



Unitarian Society of Hartford



Nourishing spirit, building community, working for justice

Unitarian Society of Hartford

Building Community Since 1830

Rev. Terry Cummings, Interim Minister

50 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105

Tel: (860) 233-9897 • Email: hartforduusociety@gmail.com

Website: www.ushartford.org

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

September 8th, 2021



September 12th, 2021, 10:30am

"Ingathering"

This Sunday will be the first time that Rev. Terry will have the privilege of leading a worship service since she became our Interim Minister. She is very much looking forward to sharing a spiritual hour with the congregation in the sanctuary, and via Zoom for those who are unable to make our annual in-gathering service in-person.

**Rev. Terry Cummings, Interim Minister
 Dianne Daniels, Intern Minister
 Lisa Galinski, Worship Associate
 Rayla Mattson, Religious Education
 Sam Moffett, Director Music Ministries
 Buffie, Zoom Master & Coffee Hour Host
 Laurel Goodgion & Ginny Hedrick, Greeters
 Fred Louis, Usher
 Brian Harvey, Welcome Table
 Kathy Ferguson, Chancel Art
 10:00am Inhouse Worship Service**

**Also join us in ZOOM [HERE](#).
 Closed captions are available.**

Meeting ID: 952 8306 7113
Passcode: 014277

11:30am - Fellowship Time
will be immediately following services
on the Memorial Garden patio and surrounding area.
You can also watch the Sunday service
at <https://vimeo.com/unitariansocietyhartford> or on the USH Facebook
page.

BOARD UPDATE REGARDING OUR MEETING HOUSE

In keeping with current CDC guidelines the USH Board recently decided that until further notice, all individuals entering the Meeting House will be required to wear masks.

Masks will be provided for those who do not have one.

In addition, seating during in-person worship services will be arranged accordingly, **in keeping with social distancing concerns.**

Signs will be posted at the Meeting House concerning the above.

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



HELLO USH FAMILY!!

We are quickly approaching the beginning of our church year and I'm looking forward to being in community with all of you. I wanted to give you an update on what to expect over the next few weeks. If you have any questions, please let me know and we can schedule an appointment.

September 12th - Please join us in the building for our Ingathering Service. Don't forget to bring your water with

you. Also, please note that our DRE will be off on that day.

September 19th - This is our RE kickoff!! Please make sure to read the E-News and check-out our FB page. This curriculum will be available for all ages and I hope you will all join us. Sunday morning there will be a joint TFAA with our DRE and our interim minister, Rev. Terry. Then please meet us in the Chapel at noon

for a parent listening session in the Chapel. Childcare will be provided.

September 26th - There will be a TFAA followed by a one room discussion. We will also have a chat for parents and caregivers with the DRE and our interim minister in the Chapel at noon. We hope to see you there.

I am also looking for some support. If you are willing and able to work with our children or youth this year, please let me know. Thanks!

We look forward to seeing you all this month!

<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.

USH Community & Business

Please take note that the next Board meeting will be on
September 14th at 6:30pm via [Zoom](#)



THANK YOU: The VILLAGE FOR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN UNIFORM FUNDRAISER

In the midst of a global pandemic, virtual services, planning for an Interim minister, the death or illness of friends and family, and “seeing” each other only through Zoom, USH has donated \$1,591.40 to the Uniform Fundraiser at The Village for Families and Children. This year’s total closely equaled your donation in 2020. You have given support and care to children and families in this time of chaos and uncertainty.

By your actions you have given these special words meaning:
 “Love is the Spirit of this church, and Service its law.” James
 Villa Blake)

Thank you!

Updates from the Board

The consensus at the August 17 USH board meeting is to ***continue moving ahead*** with plans for in-person, in-sanctuary Ingathering services on Sunday, September 12... depending, of course, on Connecticut's Covid-19 status *at that time*.

Here's what you should know:

- We continue to follow CDC guidance; right now, that guidance is for everyone to wear a mask indoors, regardless of vaccination status. Bring and wear your mask; if you forget, we have a supply and will give you one.
- The sanctuary is large enough to accommodate comfortably all who are likely to come. We can spread out, maintaining reasonable distance from each other. It's likely that alternate pews will be cordoned off to facilitate separation.
- We will continue to livestream the service on multiple platforms... you will be able to participate, even if you cannot be here in person! The capacity to feature virtual participation has been one of the (few) ongoing benefits of the pandemic.
- The building has been maintained at high standards, and is in great shape. Recommended cleaning protocols have been followed scrupulously. The space is well-ventilated.
- We expect many will be hesitant to return, possibly for a very long time — *and that's perfectly fine!* Stay home, and join us on Vimeo, Facebook, or Zoom (including coffee hour). However, you choose to be here, you are welcome.
- Speaking of coffee hour, we're planning for refreshments to be set up outside if the weather's decent. We can mingle at discreet distances and spread out a little more. (*Note: there will be cookies!*)

The last item, and it's rather important: ***services will start at our previously-customary time of 10:30.*** Of course, if you come at 10, that simply gives you more time to visit. And, whenever and however, you come, we'll be so happy to see you!

