



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 ~ JANUARY 8, 2020
Building Community Since 1830
Sunday Service 10:30 AM
Revs. Cathy & Heather Rion Starr, Co-Ministers



Image: capitalcc.edu
Nilaja Sun in her one-woman show, "Pike St."

Worship Service, January 12th, 2020 10:30am
"Precipice"
Rev. Heather Rion Starr, Co-Minister
John Brancato, Worship Associate



Personal News of the Congregation

We sadly report the passing of long time member Edward "Ed" Richardson. Ed was a very active member here at USH and will be greatly missed. Ed was a great man, full of compassion with a true love of this world, especially its trees and all its dynamics. A Memorial Service and Reception will be held here on January 11th, 2020, at 11:00am to remember and celebrate his life. Please join us.

Will you help with the Memorial Reception? ~ On Saturday, January 11th, we will have the Memorial Service and Reception remembering and celebrating the life of Ed Richardson. The service will be at 11 AM and the Reception will follow in Fellowship Hall. Finger foods, such as crackers/cheese, quick breads, cookies, bars, and other munchies are needed. We also need fruit and veggie platters. Food should be brought on the morning of the Reception, on plates ready to serve. Please be sure to label the plate and any utensils with your name and include a list of ingredients. Please take your plate with you when you leave or pick it up in the kitchen the next day. Please no peanuts or peanut products. We will supply the sandwiches, coffee, tea, and punch. In order to help us plan, it is very important that we know what foods will be contributed ASAP. That way we will not have lots of veggies, no fruit, etc. and I will know what needs to be made or purchased. **Please contact Janice Newton (860/212-6923, 860/677-1121 or janicecnewton(at)gmail.com)** to sign up for a food contribution. Your food donations will be greatly appreciated. We can also use some help **during the reception** and with the **clean-up**. Please let me know if you can help. Thank you in advance for your help. We can't do this without you! - Submitted by Janice Newton



UUA General Assembly June 24-28, 2020

Our national annual denominational conference, General Assembly (GA), is wonderfully close by this year, in Providence, Rhode Island, June 24-28. Please consider if you might attend! Ask anyone who has attended a GA as there is nothing quite like it. It can be incredibly energizing to be around thousands of UU's from across the country, continent, and beyond. Especially in this pivotal national election year, nourish your spirit by worshipping, organizing, connecting, rallying, and engaging with your Unitarian Universalist community. Full details are here: <https://www.uua.org/ga>.

The Unitarian Society of Hartford is able to provide some financial support for attending

GA on a limited basis. We especially encourage youth and young adults to attend! If you are a youth or a parent of a youth, please let Rayla Mattson know if you/your youth is interested and able to attend. Please let Board Treasurer Phil Gardner know if you are interested in attending GA and in need of financial assistance. Anyone who wishes may attend GA. As a congregation, we will have 5 members attend GA as delegates who vote on behalf of our congregation on matters of denominational business and significance. If you are interested in serving as a delegate to GA 2020, please let Rev. Heather (as well as the above folks as well, if relevant) know.

In This Week's Enews:

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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.

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



The nursery will be available this week during the morning worship hour. There will be a Time For All Ages in one classroom in Fellowship Hall this coming Sunday.

Saturday, January 11th at 4:30-7:30, O.W.L – Our Whole Lives – Class will be held in Youth Group Room. Contact: Rayla D.

Mattson, DRE, dre@ushartford.com with any questions.

Our Director of Religious Education is looking for teachers and assistants for the 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



The Traveling Chalice

I'd like to thank everyone who has shown interest and excitement around our traveling chalice. It is with our first family and I'm excited to hear more about it! Please let me know if you'd like to be next!

As a reminder, I am asking families to take the chalice for a week or two to their home; decide how many days during that time you will engage as a family in developing your own spiritual practice. There is a book of reflections to help you get started and reminders of our UU Principles. I am hoping this will lead to deeper conversations within our community on how we can more fully live into our principles on a daily basis.

Offering this gift to you all with my love~

Images: farmviewmarket.com

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.

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.

Staff News



Please see our Office Administrator, Buffie Pinney with any administrative questions or concerns. Buffie will be here at USH through at least mid-February 2020. Office hours are now Sunday through Thursday, 9am-1pm. Buffie's always happy to hear from you!!

News from the USH Board of Directors



Greetings from the Board:

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 2020 USH Board

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)

Social Justice at USH



January 8th, 2020

The AoC Checklist features clear, well-researched actions for Americans who value democracy, equality, voting, and respect. To stay engaged through challenging times, we practice gratitude, self-care, and celebration.

