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**Office Administrator's Hours: Sunday through Thursday, 9:00am to 2:00pm,
or email/call for an appointment.**

June 23, 2021

Building Community Since 1830

Revs. Cathy & Heather Rion Starr, Co-Ministers



June 27th, 2021, 10:00am

"UNTIL LOVE WINS"

**Sunday Worship at UUA General Assembly 2021 lead by the First
Universalist Church of Minneapolis 10:00am**

**Today's challenging times require a nimble resilient spirituality. We need a
demanding, inspiring faith and a love strong enough that it will not let us go.
Join us as we draw the circle wide, gather our strength and promise to stay
in the struggle and joy until love wins.**

**Be part of the largest annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists
gathering in worship!**

Lisa Galinski, GA Zoom Host

Carolyn Carlson, Coffee Hour Host

10:00am UUA-GA Worship Service - Join us [HERE](#)

Meeting ID: 952 8306 7113

Passcode: 014277

11:15am - [GA Coffee Hour](#) will be immediately following GA services in Zoom.



Open event to all: LGBTQ+ PRIDEful reflections. Wed 6/23 @ 3:30pm ET/12:30pm PT. Register here: [UU LGBTQ+ PRIDEful Reflections @ GA](#)

Email and Related Listserv Arrangements to Change

In recent months those who receive email from US Hartford email addresses have reported email not being received in a dependable way. Certain large providers such as AOL, Comcast, Hotmail and a few others have become very picky about emails they will accept and deliver to their customers. This results in some USH email being labeled spam or simply deleted to the frustration of the senders and receivers.

To deal with this issue, email addresses associated with USH will be migrating to Gmail, a large provider of services likely to be accepted by all other service providers. Associated with these changes, we will be moving our web servers to a new service provider and terminating use of listservs. Board members have been briefed on the contemplated changes approved by the Chairs of Community Within and Administration.

For those who wish to obtain a listing of the email addresses on a particular listserv, either Buffie Pinney or David Newton can provide the current and probably a little outdated listing of addresses, which can be further edited for individual use.

During this period of migration, email directed to old addresses will be forwarded to the new ones established by staff members. This forwarding is contemplated to continue until October 1st.

You can help by recording any new email address that appear in use and exercising the usual Unitarian understanding of diversity in problems of digital life.

Submitted by David Newton

2021 General Assembly



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

UUA General Assembly & Conference Services

We are pleased to announce the Saturday Morning Worship will be led by a collaborative team from three congregations in the Greater Hartford, CT area. The congregations have been growing in collaboration and covenant for years. A huge welcome to our worship leaders: Rev. Adam Robersmith, Dianne Daniels, Rev. Dr. Josh Pawelek, and Rayla D. Mattson, DRE of USH.

In their intergenerational service, that share with you how they learn, practice, pray and dream. #UUConnect #UUAGA



” During this pandemic, we have moved easily everything on its online. As we open up, many congregations will be reexamining online options to participate, too. No matter where you are in the world, you can be a part of a beautiful time with community.

Rev. Dr. Adam Robersmith,
GA Saturday Morning Worship Leader



” Imagine a church that encourages members and friends to embrace and honor each other's beliefs and provides opportunities to worship together as one faith. We are a loving, diverse, and open-minded religious community that encourages and empowers you to seek your own spiritual path, wherever it leads.

Dianne M. Daniels,
GA Saturday Morning Worship Leader



” We have collaboration among congregations which allows us flexibility in movement because our priorities center our members because reaching from generations also can keep us real and grounded at a time when we are called to have faith personally with our message of love, compassion, and justice.

Rev. Josh Pawelek,
GA Saturday Morning Worship Leader



Advice for first time attendees to a virtual General Assembly:

” Try something new!
Meet someone new!
It's OK to be afraid.
What if it turns out really well?

Rayla D. Mattson,
GA Saturday Morning Worship Leader

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

HELLO USH FAMILY!!

Story time with our DRE - <https://www.facebook.com/UnitarianSocietyOfHartford>

Rayla D. Mattson, Director of Religious Education
860-233-9897 ext. 104 | ctraylab@gmail.com
I only check my email on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.



Coalescing around Whiteness

Dr. Takiyah Nur Amin

"...and what does the Lord require of you, but to DO JUSTICE, and to LOVE KINDNESS and to WALK HUMBLY with your God?"

—Micah 6:8 (NRSV)

When President Biden was inaugurated in January, most of my white friends thought everything would be okay. I thought different.

"There's going to be a dialing up of white supremacist violence coming forward," I warned one friend. "We're going to see more outrageous violent stuff."

