



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 ~ October 9, 2019
Building Community Since 1830
Sunday Service 10:30 AM
Revs. Cathy & Heather Rion Starr



Image: <https://www.pinterest.com>

Worship Service, October 13, 2019, 10:30am
“Comm-Unity, Communing in Unity”
Rev. Rochelle Ripley
Judy Robbins, Worship Associate

On Sunday, October 13, our pulpit guest will be Rochelle Ripley, founder of hawkwing, a non-profit agency that assists America's poorest children and elders on the Cheyenne River Lakota Reservation in South Dakota to meet their basic human needs. This work fulfills a promise to her Lakota Grandmother "to go home and help the People." Her sermon will be "Comm-Unity, Communing in Unity." She will address the importance of community and the danger of dividing ourselves into separate segments. When we bring everyone into a Circle of Caring, we gain strength, understanding and unity. Rochelle has been the recipient of many awards, including a Top Ten CNN Hero in 2015 and a People magazine American Hero (2016). The collection this Sunday will be a Good Neighbor offering for hawkwing.



Personal News of the Congregation - We sadly share with you the news that USH member Sherry Williams has passed away. Sherry was a dynamic, creative, thoughtful person who had struggled with significant illness for over a year. Memorial gathering details will be shared as soon as they are known. Please see USH website for details.



**Message from the
Sabbatical
Committee: Our
Sabbatical Candle
On Sunday Sept.
29th, the**

congregation joyfully sent our Revs off for their well-deserved sabbatical. There were several special elements of Sunday's service to celebrate this occasion, including a surprise Flash Mob with the youth during the Time of All Ages and the blessing of the Sabbatical Candle.

This Sabbatical Candle symbolizes our ongoing connection with our Revs -- our covenant and our relationship with each other. The candles are colorful and celebratory because we know that our congregation will continue our full and rich congregational life over the next three months and holiday season.

During Sunday's service the candles were blessed, first by the Revs with these words: "We bless these candles with our love, our blessings for smooth sailing, and our confidence in you to hold the ship steady in our absence." Then the Sabbatical Committee added a blessing: "We bless these candles with our love, with our blessings for smooth and wonderful travel, and our confidence that you will rest, play, learn and renew while you are

away." Lastly, the candles were passed to the children and then throughout the pews so that everyone had an opportunity to put their own blessing for the Revs into the candles. As we extinguished our Chalice, we lit the candle to mark the beginning of the Sabbatical time.

Our Sabbatical Candle that will be lit each Sunday until our Revs return -- so look for it on the chancel. The Revs also have an identical candle that they will keep at home to continue their connection with us. For any questions about the Sabbatical, please reach out to your Sabbatical Team, Marye Gail Harrison, Laurie Kelliher, Lisa Galinski and Peter Meny.

USH will be hosting a regional New England Regional Liberal Religious Education Association event on October, 10th. Our own DRE, Rayla D. Mattson sits on the board and will be hosting a worship service and workshop for other religious professionals by CB Beal called Preemptive Radical Inclusion. It will be a full and exciting day and the building will be in full use! While this particular workshop is for professionals only, we hope that you will honor their time in the building. We are also looking for a few hosts to come in that morning to bring and/or set-up a light breakfast, coffee, snacks and drinks. We are also hoping to have some helping hands for lunch as well. Please contact Rayla if you are available to assist at 860-839-5001.

In This Week's Enews:

[RE News You Can Use](#)

[News from the USH Board of Directors](#)

[Social Justice at USH](#)

[Church Business News: Sabbatical Update](#)

[Programs for Adults and Families](#)

[Connection Circles : Disability Focused Connection Circle](#)

[Events & News of Our Community](#)

[Meeting House Presents](#)

[Get Involved 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/

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

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

To read the USH Blog click [HERE](#).

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

From the USH Caring Network: Please inform the Caring Network of needs, or volunteer your services. If you know of any member experiencing some difficulty, please contact Eve Pech or any member of the Caring Network so we can provide some assistance. A wide range of community services is also available to those in need by calling the Community Info Line at 211.

Updates from the Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee needs many hands on deck! It is rewarding and enjoyable to be a part of a committed and enthusiastic team, plus essential to the well-being of USH! The more hands, the less work for everyone! Please consider helping with one or more of the following:

First up: Overall for the year, we need:

- Someone to coordinate and schedule the Stewardship Table after services. You don't have to do it every Sunday, but be responsible for determining the theme of the table and scheduling someone from the team for each Sunday

- Someone to do various data analysis tasks throughout the year. You can do this from home and not even have to come to any meetings
- Someone to learn the credit card swiping and processing procedures and train others how to do it

Fall: The Auction! We need:

- Someone to oversee the Auction website. It's a basic, simple database. You can do this from home and not have to come to meetings
- People to help plan the Auction and solicit skills and thrills from the congregation and friends
- A buffet lunch organizer (again, no meetings, unless you want to come)
- A Set-up Team leader, one, maybe two, meetings
- A wine & beer organizer and "bartenders"
- Cashiers for check-out and payments
- A Break-down Team leader, one, maybe two, meetings

Late Winter: The Pledge Drive. We need:

- Someone to work with the Membership Committee to update the list of members and friends prior to the drive
- A small team to organize the Soirees, recruit hosts, schedule the Host Training and the Host Appreciation Lunch
- Someone to recruit congregants to do testimonials at the services
- A communications person to coordinate a congregational letter encouraging pledging and other communications between Stewardship and the congregation

And Last but NOT LEAST, we need a Chair for the Stewardship Committee to lead this fun, creative, dedicated group of people. Lots of support will be provided by the well experienced team. If you're interested please contact USHStewardship@gmail.com.

