



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 ~ **March 11, 2020**
Building Community Since 1830
Sunday Service 10:30 AM
Revs. Cathy & Heather Rion Starr, Co-Ministers

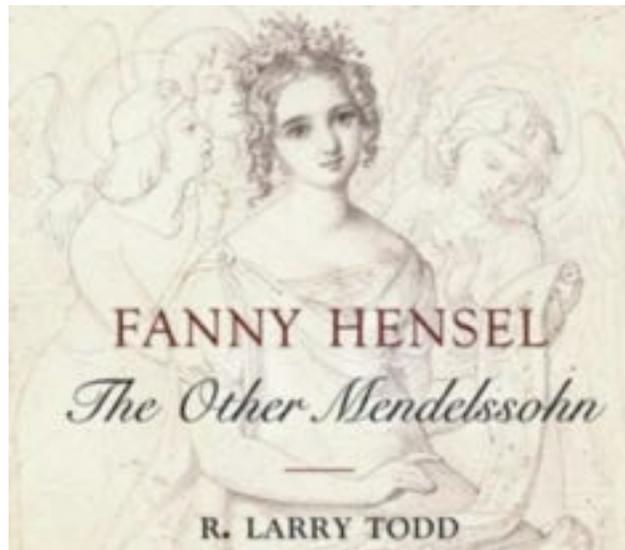


Image: classicalmpr.org

Worship Service
March 15, 2020, 10:30am
"Music Sunday"
Rev. Cathy Rion Starr, Co-Minister
Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries
Ted Hine, Director of Music at the Unitarian Universalist Church
of West Hartford
Laurie Kelliher, Worship Associate

Our Spring 2020 Music Sunday will feature multiple selections from the catalogue of composer Fanny Hensel. Hensel was a German composer in the Romantic era whose work has been largely overshadowed throughout history by the legacy of her brother, Felix Mendelssohn. Today, during Women's

History Month, we are celebrating the formidable music of a brilliant composer who has been otherwise looked over as a result of sexism in the classical music canon.

COVID-19 Note: If you are feeling unwell or simply prefer to stay home this Sunday, for whatever reason, we will (as always) understand. We will be experimenting with multiple "virtual" ways of sharing the service—most likely Facebook Live and ZOOM. Stay tuned for further details.

Images below are from last Sunday's service lead by our Intern Minister, Dianne Daniels, along with Worship Associate Lisa Galinski



It is time to celebrate Margalie Belizaire!

The Boards of The Unitarian Church in Westport (TUCW), where Margalie is completing her ministerial internship and The Unitarian Society of Hartford (USH), Margalie's home congregation, are co-sponsoring her Ordination into Unitarian Universalist Ministry on Saturday, May 30th at 3pm, here at USH, with a reception to follow at 4:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. This will be a joyful celebration of her successful journey to enter into UU ministry. Her Ministerial Committee at TUCW shares the following: Margalie Belizaire is the third Ministerial Intern at TUCW. She has greatly enriched their congregation through her sermons and the introduction of innovative forms of worship. Margalie has worked in partnership with their other ministers to develop her skills in Worship, Rites of Passage, Pastoral Care, Social Justice, and Administration. Concurrently, Margalie has been a Learning Fellow with our denomination's on-line congregation, The Church of the Larger Fellowship. She has successfully participated in the creation of Spiritual Development activities for herself and for others. Meeting the goal of a Minister-in-training to develop a practice for self care and personal

development, she has defined and pursued personal spiritual practices and has found a mentor. As her gift to TUCW, Margalie is creating a tool for the assessment of Cultural Competency which will be used to enrich TUCW's self-knowledge for years to come. In December, the Ministerial Fellowship Committee of the Unitarian Universalist Association determined that Margalie completed all the necessary requirements to enter UU Ministry. Additionally, she achieved the highest score possible for an Intern. Do plan to be part of celebrating the **Ordination of Margalie Belzaire on May 30th at 3 pm at USH.**

Overnight Hospitality Needed

The planning has begun! There will be out-of-state guests of Margalie Belzaire for her Ordination on Saturday, May 30. Please let Sue Smolski, the USH contact person on the Ordination Planning Committee, know if it is possible for you to host an overnight guest in your home.

