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**Tel: (860) 233-9897 • Email: [hartforduusociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartforduusociety@gmail.com)**

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

**Office Administrator's Hours (adjusted for COVID-19): Tuesdays,  
Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 9:00am to 1:00pm, or email/call for an  
appointment.**

**SEPTEMBER 2, 2020**

**Building Community Since 1830  
Revs. Cathy & Heather Rion Starr, Co-Ministers**



**Image: courtesy of Mayre Gail Harrison**

**Worship Service**  
**September 6th, 2020, 10:00am**  
**"Creative Connections: Building Community Through the Artist's Way"**

**Marye Gail Harrison, Guest Speaker**  
**Peter Meny, Worship Associate**

**10:00am - Worship - watch as usual at [www.ushartford.com](http://www.ushartford.com),  
and/or via our [USH Facebook Page](#)**

**Fellowship Time - "Live" in Zoom room immediately following service (starting at 11:00 am).** Our conversations should be especially rich as we realize that we are not just a silo in this tumultuous world, but are linked with Unitarian Universalists throughout the country. **Come and be inspired!**

Zoom

link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89054382225?pwd=VmRhZHB6bnFBbGJqTXRSdkdLL256QT09>

We continue to support folks in learning how to use Zoom – email Buffie at [hartforduusociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartforduusociety@gmail.com) if you have trouble getting in so we can get you set up for next time.

Sunday September 13th [Water](#) Communion  
"Drive-Thru" 3-4pm

Please join Revs Cathy and Heather to drop off your [water](#) during our socially distancing appropriate "drive thru" that will be used for the **Sunday September 20th Ingathering Service**. We will be handing out your **"Spiritual Tool Kit"** filled with some goodies built by your devoted USH Revs and staff designed to keep us all connected, growing together and spiritually healthy amidst these challenging times. There is an activity Buffie will be showcasing within the E-News so be sure to look for the "USH leaves" in your tool kits.

Hope to see you here and we will look forward to seeing you!!

**With Love, Revs Cathy and Heather**  
**Sunday September 20th - Ingathering with Revs Cathy and Heather**

**Update from the USH Board About Access to the Building and Grounds****Dear USH Community,**

As the church year begins, the Revs, Staff and Board are listening to our community and looking for creative ways of connecting with one another in the virtual world and in the real world.

While nothing is certain, the Ad Hoc Covid 19 Planning Team has begun work and is tasked with developing considerations and protocols that need to be in place to safely make the Meeting House and its grounds accessible to individuals and small groups in the coming months.

As the Covid Team's work ramps up, we are taking initial steps to consider outdoor events, on a case-by-case basis, as an experiment to learn more and inform our process to safely open up the Meeting House property and building for safe access over time, as the Connecticut state guidelines and health situation allow.

Less than a week ago, USH was approached by a theater group with whom we have a prior relationship about renting our parking lot for a 60-minute, outdoor-only production with two actors who live together and are quarantining together. The event is later in September and there will be thorough safety protocols in place, including no access to the building. The production company will own all safety protocols for the event, and audience members would remain in their cars. The theater group is also exploring use of FM radio to transmit audio for the event, which is an intriguing option for USH to learn more about.

Rayla Mattson, in her capacity as rentals manager, is overseeing the rental with little impact on other USH staff. The rental was discussed at the Ad Hoc Covid-19 Planning Team on August 30th and again at the Board Executive Committee meeting on September 1st.

Based on these discussions, the Board Exec Committee is excited to support this rental opportunity as a way to experiment with outdoor use of the property with few demands on USH staff. We believe that this rental experiment will provide great learning for USH, and allow us to move up the learning curve of our own protocols more quickly as the church year begins in September. Our learnings will inform the Ad Hoc Covid 19 Planning Team as we look at the potential to have other outdoor events and future indoor access to the Meeting House for small groups (again, state guidelines and health conditions permitting).

Like many of you, we long for the opportunity to meet together again! We are committed to sharing next steps in our process of safely allowing access to our grounds and building in the coming months.

**-- Submitted by Lisa Galinski, Board President-Elect**

**Policy from the USH Board of Directors as of July 15, 2020**

For the safety of our members, friends and staff, the USH building and grounds, including the playground, remain closed to all activities ***with the exception of individual and small family group visits to the memorial gardens, and urgently necessary maintenance by members of the Building and Grounds Sub-council or USH Sexton, Kevin Girouard.*** Any other visits to the office or for contactless pickups and drop offs, must be scheduled in advance through our Office Administrator, Buffie Pinney, and our Rentals Manager, Rayla Mattson. In all cases, please observe masking and distancing precautions.

**Note:**

While we appreciate that not having ready access to the USH building and grounds can be difficult, it is necessary, for everyone's safety, to manage building and grounds use during the Covid-19 pandemic. Checking with Buffie and Rayla before planning a visit helps us to avoid unsafe situations, unnecessary confusion and inequities. Your continued cooperation with this effort is much appreciated.

