



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

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



Photo: Harriet Gardner

Worship Service: Sunday, November 19, 2017 ~ 10:30 AM ~ "Oh, We Give Thanks" ~ Rev. Cathy Rion Starr, Co-Minister ~ Rick Tsukada, Worship Associate ~ Gratitude is a practice to be done alone or together. In this multigenerational service, we will practice coming with praise and thanks together, reminding one another of all that our lives hold and all that we have to be grateful for. Together, let us share in a harvest ritual of sharing, abundance, and gratitude.

Please bring a harvest item to share. All will be invited to come up to the altar, choose a harvest item, and briefly share aloud—in a word, a phrase, no more than a sentence some one thing for which you are especially grateful this year.

Please note: Events normally scheduled at USH will not take place on Thanksgiving Eve and Thanksgiving Day. Any questions contact the facilitator listed for that event on the calendar. -Thank you!

Worship Thank-yous and Follow-up ~ Many thanks to Rayla Mattson and Xavier Murray for generously sharing their stories on Sunday. (You can read Rayla's reflection as published by the UUA here.). We are pleased to share that the Good Neighbor Offering to Black Lives of UU (BLUU) raised \$1930.10 — only \$129.90 short of the amount we need to ensure that our funds eligible for a match that will double our contributions. (It's not too late to give! Simply note "BLUU" with your donation).

Here are some links to learn more about BLUU and the history of Black Empowerment within the UUA :

Black Lives of UU website

Wilderness Journey: The Struggle for Black Empowerment and Racial Justice within the UUA 1967-1970 (video)

BLUU's reading list

The Gathering: A Liberal e-Ministry Serving People of Color, Latinas and Latinos (PDF), Rev. Marjorie Bowens-Wheatley

UU World: The UUA Meets Black Power, by Warren R. Ross

UU World: The Empowerment Tragedy, by Rev. Mark Morrison-Reed

And finally, please be in touch with Rev. Cathy, Rayla, or Gloria Francesca Mengual if you wish to be part of the transformative work of dismantling white supremacy, racism and oppression within our congregation and beyond, or if you have questions, concerns, or ideas to share.

Lena Gardner, Director of Black Lives of UU, said: "The power and promise of UUism is waking up to meet fear and hate with radical imagination, transformative partnership, resilience and joy." And so, as I said on Sunday, let us use our radical imagination to envision a future where fear and hate have no place. Where partnerships transform us with love. Where resilience and joy are the foundation that supports all that we do. ~ **Rev. Cathy**



Thanksgiving: Update

Due to the changing plans of some key organizers, the 2017 Joint USH-Fern Street Thanksgiving meal has been cancelled. Please let us know if you'd like to help make this collaboration

happen in 2018. Thanks!

If you need a place to be for Thanksgiving, or if you have a seat at your table to offer, please contact Linda Clark at [ushlindaclark\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:ushlindaclark(at)gmail.com) or 860-233-9897 x100 to connect. Please contact us during office hours: Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday 10:00am to 3:00 PM.



CHRISTMAS EVE COOKIE ELVES NEEDED!

Help bring about the festive cheer that lifts all our hearts and spirits during the longest nights of the year! Coordinate the cookie plates that people will happily bring and help give it all some order and flair. Can you be our 2017 Christmas Eve Cookie Coordinating Elf for the 4pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service? We can't do it without you! **Please let**

Linda Clark ([ushlindaclark\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:ushlindaclark(at)gmail.com)) or Rev. Heather ([revheatherionstarr\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:revheatherionstarr(at)gmail.com)) know if you can fulfill this sweet, delectable, delightful, once-a-year role!

E-News Contributors please take note: The deadline for USH E-News submissions is Tuesday at 12 Noon. Please include the dates that the submission should be included in the 'Subject' field.

In This Week's Enews:

RE News You Can Use

Upcoming USH Auction

40th Annual Festival of the Season: Volunteers Needed

Sunday Service Recap

Get Involved at USH: Many Ways to Volunteer

2017 Programs for Adults and Families

Fall Small Group Ministries

Circle Dinners

Meeting House Presents: Up Next - David Massengill

Upcoming Events and Other News at USH: Lunch Bunch and Women's Alliance

Holiday Event December 6th - Join Us!

Upcoming Events & News in the Larger Community

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 to the USH Facebook Page Here.

Please consult our Online Calendar regularly for all upcoming events at the Unitarian Society of Hartford:

www.ushartford.com/events/

To submit a Calendar Request go [HERE](#).

