

Unitarian Society of Hartford



Nourishing Spirit, Building Community, Working for Justice

**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.

August 24, 2022



August 28, 2022: 10 a.m.

"It's OK to be Not OK"

Compassion for others begins with kindness to ourselves.

~ Pema Chodron

Carol Simpson, Pulpit Guest
Judy Robbins, Worship Associate
Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries

Annie Witzler, Interim RE Director, will meet with the children
in the Chapel today.

Helen David, Welcome Table
Dana Donovan, Greeter
Lu Giammatteo & Mimi Stevenson, Ushers

Matters of the Heart:

Electronically by 9 a.m. Sunday: email 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.

Carol Simpson, Pulpit Guest



Carol Simpson has been a UU since she joined the Unitarian Universalist Society: East of Manchester in 1995. She has a Masters in Marriage and Family Therapy and graduate training in Gestalt and Bioenergetic therapy. After her retirement as a psychotherapist, she and her husband, Bob Hewey, moved to Seabury. They have two adult children and three young-adult grandsons. Carol is a member of both the Unitarian Society of

Hartford and UUS:E, Manchester.

Judy Robbins, Worship Associate

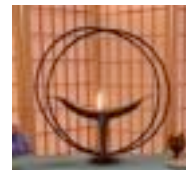
Judy Robbins, a UU since the late 1960s, has devoted herself to USH since her retirement as a psychologist. She is a founder of the successful SpiritLife programs that serve the three area UU churches. Watch the e-news for SpiritLife to resume in September!



Summer Services

Still Living Fully

Summer Worship in Fellowship Hall, in person and livestreamed at 10 a.m.



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

Smolski, Worship Associate

INGATHERING SUNDAY is September 11.

We move back into the Sanctuary, for worship at **10:30**.

Congregational Matters



***NEW CHURCH
YEAR BEGINS with
INGATHERING and LUNCH on
September 11 at 10:30 a.m.***

Our traditional Ingathering Service signals the start of the church year in the sanctuary. This year it will be in three parts: 1) a dedication of the new sanctuary lights; 2) our traditional Water Ceremony; and 3) a hybrid simple pot-luck/picnic-style lunch at coffee hour time. In the Water Ceremony, (sterilized!) water from years past is mixed with new water from your summer travels or, perhaps your back yard or kitchen tap. Bring a small quantity of water to add to the communal "water chalice." The traditional coffee hour will include hot dogs, hamburgers, and veggie burgers for all who care to partake. If you are moved to bring a contribution of a "finger food" or dessert, please do, but it is optional. (Finger food can be eaten out-of-hand or easily with a plastic fork. "Keep It Simple" is a good principle here.) You can come empty-handed and still be fed!



Want to bring something to share? Or assist with grilling, serving, and/or cleanup? Contact Tina Davies (daviesush@gmail.com) or Annie Witzler (re4ush@gmail.com) to let them know how you'd like to contribute!



Welcome Team Sign-Up

Volunteer to be a greeter, usher, or to staff the welcome table this fall. Simple, rewarding short-term commitments helping extend hospitality to members and visitors.

Use the Sign-Up Genius app [here](#) to be part of our Sunday Morning Welcome Team.



USH Community



FINAL DAY!

Support The Village, and the Kids THE VILLAGE FOR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN UNIFORM FUNDRAISER DEADLINE EXTENSION

The deadline for the 2022 Uniform
Fundraiser HAS BEEN EXTENDED

THROUGH **TODAY**, WEDNESDAY AUGUST 24.

School is just around the corner-Hartford's first day is August 29. The Village for Families and Children still needs uniforms as the number of children served by The Village has grown.

Going back to school can be an anxious time for children. Having enough to buy uniforms for their children be a stretch for many families. Let us help children ,like those pictured above, go back to school with pride, in their school uniforms, by donating to The Village uniform fundraiser.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE ALREADY GIVEN

Donations may be made until WEDNESDAY August 24. Please give as you are able, no amount is too small.

Did UU Know?

Ambulatory Luminaries

Have you ever noticed that the numerous rooms off the Ambulatory of our church are named after (you might have guessed) various Unitarian or



Universalist luminaries? This is the ninth of several articles that will attempt to shine a light on who these Ambulatory Luminaries were and why they merit the honor of being named to these locations. Read more about our ambulatory [here](#).

