



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

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



Daylight Saving Time Begins!
THIS Sunday, March 13, 2016 at 2:00 AM
Spring Your Clocks Forward an Hour!



Image: www.equilibrium.org

Sunday Service 10:30 AM - March 13, 2016 - "Risking Hope" - Pulpit
Guest: Erica Richmond - As the palliative care chaplain at Hartford Hospital, I often work on end-of-life issues across faith lines. How does our Unitarian Universalism respond to such situations? How do we sustain hope in the midst of unknowns and untimely endings? Hope is a theological endeavor that we commit to together.

I am a lifelong Unitarian Universalist, originally from the Boston area. I went to Clark University in Worcester and earned my BA and MA there. After doing community work in Massachusetts I went to Union Theological Seminary in the fall of 2010. I then went on to complete a two-year chaplain residency at the level one trauma center in Seattle, Washington. I crisscrossed back across the country this past fall. I now serve as the palliative care chaplain at Hartford Hospital. I am a candidate for ordination in our Unitarian Universalist tradition and see the Ministerial Fellowship Committee this spring.



Plan ahead! March 20: Stewardship Sunday is coming up!

Rev. Heather Rion Starr will speak on our 2016-2017 Annual Budget Drive Theme of let's "Keep On Movin' Forward." What do YOU want to celebrate about your Unitarian Society of Hartford? What do you want to see flourish here in the year to come? What matters most to you that you want to help support? Our music staffing, our sanctuary, our social justice work, our facility, our dedicated 17 part-time staff (yes, we have 17 part-time

staff!), how we communicate about who we are to the larger Hartford region-- these are all things that depend upon your financial support. Come celebrate the resilience and vitality of this congregation and help us leap forward with confidence into the coming congregational year! **A Pancake Breakfast for All will precede the service; come prepared to fill out your pledge card for 2016-2017 and help us all move forward with gusto!**

Image: uu interfaith chalice www.pinterest.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.

March 6, 2016 Sunday Service Recap by Kayla Costenoble



Photos: Harriet Gardner

What Do You Leave at the Door? - Rev. Cathy strongly challenged the assumption that to be safe and to belong you "need to blend into some melting-

pot version of unity.” In her March 6, 2016, sermon, she urged us to widen our welcome so that those coming to the Meeting House don’t need to be assimilated but, instead, are respected for their point of view.

We have to learn that, instead of “projecting your culture on others,” we should value differences. Suggesting that her metaphor was somewhat different, she said rather than throwing out our melting-pot, we should replace it with a “tossed salad” where all the fundamentally different ingredients—such as the tomato and the broccoli—can hang out together.

Face to face encounters are important and are hard work, she said, where a variety of races, classes and those with other differences dares to ask uncomfortable questions. Our work together is to engage in authentic relationships and recognize the differences among us. Rev. Cathy quoted retired UU Rev. John H. Robinson, Jr., “...We come together but often feel alone. We come for fellowship but we hold back. We are certain—in our uncertainty. We are sure of ourselves—in our utter doubt. We are full of answers, but not to our real questions.” Rev. Cathy added that we should “take our differences and polish them into a bright rainbow of beauty.”

Many UUs feel marginalized and feel they don’t fit in, so they hide such things as not enough education or money, gender issues, addiction, depression, or despair, Rev. Cathy said. We have to find healthy ways to be a community together.

We were introduced to UU Rev. Marta Valentin through her poem “Waiting,” which she read in 2012 at the first UU Justice General Assembly. It evokes the ideas of acceptance and hope. Some words from it:

Step into the center
 come into the margins
 I will hold you there.
 Don’t look back or around
 Feel my arms, the water is rising...
 In this precious tiny space
 no words need to be whispered
 to tell us we are one.
 You and I we make this circle if we choose to.

