



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

USH-Enews ~ February 22, 2017  
Worshipping Together Since 1830  
Sunday Service 10:30 AM  
Revs. Cathy & Heather Rion Starr



Image provided by Carolyn Patierno

**Worship Service: Sunday, February 26, 2017 ~ 10:30 AM ~ “Reverence: Because We Are Not Gods” ~ Rev. Carolyn Patierno, Pulpit Guest ~ Margaret Leicach, Worship Associate** ~ Reverence is an old-time kind of virtue – and its time has come again. In these challenging times when we are called to live more courageously, how may reverence be for us nourishment at the well?” ~ Carolyn Patierno

Carolyn Patierno has served All Souls / New London since 2001. In 2012, All Souls was recognized as a Breakthrough Congregation by the UUA. She has

served the Clara Barton District Chapter of the UU Ministers Association in a number of leadership roles as well as serving on the General Assembly (GA) Planning Committee and the GA Worship Arts Team.

### **All About Parental Leave**

**Braden bell Rion Starr, was born Friday morning, February 10, at 7:17 AM.** Rev. Heather will be back at half-time in mid-March through mid-April, then she will be full-time Mid-April through mid-May. Rev. Cathy will be out for 3 months and will return in mid-May. Thanks for respecting their privacy while they get to know their new little one. Your help with meals starting February 21st, is appreciated. See the Take Them A Meal link in this E-News or talk with Deb Meny to sign up.

### **Parental Leave Team Contacts**

While Reverends Cathy and Heather are both on parental leave, members of the Parental Leave Team will be available to field your questions. Please don't hesitate to contact us and we will do our best to get you a prompt response or refer you to the person who can help.

**General information:** Martha Bradley, marthabradley49@yahoo.com, call or text, 860-305-3307 (Martha will be visiting her son in Arizona from Feb.16 to Mar 6. If you want to contact her by phone, please allow for the 3 hours earlier time difference for Arizona. Thanks.)

**Pastoral Care:** Eve Pech, elpech@sbcglobal.net, 860-379-5035. Rev. Erica Richmond, our Affiliated Community Minister, will be on call for pastoral emergencies, ef.richmond@gmail.com, 617-997-1216.

**Business or Building:** Phil Gardner, gardnerpj@comcast.net, 860-313-4455

**Worship:** Sue Smolski, sue.smolski@gmail.com, 860-280-7250.

If you have a joy or sorrow in your life that you'd like shared with the congregation during a Sunday service, please contact both Eve Pech and Sue Smolski.

**Rayla Mattson is our Rentals Manager. For new rental requests to use space at USH, please contact her at: dre@ushartford.com or 860-839-5001. For Rates and Rental Application, go here.**

**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.

### **In This Week's Enews:**

Sunday Service Recap | RE News You Can Use  
 Church Business News  
 New England and General Assemblies Approaching  
 Performing Arts at USH

2017 Programs for Adults and Families  
 Focus: Resistance is Daily Practice  
 Upcoming Special Events and Other News  
 How We Can Help the Rion Starr Family During Parental Leave

Upcoming Special Events & News in the Larger Community  
 Hartford Stage "Absolute Brightness" Tickets Available!

Missed Last Week's Enews? Click Below:  
<http://www.ushartford.com/nourishing-spirit/newsletters/>  
 See Articles and News for USH and the Surrounding Area you may have missed  
 or find a link on the USH Facebook Page Here.

Check out our Online Calendar for Upcoming Events:  
<http://www.ushartford.com/events/>

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

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

### **Sunday Service Recap ~ February 19, 2017 ~ "Creating What We Need"**





**Photos: Harriet Gardner**

As part of the CT UU Preachers' Series, Rev. Erica Richmond, the USH Affiliated Community Minister, led the service this past Sunday, while Revs Heather and Cathy are on parental leave. Carolyn Halsted was kind enough to fill in as accompanist for Isaac Reguera.

Kayla Costenoble would like to share the Sunday Service Recap reporting. She was not at USH on February 19: Are there any budding writers who are interested in submitting the Sunday Service Recap? If there are, please contact Linda Clark at [ushlindaclark@gmail.com](mailto:ushlindaclark@gmail.com). Thank you.



**RE News You Can Use!** ~ This Sunday, February 26, the nursery will be available from 10:50-11:45AM for morning worship. There will be a Time For All Ages followed by age appropriate classes.