**Thank you for your understanding during this challenging and ever-changing time! USH Board and Ministers**

**Notice from your Board**

The next USH **Board meeting will be on Tuesday, September 8 at 6:30pm** on Zoom. See Zoom link, below.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89043045367?pwd=QlBGZUQ0bGVhUkFNQ3Q2dFVZSjZJdz09>

Meeting ID: 890 4304 5367

Password: Barbara

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,89043045367#,,1#,610061# US (New York)

+13017158592,,89043045367#,,1#,610061# US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 890 4304 5367

Password: 610061

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kcmMrVyohh>



**Thank You Means More: The Village for Families and Children Uniform Fundraiser 2020**

Thank you means more in the middle of a pandemic. Children attending Hartford Public Schools were originally scheduled to go back to school on August 28, 2020; COVID 19 kept them home. School now starts on September 8th. Initial plans were for five days of in person learning - as of late August, they will be using a hybrid approach: both in-person and online learning. Parents may also elect fully online instruction. Governor Lamont has said: "Should conditions change, our plan will update accordingly." The only thing that's certain about the 20-21 school year is uncertainty.

This year USH donated \$1,670 to the Uniform Fundraiser for those served by The Village for Families and Children. In the middle of a pandemic you gave a wonderful gift to many families and children. They can be sure, in the middle of uncertainty, that whenever their children need school uniforms their families can afford them.

Thank you for your generosity, and your continued support of The Village for Families and Children. Thank you means more in the middle of a pandemic.

**More 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](#)  
[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 coordinated by the**

**Unitarian Society of Hartford: [www.ushartford.com/events/](http://www.ushartford.com/events/)**

**To submit a Calendar Request (also for an online USH Zoom Room gathering) 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



### Hello USH Family!!

I miss seeing all of you and as we near our Ingather date, I will miss sitting on the chancel steps and reading to you all. So, I popped into the building to share a story with you all. Please join me here to watch story

time <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1708093352699904>

**Rayla D. Mattson, Director of Religious Education**

**860-233-9897 ext. 104 | [dre@ushartford.com](mailto:dre@ushartford.com)**

**I only check my email on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.**

### **"CHOMP-N-CHAT"**

**We are doing something fun and new  
just because we miss YOU!!**

**Come join your USH staff members on *Wednesday afternoons from 12:00pm-1:00pm starting on September 9th* for a bit of chit-chat**

while we *chomp* on our lunches on Wednesday afternoons. Click the [ZOOM link here](#) and use **passcode 949938** to register & enjoy some casual conversations and just plain old "catch up" with one another. Bring your snack and we will "**see**" you there!!

## News from the USH Board of Directors

### **Letter from incoming USH President, Martha Bradley, July 15, 2020**

Dear Friends,

At USH we offer a big tent, literally and figuratively. We claim to welcome and respect all comers, and to cherish diversity of people and opinions. We say that "love is the spirit of this church." If ever there was an opportunity to reach out and practice what we preach, this is it. So many people are hurting and in need of help and support.

There are many ways to address those needs. As my Grandma used to say, "It wouldn't do for us all to be the same." Not everyone wants to (wo)man the barricades, but we can all play an important role, whether caring for or accompanying others through difficult situations, educating ourselves, spreading the word, providing financial support, getting out the vote. As my Grandma also used to say (apologies to cat lovers), "There's more than one way to skin a cat."

I believe we all sense the urgency of the present moment in the history of our church community, our faith, and our country. We have taken a vital first step in maintaining our church community. Thanks to the outstanding efforts of our ministers, WAs, RE Rayla, Music Minister Sam, Office Administrator Buffie, President Elect and tech hand-holder Lisa, and others, we have successfully transitioned our services, coffee hour and many groups online, to keep our connections and sense of community alive although we can't be together in person.

**Now comes the hard part: committing to maintaining our community and connectedness going forward into an uncertain future. In other words, hanging in there for the long haul.**

Even though we can't be together in person, our strength and ability to make a difference for ourselves and others still lies in community. It is through collective effort, with each of us contributing our own unique gifts and creative vision, that we can meet the unprecedented challenges we face going forward.

Despite differences of opinion and approach, that can be magnified by stress and isolation, pulling together is the best way to resist being pulled apart. It's important to keep our eyes on the prize; a safer, healthier, and more equitable future for all in this country and the world.

**Let's continue to love and support one another in making manifest this vision of the future by imagining and creating the church we need to make it so. Let's keep "turning and turning" together until things "come round right." I look forward to hearing your thoughts and reactions to our current challenges.**

**Wishing you all the very best, Martha.**  
[marthabradley49@yahoo.com](mailto:marthabradley49@yahoo.com) (860) 305-3307

#### **From the USH Board:**

We as Board, Ministers, and Staff have been taking in the recent recommendations of the UUA (you can read those for yourself, here: <https://www.uua.org/pressroom/press-releases/message-uua-president-updated-guidance-gathering> and have been reflecting upon and appreciating this 4-minute video from UU parish minister Rev. Jake Morrill: <https://youtu.be/0uAKQXagwms>. You are welcome to join us in this real-life "thought experiment" about how to live together into this new era and the new formats of congregational life that we are being called to consider. There was some discussion of these topics during the May 17th Annual Meeting; please speak with the Board, Ministers, or Staff directly if there are areas of congregational life you'd like to be more involved in.  
 --Submitted by Rev. Heather

