

Unitarian Society of Hartford



Nourishing Spirit, Building Community, Working for Justice

Unitarian Society of Hartford
Building Community Since 1830
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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.

JULY 6, 2022



July 10, 2022: 10:00 a.m.

"Where the Rubber Hits the Road"

Kate Byroade, Pulpit Guest

Laurie Kelleher, Worship Associate

Sam Moffett, Director of Music

Annie Witzler, Interim Coordinator of Religious Education

Annie Witzler, Greeter and Welcome Table

Matters of the Heart:

Electronically by 9 am Sunday: New G-Mail site is HartfordUUHeart@gmail.com

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

10:00 a.m. Hybrid Worship Service

Summer Services held in Fellowship Hall

Join us in ZOOM [HERE](#).

See Order of Service [HERE](#)

Closed captions are available.

Meeting ID: 931 0388 7934

Passcode: 128493

11:00 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.**



Kate Byroade, Pulpit Guest

This Sunday we welcome Kate Byroade to our pulpit.

Kate has several connections to USH. She is the sister of Miriam Byroade and Sarah Krippenstapel, a friend of Sarah McKenzie, and a colleague of Laurel Goodgion, who has been an invaluable mentor for many years. Kate is a member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Hartford where she is one of a number of supplemental preachers and a lay leader. She earned a bachelor's degree in Religion and a master's degree in Library & Information Science and has taken classes at the Hartford Seminary. She is a past president of the Connecticut Library Association.

Kate Byroade's sermon is in the spirit of our summer theme "Living Fully" and the phrase's relationship to her commitment as the Library Director at Cragin Memorial Library in Colchester CT. The library has been in recent news articles about the Colchester First Selectman who responded to a parent's complaint about the book "Who is RuPaul?" by requesting its removal from the children's section of the library. The 4th principle of the Unitarian Universalist faith is a commitment to the "free and responsible search for truth and meaning". Kate's actions and response to the council member highlight her position as a First Amendment champion for free speech and protection from censorship. Kate's position resonates broadly with our UU principles.

Kate shares, "USH's summer theme of "living fully" reminded me of my college's motto "Vita Abundantior" or "The Life More Abundant" which comes from the Gospel of John. I will talk about how that phrase has informed my personal and professional choices. I will definitely be talking about the events of the past week at work, of facing the single greatest challenge of my career, but more broadly about what it means to commit to a profession that may seem boring, irrelevant, or outdated to outsiders but is vital to the flourishing of our society."



Laurie Kelleher, Worship Associate

Laurie is a lifelong Unitarian, proud of her third generation UU children. She is a self-described proselytizer for the UU faith and views being a Worship Associate as one more avenue to spread the word.

From the Board

Thank you for your comments to us, about qualities you believe important in a minister. When a congregation goes looking for a new minister, it's necessary to gather as much information on what that congregation would consider to be a "good fit" as possible. Usually, when searching for a settled minister, there are multiple meetings with various groups within the congregation, numerous surveys sent out, and invitations to contribute thoughts in person. This time, as we're operating outside the typical process, things are a bit different. The board takes on the tasks generally assigned to a search committee. The time allotted is compressed, and the pool of available "candidates" is small. This does not translate to pessimism, or to the improbability of finding a good match, but it does mean there are things we are, and need to be, doing differently this time around.

One of those things is tuning in to you... normally, in a series of "cottage meetings" we would be asking small groups, "what is most important to you?" in a variety of ways. This time, we did that in our newsletter and crossed our fingers. Thankfully, there were enough responses to give the sense that our aim is in general alignment with your expressed desire and concern. Thank you for this invaluable assistance.

Right now, we are still in the process of negotiating for a minister next year. We have met twice, virtually, with one who appears promising. References have been received and contacted, and these have been helpful. We hope to have more definite information next week, after the July 12 board meeting.

In other matters, we are halfway through the calendar year, and just entering a new "church" year. The Board of Directors effected a peaceful transfer of power on July 1: new board members have assumed their positions, and some existing members continue service in different capacities. At the bottom of this newsletter you can see the current board roster listed. We give great thanks to Rob Spector, departing President, for his service in what can accurately be termed a challenging year, and Bob Hewey, departing Treasurer, for keeping our books straight. Similarly, we welcome Eve Pech as President and Dana Donovan as President-Elect, Jon Covault in his new role as Treasurer, and new council chairs Judy Sullivan (Social

Justice) and Paul Cipriano (Administration). Last, congratulations and thanks to the Worship Associates for the successful first summer service and for all their work to keeping us afloat spiritually.

Summer Services

Apology rendered: We apologize for the glitch in the technical team staffing schedule that affected the premiere of livestreaming summer services from Fellowship Hall last Sunday. The situation has been rectified.

Living Fully

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



...Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer.

July 10 through July 31

10:00 a.m.

Fellowship Hall, in person and livestreamed

Pulpit Guests/Worship Associates:

July 10 – *Where the Rubber Hits the Road*

Kate Byroade/Laurie Kelliher

July 17 – *(Title Pending)* Artist's Way/Carol Simpson

July 24 – *Saving Grace: A Tribute to UU Saviors*

Judy Robbins/Rick Tsukada

July 31 – *(Title Pending)* Brian Harvey/ Rick Tsukad

This is Summer Worship at USH!
Sue Smolski, Worship Associate Coordinator

Worth Your Time

by David Newton

During the first of this year's summer services in Fellowship Hall on Sunday July 3, member Judy Robbins presented an excellent sermon, ***Let Freedom Ring***. It deserves a wider audience and, as many of you know, the electronic broadcast was not normal, so you may have missed the opportunity to hear this superb presentation. And, given the pre-holiday date coinciding with many vacation plans, you might have been traveling.



