



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 29, 2017
Worshipping Together Since 1830
Sunday Service 10:30 AM
Revs. Cathy & Heather Rion Starr



3 December
International Day of
People with Disability

Worship Service: Sunday, December 3, 2017 ~ 10:30 AM ~"The Paradox of Embodiment ~ Rev. Cathy Rion Starr, Co-Minister ~ Doris Maldonado, Worship Associate ~ Nancy Eiesland writes about "a liberatory realism that maintains a clear recognition of the limits of our bodies and an acceptance of limits as the truth of being human." On this International Day of Persons with Disabilities, how might we embrace this "liberatory realism" as we face the barriers that make life hard for some and seek to build more inclusivity into our world? Our Good Neighbor Offering will go to Unified Theater and we'll welcome new members during worship.



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).

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 E-News:

RE News You Can Use

40th Annual Festival of the Season: Reservation Form Below

Church Business News: Super Hero Auction a Great Success! / Roof Update /

Meeting House Safety & Security / Social Justice Chair News

Local Unitarian Universalist Congregational Holiday Services

Get Involved at USH: Christmas Eve Cookie Elves Needed

Sunday Service Recap

2017 Programs for Adults and Families

Fall Small Group Ministries

Circle Dinners

Meeting House Presents Concert Series

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, December 3rd, the nursery will be available from 10:15-11:45am for the morning worship service. There will also be after-care for those 10 and under until 1:45pm.

There will be a Time for All Ages, followed by age appropriate classes. I will be taking some time off this Sunday, please see the RE Assistant, Sarah Cassidy for any RE related matters.

The 3rd-5th grade is requesting help for their project to Help Alleviate Poverty

Dear USH Kids and Parents,

There are Native American Kids near the pipeline in South Dakota who are the same age as you are who don't have any toys. The kids in the 3-5 class want to donate new toys to these kids. We want all USH kids to do something special to earn money and buy toys like we are doing.** Also, we don't want anything with batteries because when the batteries run out, these kids will be back to square one: with NO TOYS! We also want no electronics because they don't have ways to use electricity: again, with NO TOYS!

Boxes will be by each door labeled TOYS FOR HAWKWING*

Below is a list of toys that are needed:

* New Items for Babies: Infant Developmental & Educational Toys, Baby Dolls

* New Toys for Toddlers, Children & Art & Sport Items for Children and Teens

* Art Supplies (drawing pads/charcoals/pastels) ~ Board Games

* Trucks & Cars ~ Preschool Play-sets & Building Blocks ~ Baby Dolls

* Basketballs ~ Soccer Balls ~ Volleyballs ~ Lego's ~ Action Figures

Please: No battery or electric toys. Avoid violent or religious themes.

Please: No Stuffed Animals! ~ **Thank you, -The kids in the 3-5th-grade class**

****PS: Adults can give too if you'd like. *<https://www.hawkwing.org/>**

Any questions contact Diana Heymann: 860-461-0908 or

heydiana42@gmail.com

-Submitted by Diana Heymann

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 40th Annual
Festival of the Season
Saturday, December 9th, 2017

Save the Date!

Join us at the Unitarian Meeting House on December 9th, 2017
The Fun Starts at 3:30 PM ~ Activities include: Selfies with Santa, Holiday cookie decorating, Gingerbread houses, Wreath making, Holiday movie theatre, Holiday music and caroling, Winter character creation station, Puppet theater

At 5:30 there will be a short winter seasonal story and blessing by Rev. Heather Rion Starr after which we have a potluck dinner in Fellowship Hall.

Potluck starts at 6! Please feel free to bring a main entree, side dish, or dessert. Refreshments are provided. Please label your dishes with your name and ingredients. We have some guests with food allergies.

RSVP By Dec. 2 for guaranteed seating at the potluck dinner! Cost is as follows: \$10 per adult \$5 per child / \$25 per family of 4 (combo of adults and children) Reservations are not necessary and no one will be turned away for lack of funds.

