been appointed to lead the Unitarian Universalist Association until the end of June. Former President Reverend Bill Sinkford, experienced lay leader and professional psychologist Leon Spencer, and Starr King School for the Ministry Faculty Member Reverend Sofia Betancourt. All three identify as people of color and they have a unique charge to look at racism as it has impacted hiring practices in our denomination. I encourage you all to go online to UUWorld.org to read more about all this.”

For the time of sharing Reverend Heather quoted Howard Zinn:

“To be hopeful in bad times is not just foolishly romantic, it is based on the fact that human history is a history not only of cruelty, but also of compassion,

sacrifice, courage, and kindness. What we chose to emphasize in this complex history will determine our lives. If we see only the worst, it destroys our capacity to do something. If we remember those times and places, and there are so many, when people have behaved magnificently, this gives us the courage to act, the energy to act, and at least the possibility of sending this spinning top of a world in a different direction. And if we do act, in however small a way, we don't have to wait for some grand utopian future. The future is an infinite succession of presents, and to live now as we think human beings should live in defiance of all that is bad around us is, in itself, a marvelous victory."

Reverend Heather's reflection *Hunting for Hope* began with the long search for signs of spring. She sang (from *Hamilton*) "Look around, look around. How lucky we are to be alive right now."

"It is necessary to remind ourselves of all the many sources of hope," affirmed Reverend Heather. "So today I want to talk to you about Easter egg hunts. Who doesn't love finding a chocolate surprise that's been hidden just for you?"

"As an only child and grandchild," Reverend Heather stated that "for years my Grandmother hid Easter eggs in her living room that were just for me to find. But after a certain time that just sort of stopped - I don't know maybe I was in college - too grown up for that."

"I lamented this tragedy of growing up so much that once in my mid-twenties my girlfriend had gone away for a trip and I went to her house to feed her cats. There were additional instructions to find eggs, hidden all around her house with little notes, chocolates, special things. I remember the joy of somebody hiding Easter eggs for me to find. Grownups need surprises in their lives sometimes even more than we did as kids."

"Growing up Unitarian Universalist means cultivating respect for diversity and imprinting upon ourselves and our children that there are many equally right ways to view and experience the world. As long as we engage in our search responsibly, conscientiously, with great care, with the awareness that sometimes we will do it wrong and someone will help us find a way to do it more appropriately, we Unitarian Universalists are encouraged to be open minded, to think beyond any one book or single sacred text, beyond any one story."

Reverend Heather quoted the words of writer, activist, and historian Rebecca Solnit: "Sometimes one person inspires a movement, or her words do decades later. Sometimes a few passionate people change the world. Sometimes they start a mass movement and millions do (change the world). Sometimes the millions are stirred by the same outrage or the same ideal and change comes upon us like a change of weather. All that these transformations have in common is that they begin in imagination. They begin in hope. To hope is to gamble, it's to bet on the future, on our desires, on the possibility that an open heart and

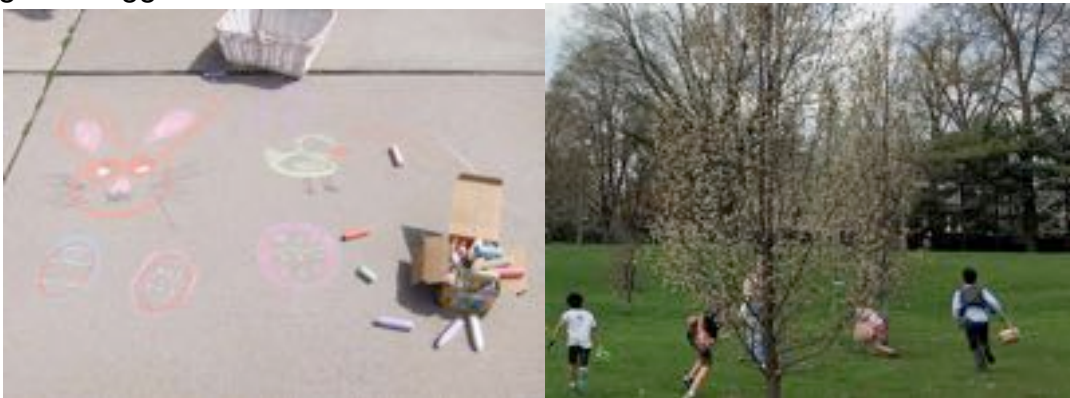
uncertainty are better than gloom and safety. To hope is dangerous and yet it is the opposite of fear. For to live is to risk. Hope just means another world might be possible, not promised, not guaranteed. Hope calls for action. Action is impossible without hope.”