Please call Sue at 860-280-7250. Thank You.

Circle Dinners starting soon! RSVP by March 7!

In the spirit of strengthening our community and connections with one another, you are invited to attend a USH Circle Dinner in March. We have wonderful hosts opening their homes every day on the weekends of March 13-15, 20-22, and 27-29 for dinners, brunches, and cocktail hours! There is a range of times to fit in your and your family's schedule -- late mornings, afternoons and evenings. Once you sign up and indicate your preferred dates, you will be matched with a host and will receive an email confirmation in early March with the date, address, and what you can bring to contribute to the meal (if you selected that option on the sign-up form). The Board is sponsoring the Circle Dinners in advance of this year's stewardship drive, but there will be no stewardship discussion or solicitation at the Circle Dinners this year - they are purely social events to strengthen connections in our community. We look forward to seeing you at a Circle Dinner soon! Please RSVP as soon as possible, if you haven't already. Feel free to email me with any questions. To see Circle Dinner dates and locations, and to RSVP: Please click **HERE** to access the sign up form.

Lisa Galinski
Circle Dinner Organizer

In This Week's Enews:

[RE News You Can Use](#)
[News from the USH Board of Directors](#)
[Social Justice at USH](#)
[Church Business News](#)
[Programs for Adults and Families](#)
[Connection Circles](#)
[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](#).

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

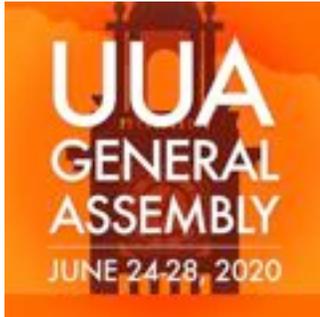


Easter is almost here!! I will be away on Easter Sunday, April 12th, but with your help we can still have an amazing Easter Egg Hunt!! I am currently accepting donations of candy and prizes to fill the eggs and then prizes for the end. Donations can be dropped off outside my office at any time beginning now.

This week there will be a TFAA followed by age appropriate classes. The nursery will be available for the morning worship service and then for children 10 and under until 1:45pm.

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.



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 is 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. 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. Contact either Carolyn Carlson carlsoncjc@gmail.com or Buffie at hartforduusociety@gmail.com for an application. The Early Bird Registration (less expensive) deadline is March 15. Click **HERE** for more GA info. As of this writing (March 11th), GA is scheduled as planned.

Staff News





Community Clergy Training Program at Hartford Seminary

From USH's Intern Minister, Dianne Daniels

Sometimes it is brought home to you that we truly live in a small world. I received an invitation to a Community Clergy Training workshop being hosted at the Hartford Seminary from two different ministerial colleagues. The invitation came from Rev. Craig Nowak, who had preached in my home congregation of Norwich, CT, and from him it went to Rev. Joshua Pawelek, who is the Minister at UUS:E in Manchester, but who pastored my home congregation of Norwich for more than 5 years.

I was fortunate to be able to attend the two-day workshop with the blessing of Rev. Heather and Rev. Cathy, and was looking forward to learning more about Community Clergy and the Veteran community. Veterans are an important part of any community, and it's important that their spiritual needs are considered by local churches and houses of worship where they live.

The workshop leaders included Rev. Chris J. Antal, DMin, who is a staff chaplain at the Corporal Micheal J. Crescenz VA Medical Center in Philadelphia and the settled minister at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rock Tavern, New York. Rev. Antal is a leader in developing interventions for military moral injury and is the national subject matter expert and regional lead for the Community Clergy Training Program.

Rev. Antal was joined by Rev. Rotunda East, who is a Chaplain with the VA and a military veteran, and Ben Kaler, from the Veterans Experience Office - Community Engagement, and Rev. James Parnell of All Saints Orthodox Church in Hartford, who is also a Chaplain in the Army National Guard.

During the two days of the workshop, we covered a number of subjects, including military culture, the effect on military members of not being able to consider their actions and emotions in the moment (follow orders, don't ask questions), and the inability to decompress and consider their actions and emotions until they return home.

