



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

USH-Enews ~ December 13, 2017  
Worshipping Together Since 1830  
Sunday Service 10:30 AM  
Revs. Cathy & Heather Rion Starr

**Please Note: There will be reduced office hours from December 24-December 29.**

**Please call the office to make sure someone is here if you plan to stop in.**

**There will be no E-News the week of December 24. Have a lovely quiet week!**



Image: <http://farmhousenotforgotten.blogspot.com/2014/12/happy-winter-solstice.html>

**Worship Service: Sunday, December 17, 2017 ~ 10:30 AM ~ "Keeping the Flame" ~ Marye Gail Harrison & Rev. Cathy ~ Lisa Galiniski, Worship Associate** ~ As we approach the shortest day of the year, we will keep the flame of joy and hope alive with play and laughter in this service exploring the old tradition of role reversal and "misrule." Come celebrate light and dark, come play, come celebrate together.



**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? Gabriel Duquette will also be working as service sexton. **Please let Linda Clark ([ushlindaclark\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:ushlindaclark@gmail.com)) or Rev. Heather ([revheatherrionstarr\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:revheatherrionstarr@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  
 40th Annual Festival of the Season  
 Church Business News  
 Local Unitarian Universalist Holiday Services  
 Get Involved at USH: Christmas Eve Cookie Elves Needed  
 Sunday Service Recap  
 2017 Programs for Adults and Families  
 Fall Small Group Ministries  
 Meeting House Presents Concert Series: The Perfect Gift!  
 Upcoming Events and Other News at USH  
 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/](http://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 17, the nursery will be available during the morning worship hour. Childcare will also be available until 1:45pm for those parents wishing to enjoy a longer coffee hour or a meeting.

Please join us for our annual Solstice service. This year's will be especially enjoyable as our children and youth are taking a large part in it.



**The High School Youth Group seeks the donation of new mittens, gloves, hats, scarves and socks** to decorate the USH Christmas Tree and to distribute afterwards to the children at the Village for Children and Families. Please help us beautify our holiday tree with the gifts of love and warmth to our neighbors. Please bring your offering to the front lobby and adorn the tree yourself from now until New Years!  
Thank you!! -**The High School Youth Group**

### **The 3-5th 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.



## 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; Carol Sing at 3:30pm

Unitarian Society of Hartford

50 Bloomfield Avenue (near intersection of Bloomfield & Albany, in Hartford)

[www.ushartford.com](http://www.ushartford.com)

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December 24, 6pm Family Service, 8pm Multigenerational Service

Unitarian Universalist Society: East

153 Vernon Street West, in Manchester

[uuse.org](http://uuse.org)

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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](http://www.westhartforduu.org)

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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](http://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:**



**The USH Sunday Welcome Team** ~ Contact Linda Clark at [ushlindaclark\(at\)gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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. To all in the community who have ever thought about joining the choir: come and sing! If you would like to join or for more information, e-mail Sam at [smoffett\(at\)ushartford.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:chris.wilt@gmail.com). ~ Submitted by

Christopher Wilt

**Sunday Service Recap by David Newton  
 Sunday, December 10, 2017  
 "Music of Different Faiths"  
 Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries**



**Photos by Mala Matacin**

**"The Red Cup" ~** After you attend USH for a period of time, you come to appreciate those 20 minutes or so devoted to sermons each week. After all, it is probably the only regular time in your life where you actually listen to anyone for that long without interruption, discussion, or distraction. Further, from time to time during a sermon or reflection, you suddenly realize you are hearing someone speak from the core of their being, and at such times, you could hear a pin drop in the Sanctuary.

This is what happened when Sam Moffett, our Director of Music Ministries, gave his reflection this past Sunday during a service for which Margalie Belizaire was

capable Worship Associate. He pointed out that he didn't consider himself to be a religious person because, among other factors, his parents came from different religious backgrounds and didn't make him go to a specific church. Given that situation, and his curiosity, he informed himself in college and through attendance at various religious ceremonies. Not surprisingly, he found music a commonality among various religions.

He asked us, "How many of you think the music you hear in here helps connect you to our great covenant? If so, then I'm doing my job!"

He went on to note how he had learned in classes that a good deal of religious music was actually written for the particular architecture of the building in which it was to be performed. Further, it was to connect the particular religious community to their spirit, sort of his job with USH.

He said while he is learning about our space, he has come to "understand a bit about our spirit." And he said, "What strikes me as so powerful about this community is that, the spirit can be... anything." When he said that, he set the audience aquiver. After all, here is one who had no Unitarian background, has attended and observed what we are and what we aspire to be, and will share his views on what we do in a sort of first voyage giving a reflection to the congregation during the precious 20 minutes.

He pointed to the hassle Starbucks got into when it decided to print a solid red cup for the Christmas season. It caused controversy as it upset the Christian community, but was it not a reminder that the world was a space where we all live, Christian, Jewish, Islamic and other faith communities who all believe something?