Reverend Heather said when she came back from parental leave she learned that the church's Director of Religious Education would be away and that no Easter egg hunt was planned. In her own words she had a crisis of faith: “No Easter egg hunt?? How can this be?”

Reverend Heather continued: “On Easter Sunday, it is up to us. We are one another's greatest sources of hope, even when we totally exasperate one another. We also inspire, goad, compel, challenge, and encourage each other onward in our free and responsible search.”

At the end of the service before the Easter egg hunt all attendees were given a small piece of paper with an inspirational message just for them alone such as “Spend time with those you love. One day you'll say either: I wish I had or I'm glad I did.” Or quotes from religious leaders of the past like Martin Luther who said: “God writes the gospel not in the bible alone, but also on the trees, and in the flowers and clouds and stars.”

And then members were asked to pass on the inspiration to the next generation. They did this by writing an inspirational word or saying on the pieces of paper provided at the table on the perimeter of the Sanctuary and putting it in the colorful plastic eggs along with a chocolate treat for the children. The colored eggs were then hidden outside for the children to find in the Easter egg hunt. Members took turns writing while the rest of congregation sang “Wade in the Water” and “'Tis A Gift to be Simple” to joyfully close the Easter service and begin the egg hunt.



Photos: Left: Harriet Gardner / Right: Paul Cipriano

Correction to Last Week's Service Synopsis--

The following is a revised service synopsis from the Building (and Living) Your Own Theology service and Credo statements. Please enjoy this revision and correction.

Thank you!

"Julie Grace shared a story of how her personal theology has changed over time.

She described her early theological beliefs from her childhood days as a born-again Christian in a Southern Baptist church. Then, she shared her current theology reflected in the words of a poem entitled "Just As I Am." Here is an excerpt from that poem:

"Complete and whole
Sacred and Divine
Shining, sparkling,
Illuminating and
Bright in might
Just as I am"
(author unknown)

Church Business News



The Stewardship Committee will be reporting the results of our USH pledge campaign at the Board meeting May 9. We need to have all pledges in before then so that our leaders can adopt a realistic budget for the new fiscal year starting July 1. Already over 100 members and friends have answered the call and pledged over \$250,000. Thank you!!

Making a financial pledge is an expression of our UU principles and is essential to the health of the Society. In order to reap the blessings and benefits from our caring and active USH community, we all need to give some of our time, talent, and treasure. When determining your pledge, keep in mind all the important things we want to do next year such as:

* **Fair Wages for Our Staff:** We continue to struggle to bring our staff wages up to Fair Compensation Guidelines. Help us leap this hurdle!

* **Increasing Our Social Justice Efforts:** This year USH has been an increasingly assertive voice for justice, environmental care, and helping those affected by war, poverty, and persecution. We need more financial resources to keep the momentum going.

* **Building Improvements.** Our beautiful but 'mature' 1964 Meeting House needs many upgrades to improve its appearance and functionality to keep up with 21st century needs.

* **Filling the Gap:** We have a projected \$25,000 income shortfall for 2017-2018 due to the end of a matching grant and a decrease in fundraising income. Help us make up this crucial difference!

If you are one of the 35 members and friends we are waiting to hear from, please answer the call by making your pledge now. It makes our job so much easier when you take the initiative.

Here's how: You can do your part by stopping by the Stewardship Table in Fellowship Hall on Sunday and filling out your pledge card. You can also e-mail or call our Bookkeeper, Brian Mullen, to let him know of your pledge intention, set up monthly payments or automatic debits. He can be reached at bmullen@ushartford.com or 860-233-9897, ext 102.

