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**or call for appointment**

**USH -Enews January 20, 2016**  
**Worshipping Together Since 1830**  
**Sunday Service 10:30 AM**  
**Revs. Cathy and Heather Rion Starr**



Photo: [president.blogs.uua.org](http://president.blogs.uua.org)

**Sunday, January 24, 2016 - Pulpit Guest: Rev. Mary Katherine Morn - “The Greatest Gift: Living Generously”** - Rev. Mary Katherine will be meeting with the USH Board of Directors, Revs., and Stewardship Committee before the service (9:15-10:15am), leading the service at 10:30am, and then will be available for a post-service All Congregation Conversation and Q&A (11:45-12:45pm)

Won't you join us? Rev. Mary Katherine is a friend and mentor to our Revs., a prominent and insightful leader of our denomination, and a resource for our congregation. Come and welcome her to USH, share your thoughts about our faith with her, and ask her your questions about where our denomination is headed in the coming years!

You might ask her: "What are some of the best developments you're seeing in UU congregations you visit?" "What gives you hope for our faith?" "How can our congregation best prepare itself for challenges of the future?" Or: [your question here]! Don't miss this chance to talk with one of the kindest and most insightful UU leaders today.

Rev. Mary Katherine Morn is the Director of Stewardship and Development for our Unitarian Universalist Association. Prior to taking on this role in 2014, Mary Katherine has served as minister in congregations in Georgia, Tennessee, and Virginia. In addition, she has served our movement as Vice President of the UU Ministers' Association, a member of the UU Funding Program grants panels, and mentor and supervisor for many students preparing for ministry. Mary Katherine lives with her husband John, who works at Boston College.



**There is snow forecast for this Saturday.** - On Sunday morning, know that we will have our 10:30am service--our doors will be open. Please take a moment to consider whether or not you can get to the Meeting House safely, and if you feel it would be better for you to stay home, please do. If our pulpit guest this Sunday, Rev. Mary Katherine Morn, is not able to get here from Boston on Saturday, Rev. Heather Rion Starr will be delivering her words. Thanks for looking out for one another, for making a wise decision for yourself, and for your understanding and flexibility with the winds of weather! Happy January to you all!

Image: <http://mathcraft.wonderhowto.com/>

**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. 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](mailto:calendarchanges@ushartford.com) -Thank you!**

## January 17, 2016, Sunday Service Recap, by Kayla Costenoble



Photos by Harriet Gardner

**Once Faint and Once Weak** - “Cosmic companionship and the course that is right,” was Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s answer to a reporter who asked him what kept him going. This was among the often-unknown-to-us “examples” provided by Rev. Heather during a sermon remembering Dr. King on January 17, 2016.

This past Friday, January 15, would have been Dr. King’s 87th birthday; he was assassinated on April 4, 1968. Rev. Heather’s sermon was informed by her readings in historian Taylor Branch’s landmark narrative history of the civil rights movement—his trilogy “America in the King Years”—and by Dr. King’s own words. He wrote of Dr. King’s private experiences, and this is what Rev. Heather focused on, rather than his more well-known and oft-quoted public words. Writer Branch spent more than 24 years of intensive research to produce these books; his first one won a Pulitzer Prize. Rev. Heather displayed the three heavy volumes from the pulpit.

It was during a meeting with students in Greensboro, North Carolina, that Dr. King realized he was prepared to die for his beliefs beyond the “safety of oratory.” He told the students “Let us not fear going to jail, “ and he himself went to jail many times. His jail experience began with an Alabama charge about a false tax return. He earned the dubious distinction of being the first citizen to be jailed for tax evasion. Distraught about his future if he were convicted, and concerned that it would tarnish his public image, he cancelled speaking engagements in Chicago and California. A little later, he changed his mind and rebooked his flight to Chicago.

This personal crisis facing Dr. King involved five different lawyers from five different states, audits of two tax returns, huge expenses, and no chance of winning his tax case before an Alabama jury. Fortunately, he had recorded all key expenses, income and donations in his personal diary, which showed his own income never approached the \$1700 Alabama said he owed. However, from then on, he lived every day under the threat of death and constant harassment.

