

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 February 18, 2016
Worshipping Together Since 1830
Sunday Service 10:30 AM
Revs. Cathy & Heather Rion Starr



Image: dailyreadlist.com (Children of the Stone-The Power of Music in a Hard Land, by Sandy Tolan Tells the story of a rock-throwing Palestinian teen's journey to found a music school in Palestine.)

Sunday, February 21, 2016 - Resources of Hope: Rev. Heather Rion Starr -
 In the midst of war and violent conflict, some children in Palestine have been learning instruments—of music. How can—and does—music help us to approach conflict in a completely new and disarming way? Join Rev. Heather, the USH Choir, and the guest musical group Zaffa in celebrating the transformative power of story and music in our world. Our own USH Talent Show and Community Within Council Fair will follow the service!

February 14, 2016 Sunday Service Recap by Kayla Costenoble



Photos: Harriet Gardner

Share the Love Sunday - Although the weather outside was frightful (a frigid several degrees below zero), the atmosphere during the February 14, 2016, service at the Meeting House was delightful—filled with song, stories, laughs, hugs, and lots of love.

But Rev. Cathy also acknowledged not only the beautiful love in our lives but also the broken hearts. In her Opening Words, she said, “Don’t leave your broken heart at the door. Bring it in to the altar of life. Bring your loving, courage and conviction. All that we need...is here.”

Early in the service, Rev. Cornell Lewis stood up to introduce himself as a visitor to the USH. We met him again when he was called to the pulpit by Social Justice Co-Chair Vanessa Gonzalez-Rivera to receive the annual UU Courageous Love Award for his work with Moral Monday CT, an organization that, as Vanessa said, “stands for justice and freedom for black and brown people.” Rev. Lewis is a well-known community activist in Hartford. Working with him, she said, has taught her “I should pray with my feet.” Rev. Lewis accepted, with thanks, the award certificate, some t-shirts, and half of Sunday’s Good Neighbor Offering. He recalled Aristotle’s words that the state is the highest form of community, but reminded us injustices still occur.

The other half of Sunday’s offering will benefit Standing on the Side of Love, the organization that calls for respect, inclusion and compassion in the face of identity-based discrimination. Vanessa urged the congregation to study the 13 Social Justice Partnerships the USH currently is part of (listed in an orange insert in the OAS) and think of joining one. The names of the groups and what they do, plus the names, email addresses and phone numbers of USH members working with them are also listed.

Another newcomer, Mr. Hatch (hero of Somebody Loves You, Mr. Hatch) joined us during the service, as Rayla read this delightful Valentine's Day children's book and Diana Heymann acted it out. Until he received a huge red heart-shaped box of candy on Valentine's Day, Mr. Hatch had led a dreary, routine, friendless life. The gift completely changed his life and he started helping his neighbors and co-workers at the shoelace factory. When he learned the heart had been delivered to him by mistake, he reverted to his old self, but his friends rallied around him carrying a huge poster with the words "Everyone loves Mr. Hatch."

Rev. Cathy said, "Mr. Hatch was transformed by that simple message... Sometimes we all feel like Mr. Hatch." But we can inspire one another with love that is abundant enough for everyone and we can create space to honor differences. We can share our love both here and now and also with the community.

With music in the background, we danced our way up to the Valentine table in front of the Chancel and exchanged the Valentines we had written while at our seats. Everyone got one, and I was taken back so many years to those heartbreaking school days when you didn't receive as many cards as someone else. My own anonymous Valentine giver wrote, "If you open your heart to see, you'll know that there's love all around, and plenty for you."

And also. I am so delighted to see all our new Worship Associates. Welcome to your first appearance in that position, Lisa Galinski.

We took a bold step during the service by defacing a hymn! Directed to do so by Rev. Cathy, we replaced the first word in Hymn 1014 "Standing on the Side of Love" with the word "Rising" everywhere it appeared, "to be more inclusive of our various abilities to move."

Baritone Richard Leslie and pianist Sarah Puckett did justice to Stevie Wonder's If It's Magic:

So...If it's magic...
 Why can't we make it everlasting
 Like the lifetime of the sun
 It will leave no heart undone
 For there's enough for everyone **Kayla Costenoble**



RE News You Can Use!



USH Game Night
Saturday
Feb 20, 2016

**For All
Ages**

*We supply the main dishes & salad.
 You can bring side dishes,
 desserts and beverages.*

Please RSVP to Rayla, dre@ushartford.com
 so we can plan appropriately

Fun for the whole family.
 4:00-5:00 Games & appetizers
 5:00-6:00 Family style dinner
 6:00-7:00 More games!