Email [kristal.babyguru\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:kristal.babyguru(at)gmail.com) to arrange payment or come to USH and drop off a reservation form in the mailbox located in the church office during regular office hours: Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday 10am-3pm.
 All children must have a parent/caregiver attending the event.

40th Annual Festival of the Season

December 9, 2017

3:30-7:30pm

RESERVATION FORM



3:30 – 5:30 Crafts and Activities

5:15 – 5:30 – Traditional Caroling Around the Sanctuary

5:30 – 6:00 – Holiday service

6:00 – 7:30 – Potluck Dinner and the 12 Days of Christmas

Please bring potluck to share (entrée, side dish or dessert). Refreshments provided. (Feel free to BYOB)

-----cut here-----

LAST NAME: _____ FIRST NAME: _____

Email or tel #: _____

How many total in your party: _____

Number of Adults _____

Number under 18 y.o. _____

Number attending potluck _____

\$10 per Adult or \$25 per family of 4 Amount Enclosed \$ _____

RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2017.

Make Check out to Unitarian Society of Hartford with memo line: FOS

Place reservations in the HOLIDAY MAILBOX in the office or Program Table

Contact Crystal Kelley or Kathie Ferguson with questions or for more information!

Church Business News

Super Hero Auction a Great Success! ~ The Stewardship Committee thanks everyone who donated, bid on, and purchased items in the USH SuperHero Auction, which culminated in an exciting time on Sunday, November 19th in Fellowship Hall after the service. We raised approximately \$6,000 in pledges and have collected approximately \$4,000! We are still collecting checks on Sundays or you can mail them to: The Unitarian Society of Hartford, 50 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105, Attn.: Auction/Kate Gervais. These funds will go toward meeting our goals for our beloved community. We got to know each other better – two members of our community are fluent in American Sign Language!- and we will be seeing each other on hikes, in genealogy sessions, having meals together and learning more about amphibians later in the spring!! **We are grateful to all those who made this process possible: Rev. Cathy Rion Starr, Linda Clark, Rayla Baldwin Mattson, Brian Mullen, Phil Gardner, Sherri Lanza, Barbara Fraher, Mary-Anne Mulholland, Helen David, Yakhonda Mwenelupembe, Bob White, Kerry White, Don Hope, Susan Hope, Shari Williams and Rick Tsukada (MC Extraordinaire) and Meetinghouse Folk (Mike Zanta - Guitar, mandolin, and vocals, Sarah McKenzie - Guitar, banjo, and vocals, Helen Koulidobrova - Guitar and vocals, Hugh Schweitzer – bass, Tom Gervais – Percussion)**

With thanks, the Stewardship Committee: Carolyn Carlson, Virginia Hedrick, Kate Gervais, Caron Lanouette, Leslie Waite

Roof Update ~ After many years of patching the leaks from our unique roof, the Board and the B & G Sub-Council are currently exploring options to correct permanently (hopefully) the roof water and drainage issues. An RFP (request for proposals) was prepared and went out to several roofing contractors several of whom made site visits to look at the project. Within the next week B & G expects to get back proposals from the contractors which it will then forward to the Board with recommendations. Once the Board has had an opportunity to evaluate the bids and proposals the Board will share this information with the congregation in Board Under the Stairs sessions. ~ **Submitted by Hank Murray**

Meeting House Safety and Security ~ In response to inquiries from many people in religious communities around the state following the horrific events at the church shooting in Texas last month, the Connecticut State Police has organized a discussion called “Safety in Our House of Worship” which will be held on December 14, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the CSP Training Academy in Meriden. Anyone wishing more information or wanting to attend should contact Hank Murray (hfmurray(at)lapm.org). ~ **Submitted by Hank Murray**