Peter Meny, Stewardship Committee Chair, would also be happy to mail you a Pledge Card if you need one, or you can pick up one from Linda Clark in the USH Office on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Sunday.



2017 Programs for Adults and Families

Stop by the Programs Table Sunday during Coffee Hour to register for the Women's Retreat at the Senexet House May 5-7 (April 30 last day to sign up) or the May 12 Pizza and Movie Night. The Green Sanctuary Sub Council will have a sign up sheet for those interested in attending the People's Climate March on the National Mall Saturday, April 29. Information about other programs at USH will be available including the May USH Book Club, the AIM workshop, and the Spirit and Action Ministry. The Winter Spring 2017 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 Current Adult Programs Catalog. You may call Janice Newton (860.677.1121) or email her at [janicecnewton\(at\)sign@gmail.com](mailto:janicecnewton(at)sign@gmail.com) to register or for program information.

Programs

USH Book Club: Thursday, May 4, 5:30. Topic: The Sellout by Paul Beatty. For more info. click [HERE](#).

Friday Pizza and Movie Night: May 12, 5:30 PM, featuring "Hannah Arendt".

Ballroom Dance: Thursdays, 6:00 – 8:00 PM. "Samba" featured in April.

Tai Chi: Wednesdays, 5:30 – 7:00 PM.

Emei Qigong Cultivation: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 5:00 – 6:00 PM. Contact Diana Heymann 860-461-0908.

Meditation and Dharma Gathering: Wednesdays, 5:45 – 7:00 PM. Any questions please contact Jan Bennett, chair2clinic@juno.com

Authentic Connection & Communication: An NVC Practice Group, Wednesdays, 7:15 – 9:15 PM. Any questions please contact Jan Bennett, chair2clinic@juno.com.

2nd Principle Things You Can Do ~ "Focus: Resistance is Daily Practice" Each day we must choose to focus our energies. Each day we must take actions of resistance to tyranny & oppression; we must engage in acts of self-care & perseverance; we must reach out and connect with other human beings in building meaningful relationships. If you use Facebook, type the group name: "Focus: Resistance..." into your Search box and ask to join the group. For all of us: we are in this mess together. People are seeking out this congregation as a basecamp for connection, direction, relationship-building, solace, and clear ways to organize action. Your support for the work of this congregation is crucial right now. Perhaps more than ever, and certainly more than in recent years, people need this congregation as a conduit--a way to respond, make sense out of things, find community, build resilience and strength during difficult times. Let us support one another earnestly, now and in the days ahead. **Warmly – Rev. Heather, revheather@ushartford.com, cell/text: 541-390-6052, on Facebook & Twitter**



Join the Spirit & Action ministry meeting every month on the first and third Thursdays, in Emerson/Meditation Sanctuary, 6:30-8:30pm. Our gatherings are open to anyone seeking spiritual sustenance and ideas for taking action during this time of chaos and change. **For more information contact**

Julie Grace: [jgbuko\(at sign\)yahoo.com](mailto:jgbuko(at sign)yahoo.com). For all dates for this event click [HERE](#).



The signs are here!

Available in 3 sizes:
Lawn sign - 18" x 24" (2 sided)
Window sign – 11" x 17"
Car sign – 5.5" x 8.5"

On sale Sunday during Fellowship Hour (11:30-12:15)

Suggested donation: Lawn sign - \$20
Window sign – \$5 - Car sign – \$2



**People’s Climate March:
Washington, DC, April 29
For more information click [HERE](#). -
Submitted by Jeff Howard**

Upcoming Performing Arts Series at the Meeting House



**The Meeting House Presents:
Jack Williams –
A benefit for the USH Meeting House**

**Friday April 28, 2017 at 8:00 pm
Doors open at 7:30
Admission: \$15-Cash or Check only. For
reservations email request to: Laura
Stewart Cipriano
ConcertUSHartford@gmail.com**

**For more information click [HERE](#).
-Submitted by Paul Cipriano**



Please note that everyone is welcome to attend the events listed below at no charge! The donation amounts are simply suggestions.

Sunday, May 7 - 12:30 p.m.