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



The youth group had a great outing this past Sunday. We went to the Lebanon Renaissance Faire. Many came in costume and some younger siblings went as well. A big thanks to Laura and Mel for organizing the event.

This week we will have a TFAA followed by age appropriate classes ONLY for the 3rd-5th grades. Please note I do not have enough teachers for the other grade levels so those children and youth will remain in the sanctuary with their families. Activity packets will be available. The nursery will also be available during the morning worship hour.

**** Calling our Harry Potter fans! On October 27th, Sam and I will be leading a Harry Potter themed service. We are looking for a few people, of all ages, to dust off their acting skills and help us with the service. If you are interested, please let Sam or myself know. Thanks**

Our Director of Religious Education is looking for teachers and assistants for the 2019-2020 church year. We need your help in the following grade levels: Prek-2nd, 3rd-5th and 6th-8th. I am still in need of at least 2 more teachers for each grade level. I promise I won't call on you more than once every 4-6 weeks! We have a great group of teachers to work with and I provide everything you need each week. We just need your love and enthusiasm. Please contact Rayla D. Mattson for more information at dre@ushartford.com or 860-233-9897 ext 104. Thank you! --Rayla



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



Youth Group Soup Making

**October 20 @ 9:00
 am -11:00 am**

**A Short
 Description: Soup
 making by the
 youth for Church
 St. Eats**

**Room: Kitchen
 Time: 9:00am-
 11:00pm**

**Date(s): Oct 20, Nov 17, Dec. 15, Jan 26, Feb 23, Mar 22, May
 3rd and May 24**

Contact Person: Laura, Rob and John

Staff News



Please continue to welcome our new Office Administrator, Buffie Pinney. Buffie will be with us through at least mid-February 2020 which will enable the Revs to go on their long-planned sabbatical and the Board as a whole a chance to consider what staffing configuration best suits USH as we continue to move together into the complex 21st century. Buffie is married and lives with her husband and son in Simsbury. Buffie will be working every-other-Sunday and Tuesday through Thursday in the office 9am-2pm. Please welcome her!

News from the USH Board of Directors



Greetings from the Board:

Our ministers will be on a well deserved Sabbatical leave until the beginning of January. Please see the Sabbatical brochure for full details. As always, our members and friends keep us going strong. If you would like to be more active and involved in any aspect of congregational life, please contact one of our ministers or any Board member today.

~ Joe Rubin, USH Board President

Your 2019-20 USH Board

—Have a question or comment or just want to chat about USH? Don't hesitate to talk with any one of your Board members:

Joe Rubin: President

Martha Bradley: President-Elect

Phil Gardner: Treasurer

Sarah Harmon McKenzie: Secretary

Peter Meny: Spiritual Life Council Chair

Sue Tenorio: Administration Council Chair

Judy Sullivan: Social Justice Council Chair

Carolyn Carlson: Community Within Council Chair

Rev. Cathy Rion Starr, Co-Minister (ex-officio)

Rev. Heather Rion Starr, Co-Minister (ex-officio)



**UPCOMING PROGRAM:
THE CONVERSATION PROJECT
Sunday, Oct 27 - 12:15 PM, Chapel**

The USH Caring Network is sponsoring a free one-hour program called "The Conversation Project" at 12:15 on Sunday, Oct. 27, in the Chapel.

"The Conversation Project" is a national educational workshop dedicated to helping people talk about potential health care and end of life decisions. How can you give your loved ones the confidence they need to make important medical decisions in the event you're unable to make them for yourself? There will be strategies and tips on how to begin these difficult conversations with loved ones. While 92% of Americans say it's important to discuss their wishes for end-of-life care, only 32% have had such a conversation. 95% of Americans say they would be willing to talk about their wishes, and 53% even say they'd be relieved to discuss it (The Conversation Project National Survey, 2018).

The facilitator is Peggy Coburn, MPH, Administrator at McLean Home Care and Hospice, with 20 years of experience in the senior health care industry.

No reservations are needed, but you may want to bring a lunch from home to eat during coffee hour before the program.

Questions? Contact Nita at 860-693-4269 .

Social Justice at USH

Coming Up at USH: Citizens Climate Lobby Meeting for Greater Hartford chapter. Sponsored by USH Green Sanctuary

Room: Library

Dates: Oct. 13, Nov. 10, and Dec. 8.

Time: Meeting is 2 - 4p.m. (1:30 - 4:30 includes pre-meeting set-up and post meeting clean-up)

Citizens Climate Lobby Meeting for Greater Hartford chapter. Sponsored by Green Sanctuary

Contacts: ellen.castaldini@gmail.com; jeff.howard.29@gmail.com

Event is free and open to public

REGISTER NOW FOR UNDOING RACISM TRAINING

This training is offered twice a year and rotates between weekday and weekend dates. Training is open to everyone.