The DRE is still looking for two more families to play host in March. I am hosting a training here and some of my colleagues would like to stay with someone if possible instead of in a hotel. The stay over would be for March 3rd. Please contact the DRE if you can open your home for one evening.

For the first time in many years, we will be hosting OWL (Our Whole Lives) for our 7th-9th graders. The DRE is looking for another teacher who identifies as he/him to attend the 2 day facilitator training. If you would be interested in taking the training and leading OWL next year, please contact the DRE.

**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.**



**FUNDrive** ~ Please support the Religious Education Program at USH  
 Donate clothing and household goods from March 1st – 10th  
 Community members are invited to donate gently-used clothing and household items at the Unitarian Society of Hartford FUNDrive, to be held March 1st-10th...  
 For more info. click [HERE](#).

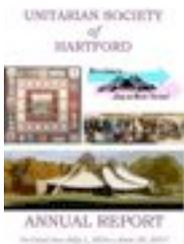
### **The Power to Make a Difference in this World: The Children's March**

Youth ages 10 and older are invited to the showing of the Academy Award-winning documentary *The Children's March*. The showing of this film, followed by small group discussions about what it is that each youth can do to make a difference in this world, will take place on Saturday, February 25, from 4:00 – 6:30 pm at the Unitarian Society of Hartford.

For youth who attend, a meal will be provided, along with the film and discussion. So that sufficient food can be ordered, anyone interested in having their child attend needs to RSVP. Please email Gloria Francesca Mengual at [gloriafmengual@gmail.com](mailto:gloriafmengual@gmail.com) if you plan to have your child attend the February 25 film showing, meal and discussion.

"If we are to reach real peace in this world, and if we are to carry on a real war against war, we shall have to begin with the children." ~Mahatma Gandhi, peacemaker ~ **Submitted by Gloria Francesca Mengual**

### **Church Business News**



#### **2017 Annual Report Submissions:**

Hello all, I sent an email reminder to everyone who will be submitting a report this year. If you did not receive this reminder but will be sending a report, please contact Linda Clark at [ushlindaclark\(at sign\)gmail.com](mailto:ushlindaclark(at sign)gmail.com) or call 860-233-9897. Below is an excerpt from the email reminder:

"It's time to begin collecting submissions for the 2016-2017 Annual Report which will be distributed prior to the Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 21, 2017. \*The deadline for submissions is Sunday, April 23, 2017. This will enable us to have the reports available the Sunday before the meeting on May 14. Earlier is greatly appreciated. Please send in a separate email with 'Annual Report -the Title of Report-' in the Subject.- ~ **Thank you, Linda Clark, Office Administrator**



#### **New England Regional Assembly:**

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

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

**General Assembly 2017, June 21-25, New Orleans, LA** ~ General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. Anyone may attend; congregations must certify annually to send voting delegates.

Planning has begun for General Assembly 2017 at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, 900 Convention Center Blvd, New Orleans, LA 70130. [Google Map](#). By going to New Orleans, we can both celebrate our successes and recommit to the relationships that have been forged with this community. For more info. go [HERE](#). **Please let John Brancato, USH President, and Revs. Cathy and Heather know if you are able to attend!**



## 2017 Programs for Adults and Families

During fellowship hour on Sunday, sign-ups for the March Pizza and Movie Night will be taken at the Programs Table. If you're interested in reading more about Unitarian Universalism, you may want to stop by and look at what's available in the Book Cart located next to the Programs Table. The \$5.00 registration fee for Small Group Ministry can also be paid at the Programs Table.

The Winter Spring 2017 Programs for Adults and Families catalog is now available online. Go to <http://www.ushartford.com/>. At the top of the page, click on Building Community and then Adult & Family

Programs. In the bottom right corner, click on Current Adult Programs Catalog. You may call Janice Newton (860.677.1121) or email her at [janicecnewton\(at sign\)gmail.com](mailto:janicecnewton(at sign)gmail.com) to register or for program information.

### Programs

USH Book Club: Thursday, March 2, 5:30.

Small Group Ministry: Mondays, 7:00 – 9:00 PM, starting March 6. (waiting list)

Friday Pizza and Movie Night: March 10, 5:15 PM, featuring "Don Juan DeMarco".