Dr. King felt that every human being lives in two realms—the internal (involving the spirit and the growth of the soul) and the external (complex of devices by means of which we live). But we have allowed the internal to become lost.

In his last book, Dr. King disputes the idea, held by many, that self-preservation is the first law of the land. He said, instead, ‘I cannot reach full fulfillment without Thou.’ He wrote that we cannot even leave our house in the morning without already being beholden to so many others.

Rev. Heather reminded us that we all have struggles and challenges but have to lift ourselves up from being mired in resentment. Dr. King’s inspiring words call us to action. “Now is the time to show up for racial justice,” she said. The fact that the signs “Black Lives Matter” stir up controversy proves that it needs to be said, and she urged us to begin or to continue to display the signs.

And also:

“Have you ever had things not go your way”? Rayla asked the crowd of kids gathered round her on the Chancel steps. They all responded affirmatively, but were not familiar with the idea that they can learn from adversity. She told the story of a man, while watching a butterfly’s terrible struggle to get out of its cocoon, thought he’d help it by cutting the last bit to free it. The butterfly emerged, but died. “Sometimes,” she said, “struggles are exactly what you need in life.”

Gloria Francesca Mengual, USH Social Justice Co-Chair’s testimonial on behalf of Small Group Ministries (SGM) showed how important this long-going, rewarding activity can be. Although against organized religion, two and a half years ago, she felt the need to get to know people, so came to the USH. But coffee hour did not help enough, so she joined an SGM where she found that those in it “share what comes alive in them.” She learned the gift of listening, was inspired to share and got to know the people, and herself, better. She has now become an SGM facilitator.

Sunday’s music (great to have our Choir back!) was a great example of how music can lift your spirit and make you clap, sway, tap and sing with hope and joy. At the piano, Sarah Puckett’s Prelude “Improvisation on There is a Balm in Gilead” earns a loud “wow!” Most of us know Stand by Me, a hymn written by Charles Albert Tindley, son of a slave, Methodist Minister, and considered the founding father of American Gospel. The Choir sang his less-known (to me) The Storm is Passing Over:

Have courage my soul, and let us journey on,

Thanks be to God, the morning light appears

Though the night is dark and I am far from home

The storm is passing over, ha le lu jah. - **Kayla Costenoble**



### Be part of the Exciting Project to Add Solar Power to USH!



Everyone is invited to be part of the solar project at USH. All contributions—large and small—will be through the Endowment Fund. Please contribute what you are able and together we can save money for USH over the long term, help the environment, and be true to our 7th principle!

Our official kickoff was during the SOLSTICE service on December 20, when we celebrated the return of the sun by using the offering to help collect the sun's rays. All money in the collection baskets that day will go towards the project, but this is only one of many ways you can contribute.

Your contribution can be by check, cash, or gifts of stock directly to the Endowment (talk to Jim Venneman if you are interested in this option). All contributions—large and small—will help make this project a success and all contributors will be recognized as having participated. In addition, you can be proud of what you and your congregation are doing. Please remember that we encourage your contribution to the solar project only if it's possible for you to do so in addition to what you planned to contribute to the annual stewardship campaign.

**RE News You Can Use!** - This Sunday, January 24th, the nursery will be available from 10:15-11:45AM for infants and toddlers ages birth to three.

There will be a Time For All Ages during the morning worship service. After the TFAA, the Youth Group will be meeting with the Youth from Manchester to make some UU connections. The 3rd-5th grade class will meet to organize their items for sale after worship. All other children will participate in an all ages activity downstairs.