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

RE News You Can Use: ~ Rayla D. Mattson, Director of Religious Education



This Sunday, November 19, the nursery will be open to infants and toddlers ages birth to age 3 from 10:15am until 11:45am. Childcare is also available today after worship until 1:45pm for any children under the age of 10 whose parents wish to participate in meetings, coffee hour, or other post-service offerings. Sunday will be a multi-generational service so there will be TFAA and then all the kids will remain in the sanctuary. Last week was a fun-filled week for RE. Our 7-9th graders had their 4th OWL (Our Whole Lives) session and are really enjoying what they are learning. The 3rd-5th graders sorted their food donations for a local food pantry and delivered it. The high school youth had their sleep out to bring awareness to the homeless and the middle school supported one of their own, Xavier Murray, as he spoke in last week's service.

The children and youth of USH are doing some great things at USH and in the community. But, we need your help. There are not enough background checked adults to teach our RE classes moving forward. We will begin canceling or combining classes if we don't get additional volunteers. Please contact the DRE to volunteer or for additional information on how you can help.



Thank-you USH Members and Friends ~ We delivered your donated food and funds to the Malta Food Pantry on Saturday and learned they feed 100 families enough nutritious food/ meals for 2 days of each week.

~ Submitted by Diana Heymann

The High School Youth Group "Annual Sleep Out for My Sister's Place" raised over \$600 last weekend. Below are some photos of this event.

~ Submitted by Rayla Mattson



Rayla D. Mattson ~ Director of Religious Education, Unitarian Society of Hartford ~ 860-233-9897 ext 104 | dre@ushartford.com ~ I only check my email on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday.



The USH Auction is Back!



USH Superhero Auction Now Available Online! ~ ACT Now – and come to the event and bring friends ~ Sunday, November 19th at noon! ~ This is no ordinary auction! This is a SuperHero Auction! Our Unitarian Society of Hartford SuperHero Auction has brought in more than 70 incredible services and experiences including items for kids!

You can participate ONLINE now.

Go to <http://www.BiddingOwl.com/UnitarianSocietyofHa> - you can browse all you want. If you would like to bid, just register as a bidder. You will need to enter your email address and choose a password, and then confirm your email address. Each item has a minimum bid. We will need to get bids higher than that minimum bid to award that item. We will keep the bidding open until midnight on Saturday, November 18.

We'll finish the bidding at the Silent Auction on Sunday, November 19th, right after worship in Fellowship Hall! The Silent Auction will feature a special performance by Meeting House Folk, as well as sandwiches and cookies and veggie options! There is no admission fee to attend. Come for the fun, support USH, and bid on great items.

Share this auction with your friends as well - our friends can bid on these fantastic superpowers too!

If you still want to donate – there is still time! Seek out a member of the **Stewardship/Auction Committee Carolyn Carlson, Kate Gervais, Virginia Hedrick, Caron Lanouette, Leslie Waite and Rev. Cathy Rion Starr** or email [katebuschgervais\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:katebuschgervais(at)gmail.com).

Or go to <HTTPS://WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/USHSUPERHERO>



The 40th Annual
Festival of the Season
Saturday, December 9th, 2017
3:30PM

Save the Date!

A day of gingerbread houses, making wreaths, decorating cookies, a holiday shop, music, dinner, community and much more!

Consider helping!

We are looking for helpers to volunteer your time, creativity, and/or holiday candy. Help us make this event a success.

Rev. Heather will be leading the short worship service.

We are searching for a couple more greeters, a portable photo printer, potluck volunteers and craft room helpers. Potluck donations should be an entree, side dish or dessert. **Please contact: Kathie**

Ferguson: kwfinteriors@sbcglobal.net or Crystal Kelly: kristal.babyguru@gmail.com Thank you!

Sunday Service Recap by Kayla Costenoble
"Looking Back, Looking Forward"
Rev. Cathy Rion Starr, Co-Minister



Photos: Deborah Zimmerman Herz

“Fifty years ago, there were hundreds of black UUs involved in the Civil Rights movement,” Rev. Cathy told and/or reminded the RE kids and the congregation during the November 12, 2017, service. She said the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) at that time promised \$1 million to work on reaching out to black communities and addressing racism. This promise was not kept; in fact, it was given, and broken, twice, and “a whole lot of black UUs walked out of a faith that keeps breaking promises,” she said.

Now there is a third promise and a national call to make a collective covenant to “meet fear and hate with reliance and joy,” Rev. Cathy told us, as the UUA Board of Trustees has committed \$5.3 million to Black Lives of UU (BLUU)—an effort that will involve all UU congregations. The \$5 million is the current value of the \$1 million that the General Assembly affirmed in 1968 to give to the Black Affairs Council but never did.

