

Unitarian Society of Hartford



This month, USH celebrates **Pride** month with the **LGBTQ+** community and its rich and beautiful contributions to life on our planet, and also joyfully celebrates "JUNETEENTH", now recognized for the first time ever as a national holiday.

Unitarian Society of Hartford
Building Community Since 1830
50 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105
Tel: (860) 233-9897 • Email: hartforduusociety@gmail.com
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.

June 15, 2022



Image: Troy Rohn

June 19, 2022: 10:30 a.m.

Father's Day
"A Letter to My Children and Yours"

Rev. Aaron Payson – Pulpit Guest
Peter Meny – Worship Coordinator
Sam Moffett, Director of Music
Annie Witzler – Interim Religious Education Coordinator
Buffie, Zoom & Coffee Hour Hostess

Kate Shafer, Hands on Hartford's Director of Partnership and Support, will
speak briefly about Hands on Hartford and
our Good Neighbor Offering.

Larry Lunden, Usher
Kathy Lee, Greeter
Helen David, Welcome Table

Chancel Art by Paula Bleck
Matters of the Heart:

Electronically by 9 am Sunday: New GMail site is HartfordUUHeart@gmail.com

In-person – use MOH basket for written cards on Sunday morning

10:30 a.m. Hybrid Worship Service

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. – Coffee Hour – immediately following services,
in person and ZOOM**

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



Reverend Aaron Payson, Pulpit Guest

Rev. Aaron R. Payson is in his 31 year of ministry. A 2nd generation UU minister and a 4th generation Universalist Unitarian, Aaron credits his parents Rev. Robert & Marcia Payson, both of blessed memory, for his inspiration to enter the ministry. He has a BA in psychology with a minor in religion and philosophy from Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, Pa., and an MDiv from Andover Newton Theological School, Newton Centre, Mass. He is currently

studying for his doctorate at Hartford Seminary. Aaron is a founding member of the Unitarian Universalist Trauma Response Ministry Team and is active in a host of local, regional and national efforts within the UUA and the community at large. He lives in Worcester, MA, with his wife Kristen, who is editor of The Landmark newspaper. They have two young adult children, Morgaine and Charlie and a four-legged rough-collie child, Sophie Marie.

* * * * *

~ Opportunities to Meet with Rev. Aaron Payson ~

Aaron has been asked if he would make himself available to meet with members and friends of USH after the service on Sunday. **In addition**, Aaron has offered the option of meeting via Zoom for those that are not available on Sunday or if the schedule does not allow for all who wish to meet in person. To facilitate this, a google form has been created, to which only Aaron has access. Please [CLICK HERE](#) if you wish to schedule an opportunity to meet with him on Sunday or in the near future.

From the Board

We want to give you a brief update on the current status concerning a minister who could begin working with us this fall. To be sure, we are in an unusual position: by the time Rev. Cummings' resignation was finalized and accepted, the UUA's 'search cycles' — for both settled and interim ministerial matching — had come and gone. But, as unusual situations have been known to arise in congregations, alternatives do exist.

We are in touch with Rev. Keith Kron, of the UUA transitions office. He is working to locate a minister... possibly one who has recently retired... who could serve as minister for the upcoming year. The transitions office and Rev. Kron have helped us before, under similar circumstances.

This process may take some time: the known pool of currently available ministers is not robust, and many at the UUA are deeply involved in preparations for General Assembly. As we learn more about the process, we will share that information.

~ Rob Spector, President

Meet our New Members



Marilyn Hackett

Marilyn first joined USH when she was three and the congregation was located on Pearl Street. She grew up among creative, committed Unitarians. Now retired and living 'in the sticks' in far-northern Vermont, she can put a bookend on a happy life marked by visitations and memberships in UU societies throughout New England. Hartford's Unitarian Meeting House, attended during decades of family visits in Connecticut, has always been the one that she's considered perfect for her. Especially lately, thanks to warm, intelligent folks when she gets here, and Zoom and its Chatroom in between, she's felt drawn back to her Hartford UU roots.

Marilyn spent most of her adult life as a daily newspaper reporter, topped off with work in school literacy labs. When not doing journalism, she's been an activist and worker for liberal causes, most recently Migrant Justice and the Vermont Progressive Party. She also love star gazing, with or without a telescope. USH has had a number of members who, after moving to distant states, have retained their membership here. Marilyn, however, has now (re)joined, from afar, without any intent of relocating to Connecticut. This is interesting from our perspective as it attests to the power of Zoom and similar virtual meeting rooms to bring people together and create a sense of community. That community exists, even while the participants may seldom, or never, meet in person.