#### **Your 2020-2021 USH Board**

**Martha Bradley: President**

**Lisa Galinski: President-Elect**

**Bob Hewey: Treasurer**

**Sarah Harmon McKenzie: Secretary**

**Peter Meny: Spiritual Life Council Chair**

**Jon Covault: Administration Council Chair**

**Judy Sullivan: Social Justice Council Chair**

**Tina Davies: Community Within Council Chair**

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

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

**The USH 2020 Annual Meeting was held on May 17<sup>th</sup>** following the morning service. The Nominating and Leadership Development Committee presented the following slate of candidates to the USH Board of Directors and they were unanimously affirmed at the Annual Meeting. You can view the Annual meeting recording [here](#). Contact Buffie if you need member access info.

**View the 2020 Annual Report [here](#).**

~Submitted by - Sarah McKenzie, Secretary

The latest financial reports for **January-March 2020** have been posted, click [HERE](#) to view.

The Board Meeting minutes for **July 2020** have been posted. To view the USH Directory, Reports, meeting minutes and other church business information online, click [HERE](#). Contact Buffie Pinney at [hartforduusociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartforduusociety@gmail.com) for the username and password.

## Social Justice at USH



### [Americans of Conscience Checklist: Week of August 30, 2020](#)

198 weeks down, 9 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 more info here:

<https://americansofconscience.com/08-30-2020/>



I PLEDGE TO

# VOTE LOVE

in 2020!

Make your plan to vote!

Visit: [www.uuthevote.org](http://www.uuthevote.org)

I pledge to mobilize the electorate and UU understanding that we are unequivocally:

- Pro-Migrant
- Pro-Democracy
- Pro-Equity & Liberation Movement
- Pro-Human & Civil Rights for All
- Pro-Reparations
- Pro-Sustainability

Text VoteLove to 51555 for updates.

### Be Part of UU the Vote National Call-in Days to Voters in Wisconsin and Florida

Every other week until election day, UU's from across the country are making non-partisan calls together to register, mobilize, and persuade voters in 2020. The USH community is involved in UU the Vote -- we welcome more members and friends to join in this exciting effort.

The next phonebank is **September 2nd from 6-8 pm ET**. [Please sign up here!](#)

**This is an all hands on deck moment and your participation makes a difference!**

- **Call:** [Please sign up](#) to phonebank and help us recruit more volunteers. UU the Vote has a goal of gathering 500 UUs and friends to make calls in August and September. If everyone recruits 1-2 or even more people we can make and surpass that goal. People understand what a crucial moment we are in, in Florida, Wisconsin, and in our nation.

- **Share:** You can send people the sign up links, send it to your lists, and share the sign up links on Facebook.

- **Donate:** You can also donate to help us reach these goals! Each call to a voter costs .042 cents. Would you [donate](#) \$10 to reach the next 250 voters today?

**UU the Vote is designed to be fulfilling, faithful, and fun as we build solidarity and power for change.** We hold the phonebanks on Zoom so that we are able to make our phone calls together. We gather in, get oriented, trained in the first 30 minutes or so of the phonebank, make our calls together, and debrief and celebrate our results at the end of the

session. Here is the link for UU the VOTE Rapid Response:

<https://secure.everyaction.com/p/BNqJiezc30S089Hm5K3xPA2?emci=a6317413-40e3-ea11-8b03-00155d0394bb&emdi=c1944081-9de3-ea11-8b03-00155d0394bb&ceid=2724963>

Thank you for your support of UU the Vote and helping get out the vote!

**Please Confirm Your Voter registration here:**

<https://www.usa.gov/confirm-voter-registration#item-214522>

**GHIAA News Updates**

1. update: <https://cljct.org/ghiaa-update-from-executive-director/>

2. Upcoming assemblies/trainings (all via zoom – links will be sent to those who register prior to the event)

Trainings:

**GHIAA Core Team Training:**

Thursday, September 10th through Thursday, October 15th (6 Thursdays)  
from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Trainers: Cori Mackey, Pat Speer, Rev. AJ Johnson

Where: Zoom (link coming)