He developed the theme that Unitarians are, it their views, the red cup in religion. Accordingly, the featured music in the service came from different traditions illustrating the red cup from a music perspective.

And he concluded, one could not do better than to quote his final paragraph: I want you all to think about this: What is it that you need to have faith in this holiday season? For some of you, it might be God. Maybe it's yourself. Maybe it's a member of your family, or a past friend who has wronged you. Maybe it's a politician, or your favorite sports team. What is your idea of spirit? How can you strengthen your faith in that spirit? And remember, in here, you can do that. In here, we are with you.



It is in here that we dwell in peace with you, in here that we seek the truth in love with you, and in here that we help you, and one another. In here, we drink from the red cup.

Indeed, we aspire to do so.



Photos: David Newton





**40 Years of Festival of the Season** ~ And, this year for the first time it snowed with some enthusiasm in the afternoon and into the evening. However, not to be put off by a little New England weather, those who could safely turn out did and the programs were a success.

The traditional gingerbread houses, always a big draw for adults and children alike, were, shall we say, constructed with great focus on the goodies involved. Santa, as always, happily visited with adults and children alike while chapel music continued with snow falling in the background, snow instantly banishing fall and putting on winter's coat for all to see. Elsewhere, cookies were being decorated, and wreaths constructed.

Later, at a brief but carefully crafted service, pick-up music talent assisted Rev. Heather as she read a remarkable story about a particular Latke, punctuated by collective audience screams at appropriate intervals.

Then on to the potluck, thank you contributors, and the traditional 12 Days of Christmas directed by our ever-youthful John Stowe.

**Special thanks to organizers Kathie Ferguson and Crystal Kelley, nicely done, one and all. ~ -Submitted by David Newton**

**The Re-Gifting Sale continues December 17 during coffee hour.  
There are still lots of items to choose from! Get those last minute gifts!**



**2017 Programs for Adults and Families** ~ For more information on current programs 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

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

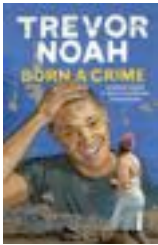
**Tai Chi:** Wednesdays, 5:30 – 7:00 PM. Contact Ginny Hedrick: 860-677-9272.

**Authentic Connection & Communication:** An NVC Practice Group, Wednesdays, 7:15 – 9:15 PM. Any questions contact Mark Friedman: drmarkafriedman@drmarkafriedman.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. Click [HERE](#) for more info. ~ **Submitted by Richard Groothuis**



**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**

**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 \(at\)aol.com](mailto:estmckone@aol.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\(at\)aol.com](mailto: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.

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!



**A Great Gift Idea!**

**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). All the concerts for this season can be purchased in advance online through brown paper tickets which they can access directly from this link- [www.brownpapertickets.com/browse.html](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/browse.html)- or go to brown paper tickets and just search for the artist, or use the Meeting House Presents page at USH which has links for all the concerts to brown paper tickets- [www.ushartford.com/nourishing-spirit/music/meetinghousepresents/](http://www.ushartford.com/nourishing-spirit/music/meetinghousepresents/)  
 Prices unless otherwise noted:  
 Tickets \$20 at the door/\$12 for students with ID.  
 Members children under age 12 are free with parent.

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

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



## UPCOMING SHOWS



### 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.

March 23: JP Cormier

March 30: Susie Burke and David Surette

Apr. 27: An Evening with Mary Gauthier

Co-produced with the Sounding Board Coffee House

## Other News of Our Community and Upcoming Special Events



### Thank you from The Village for Families and Children:

The boy sitting across from me and I agreed that cornbread tastes best when it is made with sugar. Macaroni and cheese was the favorite of the girl to my right. This year for the fourth year, children from The Village for

Families and Children joined the USH family at last Saturday's Festival of the Season. The children who attended live in one of the two residential facilities at The Village, Eagle House or SFit. A grand time was had by all. Wreathes were made and gingerbread houses constructed. I suspect the cookies that were decorated never left our building. Most of all, the children from The Village had fun in a welcoming community. As you have before, the members of USH supported and cared for the children of The Village by your acceptance and your willingness to share the joy of the season. Thank you, once again, for supporting the children from The Village for Families and Children. ~ **Joanne Orlando**



### Happy December from your USH Staff & Ministry Team!

Here are just a few of us--Core Staff, Co-Ministers, our Affiliated Community Minister Rev. Erica, Child Care Providers, Custodian and Sexton--at our Annual Staff December Party last week. With gratitude to all who play a part in keeping this congregation going with energy, joy, and grace!



**Lost Owls!** ~ There are several stuffed owls in the office waiting to go back home. These owls participated in the recent multi-gen Harry Potter themed service. Please come get your owl during regular office hours, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10-3 or on Sunday. Thank you.

## ★ 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



### **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](http://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**



**Lost and Found** ~ Lost and found items were left on the shelf at the entrance to the office. There is now a 'Lost & Found' box in the office on the bottom shelf of a storage rack near Linda Clark's desk. Items found in the building will be placed there. Please check in the office if you have misplaced something. Thank you.