- mask; if you forget, we have a supply and will give you one.
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The Inquirer Series
An Introductory Program for Newcomers and Friends
And Interested Members

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 you 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.

Advance registration required! These four one-hour sessions will be offered on Sunday's following the USH service from 11:45 a.m. until 12:45 p.m. in the Library. Light refreshments will be offered. There is no fee, but advance registration is strongly recommended for the Wednesday prior to each

session. Sessions will be canceled if insufficient enrollment. Requests for virtual participation must be made in advance. To register contact Buffie Pinnie at hartforduusociety@gmail.com. The schedule and theme of each session is as follows:

Sunday, October 3: 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Welcome, Introductions and About Unitarian Universalism

- Host: Laurie Kelliher
- Unitarian Universalism History, Principles and Sources: Laurie Kelliher
- Questions and Answers with the Minister: Rev. Terry Cummings

Sunday, October 10: 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Worship and Spirituality

- Host: Peter Meny
- Worship and the Liturgical Year: Sue Smolski
- Adult Spiritual Programs: Peter Meny

Sunday, October 17: 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Adult Programs and Community Partnerships

- Host: Dianne Daniels
- Adult Programs: Dianne Daniels
- Social Justice and GHIAA: Dana Donovan

Education and Faith Development for All

Sunday, October 24: 11:45 – 12:45 p.m.

- Host: Rev. Terry Cummings
- Lifelong Learning in USH: Terry Cummings
- Faith Development for Children and Youth: Rayla Mattson
- On becoming a Member: Rev. Terry Cummings

Back-Up Date: Sunday, October 31



**BUILDING AND
GROUNDS FALL
WORKDAY – Saturday,
September 11th from
9:00 AM until 12:00 PM**

Each year the Building and Grounds Sub-Council holds an official Fall Workday to which you are all invited! (They actually work on many other days as well.) Our Fall 2021 B

& G workday is Saturday, September 11 from 9 AM to 12:00 PM. Volunteers are solicited by the Sub-Council for general clean-up work. This year we will mainly be sprucing up the bays and gardens. This is especially important this year due to the absence of the usual care during our long absence due to the COVID Pandemic and the aging of some of the main weeders! There are general areas to clean up between the buttresses and the two Memorial Gardens – yes, there are two – the large Memorial Garden adjacent to the Village side of the Meeting House and the Pet Memorial Garden at the bottom of the main parking lot.

If you can attend, it would be helpful with the planning if you would reply to David Newton at [dcnewton999\(at sign\)gmail.com](mailto:dcnewton999@gmail.com) or 860/335-3742. Or, just come!! If you have tools, especially a spade or a shovel, bring them along. Also, gloves are a good idea! Thank you in advance for your consideration and help!

**David Newton, Secretary Pro Tem Building and Grounds
Sub-Council**

Meeting House Sing-Along – September 11, 2021

Contact: Fred Louis (FLouis@yahoo.com) or Ed Savage 860-966-8155 (mobile)
(EdSavage03@yahoo.com)

Join us at the next Meetinghouse Sing-Along! Fred Louis and Ed Savage are offering an opportunity to CT Singing families, singers, song-writers and audience members to join in song on the second Saturday of each month from 2 to 5 PM. We will have song-sheets and some loaner copies of Rise Up Singing available. Bring along your own 'Rise Up Singing' if you have one, as we have used it a lot in other months. We will also use the NEW "Rise Again" sequel – 1200 more songs to sample.