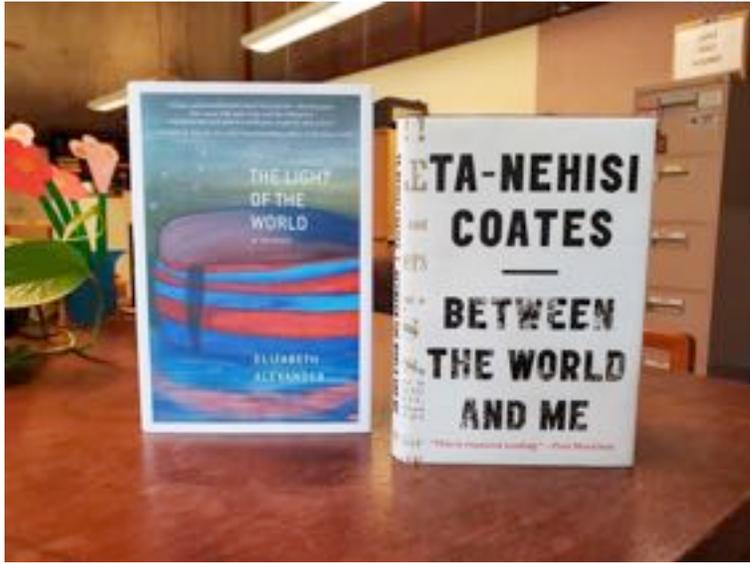
·To **register** for Core Team Training and/or the Orientation session click here: <https://forms.gle/dvCu8Mhr5QAG971N6>

·**Questions about registration?** Email GHIAA organizer Cesar Aleman at [caleman@cljct.org](mailto:caleman@cljct.org)

**BLACK LIVES MATTER**

USH has lawn signs available for a donation of any amount made to USH, or any other organization involved in this work.

Please email Virginia de Lima [vadelima@yahoo.com](mailto:vadelima@yahoo.com) to express interest and to arrange for pickup.



### **David's Den Library**

There is some excellent reading material relevant to the challenges we face as a multi-cultural society, and the current race related tensions felt across the country. Please reach out to Buffie Pinney at

[hartfordusociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartfordusociety@gmail.com) if you would like to "take out" some reading material during quarantine restrictions. These books were generously donated by members so please use accordingly, and return in a timely fashion for others to enjoy.

## **Programs for Adults and Families**

**The USH Book Club** begins its 2020-2021 season next **Thursday, September 10**, discussing Mark Helprin's *Paris in the Present Tense*. The group meets **monthly**, on the **2nd Thursday**, 2:30 – 4:30, via Zoom. All adults in the USH community are welcome. Please contact Ginny Allen at [fiddlenurse1@gmail.com](mailto:fiddlenurse1@gmail.com) if you'd like more information or if you want to join. An email with Zoom link will be sent a day or two before the meeting.

### **Books chosen for the year are:**

**SEPTEMBER 10** – *Paris in the Present Tense* – Mark Helprin

**OCTOBER 8** – *The Mountains Sing* – Que Mai Phan Nguyen

**NOVEMBER 12** – *The Orphan's Train* – Christina Kline

**DECEMBER 10** – *Enemy of All Mankind: A True Story of Piracy, Power, and History's first Global Manhunt*

– Steven Johnson

**JANUARY 14** – *The Devil's Due* – Bonnie MacBird

**FEBRUARY 11** – *The Great Indoors: The Surprising Science of How Buildings Shape Our Behavior, Health, and Happiness* – Emily Anthes

**MARCH 11** – *A Peace to End All Peace: The Fall of the Ottoman Empire and the Creation of the Modern Middle East*  
– David Fromkin

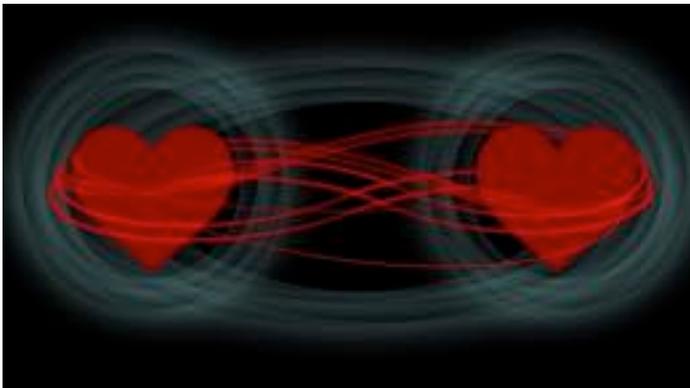
**APRIL 8** – *The Gone Dead* – Chanelle Benz

**MAY 13** – *The Way of Gratitude: A New Spirituality for Today* – Galen Guengerich

**JUNE 10** – *White Fragility and Racism: Why it is hard for White People to talk About Racism*  
– Robin D'Angelo and Michael Dyson

**JULY 8** – *The Bear* – Andrew Krivak

**Artist's Way Group:** Organizational meeting is Monday, October 19, 6:30 – 8 p.m. via **Zoom**. We will continue to meet in this time slot through fall and winter (except holidays), using Mira Kirschenbaum's book ***The Gift of A Year*** as the basis for our conversation. We focus on living creatively, with the appreciative eye of an artist; creative expression of all types and stripes is celebrated, though not required. If you're interested in joining us, mark your calendar now, and look for contact info here in early September. Contact Tina Davies for more info at [daviesush@gmail.com](mailto:daviesush@gmail.com).



### **Connection Circles**

A Connection Circle is a small group who covenant to come together for a series of meetings and provide the opportunity to one another to develop deep and meaningful connections, safe community to explore and grow spiritually.

