



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 ~ June 17, 2020
Building Community Since 1830
Sunday Service 10:30 AM
Revs. Cathy & Heather Rion Starr, Co-Ministers



Image: At the end of a June 21 public witness rally during the UUA General Assembly in Spokane, Washington, UUs and local activists form a heart in the park where hundreds called for criminal justice reforms (© 2019 Christopher L. Walton/UUA).

Worship Service
June 21st, 2020, 10:30am
"The Power of WE"
Rev. Cathy Rion Starr, Co-Minister

Rayla D. Mattson, Director of Religious Education
Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries
Sue Smolski, Worship Associate

10:30am - Worship - watch as usual at www.ushartford.com, and/or via our [USH Facebook Page](#)

11:30am - Fellowship Time - "Live" in Zoom room right after service.
 Zoom
 link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89054382225?pwd=VmRhZHB6bnFBbGJqTXRSdkdLL256QT09>

Worship will be available to watch anytime on Sunday morning, but we encourage you to watch it together at 10:30am either on our homepage www.ushartford.com or join the "premiere watch party" on our [Unitarian Society of Hartford Facebook](#) page to worship and chat together.

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

Come celebrate USH's Accessibility and Inclusion Ministry Certification at the national EqUUal Access Celebration and Awards Event

Thursday, June 18, 2020, 8:00 PM Eastern

Click [here](#) to register for the Zoom link

This event will have Closed Captions.

EqUUal Access extends an open invitation to the 2020 annual [EqUUal Access Celebration & Awards event](#). This is a special time when we gather to honor special achievements in the UU disability world. Usually held on site during UUA General Assembly, this year EqUUal Access' Celebration event is going virtual, allowing more people an opportunity to attend! We will celebrate EqUUal Access sermon contest winner, **Elizabeth Foster**, and the **Unitarian Society of Hartford's recent AIM certification**. We'll also honor some tender transitions that have occurred for individuals within our community. This year, we're very excited to welcome special guest, Judy Heumann. Judy is an Author and disability activist featured in the film [Crip Camp](#). Her new project, [The Heumann Perspective](#), is intended to broaden and spur discussions on the

intersectionality of disability rights. Judy Heumann's recently published book, *"Being Heumann: An Unrepentant Memoir of a Disability Rights Activist"* is available from **Beacon Press** in multiple formats.



Rooted, Inspired, & Ready!

The Unitarian Universalist Association's annual denominational conference, **General Assembly, is June 24th -28th, 2020**. For the first time, this annual conference will be entirely online. The registration cost is \$150 and financial assistance is available. Please

check <https://www.uua.org/ga> for up-to-date information. Instructions for accessing the participation portal will be distributed, to those who have registered. In addition, the UUA is looking for volunteers to moderate or assist with hosting in various zoom rooms. Our USH delegates will be **Dana Donovan, Lisa Galinski, Fred Louis, Judy Sullivan and Rev. Dr. Jan Carlsson-Bull**. Many thanks to each of you, in advance. Any of you who would like to "take in" some or all of the conference online can also attend (without needing to be a delegate) -- keep an eye on the schedule online for what programs you might be especially interested in.

Updated Policy from the USH Board of Directors, approved June 9, 2020:

For the safety of our members, friends and staff, the USH Building and Grounds remain closed to all activities inside and out. You may come into the office if you schedule your visit with Buffie in advance. No-contact pickups and drop-offs in the parking lot, using proper precautions, may be scheduled with both Buffie (Office Admin) and Rayla (Rentals Manager) to insure that there are not concurrent activities occurring, etc.

Thank you for your understanding during this challenging and ever-changing time!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: ANNUAL OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

For the first time in its storied history, this spring the Board of Directors unanimously approved creation of an Annual Outstanding Service Award. The purpose of the award is to demonstrate appreciation and recognition by the Board of the valuable contributions of individual members of the Unitarian Society of Hartford. In addition, the Board unanimously approved four nominated congregation members to receive the inaugural award: **Brian Harvey, David Newton, Janice Newton and Stuart Spence**. At the June 17th Sunday service, Board members Sue Tenorio and Carolyn Carlson presented each with a framed document summarizing their many contributions. They are shared here:

BRIAN HARVEY

"A welcoming smile and a guide for new members at USH"
A deeply felt "thank you" for your ten years of service and outstanding contributions to the Unitarian Society of Hartford that have included: Welcoming visitors, listening to their needs and shepherding them onto a path within the USH community and membership; Leading the biannual yearly new member orientation and the New Member Ceremony, Enthusiastically organizing special events that bring people together such as pancake breakfasts, new member potlucks and church picnic; Coordinating dozens of volunteers to serve as ushers, greeters and to welcome people at Sunday services, Administering the membership roster and Membership Directory, and training office staff with various administrative systems, Serving as an essential part of the team that holds USH together, including helping with administration, creating posters, and providing technical support. For your warm smile and friendly can-do attitude, we thank you!

DAVID NEWTON

"Inveterate educator and gifted leader sharing his multiple skills"
 A deeply felt thank you for your twenty plus years of service and outstanding contributions to the Unitarian Society of Hartford that have included: Continuing Facilitator of Small Group Ministry, Editor and contributor of the online Meeting House newsletter, Highly involved supporter of the successful Solar Project and very notably as Secretary Pro Tem of the Building and Grounds Sub-council in which you have coupled boundless energy and professionalism with generosity of time and resources to join peers and staff in upkeep tasks and wide ranging projects critical to the livelihood of the Meeting House, for which the congregation is grateful.

JANICE NEWTON

"Caring leader and welcoming organizer"
 A deeply felt "Thank you" for your twenty plus years of service and outstanding contributions to the Unitarian Society of Hartford that have included: Chairing and then supporting the Caring Network, providing confidential support to members needing meals, rides, support, and a friend, Coordinating Memorial Service Receptions, ensuring that family members of the newly deceased felt loved and supported by their congregation, Caring for the Memorial Garden, ensuring a well-groomed sacred place for remains of loved ones and for peaceful reflections, Chairing Adult Programs, developing a course catalogue and staffing a weekly information table, Hosting Small Group Ministries, allowing for more personal relationship building, Organizing Monthly Lunch Bunch gatherings with speakers, Coordinating the knitting of hundreds of comfort shawls for those in need of a loving gesture, preparing paper mailings of E-news to those without computers, baking hundreds of everyone's favorite chocolate chip cookies!

STUART SPENCE

"An Engineer's Engineer"
 A heartfelt thank you for your eighteen years of service and outstanding contributions to the Unitarian Society of Hartford that have included: A founder and continuing member of Small Group Ministry, A continuing participant in the monthly Book Club discussions and most significantly Governance of the Building and Grounds Sub-council: 11 years as Co-Chair and 4 years as

Chairperson in which you have provided inspiring leadership, overseen collaborative planning and labored alongside dedicated peers and Meeting House staff to complete a multitude of upkeep tasks and maintenance of projects critical to the livelihood of the Meeting House, for which the congregation is grateful.

~Submitted by Sue Tenorio

A Note from Janice and David Newton~

It was an honor to receive this Annual Volunteer Recognition Award. I accept it, not for me, but for all of us who have worked together on many activities and events. Without the participation of all those members and friends of the USH community, those events would not have happened. I picture the USH community as large jigsaw puzzle. Each member and friend represents a necessary part of the puzzle, and with all of us together we become a complete and caring congregation.

Thank you.

Janice Newton

Thank you for the Annual Volunteer Recognition Award. It is said, we stand on the shoulders of those who have come before. With this connection, I recognize those who have contributed to improvements at USH in the past including Peter Revel, Bill Willett, Bill Westervelt, and Carolyn Souter, among others currently with us including Kayla Costenoble and Ed Sax, as well as the hardworking folks who participate in our current activities. On behalf of all of them, thank you.

David Newton



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.

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

USH Board:

Our transition to a new virtual reality has been amazingly quick and successful, thanks to Revs Cathy and Heather, Sam, our Director of Music Ministries, Rayla, our Religious Education Director, Dianne Daniels, our Intern Minister, all of our Worship Associates, and Lisa Galinski, our Zoom-meister. Attendance at our online services and coffee hours is robust and we hope it will continue to grow. If you need help in joining in, call or email Buffie in the office and she'll help or direct you to help. We are also moving all other meetings and functions to the internet, and so far, it's working. Read more [here](#).