Faith and Living – An Interfaith Journey: Contact Tom Gervais at [tom.j.gervais@gmail.com](mailto:tom.j.gervais@gmail.com) or 860-558-3000 for dates; time: 7:30 – 9:00 PM.

Small Group Ministry: Thursday, 2:00 – 4:00 PM, starting March 16. (waiting list)

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

Tai Chi: Wednesdays, 5:30 – 7:00 PM.

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

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

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

**Family Friendly Small Group Ministry is offered for Spring**

**2017!** This group will meet at the Meetinghouse starting March 24, 2017. Group members will gather in Fellowship Hall at 6 PM to share a simple supper. Childcare will be available at no extra charge. There may be a shared food cost, depending on what the group decides to do about supper. It could be pizza with salad or potluck. The adults will go depart to a different room for the Small Group Ministry (SGM) portion of the program from 7 to 8:30 pm. The children will stay with the childcare providers for their own activities. There will be a total of six sessions facilitated by Gloria Mengual. There is a \$5 registration fee.



Register at the Programs Table during Fellowship Hour or contact Janice Newton at JanicecNewton(at sign)gmail.com, phone 860-677-1121. For more information, call Esther McKone at estmckone(at sign)aol.com, phone 860-677-6682.



**Daytime Small Group Ministry in West Hartford  
Thursday afternoons beginning March 16, 2017  
2:00 – 4:00 PM      8 sessions**

This SGM will meet in the afternoons, 2 pm til 4 pm. The group will practice deep sharing and deep listening inspired by specially selected readings and questions. If you've never been in a covenant group before, this is your opportunity to join one! Get to know who is showing up at Sunday services and make connections with friends and members of USH. There is a \$5 registration fee. The group will be facilitated by Martha Bradley at the Bradley home, 44 Huntington Drive, West Hartford. The location is accessible and near the Meeting House. Register at the Programs Table or by contacting Janice Newton (860-677-1121 or janicecnewton(at sign)gmail.com). For additional information about Small Group Ministry, contact: Esther McKone - estmckone(at sign)aol.com or Bill Shoemaker - wshoemaker17(at sign)comcast.net **Group size limited to 10. -Submitted by Esther McKone**



**Faith and Living** is a 3-session interfaith discussion group that will include members from Faith Congregational Church, Congregation Beth Israel, The Islamic Association of Greater Hartford, and The Unitarian Society of Hartford. Participants will define / discuss their faith and its impact on their lives. Participants will take a very deliberate look at who they are, what they believe, and who they, individually and collectively, can become. March to May. **Please contact Tom Gervais at [tom.j.gervais@gmail.com](mailto:tom.j.gervais@gmail.com) or 860-558-3000 for dates; time: 7:30 to 9:00 PM.**



**ILLUSION OR DELUSION?  
DINNER & MOVIE,  
FRIDAY, MARCH 10**

"Iconoclastic acting by Marlon Brando, Johnny Depp and Faye Dunaway elevate this likable comedy about love, illusion and delusion. . . ."

"Affirms romantic love as a candle that must constantly be relit by wonder, devotion and creativity." "Don Juan DeMarco is a 1995 American romantic comedy-drama film starring Johnny Depp as John Arnold DeMarco, a man who believes himself to be Don Juan, the greatest lover in the world. Clad in a cape and domino mask, DeMarco undergoes psychiatric treatment with Marlon Brando's character, Dr. Jack Mickler, to cure him of his apparent delusion."\*\* You can watch a trailer here: <https://youtu.be/AteQZ7q6rtA>.

We will show this fascinating movie with a stellar cast on Friday, March 10. We will follow the usual time schedule, with popcorn and libations at 5:30, pizza and salad at 6, movie at 7, followed by optional discussion. You may reserve (\$10 each) at the Programs Table during Sunday Coffee Hour or call Janice (leave a message at 860-677-1121) by Wednesday, March 8. Specify your choice of meat or vegetable pizza toppings. If you have reserved but find you cannot attend, please leave a voice message by noon on movie day (860-380-7062 - no texting), so the pizza order can be adjusted. \* from Rotten Tomatoes website \*\* from Wikipedi **-Submitted by Nita H.**

