



Unitarian Society of Hartford

Building Community Since 1830

Rev. Terry Cummings, Interim Minister

50 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105

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

Website: www.ushartford.org

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

DECEMBER 8, 2021



December 12th, 2021, 10:30am

**"Music Sunday"
*The Music of George Gershwin***

**Rev. Terry Cummings, Interim Minister
Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries
Rick Tsukada, Worship Associate
Buffie, Zoom & Coffee Hour Hostess
Harriet & Phil Gardner, Greeters
Susan Hope & Fred Louis, Ushers
Virginia De Lima, Welcome Table
Martha Bradley & Evan Williams, Chancel Art**

10:30am 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 in
Fellowship Hall.**

**For those that are attending by Zoom, please remain on Zoom to chat with
others at the end of the service.**

**You can also watch the Sunday service
at <https://vimeo.com/unitariansocietyhartford> or on the USH Facebook page.**

Calling all Secret Santas!!

**We have a few more children from SANDS school who need
a buddy. Please let me know as soon as you can if you're
able to donate funds or purchase a gift for a child during
this holiday season.**

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



**Dear members & friends of the
Unitarian Society of Hartford,**

I hope that you will join us this coming Sunday for a music service led by our Director of Music, Sam Moffett. Sam has chosen the music of the late George Gershwin as their theme for the service, and they will reflect on Gershwin's short life and contribution to American musical heritage.

Once again, this Sunday we will continue to make space for sharing "Matters of the Heart" with one another. We would love to hear about recent births of new family members, support you if you are experiencing

grief or sorrow, and acknowledge any meaningful life passages or events that you would like to share with the congregation.

Here is how *Matters of the Heart* will be shared —

- Please send me an email with any Matters of the Heart that you would like to share with the congregation by 9:30 a.m. on Sunday (revterryush@gmail.com); or
- If you are attending the service in-person, index cards and pencils will be provided at the welcome table for you to write them down when you arrive at the Meeting House – *please write your name at the bottom of the index card so that we will know who is sharing with us*; or
- Write them in the chat if you are attending the service by Zoom.

I will share your *Matters of the Heart* from the pulpit immediately before our customary candle ritual, which this week will be earlier in the service than it has been of late.

This Sunday is *Soup Sunday*, and our children and youth will be busy working in Fellowship Hall during the service to provide a nourishing and

delicious lunch. Please join us for fellowship and connection immediately after the service.

Our first winter *Mantel of Giving* partnership with Sand School is well underway, however, we need more people to step up to donate holiday presents to youngsters who come from less affluent neighborhoods than ours. Please read Rayla Mattson's message in this issue of the ENews for more details, or reach out to Rayla for gift ideas and suggestions. We need all gifts collected, labeled and ready to drop off by December 21st at the latest.

Speaking of December 21st, that is the winter solstice, and we will be hosting a solstice celebration in Fellowship Hall at 7 p.m. on that day. The celebration will be open to members & friends, and their friends and families. The celebration will be in Fellowship Hall and will be in the round. Please look for further announcements as we will be asking for some volunteers to call the directions and greet the spirits of the night as we welcome the return of the light.

Our Christmas Eve service will be at 5 p.m. on Friday, December 24th. This year we will be having only one in-person Christmas Eve service due to COVID. Our Christmas Eve service theme will be based on the Dr. Seuss story, *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas*. Please feel free to come in costume as one of characters in the story.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to everyone who participated in our recent series of listening circles. Over the next few weeks your Board and I will be working together to unpack what was shared and learned.

And, as I write this, I am looking at the Christmas Tree in the minister's study that was lovingly decorated yesterday by your staff. The colored lights are filling the room with warmth, as well as the glow of generosity and hope of the holiday season. I hope that you will stop by and visit during the holiday season.

