



**Unitarian Society of Hartford**

**Building Community Since 1830**

**Rev. Terry Cummings, Interim Minister**

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

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**Website: [www.ushartford.org](http://www.ushartford.org)**

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

**JANUARY 12, 2022**



**January 16th, 2022, 10:30am**

**"The View from the Mountaintop"**

**Rev. Terry Cummings, Interim Minister  
Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries  
Margaret Leicach, Worship Associate  
Buffie, Zoom & Coffee Hour Hostess  
Helen David, Greeter  
Ginny Hedrick, Usher  
Kathie Ferguson, Welcome Table & Chancel Art  
10:30am **HYBRID** Worship Service**

**Join us in ZOOM [HERE](#).**

**View \*[Order of Service](#) here.**

**\*Click the link, then open document that shows in  
lower left corner of your screen**

**Closed captions are available.**

**Meeting ID: 931 0388 7934**

**Passcode: 128493**

**11:30am - Fellowship Time will be immediately following services  
in  
**ZOOM ONLY.****

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



**Ministers Musings**

Dear members & friends of the Unitarian Society of Hartford:

I hope that you are all staying warm and safe during the current cold snap. As the days slowly begin to get longer I can already feel the plants and animals around us anticipating the coming of spring, only a short ten weeks away (not that I'm counting, mind you).

In the meantime, the cold weather is yet another reason to marvel at the amazing ability of plants and animals to adapt to the world around them, to survive, and even thrive. Perhaps we humans have stopped evolving as a species, relying instead on our ability to make the world adapt to us instead of the other way around. It's almost as if we have reached an evolutionary dead end. And maybe that is where the squirrels and the chickadees will have an advantage over us in the long run.

I'm not too upset by the thought of our branch of the evolutionary tree being the end of *homo sapiens'* evolution, even if it does mean we will eventually die out. Despite all of humanities many flaws, I really like us being the way we are.

And we can delay the inevitable end of our species by learning to live more responsibly as one part of the interconnected web of life. That is easy to say, but hard to do given the extent to which our lives, our conveniences and our comforts, have as their foundation a system that rewards hurting the natural environment rather than preserving it.

I am hopeful that that system will eventually change, if only out of collective necessity. Whether the change will come too late to save us and the living things around us remains to be seen.

As the snow from last weekends storm begins to melt, I am reminded of the lyrics of one of my favorite songs, *The Rose* by Amanda McBroom.

*Just remember in the winter*

*Far beneath the bitter snows*

*Lies the seed that with the suns love*

*In the spring becomes the rose*

I'll be looking for that rose just a few weeks from now.

\*\*\*\*\*

This weekend we celebrate the birthday of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The last few years have shown how much work still remains to be done before Dr. King's dream can be realized. Those of us who are privileged white people, which is almost all of our congregation, are being called in, not being called out, by those who are working for racial justice.

We are being called in to participate actively in a movement that seeks to affirm and promote justice, equity and compassion in human relations, the inherent worth and dignity of every single person who walks upon the earth, the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process and world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all. These are our core values as Unitarian Universalists.

I hope that you will join us for our online service this coming Sunday. As a reminder, for the time being Sunday services will be online but with room for **up to 25 fully vaccinated congregants** to attend in person. If you would like to attend one or more of these services in-person, instead of online, please email me at [revterryush@gmail.com](mailto:revterryush@gmail.com) no later than 5:00pm on the Thursday before the Sunday service. I will respond to your email and let you know if you are one of the first 25 individuals to reserve a spot for the coming Sunday's service. We ask that you kindly not attend the service in-person without first receiving confirmation from me that your pre-registration has been received.

Please remember that all individuals who enter the Meeting House will be required to wear a properly fitted mask that covers their mouth and their nose. During the service, the individual speaking from the pulpit at the microphone will be permitted (but not required) to remove their mask.

This coming Sunday we will formally say farewell to our beloved Intern Minister, Dianne Daniels. I hope very much that you will join us on Sunday at 10:30

**Yours in faith,  
Rev. Terry Cummings, Interim Minister**



**Join Us at  
Our Town Hall  
Meeting**

**Town Hall Meeting**

**Please join us [HERE](#) on January 30th, 2022 for our USH "Town Hall" meeting via ZOOM and limited in-person attendance.**

**Please watch the E-News for further announcements.**

## Did UU Know?



### **Ambulatory Luminaries**

Did you ever notice that the numerous rooms off the Ambulatory of our church are named after (you might have guessed) various Unitarian or Universalist luminaries? This is the first of several articles that will attempt to shine a light on who these Ambulatory Luminaries were and why they merit the honor of being named to these locations.

#### **Michael Servetus 1511-1553 (Ambulatory Room 13) by Toni Gold**

The first of our luminaries, Michael Servetus, was an anti-trinitarian, but not the earliest or the latest, by any means..

In 313 C.E. the Roman emperor Constantine legalized the rapidly-growing early Christian movement. In 325 C.E. the Emperor convened the Council of Nicea, the first empire-wide confab of early Christians. It was called in part to settle the pressing question of the nature of Jesus and his relationship to God. Ultimately the Council endorsed the notion of the Trinity — the idea that God is three — father, son and holy ghost. While this concept has no documentation in Scripture, that didn't stop passionate early Christians. Trinitarianism won the day and became the central tenet of the early church. Today, the Nicene Creed, or the similar Apostle's Creed, is spoken as a statement of belief during each service in most Christian churches, both Roman Catholic and Protestant.