**2nd Principle Things You Can Do** ~ Rev. Heather continues building & deepening "Focus: Resistance is Daily Practice" Each day I must choose to focus my energies. Each day I will take actions of resistance to tyranny & oppression; I will engage in acts of self-care & perseverance; I will reach out and connect with other human beings in building meaningful relationships. Will you join me? If you use Facebook, type the group name: "Focus: Resistance..." into your Search box and ask to join the group. If you'd like to be added by e-mail, e-mail RevHeather at [revheather@ushartford.com](mailto:revheather@ushartford.com) with "Would like to join Focus!" in your subject heading. For all of us: we are in this mess together. People are seeking out this congregation as a basecamp for connection, direction, relationship-building, solace, and clear ways to organize action. Your support for the work of this congregation is crucial right now. Perhaps more than ever, and

certainly more than in recent years, people need this congregation as a conduit-- a way to respond, make sense out of things, find community, build resilience and strength during difficult times. Let us support one another earnestly, now and in the days ahead. **Warmly—Rev. Heather, [revheather@ushartford.com](mailto:revheather@ushartford.com), cell/text: 541-390-6052, on Facebook & Twitter**



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

**Suggested donation:** Lawn sign - \$20  
Window sign – \$3 - Car sign – \$1

## The signs are in!

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






### PEOPLES CLIMATE MARCH ON THE NATIONAL MALL, APRIL 29!

At a time when it is crucial for the world to rapidly escalate policies and programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, the Trump administration is threatening to deliberately undermine these efforts. The march will send a

signal that the American public demands rational, urgent action grounded in climate science -- not retreat based on fossil-fuel industry propaganda. The USH Green Sanctuary Committee hopes to get enough USH participants to fill a bus. (Or two?) Open to members, families and friends. So mark your calendars and speak to anyone on the Green Sanctuary sub council to add your name(s). For more information go to [Peoplesclimate.org](http://Peoplesclimate.org) ~ **-Submitted by Peter Magistri**

## Upcoming Performing Arts Series at USH

### Performing Arts Group - Please join us to plan next year's slate!

All are welcome to a brief meeting in Emerson on Sunday, February 26th, at noon, to talk about the newly-forming Performing Arts Group Events sub-council - PAGE. We have lots of possibilities bubbling... do you want to see a rowdy concert, a drum performance, a poetry slam, a theatrical production, or something else we've never done? Let's fill this fabulous Meeting House and bring in all kinds of talent and lots of enthusiastic folks to see what we have to offer. We would love to have your thoughts! ~ **Submitted by Patrice**

**Fitzgerald**



### **\*UPCOMING PERFORMING ARTS EVENTS\* at USH**

#### **Mark your calendars now**

The USH Performing Arts program is still alive and well, even if you haven't heard much from us recently! Here are some planned concerts as well as additional events we hope to

schedule:

#### **Concert Pro Femina - Saturday, March 4th, 7:30 p.m.**

Presenting music composed by women, including beautiful Rebecca Clarke pieces for viola and piano, a piano solo by USH friend and former accompanist Carolyn Halsted, and a work for flute and piano by Chinese composer Chen Yi. Admission is free, with a goodwill offering of \$15 suggested, which will go to the USH General Fund.

#### **Women Composers Festival - Young Choirs - Sunday, April 2nd, 1:00 p.m.**

This concert is slated to feature two children's choirs (Children's Chorus of Springfield and one of the choirs from the Hartt Community Division) and two young adult choirs (Saecula Women's Choir, which is the alumnae division of the United Girls Choir of CT, and one of UConn's a cappella groups, Drop the Bass). Admission is free, with a goodwill offering of \$20 suggested. No one will be turned away.

#### **The Bill of Rights - Saturday, May 20th, 7:30 p.m.**

A choral presentation, accompanied by orchestra, of an exciting work by Wesleyan Professor Neely Bruce which features the entire text of the Bill of Rights. Proceeds will go to a non-profit organization.

#### **"You Gotta Have Hartt" - Sunday post-service concert on a date to be**

**determined.** In support of the Music Program, our Hartt Choral Scholars and USH Accompanist Isaac Reguera will sing and play beautiful music of their own choosing. Come and listen to our wonderful artists so we can afford them again next year!

**The Meeting House Folk - Date to be determined.** USH's home-grown group of singers and strummers will get the chance to put on a full concert featuring rocking favorites and folk ballads--and you'll have a chance to jump in and sing too.