With love and gratitude, Rev. Terry Cummings

RE News You Can Use: Rayla D. Mattson, Director of Religious Education**Hello USH Family!!**

Calling all Santa's Helpers!! We are still looking for more help in getting gifts for some of the kids at SANDS school. If you're not able to get a gift, if you get funds to Dana or our DRE, we can get the gifts on your behalf. We need to have the gifts brought in to the church next week.

This Saturday from 10:00am-noon we will have an opportunity for our families to come in and shop our re-gifting sale. The DRE and the minister will also be popping in if you'd like to chat with one of us. We look forward to seeing you there for this fun family shopping event!

This Friday our OWL group will meet again! This is only for the group that had to stop due to COVID. We will once again meet in the youth group room from 6:00-7:30pm. Please make sure you wear your mask.

This Sunday we will be meeting to work on our final details for the Christmas pageant. The Youth Group will be meeting in the kitchen for soup making at 9am!! We will meet in David's Den. Please come join us!

We are excited to have our Christmas pageant next Sunday!! If you don't have a part yet, don't worry, we have something for everyone. All you have to do is show up! It is sure to be a really exciting day.

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.

<https://www.facebook.com/UnitarianSocietyOfHartford>

USH Community & Business

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



Holiday Regifting Sale - The Joy of Buying Used

The Holiday Regifting Sale is back this season after services on Sunday, December 12th. Do your holiday

shopping in Fellowship Hall during coffee and connection hour!

Kids and families are invited to a special sale just for them, on Saturday morning December 11th from 10 am to 12Noon.

You and your children can browse the tables of gifts donated by the congregation during this time, and every sale goes to USH and helps keep us going! In case you haven't enjoyed the Regifting Sales of the past, items usually include toys, games, jewelry, and household decorations.

Kids and their parents will be the only people at the Saturday sale (besides a couple of us from Green Sanctuary who will staff it), so you can browse and buy safely! Please remember to bring/wear your mask.

"It's a great way to find unique gifts and give things a second life – keeping them out of the landfill while raising money for the meetinghouse," Green Sanctuary's Jeff Howard and Mary Sherwin note.

Help out by donating unwanted gifts to the USH Regifting Sale and buying "second hand" this holiday season.

To Donate: Place your formerly loved items--jewelry, toys, decorations and knick-knacks--in the Regifting Bin in the lobby of the Meetinghouse now through Sunday, November 29.

To volunteer, please contact Mary Sherwin at mary.sherwin@gmail.com or 860-874-6399.

If you aren't going to use a gift then you can turn it into a donation to a good cause—USH!

***Happy Holiday-Time,
Rayla Mattson, Director of Religious Education
Mary Sherwin and Jeff Howard of USH Green Sanctuary***



USH November 2021 Auction Update

We will be e-mailing auction statements to donors and buyers. Many people settled up their account on Sunday – Thank you. If not your statement will show a balance to pay by check to USH with auction in memo line. You can also review your statement by signing into the auction website

<http://www.togetherauction.com/ushartford>

There were 21 un sold items after the Auction. We have reopened the online site for entering bids on these until Dec 10th.

<http://www.togetherauction.com/ushartford>

You must log in to bid

Using phone # without 860 ie xxx-yyyy

Your pin is last 4 digits of phone number

Send questions to ush.auction2020@gmail.com

Thanks – auction team Mike Covault, Ginny Hendrick, Jon Covault Bob Hewey and Buffie Pinney



DECEMBER LUNCH BUNCH~

We will be gathering on Tuesday, December 14th at 12Noon. Our speaker will be Marye Gail Harrison.

If you plan to attend, please let Janice Newton know by noon on Thursday, December 9. Please call 860-212-6923 (Leave a message for Janice Newton.) or email at janicecnewton@gmail.com.

The Lunch Bunch will meet at Concetta's, Italian

Restaurant, 22 Mountain Ave., Bloomfield. You will be able to order off the menu. Separate checks will be provided. There is convenient parking. We will meet at Concetta's on the third Tuesday of the month (except December) through June.