November 15-17, 2019

Dates/Times/Location : (Participants must be available for all of the training to register)

- Friday, Nov. 15th | 6pm to 9pm
- Saturday, Nov. 16 and Sunday, Nov. 17th | 9am to 5pm

Location: Immanuel Congregational Church, 10 Woodland Street, Hartford.

Food: Snacks provided Friday. Breakfast and Lunch provided Saturday and Sunday.

Cost: The Cost is \$450 per person. Scholarships are available simply by requesting one. 100% of the fee goes to the training and food. Please check with your faith institution first to see if there are scholarships available. If not, Christian Activities Council will provide the scholarship.

Group Size : There is a maximum of 40 participants per training so register early!

How to register: Register online at <http://christianactivities.org/trainings/>. Send check made payable to Christian Activities Council to 47 Vine Street, Hartford, CT 06112 or pay through our web site at www.christianactivities.secure.force.com/donate/. Call 860-527-9860 with questions.

About the Training: Training is offered by The People's Institute for Survival and Beyond

Undoing Racism ® is our signature workshop. Through dialogue, reflection, role-playing, strategic planning and presentations, this intensive process challenges participants to analyze the structures of power and privilege that hinder social equity and prepares them to be effective organizers for justice. The multiracial team of organizers/trainers includes more than 100 men and women whose anti-racist organizing expertise includes years with civil, labor and welfare rights struggles, educational, foster care, social service and health reform movements, as well as youth and grassroots community organizing. An average of 30 groups

per month participate in The People's Institute Undoing Racism®/Community Organizing process.

Workshop participants will:

Develop a common definition of racism and an understanding of its different forms: individual, institutional, linguistic, and cultural;

Develop a common language and analysis for examining racism in the United States;

Understand one's own connection to institutional racism and its impact on his/her work;

Understand why people are poor and the role of institutions in exacerbating institutional racism, particularly for people and communities of color;

Understand the historical context for how racial classifications in the United States came to be and how and why they are maintained;

Understand the historical context for how U.S. institutions came to be and who they have been designed to serve;

Understand how all of us, including white people, are adversely impacted by racism every day, everywhere;

Address surface assumptions about how your work is (or is not) affected by racism;

Develop awareness and understanding about ways to begin Undoing Racism®

Contact Judy Sullivan with questions about financial support: jasullivan57@gmail.com.

Race Matters Conversation, Sunday October 13, noon to 1:30 p.m. Meditation Room.

This conversation will continue our readings from the New York Times' 1619 Project". We'll read and discuss an article on Mass Incarceration, written by Bryan Stevenson of the Equal Justice Initiative. He asserts, " Central to nderstanding this practice of mass incarceration and excessive punishment is the legacy of slavery." Please see fliers regarding this info at the USH Welcome Desk.

Join us for a lively discussion of this important topic.

**JOIN US FOR THE OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF
Greater Action Hartford Alliance Interfaith (GHIAA)
MON. OCTOBER 28, 2019 | 6:45 PM
Central Connecticut State University
WELTE AUDITORIUM, NEW BRITAIN, CONNECTICUT**

Park at Welte Garage; Doors open at 6:15pm .

After three years of preparation involving over 40 religious institutions, congregations in the greater Hartford area are launching the Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance (GHIAA).

GHIAA is a deliberate effort to cross lines of race, class, religion and geography to build relational power to address social justice issues in local communities and beyond, while helping our congregations come alive!

Please join 1,000 GHIAA members, denominational leaders, Governor Lamont and mayors of the region for this historic night. We will have a special GHIAA youth contingent process during the founding meeting as a separate entity from their faith communities. Each faith community will have a GHIAA flag that they process with at the beginning of the meeting and the youth can/will have one just for them.

PLEASE RSVP For more information contact Cori Mackey, via email cmackey@christianactivities.org , or via phone 203-671-3948

Sanctuary?

Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is deporting immigrants who are in this country illegally even though some of these people have a case pending in immigration court. Because ICE has a policy memorandum stating enforcement actions are not to occur at "sensitive locations," such as churches, organizations such as Hartford Deportation Defense periodically contact the Reverends asking if the Unitarian Society of Hartford (USH) can offer Sanctuary to

one or more immigrants in danger of being deported. If USH decides to offer Sanctuary, we would not be doing it alone; we would reach out to partners in the community. Offering Sanctuary is a provocative act, but it is not illegal. USH will alert local media that it is hosting a Sanctuary Guest. Therefore, Sanctuary is "hiding in plain sight."

WHY WOULD THE USH CHOOSE TO BECOME A SANCTUARY?

• The first principle of Unitarian Universalism mentions the "inherent worth and dignity of every person." • USH espouses social justice as an element of spiritual growth. • As a church, USH is a "sensitive location;" we can offer help where others cannot.

WHO MIGHT BE OUR PROSPECTIVE GUEST ?