“We can choose another way to do the messy, hard, beautiful and painful work of creating the beloved community,” Rev. Cathy said. Where will the funds come from? The UUA will give \$1 million; matching funds of \$1 million have been promised by a long-time UU family; \$1 million from UU congregations. Any congregation that contributes \$10 dollars per member will be matched.

So the USH started with today’s offering. The total of all cash and checks (unless otherwise noted) will go to BLUU’s “Promise and Practice Sunday” when all congregations are asked to dedicate a Sunday between November 12, 2017, and February 4, 2018, to center the history, the perspectives, the voices and the leadership of black Unitarian Universalists.

Today was that day for the USH, and we received some honest and painful comments during reflections shared by eighth-grader Xavier Murray, whose

mother is chair of the USH Social Justice Council and from Rayla Mattson, Director of Religious Education.

Xavier kneels during his West Hartford school's daily recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, because he feels deeply that the words "liberty and justice for all are not true for all." He agrees with football quarterback Colin Kaepernick's silent protest of kneeling during the National Anthem before football games in August, 2017. Kaepernick said, "I am not going to stand up to show pride in a flag for a country that oppresses black people and people of color."

Xavier told us that no one, including his teacher, pays attention or has said anything about his daily action; he suggested that maybe they are afraid. So far, he is the only one doing this, but he urged us to "Take a stand, or a knee."

It had to be difficult, but courageous, for Rayla to describe in horrid detail her experience at a UU conference/retreat center, but she said she is tired of being silent. Although she has been the "token black person many times," this was "one of the most hateful experiences I have had." She felt a "distinct coldness" at the camp, had difficulty with her infant daughter at child-care, her black son was bullied, there was never a seat for her at less-than-full tables in the dining room. "I sat there alone, day after day," she said. Although she "often holds in her pain to protect others or doesn't want to seem too sensitive, being silent has become too heavy a load."

Most of us gasped when Rayla identified where this had taken place—our "own" Star Island. Since her experience there, she has talked to the camp's director and has been told they have named a task force to address racism and have allotted specific funds to make a real effort to make systemic changes. Thank you, Rayla.

During the offering for BLUU, the USH choir sang James Taylor's "Shed a Little Light." Some of its meaningful words:

"Let us turn our thoughts today to Martin Luther King and recognize that there are ties between us, all men and women living on the Earth. Ties of hope and love, sister and brotherhood, that we are bound together in our desire to see the world become a place in which our children can grow free and strong. We are bound together by the task that stands before us, and the road that lies ahead. We are bound and we are bound."

With Rev. Cathy and Rayla as leaders, we read aloud "The Promise and the Practice," a litany by UU Viola Abbitt, a candidate for the UU ministry. This is a lamentation of what our UU tradition and congregations have lost by being unable—or unwilling—to center people of color (or even, at times, to merely include them). It is a celebration of our shared commitment to live into a new

chapter in the story of our UU faith. The congregation's role was to read the oft-repeated answer to the leaders' words:

"We are a covenantal people, and the promise of our faith, which was enough to bring us together, should have been enough to bind us together in love."

Church Business News

Contribute to the USH Ministers' Discretionary Fund ~ The Unitarian Society of Hartford Ministers' Discretionary Fund is drawn upon by the Revs in response to the direct requests of members, friends, staff, and visitors to the congregation when they are in need of emergency support. A whole variety of events and requests have occurred lately that have significantly depleted this important Fund. If you are able, would you consider a gift to the Discretionary Fund, knowing that it will be put to good use? Checks can be made out to Unitarian Society of Hartford with "Ministers' Discretionary Fund" in the memo line and mailed to USH or deposited in the Main Office safe box. Thank you so much for your generosity and concern for others connected to this congregation! ~ **Rev. Heather**

Get Involved at USH

Be Part of a Great Team!

Get more connected with this congregation through volunteering. Below are some areas where Volunteers are especially needed and welcome:



The USH Sunday Welcome Team

Contact Linda Clark at [ushlindaclark\(at sign\)gmail.com](mailto: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, and helps newcomers find their way around our Meeting House.

Office Volunteers

If you are computer-comfortable and familiar with Microsoft Word, Gmail, and data entry, the office is in need of you. People to help with general office duties such as making copies, 'sweeping the pews' and refilling the welcome boxes are also welcome. Please let Linda Clark know if you're able



to help out in the office during the week for an hour or two:
 ushlindaclark@gmail.com | 860-233-9897

Pictured above: Phil and Harriet Gardner with their son Bruce, helping out with the Order of Service.

Join The Choir

Director of Music Ministries, Sam Moffett, is excited to be working with the choir at USH this year. He would like to extend an invitation to all in the community who have thought about joining the choir, to come and sing! If you would like to join, or would like more info, please e-mail Sam at smoffett@ushartford.com.



