

# 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

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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.

**March 16, 2022**

March 20th, 2022, **10:30am**

### "Holy Presence"

Margaret Leicach, Member, Unitarian Society of Hartford, and David Horst, Affiliate Minister, All Souls New London, will discuss the intersection of emotional and spiritual health in their dialogue 'Holy

Presence,' exploring the ways we can help each other maintain lives of health and wholeness in the face of personal, national, and global challenges.

**Rev. David Horst, Guest Speaker**  
**Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries**  
**Margaret Leicach, Worship Associate**  
**Buffie, Zoom & Coffee Hour Hostess**

Susan Hope & Fred Louis, Ushers

Helen David & Kathy Lee, Greeters

Dana Donovan, Welcome Table

Susan Hope, Chancel Art

**10:30am Hybrid Worship Service**

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

**Closed captions are available.**

**Meeting ID: 931 0388 7934**

**Passcode: 128493**

**11:30am - Fellowship Time will be immediately following services both in person and ZOOM**

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



**Rev. David Horst, Pulpit Guest**

David Horst is an Affiliate Minister at All Souls New London, Unitarian Universalist; a Community Minister at the New London Homeless Hospitality Center; and Founder of The Open Circle, a spiritual direction practice for individuals and groups.

Rev. Horst served Unitarian Universalist congregations in the Boston area, Nantucket,

and New Jersey for 20 years. He holds an M.Div. degree from Harvard Divinity School and a Certificate in Spiritual Guidance from the Unitarian Universalist Rowe Center. Rev. Horst and his family reside in Norwich. He blogs regularly at [The-Open-Circle.com](http://The-Open-Circle.com).

**Please join us for a short Zoom meeting about Stewardship  
this Wednesday, March 16, at 7:30 p.m.**

**[Join At This Link](#)**

**All are invited! Sorry, but bring your own refreshments!**

Welcome to our streamlined 2022-23 Stewardship Campaign, *Peace and Renewal*.

Here's what you need to know

***WHY?***

USH is **our community and spiritual home**, offering unique opportunities for personal relationships, spiritual growth, and service — a combination we don't get find anywhere else. And we've expanded our capabilities, returning to in-person worship and other gatherings while continuing to offer virtual options.

***WHEN?***

March is Stewardship Month at USH. We kicked off with a service and sermon by Rev. Terry on March 6, with continuing pulpit testimonials from members through the month. We ask you to **make your pledge by March 31**, so we can plan for the coming year.

### ***HOW MUCH?***

This may be the \$64,000 question, but \$64,000 isn't (necessarily) the answer. Of course the amount of your pledge is up to you, but **the best way to start is with our Fair Share pledge guide.**

If you're a newer member, you may want to start at the lower range of your fair share bracket. If you're a longer-time committed member, we hope you'll move as far up your fair share range as you're able, or even beyond, if that's comfortable for you. For everyone: **please give as generously as you are able!**

Now, here are a few critical points to consider — our Stewardship success this year will be a **key element that potential candidates to be our next permanent minister will see** when they consider where to apply. The best candidates will look for evidence that USH is on a sound financial footing. While we *are* on a sound footing in our current fiscal year, we face several important challenges for the year ahead. Those challenges include the members we've lost because of the pandemic and the change in ministers, the end of federal stimulus funding, the end of savings from having a mostly closed building, and our hope that we won't have continued savings from staff vacancies. These are reasons we ask you to give, and increase your pledge, **as generously as you are able.** As Rev. Terry said, we hope you'll pledge **the right amount for you, the amount that gives you joy!**

### ***HOW DO I PLEDGE?***

*It's easier than ever. The simplest way is to go to the new Stewardship button on our website (click on Give Online, then on USH Online Giving Portal), and make your pledge. Or you can fill out a pledge card and leave it in the collection basket by March 31. Or you may simply email or call Stewardship Chair Joe Rubin, [JoeRubin@snet.net](mailto:JoeRubin@snet.net), or call Joe at 860-539-3586 to make your pledge by email or voicemail.*

### ***QUESTIONS?***

*Call or email Joe Rubin, above, or any USH Board member*

***IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR WOULD LIKE TO HEAR MORE ABOUT STEWARDSHIP, PLEASE JOIN US FOR A SHORT VIRTUAL GATHERING ON ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, AT 7:30 p.m.***

***[Join At This Link](#)***

### Matters of the Heart

On Sunday we will make space for sharing "Matters of the Heart" with one another (often referred to as "Joys and Sorrows" in other congregations). We would love to hear about recent births of new family members, or share your sorrow at a recent bereavement, and lift up any meaningful life passages or events that you would like to share with others.

