



**50 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105**

**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.**

**April 14, 2021**

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



[www.originalstrength.net](http://www.originalstrength.net)

**April 18th, 2021, 10:00am**

## **"Holy Ground"**

***"Where are you centered or rooted? We can't help but be shaped by the place we live, the ground beneath our bodies,"* writes Naomi Ortiz. As we approach [Earth Day](#) 2021, let us ground deep into the wells that sustain us.**

**Rev. Cathy Rion Starr, Co-Minister**

**Rayla D. Mattson, DRE  
Sam Moffett, DMM  
Rick Tsukada, Worship Associate  
Buffie, Coffee Hour Host**

**10:00am Worship Service - Join us [HERE](#)  
Meeting ID: 952 8306 7113  
Passcode: 014277**

**11:00am - [Fellowship Time](#) with USH immediately following services  
in Zoom.**

### **Stewardship Follow-up.**

Thanks to all who have pledged. If you haven't yet but intend to, please let Peter Meny, [plmeny9@gmail.com](mailto:plmeny9@gmail.com), our pledge follow up lead, know your intentions re: pledging so he won't need to call.

As always, you can give by check, credit card, or automatic withdrawal from your checking account – either monthly or in a lump sum. Gifts are tax deductible. If you encounter difficulties or have questions, contact me or our accountant Brian Mullen. Please give as generously as you can to help to maintain USH as a vital and caring community for all of us. Thank you.

~Submitted by Martha Bradley, Board President

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

**HELLO USH FAMILY!!**

**Please join Sage and me for this week's story time. [\(20+\) Unitarian Society of Hartford | Facebook](#)**

**Due to most students being on Spring Break, we will not be having class this week.**

**See you all next week!**

**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**

Meets every last Wednesday of the month. Please join us for the next chat on **April 28th at 12noon** [here](#).



### **Unitarian Society of Hartford Inquirer Series**

**An Introductory Program for Newcomers and Friends  
and Interested Members  
Spring 2021**

***The purpose of the Inquirer Series is to welcome newcomers into the Unitarian Society of Hartford community. The goals of the Inquirer Series are as follows:***

Make our church values and culture transparent and known to newcomers so that they may make an informed decision about membership in our church.

Introduce newcomers to church ministers and lay leaders.

Establish a "safe space" for newcomers to learn more about Unitarian Society of Hartford in the form of a regularly scheduled small group designed for their needs.

#### **Education and Faith Development for All**

**Sunday, April 18: 11:15 – 12:15 p.m.**

Host: Rev. Heather Rion Starr

Life-Long Learning and Adult Programs: Dianne Daniels

Faith Development for Children and Youth: Rayla Mattson

On becoming a Member: Rev. Heather Rion Starr

**To Register contact Buffie Pinney at [hartfordusociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartfordusociety@gmail.com) and log in [HERE](#).**

### **Adult Programs:**

**Artist's Way Group:** Meets on Mondays 6:30 – 8 p.m. via [Zoom](#) 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).

**The USH Book Club:** Meets **monthly**, on the **2nd Thursday**, 2:30 – 4:30 pm, 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.

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

**20's/30's Group:** If you would like to join, 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. Email **Don Hope** for more information at [donhope48@gmail.com](mailto:donhope48@gmail.com) or call at **860 463 7982**.

## Social Justice at USH



**For anyone interested in becoming more involved with GHIAA, The Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance**

They are offering a 6-week Leadership Training Institute this spring via zoom. Please note that participating in an Orientation session is REQUIRED. They are offering two orientation options below.

Leadership Institute Training Dates/Times: Six Tuesday Evenings from  
7:00pm – 9:00pm:

1. April 27, 2021
2. May 4, 2021
3. May 11, 2021
4. May 18, 2021
5. May 25, 2021
6. June 1, 2021

This is an excellent training for anyone interested in social justice work, not just related to GHIAA. If you are interested in taking this Core training please contact Dana Donovan, [danadonovan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:danadonovan@sbcglobal.net), or Rev Cathy, [revcathyrionstarr@gmail.com](mailto:revcathyrionstarr@gmail.com) and we will send you the link to sign up.

## Church Community & Business News

### Community Within, Even When Virtual~

We look forward to seeing one another, whether in person or virtually; we care about one another; we want to shake hands and hug again, when we can. Individually and collectively, we've incurred great losses this year. Coming together to remember, grieve, and celebrate the good — all at the same time — is an integral part of community. *Thank YOU for creating and supporting our rare, precious community here.*

**Submitted by Tina Davies, Chair, Community Within~**



### **Personal News of the Congregation**

**We are sad to inform you of the death of USH member Paul Christie on March 26, 2021.**

**Please see obituary [HERE](#).**

**There will be a USH Zoom memorial service on June 15th at 10am so please join us [HERE](#).**

**Notes of sympathy can be sent to his children, Cara Christie 75 Randolph Pl N, Washington DC 20001 and Kysa Christie 4349 Tuller Ave, Culver City, CA 90230**

**More Personal News of the Congregation**

**We are saddened to inform you of the passing of Diana Heyman's sister Martha who died suddenly and peacefully at 11:30 on Tuesday night, at the age of 86. Please feel free to send your sympathies to Diana at her home: 98 Caya Avenue, #C1, West Hartford, CT 06110.**

**Personal News of the Congregation**



**Bonita "Nita" Hansen**

**With heavy hearts, we write to USH members to share with you that longtime member Nita Hansen passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family and friends. Nita's obituary can be viewed [HERE](#).**

**We send our love to Nita's family at this time. Cards for the family can be sent to Bonnie Dell, 21224 Lakeland St. Claire Shores, MI 48081. Thoughtfully,  
Revs. Heather & Cathy Rion Starr**