• A Sanctuary Guest needs to have an active claim in immigration court that has high merit and a high likelihood of prevailing. • A Sanctuary Guest must be at imminent risk of deportation. • A Sanctuary Guest needs to be represented by an attorney or advised by an attorney who will keep USH informed about progress. • A prospective Guest will have a face to face interview with a USH representative to present themselves in advance of final acceptance. • A prospective Guest with any record of serious criminality or any suspicion of gang association or a personality disorder will not be accepted. • A prospective Guest must agree to a preliminary medical exam and screening before final acceptance.

WHAT WOULD BE THE OBLIGATIONS OF A GUEST?

• A Guest must agree to all conditions laid out in an agreement with the Congregation. • If the Guest exhausts all levels of appeal he/she agrees to leave Sanctuary. • The Guest gives up freedom.

WHAT CHALLENGES WOULD USH FACE?

• Providing Sanctuary requires a large commitment of time and energy by many congregants working together for an extended period. • Having a Sanctuary Guest may affect services; or use space needed for rentals, outside meetings, and childcare. • Having a Sanctuary Guest may cause USH to lose congregants. • The Congregation would have to be prepared for an unhappy outcome.

WHAT HUMAN RESOURCES WOULD WE NEED?

• Friendly hosts: two 10-member teams—one male and one female, depending on gender of Guest. Team members take turns staying overnight with the Guest until there is a level

of comfort (both ways). The alternate team would be responsible for food, laundry, arranging visitation, communicating with community and family, and all other miscellaneous tasks. • Medical professional (doctor or nurse). • Mental health consultation to evaluate Guest's emotional status and needs; e.g., loneliness, PTSD, depression. • Translators, if needed.

WHAT PHYSICAL RESOURCES WOULD WE NEED? (note: Building and Grounds feels it is possible to create a space with the requirements below.) • Appropriate living space with window. • Bathroom with shower. • Closet or wardrobe. • kitchen access or mini refrigerator and microwave and/or hotplate. • internet access.

WHAT OUTSIDE RESOURCES WOULD WE NEED? • Financial partners for living and other expenses. • Volunteers and professionals to fill some of the human resources needs. • Other organizations are interested in helping immigrants but cannot do it themselves because they are not "sensitive locations."

PROCESS FOR DECIDING WHETHER USH SHOULD BECOME A SANCTUARY • Facilitated Under the Stairs discussions on two Sundays in October. These would be opportunities to ask questions and express opinions. • Two additional facilitated discussions during the week; one during the day and one in the evening. • A dedicated email address to submit opinions. • All the input will be synthesized and shared with the Congregation. • If the "sense" of the Congregation is to move forward, more work will be done on logistics and costs to determine if it is feasible. • If offering Sanctuary is feasible, there would be a Congregational vote in January. • After an overwhelmingly positive vote, efforts would begin to prepare the space, draft the agreement, and secure the financing.

Offering Sanctuary presents an opportunity for USH to live our Unitarian Universalist principles by providing necessary shelter and emotional support to an individual in crisis.

Under The Stairs (discussions on this topic): Sunday Oct. 13, after the service; Weekdays: Oct. 1, 7-8:30p.m.; Oct. 16, 10-11:30a.m.

USH.sanctuary@gmail.com



October 9, 2019

Americans of Conscience
167 weeks down, 56 weeks to
the presidential election.

The AoC Checklist features clear, well-researched actions for Americans who value democracy,

equality, voting, and respect. To stay engaged times, we practice gratitude, self-care, and

through challenging celebration.

I value democracy.

With respect and collaboration, we work to create a nation that welcomes all people, expands freedoms, and upholds the Constitution.

Action 1: Empower 226 new voters. [h/t Spread the Vote] Spread the Vote and its Project ID initiative help citizens obtain the IDs they need in order to vote. Thanks to AoCC subscribers who have already donated an incredible \$14,963 this year (you rock!), we're almost two-thirds of the way to our 2019 goal of helping 600 new voters (IDs cost an average of \$40 each). Donate: To Spread the Vote here.

Action 2: Make a plan to vote on November 5.

On November 5, voters in three states (Kentucky, Louisiana, and Mississippi) will be choosing governors, and many local offices and issues will be decided nationwide. Informed voters will make the best choices for their states and communities. Research what's on your ballot at Vote411.org or BallotPedia.org, and set up email or text-message election reminders for yourself at TurboVote.org.

Action 3: Make it easier to follow the money that pays for political ads. [h/t CA Clean Money]

Call: Your two state legislators (look up).

Script: Hi. I'm from [ZIP] and I would like [MY STATE] to follow the lead of California's Disclose Act in requiring political advertisements to clearly display their top sources of funding. Can I count on [NAME] to advocate for transparency and disclosure for political ads? Thank you.

Bonus if you live in CA: Urge CA Governor Gavin Newsom to sign follow-up legislation requiring funding disclosure for political text messages and petitions.

Action 4: End partisan gerrymandering.

Call: Your one House rep and two senators (look up).

Script: Hi, I'm a constituent from [ZIP], and I believe that election districts should be drawn by independent redistricting commissions, not partisan politicians. I would like [NAME] to cosponsor the Redistricting Reform Act of 2019 (S. 2226/H.R. 3572). Thank you.

I value equality.

Support the dignity of your rainbow of neighbors from every religion, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, sexual orientation, economic status, age, and ability.

