

# Unitarian Society of Hartford



**Nourishing Spirit, Building Community, Working for Justice**

**Building Community Since 1830**

**Unitarian Society of Hartford**

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

**Tel: (860) 233-9897 • Email: [hartfordusociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartfordusociety@gmail.com)**

**[www.ushartford.org](http://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 27, 2022**

**July 31, 2022: 10:00 a.m.**

**"Both Sides Now: Living In the Contrast"**

**Brian Harvey, Pulpit Guest**

**Rick Tsukada, Worship Associate**

**Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries**

**Annie Witzler, interim RE Director, will be with the children today in the Chalice Clubhouse (a/k/a The Chapel).**

**Helen David, Welcome Table**

**Annie Witzler, Greeter**

**Matters of the Heart:**

Electronically by 9 am Sunday: email [HartfordUUHeart@gmail.com](mailto: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.

**Brian Harvey, Pulpit Guest**

Brian Harvey was born and raised in Chicago IL. He was a construction surveyor in the US Army Corps of Engineers from 1968-71, then continued to work in construction and did some freelance graphic design until a friend introduced him to computer programming in 1976. He was able to blend statistical analysis and graphics throughout the rest of his career until his retirement in 2011. He is a lifetime golfer, a sometimes Cubs fan, and loves walking through cities observing the architecture and the people.

**Rick Tsukada, Worship Associate**

Rick loves fresh corn, doing nothing, channel surfing and watching other people work. That's it!



**Sunday Welcome  
Volunteers are STILL  
Needed!!**

Please see Sign Up Genius  
Link [HERE](#) to volunteer for Sunday  
services. Summer is vacation  
season, but we really do need your  
help.



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

***Congregational Matters***

Regarding our search for a contract minister:  
USH's primary UUA contact, Rev. Keith Kron,  
returns from a short sabbatical next week and  
will be working his digital Rolodex on our

behalf. (Rolodex??? Where did *that* come from?)

In the meantime, our exceptionally dedicated and gifted team of Worship Associates has been planning worship through the end of 2022, and the Caring Network is keeping a protective eye on those of us who "get by with a little help from our friends". Many thanks to all those who are working *much* harder than they thought they'd signed up for!

***The National Register of Historic Places:  
Meeting Summary, Part II***

An information session/hearing, about the prospect of seeking designation of our Unitarian Meeting House as a "national historic place", was held on Sunday, July 17. A Building and Grounds sub-group comprising Toni Gold, Laura Stewart Cipriano, and Jim Venneman has been working on this project for several months, researching potential benefits and drawbacks, if any, of such a designation. On 7/17 the subcommittee, joined by Mary Falvey (Executive Director of the Hartford Preservation Alliance) shared their findings with approximately 50 members of the Society (in person and via a Zoom connection). Comments and questions were then solicited.

Last week we recounted background discussions, and we now delve a bit further into what that might mean for USH. Also, at the end of this article there is a link to the full transcript as reviewed and edited by Toni Gold. Picking up where we left off:

***6. If we were to be so designated, how does this affect our ability to make changes to our building?***

First, only proposed changes to the exterior which (a) require a building permit and (b) are visible from the street require some consideration here. When exterior work requires a building permit, then the City of Hartford, as part of its regular permitting review, will ask for approval from its Historic Preservation Review Board, made up of knowledgeable citizens who will not oppose a change that meets National Register criteria. The standard is to repair with same or similar materials. If you are changing the material on a roof – going from shingles to tiles, for instance – then you need a review. (Landscaping is not covered).

Generally, if repairs are involved, the materials used should be consistent with the original materials. Replacing concrete with brick, for instance, would not pass muster. However, as new materials are developed, new standards are often implemented to allow use of a new, and structurally superior, material with the appearance of the older substance. The review considers each situation individually.

Understand, too, that because our building is considered *eligible* (more than 50 years old and of architectural significance) a review would be called for regardless of whether we indeed had been listed. Even if we have not received official recognition, the fact of eligibility drives a review. Further, such proposed alterations would be subject to zoning regulations, separate from the historic review.