This week, February 21st, the nursery will be available from 10:15-11:45Am for service. There will also be childcare after service until 2:45PM for meetings and activities for infants and children up to age 12.

There will be a Time For All Ages followed by age appropriate classes. The Youth Group will meet at 9:00AM for soup making. **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.



HOORAY! HOORAY! HOORAY! Three Cheers and a round of applause to all of you. HEARTS AND SPARKS was a great success because everyone got involved.



Donors, buyers and our Society are all beneficiaries of this event. The total we have reached, so far, is more than \$6500! Fundraising can be fun, and all who attended can attest to that.

A special thanks to John Stowe for his expert auctioneering skills. And to Brian Harvey for his artistic talents throughout these last few weeks. As for the food! We lived up to our reputation as the Unitarian Eating House. All who provided these goodies and beverages also deserve extra credit for this event.

A listing of the winning bidders will be posted on the bulletin board outside Fellowship Hall. Thanks for a job well done. **Your Auction Committee: Ginny Allen, Vanessa Gonzalez-Rivera and Louise Schmoll**





Church Business News - NOW HEAR THIS!

WE'RE GOING TO KEEP ON MOVING FORWARD ...BRINGING USH INTO THE 21st CENTURY - A Stewardship Message - Picture this: The sermon is entitled: 'Belonging.' As Rev. Cathy notes: "Belonging is about so much more than a welcome sign hung at the door or a warm greeting extended. It is the physical and cultural and interpersonal....." W-E-E-A-A-Y-O-K-E-E-E-E-E-T-T-T!!! The screech of the sound system gone awry interrupts before Cathy concludes the sentence with "signals that communicate, 'you belong here,' that you are not just welcome as a guest."

Was the topic of conversation at that point signals that communicate? Ironic. The crackle of our sound system during a service is familiar to us all. Do you recall the Christmas Eve service? Yikes! Yes, our sound system is in need of replacement. Given that USH also is striving to become AIM-certified (Accessibility & Inclusion Ministry), including the AIM hearing loop in this project makes complete sense. Estimated cost: \$7,000.00.

Let's end W-E-E-A-A-Y-O-K-E-E-E-E-E-T-T-T!!! sound effects and create a sanctuary with a sound system that does justice to our talented singers and musicians, as well as ensuring that USH is accessible to people with many different needs. As noted in 'Emma's Revolution,' "We're Going to Keep on Moving Forward..." Thank you for your support of USH and all of its efforts! -
Submitted by Gloria Mengual

Keep on Movin' Forward! - The theme of our Stewardship drive this year is 'Keep on Moving Forward'. There is great energy, enthusiasm, and commitment at the Meeting House. We want to continue this momentum and keep attracting new members, strengthening our social justice efforts, and providing Worship services and Education programs that inspire, deepen our connections, and help us practice our UU principles.

March 20 is Stewardship Sunday – mark it on your calendars! We will begin the day with a tasty and entertaining Pancake breakfast. During the service we will all be invited to make our most generous financial pledge to support the values, mission, and work of this Society.

Together.....all of us will build the foundation for another great year at the Meeting House. Let's keep on moving forward!

Stewardship Committee - Ginny Hedrick, Laurie Kelliher, Deb Meny, Peter Meny, Joe Rubin, and Reverend Heather. Submitted by Peter Meny

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 be 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.

All Board members participate in monthly Board meetings.

The President-Elect will serve in that position for one year. They act in the absence of the President and work in close cooperation with the President by carrying out other duties that would be of assistance. The experience gained during the year helps them to prepare for the following year when they become President for one year. So it's a two year commitment.

The Treasurer will serve for two years managing our church's financial affairs. They are the Chair of the Finance Committee which develops broad financial policy for the church. They work closely with the Chair of the Endowment Committee and with the Business Manager to manage incoming and outgoing church funds and come in to the Meeting House once a week to approve and sign checks. Working with the Finance Committee, the Business Manager and the Board, they also coordinate the development of the annual church budget.

The Treasurer and President -Elect are Board Officers and meet with the Ministers and the President and Secretary during the week prior to the monthly Board meeting to plan the agenda and discuss other board and church issues. Council Chairs serve for two years supporting and coordinating the work of the sub-councils and committees they're responsible for.

The Council on Administration includes Finance, Stewardship, Archives, Art, Building & Grounds and Human Resources. This position provides many opportunities to participate in the dynamic re-creation of USH.