I think all the time about the fact that we never properly discredited the Confederacy as a traitor government, and instead have allowed the symbols and rhetoric of the Old South to flourish in violent and historically inappropriate ways.

We live in a myth that white people are innocent and rational and logical. It's hard not to be paranoid as a Black person, because you have white people who say, "I would never do that; I'm one of the good ones"—and you want to believe them. But history shows us that when it comes down to it, a lot of white people will coalesce around whiteness.

For example, there are little offshoots of people who are protesting our Unitarian Universalist emphasis on racial justice. Well, that's fine—just don't call yourself UU. Go be something else. I'm not interested in keeping people

that aren't trying to be kept.

When you say, "It has to be a big tent; everybody has to be in here so we can hold hands and sing Kumbaya," what I hear is: "We want to make sure that the people who would take your life—who would snuff you out without consideration—get to be in here and hold hands and be affirmed."

Do we who are UUs really believe in the values of our faith enough to enact to them in the larger world in bold, clear, and unequivocal ways? Because I'm telling you: after the things we've experienced in the last year, politically and socially, people are looking for bold, clear, unequivocal pronouncements. If we're going to say that we are a faith that is committed to justice, equity, and compassion in human relations, we have to do that.

Prayer

Spirit of Life, help us release any impulse to make a mockery of our faith by simply going through the motions instead of living Unitarian Universalism. May we find the courage to live congruently with the best values proclaimed in our living tradition, and to embrace the divine invitation to bring goodness into the world.

Social Justice at USH



Hello Beloved Ones,

The 2021 Pride season is upon us bringing joy, celebration, grief, anger, and so many other emotions along with it. There is no one way to be during Pride, and that's OK. And as always, there is so much beauty and courage to celebrate, alongside the mighty work left to do to ensure all who exist within our LGBTQIA+ community can thrive and flourish.

To these ends, the Welcoming Congregations of Unitarian Universalism have been invited to join [Inclusive Justice of Michigan](#), [The National LGBTQ Task Force](#), and other national equality organizations for **The Colors of Pride** during the month of June to offer activities focused on the liberation of people targeted by unjust legislation, oppressive public policies, and harmful policing practices.

By engaging the faith community around these activities, we are acknowledging that many people hide behind their religious convictions as reasons for opposing the LGBTQ community and the legislation that would

provide for their safety and support. Many of these same people of faith are silent when it comes supporting efforts for racial justice and the Black Lives Matter movement.

The Colors of Pride is an opportunity for congregations to publicly support equality during Pride month and commemorate Juneteenth. **Our goal is to create opportunities for allyship with the queer community, Black and Brown communities, and congregations by engaging at least 300 congregations nationwide to agree to participate in our pro-equality actions during Pride month.**

THERE ARE THREE EASY WAYS TO PARTICIPATE:

1) SHOW A PRE-RECORDED MESSAGE: Throughout Pride Month, during your weekly service or on your website and Facebook page, show a pre-recorded message from national religious leaders speaking about the importance of supporting Intersectional Equality by supporting the [Equality Act](#). Each message is 6 minutes or less.

Introduction to the Colors of Pride - [Rev. Dr. Roland Stringfellow](#) (Detroit)

[Rabbi Denise Eger](#) (Los Angeles)

[Bishop Karen Oliveto](#) (Denver)

[Rev. Manish Mishra-Marzetti](#) – (Ann Arbor)

2) SIGN UP FOR PRIDE WEEK ACTIONS: Sign up to participate in a variety of opportunities during our Pride Week (June 11-19) to educate your congregation on upcoming equality legislation from [the Equality Act](#) to the [George Floyd Policing Act](#) to our national Juneteenth Celebration!

[CLICK HERE to join Pride Week Actions](#)

3) ACCESS THE TOOLKIT: Use [The Colors of Pride Tool Kit](#) assembled by national equality organizations to provide your congregation with the latest information on legislation and how to support the LGBTQ community this Pride Month and beyond! You may share information and resources on social media and local print media.

Will you partner with us in this “pride outside of the box” celebration?

We know that Pride is a busy time for many congregation. All the information you need to participate in **The Colors of Pride** can be found in the [Action Toolkit](#). You are free to participate in as many actions as time permits.

If you have any questions about involving your Welcoming Congregation in **The Colors of Pride** celebration and actions, please email lgbtq@uua.org.

Thank You ... and HAPPY PRIDE!
Rev. Michael J. Crumpler (He/Him/His)
LGBTQ and Multicultural Programs Director
Ministries and Faith Development

USH Community & Business

Summer Worship - "Embracing and Releasing"

Summer worship at USH is lay-led by thoughtful, observant, caring and committed members of our congregation. This year the theme of "Embracing and Releasing" will bring sermons opening us to contemplation of the array of emotions and insights we have encountered in the many months since March 2020. So much has happened; our lives, our sleep, our families and friends, the very structure of our days have been affected yet we keep on keeping on.