***7. Would we, or a successive owner, be permitted to demolish the building if it were (for example) to sustain serious damage?***

The questions that will be asked of a proposed demolition are: (a) are

there reasonable and (b) feasible (as measured by the expense of the change) alternatives? These are the two criteria that apply to such a situation. This causes most owners to contemplate alternative plans to demolition. There would be a review, and usually an alternative is worked out.

***8. What about the interior?***

We can do what we like with the interior, as long as structural integrity is not adversely affected. Improvements which extend the utility and life of the building may even qualify for grant-funding from the state, as these types of projects often contribute positively to the objective of preservation.

***9. Can we sell the building? If so, how would the purchasers be affected?***

Yes, ownership can be transferred, and the new owner is subject to the provisions of the historic designation. The fact that the building is listed on the National Register may be a selling point, as the process to obtain the designation will already have been accomplished.

***10. If we were to sell the property, what happens to the Memorial Garden?***

Years ago the board established that a representative portion of the Memorial Garden be transported to our new location, and would form the basis of a Memorial Garden there. We would thus take our Memorial Garden with us, along with the identifying plaques naming those interred.

***11. What are the downsides of listing on the National Register?***

The Building and Grounds sub-committee was unable to perceive disadvantages of having our building listed on the National Register.

\* \* \* \* \*

What we have done here, last week and this, is address a few of the most pertinent areas of interest demonstrated during the meeting on July 17. Toni Gold has now compiled a more fully organized and complete account of that meeting, and it is on our website. Please go [HERE](#) to see more of the discussion.

## *Summer Services*

### *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 31 through September 4**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Fellowship Hall, in person and livestreamed**

**Pulpit Guests/Worship Associates:**

**July 31 – *Both Sides Now: Living in the Contrast***

Brian Harvey/ Rick Tsukada

**August 7 – *Stillness and Flow: Yogic Spirituality***

Lucille Giammetteo and Michael Michaud/Sue Smolski

**August 14 – *Receiving Generously:*** Rev. Erica Baron (UUA)/Margaret Leicach

**August 21 – *The Importance of Aunts, Uncles, and Other Influential***

***People*** John Bengtson/Laurie Kelleher

**August 28 – *It's OK to Not Be OK:*** Carol Simpson/Judy Robbins

**September 4 – *Music in My Mother's House:*** Fred Louis/Sue Smolski

**Come to Summer Worship at USH!**

*Sue Smolski, Worship Associate Coordinator*

p.s.: **INGATHERING SUNDAY** is September 11 this year.  
The Worship Associates have planned services through September and have begun planning for the fall months as well.



## *USH Community*



### *Coming Soon — Veggie Abundance Table*

How is *your* garden growing this year? Are you overrun yet with vast quantities of squash, tomatoes, eggplants? Here's a call to all USH gardeners — share your surplus produce with the rest of us, and benefit USH! Starting **August 7**, there'll be a table set up to accept your garden's abundance. Bring your excess veggies for 'purchase' by the garden-deprived. We, in turn, can shop for supper right at Coffee Hour – through free-will donations to the contributions basket on the table. You share your veggies, we share our cash, and everyone benefits! (Thanks very much to the Stewardship folks who planted this idea.)

While you're there, why not take a few minutes to browse the adjacent book table for a summer reading treat or two? Remember, books are *FREE* all through August!



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](mailto:re4ush@gmail.com) or [hartforduusociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartforduusociety@gmail.com).

And don't forget to donate to USH's food pantry partners... summer should be a time of plenty for all, though the reality is sadly otherwise for many. Contact Diana Heyman at [heydiana42@gmail.com](mailto:heydiana42@gmail.com) for additional information.

## *Social Justice*



### **The Village for Families and Children Fundraiser 2022**

The Village for Families and Children, above on the right, and The Unitarian Society on the left are close neighbors.