Social Justice Council Chair ~ The USH Board of Directors would like to extend our thanks to Valerie Klokow who recently decided to step down from her position as Social Justice Council chair and Board member. We are grateful for Valerie's thoughtful contributions during her time on the Board. Under the USH constitution and bylaws, vacancies in board positions are filled for the remainder of the fiscal year by a vote of the Board. The Nominating and Leadership Development Committee will be working with the Board to consider candidates for this critical position and is expected to make a recommendation to fill the position by February. ~ **Submitted by Sherry Manetta**



Christmas Day/Eve Services ~ Join your local Unitarian Universalist congregations for Holiday services! Know that all beliefs—theists, atheists, agnostics, and humanists—are welcome at Unitarian Universalist congregations. We welcome you, your families and your friends exactly as you are.

December 13, 7pm Vespers Service acknowledging Hanukkah
 December 24, 10:30am Contemplative Morning Service
 December 24, 4pm Multigenerational Christmas Eve Service
 Unitarian Society of Hartford
 50 Bloomfield Avenue (near intersection of Bloomfield & Albany, in Hartford)
www.ushartford.com

December 24, 6pm Family Service, 8pm Multigenerational Service
 Unitarian Universalist Society: East
 153 Vernon Street West, in Manchester
uuse.org

December 24, 10am Modern and Contemplative Service
 December 24, 5pm Christmas Pageant, 9pm Lessons and Carols
 The Universalist Church of West Hartford
 433 Fern Street (near intersection of Fern & North Main, in West Hartford)
www.westhartforduu.org

Call for Holiday Service information: 1-203-237-9297
 Unitarian Universalist Church in Meriden
 328 Paddock Avenue, in Meriden (south of East Main Street)
www.uumeriden.org
 May light, joy, and the warmth of community find their way into your hearts and your lives during these longest nights of the year.

Get Involved at USH - Be Part of a Great Team!

Get more connected with this congregation through volunteering. Below are some areas, both seasonal and year-round, where Volunteers are especially needed and welcome:



Christmas 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) or Rev. Heather (revheatherionstarr(at)gmail.com) know if you can fulfill this sweet, delectable, delightful, once-a-year role!



The USH Sunday Welcome Team ~ Contact Linda Clark at ushlindaclark(at)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 on Sundays.



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(at)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 for more information,**

e-mail Sam at smoffett(at)ushartford.com.



The Book Table During Coffee Hour ~ Everybody enjoys browsing through the books for sale 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\(at\)comcast.net](mailto:clara.horn(at)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**

Sunday Service Recap by Kayla Costenoble
Sunday, November 26, 2017
"Being the Prophets: Cell-Based Leadership for Trying Times"

Rev. Sunshine J. Wolfe, Pulpit Guest





Photos: Harriet Gardner

“All of us need all of us to make it,” was the oft-repeated mantra of pulpit guest Rev. Sunshine J. Wolfe, Interim Minister at May Memorial UU Society in Syracuse, New York, during the service at the USH the Sunday after Thanksgiving.

Rev. Wolfe compared “cell-based leadership” to our physical bodies, which “need multiple pieces to have a whole body.” Comparing this concept to something as specific as church leadership, she said, “My way is the only way does not work” if we lose the capacity to lead together. No hands were raised in the congregation to answer affirmatively to her question, “How many of you trust leaders?” She admitted feeling “more threatened now” in our current (i.e., political) environment.

Rev. Wolfe said that after the conflict in the UUA over white supremacy and the resignation of the UUA president, three black women were chosen as interim leaders. None of them thought she alone had the answer. They reviewed and analyzed; they invited people to come talk to them; they sought the advice of others; there was not just one voice. “When leaders think they know it all, that’s when bad things happen,” she said.