We will open with General Assembly on June 27 and on the 4th of July we are welcomed to All Souls UU, New London. The calendar for the lay services is currently a scaffold; titles will change and more information will develop as sermons and worship are written and revised but most importantly, take a look at our wonderful speakers and anticipate a summer of embracing and releasing.

June 27 - "Until Love Wins" General Assembly Service

July 4 - All Souls New London with Rev Carolyn Patierno

July 11 - Judy Robbins "A Summer's Day with Mary Oliver"

July 18 - Rick Tsukada "A Requiem: We are Sorrow, We are Beauty, We are Love"

July 25 - John Bengtson "How to have hard conversations"

August 1 - Lisa Galinski "Crossing the Edge"

August 8 - Sue Spaniol/Artists' Way "The Gift of a Year"

August 15 - Title TBA - Judy Robbins/Rick Tsukada

August 22 - "Making Peace" - Margaret Leicach/ Sue Smolski

August 29 - "Happiness In the Midst of Chaos" - Rob Spector

Sept 5 - TBD - Laurie Kelleher

All services will remain on-line until Ingathering September 12th when, fingers crossed, we will resume in-person worship at the Meeting House with a live feed to your home.

~ **Submitted by Laurie Kelliher, WA Coordinator**

~~ **Updated - Sue Smolski, WA Coordinator 2021-23**



Meetings at the Meeting House!

Here's what to do if your group wants to meet in person at USH. The list isn't exhaustive... someone always comes up with some additions... but it'll get us started:

Check the events calendar on the website. The calendar is your friend. Any planned usage of space should be included here. Assuming you see no conflicts for day, time, and space, contact Buffie at hartforduusociety@gmail.com to schedule the space and get your event onto the calendar. Copy Rayla in as well at crraylab@gmail.com; she may be dealing with a rental prospect, and needs to know how our space is being utilized.

If your gathering includes some people participating from home, arrange for one of USH's Zoom links to be reserved. One of the benefits of the pandemic comes from broadening virtual connections; let's take advantage of this to continue including those unable to be here in person.

When you do meet, at the end of your gathering please take a few minutes to tidy up and leave things organized for the next group. (You know... re-set the thermostat; turn lights out; don't leave dirty dishes, etc.)

These basic acts of courtesy and consideration once were second nature and will be so again once we reacclimate. Be gentle with yourselves and with each other, and enjoy being together again.

Programs for Adults and Families



UU SpiritLife

UU SpiritLife offers spiritually-focused programs to members and friends of the three Hartford area UU churches.

Fall 2021 Offerings Include:

Daytime

Spirituality for UUs - This course helps UUs to establish and deepen their spiritual lives in a religion without a creed. 12 weekly Zoom sessions; Sept 7-Nov 23; Tues, 10 am-noon with Judy Robbins and Rick Tsukada

Evening

Living Your Faith - participants articulate the tenets of their faith and explore how this faith is manifested in their daily lives. 12 Sessions; Tue: 7:00-8:30; Dates TBD. Zoom with Tom Gervais

-- OR -- (Either Living Your Faith OR Spiritual Practices for UUs will be offered, depending on the sign-ups for the two programs)

Spiritual Practices for UUs is a 9-month program in which participants experiment with different spiritual practices to explore how these practices can change how they experience and live life. 16 Sessions; Tue: 7:00-8:30; Dates TBD. Zoom with Tom Gervais

Tending Your Spiritual Garden - participants explore how they might reap the bounty of a soulful spirituality. 2 Sessions; Thu 7:00-8:30; Dates TBD. Zoom with Tom Gervais

Being a Monk in the World - finding and living from your inner monastery. Four conversational Zoom sessions, including a review of recent writings on the subject. First Wed 7:00-8:30; Sept-Dec. with David Gonci

How Your Former Catholicism Can Expand Your UUism - Ex-Catholic? No need to drop it all. 8 Zoom sessions on alternate Thurs starting Oct 14; 6-7:30 pm. With Rev Joy Christi Przeworski and Judy Robbins.

For more complete information including registration visit

www.UUSpiritLife.org.