The Village for Families and Children has been providing care for over 200 years for children and families in Greater Hartford.

Among its programs The Village partners with eight schools. In the school setting, The Village provides mental health services during the day, after school programs and family support.

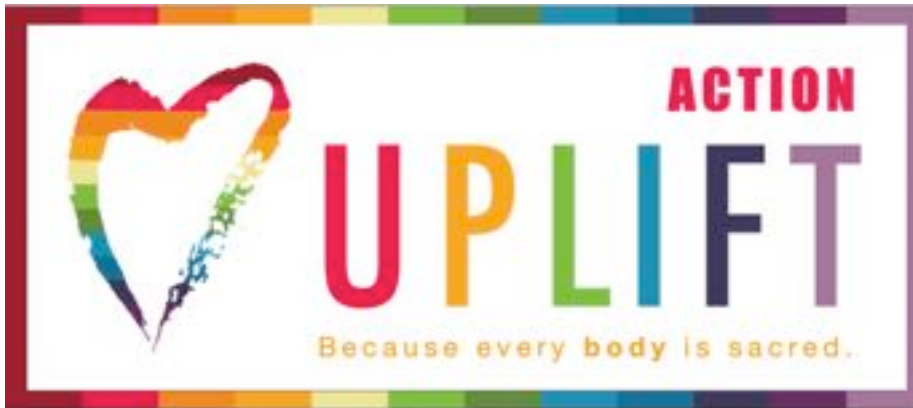
Children who attend Hartford schools wear uniforms. For families in underserved communities, buying uniforms for the next school year can be a financial struggle. In response to this need, The Village is holding its Annual Uniform fundraiser.

As it has in the past USH is taking part in this Uniform Fundraiser for our next-door neighbor. Any amount is welcome, nothing is too small.

Donations may be made through the [Online Giving Portal](#) (indicate Village), the donation basket and checks with Village in the memo line, may be mailed to The Unitarian Society of Hartford, 50 Bloomfield Ave, Hartford, Ct 06105.

**The Fundraiser ends August 19<sup>th</sup>.**

**Thank you for to continuing to support our neighbors.**



## *Reproductive Justice 101*

In response to the Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs v Jackson*, UUA's Side With Love has undertaken a campaign to work for reproductive justice.

UPLIFT Action is this campaign – working for LGBTQIA+, Gender, and Reproductive Justice.

A few of us from USH are currently participating in their training for UU congregations to assess the reproductive justice and resources in our state. See link [HERE](#) for website info.

When our training is complete (early August) we will offer opportunities to share and discuss what we have learned and where the congregation wants to put energy and resources. Meanwhile, I will pass on some of what was presented as a general introduction to this work.

The Guttmacher Institute is a research organization – you can find their interactive map, click on individual states to see legislative policies, and access issues. See Link [HERE](#).

What surprised me the most (so far!) is the difference between "Choice" and "Access". I want to share a short (6 minutes) video with you that is a great explanation of the difference between Reproductive Justice, reproductive health and reproductive rights.

Link below:

[video on “Choice vs. Access” from Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest.](#)

**Please email me with any questions or comments.**

**Working for justice,**

*Judy*

**jasullivan57@gmail.com**

**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:

**Soup – almost out!**

**Canned tuna**

**Shelf stable milk – either almond or 2%**

**Baked beans**

**Mac and cheese**

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!**

## Fall Registration for RE is Now



### Open!

It's that time of year again... time to register for the 2022-2023 Religious Education year at USH! Forms are available online [HERE](#) and paper copies will be available at the welcome table throughout the summer! Only one form is required per family. Sign up today to be first in line for fun activities upcoming this fall and beyond.

Please contact Annie Witzler ([re4ush@gmail.com](mailto:re4ush@gmail.com)) for additional information.

## Make A Difference



Fall is fast approaching and we have several exciting and rewarding opportunities available in

the RE program. You can fill out the quick and easy sign-up form online [here](#), or pick up a paper copy this Sunday at the RE sign-in table. Thank you for your ongoing support of the next generation of USH! Please feel free to contact me anytime at [re4ush@gmail.com](mailto:re4ush@gmail.com) or 706-248-9438 for any additional information.