“The South knows it has a real problem,” Rev. Wolfe said. The shooting of Michael Brown, an 18 year-old black man, in Ferguson, Missouri, on August 8, 2014, means a lot to her. At that time, she was serving a UU congregation in a Missouri suburb not far from Ferguson. She was part of a group of clergy who gathered, knelt in the middle of the street and prayed, an action that changed the energy, and helped her learn not to rely on just one leader to “spread witness and justice.” She realized that different groups can start responding in different ways, and offered us some ideas from a Beacon Press book published in September, 2017: “Daring Democracy: Igniting Power, Meaning and Connection for the America We Want” by Frances Moore Lappe and Adam Eichen. The authors write that the need to feel secure is essential to embrace democracy, that genuine real democracy is possible, and there is a role for each of us in the process. It’s not the magnitude of a challenge that crushes the human spirit—it’s feeling powerless.

Rev. Wolfe asked us to open our hymnal and find our fifth UU Principle: “The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.” Ghe said we shouldn’t agree with everything; “If we do, we’re not doing enough. . . We need multiple voices as we live in a society steeped in oppression and power dynamics.”

On a lighter note: Rev. Wolfe “warned” us that “in my church you have to dance,” and so, in one of the hymns ghe supplied for the service, “Where You Go,” we found ourselves, singing, clapping, and stepping right, then left during it. “Now you’re dancing,” ghe reminded us. In ghe’s story to the kids, a super-tiny girl who loved to help people, decided that what she wanted to do was feed the hungry, so she made 100 sandwiches. But everyone refused her offer, saying they had already eaten. When she finally asked what they needed, tools, seeds, and a grocery store in their neighborhood was the answer. The moral: you can’t just decide what people need.



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.) Meetings off-site. Contact: Tom Gervais: 860-558-3000;tom.j.gervais@gmail.com

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

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

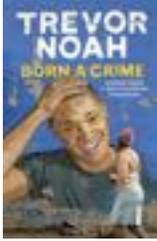
Meditation and Dharma Gathering: Wednesdays, 5:45 – 7:00 PM. Any questions please contact Jan Bennett: chair2clinic@juno.com.

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.

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

USH Book Club: Next Meeting, January 11, 2018. Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood by Trevor Noah. Off-site. For directions and more information contact Richard Groothuis: rgroopofus@icloud.com.



The compelling, inspiring, and comically sublime story of one man's coming-of-age, set during the twilight of apartheid and the tumultuous days of freedom that followed.

Trevor Noah's unlikely path from apartheid South Africa to the desk of The Daily Show began with a criminal act: his birth. Trevor was born to a white Swiss father and a black Xhosa mother at a time when such a union was punishable by five years in prison. Living proof of his parents' indiscretion, Trevor was kept mostly indoors for the earliest years of his life, bound by the extreme and often absurd measures his mother took to hide him from a government that could, at any moment, steal him away. Finally liberated by the end of South Africa's tyrannical white rule, Trevor and his mother set forth on a grand adventure, living openly and freely and embracing the opportunities won by a centuries-long struggle.

Born a Crime is the story of a mischievous young boy who grows into a restless young man as he struggles to find himself in a world where he was never supposed to exist. It is also the story of that young man's relationship with his fearless, rebellious, and fervently religious mother: his teammate, a woman determined to save her son from the cycle of poverty, violence, and abuse that would ultimately threaten her own life. - **Submitted by Richard Groothuis**



Small Group Ministries: 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 \(at\)jao.com](mailto:estmckone@jao.com), phone 860 677 6682. ~ **Submitted by Esther McKone**

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\(at\)jao.com](mailto:Estmckone@jao.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.

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 it 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**

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!

UPCOMING EVENTS



Friday, Jan 19, 2018 - Red State Road Trip
 A reading of a new play written and performed by Jacques Lamarre with a reception with the playwright afterwards. Jacques 12th full-length play, *Raging Skillet*, premiered at TheaterWorks in July 2017.



Friday, Jan 26, 2018 - New World Trio
 Returning by popular demand are the familiar faces and exquisite classical chamber music of the New World Trio. (<http://www.newworldtrio.org/bios.html>)



Friday, Feb 23, 2018 - Dennis McCorkle
 Dennis McCorkle's guitar repertoire encompasses classical, jazz, ragtime, blues, and Brazilian music. He is a prolific composer, performer, scholar, and teacher. Somehow he manages to do all that and still be humble and genuine.