BENEFIT CONCERT by Isaac Reguera for the Friends of Music Fund
Our own USH Accompanist Isaac Reguera will play piano solos from his final Hartt recital for a Masters of Music degree. Expect to hear gorgeous classical and modern pieces along with Isaac's delightful improvisational skills. This concert is Isaac's gift to the congregation as he finishes up his year with us, and is designed to replenish the Friends of Music Fund which will in turn help pay for next year's Choral Scholars and Accompanist. \$15 suggested donation which will go to the Friends of Music Fund.

Saturday, May 20 - 7:30 p.m.

The Bill of Rights

A rousing choral presentation, accompanied by orchestra, of this nationally-recognized composition by Wesleyan Professor Neely Bruce. The Ten Amendments which make up the Bill of Rights will be proclaimed aloud before being sung. This piece has been performed repeatedly around the country to great acclaim... and we need it more than ever these days. \$15 suggested donation to go to a non-profit organization to be identified.

Sunday, June 4 - Immediately after the service

Family Share Talent/No Talent Show

Everyone with or without talent is invited to... sing, dance, play instruments, tell jokes, recite poetry, create drama, or otherwise entertain our very easily entertained USH family downstairs in Fellowship Hall. Be brave! The full title is "USH Family Share Talent/No Talent Show" -- remember, no talent necessary. (But please give us a heads-up so that we can put the performers in order.)
ALWAYS FREE!

Please be in touch with PatriceFitzgerald@gmail.com if you'd like to be part of the new Performing Arts Group Events which is now forming and is full of ideas. We want to have a lively slate of events for the 2017- 2018 church year. -Submitted by Patrice Fitzgerald

Upcoming Special Events and Other News

Women's Alliance Senexet Retreat

Friday, May 5th through
Sunday, May 7th - 2017

Register at the program
table through April 30



<http://www.senexethouse.org>

The cost for 2 nights and 5 meals is \$185, or 1 night 3 meals \$100.

This Retreat is an opportunity to step back from this chaotic world for a few hours, recharge your soul, feast on gourmet meals, and enjoy the sisterhood of UU Women.

Talk to past retreaters to get their comments. Most have come many times. A few names are: Kayla Costenoble, Flo Grieb, Joanne McClurg, Ruth Westervelt, Laurie Rollins, Paula Beck, Susan Hope, Marilyn Stockton, Diana Heymann.

Web: [Click HERE](#) ~ **Submitted by Louise Schmoll**



AIM Workshop: Negotiating the Minefield of Language

Sunday, April 30th 12-1:30pm

Meditation Room

Facilitated by Katharine Ann Buck

What this workshop is about: "People with disabilities frequently encounter

language that robs them of their humanity. This workshop seeks to raise awareness and encourage more thoughtful language choices... There is no consensus across disabilities on a single standard for preferred language. Most allies and some disability constituencies have embraced People First language, but there are cogent reasons why some communities and individuals with disabilities have not. This workshop encourages allies to adopt People First language generally, and to pay attention to how people self-identify. It also holds up the discomfort allies feel about the lack of a "right" answer."

(uua.org/accessibility/aim/workshops) ~ **Submitted by Katharine Ann Buck**

Weekly Reminders

USH Website Maintenance !~ As Office Administrator, Linda Clark is our primary in-house contact for website maintenance. Please contact her first with any website issues you encounter. There is a team of USH members (USH Editors) who are sometimes able to address issues that she e-mails them about. If neither Linda or the USH Editors are able to resolve or address the issue, we have an outside website consultant who handles our ongoing website maintenance and updates on a monthly contractual basis. Linda will e-mail our consultant about things that are beyond her or our congregational capability. Thanks so much for your concern and attention to the USH website and our current process.

Rayla Mattson is our Rentals Manager. For new rental requests to use space at USH, please contact her at: dre@ushartford.com or 860-839-5001. For rates and rental application, go [here](#).



Greater Hartford Cohousing
Community – Sustainability – Life Enhancement

We are a group of households planning to build an urban cohousing project in Greater Hartford. We intend to create a project that fosters community bonds and sustainable living through thoughtful design. Our vision is to create an adult-centered community in or near the city of Hartford so we can enjoy its diverse amenities and peoples, become part of the fabric of our neighborhood, and encourage aging in place.