We also heard those words from “Waiting” when the USH Choir sang the premier of this first piece written for us by our Composer-in-Residence Gala Flagello. Gala, a composer, singer, horn and piano player studying at Hartt, has been commissioned to write many compositions for groups and ensembles. Rev. Cathy introduced her to the congregation before her composition was sung as the service’s Anthem. One of the things that appealed to our co-ministers (both musicians themselves) as they were learning about the USH was having a composer-in-residence. “So cool,” said Rev. Cathy.

“I have come to enjoy determining my personal role in supporting my church,” long-time Unitarian (but relatively new to the USH) Nancy Johnson said during her Testimonial on behalf of the Stewardship Committee. Years ago, she knew she was where she belonged when she found a Unitarian youth group that talked about real things—such as “What would Jesus have thought of Roosevelt?” The church has been a wonderful support in her life, she said, sustaining her over many years of being “at the apex of controversy” and learning to embrace opposing views. Nancy strongly supports the USH’s goals of strengthening our music program, bringing the sanctuary into the 21st century and paying the staff more fairly. Note: Rev. Cathy told us that our annual increase of \$300 per pledging unit would get us to fully meet our goals for 2016-2017.

We continue to be delighted with the number of visitors who introduce themselves at our weekly Sunday services. This Sunday, we welcomed a UU group from Danbury.

RE News You Can Use! This week, there will be A Time For All Ages followed by an activity in the Fellowship Hall. The nursery will be available from 10:15-11:45AM for service. There is no after service childcare this week.

The 6th-8th grade World Religions class will meet at USH at 9:15AM and depart at 9:30AM to attend service with the Quakers in West Hartford. Please see the DRE for permission slips.

The DRE is also preparing now for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. If you are able to help prepare or help the day of, please let her know. Thanks. **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.



Church Business News

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

Music Staffing Update After over a year of discernment and work by the Music Transition Team, we are moving toward a permanent plan for staffing for our music ministries. The key recommendations coming out of the Music Transition Team were:

- **Variety:** The music program at USH should reflect a wide variety of musical styles and genres, in order to express the range of human experience and emotion, and help to connect people of different generations, differing tastes and varied backgrounds.

- **Participation:** There should be ample opportunities for congregants of all ages and all levels of musical ability to participate in music, beyond singing in the choir or simply singing hymns from the pews. In addition to participating as musicians during the service, such opportunities might include various instrumental groups such as drum circle, or UU Ukles, and special choral experiences such as chant, gospel, sing-alongs, etc.

- **Staffing:** Continue with 2 positions: a Choir Director and Accompanist, with increased hours and compensation.

We are delighted to share that Acting Choir Director Rebecca Pacuk will be staying on as our Choir Director (no more "Acting" in her title!). Sarah Puckett will be leaving us to pursue other opportunities, and her last day at USH will be March 20th. We wish Sarah the best! Pi-Hsun Shih will be our accompanist for the spring while we do a search for a permanent Accompanist to begin next fall.

Would you like to help ensure that we have terrific music staff next year? There are two ways you can help:

- 1) Spread the word about the search for an accompanist (stay tuned for a job announcement soon)
- 2) Pledge generously to support the increased funding to implement this plan. An annual average increase of \$300 per pledge unit will allow us to meet our goals.

HEARING USH PARENTS' PERSPECTIVES WHILE NOURISHING THEIR NEED TO GROW...

WE'RE GOING TO KEEP ON MOVING FORWARD...BRINGING USH INTO THE 21st CENTURY - A Stewardship Message

"Honey, there's an interesting discussion happening after coffee hour today."

"That's too bad."

"Why do you say that?"

"It would be nice to go, but who's going to watch Jacob and Ashley?"

"Oh... good point."