So, here is ***Let Freedom Ring***; read it [here](#), and enjoy.

USH Community

Warning about Phishing emails

We have received notices from several congregation members that spammers are sending along solicitations to congregational members supposedly from a staff member using an incorrect address requesting gift cards. The sending address is not valid and you should know the matter is a scam.



Please delete accordingly. We show, below, an example of this particular scam, though there are various similar versions. You will **never** be asked to give gift cards or such items by email. If you have any questions please check with Buffie Pinney, David Newton, or Tina Davies.

This is how the latest scam begins:

"Hi, I've been working on incentives for some of our diligent staff but I've been very busy with Church duties and i aimed at surprising some of them with gift cards. I believe you're the best person to do this for me discreetly.

The email goes on to caution about a 'surprise' element and maintaining confidentiality. A solicitation for money for gift cards is implied. The anonymous writer appeals to the reader's vanity: "I believe you're the best person to do this for me discreetly."



USH Calendar of Events

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

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

Social Justice



The Village for Families and Children — Uniform Fundraiser 2022

by Joanne Orlando

Since 2013 The Unitarian Society of Hartford has contributed to the school Uniform Fundraiser at The Village for Families and Children. The Village, whose main campus is our next door neighbor, is a social service agency that has been serving families and children in Greater Hartford for over 200 years.

It feels like school just ended, or perhaps never happened last year. For families in underserved communities the reality of the next school year, especially the need to buy school supplies including school specific uniforms, is all too real.

The Uniform Fundraiser helps 600 families buy uniforms for their children. Each uniform, one top and one bottom costs approximately \$30.

USH is participating in the Uniform Fundraiser again this summer . The Fundraiser ends on August 19. Please donate as you are able. Any amount is welcome.

You may donate in the Sunday offering basket, or via our [online giving portal](#) (remember to indicate “The Village”). Checks may be mailed to the church

(Unitarian Society of Hartford, 50 Bloomfield Ave., Hartford, CT, 06105) with *Village* in the memo line.

Thank you for thinking of the children.



West Hartford Pride Day Festival

Unitarian Society of Hartford & Universalist Church of West Hartford
 Left to right: Steve Leibin, a UCWH volunteer, Dana Donovan, and Judy Sullivan

Food Bank Information

Food donations for all area towns go down in the Spring and Summer months while hungry individuals and families remain.

If you are a West Hartford resident, the Food Bank is at West Hartford Town Hall.

Here are this week's needs:

Pasta

Tomato sauce

Baked beans

Canned tuna

Canned chicken

Spaghetios

If you live in another area town, you can check on your local 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! Thanks!

~Diana Heymann

Chalice Clubhouse

HAPPENING IN SUMMER:



The Chalice Clubhouse at USH

The Chalice Clubhouse is a fun, child-centric curriculum fostering individuality and free-thinking, using the Seven Principles as our guiding compass. For summer, we will have a freeform classroom set up with different activities available from week to week for children and youth to participate in, including arts and crafts, opportunities for dramatic play, cooperative games, meditation sessions, and much more!

Our Clubhouse is open on Sunday mornings to all children and youth present. **Please note that there will be no Time for All Ages during the summer, so youth and children who wish to participate in RE programming should be in the Paysen Miller chapel (which is located directly behind the main sanctuary) when service begins at 10 am, or be dropped off there when their family arrives for service.**

We hope to see you there!



Summer Reading List for USH!

Throughout the year, we enjoyed stories during our Time for All Ages that reflected our Unitarian Universalist Principles in action. We met a little robot looking for the meaning of love, a raccoon going off to school for the first time, and Civil Rights icon Ruby Bridges during our reading journeys this year. Missed a story, or would you like to hear one again? No worries!

The complete listing of stories read, or inspired by, our TFAA throughout the last six months at USH is here! Some will be available for children and youth to read at The Chalice Clubhouse this summer, or can be checked out at your local library! The full list will be available online soon, and paper copies will be available on Sundays at The Meeting House.

Happy reading!



Share Your Snacks for



Summer!

Summer is the time of year when we relax, travel, and most importantly...snack! Share photos of your summer snacks with us on Facebook with the hashtag **#USHSummerSnacks** and show us what we should be craving! Be it ice cream out with friends, fresh salads from the garden, steaming lobster by the shore, or cotton candy at the local fair, we want to see it! Share on Facebook with the hashtag **#USHSummerSnacks**, or email your submissions to re4ush@gmail.com or hartfordusociety@gmail.com.

And don't forget to donate to USH's food pantry partners! Summer should be a time of plenty for all! Contact Diana Heyman at heydiana42@gmail.com for additional information!

Programs & Events

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

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 janicnewton@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 2022-2023 USH Board of Directors effective July 1, 2022

Eve Pech: President

Dana Donovan: President-Elect

Jon Covault: Treasurer

Sarah Harmon McKenzie: Secretary

Peter Meny: Spiritual Life Council Chair

Paul Cipriano: Administration Council Chair

Judy Sullivan: Social Justice Council Chair

Tina Davies: Community Within Council Chair

The July board meeting is scheduled for July 12, 6:30 p.m.

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 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. 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/>

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Patty Peck, Bookkeeper – Office or Phone by Appointment
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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