The Council on Community Within includes Adult & Family Programs, Small Group Ministry, Performing Arts, 20's and 30's Group, Knitting Group, Caring

Network, Alliance Ministry to Women, Seabury, Festival of the Season, Communications and Membership. This position is at the center of the efforts to support our current members and those who wish to join us.

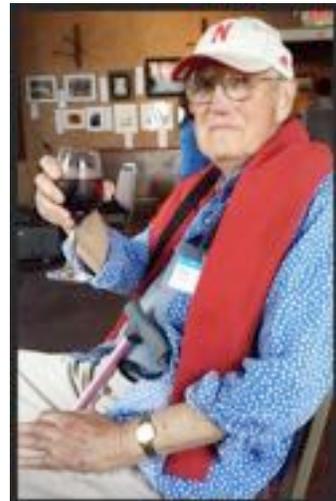
According to the Constitution, nominations for the Board of Directors shall be made either by the Nominating Committee or by petition. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a list of nominations for all open Board positions, having previously obtained the consent of each nominee. This list shall be given to the Secretary by April 15th and the Secretary shall publish it before April 20th. Any nominations by petition shall be signed by at least five members and have the consent of the nominee(s). Such petitions shall be given to the Secretary, Margaret Leicach, by April 30th for publication before May 5th.

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, Social Justice Chair Vanessa Gonzalez-Rivera 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**

Roy Cook - April 24, 1939 - February 15, 2016

We are sad to share with you with the sudden passing of one of our beloved and most-long-time members, Roy Cook. Roy went into the hospital last Thursday with an infection, and died yesterday afternoon-- Monday, February 15.

Roy was an architect, artist, and poet; he was a man of great integrity and self-discipline who cared deeply for his family, for the USH community, and for all people. He will be missed.



As David Newton put it, "Roy was a passionate protector of the Meeting House, its architecture as originally conceived, and every aspect of its maintenance and care. He participated in our January 2016 Building and Grounds Meeting, and as long as we can remember, attended all our meetings back over the years. If I were a better artist, I would illustrate this short item with a drawing of our Meeting House with tears falling from its eyes."

We will hold a Memorial Service to celebrate and remember Roy's life at the Unitarian Meeting House on Saturday, April 2nd at 11am, following one of Roy's

favorite holidays, April Fool's Day. Please be in touch with Rev. Cathy if you have memories and stories to share.

We send our love and condolences to Roy's family: his wife Marion; daughter Jen; son Dave, his wife Suzanne, and their daughter Annabelle; and brother Jim and his wife Connie.

Your kind thoughts and notes of sympathy are most welcome--you can send a note to the Cook Family at 32 North Road, East Granby, CT 06026.

**Thoughtfully,
Unitarian Society of Hartford Leaders, Ministers, and Staff**



2016 Winter/Spring Programs for Adults and Families

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

Sunday, please visit the Programs Table, as part of the Community Within Fair. For those of you interested in the Arts – Creative Sharing and Mutual Inspiration Society will meet Monday, February 22. Spaces are still open for two Small Group Ministries, one on Saturday mornings starting April 2, and one on Monday evenings starting March 7. The Friday Pizza and Movie night is March 11 and a new offering – The Guru In You – Experiencing the Transcendent Self, facilitated by Judy Robbins and Rick Tsukada, will begin Wednesday, March 30. Plan to stop by the Programs Table Sunday to register or to find out more about the programs.

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](mailto:janicecnewton(at sign)gmail.com), for more information.

Programs:

Creative Sharing and Mutual Inspiration Society: Second and Fourth Mondays, 6:15 – 8:00 PM.

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

Friday Pizza and Movie Night: March 11, 5:30 PM.

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

Small Group Ministry: Mondays, starting March 7, 7:00 – 9:00 PM in Newington.

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

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

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.



Great Decisions: February 21

9:00am In Servetus

Climate Geopolitics - Jeff Howard PhD, and Peter Magistri, Discussants?

In the past few years, the American public has become more aware of the damage wrought by climate change. From droughts in the west to extreme weather in the east, a rapidly changing climate has already made its footprint in the United States. Now, it is expected that the presidential election in 2016 will be one of the first to place an emphasis on these environmental changes. What can the next President do to stymie this environmental crisis? And is it too late for these efforts to be effective?

-Submitted by Ed Savage; http://www.fpa.org/great_decisions

Great Decisions: March 6

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. -

Submitted by Ed Savage; http://www.fpa.org/great_decisions

Creative Sharing and Mutual Inspiration Society: Come join us! Welcome!