The numbers we discussed in the training were shocking: between 20 and 22 veterans kill themselves every day and 33% of veterans are connected to the VA for resources and assistance, but that means that fully 67% - two-thirds - of veterans are NOT connected, and NOT getting the help or care they need. Each veteran is connected to an estimated 36 additional people - their reach

and influence is wide, and unaddressed problems affect more than just the individual veteran.

Challenging points of discussion included the fact that the average American citizen doesn't see or truly understand the individual cost of war – in a room of 50 people attending the workshop, only ONE person could name an individual who died in combat. One of the veterans assisting with the workshop stood and recited the names and ranks of over 20 people he knew personally who had died in combat. It's unfair that veterans carry the burden of remembering the names of their fallen comrades alone.

Solutions to the challenge of reintegrating veterans into the community – VERY different from assimilating them – means learning about and advocating for programs with an Integrative Care approach – one that deals with the veterans' whole health – and faith traditions like Unitarian Universalism must be prepared to help veterans return to themselves, provide forgiveness and reconciliation, and help veterans deal with their moral struggles.

Liturgy is needed for when the veterans return home from active duty – not just when they leave to serve the country. Reintegration is harder because the vast majority of civilians have never experienced any kind of war or conflict, don't know anything about the training, and have not experienced the violence and danger that service members face.

What can we do? **We as a faith community can participate in training sessions like the one I attended, we can learn the actions covered under the acronym S.A.V.E.:**

S – Signs – is the veteran withdrawn, silent, avoiding contact, or segregating themselves?

A – Ask – The difficult question: "Are you thinking about killing yourself?" – The words are hard to say, but they MUST be said.

V – Validate – Do your best to validate and understand their experience. Get them talking and then just listen, being careful to avoid judgment or condemnation.

E – Expedite / Escort / Encourage – Help the veteran get help – expedite this by calling the VA hotline (1-800-273-8255, then press 1). There are veterans manning the phones as well as trained personnel to talk with veterans and help them work through their challenges. You can also help by encouraging the veteran to make the call, making the call for them, and by helping them to get to their appointments, etc.

More information and details on how to help veterans in our community and the numerous services offered by the Veterans Administration are available online at <http://www.Veteranscrisisline.net>, or by calling the Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255, ext. 1 (required).

This workshop taught me a lot – since I'm from a military family, this subject is close to my heart, and I'll be looking for ways to help implement some of

the good ideas I heard during the training – far too many to include all in this article.

You can reach out to Dianne by e-mailing her at USHInternDD@gmail.com.



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

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.



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

From the Nominating Committee:

Should you, or someone you know, get involved in the governance and leadership of USH through Board service? Over the next six weeks, the Nominating Committee will be considering candidates to fill several open positions on the USH Board of Directors—open because some terms expire on June 30. A slate of candidates will be presented for a congregational

vote at the **May 17th Annual Meeting.**

To hear more, talk with a Nominating Committee member: Marie Basche, Adam Brown, Dana Donovan, Makenzie Hurtado or Sherry Manetta (committee chair), or with current president Joe Rubin, or president elect Martha Bradley. Explore the opportunities!

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



GHIAA ACTION

Thursday, March 12th, 7 PM
sharp Union Baptist
Church, 1921 Main Street,
Hartford

**been cancelled due to COVID-19.
further information.**

**This event has
Stay tuned for**

Background on GHIAA's Campaigns

1. GHIAA is seeking to pass clean slate legislation which would automatically expunge the criminal records of returning citizens who do not return to crime 3 years after misdemeanors and 5 years after non-violent felonies.
2. GHIAA is seeking to pass legislation that would repeal "welfare liens." A welfare lien is a lien the state places on a low income person receiving various forms of state assistance, demanding repayment when the person sells or refinances a home (many years later), receives a legal settlement (i.e. personal injury), receives any inheritance, or dies and

attempts to leave any inheritance to their heirs. Connecticut is one of two states in the country that does this to its residents.

To register for this event visit: <https://ghiaamarch.eventbrite.com>

Role of Core Teams: Each GHIAA congregation is asked to turn out a minimum of 10 people to this action. Please identify the number of people your congregation will turn out and email that number to ghiaa@cljct.org or call/text Cori Mackey at 860-810-9736.