All too often, such is the conversation among parents of young children at USH. A rich discussion will begin soon, following an interesting presentation, and

parents want to go ... but what to do with the children? USH is extending child care following services during the first and third Sunday of each month in the hopes of involving more parents, along with all others, in the many interesting events/activities that often take place following services and coffee hour. The more varied the participants, the richer the conversation, the greater the potential for 'aha' moments, and most important, the more likely it is that our growing sense of community strengthens each week. By increasing your donation a bit, you help make possible the greater involvement of ALL communities within USH to become more involved, learn and grow ... beyond the service. Thank you for all that you do and give to make USH a flourishing community! - **Submitted by Gloria Mengual**

Election to Replace Retiring Board Members - From Your USH Nominating Committee:

Four Board members will be completing their terms on June 30th and the congregation will be voting on people to replace them during the Annual Meeting on May 15th.

- * John Brancato will complete his one-year term as President-Elect and become Board President.
- * Louise Schmoll will complete her service as Treasurer.
- * John Clapp will be stepping down as Chair of the Council on Administration.
- * Tina Davies will be stepping down as Chair of the Council on Community Within.

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

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**



2016 Winter/Spring Programs for Adults and Families
USH Calendar of Events: www.ushartford.com/events/

Plan to stop by the Programs Table Sunday to sign up for one of these programs or to find out about other Winter/Spring programs offered at USH:

A new offering – The Guru In You – Experiencing the Transcendent Self, facilitated by Judy Robbins and Rick

Tsukada, will begin Wednesday, March 30. The next Saturday Morning Salon: What Moves Us is March 26 and a Small Group Ministry, Transitions, will start Saturday, 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:

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

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

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

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.

Great Decisions: First and Third Sundays, 9:00 – 10:00 AM.

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

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

Tai Chi: Wednesdays, 5:30 – 7:00 PM.

Emei Qigong: Tuesdays, Beginning Learners: 6:15 PM, Cultivation, 6:30 PM, Deeper Learning and Understanding: 7:15 PM. Contact Diana Heymann(860-461-0908).

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

Contact Diana Heymann (860-461-0908).

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

Authentic Connection & Communication:

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

**The USH Book Club Meets on the first Thursdays of the month
From 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM**

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

Upcoming Books:

NEXT: 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

Great Decisions

March 20 - 9:00 In Servetus

The Future of Kurdistan – Jean and Richard Groothuis,
Discussants - Kurdistan, a mountainous region made up
of parts of Turkey, Iraq, Iran and Syria, is home to one of
the largest ethnic groups in West Asia: the Kurds. Now,
most in the West know them for the small, oil-rich



autonomous region in northern Iraq called Iraqi Kurdistan—one of the U.S.' closest allies in the Middle East, and a bulwark against the expansion of the so-called Islamic State. What does the success of Iraqi Kurdistan mean for Kurds in the surrounding region? **Image: fpa.org -Submitted by Ed Savage**

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
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. Class is limited to 10 and we strongly encourage attendance at all sessions. 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

**Unitarian Society of Hartford Performing Arts
50 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105**

MARCH 20th, SAY FAREWELL TO SARAH PUCKETT - Join us at noon, immediately after the service on March 20th, for a short concert of vocal and piano music. It's our opportunity to hear Acting Accompanist Sarah Puckett play the stunning Haydn Sonata in Eb Major, as well as accompany classical and Broadway songs featuring our bass Choral Scholar Andrew Schad, mezzo-soprano Patrice Fitzgerald, and baritone Richard Leslie.

A goodwill offering of \$15 is suggested, with all proceeds going to the USH General Fund and matched by an anonymous donor. Please come to thank Sarah for her work here at the Meeting House and to wish her well as she moves on to new opportunities.



**JACQUES LAMARRE HAS DONE IT AGAIN! WORLD PREMIERE PLAY READING ON SATURDAY, APRIL 16th AT 7:30
BETTY JO'S FAN CLUB**

A new comedy by Jacques Lamarre
Starring Virginia Wolf

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

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

The final event of the 2015-2016 Performing Arts season! Don't miss it.

"CONCERT PRO FEMINA" A GRAND SUCCESS!