--Joe Rubin, President, on behalf of the Board of Directors

The USH 2020 Annual Meeting was held on May 17th 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.

Incoming new Board Members are:

President – Martha Bradley for a one-year term 7-01-2020 to 6-30-2021

President-Elect - Lisa Galinski for a one-year term 7-01-2020 to 6-30-2021

Treasurer - Bob Hewey for a two-year term 7-01-2020 to 6-30-2022

Chair, Administration Council - Jon Covault for a two-year term 7-01-2020 to 6-30-2022

Chair, Community Within Council - Tina Davies for a two-year term 7-01-2020 to 6-30-2022

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

~Submitted by - Sarah McKenzie, Secretary

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



Hello All!

Please join us this Sunday as we honor those youth graduating from high school and those transitioning to high school in our annual Bridging Ceremony. Several of our classes will take a break this week and will meet for the last time next week for the end of this program year. However, the youth group will

meet Friday at 8:00pm. Please contact Rob for the link. There is still time to sign up for GA so if you are interested, please let me or Rev. Heather know.

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.



Several of our youth joined Rayla, Sam, various parents and families to protest/march in Manchester, CT for **Black Lives Matter**.

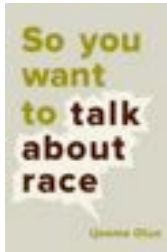
RE Note of Thanks

I want to send a big thank to so many of you in the congregation for your support over the last few weeks. Things have been tough. As a black single mother with a growing black son, I am ever mindful of how our lives are not valued as much as others in this country. But USH has made it clear to me and my family that Black Lives Matter! And I feel it and see it. I know many of you have followed along with me, and Sam, on Facebook as we work to do our part in dismantling white supremacy in this country. Many of you have also made calls and written letters and attended online town meetings and it is all needed and it is making a difference! I know many of you are not able to actively attend protests but I thank you for checking in on those of us who do and a huge thank you to those who have helped feed my kids on the nights when activities have kept me busy. My kids definitely feel the love and support as well.

Several of our middle school and high school youth surprised me the other week and showed up for a protest in Manchester that Sam and I had planned to attend. Some youth and Rev. Cathy came with me to a protest in my own town when two incidents of racial injustice happened the other day. Meanwhile, others of you are planning to go with us to the Juneteenth Rally at Bushnell Park this Friday the 19th at 2:00pm and I am so moved!

I know it will take all of us working together in many different ways to effect true systemic change. We may not all agree on what that

will look
 like or how we get there but we can continue to support and uplift
 each
 other in our efforts. I know for many of you that meant stepping
 outside of
 your comfort zones and I am grateful. To those of you not sure
 what to do
 yet, I understand that as well. But, let's continue to stay united
 and not
 lose sight of where we are going. Black Lives Matter!
 Thank you, Rayla



RE Book Recommendations

For adults:

So You Want to Talk About Race by Ijeoma Oluo
 White Fragility by Robin DiAngelo
 Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson
 How to be an Anti-Racist by Ibram X. Kendi
 Stamped from the Beginning by Ibram X. Kendi

For older teens:

So You Want to Talk About Race by Ijeoma Oluo
 How to Be an Anti-Racist by Tiffany Jewell
 Stamped by Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi
 All-American Boys by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely
 The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas
 Dear Martin by Nic Stone
 Piecing Me Together by Renee Watson

For middle grade:

How to Be an Anti-Racist by Tiffany Jewell
 A Good Kind of Trouble by Lisa Ramee Moore
 Ghost Boys by Jewell Parker Rhodes

Picture Books:

The Undeclared by Kwame Alexander and Kadir Nelson
 Crown: Ode to a Fresh Cut by Derrick Barnes and Gordon C. James
 I Am Every Good Thing by Derrick Barnes and Gordon C. James
 All Because You Matter by Tami Charles and Bryan Collier

Youth Group Donations Needed

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Youth Group has been unable to gather in person and make soup for the Church Street Eats soup kitchen. As result, the Youth Group is trying to organize some support for the soup kitchen. First, they are in need of snack items like granola bars, chips, juice boxes and fruit snacks. We are trying to encourage a weekly donation of these items which can be dropped off at USH, and then brought over to the Soup Kitchen on Saturdays. Second, they are in need of monetary donations which can be made at cccathedral.org at the Church Street Eats page, and would be a wonderful contribution to start making on a weekly basis for those who are not comfortable going to the store or who live far from the church. Third, they are in need of volunteers. They still do rely on a small number of volunteers who wear masks and gloves and prepare bag lunches. The volunteer coordinator is Theresa and her number is **(860)655-6752**.