GHIAA News

Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance

GHIAA teams have been busy since the October founding working on the current action campaigns: Education, Housing, Criminal Justice Reform, Healthcare and Gun Violence.

Dana Donovan and I are members of the Healthcare team, which is working on the issue of medical reclamation, which will involve:

- (1) Establishing a new law in CT (CT is one of only 12-13 states that don't have this law in place) that would allow for the use of reclaimed medications from CT (i.e. from nursing homes, etc), to be dispensed in "charity" pharmacies to qualified patients (uninsured/underinsured)
- (2) Making connections with Hartford area entities that would want to open a charity pharmacy and use existing unclaimed medication pharmacy services from out of state- these meds are free, only would pay nominal amount for shipping.

To register for training: go to cljct.org and click on Trainings in the upper right corner.

GHIAA Core Team Training #1

Thursdays, January 16, 23, 30, and February 6, 2020

6:00-9:00pm

Location: TBD

Cost: No Charge.

These trainings are for people interested in joining a core team.

OR

GHIAA Core Team Training #2 (Retreat Format)

Friday, January 24, 12:00-5:00pm and

Saturday, January 25, 9:00am-5:00pm

Location: Congregational Church in South Glastonbury, 949 Main Street, South Glastonbury, CT 06073

Cost: No Charge.

These trainings are for people interested in joining a core team.

Anyone interested in more information please contact Judy Sullivan at 860-719-9886 or jasullivan57@gmail.com.

Church Business News

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

The Board Meeting minutes for **July - September 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.

When the Meeting House Loses Electric Power

Please note that when there is a power outage **NO** water or sewer services should be used. This will cause a flood in Fellowship Hall.

Please refer questions or concerns to Buffie, Office Admin.

Thank You for your cooperation during such events.

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 invites you 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 with you. 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. 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.

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.



Faith Forward

Faith Forward is the new adult religious education program that will be replacing UU and You this coming year. Faith Forward is a curriculum that was developed by the First Unitarian Church in Dallas, TX as a way to

increase engagement and involvement within their congregation. There will be nine individual modules on various aspects of our faith, congregational life, services, and opportunities available to USH members. Registration for each module will be open to anyone who is considering becoming a USH member or anyone who would like to learn more about the foundations of UU here at USH. You can participate in a many modules as you like, you do not have to enroll in all nine. **Orientation will be on Sunday January 12th for facilitators/presenters held in David's den/Library 12:00noon-2:00pm. Please see Nicole DeRonck, Carolyn Carlson or Brian Harvey for more details.**



Green Sanctuary Sub-Council

Stay tuned for future Green Sanctuary events!!

Contacts: mary.sherwin@gmail.com or jeff.howard.29@gmail.com.

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. 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](#).



LUNCH BUNCH~

We will be meeting on Tuesday, January 21st at 12 Noon. If you plan to attend, please let me know by noon on Wednesday, January 15. 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 through June. The remaining dates for 2020 are: 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 me. Reservations are necessary! Hope to see you on the 21st.

Meeting House Presents!



**2019-2020
Season**



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



Reggie Harris
SONGWRITER · STORYTELLER · LEADER

Friday, Jan. 24, 2020, 7:30pm - Reggie Harris

A well-traveled performer, lecturer and cultural ambassador, Reggie has earned wide acclaim and respect from peers and audiences alike throughout the U.S., Canada, Europe and around the world. He combines spirituals and roots music, historic inspiration, and moving original songs, often in the themes of unity and social justice. Knowing this, audiences have bestowed upon him a fitting slogan: "Songs of Joy, Hope, and Freedom."

Save These Dates - Coming Up:

Friday, Feb 28, 2020 [Belle of the Fall](#) lead singer, Julia Autumn Ford possesses the voice of an angel. 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 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



"Pike St."

A story of redemption and survival.

The one-woman show "Pike St." inspired and focused RevHeather's reflection today. If you'd like to see the show yourself, here's how to do that! "Pike St." is running through February 2 at Hartford Stage. You can learn more and buy tickets at hartfordstage.org. Save 20% on tickets to all performances through January 15 with code **PIKE** (this code expires on January 15). For more

information, please do check out hartfordstage.org.

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



Lost and Found

I will be donating the lost and found items to a local Goodwill or Salvation Army at the end of every month so please come and visit my container of articles! Thank You! Buffie Pinney, Office Admin~

***The deadline for USH-Enews submissions is Tuesday at 12 Noon.
Email to: ushenews@ushartford.com OR hartforduusociety@gmail.com
Please note in the subject line "USH-Enews." Thank you for your submission!***



May you keep on moving into the New Year with this child's level of joyous abandon and enthusiasm!

Image: Courtesy of Rayla

**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.