The Book Table During Coffee Hour

Everybody enjoys browsing through the books during coffee hour. In order to continue we are in need of some help setting them up and putting them away. Please contact Clara Horn if you are able to help out with this: clara.horn@comcast.net

Religious Education

The DRE is very short-handed for teachers in our Pre-K3-2nd grade class and in our middle school class. We desperately need teachers and assistants. The commitment is 1-2 Sundays every 4-7 weeks. If you are interested, have any questions, or would like to see the curriculum, please let Rayla know: 860-233-9897 ext 104 | dre@ushartford.com



Programs for Adults and Families Sub-Council

The Programs for Adults and Families Sub-Council needs members to continue doing its work coordinating the programs many of us participate in and enjoy at the Meeting House. Please step up and help if you are able! For more information and/or to join this Sub-Council, please contact Council on Community Within Chair, Christopher Wilt at chris.wilt@gmail.com. -Submitted by Christopher Wilt



A Moment of Peace

Need a quiet place to empty your mind of tweets and rants and fake news and anything else upsetting your equilibrium? Visit the Labyrinth at the far, lower, end of the parking lot in the Knox Gardens. The colors are fading, but the herbs are still thriving and you are welcome to cut some to add to autumn soups—rosemary, oregano, thyme, sage, parsley, and more! There is a centering bell to spread hopeful energy—every little bit helps! -

Submitted by Susan Hope

2017 Programs for Adults and Families



For more information on current programs click [HERE](#) to view the Adult Programs catalog. You can also pick up a printed catalog at the Welcome Table. Please check the [online calendar](#) often as schedules can change, or contact the facilitator for more information. Contact information for programs is listed below.

Programs

Building (and Living) Your Own Theology: 12 Sessions, Tuesdays, 7:30 – 9:00 PM, start date September 12. (Waiting list.) Contact: Tom Gervais: 860-558-3000; tom.j.gervais@gmail.com

Ballroom Dance: Thursdays, 6:00 – 7:45 PM, for questions contact Ron Friedman: 860-523-1105 or rsfriedman41@gmail.com.

Tai Chi: Wednesdays, 5:30 – 7:00 PM. Contact Ginny Hedrick: 860-677-9272.

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

Meeting House Sing-A-Long - All Are Welcome: Meets on the 2nd Saturday of each month, in Emerson/Meditation room (or Memorial Garden if weather / memorial service permits), except December 2017 & June 2018. For more information contact Ed Savage: ed@thesavagees.com.

USH Book Club: No Meeting - Time for the holidays! For more information contact Richard Groothuis: rgroopofus@icloud.com.

Small Group Ministries:



Participation & Planning for Small Group Ministries:

I am encouraging all those who have an interest in the Small Group Ministry (SGM) program at USH to come to a planning meeting. Members and friends who would like to have input into the readings that inspire us to share during the SGM sessions should contact Esther McKone, email - Estmckone(at)aol.com or call 860-677-6682. The date and

time for this meeting will be determined depending on what is convenient for most folks who have an interest in this important program.

Current SGMs: There are two SGMs happening now as I write this. One is a disability-focused SGM that meets at the Meeting House which is accessible, and another is a general SGM that meets in a private home in West Hartford. I hear from their facilitators that the groups are going well.

Planning future SGMs: I am considering more focused groups for the future encompassing such issues as (1) Structural Racism, and 2) spirituality of nature-based, earth-centered faiths. Another idea came to me after meeting with a sociology professor at U of H which would be a **gender identity** focused SGM. Unfortunately, there was not enough interest in the **Family Friendly Small Group Ministry** to run it this Fall, but we shall see if there is enough interest to have this in the Spring/2018.

So the ideas are plentiful, but I also need people willing to contribute their skills and talents toward the goal of continuing a robust Small Group Ministry program at the Unitarian Society of Hartford.

Please contact me (see contact info above) to let me know of your interest and what day & time would be good for you to come to a meeting on SGM planning. Thank you!

-Submitted by Esther McKone

What is Small Group Ministry? This is an opportunity to strengthen your connections with USH members and friends by sharing your life experiences with them in a covenant group. Watch for announcements of Small Group Ministry offerings in E-News and during coffee hour after the service at the Programs Table in Fellowship Hall.