**REMINDER:** After service, the 3-5 grade religious education class will raise money and collect donations for My Sister's Place (<http://sistersplacect.org/>) in Hartford. They will raise money by selling arts/crafts and baked goods. They will also collect donations of money and household items needed by shelter residents as they move out of the shelter into their own places. How can you



help? Perhaps you are a crafter and would be willing to donate a craft item for sale. Or, perhaps you would be willing to donate money towards the purchase of needed household items. Or, maybe you have household items that you would be willing to donate. They especially need: lamps- standing or table, light bulbs, small and large garbage bags, new pots and pans, sets preferred but not necessary, air Freshener- aerosol or plug-in, umbrellas, laundry supplies, cleaning supplies, personal care items. Or, perhaps you would be willing to bake something for our bake sale. If you are interested in donating, or have questions, please contact the DRE at [dre@ushartford.com](mailto:dre@ushartford.com) or 860-839-5001. Donations of household items can also be dropped in the donation box in the church lobby. Thank you. **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.



Dear Friends,

Welcome to our second Thirty Days of Love: Towards Racial Justice message lifting up the inspiring, creative and movement-making work happening throughout the country. This week, we are excited to share the profound and important work of the North Carolina NAACP.

Below hear a little more directly from our hosts, Carey McDonald and Elizabeth Nguyen. Then check out fourteen tips from Rev. Dr. William J. Barber, President of the NC NAACP, with Jonathan Wilson-Hargrove. The suggested steps can be found in their new book, *The Third Reconstruction*, that can be found here. We are also excited to share a Discussion Guide on *The Third Reconstruction* that complements and lifts up many of the themes lifted up in the book available here.



[Click here to watch](#)

America's Third Reconstruction depends on a moral movement, deeply rooted in the South, emerging state by state throughout the nation. No single leader or organization can orchestrate such a movement, but we who have seen the power of fusion organizing in North Carolina in 2014 established an education center, Repairers of the Breach, to share the lessons of Moral Mondays and invest in equipping leaders for other state-based coalitions. In order to move forward together, we've outlined fourteen steps to mobilize in the streets, at the polls, and in the courtroom.



We need your help in many ways. We are looking for hors d'oeuvres for the evening of Feb.13. Any finger snack food is fine. Just let us know what you prefer to bring. It will be an exciting, successful evening if we all pitch in and do what we can. Contact Louise Schmoll to offer your favorite thing. [rdschmoll@comcast.net](mailto:rdschmoll@comcast.net)

Of course, we will also need auction assistants, runners, scribes, etc. We are sure there is something you can contribute in addition to articles or services for sale. So stop at the Program Table, sign up to attend and let us know what you will do to help. This is our major fund raising effort for the year and we need the help of everyone to make it a success.

Not sure what to donate? How about Tickets to a symphony, play or museum; drive to a medical appointment; Handyman service for two hours; Weekend in the country; Computer tech help; Paint a room; Babysitting. All items must have a minimum value of \$25.

Donation forms are available at the Meeting House or cut and paste the information below into a new email and send to Ginny Allen at: [fiddlenurse1@gmail.com](mailto:fiddlenurse1@gmail.com). Please mark your calendar now and send in your donation form soon. 100% of funds raised at this event will qualify for matching grants by our anonymous donor, so be generous!

## **HEARTS and SPARKS DONATION FORM**

“Hearts and Sparks” Auction

Saturday February 13, 2016 at 7 PM

## Auction Donation Agreement

Note: Minimum value is \$25

Name of Organization/Person Making Donation:

Description of Donation as you would like it to be publicized:

Value of Donation: \$                      Minimum Bid that you will accept: \$

Contact Name:

Address:

Telephone:

E-mail:

PLEASE RETURN FORM asap but no later than FEBRUARY 1, 2016

Upon the sale of your donation, you will receive a letter of acknowledgement for tax purposes

No tag sale items please

Items donated that have not been sold the night of the auction must be removed from the Meetinghouse by Sunday, February 14, 2016

**For more information or if you have any questions please contact:**

**Ginny Allen, 860.604.5964, fiddlenurse1@gmail.com or**

**Vanessa Gonzalez-Rivera, 816-651-2978; vanessa.gonzalez.rivera@gmail.com**

**THANK YOU!**

**2016 Winter/Spring Programs for Adults and Families** USH Calendar of Events: [www.ushartford.com/events/](http://www.ushartford.com/events/)