Action 5: Protect the rights of whistleblowers. [h/t Whistleblower Aid]

Democracy depends upon the ethical conduct of those who govern. The government employees who reported the administration's possible abuse of power and interference with IRS audits face great risks in coming forward. Whistleblower Aid is representing the intelligence officer at no charge.

Donate to Whistleblower Aid here.

Action 6: Advocate for workers' rights in higher education. [h/t gal debord]

Tell the National Labor Relations Board your opinion of the proposed rule that would deny workers' rights to graduate students at private universities.

Submit a comment: On the Federal Register by Nov. 22 using these tips: 1) Introduce yourself. 2) State why you oppose the proposal based on your values and, if applicable, 3) Share a story of how you or a loved one are impacted by the economics of graduate education. Review this article to personalize the points below. To be counted, comments must be unique and individual, not scripted.

Graduate student workers teach classes, grade exams and assignments, tutor and mentor undergraduates, maintain labs, and perform clerical duties.

Some 66,000 graduate employees at over 30 universities are currently represented by unions and protected through collective bargaining agreements in states where public-sector labor laws recognize them as workers. A 2016 National Labor Relations Board decision recognized graduate employees at private universities as workers with collective bargaining rights. The new proposed rule would redefine private university workers as simply "students," thereby stripping them of their right to unionize to seek better wages, healthcare, grievance procedures, and discrimination protections.

Action 7: Support civil rights for your LGBTQ+ neighbors. [h/t Lambda Legal]

On October 8, the Supreme Court will hear arguments as to whether

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 protects trans women from workplace discrimination.

The plaintiff is a woman who was fired for being trans. The administration filed a brief in support of employers who require women to conform to gender-specific norms, which has broad implications for both trans and cis-gendered women if the court affirms the right of employers to require gender-conforming behavior and dress.

Donate: To Lambda Legal, an organization providing legal advocacy for the LGBTQ+ community, or use Charity Navigator to choose another advocacy group.

Bonus: Check in with your LGBTQ+ friends and family to share your concern that they feel safe, loved, and able to thrive during this stressful time.

Action 8: Support the construction of decent, affordable housing for farm workers and their families in America. [h/t United Farm Workers] Call: California Governor Gavin Newsom at (916) 445-2841.

Script: Hello, I'm an American citizen and I'm calling to express my support for the Farmworker Housing Act of 2019. Many agricultural workers in California, including permanent U.S. residents and their families, are living in severely overcrowded and inadequate temporary housing, despite the fact that farms often have surplus land available for the development of secure and affordable housing for the workers. I would like Governor Newsom to support a streamlined process for providing farmworkers with dignified, family-friendly housing and sign AB-1783 into law.

Action 9: Demand access to medical treatment and sanitary living conditions for children being held in concentration camps.

[h/t AILA] Write: The DHS Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, the DHS Inspector General, and the FBI: Officer Cameron Quinn, Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, Department of Homeland Security, Washington, DC 20528, Inspector General Joseph V. Cuffari, Office of the Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security, Washington, DC 20528, Christopher A. Wray, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, DC 20535.

Script: Hello, I'm writing from [ZIP] to express my disgust over Customs and Border Protection's flagrant disregard for their own standards for safeguarding and providing medical care to those in their custody. The CBP is detaining children in appalling, unsanitary conditions, guarded by personnel who are not appropriately trained to identify the signs of sickness or injury. The combination of these horrific conditions and a lack of trained medical professionals with

child welfare expertise has led to outbreaks of the flu, serious illnesses, and multiple deaths. I am joining the American Immigration Council, American Immigration Lawyers Association, and the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. in demanding adequate medical care and basic sanitary conditions for children and individuals in CBP custody.

Action 10: Advocate against our country's discriminatory and unfair treatment of Muslims. [h/t Director of Project South] Call: Your two senators (look up).

Script: Hello, I'm from [ZIP] and I'm calling to express my support for the National Origin-Based Antidiscrimination for Nonimmigrants (NO BAN) Act. For years, the current administration has callously separated families, stranded individuals seeking medical care, prevented students with the proper documentation from attending their schools, and forced American citizens to leave the country for war-torn areas in order to stay with their families—all in a targeted effort to prevent citizens from Muslim-majority countries from entering the United States. This blatant racism has no place in our country, which is why I would like [NAME] to take a stand against discrimination and co-sponsor S.1123.

Acts of Gratitude

Get out your stamps, postcards, and sparkle markers for some gratitude mail.

Thank the Ames, Iowa City Council for solidarity and inclusive embrace of all Ames residents in the face of attempted federal overreach. [Share why you appreciate municipal rights and the creation of safe and welcoming communities.] Address: PO Box 811, 515 Clark Avenue, Ames, IA 50010

Thank Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA) for supporting laws that protect whistleblowers without regard to subject matter. [Share why you appreciate abiding by the rule of law, especially in times of deep partisan divide.] Address: 721 Federal Building, 210 Walnut Street, Des Moines, IA 50309

Thank Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY) for protecting election security. [Share why you appreciate recognizing and acting against fundamental threats to American democracy.] Address: 601 W. Broadway, Room 630, Louisville, KY 40202

Church Business News

The latest financial reports for **April-June 2019** have been posted, click [HERE](#) to view.