A trained facilitator will have special readings and questions to guide your sharing and deep listening experience. Contact Esther McKone for more information on Small Group Ministry, email: [estmckone \(at\)aol.com](mailto:estmckone@aol.com), phone 860 677 6682. -Submitted by Esther McKone



Circle Dinners

Circle Dinners give all participants an opportunity to expand their social circles at USH and learn more about some of the interesting people who call USH their spiritual home. The dinners are scheduled to be held on the 2nd Saturday of every odd-numbered month. (Still ahead: Jan 13, Mar 10 and May 12). The

purpose of these Dinner Parties is to foster social camaraderie among new and more established members of USH. For participants, eight to ten adults are randomly assigned in different groupings for each dinner. The host furnishes the entree, beverage and bread. Guests are assigned to bring appetizers, salad, side dish or dessert. Right now we are gauging the interest and demand for dinner locations. We anticipate 2 to 3 locations for each date. Please let Chris Wilt know as soon as possible if you would be willing to host a dinner party at your home.

Registration: Participants can sign up for as many or as few dates as they wish. Registration can be done online, using the following link: <https://goo.gl/forms/qkbiZBQzZbWTLpQF3>

The registration form contains a space for: 1) listing dietary restrictions, and 2) if you plan to bring your children. We will try to group families with kids together so that they have some playmates for the evening. We will discuss providing supervision for children where appropriate. You are not required to be a host in order to participate in this program. **Questions:** Contact Chris Wilt, 603-401-5704. -Submitted by Brian Harvey

Meeting House Presents!



**2017-2018
Season**



50 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105 -The intersection of Routes 44 & 189

Meeting House Presents – A concert series at the Unitarian Meeting House, 50 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford. All events begin at 8:00 pm (doors open at 7:30). Tickets \$20. \$12 for students with ID. Children under 12 – free with parent. Click [HERE](#) for Advance tickets. Proceeds benefit the Unitarian Society of Hartford.

Click [HERE](#) to read more about upcoming events at USH. Click [HERE](#) to read the Blog.

Contact Laura and Paul Cipriano (MeetingHousePresents@gmail.com or 860-298-9984) to contribute your ideas, volunteer time, pledge financial backing for the series, or find out more!

Tickets for the David Massengill concert will be available for sale after this coming Sunday's service on November 19th, during coffee hour. There is also a need for 6 volunteers to help the night of the concert with admissions and refreshment sales. Those interested can contact Laura and Paul after the service or by email at meetinghousepresents@gmail.com.



Up next in Meeting House Presents series is a rare Connecticut appearance by folk legend, singer, songwriter and Appalachian Dulcimer player [David Massengill](#). David will be appearing right here at The Unitarian Society of Hartford (Thanksgiving weekend) Friday, November 24th at 8:00 pm. Tickets are available at the door the night of the concert and in advance at brownpapertickets.com

[Here is a video of David performing "On the road to Fairfax County,"](#) a song he wrote that has been recorded by many artists including Joan Baez and David Bromberg. So many performers have recorded it that some people think it is a traditional folk song

passed down for generations but Massengill wrote it the 1970's. Photo: http://www.davidmassengill.com/photo_gallery/

Other News of Our Community and Upcoming Special Events



**Lunch Bunch and Women's Alliance Holiday Event:
Wednesday, December 6 at 12:00 in Fellowship Hall.
All Are Welcome.**

The LUNCH BUNCH and WOMEN'S ALLIANCE invite you to join us in Fellowship Hall at noon on Wednesday, December 6 for a potluck luncheon. Everyone is welcome, but sign up at the program table beginning November 19 telling us how many will come and what you plan to bring. Cost is \$1 per person payable at the lunch. We encourage you to brighten the holiday for someone else by donating gift cards for Interval House, a shelter for battered women, or The Open Hearth, a shelter for men. Or, alternatively, you can support Meeting House friends with checks made out to the USH, Ministers' Discretionary Fund. We will hear our traditional "A VISIT FROM ST. NICHOLAS TO A LIBERATED HOUSEHOLD," which we have shared for over 30 years, and bring a short poem or reading to share, if you wish.

If you can help set and decorate tables at 11:00, or help with clean up after lunch, please contact Louise Schmoll at 860-242-2953. -Submitted by Louise Schmoll

★ USH ReGifting Sale ★

Drop-off Dates: Nov 19 & 26, 2017

Sale Dates: Dec. 3, 10 and 17 (after worship)



Find a new home for all your unwanted items (New, or like new, preferably smaller than a breadbox. ★ Do your holiday shopping. ★ Delight someone else who may love your item. ★ Clean out your closet. ★ Help the environment / conserve resources. ★ Make money for USH

★ Look for new environmentally friendly products you can give as gifts this year.