Here is how Matters of the Heart will be shared — if you are attending the service in person, index cards and pencils are provided at the welcome table for you to write them down when you arrive at the Meeting House.

Your Matters of the Heart will be shared from the pulpit immediately before our customary candle ritual. (Please do not share announcements about upcoming meetings or other events, as this will not be a time for general announcements.)

**In Faith, Reverend Terry**

## USH Community & Business



**USH Youth Group Soup**  
Join us in Fellowship Hall during coffee hour for some delicious soup (chicken or vegetarian), thanks to the efforts of our Youth Group

and John Bengtson.

All proceeds support food donations to Church Street Eats and South Park Inn.

## Website Transparency Changes

Recently, the Web Editors team asked for feedback on how much transparency in the Members section of our website was felt to be an appropriate level. Currently (and for a few years now) all USH policies, reports, minutes, and other procedural information has been password-protected. Having received relatively little commentary from the congregation (and most of those comments favoring open access for all but personal information in the member directory), the web editors are proceeding to remove password access for the bulk of institutional information. **Only** the member directory, and a few financial documents, will remain behind a password wall. It will take some time to make these changes (strangely, each item must be altered) but you'll soon spend less time logging in and more time finding the information you want.



**The  
Chalice  
Clubhouse**  
at USH

Annie Witzler and Rev. Terry put their heads together and drew up a fun, child-centric curriculum designed to foster individuality and free-thinking. The Seven Principles are used as a

guiding compass, and the 'clubhouse' theme promotes informality and inclusivity. Each week, themes of the adult service are explored using imagination and heart. There will be coloring pages, crossword puzzles, brainteasers, cooperative games, hands-on crafts, chances for dramatic play, and more. This Sunday, March 20, we'll investigate the theme of mental and emotional health by putting on puppet shows together, practicing how to healthily express our emotions.



[USH Calendar of Events](#) for **March 2022** can be viewed [HERE](#). Please contact [Buffie](#) with any questions or concerns.

**Social Justice News**



**March GNO Dedicated to Ukrainian Relief**

The Social Justice Council has chosen UUARC, The United Ukrainian American Relief Committee, as the beneficiary of this month's Good Neighbor Offering. Despite the "UU" in their name, the committee is not affiliated with Unitarian Universalism. However, they have been helping Ukrainians since 1944 and are a highly rated non-profit 501(c)(3) charity, and are registered with USAID. With millions of potential casualties in Ukraine, UUARC is fundraising to provide vital medical supplies shelter assistance, and food to those affected. They provide aid to Ukrainians in Ukraine, Poland, Romania, Hungary, and several other countries.

The GNO for March will be taken on Sunday, March 27. Please give as generously as you are able to support this urgent cause!

[United Ukrainian American Relief Committee, Inc.](#)

### *Did UU Know?*

#### **Meeting House Air Exchange**

(or, Hot Air Rises and Nature Abhors a Vacuum)

*by Stu Spence, David Newton, and Tina Davies*

Now that we've lifted the mask requirement, some are wondering, and asking, about the efficacy of ventilation in the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. This is a reasonable concern; we learned early in the pandemic the relative vulnerability of being downwind from those infected with Covid (or, for that matter, any airborne virus). Indeed, some recent variants appear to have been even more infectious than their predecessors.

To address questions about air circulation in our public spaces, we thought a brief tour of our ventilation systems might be in order. About a year ago, Building and Grounds Chair Stu Spence walked a group through the furnace room and around the building, pointing out various entry/exit air ducts which facilitate air circulation at the Meeting House. Our conclusion was that we have a simultaneously simple and sophisticated system: one which capitalizes on basic principles of physics while adapting methods of operation to the particular spaces involved. (Note: this is a broad and *non-technical* overview... engineers might want to stop reading right *now!*)

Basically, we have two sorts of heating arrangements: there are areas served by



circulating hot or cold air, and spaces heated by radiators fed by hot water.