Photo of Brian Harvey, Marilyn Hackett, and Tina Davies, by Sherry Manetta

Michael Michaud

Michael is a Hartford native who had split his time between Hartford and Provincetown for twenty years before moving to Provincetown in 2018. He was a member of the Unitarian Universalist Meeting House of Provincetown from 2001 to 2020. Michael left Cape Cod and relocated to West Hartford in 2020. He began attending services regularly at USH in 2021. Michael has a Master Degree in Public Health and worked in a leadership role in Connecticut's public mental health and addictions services system for over thirty years before retiring from State services in 2018. He has a deep appreciation for the importance of mindfulness, meditation and Yoga in recovery. He became a certified yoga teacher in 2019. Currently, Michael is teaching yoga and working part-time as a staff member at West Hartford Yoga. Michael's spirituality is rooted in mindfulness and nature. He loves the ocean, outdoors, and traveling. His connection with Eastern spirituality brought him to India, Thailand, Vietnam and Cambodia in recent years. Michael's partner Ben, a member of St. John's Episcopal Church of West Hartford, is a musician. Michael loves animals, especially his 16-year old tuxedo cat, Tara. Michael's connection with USH is lovely. He finds the members welcoming, warm, and engaging. He is impressed by USH's leadership, especially the talented individuals who contribute to the worship services. He finds the services spiritually and intellectually rich and looks forward to serving as a Worship Associate.



Photo of Brian Harvey and Michael Michaud by Sherry Manetta

Summer Services

Living Fully

Theme inspiration: From the poem,
 "Urgency", by Rosemerry Wahtola
 Trommer...

*"Again the chance
 To do the work
 To see the world exactly
 as it is and still write
 it a love letter."*



July 3 through September 4
10:00 a.m.

Fellowship Hall, in person and livestreamed

Pulpit Guests/Worship Associates:

July 3 – Judy Robbins/Sue Smolski
 July 10 – Kate Byroade/Laurie Kelliher
 July 17 – Artists' Way/Carol Simpson
 July 24 – Judy Robbins/Rick Tsukada
 July 31 – Brian Harvey/ Rick Tsukada
 August 7 – Lucille Giammetteo and Michael Michaud/Sue Smolski
 August 14 – Rev. Erica Baron (UUA)/Margaret Leicach
 August 21 – John Bengtson/Laurie Kelliher
 August 28 – Carol Simpson/Judy Robbins
 September 4 – Annie Witzler/Sue Smolski

As Laurie Kelliher described this year's Summer Services:
 "A celebration of the qualities that give our life meaning and joy as well as the
 solaces that hearten our soul even as we confront loss or disappointment or
 live in the face of suffering."

This is Summer Worship at USH!

Sue Smolski, Worship Associate Coordinator

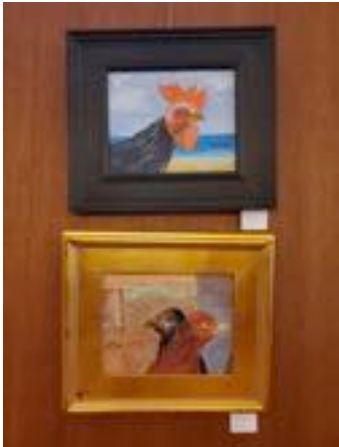
USH Community



"Building Bridges"

Noah McKenzie with Walter Johnston (center, in left photo above, and also in right photo) chose this bridge reconstruction for his Eagle Sount project. Strong and sturdy, this new bridge replaces its dilapidated predecessor at the Oak Grove Nature Center in Manchester. In the left photo, Walter's joined by Noah McKenzie (left) and Sophie Byroade (right); they're all in our USH Youth Group. Congratulations to Walter on what looks to be an excellent service project!

Images courtesy of Miriam Byroade



Seascapes, Landscapes and more

Paintings by Bill Revill

Bill grew up in this Hartford congregation, going back to the Pearl Street days. His parents, Peter and Ellie Revill, joined this society over sixty years ago and it will always feel like coming home to his time spent with this congregation.

This exhibit highlights Bill's love and appreciation of his native New England, including seascapes of Hammonasset, Cape Cod, and Star Island in the Isle of Shoals. There are paintings of chickens, too.