For this winter and spring, the arts group formerly known as the Artist's Way and Visualize Your Life's Journey Through the Arts has become the Creative Sharing (the essence of what we do) and Mutual Inspiration (what happens through creative sharing) Society. Open to all, the group meets from 6:15 to 8:00 or 8:30 in the USH library on the second and fourth Monday of each month through June 2016.

Individual members of this group have volunteered to plan one program each second Monday of the month and sponsor an open workshop 'bring what you're working on or ideas to share or nothing at all' evening on the fourth Monday of the month.

Programs include such topics as written response and discussion based on a specific book, prayer beads for Unitarians, Soul Collage, creating a finger labyrinth, making a personal dream catcher, and a few yet to be announced. These are not drop-in programs but are offered as a complete session. Plus, we also just chat and enjoy each other's company and energy and creativity!

Attention: The first program, presented by Helen David, will be on Monday, Feb. 22, due to a snow cancellation. Thereafter, the regular schedule will resume.
 Contact Person: Sherry Williams booksandbeads@comcast.net 860.214.7045
 Cost: \$5.00 for the session and possible (minor) materials fees **In peace and harmony with the Muse, Sherry**

Ginny Allen will facilitate a Small Group Ministry (SGM), 8 sessions, beginning March 7, 2016 at the home of Laurel Goodgion in Newington. This is where deep sharing and deep listening happens. Meetings will be on Monday evenings from 7 - 9 pm. It is important to attend all (or most) sessions. If you wish to sign up for this SGM, please sign up at the Programs Table during coffee hour on Sunday or contact Janice Newton, janicecnewton@gmail.com, phone - 860-677-1121 or if you have questions, email or call Esther McKone, ESTmckone@aol.com, phone 860-677-6682. There is a total \$5 registration fee for 8 sessions.

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 Library from April 2-May 21; 9:00-11:00AM.

The group is limited to ten participants. The first session is mandatory and 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.

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.

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

A Special Notice from the USH Book Club

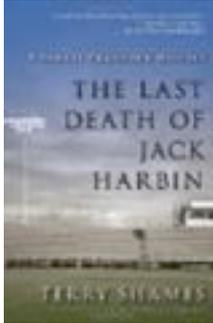
Our February Book Club meeting discussed Being Mortal.

Because of the level of interest, we decided to devote part of March's meeting to a continuing dialogue.

The issues facing all of us as we age and/or have significant medical problems call for a number of hard choices. The book focuses on the failures of the medical profession and many assisted living situations in permitting the individual to make informed choices based on ones short and long term goals.

How can we best navigate our lives to maximize the quality of life and objectives each of us wants to achieve? Come and puzzle with us!

We will also discuss our March selection: The Last Death of Jack Harbin.



USH Book Club
Thursday, March 3, 5:30 PM
at the USH Meeting House

All are welcome!

The Last Death of Jack Harbin by Terry Shames
 A LIBRARY JOURNAL BEST BOOK OF 2014!

A Samuel Craddock Mystery

Don't be misled. Shames' novel is set in a Texas country town and peopled by folks named Lurleen and Marybeth and an aging lawman with a cane for his bad knee, who calls a murder scene "a dreadful sight." But know that you're not getting a sampling of the wisdom of simple souls. This is a perceptive look, written with style and tight discipline, into a hermetic society in which everything—a night out gone bad, a high-school football game—assumes colossal proportions. Jack Harbin is a blind, one-legged Vietnam vet brutally murdered for no apparent reason. It's for Samuel Craddock, a retired lawman pressed into service because the current police chief is a boozier, to limp around asking questions until the truth comes out. The details are mundane, going from disability checks to bottles of cold medicine, and for all the interlocking small-town dramas, the solution to the mystery hinges on the sudden appearance of two out-of-towners. They look different. They don't belong. Getting involved with outsiders was the killer's major mistake. A gritty take on small-town crime. --Don Crinklaw

Please talk to Richard Groothuis if you have any questions. 860-678-1030;
 rgroupofus(at sign)comcast.net - Submitted by the Programs for Adults and
 Families Sub-Council

The USH Book Club Meets in David's Den 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;rgroupofus@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.

Upcoming Books:

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



Looking for Performers! We have some fabulous stuff lined up for you for the "Family Share Talent/No Talent Show," coming up on Sunday, February 21st immediately after the service. It's going to be hopping down in Fellowship Hall, where there will be soup served along with the Council on Community Within Fair... a busy day, and a fun Sunday.