The Board Meeting minutes for **July 2019** have been posted, click [HERE](#) to view. To view the USH Directory, Reports, meeting minutes and other church business information online, click [HERE](#). Contact Buffie Pinney at hartfordusociety@gmail.com for the username and password.



Update from the Sabbatical Committee

Our worship calendar for the fall is complete. More details here and in the Sunday OOS's starting in October! To view the Sabbatical Brochure, with all sorts of wonderful details about the Revs' Sabbatical, click [HERE](#).

Warm regards, The Sabbatical Committee (Marye Gail Harrison, Laurie Kelliher, Lisa Galinski and Peter Meny)

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. Also visit www.ushartford.com/building-community/adult-family-programs/.

Programs

USH Artists' Group: Mondays at 6:30 PM; Sensing a call to be creative? To write or paint, to collage or sketch, to weave or quilt? Whatever your medium, the USH Artists' Group held its first meeting of the fall on **Monday, September 9 at 6:30pm** in the library, and you are all welcome to join us at future meetings! The group is using the book *Wild Ideas: Creativity from the Inside Out* by Cathy Wild as the stimulus for ongoing discussions. You can purchase the book on Amazon and bring it to the first meeting, when we will collaborate on planning the fall/winter program and begin building community with a simple-but-fun creative activity. All who are interested in exploring and nurturing their creative process are welcome to join these Monday evening gatherings. No need to pre-register - just come to the first meeting. For more information contact Marye Gail Harrison (maryegailh@gmail.com).

Emei Qigong Cultivation: Tuesdays at 11:00 AM and Wednesdays at 5:00 PM. Contact Diana Heymann: 860-200-8525 .

Tai Chi Gigong: Wednesdays, 5:30 – 6:30 PM. Contact facilitator before attending: Stephen "Lucky" Luckingham: 860-202-3404 or [stephen.luckingham\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:stephen.luckingham(at)gmail.com).

Authentic Connection & Communication: An NVC Practice Group, Wednesdays, 7:15 – 9:15 PM. Contact Mark Friedman for more information: 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.) For more information contact Ed Savage: Esavage15@att.net.

Ballroom Dance: Thursdays, 6:00 – 7:45 PM. Contact Ron Friedman: 860-523-1105 or [rsfriedman41\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:rsfriedman41(at)gmail.com).

Dinner and a Movie at USH:

On Friday, October 11, the new season of Dinner & Movie will open with "Paterson", a prize-winning 2016 Jim Jarmusch film about a man named Paterson (portrayed by Adam Driver) who lives and drives a bus in Paterson, NJ, and writes poetry. He sees poetry where many would not. Watch a trailer here: <https://youtu.be/m8pGJBgiiDU>. The film is rated R for some language. (See more info below.) Meets the second Friday of the month September-June. Because the movie is almost 2 hours long, we will follow a revised time schedule that evening. We will gather for popcorn and libations and socializing at 5:15 PM, have pizza and salad dinner at 5:45, and view the movie at 6:30, with optional discussion afterwards. To reserve (\$10 each), please leave a voice message at 860-693-4269 (no texting) - with your name and phone number, the number of reservations, and choice(s) of meat or vegetable toppings

for your pizza. You can pay with cash or check at the event. Please reserve by noon on Wednesday, October 9. If on the day of the movie you find you cannot attend, please call the number above before noon, so the pizza order can be adjusted. If the event needs to be canceled, you will be notified by noon on Friday, October 11. Contact Nita for more information at 860-693-4269 (no texts).

USH Book Club: Meets the second Thursday of the month September-June. Off-site, contact Richard Groothuis for more information: rgroopofus @ icloud .com or 860-748-3532. Books are selected by Members to raise social and life issues. We meet monthly with the objective to discuss the books as literature but with particular emphasis on how the issues relate to us personally and as UUs. Our discussions follow the Small Group goals of seeking input from all in attendance. Our hope is that those attending will make an effort to make as many meetings as possible. Membership is open to all. Meetings will be on second Thursday of the month at 2:30 pm; we will skip December.

Beloved Conversations: An experiential curriculum that provides a space to heal the spiritual and organizational wounds that racism causes in our faith communities. The program aims to foster cross-cultural relationships that nurture the spiritual health of program participants, congregations and communities beyond their walls. We plan to repeat this program in some way in coming years. Contact Judy Sullivan to be added to the list of those interested.

Connection Circles (formerly known as Small Group Ministries)



What are Connection Circles?

This is a unique opportunity to strengthen your connections with USH members and friends by sharing your life experiences with them in a safe, confidential space — a covenant group.

New Connection Circle forming - There are still a few places available for a Connection Circle beginning Thursday evening, October 10 from 7-9 at the home of Kathie Ferguson in West Hartford. Please sign up after service in Fellowship Hall or email or call Kathie if you would like to participate. KWFinteriors@sbcglobal.net, or 860-508-3038

Watch for announcements of Connection Circles offerings in E-News, during coffee hour after the service at the Programs Table (when available) in Fellowship Hall, or at the Welcome Table in the main lobby. Please text or email Martha Bradley at 860-305-3307, marthabradley49@yahoo.com for more information or click [HERE](#).