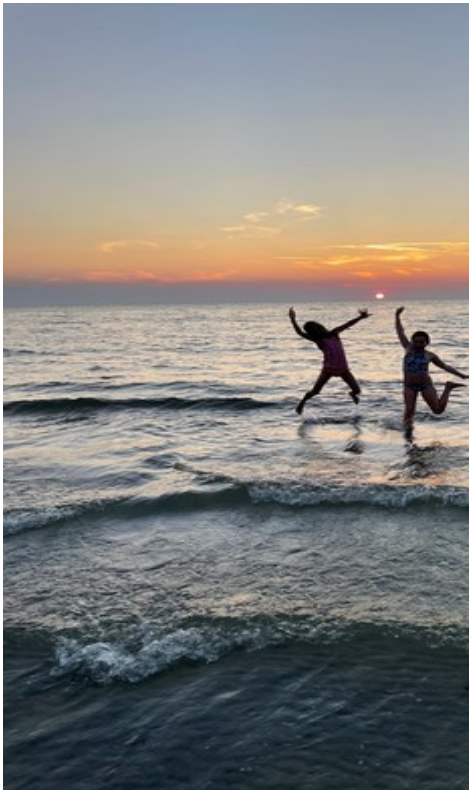
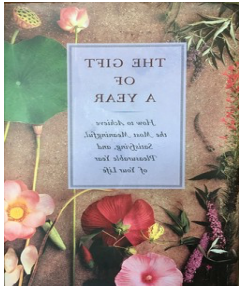
Given the solemn occasion of this meeting, let's bring forward songs of peace and healing.

We'll put some chairs in a circle and take turns singing or playing, with those who know the tune or words joining in as they wish. You can come early or come late, whatever fits your family schedule. The UU meetinghouse is at 50 Bloomfield Avenue in Hartford. Some of us bring snacks, but that is not required (or organized) Look for a sign near the door if you can't see or hear us right away. We will be around to the right of the main entrance, down the path to the patio.

VAX protocol - OK to sing, socially spaced, if you are vaccinated; even so, masks would probably be a good idea. If you have NOT completed a COVID Vaccination, we ask that you skip the Sing-Alongs for now, to protect you, from US.

"EMBRACING AND RELEASING" SUMMER 2021 WORSHIP SERVICES





In appreciation and gratitude for the entire village of USH members and staff who crafted our worship this summer. Please see images

from summer worship above, and view our summer services at the links below:

July 11th "A Summers day with Mary Oliver"- Judy Robbins

<https://vimeo.com/575018634>

July 18th "A Requiem; We Are Sorrow, We Are Beauty, We Are Love"

- Rick Tsukada- First live-streamed service from our sanctuary

<https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/576411806>

July 25th "How To Have Difficult Conversations"-John Bengtson

<https://vimeo.com/579091128>

August 1st "Crossing the Edge"-Lisa Galinski

<https://vimeo.com/581796179>

August 8 - Reflections on "The Gift of a Year" -Artist's Way

<https://vimeo.com/584541577>

August 15 - "At The Threshold" -Judy Robbins-Live-streamed from sanctuary

<https://vimeo.com/unitariansocietyhartford>

August 22 - "Making Peace with the Pandemic" Sue Smolski and Margaret Leicach

<https://vimeo.com/590301705>

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

<https://vimeo.com/594175035>

September 5 - "You Can('t) Go Back Home" - Laurie Kelliher

<https://vimeo.com/598298239>

~ Sue Smolski, WA Coordinator



Please join us in congratulating our very own Marye Gail Harrison on the publication of her new book *"Emerging Views"*.

Buffie has two copies in her office, and you can simply call (860-233-9807) or email her to take out a copy here: hartforduusociety@gmail.com

Unitarian Society of Hartford is on Vimeo

We are asking for volunteers: Live streaming video team needs volunteers. We will teach you how to operate our live streaming equipment so that you join in rotation to produce our Sunday service. Please email jon Covault - jncovault@hotmail.com.

Many Thanks, Staff at USH



USH Solar sculpture

Please take the time to view our beautiful new solar sculpture in the doorway right off the ambulatory. It was designed, built and mounted by our very own Paula & Aaron Bleck~



Programs for Adults and Families



Spirituality for UUs

This is the foundational course in the UUSpiritLife series. UUism is a religion without a creed so it can leave some people wondering how to develop their innate spirituality. This

program includes many experiential opportunities to discover what types of spiritual activities resonate with you as we chart a path to a deeper and more personal spirituality. This is a rigorous course with homework after each session and will require a couple of hours of non-class time per week. One of last year's participants said, "Judy and Rick create a warm, enjoyable class that also goes deep." The class will be on zoom, open to members of all three area congregations, facilitated by Rick Tsukada and Judy Robbins. 12 weekly sessions on Tuesday mornings 10-noon, Sept 7-Nov 23, 2021. For registration or more information: judyrobb2@gmail.com.