Other News of Our Community and Upcoming Special Events



New Worship Associates ~ Good news....Margalie Belizaire, Paul Cipriano, and Doris Maldonado have completed worship associate orientation. During the next month, they will be joining the worship team when our Co-ministers are leading worship. Welcome! ~ **Sue Smolski, Worship Associate Coordinator**

1st Sunday CONNECTIONS

For Visitors & Newcomers

Each month we host an informal gathering for visitors and newcomers to learn more about UU, USH, our mission, education program and membership. Ask questions, share your concerns, and meet others.

We meet "Under the Stairs" (Lower Lobby)
 15 minutes after the end of the service.

Attend as many times as you wish.



Upcoming Meetings

December 3, 2017

Free Childcare Provided

★ 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**



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 plan to attend or 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

Culturally Relevant Storytelling as an Antidote to Implicit Bias

Room: Emerson/Meditation Room

Time: Noon – 1:30 p.m.

Date: Sunday, December 3, 2017

Cost: Free

Contact: Gloria Francesca Mengual - gloriafmengual@gmail.com

As a follow-up to a recent discussion about Implicit Bias, storytelling as an antidote to implicit bias will be both be discussed and experienced. For those who did not attend the Implicit Bias presentation, this session will provide a brief overview of the concept. This disconnect between implicit and explicit - known as dissociation - matters because everyone possesses these unconscious associations, and they affect our decisions, behaviors, and interactions with others and can have harmful effects when they influence our decision-making. Following the brief overview defining implicit bias, the group will participate in a storytelling activity known as The Cultural Timeline. By sharing our ideas, passions and our history, we move from seeing someone as the 'other' to recognizing our commonalities. Yes, we have varied perspectives, but more important, we also have shared values. Stop in to learn more about storytelling and the power it provides to relationship-building in race relations. **For more information, contact Gloria Francesca Mengual at [gloriafmengual\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:gloriafmengual(at)gmail.com).**

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



Braver/Wiser

(<https://www.uua.org/braverwiser>) is a feature on the Unitarian Universalist

Association website and it is also a source of wonderful weekly readings that you can subscribe to and receive in your e-mail inbox. Braver/Wiser gives you weekly messages of courage and compassion for life as it is. Every Wednesday the Braver/Wiser team delivers an original written reflection by a contemporary religious leader, and brief prayer, grounded in Unitarian Universalism. Join the Braver/Wiser community and sign up today! **The writing and reflection of our own Rayla Mattson has been featured -- look for it, "share" it if you're on social media or send it to a friend by e-mail. Congrats and thank you for all your sharing and contributions to Unitarian Universalism, Rayla!**