A typical meeting combines personal check-ins, readings, guiding questions, and individual sharing focused on a particular theme. Connection Circles typically run for 8 weeks for 2 hours per week. Meetings will be held by Zoom, and Zoom assistance is available if you need help getting set up. If you are interested in joining a Connection Circle, please text Martha Bradley at 860-305-3307 as soon as possible with your name and email/phone number.

### **Programs:**

**20's/30's Group:** Get together with other 20s and 30s who are social distancing and feeling the need for connection! If you would like to join us for our next online gathering, please email Tara Cote at [tcote11@gmail.com](mailto:tcote11@gmail.com).

**Disability Support Group:** This group has moved its gathering online. Please reach out to the facilitators for more info. In this group participants discuss the challenges of physical disability (chronic illness, chronic pain, impaired senses, impaired mobility) and emotional pain (loss, mental illness) and the stresses of caretaking a loved one. What is said in the room stays in the group. Call Bill LaPorte-Bryan for more information at 860-308-2688 or email him at [b37bryan@gmail.com](mailto:b37bryan@gmail.com).

**Tai Chi:** is canceled at USH through December 31, 2020. However, the instructor Lucky Luckingham will be offering Tai Chi three days a week from his home in South Windsor. If interested please contact Lucky directly at [stephen.luckingham@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.luckingham@gmail.com).



### **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](mailto: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](#).

### Would You Like Support?

Worrying does not take away tomorrow's troubles; it takes away today's peace. These are strange times indeed. Our accustomed normalcy has been up-ended. It's natural to feel shaken under these circumstances. However if you find yourself unusually worn down by worry, nervousness or loneliness during this pandemic, your ministers have assembled a small team of counseling professionals. They have volunteered to offer free, supportive, confidential, one-on-one phone calls. If a phone session or two would feel helpful to you, please do not hesitate to contact either Rev Cathy at [revcathyrionstarr@gmail.com](mailto:revcathyrionstarr@gmail.com) or Rev Heather at [revheatherionstarr@gmail.com](mailto:revheatherionstarr@gmail.com). We are all in this together and together we will stay strong.

**May we all stay healthy, happy and connected.**

**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.



**CommunityNOW:** Please see this online calendar compiling what other UU churches and organizations are doing during this pandemic. Check out some new programs [here!](#)

## Church Business News

### ZOOM Update

As ZOOM has previously communicated, starting **September 27th, 2020**, it will be required that **all meetings have a Passcode or Waiting Room**

**enabled.** ZOOM has designed these security measures to give you control over your meeting security options while keeping the join experience as frictionless as possible.

**For meetings that do not have either a Passcode or Waiting Room enabled by September 27th, Zoom will enable a Waiting Room for you.**

ZOOM has also improved the Waiting Room notifications so the meeting host can now receive a visual and auditory notification that an attendee has entered the Waiting Room.

For more details please see the comprehensive [FAQ document here](#), or call Buffie Pinney at 860-233-9897 for more info.

### **Collegial Request from Rev. Tony Lorenzen:**

Hello Dear Colleagues,

The Mattatuck UU Society in Woodbury, CT is looking for a part-time religious educator to help coordinate our efforts. If you know anyone who might be interested, please pass this along. If you are able to post it or include in any congregational communications, I'd be deeply grateful. See info **below**.

In Faith,

Rev Tony

Minister, The Unitarian Universalist Church in Meriden

and The Mattatuck Unitarian Universalist Society

**cell: 508-344-3668**

**[revtonyuu@gmail.com](mailto:revtonyuu@gmail.com)**

Twitter @revtonyuu

Facebook facebook.com/RevTony

Website: <http://revtonyuu.com>

#### **JOB LISTING: Part-Time Religious Educator**

The Mattatuck Unitarian Universalist Society (MUUS) is seeking to hire a LIFESPAN FAITH DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR (LFDC) for a quarter time position (10 hours per week). MUUS is a relatively small congregation located in Woodbury CT.

The position requires working in collaboration with the Minister, other staff and the Lifespan Faith Development Team. The LFDC will work with our volunteer and staff leaders to support our evolving vision and framework for a vibrant lifespan faith development program for all ages.

- Strong communication, leadership, organization and administrative skills are required.
- Programs in the near term are expected to be held online, and will require proficiency with Google Suite, MS Office Suite, Zoom, Website Content Management Systems (such as WordPress), Social Media (YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.), and basic visual and video editing programs;
- Trained/experienced educator, education administrator, or volunteer

manager in related field preferred;

- Knowledge of and enthusiasm for Unitarian Universalism, including its education philosophy preferred.

We offer compensation that meets fair compensation guidelines of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

**To apply: Submit Resume to [re@muusct.org](mailto:re@muusct.org)**

**For More information contact Rev. Tony Lorenzen at 508-344-3668**



## **Online Donations:**

After some FAQ's regarding our online donations (via our website) I did some digging and was informed that the online donating is a 2-step process requiring members to input their credit card information twice, once on our **USH** website and then again on **PayPal**. Pay Pal is the site

that actually processes the transaction, and the office (Buffie) receives notifications when a donation is received. Please contact **Buffie Pinney** with any questions or concerns at [hartforduusociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartforduusociety@gmail.com) or **860-233-9897**.