**Family Share Talent/No Talent Show - Sunday post-service event on a date to be determined.** Looking for willing performers of any caliber who can dance, juggle, tell jokes, or otherwise entertain us. Children especially welcome!

**Jazz & Broadway Cabaret - Sunday post-service event on a date to be determined.** Patrice and Richard will gift the congregation with a concert of sizzling jazz and Broadway showstoppers before they say bon voyage and take off to parts unknown. No charge... any offerings will go to the USH General Fund.

Watch this space for further announcements of when these events will take place! And please be in touch with [PatriceFitzgerald@gmail.com](mailto:PatriceFitzgerald@gmail.com) if you'd like to be part of the new Performing Arts Group Events which is now forming and is full of ideas. We want to have a lively slate of events for the 2017-2018 church year.  
-Submitted by Patrice Fitzgerald

### **Upcoming Special Events and Other News**



**Stories and Faces of The Village for Families and Children** ~ This Sunday from 11:30-12:30 a staff member from The Village for Families and Children will be showing a video in Fellowship Hall; stories of children and families whose lives have been directly affected by The Village. Come view The Village "up close and personal", this week after the service for a moving experience. This new perspective lets USH members see who your efforts, caring and support have helped. ~ **Submitted by Joanne Orlando**



**Greater Hartford Cohousing**  
Community – Sustainability – Life Enhancement

### **CO-HOUSING PROJECT SEEKS NEW MEMBERS**

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

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

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

Legally and financially our project will be structured as a condominium. Unlike a conventional condominium, however, we seek to build the community first and engage members in the project, both as early equity investors and as designers. These early joiners will become co-creators of their co-housing community. For further information on co-housing see [www.cohousing.org](http://www.cohousing.org)

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

We plan to introduce our community in two informal meetings: on Sunday, March 12 at the Unitarian Society of Hartford at 12:00 PM, Under the Stairs, and on Sunday, March 19 at the home of Toni Gold, 96 Kenyon Street at 7:00 PM. We look forward to seeing you at one of these meetings.

Toni Gold, Hartford, 860-232-9018, [toniagold@gmail.com](mailto:toniagold@gmail.com)  
Susan and LeRoy Spaniol, Bloomfield, 860-216-1392, [sspaniol@comcast.net](mailto:sspaniol@comcast.net)  
Martha Bradley, West Hartford, 860-305-3307, [marthabradley49@yahoo.com](mailto:marthabradley49@yahoo.com)

**-Submitted by Toni Gold**

**Repaid: Kiva Loan by the 3-5th grade students at USH**

Total loan: \$5,100 Powered by 160 lenders Grupo Agrícola Xejuyup 1 Group Solola, Guatemala / Agriculture

A loan of \$5,100 helped a member to pay laborers and buy supplies for her farming business. Grupo Agrícola Xejuyup 1 Group's story

Antonia, 36, makes every effort to ensure that her lovely family lacks for nothing. She tells us that she used a past loan to pay laborers and buy supplies for her banana farming business. The investment helped her to bring in a good crop, increase her earnings and even buy more land. She is applying for a new loan through her community bank that she will use to maintain her coffee crop. She will pay laborers and buy the supplies she needs to ensure a good yield. Her greatest hope for the future is to improve her family's quality of life.

In this group: Antonia, Juana, Manuela. This loan is special because:

It supports rural agriculturalists in the highlands of Guatemala.

**New Kiva Loan for 3-5th grade students at USH**

29 days left / \$2,150 to go / Total loan: \$3,300  
Rio De Agua Viva Tululche Group

Chiche, El Quiche, Guatemala , Guatemala / Animal Sales

A loan of \$3,300 helps a member to buy 3 pigs, 40 goats and feed so that she can fatten them up to sell. Rio De Agua Viva Tululche Group's story  
The Friendship Bridge Trust Bank "Rio de Agua Viva Tululche" was formed by nine ladies in Santa Cruz El Quiché. These women share a common vision of investing and expanding their animal husbandry businesses. They are beginning their first loan with Kiva. The members of the Trust Bank meet monthly to make payments on their loans and participate in educational trainings that teach them about being empowered, having a voice, caring for themselves and their families. They also acquire essential business skills like budgeting, planning and savings. The combination of loans and education is called "Microcredit Plus". Maria, the 19-year-old Secretary of the Trust Bank, has a fourth grade education. She has a small ranchito where she raises chickens, pigs, sheep and cattle. She is requesting a loan to buy 3 pigs, 40 goats and feed so that she can fatten them up to sell. Her goals are to expand the business and increase sales. She wants her two-year-old son to have a successful future with a good standard of living. Thank you, Kiva investors, for your interest in Maria and her friends in the Trust Bank. They are stepping into a brighter future with lots more possibilities for success!