There will NOT be a Programs Table Sunday, January 24. In the meantime, think about a program you would like to sign up for on the 30th. A new offering – The Guru In You – Experiencing the Transcendent Self, facilitated by Judy Robbins and Rick Tsukada, will begin Wednesday, March 30. For those of you interested in foreign policy, Great Decisions will be starting Sunday, February

7. Reverend Heather's Saturday Morning Salon: What Moves You, will meet February 13 and a Small Group Ministry "Transitions" will begin April 2.

The new 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, for more information.

### **Programs:**

Ballroom Dance: Thursdays: Monthly enrollment, starting January 7, 6:00 – 8:00 PM.

Great Decisions: Sundays, starting February 7, 9:00 – 10:00 AM.

Saturday Morning Salon: What Moves You: Saturday, February 13, March 26, April 23, May 14, June 11, 10:00 AM – 12 Noon.

Friday Pizza and Movie Night: February 12, 5:30 PM, featuring “Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind”.

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

USH Book Club: Thursday, February 4, 5:30 PM.

Drum Circle: 3rd Tuesdays, February 16, 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.

### **Transitions: A New Small Group Ministry**

Are you at a turning point in your life? A place where the old way is not working but you're not sure what would be better? Do you feel restless? Stuck? Confused? Trapped?

On eight consecutive Saturday mornings starting April 2, Judy Robbins will lead a Small Group Ministry for people who feel they are in transition. We will inspire and learn from each other while at the same time paying special attention to our own inner guidance.

Sessions will be held at the Meeting House in the Library/David's Den from April 2-May 21; 9:00-11:00AM.

Registration: \$5

The group is limited to ten participants. A commitment to all sessions is strongly encouraged. We expect this group to fill quickly so sign up soon at the Programs Table in Fellowship Hall after Sunday service or call Janice Newton at 860-677-1121 or email her at [janicecnewton@gmail.com](mailto:janicecnewton@gmail.com).

Judy Robbins PsyD, is a psychologist, nationally certified life coach and long-time UU. She and her husband Rick Tsukada live in Glastonbury and are members of USH.

**GREAT DECISIONS 2016 Meetings – February TOPICS** - We're pleased to announce the topics for Great Decisions 2016! discussions, an eight-meeting series continuing each Spring at the Unitarian Meeting House for more than 25 years. The first month's topics are as follows:

\* Feb 7 - The United Nations - Ed Savage, discussion lead

\* Feb 21 – (Tentative) Cuba and the U.S. – Paula Jones & Kevin Gough, discussion co-leads

We will meet in Servetus from 9:00 am to around 10:00. Registration for the meetings and briefing books is \$25. and folks are welcome to drop in for a session, although at least glancing at the on-line resources is recommended as preparation.

The United Nations Development Goals and Realities

Briefing Book : By Stephen Browne and Thomas Weiss

On the eve of the international organization's 70th birthday, the United Nations stands at a crossroads. This year marks a halfway point in the organization's global effort to eradicate poverty, hunger and discrimination, as well as ensure justice and dignity for all peoples. But as the UN's 193 member states look back at the success of the millennium development goals, they also must assess their needs for its sustainable development goals — a new series of benchmarks, which are set to expire in 2030. With the appointment of the ninth secretary-general in the near future as well, the next UN leader is bound to have quite a lot on his or her plate going into office.

Online added resources at [http://fpa.org/great\\_decisions/](http://fpa.org/great_decisions/)

Cuba and the U.S.