**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 recently 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](mailto: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)**

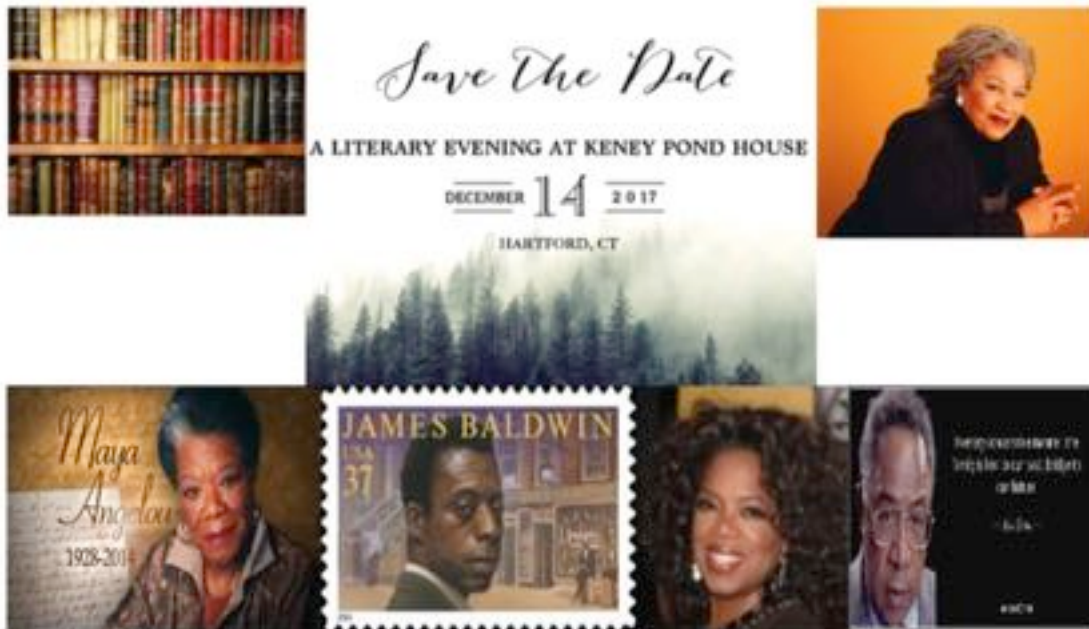
**Suggested donation:** Lawn sign - \$20  
Window sign - \$5 - Car sign - \$2

Contacts:  
Lindsey Jones-Rowell [lejrowell@gmail.com](mailto:lejrowell@gmail.com) or  
Kristine Glenney [kristineglenney@comcast.net](mailto:kristineglenney@comcast.net)

**LOVE your neighbor\***  
\* your black, brown, immigrant, disabled, religiously different, LGBTQ, fully human neighbor

The Unitarian Society of Harford

## Upcoming Special Events and News in the Larger Community



On Thursday, December 14th, from 6:00– 9:00PM, The Keney Park Pond House will host a book signing presenting 25 local authors, including Vangie Buchanan, Ben Foster, Thirman Milner, Gloria F. Perry, Gary Rhule, William “Rab” Smith, and Chief Teale. All genres will be represented: fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and children’s books. Authors will give brief talks about their books. This is a free event with wine and light refreshments. Signed books will be available for purchase.

### **Vigil for Victims of Gun Violence December 16 at 3:30pm Ana Marquez-Greene Memorial Playground Elizabeth Park, 178 Elizabeth St, Hartford**

December 14, 2017 marks the 5-year mark of the Sandy Hook tragedy. Since that heartbreaking day in Newtown five years ago, half a million Americans have been killed or injured by guns. We urge you to join us in our effort to continue to shine a light on the devastating epidemic of gun violence in our nation until these gun deaths and injuries are reduced.

**NATIONWIDE VIGILS & EVENTS TO #EndGunViolence:** The victims, survivors and the families impacted by gun violence are often forgotten. Therefore, the Newtown Foundation, the charitable arm of the Newtown Action Alliance, in partnership with Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, Everytown Survivor Network, Faiths United to Prevent Gun Violence, Moms Demand Action for Gun



Sense in America, Organizing for Action, States United to Prevent Gun Violence, St Marks Episcopal Church and Women's March will host the annual national vigil service of mourning and loving remembrance for all who have fallen victim to the ongoing epidemic of gun violence in America on December 6th and nationwide vigils/events during the month of December.  
Full info: <https://www.facebook.com/events/171295873459971>

**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). 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](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). 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/>

Rev. Heather Rion Starr, Co-Minister  
[revheather@ushartford.com](mailto:revheather@ushartford.com) | 860-233-9897 ext 103

Rev. Cathy Rion Starr, Co-Minister  
[revcathy@ushartford.com](mailto:revcathy@ushartford.com) | 860-233-9897 ext 103

Rayla D. Mattson, Director of Religious Education and Rentals Manager  
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Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries

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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.