To stay current with Bill's work, please visit his website at www.billrevill.com. You may also follow

"Bill Revill ART" on FACEBOOK.

A percentage of sales goes to the Unitarian Society of

Hartford



Did UU Know?

**Meeting House National
Register Nomination Considered**
by Toni Gold

On Sunday, June 12, the Buildings and
Grounds Sub-council (B&G) voted 12-0 to



move forward a process for informing the congregation of benefits and process for pursuing a nomination of the Unitarian Meeting House to the National Register of Historic Places. The first step will be a hearing on the matter, occurring after the service on July 17th. The outcome of the hearing will determine next steps, if any.

B&G received a report from a subcommittee consisting of Toni Gold, Jim Venneman, and Laura Cipriano recommending the next step in the designation process. Following discussion and explanations from Mary Falvey, Executive Director of the Hartford Preservation Alliance (HPA), which would be hired on a consulting basis to manage the nomination, the full B&G Sub-Council (including one member on Zoom) voted to approve \$1,500 from the B&G budget to accept the offer from HPA, if the hearing outcome is favorable to the nomination idea.

B&G set July 17, following the Sunday service, as a hearing to present and explain the National Register process and to answer questions.

If attendee reactions in the hearing are generally positive, and the Board voices no objection, HPA would move forward to apply for a grant from the State Historic Preservation Office to fund the work of a consultant, who would be competitively selected from a list of approved architectural historians to do the research and writing necessary to prepare a full nomination. The full nomination would then be presented to the Connecticut Historic Preservation Council, and upon approval, to the National Register of Historic Places.

The National Register of Historic Places is a subdivision of the National Park Service of the U.S. Department of the Interior. (See link below.)

National Register status qualifies a property for up to \$200,000 for maintenance and restoration work from the state of Connecticut. Once designated, the Meeting House could qualify for funds, for example, for roof work, a geo-thermal system for heating and air conditioning, and a number of other major structural projects.

The Meeting House qualifies as a candidate for the National Register of Historic Places because it 1) is at least 50 years old, 2.) is an important example of the Midcentury Modern architectural style, and 3.) is an example of work by a

significant architect (Victor Lundy).

Further Did UU Know? articles may be found [here](#).

National Park Service: [here](#)

Denominational Matters



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
MULTIPLATFORM / PORTLAND • 2022

Meet the Moment: Reimagining Radical Faith Community

June 22 – 26, 2022

At General Assembly, the annual meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Association, "attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process."

After two years of virtual GA, this year there is an option to meet in person or online. To learn more and register, visit the UUA's website at uua.org and click on General Assembly.

At USH, it is our practice to celebrate General Assembly on the last Sunday in June.

June 26 Worship will be livestreamed from General Assembly in Portland, OR, at 09:30 Pacific Time, which is 12:30 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time. The service will last

approximately 90 minutes.

We will not have a worship service at the Meeting House on June 26.

You may tune in to the GA Worship Service, livestreamed, from wherever you are.



USH Calendar of Events

for June 2022 can be viewed [HERE](#).

Please contact [Buffie](#) with any questions or concerns.

Social Justice



West Hartford PRIDE FESTIVAL

Saturday, June 25

12 noon – 6pm

Blue Back Square

**USH and the Universalist Church of West Hartford are sharing a booth
at this year's West Hartford PRIDE FESTIVAL**

Last year, the West Hartford PRIDE FESTIVAL was named "Best Festival of 2021" by the *Hartford Courant*. This year is looking bigger and better, with lots of fun, food, and activities for everyone.

Please see link [HERE](#) for more information, and to volunteer at the UU booth.

Sign up for PRIDE booth activities, decorations, and informational handouts [HERE](#)



June is LGBTQIA Pride Month

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month (LGBTQIA Pride Month) is celebrated annually in June to honor the 1969 Stonewall riots, and works to achieve equal justice and equal opportunity for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQIA) Americans. In June of 1969, patrons and supporters of the Stonewall Inn in lower Manhattan staged an uprising to resist the police harassment and persecution to which LGBTQIA Americans were commonly subjected. This uprising marks the beginning of a movement to outlaw discriminatory laws and practices against LGBTQIA Americans.

Today, celebrations include pride parades, picnics, parties, workshops, symposia and concerts, and LGBTQIA Pride Month events attract millions of participants around the world. Memorials are held during this month for those members of the community who have been lost to hate crimes or HIV/AIDS. The purpose of the commemorative month is to recognize the impact that LGBTQIA individuals have had on history locally, nationally, and internationally.