~Thank You, Rob & Laura, Youth Advisors

USH Spotlight - "Getting to Know You"

In this time of physical distancing, I thought it would be great to get to know one another a little more personally. Every few weeks I am hoping to share with you all a little look into the lives of one of our members or friends. If you are willing to share with us something about yourself, please reach out to me and let me know. Thank You – Rayla D. Mattson, DRE.

Posted by Rayla D. Baldwin Mattson

An invitation to [Act • Learn • Worship • Give](#) from our Director of Religious Education, Rayla D. Mattson.

Dear USH family,

I don't consider myself to be an activist or a community organizer. Feeling called to do this work even when I'm not wanting to be called upon to act is where I feel I am right now. This week Sam Moffett and I participated in several actions in Hartford and surrounding communities. Many of you were following us on Facebook when Sam and I found ourselves sitting

on the highway with a group of protesters. I'm tired of being silent and tired of feeling like I'm not doing enough. As I said to Sam this week, "Sometimes you don't choose the call, the call chooses you." What are you feeling called to, today? I am feeling called to continue the work. I'm focused on opening up conversations that facilitate change. I will continue to show up and be a presence.

In this moment in time, there truly is a line drawn. You are either working for change and an end to racism and oppression or you are complicit in supporting the systemic racist system. I know if you have never taken action before, it can be scary. I know it is not safe for some of you to leave your homes. I know some of you cannot financially contribute to organizations and causes. **But there is something we all can do.** Let's get to work!

Actions are changing by the day-- so we've set up a WhatsApp group at USH to keep each other informed. To join, text Cathy, Rayla, Sam, Dianne, or Tara at 484-883-5898 with your request to be added.

From the USH Board, Revs Cathy & Heather:

Powerlessness in the face of oppression is not supposed to happen in our democratic society. Still, we are reeling yet again from witnessing the lethal results of endemic racism piled on top of pandemic death and disruption that disproportionately effects people of color in our country.

The murder of George Floyd, an unarmed black man killed by a white policeman, while face down on the ground in handcuffs, unchallenged by fellow officers on the scene, is a travesty that has played out too often.

Of course we condemn these crimes, but beyond that we want to share some specific actions that people can take to aid in America's recovery from its deadly pre-existing condition of racism.

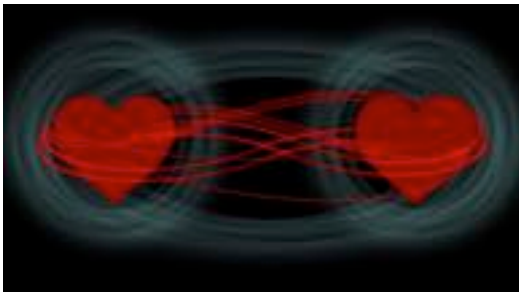
The links below are for resources and articles that can help to change the power structure that allows these crimes, so that no one need feel powerless.

If you are aware of other resources, please share them. If you need support, please let us know. If you are struggling to take action, please reach out.

We are called to live our faith in the world, and right now (and always), this means doing our part to dismantle white supremacy and work for a world where Black Lives Matter. **Join us.**

Take action for Black Lives!

There is something for everyone on this list! Lots of low-risk options from home, as well as other higher-risk options. After you've taken action for Black lives with the Movement for Black Lives, take a look at the wide list we've compiled of ways to [Act • Learn • Worship • Give](#). There is something for everyone -- yes, even you!



Virtual Community Gatherings

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.

If you are interested in participating in a Connection Circle or the Artist's Way Group, please text Martha Bradley at 860-305-3307 with your name, which group you're interested in, and your email/phone number. Your response will help us for planning purposes.

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.smore.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>

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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.

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 or Rev Heather at revheatherrionstarr@gmail.com. We are all in this together and together we will stay strong.

May we all stay healthy, happy and connected.