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 meets on line the first Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. The zoom link is sent a few days prior to the meeting. 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 group stays in the group.

Email **Gloria Bent** for more information at bentgloria@gmail.com or call at **860 904-7768**.



Social Justice

GHIAA: CORE TEAM LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Thank you for your interest in GHIAA Leadership Training. Leadership trainings will resume to in person trainings starting in September. However, we will make case by case accommodations for people who need to participate remotely via live stream.

Training Sessions (Day/Time):

Five Tuesdays - September 21, 2021 through October 19, 2021
from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

or

Five Thursdays - September 23, 2021 through October 21, 2021
from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

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

Where: TBD

Questions about registration? send an email to

ghiaa@cljct.org

to register contact Dana Donovan and go to their
[registration](#) page.

Meeting House Presents



Unitarian Society of Hartford <https://www.ushartford.com>

50 Bloomfield Avenue
Hartford, CT 06105



<https://www.ushartford.com/watching-spirit/mmh/meetinghousepresents/>

Meeting House Presents 2021-22 Season
 Concerts are the third Friday of the month at 7:30 pm. at the
 Unitarian Society of Hartford, 50 Bloomfield Avenue Hartford, CT
 06105

Sept. 17, 2021	Abbie Gardner
Oct. 15, 2021	Scott Cook
Nov. 19, 2021	Vance Gilbert
Dec. 17, 2021	Reggie Harris and Pat Wictor
Apr. 22, 2022	Mad Agnes (4th Friday)
May 20, 2022	Seán Heely

Tickets are available in advance from brownpapertickets.com and at the door for \$20.

Season tickets are available for \$100 for all six concerts and can be purchased at the door or after church services.

Abbie Gardner – Friday, September 17, 2021

listen: [you-belong-to-me sung by Abbie Gardner](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=you-belong-to-me)

video: <https://youtu.be/7ccuxKT5wMo>



50 Bloomfield Ave. at 7:30

p.m.

Tickets: <https://abbiegardner.brownpapertickets.com>

www.abbiegardner.com

@abbiegmusic instagram

www.facebook.com/abbiegardnermusic

Scott Cook – October 15, 2021 50 Bloomfield Ave. at 7:30 p.m.

tickets: <https://scottcook.bpt.me>

listen: https://youtu.be/6R0W_QbGHr8



Vance Gilbert – November 19, 2021 50 Bloomfield Ave. at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets: <https://vancegilbert.bpt.me>

[Vance Gilbert's website](#)

Listen: <https://vimeo.com/377104057>

Reggie Harris and Pat Wictor – December 17, 2021

50 Bloomfield Ave. at 7:30 p.m.

Websites: <https://reggieharrismusic.com/>

<https://www.patwictor.com/>

Tickets: <https://reggieharris.bpt.me>

listen: <https://youtu.be/aiYrnt2V3ao>

Save the dates for spring 2022 concerts. Tickets will be available next year.

Mad Agnes – April 22, 2022 50 Bloomfield Ave. at 7:30 p.m.



Mad Agnes is Margo Hennebach, Adrienne Jones and Mark Saunders. Each member arrived at the trio from a staggering list of solo accomplishments, including songwriting competitions, recordings, and the ability to sleep on any surface.



[One Wild Dove](#) video

Seán Heely duo with bouzouki player Beth Patterson– May 20, 2022
50 Bloomfield Ave. at 7:30 p.m.

website <https://www.seanheely.com/>

video: <https://youtu.be/087oijDW8IM>

Laura and Paul Cipriano

Meeting House Presents, Unitarian Society of Hartford, CT

<http://www.ushartford.com/nourishing-spirit/music/meetinghousepresents/>

Caring Network

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 **Janice Newton** 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



Benjamin Dix

Hello everyone,
Hope you all are well,
So far it seems my Carnegie Hall Benefit Concert is still being held. Saturday, 10/16/2021 @ 2 PM. Weill Recital Hall @ Carnegie Hall (No intermission per the guidelines, so simple 90 min and then the reception!)
Please see attached invitation.
If you go on line-you can purchase a ticket and the tickets can be mailed to you so then you do not have to go to the box office.