Introduction to the Enneagram

This free 3-session summer program will introduce you to the Enneagram, a system of personality types that many find reliable and useful for both personal and spiritual growth. You'll be provided with the official test to learn your type and many resources and handouts to explore further, both in the group and on your own. Sessions will be scheduled 10:30am to noon on 3 dates in July and August, to be selected by the

group. First and third sessions will be on Zoom, the second (hopefully) in person. For a link to a concise description of the enneagram, go to Wikipedia or text the facilitator, Anne Bailey, at 860-798-4765. For more information or to register, contact Anne at 860-379-7740 or abailey379@gmail.com. Registration will be open through June 26. About your facilitator: Anne Bailey is a lifelong UU and member of UC West Hartford who has a knack for research and finding resources. She has been acquainted with the Enneagram for more than 20 years and has found it an invaluable tool for better self-understanding and improving relationships with others.

Submitted by USH member, Judy Robbins

Adult Programs:

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 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.

20's/30's Group: If you would like to join, please email Tara Cote at 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 or call at **860 463 7982**.

Caring Network

From the USH Caring Network:

Valerie Klokow, a long time member of USH, has been very ill for quite some time. Cards and notes would brighten her day. Her address is 44 Fairview Street, West Hartford, CT 06119. Home cooked meals for her 16 year old son, Xavier, would be greatly appreciated. If you are able to make and deliver a meal, please contact me at janicecnewton@gmail.com or 860-212-6923 with the details so I can be sure there are not two meals delivered at the same time. I will inform Valerie of any scheduled deliveries. We are trying this to see if it works better than Take Them a Meal. When you take a meal, you will be able to call Valerie's cell phone and Xavier will come out to get it so you will not have to take it up the stairs. There are no food restrictions. We will also be needing folks to provide rides to Valarie's medical appointments. Please contact me, providing your contact information so I can reach out to you when rides are needed. Thank you very much for any help you can provide. **Janice Newton**

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 in the Larger Community



Personal News within the congregation.

We are sad to learn of the death of USH member Lisa Galinski's Grandmother, Grace E. Bourque. Please see obituary below.

Grace E. Bourque passed away peacefully in West Hartford on June 12, 2021. Born Eliana Grace Lemieux to Hector Lemieux and Merilda Lefebvre on May 15, 1930, Grace lived her entire life in the Hartford area. She grew up in the French-Canadian community in Frog Hollow, and later moved to West Hartford when she married. Grace

was predeceased by her beloved husband of 67 years, Philip, whom she spent nearly every day with since they met as teenagers and enjoyed a rich and joyful life together. She is also predeceased by her daughter Denise, brother Joseph and sister Theresa. She is survived by her loving son Ronald and daughter-in-law Barbara, and granddaughters Lisa Galinski (Seth Galinski) and Pamela Delfino (Daniel Delfino) who will forever love their Mémère. Grace loved to connect and was loved by her entire family and extended friends. She was outspoken, loved to host celebrations, had a quick wit and great sense of humor. She especially cherished family get togethers, special events and life milestones. She and Phil would reliably show up, year after year, to be a part of the family stories. As the family photographer and videographer, she recorded family events for well over fifty years. Thanks to Grace, weddings, birthdays, retirements, anniversaries, showers, bowling parties, holidays and other special memories can be remembered for many years to come on film reels then VHS tapes then DVDs. She and Phil played a big role in organizing the Bourque Family Fourth of July Picnic, a tradition that they continued for 50 years. Grace had many talents and interests that she shared with those who knew her. She was a hairdresser for over 35 years, and worked at, then co-owned, Adore Coiffeur salon in West Hartford. She was a quilter and afghan maker who generously shared her creations with many family and friends, gifting over 120 handmade afghans. One of her many loves was ten pin bowling, where she was the treasurer of the Senior's league for many years and carried a 170 average. She was an intense competitor, whether it was bowling, Foxwoods Bingo, or finding the recipe for the best hot fudge. She lived her life to the fullest and will be dearly missed, but always felt in spirit. Grace's funeral will be held Friday, June 25th at 8:45 a.m. from the Duksa Family Funeral Home at Newington Memorial, 20 Bonair Ave., Newington, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10:00 a.m. at St Mary Church, 626 Willard Ave., Newington. Family and friends may call on Thursday, June 24, from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at Newington Memorial. Grace will be lovingly laid to rest with her beloved husband Philip, at Mount St. Benedict Mausoleum, Bloomfield. To share a memory with her family, please visit us at www.duksa.net.

News from the USH Board of Directors

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 **March & April 2021** 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.

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.

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



Please contact our Office Administrator, **Buffie Pinney**, with any administrative questions or concerns. Buffie is working Sunday through Thursday from 9am-2pm. While the church remains closed, please email at her at **hartforduusociety@gmail.com**.
Buffie's always happy to hear from you!

The deadline for USH-Enews submissions is Tuesday at 12 Noon.

Email to: 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/>.