Disability Focused Connection Circle

Room: David's Den and Library

Time: Saturday mornings from 10:00am to noon

Date(s): First meeting was on September 28th. Dates of following meetings determined by participants' availability. The last meeting will be on November 30th at the latest.

Cost: \$5.00 collected at the first meeting

Contact: Susan Hope at 860 463 6407 or

susanhope51@gmail.com or Briana Bittel at everaftr33@gmail.com for more info.

There are also a couple of places for the Disability focused Connection Circle on Saturday, 10-12 at USH. Contact: Susan Hope at susanhope51@gmail.com.

This popular event is being offered again for a third year. As in the past, all of the discussions will begin with a reading based on an essay written by someone who has issues related to a disability, published in a recent series in *The New York Times*.

Events and News of Our Community




3 Sunday sessions
(Oct 6, Nov 3 & 17)
12:00-1:30 pm

A Path to Membership

Followed up with a **Membership Sunday on Dec 8, 2019**

Join us in our three-session workshop and examine how Unitarian Universalism and the Unitarian Society of Hartford relates to your spiritual growth, sense of community, and everyday life.

Free child care provided.

Contact Brian Harvey at bharvey@ushartford.com



Transylvanian Hungarian Youth Folk Dance Troupe Tour

October 24 - November 6, 2019

The Vadrózsák Néptánccsoport (Wild Roses Folk Dance Group) is a native Hungarian folk dance group from Székelykeresztúr, in the Transylvanian region of Romania. They will

travel in MA, ME, and VT, performing in colorful traditional costumes, as well as offering dance workshops. The group includes 17 dancers and musicians, 15 youth and two adults and are accompanied by the youth folk dance band "Lelkes Zenekar."

Save the dates for several opportunities for meeting, performances and workshops during their tour. Each of their performances will be followed by an invitation to learn some simple dances. These events will be engaging for all ages! The dances feature an exuberant display of intricate moves and patterns that invite participation. The live music is infectious and leaves the audience wanting to hear more. The members of the group are eager to share their excitement about their native dances and music with a New England audience. There will be several opportunities for instruction and workshops during their tour and each of the performances will be followed by an invitation to learn some simple dances. For more information about the dance group watch these videos:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=18r1sRyB8N0vZm4p6mOsYOYMDbnuTRAV> ,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uxg59lPoAps> .



USH member **Peter Upton** has generously offered the gift of any one of his paintings (currently on display in the Meeting House ambulatory) to anyone who wishes to have one, in exchange for a financial gift to USH of any amount you feel appropriate. Our great thanks to Peter! Please come and choose your painting through the month of October! ~Buffie Pinney, Office Administrator.

COMMUNITY COMFORT SHAWL – The Comfort Shawl Knitters have placed a shawl in progress, yarn and directions in a box on the shelf in the lobby. The idea is to produce a Community Comfort Shawl, knit by many within our community. We began this project in January and now have a shawl about 2/3 done. As you can see, this is not a fast-moving project!! The shawl is there for any and all knitters to work on. There is a small note pad for knitters to sign their

names. A week ago, we found all the stitches were off the needle. Many of them were quite far down in the knitting. One of our faithful knitters spent a long time picking up all the stitches and getting the shawl into "good knitting condition" again. It is unlikely that this "just happened." Sixty stitches do not suddenly decide, "Let's all jump off the needles and hide in the middle of this shawl." Please help us finish this shawl. If you find the shawl has a problem, contact one of the knitters on the list on the pad. Please do not play with or damage the shawl. Thank you. Janice Newton

Thank You – The Memorial Garden looks great! Since we were not working in the Memorial Garden on the Building and Grounds workday, we do not know who did the trimming and weeding, but we wish to extend many thanks to all of you who were there on the workday and any other time during the spring and summer. You are greatly appreciated. - Janice and David Newton

Meeting House Presents!



Save These Dates--Coming Up:

Friday, Nov. 1, 2019 [Annie Sumi](#) shares a brand of musical storytelling that spans folk, roots and ethereal vocalization. Dancing on a line between imagination and reality, ethereal-folk artist Annie Sumi's music invites you into a familiar otherworld. Like an inbound wind, her voice begins with a whisper, gathers strength and purpose, and transforms into an airy howl. Her songs take you to places – of quiet wonder, of unspoken love, of tranquil landscape.

Friday, Nov. 22, 2019 [Louise Mosrie](#) Audience members would tell her that they enjoyed the stories between the songs as much as the songs and her strong expressive voice was described as "...like

listening to Patty Griffin and Susan Tedeschi at the same time.”

Friday, Dec. 27, 2019 [Hartford Hot Several Brass Band](#) is bringing their party to USH for a pre-New Year’s blast. Since 2012 they have been Hartford’s much-needed funky marching band to bring brass, ruckus, and joy to all. Mid-winter joyful noise sure to raise a smile and make you want to dance.

Friday, Jan. 24, 2020 TBA (This show might be rescheduled to a date in May to be determined.)

Friday, Feb 28, 2020 [Belle of the Fall](#) lead singer, Julia Autumn Ford possesses the voice of an angel is beyond obvious. Soft, tender and raw all at once; Julia’s vocal delivery is light as a feather yet powerful enough to knock down an entire city block with one turn of a phrase. Her partner in crime, bassist Tracy Walton rounds out Belle of the Fall’s folky yet modern sound.