Briefing Book : By Michael Shifter and Ben Raderstorf

The U.S. announced in December 2014 that, after decades of isolation, it has begun taking major steps to normalize relations with Cuba. The announcement marks 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. - **Submitted by Ed Savage**

### **The Guru in You - Experiencing the Transcendent Self**



Transpersonal Psychology acknowledges the spiritual and transcendent in human experience and integrates these into modern psychological practice. It presents us with a model for living as fully mature body-mind-spirit beings. Our culture emphasizes the body-mind and has sorely neglected the innate spirited part of us that we are calling the inner guru. In this 5-session class, we will investigate the nature and usefulness of the inner “guru,” the part of us that taps into universal peace, wisdom, love and joy. Using lecture, discussion, and lots of participatory exercises, we will have some fun exploring the guru, the source of our inspiration and inner guidance. Class is limited to 10 and we strongly encourage attendance at all sessions.

Facilitators: Judy Robbins is a psychologist whose doctorate is in Transpersonal Psychology, the field that integrates the spiritual aspects of human experience within the framework of modern psychology. Rick Tsukada is a clinical social worker who has worked as a psychotherapist and workshop leader for decades. Rick and Judy, both long-time UUs, are married and members of USH.

Schedule: Five two-hour sessions. A commitment to attend all 5 is strongly encouraged. Wednesday evenings beginning March 30 6:00 – 8:00 PM in SERVETUS. Suggested Donation: \$25

Participant Limit: Because of the experiential nature of this group, the class is limited to ten (10) participants. **Submitted by Programs for Adults and Families** Image: [www.pinterest.com](http://www.pinterest.com)

### **The USH Book Club Meets in David's Den On Thursdays From 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM**



Please talk to Richard Groothuis if you have any questions.

860-678-1030;rgroopofus@comcast.net

Meetings are generally held between 5:30 PM and 7:30 PM on the first Thursday of each month in David's Den at the Church.

USH BOOK CLUB - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4th, 5:30 PM: Atul Gawande's Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End

One reader noted: The subject is end-of-life. But this isn't a book you suggest for your friends or family members that are exclusively experiencing the difficult decisions that come with end-of-life care. The book is appropriate for all adults— young, middle, or elderly. Gawande sheds light on the deeper meaning of life by example of how we treat patients in America at the end of their lives.

### **Upcoming Books:**

Mar 3: The Last Death of Jack Harbin- Terry Shames

Apr 7: The Shell Collectors: Stories- Anthony Doerr

May 5: The Little Friend- Donna Tartt

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

**-Submitted by Richard Groothuis**



### **Have UU Got Talent?**

Once again we have an opportunity for you to perform! Do you play the zither? Tell jokes? Mime? Sing, dance, recite poetry?

On Sunday, February 21st, down in Fellowship Hall, after the service and during coffee hour (a Soup Day!) we will be presenting our much-loved and sorely-missed-last-year "Family Share Talent/No Talent Show." And you can be in it!

Acts of four minutes or less are welcome. Be in touch with PatriceFitzgerald at gmail dot com to get yourself in the lineup. No pressure, just fun. We particularly encourage the young or young at heart to participate.

FREE, of course, for all attending or performing!

### **Notes on Music**

We have some exciting music coming up for you throughout the rest of the church year! This is just a taste of what's in store, but watch this space for more details in the upcoming weeks.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, May 1st, our projected Music Sunday. The USH choir will be swelled by the ranks of the folks at the Universalist Church in West Hartford (where we will be singing during their service the week before) as

we bring you "Missa Gaia/Earth Mass," a beautiful piece featuring instruments, choir, vocal soloists, and the calls of wolves, whales, and other animals.

We're also delighted to be working with our new Composer-in-Residence, Gala Flagello, a senior composition student at The Hartt School, this semester. We'll be hearing three or more of her compositions in the months to come... and there is nothing more exciting than singing brand new music composed with our congregation and choral strengths in mind. We are looking forward to a wonderful musical year at USH, due in large part to the support of you--the members--who contribute via both your annual pledge and dedicated contributions to the Friends of Music fund on Music Sundays. Thank you!

### Patrice Fitzgerald for the Music Committee

#### Coming Up Soon:

**March 5, 2016 – Concert Pro Femina**  
 Inspired by the 15th year of the Hartford Women Composers Festival, this concert brings a dazzling array of classical music written by women, featuring chamber groups, solo voices, and choral works.