This will be a public GHIAA meeting where we update legislators on these campaigns and seek public commitments to support GHIAA's positions.



GHIAA ACTION

Welfare Lien Letter Writing Guide. The Issue: When falling on hard times or facing vulnerable circumstances, Connecticut families are

offered what appears to be genuine recovery support. Please go to USH website or click **HERE** for more info.



Clean Slate Action Alert!

GHIAA is sharing this clean slate action alert with permission from its member institution CCJF and we ask GHIAA members to please write to your legislators following the template below. Please go to USH website or click **HERE** for more info.



Americans of Conscience
173 weeks down, 34 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 through challenging times, we practice gratitude, self-care, and celebration. **See [here](#) for more info.**



UU the VOTE

<https://www.uua.org/justice/vote2020>

"The church must be reminded that it is not the master or the servant of the state, but rather the conscience of the state. It must be the guide and the critic of the state, and never its tool. If the church does not recapture its prophetic zeal, it will become an irrelevant social club without moral or spiritual authority."

Jr.

~Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King,



USH Choir - Come Sing With Us!

The USH Choir is now meeting every Wednesday from 7:00pm- 8:30pm. This Spring, the Choir will be tackling music from choral composers of the past and present: performing older works from composers such as Palestrina, Purcell and William Billings, as well as more contemporary works from composers like Elaine Hagenberg, Jessica Rudman and Bill Withers.

Music Sunday this year will feature the music of

Romantic composer Fanny Hensel; Hensel was the sister of composer Felix Mendelsohn and, although lesser known during her lifetime, was a fabulous composer in her own right. This Music Sunday will be the USH music program's second consecutive collaboration with the music program at the Universalist Church of West Hartford. The program will be presented during worship at USH on March 15, 2020.

We hope that some of you will consider joining the Choir this semester, or even just try it out for a little while! We are in particular need of lower voices (tenor and bass ranges) but all are always welcome! If you have any questions about the Choir you can e-mail Director of Music Ministries Sam Moffett at smoffett@ushartford.com or call them at **860-371-8880**.

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

The Board Meeting minutes for February 2020 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 hartforduusociety@gmail.com for the username and password.

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:

Despair & Empowerment Circles: Nourishing Our Spirits to Face the Climate

Crisis: The deepening climate crisis can cause many of us to fall into denial and despair. Yet our grief, anger and fear are healthy responses to the harsh realities of our time. The pain we feel for the world is not meant to be borne privately and alone because we are an integral part of the world. We gather in circle to recover, refresh, and renew ourselves as environmental and social suffering spreads. We will honor our natural responses to the climate crisis through the revolutionary practice of the Work That Reconnects. We heal feelings of powerlessness so that we may think more clearly, act more boldly, and love more deeply as we move forward.

Meets: 6:30-8:00pm, 1st Thursday of the month (Feb-June). Exception: Wednesday 4/1. The first 15 minutes will be a warm-up with movement, meditation and music. No pre-registration required - come for one, some or all sessions. Not an organizing or activism group. \$2-5 sliding scale for each session.

Facilitator: Lisa Galinski, lisa.galinski@gmail.com, 860-518-0197.

Disability Support Group: Beginning on Saturday, February 1, 2020 and continuing on the first Saturday of each succeeding month USH will hold a Disability Support Group at 10 AM - 11:30 AM in the room "David's Den." The next meeting of the group will be on Saturday, April 4th. This group will be a chance for participants to discuss the challenges of physical disability (chronic illness, chronic pain, impaired senses, impaired mobility) and emotional pain (loss, mental illness) and the stresses of care-taking a loved one. All are welcome and what is said in the room stays in the room. Call Bill LaPorte-Bryan for more information at 860-308-2688 or email him at b37bryan@gmail.com.

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.

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: rgroupofus@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 are on the second Thursday of the month at 2:30 pm.