Friday, March 27, 2020 [Seán Heely Celtic trio](#) Experience the magic music of Scotland and Ireland with the Seán Heely Celtic Trio. The group features U.S National Scottish Fiddle champion Seán Heely, acclaimed multi-instrumentalist Kevin Elam, and Highland bagpiper Tracy Jenkins. The three gents bring together multiple different instruments to perform fiery dance tunes and ancient, soaring melodies from Scotland and Ireland. They perform original compositions and have rich vocal harmonies in their solid song repertoire that features ballads, sea shanties, and songs in Irish and Scots Gaelic.

Friday, April 17, 2020 [Scott Cook](#) has managed to distill the stories collected over eleven years touring across Canada, the USA, Europe, Asia, Australia and elsewhere into straight-talking, keenly observant verse. Road-worn, painfully honest, and deeply human, his tunes weave threads of folk, roots, blues, soul and country over spacious fingerstyle guitar and clawhammer banjo arrangements.

We sure hope that you will join us!

Click [HERE](#) for more info or e-mail us at MeetingHousePresents@gmail.com

- Phone Laura and Paul Cipriano at (860) 298-9984

- Check our web page or subscribe to our email list for notification if shows are sold out or rescheduled:
www.ushartford.com/nourishing-spirit/music/meetinghousepresents/

Sign Up for Meeting House Presents email list:

Our email includes concert announcements, updates, and info about folk music events in the area. Subscribe to Meeting House Presents Email — send a message to: MeetingHousePresents@gmail.com. Put “subscribe” in the subject line. We send one or two emails each month.

Meeting House Presents is always looking for volunteers to help out. You decide if you want to help out three nights, one night, or the entire season. We need help with refreshments, tickets, communications, hosting performers if you have a spare room, and we'd like to have a "street team" to post flyers. Best of all, the commitments are for the evening of the show and you won't have to attend meetings. Contact Laura Cipriano at MeetingHousePresents@gmail.com to volunteer. Come be part of the fun.

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

USH Needs You—

Get Active with USH! Committee and Sub-Council Openings

We are continually striving to fill open positions on various Board committees and sub-councils. If you are interested in becoming more engaged at USH, or just learning more about the activities of our congregation, we encourage you to reach out to a Board member, one of the Ministers, or the Chair of a particular Council, Sub-council or Committee. Click [HERE](#) to read more...

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; Join the Choir; Office Volunteers; Connection Circles Host, Advisor or Facilitator; The Book Table During Coffee Hour. Click [HERE](#) to find out more.



Accessibility and Inclusion Ministry (AIM):

USH Member Doris Maldonado is in need of help with this ministry. Please contact her at unicas.miracle@gmail.com if you would like more info. The USH AIM task force, many of whom identify as having a disability, are charged with the following mission: To welcome, integrate, and support people with

physical or psychological disabilities and their families in our congregation. For more info click [HERE](#).

Upcoming Special Events and News in the Larger Community Lunch Bunch ~

We will be meeting on Tuesday, October 15 at 12 Noon. If you plan to attend, please let me know by noon on Wednesday, October 9. Please call me at 860/677-1121 or email me at janicecnewton@gmail.com. The Lunch Bunch will meet at Concetta's, Italian Restaurant, 22 Mountain Ave., Bloomfield. In addition to lunch, there will be a speaker. You will be able to order off the menu. Separate checks will be provided. There is convenient parking. We will meet at Concetta's on the third Tuesday of the month September through June (excluding December). The dates for this year are: 10/15, 11/19, no Lunch Bunch in December, 1/21/20, 2/18, 3/17, 4/21, 5/19, and 6//16. We are looking for speakers. Are you interested, or do you know someone who would be interested, in speaking to the group? If so, please contact Maggie Greene at turtlepoem@yahoo.com. Reservations are necessary!
Hope to see you on the 15th!

For Access to the Members Only Section on the Web Page:

For the username and password for the Members Only section of our USH website, please email Buffie Pinney at hartfordusociety@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! ~Buffie

Put in the Subject: 'Calendar'

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

Event Title:

Room:

Time:

Date(s):

Is This A Private Event?

Include in Happenings/Enews?

Contact:

A Short Description:

Cost: (if applicable)

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



Lost and Found

There is a 'Lost & Found' box in the office near Buffie Pinney's desk. Items found in the building will be placed there. Please check in the office if you have misplaced something.

Please note: Items will be donated or recycled if no one claims them after a few weeks. Thank you.

USH Staff:

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

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

dre@ushartford.com | 860-233-9897 ext 104

Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries

smoffett@ushartford.com | 860-233-9897 ext 108

Buffie Pinney, Office Administrator

hartforduusociety@gmail.com | 860-233-9897 ext 100

Brian Mullen, Bookkeeper

Office Hours by Appointment | bmullen@ushartford.com

Our Co-Ministers, Revs Cathy and Heather Rion Starr, are on a well-deserved Sabbatical for October, November and December 2019. If you wish to set up an appointment with Rev. Cathy in January, you may do that here: <https://RevCathyRionStarr.as.me>. If you aren't sure who to contact right now, please see the [Sabbatical Brochure](#) .

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.