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](#)

[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 coordinated by the Unitarian Society of Hartford: 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.

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.

News from the USH Board of Directors



Greetings from the Board:

As always, our members and friends keep us going strong. If you can be more active and involved in any aspect of congregational life, please contact one of our Ministers or any Board member today. Stay safe and be well.

~Joe Rubin, USH Board President

Your 2019-2020 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

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 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 hartforduusociety@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.



Americans of Conscience Checklist:

Advocate for police reform. Email your two senators and one House rep.

Script: I'm writing from [ZIP] to support the police reform measures outlined by

the Leadership Conference and their 430 partner organizations in a recent letter to Congress. We cannot wait for substantive solutions that end police brutality. I want you to take

responsibility today for creating federal standards that limit the use of deadly force, eliminate no-knock warrants, and end distribution of military equipment to local police. Thank you. <https://www.contactingcongress.org/>

See [here](#) for more info.



The 1619 Project Zoom Meeting

The next Zoom meeting is Monday, June 22 @ 7pm and facilitated by Gloria Mengual. Please note - each meeting is a separate reading and discussion, so

if you have not yet joined us please feel welcome! The link:

<https://zoom.us/j/98606828162?pwd=WHJtU1J6aG9IS0dUcEU2OStlQU5EZz09>.

Here's the *NYT Magazine* link:

https://pulitzercenter.org/sites/default/files/full_issue_of_the_1619_project.pdf

Articles to read for discussion:

Page 57 - Myths about physical racial differences were used to justify slavery - and are still believed by doctors today

Page 60 - Treatment of black veterans by Jacqueline Woodson

Page 68 - health care inequities experienced by African

Americans Author: Yaa Gyasi

Also a video for discussion - DeAngelo video link:

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

Please contact Judy Sullivan with any questions. 860-714-9886 or jasullivan57@gmail.com

Love Resists Political Education Series:

Unfinished Business: A Study of DuBois' Reconstruction in America to Now

4 Wednesdays: June 17, July 1 and July 8

This political education series offered by the Unitarian Universalist Association's Side With Love and Love Resists campaigns will explore the history of the reconstruction era (post-civil war), to

give us a deeper understanding of the origin of today's systemic racism in policing and mass incarceration as well as the Black-led movements resisting it. In this pivotal protest moment sparked by the law-enforcement-linked murders of George Floyd, Amandla Ahmery, Breonna Taylor, and Tony McDade, the most recent Black lives to be lost to police violence, we'll learn from the past to be ready for today, and to build towards the world we dream of. See more info [here](#).



What Can White People Do?

What can White people do to be allies to People of Color, and especially to Black people, in this particular moment? **Ava DuVernay, in this recent interview with CBS news**, shared a common sentiment that it's not the job of People of Color to help White people figure out what to do. They are using all of their emotional energy to survive. So White people have some work to do. As a White woman who is asking the same

question myself, here are the answers I'm coming to: Read more [here](#). --Submitted by Judy Sullivan, Board Social Justice Council Chair.

Programs for Adults and Families

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.

Despair & Empowerment Circles: Nourishing Our Spirits to Face the Climate Crisis: Rescheduled online. Facilitator: Lisa Galinski, lisa.galinski@gmail.com, 860-518-0197.

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.

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.



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



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.

A Message of Thanks to David Polk and the Richard P. Garmany Fund

On behalf of the Unitarian Society of Hartford, Director of Music Ministries Sam Moffett would like to acknowledge and give great gratitude for David Polk and the Richard P. Garmany fund. For the past couple of years, grants from the Richard P. Garmany fund have allowed USH to continue our Choral Scholars program and our Composer-in-Residence program. The beautiful music heard online from the Choral Scholars during the May 24th service was made possible by Mr. Polk's generosity, and we extend great thanks for his and the Richard P. Garmany fund's support to USH.

NEW Sing- Along

The Meeting House Sing-Along will be virtual this month; if you are not on the mailing list already, contact Ed Savage to get log-in information. We meet on the 2nd Saturday of each month from about 2-5pm as a drop-in, drop-out. No need to reserve a place or bring an instrument (other than your smart phone or computer). I look forward to singing with you again!
~Thank You, USH member Ed Savage



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 or **860-233-9897**.