Inquirer Series

Interested in learning more about the Unitarian Society of Hartford or thinking of becoming a USH member? Join us for a session of the Faith Forward Inquirer Series, a curriculum for adults composed of nine individual modules covering various aspects of our faith, congregational life, services, and opportunities available to USH members. You do not have to enroll in all nine sessions, just come to the

ones that work for you! All modules will be offered after service on Sundays from February 9th through April 5th from 12:00-1:00pm and will meet in the Library. A full list of dates and topics are available on the registration website: <https://doodle.com/poll/mgh5yzmyisxsq8zw>.

Please see Nicole DeRonck, Carolyn Carlson or Brian Harvey for more details.

Request for Meals

Beginning March 2, Valerie Klokow started a two-week radiation schedule. On March 3, she began chemo. The side effects may be quite severe. Valerie has requested we restart the TakeThemAMeal schedule. We would like to have meals two days a week. The specific days will be indicated on the signup. Valerie is a vegetarian and loves fresh fruits. She requests only single servings of the fruit instead of large bowls. Veggies are best cooked. Valerie's son, Xavier enjoys pasta with meat sauce, chicken, beef, pork chops, steak, potatoes, beans, rice, pizza, lasagna, and Mexican foods. Please put foods in disposable containers so Valerie will not have to return them. Best time for delivery is between 3 PM and dinnertime. Apartment is on the second floor. Knock on the door, if there is no response, the food can be left outside the door. If you don't cook, take out-meals and GrubHub or similar cards would be welcome.

To sign-up go to TakeThemAMeal at <https://takethemameal.com>. The meal recipient is: Klokow. The User Password is: 1971
Contact Janice Newton janicecnewton@gmail.com for more information.
Thank you so much for any help you can give.

Lunch Bunch

We will be meeting on Tuesday, March 17 at 12 Noon. If you plan to attend, please let me know by 11AM on Wednesday, March 11. Please call Janice 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: 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 Margaret Leicach. Reservations are necessary! Hope to see you on the 17th. Thank You, Janice Newton.

The Book Table has a new Chairperson!

Susan Hope has agreed to restart "The Book Table" (used books for sale) after Sunday services. Susan will lead a small group of volunteers and

hopes to start in the next week or two. She needs a few weeks to get the current books organized and then she will announce when she is ready to receive more books.

A special Thank You to Clara Horn for coordinating "The Book Table" these past years!

Connection Circles (formerly known as Small Group Ministries)



Connection Circle

A Connection Circle is an opportunity for USH members and friends to get to know each other better over eight, 2 hour, once-weekly small group meetings led by a trained facilitator. This group will meet on **Wednesday evenings from 7-9pm in the Hartford home of Judith Hopkins**. Each group is limited to 10 people, so sign up early. If you are interested in joining, **sign up after service in Fellowship Hall, or call/text/email Martha Bradley, 860-305-3307 or marthabradley49@yahoo.com**. If you are interested in Connection Circles, but can't make this day or time, please let Martha know, and we will try to schedule another group.

Please text or email Martha Bradley at 860-305-3307, **marthabradley49@yahoo.com** for more information or click [HERE](#).

Meeting House Presents!



**2019-2020
Season**



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

Save These Dates - Coming Up:

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.

You Tube Video links:

<https://youtu.be/S0I2Otb4KUw> Belle of the Fall "Two"

<https://youtu.be/pMMzuYYUmkg> Seán Heely "Martinmas Time" at the Kennedy Center

https://youtu.be/6R0W_QbGHR8 Scott Cook "Pass it Along"

We hope that you will join us!

We are looking for people with a guest room willing to give band members a place to sleep the night of their show. Please help get the word out.

Friday, March 27, 2020 - Seán Heely Celtic trio

Friday, May 15, 2020 - Maine Fiddle Camp

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.

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](#).



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~ Rayla D. Mattson,**

Director of Religious Education for Children and Youth.

Art in the Ambulatory

Retiring director of the USH ambulatory art program, Sara Sturges, has turned the program over to Diane Cadrain. This concerns the art displays that typically hang in the ambulatory (the circular hallway that encompasses our sanctuary). What would you like to see, and how can you help make that happen? Please be sure to take a moment and view the work of our first member artist, Miriam Byroade, on and around the Sanctuary!!