In this group: Encarnacion , Maria , Juana , Micaela , Maria , Manuela , Tomasa , Micaela , Julia

This loan is special because:

Clients receive in-depth trainings on business, health, over-indebtedness, and self-esteem. **-Submitted by Diana Heymann**



USH is helping to launch a statewide residential solar program for members of houses of worship who own their homes. Our USH "Solarize With Faith" effort kicks off March 5 (part of our Congregational Clean Energy Campaign)

**Why go solar?**

- \* You are committed to addressing climate change
- \* You want to reduce your long-term energy costs
- \* You want to invest in a livable planet ~ **Submitted by Jeff Howard**

**U  
USH  
&  
YOU**

**A Path to Membership**

**4 Sunday sessions**  
(Jan 29, Feb 5, Mar 5, Apr 2)  
**12:00-1:30 pm**

Followed up with a **Membership Sunday on Apr 23**

Join us in our four-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 these sessions.

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



### How We Can Help Revs Cathy, Heather and Robin During Parental Leave!

The Rev's personal food info and meal calendar is online at [TakeThemAMeal.com](http://TakeThemAMeal.com). Their personal site is under the name Rion Starr with the password 6152 which has everything we need to know - and more! Cathy is severely allergic to peanuts and peanut oil, so please make sure there is no interaction with peanuts in the food you prepare. Robin is gluten-sensitive

so they prefer gluten-free versions of entrees.

They live at 113 Washington Circle, the little circle-street off Park Road in West Hartford.

**Thank you so much for helping. -Submitted by Deb Meny**

### Weekly Reminders:



In The Library  
@ The Meeting House

RSVP to  
[adambrown6@gmail.com](mailto:adambrown6@gmail.com)

Every Sunday after worship – 12:00 PM

## 20s/30s Sunday Brunch

The 20's/30's Group is hosting a weekly potluck brunch Sundays at noon. It's open to existing members, friends, newcomers, and visitors in their 20's and 30's. Members and guests are encouraged to bring something to share. - Adam Brown (860) 847-0940

*We look forward to seeing you!*

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

**(If you'd like to help out in the office during the week, please contact Linda Clark).**



**Do you love to sing?** Have you ever thought about joining the USH Choir? Well now is the year to turn that thought into a reality! The USH Choir is a fun way to make beautiful music with some truly incredible people. Best of all, this year we are rehearsing on Sunday mornings at 9 am before church, with only one weeknight rehearsal per month, drastically limiting the time commitment needed to participate. If you have ever considered joining our group, we would love to have you come to laugh and sing together! **If you have any questions or would simply like more information, please feel free to contact our Choir Director Rebecca Pacuk at [rgpacuk@gmail.com](mailto:rgpacuk@gmail.com). (Formal music training is not required).**



### **The USH Wish List**

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

A Folding Lightweight Table to use at various events

2 Floor Length Mirrors

New collapsible functional easels

Staples gift cards

Please contact Linda Clark at [ushlindaclark@gmail.com](mailto: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.

The Archives Team is hard at work and has added this to the USH Wish List: Shelving for Worship Arts and Archives for organizing the materials stored in the Fuller room. Our materials in there are overflowing the available shelving and cabinets. This will allow us to better use the limited floor space that is available.

We are looking for two more metal units just like the six foot, six-shelf one in there now. No casters. Brand HDX, model 6T60184872C, stock number 100655787, or equivalent. ~ **Thank You, Larry Lunden, on behalf of the Archives Team.**

Upcoming Special Events and News in the Larger Community

**GOING BEYOND THE NUCLEAR:**  
Raising Non-Traditional Families in Connecticut

A panel discussion inspired by *Cloud 9*  
**MONDAY, FEB. 27, 7:30 PM**  
at Hartford Stage  
50 Church St. Hartford, CT

**HARTFORD STAGE**

**PANELISTS**

Donna Warren, Julia Rosenblatt, Cedric Wesley

The poster features silhouettes of diverse families holding hands at the top. Below the title, it provides event details and three headshots of the panelists: Donna Warren, Julia Rosenblatt, and Cedric Wesley.