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 hartforduusociety@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.

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

The Board Meeting minutes for **April 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 for the username and password.

All gatherings at the Unitarian Meeting House facility are currently cancelled. Please stay home to the degree that you are able. If you would like to help organize a USH "Zoom Room Gathering" of a program you would typically participate in, please contact the usual leader or facilitator of that program.

Meeting House Presents!



**2019-2020
Season**



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

Save These Dates - Coming Up:

We are already planning for next season. Here is a sneak preview:

Susan Werner – Friday, September 18, 2020
Vance Gilbert – Friday, October 16, 2020
Mad Agnes – Friday, November 20, 2020
Local Showcase – Friday, December 18, 2020
Lindsey Fyfe (Dec. 18)
The Wool Hats (Dec. 18)
Among the Acres (Dec. 18)
Friday, January 15, 2021 – TBA
Friday, February 19, 2021 – TBA
Abbie Gardner – Friday, March 19, 2021
Reggie Harris and Pat Wictor – Friday, April 16, 2021

We hope that you will join us then! Stay Healthy and Safe!
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.

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**](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 to volunteer. Come be part of the fun.



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](#)**.

News in the Larger Community

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/>**).

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 for up-to-date information from all state agencies



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

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 injustice, access to healthcare, immigration rights, economic issues, and access to healthy foods.

Stay up-to-date with CDC guidelines by visiting: bit.ly/CDC8ugg

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 60 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 (doorbells, 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
- 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



COVID-19 Y Gente de Color

¿Tiene preguntas sobre COVID-19? Visítalo: 211ct.org

Llama: 211

Textea: CTCOVID al 898211

Se siente mal? Llame a su médico de atención primaria: se necesita un referido para la prueba

Si no tiene un médico de atención primaria Llame al 211



Lo que deberías saber:
COVID-19 está afectando a la Gente de Color (GC) a tasas más altas. La GC son más probables de contraer COVID-19, y de morir a causa de complicaciones de COVID-19.

¿Qué es COVID-19?
COVID-19 es una enfermedad respiratoria que puede transmitirse de persona a persona. Es causada por un nuevo tipo de coronavirus.

¿Qué nos pone a mayor riesgo?
La Gente de Color son más propensos a:

- Ser empleados en posiciones esenciales de alto riesgo, como en el cuidado médico, en hogares de ancianos, en tiendas, o en mercados
- Vivir en comunidades superpobladas con estándares más bajos de aire y agua
- Padeecer de condiciones preexistentes como la diabetes, enfermedades cardíacas, o condiciones preexistentes o empeoradas por el racismo sistémico
- No tener acceso a comida saludable y asequible
- Enfrentar barreras a atención médica de alta calidad
- No tener acceso a las pruebas de COVID-19

¿Qué puede hacer ahora para mantenerse saludable?

- Quédese en casa, siempre que sea posible
- No reunirse con nadie fuera de las personas que viven con usted
- Use una máscara cada vez que salga: es un requisito legal durante la crisis
- Lávase las manos frecuentemente con agua y jabón por al menos 20 segundos
- Coma más alimentos que fortalezcan su sistema inmunológico, como frutas y verduras

¿Qué puede hacer siguiendo adelante?
Póngase en contacto con organizaciones locales que trabajan por causas que afectan a la GC: racismo, injusticia ambiental, acceso a cuidado médico, derechos de inmigración, problemas económicos, y acceso a comidas saludables.

¡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 tocarse 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

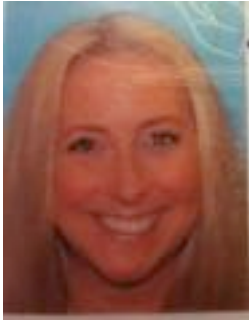
Es más probable que tenga síntomas graves, o que muera, si usted:

- Es mayor de 60 años
- Está embarazada
- Tiene condiciones de salud crónicas como diabetes, enfermedades cardíacas, alta presión o asma.

Llame al 911 si tiene síntomas que señalan una emergencia

¡Manténgase al día con las guías del CDC, visítalo: bit.ly/CDC8ugg





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**.
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 | 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, & not in July or August)

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 or Phone by Appointment | bmullen@ushartford.com

*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!*

**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/>.