

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, 9:00
a.m. to 2:00 p.m. or email/call for an appointment.**

April 6th, 2022



April 10, 2022, 10:30 a.m.

"A Spiritual Sampler"

"Mama Always Said, Life Was Like A Box Of Chocolates. You Never Know What You're Gonna Get." ~Forrest Gump

Sue Smolski, Pulpit guest

Margaret Leicach, Worship Associate

Annie Witzler, Interim Religious Education Associate

Sam Moffett , Director of Music Ministries

Buffie, Zoom & Coffee Hour Hostess

Fred Louis, Usher(s)

Deb Meny, Greeter(s)

Helen David, Welcome Table

Chancel Art created by Martha Bradley

Join us in ZOOM [HERE](#).

See Order of Service [HERE](#).

Closed captions are available.

Meeting ID: 931 0388 7934

Passcode: 128493

11:30 a.m. – Fellowship Time will be immediately following services both in person and in ZOOM

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

Matters of the Heart

On Sundays 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.

This is how Matters of the Heart will be shared:

- Online participants: On-line- Send to MattersoftheheartUSH@gmail.com by 9am Sunday.
- If you are attending the service in person, index cards and pencils will be provided at the entrance to the sanctuary for you to write down the Matter of the Heart you wish to share. Place your completed card in the basket.

Please remember this is not a time for general announcements.

A Message from the USH Board of Directors

As discussed during Sunday's service and in last week's e-News, Rev. Terry is currently on paid administrative leave while the Board investigates a confidential personnel matter. Please rest assured that the Board, working together with other leaders, members and volunteers in the church, has put together a plan for the next several weeks which includes Sunday

services, Religious Education, Pastoral Care, and Staff support and supervision.

There is so much exciting activity happening at USH, as we move past the pandemic and gather together to support each other and celebrate our endurance over the past two years.

Think about what talents you have to offer; USH thrives on your energy and action. We have two open Board positions for next year. Please consider nominating yourself or someone else by contacting Martha Bradley, who is the Chair of our Nominating Committee. We look forward to addressing you at our Annual Congregation Meeting on May 22, 2022 and want to be sure we have a full slate of Board members for you to consider.

Stewardship

A Personal Plea From Joe Rubin, Stewardship Chair

Our pledge drive was scheduled to end on 3/31. Thanks to all have who have pledged so far, and special thanks to the many of you who were able to increase your pledges. If you haven't received an acknowledgment yet, you will, and if you have any questions or concerns about that, email me at joerubin@snet.net. If you haven't yet pledged, please do it **now**. You can email me, mail your pledge to USH, use the "Giving Online" tab on our website, or leave me a voicemail.

Some of you may be holding off because of concern about the status of our minister. Since I'm not on the Board, I don't know anything more that what I've read and heard from our President, Rob Spector, on behalf of the Board. I understand that many of us are concerned, confused, and also frustrated about the need to maintain confidentiality, for now at least. I want to say this: **Our USH community**

will come out fine, whatever happens. We've been through other challenges. We'll still be here for each other, and we'll still be a vibrant spiritual community. While we all hope for a speedy and positive resolution, whatever that may be, to this issue, please don't wait to complete your pledge. We all need to stick together and support each other more than ever in times of challenge.

And on a more personal note — I just retired and am about to leave on a 2 week road trip with Diane. I really don't want to spend it providing gentle nudges to folks to get your pledges in. So please, just do it today!

Thanks!

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. Or you may simply email or call Stewardship Chair Joe Rubin, JoeRubin@snet.net, or call Joe at 860-539-3586 to make your pledge by email or voicemail.

Religious Education



*Easter Sunday at USH ~
and an Easter Egg Hunt!*

Rejoice with us, in the many traditions of spring... feel the warmth of each other's presence anew after so long in isolation from our friends, neighbors, and community. Our intergenerational service will begin at 10:30 am, and an Easter Egg Hunt will occur following the service for all children and teens under the age of 19. If weather permits, the hunt will occur outdoors. If it is raining or there is too much mud, it will occur indoors. There will also be coffee hour refreshments — light snacks, cookies — after the service. We'll also have a photoshoot area available to any families looking for the perfect spot to take Easter photos/ The photoshoot area will be open for an hour, both before and after the worship service.

Special thanks to our pulpit guest Rick Tsukada for preparing an uplifting and inspiring service for us all to enjoy. See you here! (And maybe you'll see the Easter Bunny here, too!).

USH Community & Business



***"Love is our Spirit...
and Service is our Law"***

Ever notice how much more connected you feel to a group, or organization, when you volunteer to help with a project or committee or even (gasp!) *a board*?? Here are a few ways you might consider, in becoming more closely involved with USH and the many inner workings that help us remain engaged with one another and with the larger community. Spring is here, and along with her annual promise of hope and

renewal comes an invitation to reflect on how you might more closely and richly involved in our Meeting House.

In coming weeks, we will highlight a number of opportunities for you to ponder, along with people to ask if you'd like more information. Right now, though, here are a few imminent possibilities ...

1. Building & Grounds' Spring Work Day — Saturday April 23 — come in the morning to dig, plant, spiff up, clean up! Bring gardening tools if you have them. There;s a light breakfast at 8:00, and work starts at 9:00. If you can't stay for the full four hours, even an hour or two is appreciated. Let Annie Witzler or David Newton know you're coming, so they can plan.