So far we have Reverend Cathy doing her famous "magic" act, Richard Leslie making some good impressions and apparently playing some tunes on his cheek (!) and the Meeting House Folk singers treating us to a couple of tunes. What can you do?

Talent is optional... but we need more performers!

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.

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 Lamarre.



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**

Upcoming Special Events and Other News



**UU
&
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 1st

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



**Come To The
FAIR**

During Coffee Hour



Sunday - Feb 21, 2016

Come visit the **Council on Community Within Fair** on Sunday, February 21 in Fellowship Hall after the service. Get a cup of hot soup made by the Youth Group, visit our information tables and enjoy the Performing Arts Family Share Talent/No Talent Show. Information will be available explaining the activities of the sub-councils and ways you can become involved in making our community at the USH Meeting House more welcoming, caring, informed, and vibrant.

Missing Table: When the Meeting House got "decluttered", did anyone "recycle" a small table from the Meditation Sanctuary (Emerson)? It has been a well-used staple for Meditation and NVC since at least 2007. If you did recycle this item, could you find a replacement and put it in Emerson? Gratefully, USH Meditators and NVC practitioners. - **Submitted by Diana Heymann**



ART NEWS

Coastal Heath, a felted landscape created by congregant Diane Cadrain, took First Place in the 72nd Annual Connecticut Artists Exhibition at the Slater

Museum in Norwich on February 7, 2016. Diane's fiber art is currently on display in the USH ambulatory. All items are for sale.

Too few of us were able to visit the beautiful exhibit of fiber art in Hartford. Diane Cadrain, multi-gifted creator, generously has brought her gift to us. - **Sara Sturges**



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.

Thermometer/Hygrometer: Larry has graciously donated a thermometer/hygrometer to the archives which provides a high to low range. Regular readings will ensure we are monitoring the temperature/humidity/dew point in the Margaret Fuller Room and see what work to better insulate the may need to consider. By creating a spreadsheet we can track the measurements monthly and input the data into <http://www.dpccalc.org/> which is a calculator for determining long-term preservation risks. According to Mary Lynn Ritzenhaler in *Preserving Archives and Manuscripts* (Society of American Archivists, Chicago, 1993) relative humidity is a more critical factor in preservation of materials. High Temperature, however, does speed up chemical reactions. For every 18 degree Fahrenheit increase in temperature, chemical activity in most substances approximately doubles. It has been estimated that the useful life of paper is cut approximately in half with every 10 degree increase in temperature (45-46)."

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 February 24 from 10-2. 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, and don't forget to bring your lunch.



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**

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@gmail.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.



The Farmington Valley Chapter of The Links, Incorporated

The International Trends and Services Committee
Proudly Presents its **25th Annual**

SUNDAYS @ 4 *Silver Anniversary* FEBRUARY 21, 2016

Guest speaker:
Vicki Sylvain

“Remembering
Haiti,
The Pearl of
the Caribbean”



In 2003, Vicki founded *Quiescere Resource Center (QRC)*, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, to offer resources and education-based services to immigrant families. QRC has since expanded to provide aid to women and children affected by natural disasters in Haiti following the devastating earthquake in 2010. She launched and spearheaded the Survival Kit Drive for the Women of Haiti.

**4:00 - 6:00 pm @ Asylum Hill Congregational Church, Twichell Room
814 Asylum Avenue, Hartford, CT
Free Admission / Light Refreshments**

The International Trends & Services Committee is focused upon providing a greater awareness of global issues and concerns, and their impact locally. **Sundays @ 4** is a series of thought provoking lectures, engaging conversations and relevant panel discussions of interest to the African Diaspora and continues the Links' commitment to education and improving the lives and livelihoods of people throughout the US, the Caribbean and the African continent.

A fun kind of outreach!

I want to personally invite you to volunteer with United Way for the 19th Annual Read Across America Day in celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday, March 2!

We are looking to recruit

100 volunteers between Hartford and New Britain to read the classic, "If I Ran the Zoo" to a whole kindergarten classroom! To make this happen we need your help.

This is the perfect fun and fulfilling one-time volunteer opportunity if you only have a couple hours to spare. You can bring a friend, family member or a group of colleagues! Please REGISTER HERE.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Brian Mezzi at bmezzi@unitedwayinc.org or 860-493-1112. Image: en.wikipedia.org and United Way



New Web Up and Functioning:

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 NEW deadline for USH-Enews submissions is Tuesday at 12 Noon
Email to: 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.

www.ushartford.com