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Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10:00 to 3:00  
or call for appointment

USH-Enews ~ March 15, 2017  
Worshipping Together Since 1830  
Sunday Service 10:30 AM  
Revs. Cathy & Heather Rion Starr



Photo: Harriet Gardner

**Worship Service: Sunday, March 19, 2017 ~ 10:30 AM ~**  
**"A Universalist Hope in a Divided Age" ~ The Rev. Dr. Sarah Lenzi, Pulpit**  
**Guest and Laurie Kelliher, Worship Associate ~** In a time of great division and challenge, what are we Unitarian Universalists called to do? Join us as we explore how our inherited Universalist beliefs can help us move forward with hope.

The Rev. Dr. Sarah Lenzi currently serves the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Hudson Valley in Westchester NY. The shared ministry of UUCHV is all about creating community, deepening our spiritual lives, and furthering justice in the world.

**Rayla Mattson is our Rentals Manager. For new rental requests to use space at USH, please contact her at: [dre@ushartford.com](mailto: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  
Performing Arts at USH

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

Upcoming Events & News in the Larger Community  
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 by Paul Cipriano  
March 12, 2017 "The Illusion of Certainty"**



**Photos: Harriet Gardner**

Minister Rev. Dr. Jan Carlsson-Bull from UU Meriden was our guest in the pulpit this Sunday (3/12/17). Dr. Carlsson's sermon was entitled "The Illusion of Certainty". It was a wonderful sermon.

The basic premise of the sermon was that certainty of belief leads to rigidity and an I'm-right-you're-wrong mentality. Is it possible to be that sure of what you believe or think you know and what effect does it have on others?

Reverend Carlsson-Bull cited an excerpt from *The Life of Pi* in which Pi's family discover he has been attending three different churches: Christian, Islam, and Judaism. The three clerical leaders insist that Pi must choose a single religion and further state with certainty that their religion is the one true religion and the others are incorrect. Pi's father diffuses the situation by suggesting they all go out for ice cream-something they can all agree on.

Reverend Carlsson-Bull began the service by sitting with the children from the RE classes and playing the childhood party game of telephone. From Wikipedia: "In this game one person whispers a message to the ear of the next person through a line of people until the last player announces the message to the entire group. Although the objective is to pass around the message without it becoming misheard and altered along the way, part of the enjoyment is that, regardless, this usually ends up happening. Errors typically accumulate in the retellings, so the statement announced by the last player differs significantly from that of the first player, usually with amusing or humorous effect."

That is exactly what happened when the message was passed around. Reverend Carlsson-Bull whispered to the first child “It was ten degrees this morning”. The last message when repeated for everyone in the church was something unintelligible and did not even remotely resemble the original. Reverend Carlsson-Bull referred to it as a new language that she had never heard before.

### “The Illusion of Certainty”

#### A sermon by Rev. Dr. Jan Carlsson-Bull

How apt that this morning’s prelude is titled “Improvisation”. Who can say what we’ll hear when music is “not quite composed?” Being composed is the case for neither musical improvisation nor the religious/spiritual state of any of us gathered here. Knowing what to expect musically and being “calm, cool, collected and composed” carry an undercurrent of certainty. Where would jazz be with melodic certainty? Where would our living tradition be with theological certainty?



“Certainty is so often overrated.” “Yes, yes, and yes,” I nodded in agreement with Julia Baird, an Australian writer and television personality, in response to her op-ed piece for The New York Times.

“This is especially the case when it comes to faith, or other imponderables,” she continued. My mind strayed to the arena of faith and “other imponderables.” I grew up Presbyterian, reciting the Apostles’ Creed without question. If you asked, I could probably recite it this morning. Don’t worry; I won’t. It wasn’t until midpoint in a long and winding journey spiritually, psychologically, educationally, and culturally that I questioned it to the point of becoming Unitarian Universalist. This doesn’t mean I’ve thrown the baby Jesus out with the bathwater. My turn into Unitarian Universalism was not a change of direction that called me to give up every speck of my prior religious identity. This community of faith and doubt—and I speak of our larger Unitarian Universalist community—has allowed me to expand and deepen my understanding of and appreciation for Christianity with all its riches and flaws and, for that matter, my experience of Judaism and Islam and humanism and paganism and other filters for digesting matters intimate and ultimate.

Curious George is one of my favorite figures in the literature for children of all ages, and we’re all simply aging children. It’s hard not to claim him as intrinsically Unitarian Universalist, but that would be assuming ours is the “one true faith of curiosity”, which puts us at the outer edges of a shaky limb. Curious George is a seeker, and seekers get into trouble because they’re troubled

enough to act on their curiosity. “What? Where? Who? Why? What if?” How can these queries NOT get us into trouble of the richest sort? So what about illusion? Is it perhaps what happens when we think what we see is other than what is there, or at the very least, ambiguous? Such was the experience of our youngsters this morning, as they studied the illustration that one of you brilliantly chose for the cover of our order of service.