On March 5th we had some outstanding performers present glorious music, all written by women. A spellbinding rendition of French composer Paule Maurice's "Tableaux de Provence" by husband-and-wife duo Tony Gibbs on saxophone and Benita Rose on piano was a highlight. The last set was something different for this typically classical concert--vocalist Nicole Grondahl sang some Adele and Dolly Parton, wrapping up with Carol King's "Natural Woman," accompanied by her husband Jeff on Chapman Stick.

Thirty-plus people attended, and as we look toward the last two events of the Performing Arts year, we are pleased to know that the proceeds from this series will be doubled by our anonymous donor, to the benefit of the USH General Fund.



Patrice Fitzgerald for the Performing Arts Sub-Council

Upcoming Special Events and Other News

Memorial Reception for Roy Cook - April 2 - 11:00 AM - Can you bring some type of finger food for the reception following Roy's Memorial Service? We expect a large crowd and your donation would be greatly appreciated. Cookies, bars, quick bread, cheese/crackers, veggies, fruit platters are all great choices. We will be making sandwiches beginning at 9:00 that morning and would love to have 3-4 helpers. Please let Louise Schmol, Nancy Reed or Janice Newton know if you can assist us. Food contributions should be labeled with the ingredients. Please avoid peanuts. Thank you! - **Submitted by Janice Newton**

The USH Wish List

Hello Everyone!

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

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

New collapsible functional easels

1 Coat rack tree

Staples gift cards



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

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

Your donation can be dropped off at First Congregational Church in Bloomfield, where volunteers are available on Tuesdays 9 am - 11 am and Wednesdays 5pm - 7 pm

Currently, here are some of the categories needed:

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

KITCHEN : drinking glasses, pots & pans, kitchen table & chairs, etc.

LIVING ROOM: Side tables, TV stand, TV

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

Click on this link for more information:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/15Bp2543RoIXYcspzKI8kSktCGTk_jFCdpGdbt1OPLbU/edit - **Submitted by Ed Savage**

Refugee Resettlement Update (Interfaith Refugee Resettlement Committee IRRC) - We all know of the global refugee crisis -- over nineteen million refugees worldwide, four million people driven from their homes in Syria alone, over one million fleeing to Europe in just the last year, little children drowning in their family's desperate effort to find a safer place. None of us can solve the refugee crisis; it's too big and too far away. But this doesn't mean there is nothing we can do about it.

Information on the Refugee Family: The specifics of who is in the family, the ages, the number of individuals, and any special needs is not known until about two weeks before the family arrives. Most of the families are coming from the Middle East, Africa, and Central America. Characteristically families have been in refugee camps for two to three years. The screening process which clears these families for resettlement in the United States is rigorous and usually takes two or more years. Families are interviewed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and then interviewed further by the Department of Homeland Security and subjected to security checks through finger printing and interviews by the CIA, the FBI, and the Defense Department. Finger prints are cross checked with the intelligence agencies of other nations. A medical exam is conducted to make sure communicable diseases are not present. Only if all these steps are passed is a family approved for resettlement. The family arrives fully documented, authorized to work, and can become citizens in five years.

IRRC consists of a committed group of volunteers from:

The First Congregational Church in Bloomfield
The Bloomfield Muslim Community Center

The Unitarian Society of Hartford
 The Bloomfield Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints
 The First Church of Windsor
 The Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford
 The Flagg Road UCC in West Hartford
 Old St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Bloomfield

In addition, there are individuals at Seabury and at Duncaster supporting the IRRRC.

At USH, our Board voted to support this effort and we have 12 individuals working with many from the other groups.