As a reminder, the Meeting House is closed for all "in-person" gatherings for now, and we ask your help in strengthening our connections during this time. Call someone in the congregation! Organize a Zoom hangout or Connection Circle! Keep telling us your good news – new babies and such, and challenges you wish to share in worship or simply hold in confidential prayer and love.

### **Moving Events Online:**

We are updating our online calendar with events that are moving to an online format during this time when all in-person gatherings are cancelled. If you are an event organizer, please let Buffie know if you would like to move your program online into our USH Zoom Room (and if you need help learning to use Zoom).

### **Resources for the food insecure and places to give:**

These are tough times for many folks already living paycheck-to-paycheck and/or food insecure. If this is you, please reach out to the Revs so we can

mobilize some financial and/or food support for you. Here are a few community resources for food in particular:

- Bloomfield food for kids: Carmen Arace Middle School food pick-up: Breakfast 8:00-9:00am and lunch 12:00-1:00pm. It's a drop-in pick-up only.
- West Hartford Meals for kids and adults: <https://www.smores.com/jxwvz>
- Hartford meals for kids: <https://ct-kids.org/>
- Foodshare has mobile sites for food pick up. Click here for more info: <http://site.foodshare.org/site/PageServer?pagename=coronavirus>

**Foodshare** welcomes your financial contributions and is in need of volunteers especially right now. They have extra safety precautions in place. If you are not already high risk, please consider signing up. The Universalist Church of West Hartford is working to keep their pantry functioning and could use volunteers who are not in the high risk categories (underlying pulmonary/cardiac/immune issues or diabetes...and/or 50+ years old). Call Jacob Lee, their food ministry coordinator, at 860-233-3669 x109 if you are interested in helping through the coming weeks and months. See more here: <https://www.feedingamerica.org/research/coronavirus-hunger-research>

**For questions about Coronavirus in CT, call 211 to talk to a person 24-hours a day, 7 days a week. The hotline is for general questions about COVID-19. If you're experiencing symptoms, contact your medical provider.**



### **USH Choral Program Update**

Director of Music Ministries Sam Moffett has been working on plans to bring back the choral program at USH through technological

innovations. During the quarantine, Sam has been learning more about

audio and video editing, and finished a project with the USH Choral Scholars that was recently featured in worship. Sam plans to continue these projects when the Fall season comes around, and is hoping to start expanding it to include the full USH Choir as well.



**NO PHISHING**  
**Don't take the bait!**

**Email Phishing Scam Update From the UCC Pension Boards**

Exploiting the Coronavirus: Massive Excel Phishing Attack.

Microsoft has reported a massive phishing campaign that

uses an Excel attachment as bait. The phishing email looks like it is from the Coronavirus Research Center of John Hopkins University—a well-known medical organization in the US. The email includes an Excel attachment that is disguised as an updated list of Coronavirus-related deaths, but the file actually contains a hidden piece of malware.

If you open the infected Excel file and click "Enable Content" when prompted, a program called Net Support Manager will be automatically installed on to your computer. This program is a tool that allows someone to access your computer remotely. Cybercriminals are using Net Support Manager to gain complete control over a victim's system; allowing them to steal sensitive data, install more malicious software, and even use the machine for criminal activities. Don't be a victim!

**Here are some ways to protect yourself from this scam:**

Think before you click! The bad guys know that you want to stay up-to-date on the latest COVID-19 data so they use this as bait. They're trying to trick you into impulsively clicking and downloading their malware.

Remember to use the PHISH ALERT BUTTON.

Never download an attachment from an email that you weren't expecting. Even if the sender appears to be a legitimate organization, the email address could be spoofed. Always go to the source. Any time you receive an email that claims to have updated COVID-19 data, use your browser to visit the official website instead of opening an attachment or clicking a link.

Also, if you ever receive a suspicious email or text using US Hartford, USH, or the name of a staff member, please alert Buffie at [hartfordusociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartfordusociety@gmail.com). You can find the correct emails for USH Staff, Members and Friends, in our Congregational Directory on the Members page of our website: [www.ushartford.com](http://www.ushartford.com).