Federal and local policies and practices are increasingly acknowledging and focusing on LGBTQIA youth and numerous national advocacy and other organizations are also giving greater attention to LGBTQIA youth in their work. Encouraging greater acceptance and support for all youth, including those who are or are perceived to be LGBTQIA, will make communities, schools, and other settings safer, better places for all youth.



Celebrate World Refugee Day!

Watch speakers share stories about overcoming obstacles and their experiences adjusting to their new home, from our 2021 World Refugee Day celebration.

Gladys Mwilelo is a refugee from the Congo, manager of IRIS' After School program, and collaborator on the novel, *Each of Us a Universe*.

Meet Gladys in-person and watch her perform at *Global Storytellers & Artisans*, in honor of World Refugee Day.

Our performers will share reflections on their home country, identity, and dreams for the future.

You'll also meet artisans and see demonstrations of their work finely honed over generations in Afghanistan, through our partner Turquoise Mountain.

Friday, June 17th, 5pm — New Haven

Sunday, June 19th, 2pm — Hartford

For more info and tickets see IRISCT.org [HERE](#)

A local event to celebrate World Refugee Day as well as support our family from the Turquoise Mountain area!

Food Bank Information

Here are this week's West Hartford Food Bank needs. Food donations for all area towns go down in the Spring and Summer months while hungry individuals and families remain. You can check on your local town's needs by going online. Some towns like Bloomfield, Hartford, East Hartford, Glastonbury, and Manchester have multiple sites from which to choose.

Please give as you are able!

West Hartford Food Bank needs for the week of 6/19/2022:

Canned Fruit
 Applesauce
 Canned Pasta
 Canned Tomato Sauce
 1 pound bags of rice
 Boxed Pasta

Thank you, Diana Heymann

Programs & Events



Join Us For Lunch at the June LUNCH BUNCH

We will gather on Tuesday June 21 at **noon**. Fred Louis will share his experiences at Buddhist retreats with Vietnamese monk, Thich Nhat Hanh. If you plan to attend, please let me know

by noon on Thursday, June 16. Please call me at 860-212-6923 (leave a message if I don't answer) or email me at janicecnewton@gmail.com. This will be our last Lunch Bunch meeting until September.

The Lunch Bunch meets 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 at Concetta's on the third Tuesday each month, September - June and are looking for speakers for next year. Are you interested, or do you know someone who would be interested, in speaking to the group? If so, please contact me. **Reservations are necessary!** Hope to see you on the 21st!

Meetings, Events, 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

July 14 – *Hamnet* – Maggie O'Farrell

August 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 online the first Saturday of each month at 10:30 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.

In & Around Greater Hartford



679 Farmington Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06119

<https://www.reddoormusic.org/>

Music at the Red Door - Austin Pipe Organ - PDF Brochure



The Elizabeth Park

Conservancy will present four free outdoor summer concerts on the **Rose Lawn**. In collaboration with the West End Civic Association, the Park presents three outdoor movies during the summer, and

the Connecticut Ballet presents the annual Marge Wilder Tribute Performance on a Saturday in July. See event information [HERE](#)

Image: elizabethparkct.org



Holcomb Farm

A historic New England Farm — A Place to Grow Since 1756

Holcomb Farm is a nonprofit CSA that farms without chemicals or pesticides. It is located at 111 Simsbury Road, West Granby, CT 06090. www.holcombfarm.org



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

The next board meeting, previously scheduled for Tuesday, June 14 , is now scheduled for Tuesday, June 21, at 6:30 pm via [ZOOM](#).

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

The **2021/22 Annual Report** is available [HERE](#)

The Board Meeting minutes for **April 2022** 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.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. Announcements about upcoming events typically appear for two consecutive weeks maximum, unless other arrangements have been made with the editorial team.

USH Staff:

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

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

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

**Bob Hewey, acting Bookkeeper - Office or Phone by Appointment
ushtreasurer50@gmail.com 860-233-9897 ext. 102**

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

From Buffie's Desk



Please contact our Office Administrator, **Buffie Pinney**, with any administrative questions or concerns. Buffie works Sunday through Thursday from 9 am – 2 pm. Please email her at hartforduusociety@gmail.com. Buffie is *always* happy to hear from you!

Sunday Welcome Volunteers STILL Needed!!

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