★ **Sponsored by the Green Sanctuary Sub-council**





Piano Soloist Benjamin Dix will perform his 13th annual Holiday Piano Concert on Sat. November 18, 2017 at 1 PM at the Unitarian Meeting House. Pieces will include Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring/Ode To Joy, Mozart Sonata KV. 331 and music from "Amadeus", Chopin- "Tristesse" Etude, Opus 10 #3, "Minute" Waltz Op. 64 # 1, and Two Valses Brillantes, Opus 34 # 1 & # 3. Also Schubert Impromptu Op. 90 #3, Variations on "I Saw Three Ships" & a Hanukkah and Christmas Medley. Piano Soloist Benjamin Dix received a Bachelors Degree in Instrumental Music Education from the Hartt College of Music where he graduated Magna Cum Laude, a Master's Degree in Special Education from the University of Hartford and a Sixth Year Diploma in Educational Leadership at Southern Connecticut State University. Ben currently is a Coordinator of Secondary Special Education Services with the North Haven Public Schools in North Haven, Connecticut. ~ **Submitted by Benjamin Dix**



**Welcome New Members to
Our Congregation!**

New Member Sunday – Dec 3, 2017

Twice a year we formally welcome new members into the Unitarian Society of Hartford. Our last New Member ceremony of this calendar year will be held **Sunday, Dec 3rd** .

If you would like to learn more about the membership process, contact Brian Harvey (harvey.b@comcast.net).

Teacher/ Senior Care Giver available for companionship, housekeeping and personal care in exchange for pro-rated furnished room and bath rental from Nov. 12-Dec. 17th or longer if the situation requires. References available upon request. Please note that I am a member of the Unitarian Universalist of Hartford community. ~ Contact Maura at: [Thebegster\(at\)juno.com](mailto:Thebegster(at)juno.com)

Collaboration...in Community -- with the Hartford Stage! ~ For the second year, USH will be collaborating with the Hartford Stage by focusing a service around an upcoming production at the Stage. This year that production will be *Feeding the Dragon*, written and performed by Sharon Washington, and directed by Maria Mileaf. Here's a synopsis of the play: "Sharon Washington plays nearly 20 characters in her own true story. A memory play about growing up in the custodial apartment of a Manhattan



library, *Feeding the Dragon* examines how both the power of forgiveness and the lifelong love for the written word have helped her battle dragons of all forms." *Feeding the Dragon* will run from January 11 - February 4, 2018. Tickets are available at hartfordstage.org or by calling 860-527-5151. You can save 25% on performances January 11-17 with the code Dragon25. RevHeather will lead our service on Sunday, January 14, 2018, inspired by the production and by Sharon Washington's story. Join us in being rejuvenated by the artfulness and insight in our midst.

For more about *Feeding the Dragon* and Sharon Washington, enjoy: <http://www.sharonwashington.com/feeding-the-dragon-play/>
Image: <http://www.sharonwashington.com/feeding-the-dragon-play/>

Weekly Reminders

20'S/30'S BRUNCH

Join us on the 3rd Sunday of each month
@ 12 PM in the Meeting House Library
for a potluck brunch gathering

 VISITORS AND NEWCOMERS WELCOME!
CONTACT: Allie Pistolessi a.pistol17@gmail.com



**While our supply lasts!**

Available in 3 sizes:
Lawn sign - 18" x 24" (2 sided)
Window sign – 11" x 17"
Car sign – 5.5" x 8.5"

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

Suggested donation: Lawn sign - \$20
Window sign – \$5 - Car sign – \$2



Contacts:
Lindsey Jones-Rowell lejrowell@gmail.com or
Kristine Glenney kristineglenney@comcast.net

Upcoming Special Events and News in the Larger Community

We Have The Money To Create Good Jobs, Pay For Health Care And Education, Clean The Environment And Pursue A Life Of Liberty And Happiness

**ORGANIZING FOR PEACE
RESISTING THE POLITICS OF FEAR:
A CALL TO ACTION!**

• **Let's act to rebuild our communities:**
Connecticut taxpayers are paying for wars most humans don't need. Instead every year our annual federal taxes could create:
**35,000 Jobs in high poverty communities, AND
35,000 Infrastructure jobs, AND
35,000 Clean energy jobs, AND
30,000 Elementary school teaching jobs.**

• **The White House is threatening nuclear war with North Korea and military invasion of Iran and Venezuela. The U.S. is already waging war on over 7 countries. The 2018 Federal Budget allocates even more to war. Let's act to stop these wars: Instead SPEND BILLIONS ON PEACE!**

• **The Trump administration is reversing decades of environmental clean up, denying climate warming, moving to burn far more fossil fuels. Let's act to save civilization!**



*"I will write Peace on your wings and you will fly all over the world."
Sadako Sasaki, 1943-1955*

**HALF-DAY CONFERENCE FOR JOBS, PEACE, HEALTHCARE AND EDUCATION,
SOCIAL JUSTICE, ECONOMIC EQUITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY.**