2. Religious Education Support Team — RE is back, and would love *your* help in helping plan and carry out activities for kids and sometimes even grown-ups! Annie Witzler can give you more information... please ask her how you might get involved.

3. USH Board of Directors — we have a couple of openings on the 2022/23 board. Our Board has, according to our Constitution, fiscal responsibility for the Society, and for setting policy and making or delegating decisions necessary in day-to-day operations. Monthly Board meetings are open for any interested congregant to attend. Board members are elected by the congregation at the annual general meeting, scheduled on May 15 this year. The slate of officers up for election must be posted for the congregation at least 25 days before that meeting. Candidates must be members of USH and over 18. If you might be interested in (or if you would like to recommend another member for) board service... or as a possible participant in another governance-related committee... please contact Martha Bradley, Chair of the Nominating Committee, at marthabradley49@yahoo.com as soon as possible.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

USH Calendar of Events
for April 2022 can be viewed **HERE**.

Please contact **Buffie** with any questions or concerns.

Meeting House Presents

Meeting House Presents
Save the Dates!

Meeting House Presents three top-notch shows this spring; two are part of our Friday night season, and the Saturday show is an exciting addition beyond our regular season!

NEXT UP :

Mad Agnes Friday, Apr. 22, 2022 Back from a ten-year lunch break, Mad Agnes has reunited to bring you the intricate harmonies and compelling songwriting that have always been their signature. **Margo Hennebach, Adrienne Jones** and **Mark Saunders** have been singing and playing together since there were dinosaurs, performing across the U.S. and overseas. While dodging labels and mixing styles

(Folk, classical, or Celtic? Soaring vocals, incisive lyrics or giggly repartee?), the genre-bending trio has won hearts on two continents, and individually and collectively have amassed a body of work which comprises **13 CDs** and a **concert DVD**. \$20 general admission and \$14 for students with ID.

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

COMING SOON:

Seán Heely and Beth Patterson Friday, May 13 , 2022 Experience the magic music of Scotland and Ireland with Seán Heely and Beth Patterson. U.S National Scottish Fiddle champion Seán Heely and bouzouki player Beth Patterson perform fiery dance tunes and ancient, soaring melodies from Scotland and Ireland. \$20 general admission and \$14 for students with ID.

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

SPECIAL SATURDAY EVENT:

Susan Werner concert Saturday, April 30, 2022: Celebrated performing songwriter Susan Werner has made a name for herself coast to coast. From her 1995 major label folk/rock debut *Last of the Good Straight Girls* to her 2007 collection of agnostic gospel hymns *The Gospel Truth* to her 2017 travelogue *An American In Havana*, Werner writes ambitious concept albums with subject matter and sounds to match. This special Meeting House Presents Saturday concert was a late booking. Season ticket holders get a \$5 discount. Ticket price \$25, \$20 for season ticket holders.

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

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

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

(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



April Lunch Bunch —

Join Us For Lunch!

Come join us on Tuesday, April 19 at 12 Noon. Fred Louis will speak. If you plan to attend, please let Janice Newton know by noon on Thursday, April 14. Please call her (860-212-6923); leave a message if there's no answer. You may also send email tot janicecnewton@gmail.com.

The Lunch Bunch meets monthly at Concetta's Italian Restaurant, 22 Mountain Ave., Bloomfield. You can order off the menu. Separate checks are provided. There is convenient parking. We meet on the third Tuesday of the month; for the remainder of this program year, meetings are scheduled 5/17/22 and 6//21/22. We are looking for speakers. If you're interested, or know someone who would be interested, in speaking to the group, please contact Janice. Reservations are necessary! Hope to see you on the 19th!



SpiritLife Conversations is a series of facilitated zoom conversations on spiritual topics offered on fourth Saturday mornings through April, 9 –10:30 AM. The topic for April 23 will be Mirabai Starr *Wild Mercy* focusing on women mystics, facilitated by Dave Gonci. Please go to uuspiritlife.org for the zoom link; click the program title to access an article to read prior to this session. ***SpiritLife Conversations*** is open to 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. Questions can be directed to Judy Robbins at judyrobb2@gmail.com.



**Meeting House Sing-Along Saturday, April 9, 2022
We are still Singing!**

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

Join us at the next Meeting House Sing-Along: Fred Louis and Ed Savage offer 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.

More Meetings and 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 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.

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.

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 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 next board meeting is Tuesday, April 12, 6:30 p.m. via ZOOM.

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 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/

To submit a Calendar Request (also for an online USH Zoom Room gathering) 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/>

Rev. Terry Cummings, Interim Minister
revterryush@gmail.com | 860-233-9897 ext. 103

Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries
smoffettuu@gmail.com | 860-233-9897 ext. 108

Annie Witzler, Acting Coordinator of Religious Education
re4ush@gmail.com | 860-233-9897 ext. 104

Bob Hewey, acting Bookkeeper - Office or Phone by Appointment
boltonbob@aol.com 860-233-9897 ext. 102

Buffie Pinney, Office Administrator & Building Rentals
hartforduusociety@gmail.com | 860-233-9897 ext. 100

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.

Buffie is *always* happy to hear from you!



Sunday Welcome Volunteers
See Sign Up Genius Link [HERE](#). Please contact Buffie at 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 OR
enewsush@gmail.com

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



www.ushartford.org