What do you see? A man’s head, with a bald dome and intense facial expression? A young person playing a reed flute in the foreground with a young woman sitting in the background in a somewhat stark lakeside setting? Did you see one or two images? Did you vacillate between the two? What did we learn from our children? And what about that game of “telephone”? The more participants, the more fun, the less certain that the person who is last to receive the whispered message will repeat what was whispered to the first listener. Such is the stuff of rumor; such is the stuff of gossip; such is the stuff of illusion, even delusion. Is seeing believing? Is hearing knowing? For the entire sermon click [HERE](#). (Image: <https://www.pinterest.com/> )

### RE News You Can Use!



**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** Sunday, March 19th, the nursery will be available from 10:15-11:45am for morning worship service. There will be after care for children and infants ages 10 and under until 1:45pm. For the children and youth, there will be a Time For All Ages, followed by age appropriate classes.

The DRE will be away from Wednesday, March 15th until Tuesday March 21st. For any RE related matters during that time, please contact RE Assistant Sarah Cassidy at [saracassidy27@gmail.com](mailto:saracassidy27@gmail.com) or at 631-338-1375.

**Sermon Writing for Lay Preachers** ~ We are looking for 3-5 people to assist in hosting this event. If you are able to host, your registration is free. Please contact the DRE for more information or to sign up to host. For more info. about the event click [HERE](#). **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:



### Answering the Call of Love

#### Dear Members and Friends,

Please join us for a complimentary Pancake Breakfast and celebration at our Stewardship Sunday service on March 26th. (Breakfast will be served from 9:00 to 10:00 AM)

Why is it special?

Together we will celebrate our Society's 187th year and offer our financial support for the important year ahead! Our UU principles and the welcoming community, inspiring worship services, and opportunities for meaningful social justice engagement at USH are more important now than ever.

How Can We Answer the Call to Love?

\* By reflecting on, valuing and strengthening our personal stewardship of our Society.

\* By making a pledge that reflects how much we value the Society's fundamental importance in our lives and the lives of others.

We look forward to seeing you!

The USH Stewardship Committee: Stephanie Briggs, Carolyn Carlson, Kate Gervais, Ginny Hedrick, Laurie Kelliher, Deb Meny, Peter Meny, Reverend Heather Rion Starr

**-Submitted by Peter Meny**



### 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**



## 2017 Programs for Adults and Families

Stop by the Programs Table Sunday to register for a Family Friendly Small Group Ministry with the first session to start on March 31. The \$5.00 registration fee for Small Group Ministry can also be paid at the Programs Table. Information for other programs at USH will be available including Meditation and the USH Book Club. 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 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, April 6, 5:30: "Hillbilly Elegy", Contact Richard Groothuis for more info: [rgroopofus\(at sign\)icloud.com](mailto:rgroopofus(at sign)icloud.com)

**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.

**Family Friendly Small Group Ministry:** Fridays, 6:00 – 8:30 PM, first session March 31.

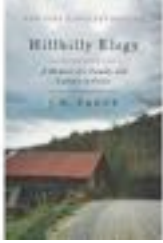
**Ballroom Dance:** Thursdays, 6:00 – 8:00 PM.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:chair2clinic@juno.com)



### **USH Book Club:**

We decided at our March book club meeting to read *Hillbilly Elegy* for our April 6th meeting. *Elegy* has headed the NY Times Book list, particularly after the election. At this time in our nation's history, it is important for all of us to understand some of the critical issues driving large segments of our citizenry.

*Hillbilly Elegy* is a passionate and personal analysis of a culture in crisis—that of white working-class Americans. The decline of this group, a demographic of our country that has been slowly disintegrating over forty years, has been reported on with growing frequency and alarm, but has never before been written about as searingly from the inside. J. D. Vance tells the true story of what a social, regional, and class decline feels like when you were born with it hung around your neck. **-Submitted by Richard Groothuis**

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

2017! This group will meet at the Meeting House starting March 31, 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 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](mailto:janicecnewton@signgmail.com), phone 860-677-1121. For more information, call Esther McKone at [estmckone\(at sign\)aol.com](mailto:estmckone@signaol.com), phone 860-677-6682.**

**2nd Principle Things You Can Do** ~ "Focus: Resistance is Daily Practice" Each day we must choose to focus our energies. Each day we must take actions of resistance to tyranny & oppression; we must engage in acts of self-care & perseverance; we must reach out and connect with other human beings in building meaningful relationships. If you use Facebook, type the group name: "Focus: Resistance..." into your Search box and ask to join the group. 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, cell/text: 541-390-6052, on Facebook & Twitter**



**Join the Spirit & Action ministry this month on March 16th** in Emerson/Meditation Sanctuary, 6:30-8:30pm. Our gatherings are open to anyone seeking spiritual sustenance and ideas for taking action during this time of chaos and change. For more info. contact Julie Grace: jgbuko(at sign)yahoo.com For all dates for this event click [HERE](#).