The remaining dates for 2022 are: 1/18/22, 2/15/22, 3/15/22, 4/19/22, 5/17/22, and 6//21/22. We are looking for speakers. Are you interested, or do you know someone who would be interested, in speaking to the group? If so, please contact Janice Newton. Reservations are necessary! Hope to see you on the 14th!



Book Table at Coffee Hour!

Please bring your dollars and find great books that your USH friends have chosen to share with you! AND please continue to cull your bookshelves and donate books that YOU really liked and want to pass

on. Fiction, non fiction, cookbooks, mysteries, spiritual, nature, art, self help and also books for kids and youth—let's get into the spirit of sharing with one another!

Books can be left in the office in a plastic container labeled for book collection. We have a good group of volunteers for this activity. **Any questions, contact Susan at susanhope51@gmail.com or 860 463 6407.**



Hi folks, we are

back to singing on Second Saturdays !

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 maroon/purple "Rise Again" sequel – 1200 more songs to sample, plus any song-sheets you care to contribute (bring about 20 copies for the group). If the October weather holds, we will meet to the right of the building, in the Memorial Garden patio.

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 Meeting House is at 50 Bloomfield Avenue in Hartford. Some of us bring snacks, but that is not required (or organized). Donations to defray building expenses are encouraged. Look for a sign near the front door if you can't see or hear us right away. We will be around to the right of the main entrance, down the (rough) 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.

Contact: Fred Louis (FLouis@yahoo.com) with questions and suggestions.



Sunday Welcome **Volunteers**

See Sign Up Genius
Link [HERE](#). Please
contact Buffie at

hartforduusociety@gmail.com for any assistance or
additional questions.

Programs for Adults and Families

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.

Book Selections 2021-2022

Dec 9 The Signal Flame- Andrew Krivak

Jan 13. Mansfield Park- Jane Austin

Feb 10- A Promised Land- Barack Obama

March 10- Finding Higher Ground: An Adaption in the Age of Warming- Amy Seidel

Apr 14- First Friends:The Powerful Unsung (and Unelected) People Who Shaped Our Presidents- Gary Ginsberg

May 12- The Extended Mind:Thinking Outside Your Brain-Anne Murphy Paul

June 9- The Hellfire Club- Jay Tapper

July 14- Hamnet- Maggie O'Farrell

Aug 11- The Vanishing Half- Brit Bennett

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 am. 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

STAY TUNED~

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.

Meeting House Presents



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

50 Bloomfield Avenue
Hartford, CT 06105



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

Thank you for your support of Meeting House Presents!! If you are receiving this email you have signed up to be on our mailing list or you have purchased tickets online through brown paper tickets and given us your email address.

Regarding covid we are currently following CDC guidelines and require masks and proof of vaccination for all those in attendance. Bring and wear your mask; if you forget, we have a supply and will give you one. The sanctuary is large enough to comfortably accommodate all who are likely to come. We can spread out, maintaining reasonable distance from each other. Seating is every-other pew to facilitate separation. We do this for the safety of our volunteers, performers and fellow concert goers.

We hope you understand. Feel free to contact us with comments or questions. Thank you for supporting independent musicians, live music and Meeting House Presents!
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/>

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

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](https://www.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.

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/087ojjDW8IM>

Laura and Paul Cipriano
Meeting House Presents, Unitarian Society of Hartford, CT
<http://www.ushartford.com/nourishing-spirit/music/meetinghousepresents/>

News from the USH Board of Directors

Your 2020-2021 USH Board

Rob Spector: President
Eve Pech: 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. Terry Cummings, Interim Minister (ex-officio)

The latest financial reports for **FY July-Aug 2021** 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 hartfordusociety@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
revterryush@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. Please email at her at **hartfordusociety@gmail.com**.
Buffie is *always* happy to hear from you!

**The deadline for USH-Enews submissions to Buffie is by
Tuesday at 12 Noon.**

Email to: hartfordusociety@gmail.com

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