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

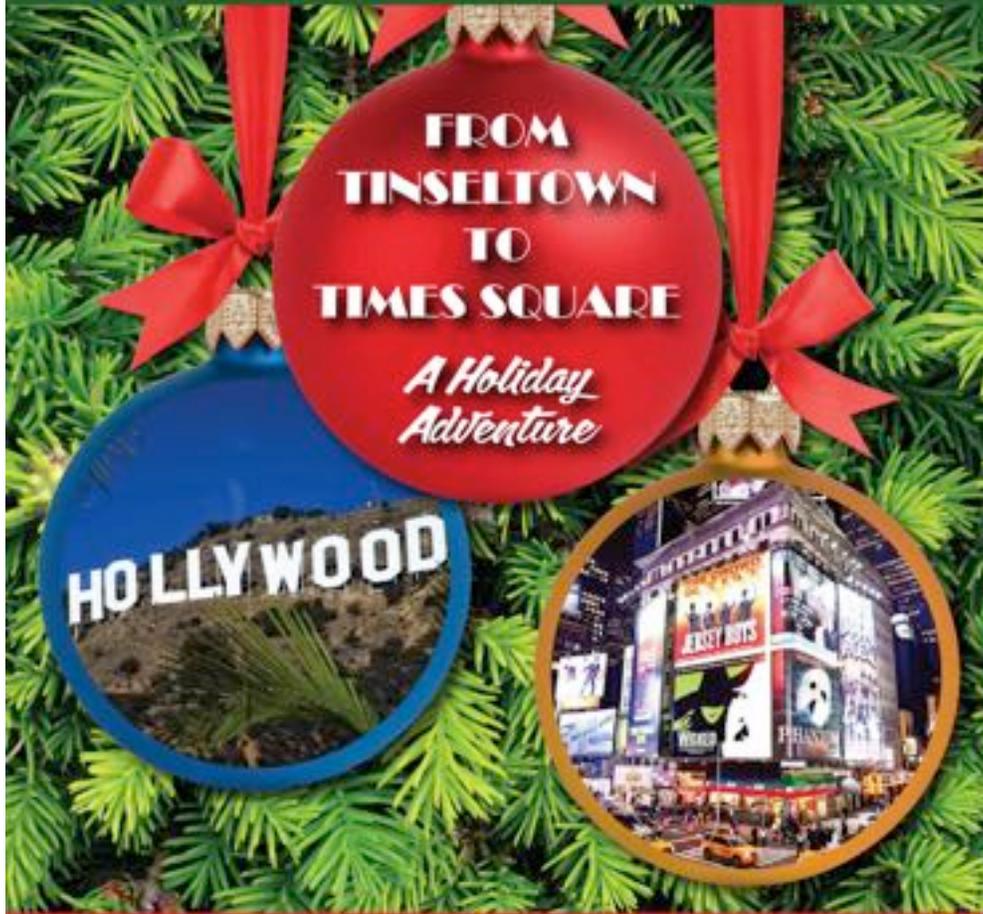


Contacts:
Lindsey Jones-Rowell lejrowell@gmail.com or
Kristine Glenney kristineglenney@comcast.net

Upcoming Special Events and News in the Larger Community

HARTFORD GAY MEN'S CHORUS

PROUDLY PRESENTS



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8TH @ 8:00 P.M.,
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9TH @ 8:00 P.M.,
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10TH @ 3:00 P.M.

AETNA THEATER

AT THE WADSWORTH ATHENEUM MUSEUM OF ART
600 MAIN STREET, HARTFORD CT 06103
(ENTER AT EVERY DOOR ON ATHENEUM SQUARE NORTH)



HARTFORD
GAY MEN'S
CHORUS

TICKETS: \$45 AND \$30, HANDLING FEES ADDITIONAL
RESERVED SEATING
PURCHASE ONLINE AT: TICKETS.HGMC.ORG

**Candlelight
Festival of
Lessons & Carols**

**Sunday
December 10
3:00 p.m.**

St. John's Youth and
Adult Choirs
Scott Lamlein, choirmaster
Floyd Higgins, organist

In the tradition of King's College,
Cambridge, prepare your soul
for the Christmas miracle with
carols for choir and organ.
This event is a long-standing
tradition at St. John's
– a "must" to center your soul
during the Advent season.

Free admission,
with donations received,
no tickets required.
A reception follows
in the church hall.

 St. John's Episcopal Church
479 Farmington Avenue (near Progress)
West Hartford, CT 06119
www.RedDoorMusic.org
Music at the Red Door

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'

Also: Cc Rayla Mattson requests: [dre\(at\)ushartford.com](mailto:dre(at)ushartford.com)

Event Title:

Room:

Time:

Date(s):

Is This a Private Event?

Contact Person:

A Short Description:

Cost: (if applicable)

Is Childcare Provided?: (Note if childcare will be provided you must arrange it with the DRE.)

USH Staff:

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

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Rev. Cathy Rion Starr, Co-Minister
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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.