**Sunday, March 20, 2016 – Classical and Broadway Vocal Concert**  
 immediately after the service 12:30 P.M. Come hear some great vocal music... including some performed by our choral scholars and featuring our new accompanist.

**April 16, 2016 - Jacques Lamarre Play Reading Premiere**  
 Don't miss another exciting new play premiere penned by USH friend and supporter Jacques Lamare.



Also Coming Up: Saturday, May 21st - Clara Barton UU Choir Festival (tentative)

Performing Arts events are \$15. Students with ID are \$10. Children are free.

But please don't let the ticket price keep you away. Come anyway and pay what you can... or come for FREE! Fill the pews... all are welcome.

Saturday night events begin at 7:30.

### Patrice Fitzgerald for the Performing Arts Sub-Council

#### Who are your Fav's? A Short Survey

We are half-way through the arts calendar for the year and would like to think ahead.

\* Who are your favorite local performers – music, drama, dance, stand-up & all?

- \* Might you be interested in bringing them to the Meeting House in the future?
- \* What could you do to help them get on our stage?

**Please put your ideas into an e-mail and send to: [edsavage@ushartford.com](mailto:edsavage@ushartford.com)**

Thanks for pitching your fav's !

**Upcoming Special Events and Other News**

**UU USH & YOU**  
**A Path to Membership**

**3 Sunday sessions (Feb 7, 21 & Mar 6) 12:00-1:30 pm**

Followed up with a **Membership Sunday on May 1<sup>st</sup>**

Join us in our three-session workshop and examine how Unitarian Universalism and the Unitarian Society of Hartford relates to your spiritual growth, sense of community, and everyday life.

**Free child care provided.**

Rev. Heather will be present for all three sessions.

Sign up at the Programs Table or contact Brian Harvey at [bharvey@ushartford.com](mailto:bharvey@ushartford.com)

**BENEFIT**

**CONCERT**



**A Fundraiser to Sponsor a Refugee Family in the Hartford Area**

On Friday night, February 22, at 7PM at the Universalist Church Sanctuary, 433 Fern Street, West Hartford, there will be an

A Capella Concert, with groups from Hall and Conard High Schools, as well as Brown University and UCONN, to help raise money to support the settlement of a refugee family through the Universalist Church of West Hartford.

The concert is open to the public, with a suggested donation of \$10. Come and brighten your life with an evening of sweet vocal stylings, while helping a family in need of a community and a home. - **Submitted by Edith Savage**

**Refugee Resettlement Initiative** - The USH Board has endorsed our church's commitment and involvement in an interfaith refugee resettlement effort. We are working with Bloomfield Muslim Community Center, First Congregational Church of Bloomfield, Flagg



Road UCC, Church of the Latter Day Saints and First Church of Windsor.

A number of USH members have already volunteered to work on various tasks: renting an apartment, furnishing the apartment, health and educational support, teaching English, case management, finances, locating employment, clothing, transportation and funding. Teams from the various churches will be assembled. We are hoping to be ready to welcome a family in the Spring.

**If you would like to learn more or be involved please contact Richard Groothuis, [rgroopofus@comcast.net](mailto:rgroopofus@comcast.net).**

Image: t1international.com

### **Building and Grounds Plans an Indoor Clean Up Day: January 30th**

Have you noticed, sometimes our Meeting House rooms begin to look like everyone else's extra room? Full of stored items never to be used again, or perhaps, among the... "we will need it someday" stuff, a few isolated items that will actually get used.