## 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"

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

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



## 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 ~ **Submitted by Peter Magistri**



**Upcoming Performing Arts Series at USH**  
**\*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:

**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

**USH Youth Group Soup Sunday ~ March 19<sup>th</sup>** ~ The High School Youth Group will be selling delicious hot biscuits, and tasty chicken-vegetable and vegetable soup to keep you and the homeless at Church Street Eats nourished and warm during this still cold and wintry weather. Join us this Sunday, March 19th, and support the Youth Group efforts! ~ **Submitted by Nina Elgo**



**The Good Neighbor Offering this Sunday** is being given to The Village for Families and Children. The Village has recently added behavioral health services for adults to its existing programs. These services include mental health counseling, focused trauma treatment services and substance abuse treatment.

It is the conviction of The Village that the mental health problems of the entire family must be addressed. Those who wish to receive services need not worry about their financial status as “No one will be denied access to services due to inability to pay”. I hope USH will continue its support of The Village through the adult behavioral services program so that children can return home to a healthy environment. ~ **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.

For further information on co-housing see [www.cohousing.org](http://www.cohousing.org)  
**We had one informal meeting on Sunday, March 12 at the Unitarian Society of Hartford and will have a second meeting on Sunday, March 19 at the home of Toni Gold, 96 Kenyon Street at 7:00 PM. ... Read More HERE.**

**Toni Gold, Hartford, 860-232-9018, [toniagold@gmail.com](mailto:toniagold@gmail.com)**

Susan and LeRoy Spaniol, Bloomfield, 860-216-1392, sspaniol@comcast.net  
Martha Bradley, West Hartford, 860-305-3307, marthabradley49@yahoo.com  
-Submitted by Toni Gold

**UU 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)

**Weekly Reminders:**

**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

**In The Library**  
**@ The Meeting House**

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

**We look forward to seeing you!**



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



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

**Do you love to sing?** Have you ever thought about joining the USH Choir? 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. (Formal music training is not required).**



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

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



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

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**

#### **Supporting Immigrant Families in CT**

**Thursday, March 16th**

**6:15pm potluck (optional); 7:00pm program/discussion**

**Quaker Meetinghouse, 144 S. Quaker Lane, West Hartford**

The recent deportations and "Muslim bans" have caused fear and anguish among immigrant families and communities around the country and here in CT.

Religious communities and other allies have responded in a variety of ways: providing physical sanctuary, providing accompaniment for immigrants attending deportation hearings, organizing rallies and marches in solidarity, and organizing support and "rapid response" networks in preparation for possible deportation raids in local communities. (The American Friends Service Committee has launched a "Sanctuary Everywhere" campaign.)

The Quaker Meetinghouse Peace & Social Concerns Committee invites you to an evening discussion to learn about upcoming opportunities to become active in local efforts to support immigrant communities in the Hartford area. Are you feeling called to accompany an immigrant to administrative hearings? There's a training scheduled for March 26th. Do you want to receive a call to show up and be a witness when a deportation raid happens? There's a Rapid Response Team forming in Hartford. How might you be led to participate in providing support for these activities and/or for immigrant families? Come share your thoughts and concerns and help us discern next steps. -**Submitted by Jeff Howard**



**NEW WORLD TRIO CONCERT**  
**Sunday, March 19, 2017 3:00 p.m.**  
**The Folk Tradition**  
**Violinist: Ann Stowe**  
**Cellist: Peter Zay**

**Pianist: Pi-Hsun Shih**

Location: Sarah Porter Memorial Hall; First Church of Christ, Congregational  
75 Main Street, Farmington, CT

**Program:** Seguidillas Gitanas, Op. 1 by Fernandez-Arbos  
Café Music by Paul Schoenfield  
Trio in E Minor, Op. 90 "Dumky" by Antonin Dvorak

**Tickets:** Series Subscription-\$60; General Admission-\$25; Students with ID-\$15;  
Children 12 and under, no charge

**Directions:** Sarah Porter Memorial Hall is on the corner of School and Main Street (Route 10) in Farmington, Connecticut, to the left of First Church of Christ, Congregational.

Parking is available on the side streets. (Church Street, just south of the church, leads to the parking lots at the library and Noah Wallace School.)

**-Submitted by Pi-Hsun Shih**

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



**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!

**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.

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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.**

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

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