(It looks like proof of vaccination is required to attend). Click here for the link to see me and to buy a ticket:

<https://www.carnegiehall.org/Calendar/2021/10/16/Benjamin-Dix-Piano-0200PM>

Whether I see you or not, it is great that you have always supported me and the performing arts. Figures the year I make it to Carnegie Hall, we have to follow the COVID concert rules and then I also just got a District level Administrator/Director job (at least only have September to have

to practice and work all day long so not too bad, and then 2 weeks in October)

Oh well, music must continue one way or another,

Stay healthy everyone,
Ben



**Dear Friends at USH,
In the spirit of solidarity and support of those with disabilities, please find attached a letter and sponsorship form for the upcoming PATH CT first annual golf tournament [Sept 20th](#). If**

you are unable to sponsor or participate and would like to contribute to our silent auction please contact me.

Kindly share the letter below with colleagues and friends and maybe form a foursome! The KASA youth and staff will be there volunteering their time!

**Best regards,
Doris Maldonado**

Please allow this letter to introduce you to PATH CT and our inaugural PATH 2021 Charity Golf Tournament for which we are seeking your support and/or participation. For more than 30 years, families have turned to PATH CT for guidance and support through the uncertainty, confusion and worry of parenting a child with a disability. PATH CT provides services to families that have specialized healthcare needs and developmental needs including parent to parent support, educational advocacy and training. As the CT Family to Family Health Information Center, we provide support, information, resources and training around healthcare issues. PATH CT also facilitates CT Kids As Self Advocates (CT KASA), a group of youth and young adults with disabilities or chronic health conditions that promote youth leadership. My husband and I have personally witnessed our daughter, Sammi

develop from a shy, quiet young lady into a confident, independent young woman who now Co-Chairs this amazing group of young leaders. On Monday, September 20, 2021 we will be holding our PATH 2021 Charity Golf Tournament at Brownson Country Club in Huntington, CT. We are hoping that you can donate either an item or gift certificate to the raffle that will be held that night. This golf tournament will help offset funding to our programs that are critical to CT families in need of help. Your business will be promoted on our website, newsletter and social media. Please have your items submitted by August 20, 2021.

See Sponsor Response Form [Here](#).

Should you have any questions, feel free to call the Golf Tournament Director, Roy Nuss at 203-565-2475.

Sincerely,

Ruth Nuss President of the Board



It Starts With Faith: Organizing School 2021

The Organizing Strategy Team supports faith-aligned groups to empower leaders, provide training, political education and spiritual sustenance to show up to end

oppression and build thriving communities.

This year's Organizing School for Teams was developed in response to volunteers, State Action Networks, and congregations' desire to deepen organizing skills, develop broader networks of folx doing faith-based organizing, and join in the work of our Side With Love campaign. Complete application by July 30th [HERE](#).

We are excited to support 20-30 cohorts for this years organizing school. This program is designed for teams that are currently engaged in social justice work. We are encouraging congregational social justice teams to apply as a cohort. Priority will be given to teams who are based in AZ, FL, GA, KY, MN, NC, PA, TX, and WI. You may apply as an individual. If admitted you will be placed in cohorts based on geographic location. All sessions are recorded and applicants regardless of acceptance

into as a cohort, will have access to recorded sessions.

Cohorts will receive up to 10 hours of 1-1 organizing support following the completion of 80% of all sessions.

Sessions will take place on Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30pm ET/3:30-5:30pm PT between Aug. 25 and Nov 3.

Session 1: Orientation

Session 2: Faithful Social Justice: Telling your story

Session 3: Finding Your Role: Building power in faith organizing

Session 4: Building Organizing Infrastructure: Leadership Development and Identification

Session 5: Facing Conflict: Covenant & Transformation

Session 6: Building for a liberated future: Campaigns and program design

Session 7: Partnerships in a pandemic and recovery

Session 8: Growing your impact: Tools for evaluation and growth

Session 9: Meet the Moment: Tactics for Mobilizing Supporters and Contesting Power

Join us to build power towards a world that affirms the worth and dignity of all.

In faith and solidarity,

Nicole Pressley

Field and Programs Director

UUA Organizing Strategy Teams

The latest financial reports for **FY 2021-2022** have been posted, click [HERE](#) to view.

The Board Meeting minutes for **July 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. Terry Cummings, Interim Minister
terryuu633@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
ctraylab@gmail.com | 860-233-9897 ext. 104

Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries
smoffettuu@gmail.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 brianmullenush@gmail.com 860-233-9897 ext. 102



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!

**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/>.

[Back to top](#)

The deadline for USH-Enews submissions to Buffie is by

Tuesday at 12 Noon.

Email to: hartforduusociety@gmail.com

Please note in the subject line "USH-Enews." Thank you for your submission!