Please contact Richard Groothuis, Mike Winterfield or Vanessa Gonzalez Rivera should you wish to be part of and/or contribute to this vital effort that supports so many of our principles. - Submitted by Richard Groothuis



DO YOU LOVE BOOKS? LOVE A PROJECT? WANT TO VOLUNTEER ON YOUR OWN SCHEDULE? - Consider whether or not helping reenergize the USH Library might be just the right project for you. Now that the USH Archives have been moved from the Meeting House Library into the Margaret

Fuller Room, there are shelves available in the Library for expanding and growing our Library into truly being a Community & Congregational Library. Think of the books we could solicit, organize, and make available for checkout. Take a look at the books already there that would benefit from being sorted through, showcased, highlighted, and discussed. Help to make the Meeting House Library truly a library! If this is something you'd be interested in working on, individually or as a small team, please let Rev. Heather know at revheather@ushartford.com or 541-390-6052. There's no stress about this, it's just one of those things that could use a dedicated and creative presence (or two or three) to help us enliven and make better use of the marvelous Meeting House space.

ART NEWS

Who knew that we had a creative and prolific collage artist in our midst?! Maggie Greene will be sharing her intriguing Soul-Collage art during the month of March. Hopefully others may be inspired to try collage...no age or gender limitations!

-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.dpcalc.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 March 23th at 10am. This will be a work date to continue to sort new material and weed out duplicates. Please join us to help out or learn more information.

Seeking Chalice Lighters!

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



If you haven't lit the chalice before, please plan to arrive by 10:10am so we can show you the routine before the service begins.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050b45a5ae2baa8-chalice>

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 \[at\] gmail \[dot\] com](mailto: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.



Cluster Connections 2016



"We Are Stronger Together"

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

Hello Leadership of CT UU Congregations (especially Board Members),

I am writing to let you know that there are 2 sessions that will be happening on our April 9th event that you may have particular interest in.

G-2 "Board President Roundtable Pick-Up Discussion" 2:30 - 3:30
 Anita Sanders - Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Bridgeport
 This facilitated discussion will be an opportunity for Board Presidents to meet each other and talk about important issues their congregations are dealing with and to foster support and connection among the congregations' leaders.

About the facilitator: Anita Sanders is currently the President of the Board at UUCGB in Stratford CT, a lay led congregation for the past 5 years. She has also been Treasurer, on the Board for the last 6 years.

For those congregations that have an interest in Policy Governance, we have this session:

A-2 "Leadership in the Age of Policy Governance" 10:15 - 12:15

Bart Stuck – Unitarian Church in Westport

Unitarian Universalist congregations are moving toward policy self-governance.

This workshop will employ Socratic methods to define what leadership means and is necessary for policy governance. The congregation role (its Mission and Principles), the Board of Trustees role in specifying policy (Constitution and Bylaws), the Ministerial and administrative role in executing policy governance (Governance Policies for Committees), the Committee on Ministry role in assessing the correct policies and execution of those policies representing the congregation, and the role of the UUA in supporting all of this will be explored.

About the presenter: Bart Stuck has been a member of The Unitarian Church in Westport CT since 2001. He is a member of its Nominating and Leadership Development Committee. The Unitarian Church is now three years into implementing policy governance. Bart was a Delegate to the 2015 UUA General Assembly in Portland OR.

If you are in leadership, please consider attending the event to make connections with other congregations that are most likely experiencing similar situations and challenges. Having been Board President myself last year, I know that I would have found it helpful to have a forum to discuss issues with other congregational leaders in my area. For more information about the event and the other 15 sessions that will be offered, please visit our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CTUUCcluster2016>. Registration is required and will be open until March 28th. **To register, please go to:**

<https://clusterconnections2016.eventzilla.net>. Kind regards, Mary Donohue, Cluster Connections Team – USNH This transformative event will be an opportunity for UU congregations in Connecticut to gather together to strengthen our UU community and identify ways to support each other. The program is listed below and can also be found at

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

Registration IS NOW OPEN!!!

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

Registration closes on March 26, so sign up soon! For more information on the schedule of activities, please check out our Facebook page at

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

Unitarian Society of New Haven,

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

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

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

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

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

Thank you! Linda Clark, Office Administrator

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

(Cut and Paste from the E news will work)

Put in the Subject: 'Calendar'

Event Title:

Room:

Time:

Date(s):

Contact Person:

A Short Description:

Cost: (if applicable)

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

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

The 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.