**Meeting House Presents!**



**2019-2020  
Season**



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



The Mammals  
on FaceBook  
Check out this  
week's concert  
**here.**



## **Save These Dates - Coming Up:**

**Meeting House Presents is closed for the safety of our performers and audience until further notice. We hope to reschedule all of the cancelled 2020 concerts for 2021. Many performers host virtual concerts. Consider supporting live music by watching the online shows or buying CDs and downloads.**

**Thank you, Laura and Paul Cipriano**

**Meeting House Presents, Unitarian Society of Hartford, CT**

<http://www.ushartford.com/nourishing-spirit/music/meetinghousepresents/>  
***We hope that you will join us then! Stay Healthy and Safe!***

**Click [HERE](#) for more info or e-mail us  
at [MeetingHousePresents@gmail.com](mailto: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/](http://www.ushartford.com/nourishing-spirit/music/meetinghousepresents/)

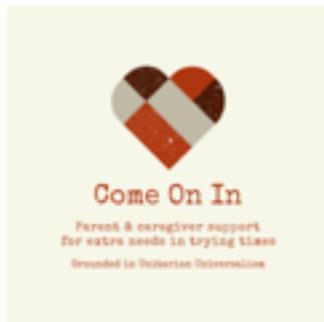
### **Sign Up for Meeting House Presents email list:**

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](mailto: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](mailto:MeetingHousePresents@gmail.com) to volunteer. Come be part of the fun.**

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## News in the Larger Community



### **Come On In support group**

Providing care for loved ones who have extra needs\*\* can be an isolating experience in the best of times. And these are not the best of times. This group aims to lessen the isolation that caregivers of folks with extra needs experience, particularly during this pandemic time.

It is so easy to feel alone amidst friends & acquaintances whose charges have more typical needs & challenges. We each approach our

situation in our own unique way; having the support & understanding of others who travel similar paths can bring much needed comfort and connection and can help relieve some of the stress you may feel.

My hope is to offer, within a UU context:

- An opportunity to care for yourself and receive some of the support you need.
- A chance to meet other caregivers
- A way to give & receive informal, structured support.
- A space that holds our complex emotions & experiences in confidence & respect.
- A group with clear guidelines & ground rules.
- Support and a chance to talk about how you're coping with the tougher aspects, if you want to. Anxiety, shame, sadness, guilt, fear & other challenging emotions arise for so many of us.

\*\*As defined by you: If you wonder whether or not your loved one fits into that category, they probably do; if you wonder whether you're a 'caregiver,' you probably are.

### **LOGISTICS**

- The group meets on zoom the 1st & 3rd Saturdays of the month, 9:30 - 10:40 a.m. EDT/EST.
- It's not a problem if you can only attend part of a session, or if you need to duck out to tend to your loved one, or if you're interrupted; this is the nature of our caregiving.
- Email [uusupport@icloud.com](mailto:uusupport@icloud.com) for zoom link, questions & further guidelines.

**Bio:** Li Kynvi brings both personal & professional interest & experience to this support group. Li is working on their MDiv at the UU identity school Starr King School for the Ministry and is currently a Candidate for UU Ministry. They have also worked as a music therapist & licensed mental

health counselor for 23 years. Li is the parent of two: a 16 year-old son who is delightful, musical, relational, non-verbal, blind, 4-5 months old developmentally, and does not sit or stand independently; and a 22 year-old daughter who also has a complex story. Li identifies as gender non-binary, uses they/them pronouns, and lives in Massachusetts.

**Our sessions from now to the end of the year will be:**

Sept. 5  
 Sept. 19  
 Oct. 3  
 Oct. 17  
 Nov. 7  
 Nov. 21  
 Dec. 5  
 Dec. 19

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6291627339>

**Meeting ID: 629 162 7339**

**Mobile: +13017158592,,6291627339**



**Paper Grocery Bags needed!**

Hartford Mutual Aid is collaborating with a Faith Based Alliance for Community Support with our sister churches in the North End: Urban Hope, St. Monica's, and Greater Refuge, to provide breakfast and groceries to families in need. They need lots and lots of paper grocery bags! Please drop yours off at USH (there's a bin at the front entrance) or at the Revs' home this week. They are also looking for volunteers to help with

food distribution (with strict safety protocols and PPE provided) - sign up at [www.mutualaidhartford.com](http://www.mutualaidhartford.com).

## COVID-19 Hartford Community Resources

### A way for Hartford residents to connect with Hartford resources and beyond...

For City of Hartford updates go to: <http://www.hartford.gov> and follow <https://www.facebook.com/Hartford311/>. See full article [here](#).

~Provided by USH member, Wildaliz Bermudez (<https://wizandjosh.org/>).

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### COVID-19 Y Gente de Color

**¿Tiene preguntas sobre COVID-19?**  
Visita: [211et.org](http://211et.org)  
Llama: 211  
Textea: CTCOVID al 898211

**Se siente mal?**  
Lláme a su médico de atención primaria; se necesita un referido para la prueba

**Si no tiene un médico de atención primaria**  
Lláme al 211



### ¡Comparte lo que sabes sobre el crisis de COVID-19 con los demás!

**¿Cómo se transmite COVID-19?**

- A través de gotas producidas cuando una persona infectada tose o estornuda
- Al tocar una superficie que tiene el virus y luego tocarla la boca, la nariz o los ojos
- Las personas que no tienen síntomas pueden transmitir COVID-19

**¿Quién puede contraer COVID-19?**  
¿Cualquier persona? Gente de todas edades, razas y etnias pueden contraer COVID-19. Incluso las personas sanas pueden contraer COVID-19 y sufrir complicaciones graves.