**Personal News of the Congregation**

**Jane (Moseley) Bronk**

**We are saddened to inform you of the passing of Jane Bronk on Sunday, March 21st, 2021. There will be a memorial service at Loomis Chaffee in the Fall according to COVID protocols. Those wishing to make a donation in lieu of flowers may do so to the Lewy Body Dementia Association, 912 Killian Road S.W., Lilburn, GA 30047 or by visiting [www.lbda.org](http://www.lbda.org). Her full obituary can be found [HERE](#).**



**MEETING HOUSE PRESENTS**

Days are lengthening and we are remembering the wonderful music-filled nights of other years. We are still waiting to hear about when we can reopen for in-person concerts. In the meantime, here are links to some concerts by

performers we plan to feature when we reopen.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kIUGgAOa-gQ&fbclid=IwAR2pxqWdInKQD\\_10X5akC5-9QzdB\\_tZAPnD5HGgWXmtxJYe86Mb1JVrDPUC](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kIUGgAOa-gQ&fbclid=IwAR2pxqWdInKQD_10X5akC5-9QzdB_tZAPnD5HGgWXmtxJYe86Mb1JVrDPUC)

Join us for another Maestro Bistro followed by a presentation on New England Barn Dances, part of the Winter VMFC weekend! This month's bistro features Chris Brinn, Julia Plumb, and Mark Roberts & Andrea Cooper. Donations welcome to [paypal.me/MaineFiddleCamp](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?url=https://www.paypal.me/MaineFiddleCamp)

**Scott Cook** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WSOPgrXf\\_X8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WSOPgrXf_X8) (online on demand)

<https://www.scottcook.net/> "As good a modern folkie as we have these days. A voice perfect for the genre. An understanding beyond the norm."

**SUSIE ON SUNDAY!** Susan Werner every Sunday eve 7 PM Eastern watch with [YouTube](#) or [Facebook Live](#)

**We hope to see you soon,  
Laura and Paul Cipriano  
Meeting House Presents, Unitarian Society of Hartford, CT**  
<http://www.ushartford.com/nourishing-spirit/music/meetinghousepresents/>

**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

### **Update from the Interim Search Committee:**

**In these weird pandemic times, it often seems like things either a) aren't happening at all, or b) appear as if by magic. The Interim Search Committee is working diligently to find the best possible Interim Minister match for our congregation, and we hope to**

**recommend a candidate to the Board by the end of May for an August 1st start date.**  
**This is a very exciting transitional time, and this is just the first step along our journey to a new Settled Ministry.**

**~Submitted by Sarah Harmon McKenzie, Secretary**

**Your 2020-2021 USH Board**

**Martha Bradley: President**

**Rob Spector: President-Elect**

**Bob Hewey: Treasurer**

**Sarah Harmon McKenzie: Secretary**

**Peter Meny: Spiritual Life Council Chair**

**Jon Covault: Administration Council Chair**

**Dana Donovan: 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 latest financial reports for **Nov-Dec 2020 & Jan-Feb 2021** have been posted, click [HERE](#) to view.

The Board Meeting minutes for **Oct 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.

## **News in the Larger Community**

### **Unitarian Universalists everywhere: it's that time again!**

Mark your calendars for the annual national denominational conference of Unitarian Universalists, June 23-27, 2021. It will again be all-online this year which means that everyone will be online together. Participating online makes it more affordable and accessible for everyone. Please consider whether this is the year you can join in!

"General Assembly is the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists, where we conduct business of the Association, explore the theological underpinnings of our faith, and lean fully into our mission and principles. That remains true even when we cannot gather physically. Last year, GA had more than 4,900 registered attendees participate from remote locations around the world. Although we give up the face-to-face interaction and hugs that are prevalent when we meet in-person, we retain our dedication to community and make our experience more accessible and



more environmentally sustainable."

**All information, including registration, is here: <https://www.uua.org/ga>**  
**I look forward to "seeing" you at General Assembly 2021!**  
**Warmly -- Rev. Heather**



Here is the link for GA information and registration: General Assembly: [The Unitarian Universalist Association's Annual Meeting](#)



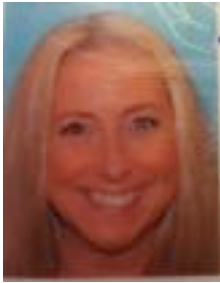
I hope you are all doing well. Since public concerts are hard to come by, I made this home video with my sister Yu-Chen and the two nieces. It is joined together from CT and CA. I hope you enjoy it. Thank you!  
 Sincerely,  
 Pi-Hsun

**Mother Goose Suite by Maurice Ravel (1875-1937) - YouTube. I. Pavane for a Sleeping Beauty II. Little Thumb III. Laideronnette, Empress of the Pagodas IV. Conversations of Beauty and the Beast V. The Fairy Garden Piano Pr...**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTtXbR9H-9U&t=725s>



some new programs [here!](#)

**CommunityNOW:** Please see this online calendar compiling what other UU churches and organizations are doing during this pandemic. Check out



Please contact our Office Administrator, Buffie Pinney, with any administrative questions or concerns. Buffie is working on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays from 9am-2pm. 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!**

**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.**

**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

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

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

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

Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries

[smoffett@ushartford.com](mailto:smoffett@ushartford.com) | 860-233-9897 ext. 108

Buffie Pinney, Office Administrator  
[hartforduusociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartforduusociety@gmail.com) | 860-233-9897 ext. 100

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: [hartforduusociety@gmail.com](mailto: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/>.



Image: vimeo.net