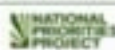
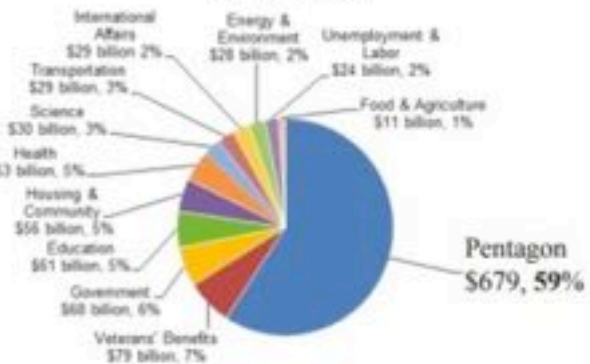
Bruce Gagnon, Secretary/Coordinator Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space; 2006 recipient of the Dr. Benjamin Spock Peacemaker Award; Vietnam-era veteran.

Bill Curry, former head of nuclear Freeze Voter; candidate for Governor of CT; Presidential advisor

Saturday November 18th; 11 am to 4 pm
Middlesex Community College, Chapman Hall, Room 808; 100 Training Hill Road, Middletown, CT; lunch; information, transportation – skrevisky@mxcc.commnet.edu; <http://hopeoutloud.org>

Sponsored by: Greater New Haven Peace Council, CT Coalition for Peace and Justice, No Nukes/No War and Hope Out Loud, Congress of CT Community Colleges (4C's/SEIU)

Trump FY 2018 Discretionary Budget Request, \$1.15 Trillion



nationalpriorities.org

Source: OMB, National Priorities Project

**HARRIET BEECHER
STOWE CENTER** 

77 Forest St.,
Hartford, CT 06105
HarrietBeecherStowe.org
860-522-9258

For more information about upcoming events go to: HarrietBeecherStowe.org



What We Sing is Who We Are
Saturday 11/18, 10 AM- PM,
All Souls New London
19 Jay St, New London, CT / 860-443-0316

This workshop is for anyone who believes in the future of Unitarian Universalism, but will be especially appreciated by music directors, choir members, clergy, and anyone else who loves to sing. No experience necessary!

CONGREGATIONAL SINGING WORKSHOP with Rev. Jason Shelton
Vibrant congregational singing is a sure sign of a healthy, thriving church. Why? Because congregations that sing with vitality are congregations that know who and why they are. Revitalizing congregational singing is one of the best growth strategies available, and it's easier to do than you might think!

Rev. Jason Shelton is an award-winning composer, arranger, conductor, singer, multi-instrumentalist, workshop and retreat leader. He served the First Unitarian Universalist Church in Nashville, Tennessee, for 19 years and he is now a freelance minister of music, working to grow our capacity to sing our UU faith.

LOCATION: All Souls UU in New London, CT (Directions)

Link for info & registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/what-we-sing-is-who-we-are-11182017-registration-38627217046>

You Are Cordially Invited To Attend
Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

The Importance and Value of Giving Thanks

Refreshments will be served
Collection to benefit United Methodist Food Kitchen

All are welcome

7:00 pm, Sunday

November 19th, 2017

Location: 1000 Mountain Road (not Avenue), Bloomfield

Directions

From Bloomfield Ctr.: Take Loeffler Road (Rte 178) to Simsbury Road (Rte 185); turn left; after 1 mile fork right onto Mountain Road; entrance to LDS is 1/10 mile on left.



Hands On Hartford

Invites you to a delicious and festive

Thanksgiving Day Meal

Join us on

Thursday, November 23rd, 2017

Doors open at 10:30am

Lunch served at 11:30 am




Located at Hands On Hartford's MANNA Community Meals

Christ Church Cathedral

45 Church Street, Hartford, CT 06103

For more information, call 860-728-3201 or visit handsonhartford.org

Please direct any questions about the event to Bob Bazyk:
rjb(at)commandco.com or
860-798-7979. We look forward to seeing you all there.
Thank you and bless you all for the good you are doing.



MOVEABLE SENIOR CENTER
LGBT
Come Out and Connect!

AMP **Aging Mastery Program™**
National Council on Aging
For LGBT adults and allies aged 50+
Call (860) 665-8778 or email
dstone@newingtonct.gov to register.