Contact Diane Cadrain for more details.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED
2020 SATURDAY PIANO CONCERT SERIES
BENJAMIN DIX, PIANO SOLOIST
PIANO MUSIC OF FREDERIC CHOPIN (1810-1849)
SELECTIONS: GRANDE VALSE BRILLANTE, "TRISTESSE"
ETUDE, "MILITARY" AND "HEROIC" POLONAISES, 3 VALSES-
OPUS POSTHUMOUS, VALSE BRILLANTE,
"BLACK KEY" VALSE, NOCTURNE OP. 9 # 2



SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2020
1:00 PM
UNITARIAN MEETING HOUSE
50 BLOOMFIELD AVENUE
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
ADMISSION IS FREE

Upcoming Special Events and News in the Larger Community



Greetings from the Florence Griswold Museum

Greetings and Happy New Year from the Florence Griswold Museum! In the spirit of our current exhibition "Nothing More American: Immigration, Sanctuary, and Community", we are excited to offer a new community partnership to you! For one Sunday each month we

are inviting members of local community organizations to visit the Museum, completely **free of charge**! We encourage you, family, and friends to please join us. Visitors will be able to enjoy all we have to offer: the art exhibition, the historic Florence Griswold House, and our beautiful riverfront grounds and gardens. We will also offer a fun hands-on craft project, and a light reception of snacks. "Nothing More American" is an exhibition of contemporary photographs by New York-based artist Matthew Leifheit that tells the story of immigrant and refugee families resettled in Connecticut communities. The exhibition was inspired by a story in *The New Yorker* highlighting the efforts by the First Congregational Church of Old Lyme to offer sanctuary to one immigrant family in 2018. Leifheit's portraits honor the struggles and strength of these families and the bonds of friendship formed in their new communities. All you need to do to take advantage of this offer is visit our Front Desk staff in the main lobby of the Museum. They will direct you to our community check-in area on these special days:

The dates will be:

April 5th (10 AM-5 PM)

May 3rd (10 AM-5 PM)

We hope this exhibit and these stories will inspire and move you. Some of you may know these families personally or many more just like them and understand how these stories resonate. We can't wait to share what we have to offer with you in this new partnership. If you have any questions please reach out to our Marketing Department at emily@flogris.org or tammi@flogris.org.

The Florence Griswold Museum looks forward to seeing you soon.



Universalist Church of West Hartford

"You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown" - The UU Players return to the stage for an intergenerational production of "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown" on **Friday, March 27 at 7:00 p.m.,**

Saturday, March 28 at 2:00 p.m., and Sunday, March 29 at 2:00 p.m. in Fiske Hall at the Universalist Church of West Hartford, 433 Fern Street. Based on the beloved comic strip "Peanuts" by Charles M. Schulz, this family-friendly musical will delight audience members of all ages. You'll see some familiar faces... USH friends Hannah (Phillips) Garmise as a singing and dancing Snoopy and Richard Leslie as the Beethoven-loving pianist Schroeder are featured. Peggie Geiger is also in the ensemble, and Patrice Fitzgerald is directing the show. General admission tickets are \$15, with \$10 for students under 18 and seniors over 65. Tickets can be purchased at the door or reserved by emailing: **UUPlayers@WestHartfordUU.org**.

USH Staff:

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

Rev. Cathy Rion Starr, Co-Minister
revcathyrionstarr@gmail.com | 860-233-9897 ext. 103

Rev. Heather Rion Starr, Co-Minister
revheatherionstarr@gmail.com | 860-233-9897 ext. 103

Dianne Daniels, Intern Minister (half time, through December 2021)
USHInternDD@gmail.com | 860-233-9897 ext. 109

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



SPAM ALERT

Please do not respond to any email or text requests from either of the Reverends, any USH member, or anyone else, regarding federal government grants. This is fraudulent

activity and the office has been alerted to the attempts. Spoofer often change one letter in the address to fool you. DO NOT send money or take any action that seems suspect. When in doubt, check it out! Please forward any concerns to any of the board members or to Buffie Pinney. Thank you, USH Office.



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, Office Admin

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.

*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!*



Image: chicagonow.com

**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.