We currently consist of three households that have met weekly for a year. During that time, we have created a legal entity, completed a feasibility study with a nonprofit development consultant, consulted with architects who specialize in cohousing, and identified several properties that could work, while still on the look-out for other promising sites.

Our building plan will encourage sociability as well as providing ample opportunities for privacy. It will consist of 22 to 30 private living units with 1 to 3 bedrooms, clustered around a large outdoor courtyard that provides opportunities for socializing and gardening, as well as a large common house—the ‘heart’ of the project—which will feature a large dining area and kitchen for shared meals, and other amenities desired by the community.

Legally and financially our project will be structured as a condominium. Unlike a conventional condominium, however, we seek to build the community first and engage members in the project, both as early equity investors and as designers.

These early joiners will become co-creators of their cohousing community. For further information on cohousing see www.cohousing.org

We welcome your interest in our pioneering venture. Our current aim is to reach a critical mass of members who will eventually commit to joining us. If you think cohousing might be a good fit for you, let's get together.

For further information contact:

- **Toni Gold, Hartford, 860-232-9018, toniagold@gmail.com**
 - **Susan and LeRoy Spaniol, Bloomfield, 860-216-1391, sspaniol@comcast.net**
 - **Martha Bradley, West Hartford, 860-305-3307, marthabradley49@yahoo.com**
- Submitted by Toni Gold**



In The Library
@ The Meeting House

RSVP to
adambrown6@gmail.com

Every Sunday after worship – 12:00 PM

20s/30s Sunday Brunch

The 20's/30's Group is hosting a weekly potluck brunch Sundays at noon. It's open to existing members, friends, newcomers, and visitors in their 20's and 30's. Members and guests are encouraged to bring something to share. *- Adam Brown (860) 817-0940*

We look forward to seeing you!

Would You Like to be Part of a Great Team? ~ Join the USH Sunday Welcome Team! Please contact Linda Clark at ushlindaclark(at sign)gmail.com, phone the office at 860-233-9897, or talk to Brian Harvey if you are interested in being part of this wonderful group of volunteers. The Welcome Team makes USH outstanding in its open and friendly atmosphere, and helps newcomers find their way around our Meeting House.



Office volunteers are also welcome. If you'd like to help out in the office during the week for an hour or two, please contact Linda Clark. Pictured above: Phil and Harriet Gardner with their son Bruce, helping out with the Order of Service. (Thank you!)

Do you love to sing? Have you ever thought about joining the USH Choir? The USH Choir is a fun way to make beautiful music with some truly incredible people. We are rehearsing on Sunday mornings at 9 am before church. If you have ever considered joining our group, we would love to have you come to laugh and sing together! **If you have any questions or would simply like more information, please feel free to contact our Choir Director Rebecca Pacuk at rgpacuk@gmail.com. (Formal music training is not required).**



The USH Wish List

Hello Everyone! We mostly need People--those who are tech savvy, social media gurus, or Millennials, who would help us record, upload and podcast services. There are also some physical items that we could really use at USH:

- A Folding Lightweight Table to use at various events
- 2 Floor Length Mirrors
- New collapsible functional easels
- 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.

Upcoming Special Events and News in the Larger Community



Dear Friends, I hope you are enjoying the beautiful weather. I would like to invite you to come to my concerts on Sundays April 23rd and April 30th. The concert on April 23rd is the New World Trio's season finale. On April 30th, I will be playing with the violinist Sirena Huang. Two exciting programs with different players. Below is the formation:

New World Trio Plus One

Sunday, April 23, 2017 • 3:00 p.m.

Piano Quartet in G Minor, Op. 25, Johannes Brahms

Selections from Eight Duets, Op. 39.....Reinhold Gliere

Dances and Nocturnes, commissioned by NWT.