Folks, the time has come for a general clean up effort for our Meeting House rooms on January 30th. That will be the day when the spaces will be cleaned out of accumulated debris. And, here is where you come into the picture. We want all useful items in various spaces that actually get used to be labeled by the owners. As for the remaining items that have no labels come January 30, they will likely disappear forever. Mark your calendars, as it will be useful if you can assist on January 30, but if not, there is homework to be done. - **David Newton, for B&G**

**Update on the USH Archives** - Our last Archives meeting was held on Jan. 13 with Rev. Heather, Larry Lunden, Kayla Costenoble, and myself present. We revisited our most pressing issues with the condition of some of the unboxed archival materials (architectural drawings and some scrapbooks) and planned two upcoming dates to re-inventory the collection. This meeting was productive as we discussed the possibility of creating a record retention schedule for the entire congregation (i.e. what records we must keep and for how long as well as determining what to do with said documents at the end of their business use) as well as looking into purchasing a thermometer-hygrometer to track the temperature and humidity in the Margaret Fuller room.



Archival boxes were purchased to store records from Rev. Kathy Lee, Rev. Dave, as well as a box to keep for documents from Revs. Cathy & Heather. A list was created of the necessary acid-free storage tubes to buy for the architectural

drawings recently donated to USH from Roy Cook; the nature of blueprint paper is either a thicker wax paper, or that of thin onionskin, the latter being very very fragile. Moving into the Spring, our group hopes to meet at least monthly to work at the arrangement and description of the archives and to build upon the Inventory of the Archives Margaret Sax created in 1997. We hope to bring a synthesis to records created in the church office, paired with what we currently have in the Margaret Fuller Room to what may be lingering in members' basements or attics to bring the history of USH to the present. Over time, we hope to incorporate all the archival materials (including many formats of audio-visual materials) to make them accessible to all so we can freely share our story.

Would you like to join us in this endeavor? We are next meeting on Feb. 10 at 10 for general processing and then from 10-2 on February 24 to begin to inventory the collection. Bring your lunch and come and see how archives are not typically white-gloved affairs, as we delve into our rich past. Please contact me at 860-916-9014 or [Zmirecki@comcast.net](mailto:Zmirecki@comcast.net) or Rev. Heather if you'd like to help out.

**Thank you, Zac Mirecki**



**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>

### **Food and fellowship build communities.**

Please consider signing up to supply snacks for an occasional coffee hour following our Sunday service.

Any food item you would like to share would be welcome. Bring something that would give you joy in sharing it with others. You don't have to please everyone.



The youth group will continue to serve soup on the third Sunday of the month; no additional snacks needed that day. And our wonderful Sunday Sexton, Crystal, will continue to provide coffee & beverages. We're just looking for some extra snacks for those who would like! Sign up by clicking on the link below~

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c4faeae2ea3f58-sunday>

Once you sign-up, you will receive an email reminder two days before your scheduled Sunday. **Questions or Comments? Contact Kathy Payne at [kthpayne@gmail.com](mailto:kthpayne@gmail.com)**

**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!



**Black Lives Matter Lawn Signs** - If you'd like a lawn or window sign for your home, please come get one at the office! If you take one, please do 3 things: 1) Be sure to put your name on the sign-up sheet so we know you took one. 2) Leave a donation in Rev.

Cathy's box with a note to help pay for the sign (\$5-20, pay what you can) 3) Have at least 3 conversations with neighbors or friends about why you put the sign up and why racial justice is important to you.

More Black Lives Matter Signs are available in the Library with a suggested donation of \$20.00. Please stop in during office hours to pick one up: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10am-2 pm. Or pick one up on Sunday after the service.

ASYLUM HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
PRESENTS

## WONDERFULLY MADE

Affirming Transgender Identities

Sunday, January 31, 3 - 6pm



**Donna Shubrooks: "Trans 101"**  
Learn terms, etiquette, and more.  
Donna is a PFLAG Mom/Stonewall speaker and nurse at The Hartford Gay & Lesbian Health Collective Inc.

and



**Tyler Ford** ([www.myfriendtyler.com](http://www.myfriendtyler.com))  
shares their gender journey and will answer questions



**New Web Up and Functioning:**

For the username and password for the Members Only section, please email Linda Clark at [ushlindaclark@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:calendarchanges@ushartford.com) Thank you.

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

Email to: [ushenews@ushartford.com](mailto:ushenews@ushartford.com)

Please note in the subject line, USH-Enews.

**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.