In Fellowship Hall, the air handlers send air from the furnace room to (1) a series of vents located in the perimeter of the space and (2) a single elevated register in the adjacent kitchen. As temperature-controlled air enters this space from registers along the wall, it circulates more or less west-to-east toward the large intake register located under the thermostat. Before this air is recirculated, a significant portion is diverted outside by vents under the chapel overhang. Simultaneously, “makeup air” from outside is drawn in through a large duct on the north side of the boiler room, replacing the volume of expelled air with fresh air from outside. You could view this as analogous to selecting the ‘fresh air’ option (rather than ‘recirc’) on your vehicle’s heating/cooling control.

In the sanctuary, the same principle is employed, with the aim of moving air from the rear (and perimeter) so it flows toward, and over, the chancel. Picture yourself in the pews: you might notice hot air vents under some of the banners. Hot air rises, and that relatively hot air blowing from the vents and from exhalations of warm human lungs creates a lifting effect. Given the volume of air in the sanctuary, substantial dilution of your breath (and any viral particles within) results. The air currents ultimately exit through ductwork under and behind the chancel. Then, back in the boiler room, air handlers vent a portion of the air, and any virus within, out of the building, and “make-up air” drawn in from outside is heated along with remaining recirculated air — and the warming cycle is repeated. As in Fellowship Hall, a significant portion is vented outside under the chapel overhang.

In both situations, fresh air from outside is exchanged regularly with air inside the building, reducing heating and cooling efficiency but pulling contaminants away reasonably promptly.

All the rooms surrounding the sanctuary are individual heating by radiators or supplemental air conditioners. The air in these spaces is not recirculated, or at least not in any predictable way. The chapel is an exception, as it is served both by hot air and radiator heating.

Articles, full or continued, are found in their entirety here:

<https://ushartford.org/did-uu-know/>

## Meeting House Presents

### Meeting House Presents

Save the Dates!

\$20 general admission and \$14 for students with ID

**Mad Agnes** Friday, Apr. 22, 2022

**Seán Heely and Beth Patterson** Friday, May 13 , 2022

**Susan Werner** concert **Saturday, April 30, 2022**

(This special MHP Saturday concert isn't included with season tickets, but season ticket holders get a \$5 discount. Ticket price \$25)

## Programs for Adults and Families



### UU SpiritLife Conversations March Topic

**SpiritLife Conversations** meet on the fourth Saturday mornings monthly through May, 9-10:30 AM to discuss spiritual topics. The topic for March 26 is "Redefining Prayer for UUs". Please go to [uuspiritlife.org](http://uuspiritlife.org), where you'll find four short articles to read in preparation for this session. The zoom link is also available on that site.

Programs are open to members of the three Hartford area UU congregations on a drop-in basis — you don't need to register or commit to the whole series.

Questions can be directed to the March facilitator, Judy Robbins, at [judyrobb2@gmail.com](mailto:judyrobb2@gmail.com).

### More Meetings and Programs

**The USH Book Club:** Meets monthly, on the 2nd Thursday, 2:30 – 4:30pm, 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 2022**

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 or friend experiencing some difficulty, please contact **Janice Newton** at [janicecnewton@gmail.com](mailto:janicecnewton@gmail.com) 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.

#### Your 2021-2022 USH Board of Directors

**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 Nov-Dec 2021** have been posted, click [HERE](#) to view.

The Board Meeting minutes for **January 2022** 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](mailto:hartfordusociety@gmail.com) for the username and password.

**Missed Last Week's Enews? Click Below:**

<http://www.ushartford.org/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.org/events/](http://www.ushartford.org/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.org/staff-members/>

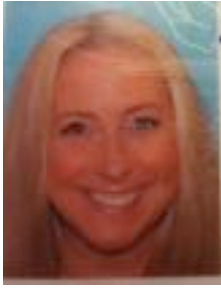
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Brian Mullen, Bookkeeper - Office or Phone by Appointment  
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## News from Buffie's Desk



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!**



### 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 is

**Tuesday at 12 Noon.**

Email to: [hartforduusociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartforduusociety@gmail.com) OR  
[enewsush@gmail.com](mailto:enewsush@gmail.com)

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