- **Annie Witzler, Interim Coordinator of Religious Education**

Below are our available volunteer opportunities for the 2022-2023 USH RE Program:

### Chalice Clubhouse Instructors:

- Age/Grade Range: Kindergarten thru 6th grade.
- Role Description: Instructors will be asked to provide a fun-loving, responsible, and welcoming presence for Chalice Clubhouse participants. We will do crafts, play games, and have discussions throughout the year with the 7 Principles as our guiding compass in all we do. **This role is ideal for those who enjoy working with elementary-aged children.**
- Number of Roles Available: 3-5.
- Time Commitment: At least one Sunday a month.

### Youth Group Instructors:

- Age/Grade Range: 6th thru 12th grade.
- Role Description: Instructors will be asked to provide an empathetic, responsible, and open-minded presence for Youth Group participants. We will have discussions weekly, make our famous soup for both the Congregation and Hartford's soup kitchens monthly, and craft a Youth Service at the end of the year. The 7



Principles will be the cornerstone of all our meetings as our youth discover their identities and freely express themselves. **This role is ideal for those who enjoy working with middle and high school-aged youth.**

- Number of Roles Available: 2-3.
- Time Commitment: At least two Sundays a month.

## Nursery Volunteers:

- Age/Grade Range: Infants, toddlers, and Pre-K.
- Role Description: Volunteers will be asked to provide a friendly, responsible, and nurturing presence for all nursery participants. We will facilitate free play for those who feel the need to be active, comfortable spaces for those feeling a bit tired, and a safe embrace for those wishing to be held. We hold the 7 Principles close in our hearts as we watch over our youngest participants as they begin their journey of self-discovery and learning. **This role is ideal for those who enjoy working with infants, toddlers, and Pre-Kindergarten aged children.**
- Number of Roles Available: 3-4.
- Time commitment: At least one Sunday a month.

## Substitute Instructors:

- Age/Grade Range: All.
- Role Description: Instructors will be asked to provide a substitute role in one of our RE groups, be it the Chalice Clubhouse, Youth Group, or Nursery, and provide a warm, responsible, and open-minded presence to our RE participants. They will be assisted by fellow volunteers regardless of the position they are asked to fill in for. **If there is a specific group you would feel more comfortable being a substitute for, please feel free to specify when you sign up.**
- Number of Roles Available: 3-5.
- Time commitment: At least one Sunday a month.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** We ask all volunteers working with children and youth to submit a Connecticut State Background check before they enter our classrooms. Stop by the RE office to pick up a quick, easy form!



## *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](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**

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](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 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 August board meeting is scheduled for August 9, 6:30 p.m. Access link [HERE](#) and in the USH calendar via this [LINK](#)**

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 **May and June 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](mailto: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/](http://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](mailto:smoffettuu@gmail.com) | 860-233-9897 ext. 108**

**Annie Witzler, Interim Religious Education Coordinator  
[re4ush@gmail.com](mailto:re4ush@gmail.com) | 860-233-9897 ext. 104**

**Patty Peck, Bookkeeper – Office or Phone by Appointment  
[ushtreasurer50@gmail.com](mailto:ushtreasurer50@gmail.com) 860-233-9897 ext. 102**

**Buffie Pinney, Office Administrator & Building Rentals  
[hartforduusociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartforduusociety@gmail.com) | 860-233-9897 ext. 100**

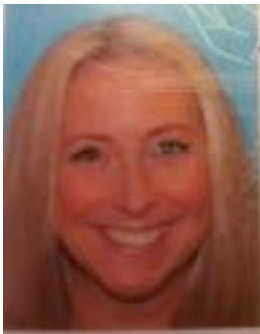


## USH Calendar of Events

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

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

### *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

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

Buffie is *always* happy to hear from you!

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!



Images courtesy of Buffie at USH