Tuesdays from
6-7:30 p.m.
November 14—
January 23

This program has a value of over \$100! Through the support of our sponsors we are able to bring it to you for free.

ncoa
National Council on Aging

Newington Senior and Disabled Center
120 Cedar Street, Newington

CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY CARE

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On October 22, Rev. Heather led us in a service on The Diary of Anne Frank and the way that texts can speak to our hearts and minds in timeless, inspiring, personal ways regardless of whether or not they have been deemed “sacred” texts by others. Rev. Heather asked: “What are your sacred texts?” Thanks to all of you who shared what a sacred text or texts is to you. Below are just some of the responses—a few more came in via e-mail which are now included below:

"Be the change you want to see in the world" –by Gandhi; Anam Cara by John O'Donahue; “And every common bush afire with God.”—Elizabeth Browning; Anne of Green Gables by L.M. Montgomery; anything by Mary Oliver, poetry or prose; “Auguries of Innocence,” by William Blake; "Birches" by Robert Frost;

“Desiderata,” by Max Ehrmann; Gilead by Marilynne Robinson; Godel, Escher, Bach: An Eternal Golden Braid, by Douglas Hofstadter; Great Expectations by Charles Dickens; Home by Marilynne Robinson; “This Is My Song,” Hymn 159 in our Singing the Living Tradition hymnal, by John Andrew Storey; I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, by Maya Angelou; If It Is to Be, It’s Up to Me, by Thomas B. Smith; Imagination and taking in the beauty of life; Jane Eyre, by Charlotte Bronte; “Let the soft animal of your body love what it loves,” by Mary Oliver; “Lila,” by Marilynne Robinson; “Love Is A Place,” by e.e. cummings; Machinery's Handbook 25th Anniversary Edition, by Erik Oberg; Man’s Search for Meaning, by Victor Frankl; Marks' Standard Handbook for Mechanical Engineers, by Theodore Baumeister; Micah 6:8, The Hebrew Bible; My Dead Friends, by Marie Howe; O Magnum Mysterium, by Morten Lauridsen; Our Numbered Days, by Neil Hilborn, Perry’s Chemical Engineers’ Handbook, by Robert Perry, Physics for Engineers, by Halway; "Pie Jesu" (a hymn) by Mozart; Pilgrim at Tinker Creek, by Annie Dillard; Rumi: the Book of Love—Poems of Ecstasy and Longing, by Coleman Banks; Skin Shows, by Judith Halbertstam; Sula, by Toni Morrison; Tao Te Ching, by Lao Tzu & Stephen Mitchell; The Alchemist’s Manuscript, by Paulo Coelho; “The Blue Boat Home,” (hymn #1064 in our Singing the Journey hymnal); The Bridge on the Drina, by Ivo Andric; The House of the Spirits, by Isabel Allende; The I That Is We, by Richard Moss; The Invitation, by Oriah Mountain Dreamer, "The Journey," by Mary Oliver; The Once and Future King, by T.H. White; “The Oversoul” (reading #531 in Singing the Living Tradition), by Ralph Waldo Emerson; The Power of Myth, by Joseph Campbell; The Power of Now, by Eckhart Tolle; The Prophet, by Kahlil Gibran; Under a Cruel Star, by Heda Kovaly; Understanding Power, by Noam Chomsky; Walden, by Henry David Thoreau; Walk with Peace in Your Feet (unknown author); “War Prayer,” by Mark Twain; “What doesn’t kill you makes you stronger,” by Fredrick Nietzsche; “Wild Geese,” by Mary Oliver; “You must forge your own path for it to mean anything,” by Rick Riordan; “Your children are not your children, they come through you, but not from you...” by Kahlil Gibran; Safe Passages by Molly Fumia; Have a Little Faith by Mitch Albom; Simply Living: The Spirit of the Indigenous People edited by Shirley Anne Jones; Kitchen Table Wisdom by Rachel Naomi Remen; Tom Paxton's song "If the Poor Don't Matter"; John McCutcheon's song "I am an Immigrant"; many hymns in our hymnal, but especially "Go Lifted Up."; Winnie the Pooh, A. A. Milne; Catch 22, Joseph Heller; "The enemy is anyone who is trying to get you killed." -Yossarian; Rosh Hashanah/Yom Kippur mazor used by the Woodstock Jewish Congregation; Peace Is Every Step, Thich Nhat Hanh, Jack Kornfield, Pema Chodron. “When all is quiet and we are small and the night is dark, may we hear the tender breathing of all who lie awake with us in fear, that together we may gather strength to live with love, and kindness, and confidence.” Jane Ranney Rzepka; Atheists Have No Hymns by Steve Martin.

Image: Anne Frank poses in 1941; Frans Dupon—Anne Frank House/AP

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. It's easy and if you're interested, please say so.

To submit a Calendar Event Request, cut and paste the text below into an email and send to: 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. Please make sure you also coordinate with our Rentals Manager, Rayla Mattson, if this is a one-time-open-to-the-public event. Thank you! ~Linda

Put in the Subject: 'Calendar'

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