**When:** Monday, February 27, 2017

**Time:** 7:30 p.m.

**Where:** Hartford Stage, 50 Church St, Hartford, CT

Rayla Mattson, Director of Religious Education, will be representing USH

For more info. go [HERE](#).

**THE ABSOLUTE BRIGHTNESS OF LEONARD PELKEY**

The logo features the title in a colorful, multi-colored font. Below the text is a silhouette of a crowd of people, with one person in the center highlighted in a bright yellow glow.



**USH Members & Friends, all of you who are reading this--**we have a special opportunity coming up to attend a Hartford Stage production at a discount. Please take advantage of this opportunity to get into Hartford and enjoy some theater! Call the Hartford Stage Box Office now, at 860-527-5151, to book your seats, using the coupon code below.

Absolute Brightness is about the disappearance of Leonard Pelkey, a flamboyant 14-year-old who has been bullied by his peers. Critically-acclaimed actor and writer James Lecesne (I Am My Own Wife at Hartford Stage, the writer of the Academy Award-winning Trevor) portrays a tough New Jersey detective, a withdrawn teenage girl, a brusque yet gentle hairdresser and a dozen other intriguing characters as they join forces to solve a mystery that will forever change their lives. The New Yorker called it "A whodunit with a heart of gold." Enjoy this "sneak peek": <https://youtu.be/8dPCzrM3gRQ>

Use code USH20 to purchase tickets online or by calling the box office. When you select a seat, you will have 3 price options to choose from (adult, college or youth 18 and under only). A standard \$2 facility fee will be added to each ticket price (but not the handling fee). Please note that this coupon code does not guarantee that there will be tickets available--they can still sell out, so call now!

The valid dates and times for using our USH20 code are:

April 2 (7:30 pm performance only)  
 April 5 (7:30 pm performance only)  
 April 7 (8:00 pm performance only)  
 April 8 (2 pm performance only)  
 April 9 (2 pm performance only)

Enjoy this special opportunity to see a Hartford Stage production, and look forward to a service focusing on the Absolute Brightness story here at the Unitarian Society of Hartford on April 2! Building resilience is a collective, community-deepening effort. Join us in deepening our Hartford collaborations!

**Patrisse Cullors, Co-founder, #BlackLivesMatter**

**Tuesday, February 28 at 7:00-8:30 PM**

**Connecticut College- 270 Mohegan Ave, New London**

A keynote address by Patrisse Cullors, Co-founder of the global movement Black Lives Matter. <https://www.facebook.com/events/1237139766370157/>

Please remember to "like" the hosting organizations on Facebook to stay in touch with their work. Also please consider supporting them in other ways (donating, volunteering, etc.). Now more than ever is the time for us to show up!

If there are other actions that you are aware of please share them with us and we can add them to our calendar. **Looking forward to seeing you at these events! -Rev. Cathy**

**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](mailto:ushlindaclark@gmail.com)

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

Email Calendar Events to: [calendarchanges@ushartford.com](mailto:calendarchanges@ushartford.com) Thank you.

**USH Staff:**

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

Rev. Heather Rion Starr, Co-Minister

Email: [revheather@ushartford.com](mailto:revheather@ushartford.com) | Phone: 541-390-6052

Rev. Cathy Rion Starr, Co-Minister

Email: [revcathy@ushartford.com](mailto:revcathy@ushartford.com) | Phone: 541-390-7553

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

Email: [dre@ushartford.com](mailto:dre@ushartford.com) | Phone: 860-839-5001

Linda Clark, Office Administrator

860-233-9897 x 100 | Email: [ushlindaclark@gmail.com](mailto:ushlindaclark@gmail.com)

Rebecca Pacuk, Choir Director

[rgpacuk@gmail.com](mailto:rgpacuk@gmail.com)

Brian Mullen, Bookkeeper

Office Hours by Appointment

Email: [bmullen@ushartford.co](mailto:bmullen@ushartford.co)

The 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." Thank you for your submission!

**Peace – as we come to the close of the USH-Enews week.  
Be kind to others – and to yourself.**

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