**¿Cuáles son los síntomas de COVID-19?**  
Los síntomas pueden ser leves o suficientemente graves como para requerir hospitalización. Pueden incluir:

- Fiebre
- Tos
- Dificultad para respirar

Es más probable que tenga síntomas graves, o que muera, si usted:

- Es mayor de 65 años
- Es hispano
- Tiene condiciones de salud crónicas como diabetes, enfermedades cardíacas, alta presión o asma.

**Lláme al 911 si tiene síntomas que señalan una emergencia**

Manténgase al día con las guías del CDC, visite: [bit.ly/CDClog](https://bit.ly/CDClog)



## COVID-19 and People of Color

People of color get - and die from - COVID-19 at higher rates than whites.

**Protect yourself!**

**Have COVID-19 questions? Visit: [211CT.org](http://211CT.org)**

**Call: 211**

**Text: CTCOVID to 898211**

Do you feel sick? Call your Primary Care Doctor—you need their referral for testing, if appropriate.

If you don't have a Primary Care Doctor, call 211



### What you should know:

COVID-19 is affecting People of Color (POC) at higher rates. POC are more likely to get COVID-19 and to die from COVID-19 complications.

### What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. It is caused by a new type of coronavirus.

### Why are POC at higher risk?

People of Color are more likely to:

- Work in high risk essential jobs (healthcare, nursing homes, retail, grocery stores)
- Live in crowded communities with lower air and water standards
- Have higher rates of pre-existing conditions like diabetes, heart disease and asthma caused by or made worse by systemic racism
- Lack access to affordable, healthy food
- Face barriers in accessing quality healthcare
- Lack access to COVID-19 testing

### What can I do right now to stay safe?

- Stay home, whenever possible
- Not gather with anyone outside of the people you live with
- Wear a mask whenever you go out – it's legally required during the crisis
- Wash your hands with soap and water often and for at least 20 seconds
- Eat more foods that boost your immune system, like fruits and vegetables

### What can I do moving forward?

Reach out to local organizations that work on issues affecting POC: racism, environmental justice, access to healthcare, immigration rights, economic issues, and access to healthy foods.

**Stay up-to-date with CDC guidelines by visiting: [bit.ly/CDC6app](http://bit.ly/CDC6app)**

## Share what you know about the COVID-19 crisis with others!

### How is COVID-19 spread?

- Through droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes
- By touching a surface that has the virus on it and then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes
- **People who have no symptoms can spread COVID-19**

### What can get COVID-19?

Anyone! People of all ages, races, and ethnicities can get COVID-19. Even healthy people can get COVID-19 and have serious complications.

### What are COVID-19 symptoms?

Symptoms may be mild or severe enough to require hospitalization. They may include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

You may be more likely to have severe symptoms, including death, if you:

- Are over 62 years old
- Are pregnant
- Have chronic health conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, or asthma

Emergency warning signs include, but are not limited to:

- Trouble breathing
- Pain or pressure in the chest that does not go away
- New confusion or inability to wake

### Call 911 if you are experiencing emergency warning signs

### What are other ways to prevent getting COVID-19?

- Stay at least 6 feet away from other people if you can't stay home
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, mouth
- Frequently clean and disinfect touched surfaces daily (doorknobs, light switches, faucets, keyboards, phones)
- Use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol if you can't wash your hands
- Make your own mask. For instructions for making a no-sew mask, visit: [bit.ly/COVIDfacem](http://bit.ly/COVIDfacem)
- Wash your cloth mask regularly

### What do you do if you feel sick?

Call your primary care doctor - you need their referral for testing, if appropriate. If you don't have a primary care doctor, call 211

- Stay home and away from other people you are living with, if possible
- Practice the prevention strategies above
- Cough and sneeze into a tissue or your elbow



# UPDATE:

**Water, gas, and electricity service to residential homes will not be shut-off, regardless of payment status, until the end of the public health emergency.**

**Visit [CT.gov/coronavirus](http://CT.gov/coronavirus) for up-to-date information from all state agencies**



Please contact our Office Administrator, Buffie Pinney, with any administrative questions or concerns. Buffie is working on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 9am-1pm. While the church remains closed, please email at her at

**[hartforduusociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartforduusociety@gmail.com)**.

**Buffie's always happy to hear from you!**

**USH Staff:**

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

Rev. Cathy Rion Starr, Co-Minister

[revcathyrionstarr@gmail.com](mailto:revcathyrionstarr@gmail.com) | 860-233-9897 ext. 103

Rev. Heather Rion Starr, Co-Minister

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Dianne Daniels, Intern Minister (half time, through December 2021, & not in July or August)

[USHInternDD@gmail.com](mailto:USHInternDD@gmail.com) | 860-233-9897 ext. 109

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Brian Mullen, Bookkeeper

Office or Phone by Appointment | [bmullen@ushartford.com](mailto:bmullen@ushartford.com)

**The deadline for USH-Enews submissions is *Tuesday at 12 Noon.***  
**Email to: [hartfordusociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartfordusociety@gmail.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. Consider the proposed 8th Principle as well! <https://www.8thprincipleuu.org/>.