Stephen Gryc Guest Artist: Patricia Daly Vance
Reception following concert

Tickets: Series Subscription \$60; General Admission \$25; Students with ID \$1; Children under 12, free

Location: Sarah Porter Memorial Hall, First Church of Christ, Congregational

75 Main Street; Farmington, Connecticut. Sarah Porter Memorial Hall is on the corner of School and Main Street (Route 10) in Farmington, Connecticut, to the left of First Church of Christ, Congregational. Parking is available on the side streets. (Church Street, just south of the church, leads to the parking lots at the library and Noah Wallace School.)

Sunday, April 30th, concert with the violinist Sirena Huang

Program: 1) Stravinsky: Suite Italienne, 2) Paganini: Caprice No. 24 for Solo Violin, 3) 梁祝小提琴协奏曲 The Butterfly Lovers Violin Concerto, 4) Brahms: Sonata No. 3,

5) Saint-Saens: Introduction and Capriccioso. Reception following concert.
Suggested Donation: \$10

Concert Location: 71 Old Main Street Deerfield, MA.

For more information click [HERE](#).

-It is in Old Deerfield, a beautiful town. I hope you can come. Thank you! -
Best, Pi-Hsun



**Photography by Ruedi Hofmann
at The Bushnell
April 27 – May 25, 2017
Opening Event Thursday, April 27,
6:00 – 8:30pm
Revs. Cathy & Heather Rion Starr are
included in this multi-media project.**

The Golden Thread Gallery and photographer Ruedi Hofmann created an innovative and meaningful community art project titled “Pivotal Hartford: Faces of Change.” This multi-media project includes photography, film, and spoken word, combined in an exciting way that has yet to be seen in our region, creating an outstanding artistic experience. Pivotal Hartford celebrates a diverse collection of people that make an effort to create a strong and vibrant Hartford. Pivotal Hartford began pre-production in March of 2016 with an opening in April 2017. The opening will be held at The Bushnell in Hartford, with the ultimate goal of rotating the exhibit to new sites throughout Hartford. **Join Rev. Heather at the opening April 27th! For entire article click [HERE](#).**



New England Regional Assembly: Gather this month in Woburn, Massachusetts with Unitarian Universalists across New England to celebrate our faith. Come for inspired worship, engaged learning, community singing, UUA Presidential Candidates Forum, regional workshops, fellowship

and fun. Awaken your spirit! Click [HERE](#) for more info. **Please let John Brancato, USH President, and Revs. Cathy and Heather know if you are able to attend.**

General Assembly 2017, June 21-25, New Orleans, LA

General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. Anyone may attend; congregations must certify annually to send voting delegates.

Planning is well underway for General Assembly 2017 at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, 900 Convention Center Blvd, New Orleans, LA 70130. Google Map. By going to New Orleans, we can both celebrate our successes and recommit to the relationships that have been forged with this

community. For more info. go **HERE**. **Please let John Brancato, USH President, and Revs Cathy and Heather know if you are able to attend, either in person or as an off-site delegate, at home online.**

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

To submit a Calendar Event Request please cut and paste the text below into an email and send to: calendarchanges@ushartford.com. Please look at the calendar the day you email a request to make sure the space is available. This will help to avoid double booking rooms. Double check the calendar for your event 1 to 2 weeks prior to make sure it's correctly posted. Email any corrections to calendarchanges@ushartford.com. Thank you! ~Linda

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 will be provided you must arrange it with the DRE.)

USH Staff:

<http://www.ushartford.com/about-us/staff/>

Rev. Heather Rion Starr, Co-Minister

Email: revheather@ushartford.com | Phone: 541-390-6052

Rev. Cathy Rion Starr, Co-Minister (on parental leave until May 9)

Email: revcathy@ushartford.com | Phone: 541-390-7553

Rayla D. Mattson, Director of Religious Education and Rentals Manager

Email: dre@ushartford.com | Phone: 860-839-5001

Linda Clark, Office Administrator

860-233-9897 x 100 | Email: ushlindaclark@gmail.com

Rebecca Pacuk, Choir Director

rgpacuk@gmail.com

Brian Mullen, Bookkeeper

Office Hours by Appointment

Email: bmullen@ushartford.com

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.**

Our Unitarian Universalist Principles: 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 to 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.