Despite the affirmation of the Trinity at the Council of Nicea, the anti-trinitarian position of Arias, a Greek theologian who believed that Jesus was more than human but denied that he was equal to or coexistent with

God — retained many followers. "Arianism" persisted for well over a thousand years, particularly in Eastern Europe and the Balkans, and became one of the more radical strains in the early Protestant Reformation in the 16th century. Notice from the dates that the roots of Unitarianism are very deep.

Enter this fellow Michael Servetus, who became a martyr to the cause of Arianism.

Born in 1511 in Spain, Servetus was a brilliant multi-lingual theologian, physician, cartographer, and Renaissance humanist, who, at the age of 20, wrote On the Errors of the Trinity (in Latin of course). Pursued for his heresy by the Inquisition, the arm of the Church that enforced orthodoxy, he escaped twice, took an assumed name and continued to write and seek theological argumentation. Never shy, he sought to debate John Calvin, a leading Protestant reformer, but ultimately alienated him; Calvin was instrumental in his demise by reporting him to the Inquisition. Servetus was burned at the stake in Geneva, along with his books, in 1553.

Who knew that Unitarians had heretics and martyrs?

Widespread reaction to Servetus' death has been taken as signaling the birth in Europe of the idea of religious tolerance, a principle now more important to modern Unitarian Universalists than anti-trinitarianism. The radical search for truth and the right to freedom of conscience are Servetus' main legacies, rather than his theology. The Polish-American scholar, Marian Hillar, has studied the evolution of freedom of conscience, from Servetus and the Polish Socinians, to John Locke, Thomas Jefferson and the American Declaration of Independence. According to Hillar: "Historically speaking, Servetus died so that freedom of conscience could become a civil right in modern society."

Articles, full or continued, are found in their entirety here:  
<https://ushartford.org/did-uu-know/>

## USH Community & Business

**Please take note that the next Board meeting will be on **February 8th** at **6:30pm** via [Zoom](#)**



## **"Chalice" ZOOM Room Password Change**

Please note that the password for the ZOOM room named "Chalice" has been changed. Please contact either **Buffie** or **any Board member** to receive the

new password.

**Any attempts to login in as "host" while using the old password will result in a "lock out".**



## **JANUARY LUNCH BUNCH~**

Because of the current COVID conditions, we have canceled the January Lunch Bunch at Concetta's. Decisions about future Lunch Bunch gatherings will be made on a month-to-month basis. Watch the USH-Enews for further developments.

I hope to see you all in February. Stay well!

Janice Newton at [janicecnewton@gmail.com](mailto:janicecnewton@gmail.com)



## Announcing ***UU SpiritLife Conversations***

Our spring program, ***UU SpiritLife Conversations***, is a series of facilitated zoom conversations on spiritual topics, offered on the fourth Saturday mornings, January through May, 9-10:30 AM. ***SpiritLife Conversations*** open to all members of the three Hartford area UU churches on a drop-in basis – you don't need to register or commit to the whole series. The topic for January 29 will be *Finding Balance In An Unstable World*. Please go to [uuspiritlife.org](http://uuspiritlife.org) and click the

Programs tab for complete information. Questions can be directed to Judy Robbins at [judyrobb2@gmail.com](mailto:judyrobb2@gmail.com).

### **Meeting House Sing-Along update**

The UU Meeting House board has canceled in- person events, and we agree that 'an abundance of caution' are the words of Year 2022 for now.

We will postpone second Saturday Sing- Alongs until COVID contagion rates drop back at least below 5%. Watch for a monthly update from us.

**Contact: Fred Louis ([FLouis@yahoo.com](mailto:FLouis@yahoo.com) ).**

## **News in the Congregation**



### **Personal News in the Congregation**

We are saddened to share that our members Rocco and Joanne Orlando lost Rocco's father last Thursday, January 6th, 2022. Rocco and Joanne's two children, Rocco IV (Rocky) and Alex grew up in the USH Religious Education program.

Rocco's father, also named Rocco, was a devoted scholar and an educator. He had a long standing relationship with the Amity Regional System as a teacher and school administrator., and later became Dean Emeritus of The School of Education at Southern Connecticut State University. Please join us in extending love and condolences to Rocco, Joanne and their family at this sad time.

There will be a memorial celebration in New Haven when conditions permit. To leave a condolence please visit [www.celentanofuneralhome.com](http://www.celentanofuneralhome.com).

Obituary: <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/nhregister/name/rocco-orlando-obituary?id=32171116>



## 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](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.**

#### **Book Selections 2021-2022**

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](mailto: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](mailto:bentgloria@gmail.com) or call at **860 904-7768**.

## 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.  
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/>



## News from the USH Board of Directors

### Your 2021-2022 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 **Oct-Nov 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](mailto: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/](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/>

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**News from Buffie's Desk**



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 [hartforduusociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartforduusociety@gmail.com).

**Buffie is *always* happy to hear from you!**



## Hello to my USH people!

Just wanted to say "Hi" and remind each of you that even though your current health and welfare is the utmost priority, (and it keeps us distanced,) that I think of you all quite often...

I miss you all and I hope & pray that this will all be under control soon so we can try and get back to a more connected way of life. Reach out to me to "check in" anytime. Stay cozy~



Until then, ALL MY **LOVE**



## Sunday Welcome Volunteers

See Sign Up Genius

Link [HERE](#). Please contact  
Buffie

at [hartforduusociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartforduusociety@gmail.com) for any assistance or  
additional questions.

The deadline for USH-Enews submissions to Buffie is by  
**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!