Theodore Parker, 1810 – 1860 (Room 12)

by Toni Gold

Theodore Parker was an American transcendentalist and reforming minister of the Unitarian Church. His words and popular quotations would later inspire speeches by Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King Jr. He is descended from a line of New England Puritan pioneers and patriots, graduated from the Harvard Divinity School in 1836, followed by a call to the ministry of the Unitarian Church in West Roxbury, Massachusetts.

In 1841 Parker preached a sermon establishing him as a firebrand. He said that the traditions of historic Christianity did not reflect the truth, thus making an open break with orthodox theology. He argues instead for Christian belief in which the essence of Jesus's teachings remained permanent, but the words, traditions, and other forms of their conveyance did not. He stressed the immediacy of God and saw the Church as a communion, looking upon Christ as the supreme expression of God, but rejected all miracles and revelation and saw the Bible as full of contradictions and mistakes. He suggested that people experience God intuitively and personally.

The debate over the nature and degree of Parker's "infidelity" caused Unitarians to adopt a liberal creed, which they had formerly declined to do, but their position still proved too orthodox for Parker.

He resigned his West Roxbury pastorate in early 1846; Parker's new congregation, the 28th Congregational Society of Boston, grew to 2,000 —

then three percent of Boston's population — and included influential figures such as Louisa May Alcott, William Lloyd Garrison, Julia Ward Howe, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

After 1846, Parker shifted from a focus on Transcendentalism and challenging the bounds of Unitarian theology to a focus on the gathering national debate over slavery. In Boston, he led the movement to combat the Fugitive Slave Act, which required law enforcement and citizens of all states— free states as well as slave states — to assist in recovering fugitive slaves. Parker called the law "a hateful statute of kidnappers" and helped organize open resistance to it. He and his followers formed the Boston Vigilance Committee, which refused to assist with the recovery of fugitive slaves and helped hide them. As a result of such efforts, from 1850 to the onset of the American Civil War in 1861, only twice were slaves captured in Boston and transported back to the South. On both occasions, Bostonians opposed the actions with mass protests.

He supported the abolitionist John Brown, whom many considered a terrorist. After Brown's arrest, Parker wrote a public letter, "John Brown's Expedition Reviewed", arguing for the right of slaves to kill their masters, and defending Brown's actions.

Following a lifetime of overwork, Parker's ill health forced his retirement in 1859. He developed tuberculosis, a disease then without effective treatment. He died on May 10, 1860, less than a year before the outbreak of the Civil War.

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

Social Justice

*You, Too, Can Be A Poll Worker...
helping to nurture the democratic process!*



Tuesday, August 16, was **National Poll Worker Recruitment Day** – who knew?? I happened to receive an email from Power the Polls and with a few easy clicks found information about becoming a poll worker for my town. So – I signed up – I didn’t have it on my bucket list, but since President Obama asked so nicely...

“Signing up to be a poll worker is one of the most effective things you can do to help make sure our democracy works — and to push back against anyone who tries to spread confusion and chaos on Election Day.” — **Barack Obama, former President of the United States**

Power the Polls unites nonprofits and businesses to help recruit and support these workers by:

- ° Educating potential voters about the opportunity to work Election Day polling places.
- ° Creating efficient and effective programming that ensures poll workers sign up and then show up when they are needed.
- ° Activating businesses to give their workers Election Day off so they can serve.

Power the Polls relies on objective data about poll worker requirements and applications collected from over 5,000 jurisdictions assembled by the non-partisan Fair Elections Center. Information is available on poll worker compensation, hours, application links, training and voter registration requirements.

Below is the magic link to find out more about poll working in **your** town:

<https://www.powerthepolls.org/search>

Maybe this really is on your bucket list!

Working for Justice,
Judy Sullivan



Follow up on 'Libraries on the Attack'

Louise Harmon

Remember Kate Byroade's sermon in which she described her struggles over banning books at the Colchester Library where she is the Director? Judy Sullivan reported on it in the **August 3 USH enews**. If you want to watch the video of Kate's sermon, here

is the link:

<https://vimeo.com/721916454> (Video of sermon begins at 36 minutes.)

Recently, ***On the Media*** did a podcast on the assault on public libraries and school libraries. ***Reading the Room*** describes these attacks on the freedom of expression--- and the rights of our children to learn about the world. It puts Kate's important advocacy into perspective. Here is a link to the podcast.

<https://www.wnycstudios.org/podcasts/otm/episodes/on-the-media-reading-the-room>

You can also find it as a podcast from WNYC Studios, *On the Media*. The *Reading the Room* episode is dated Friday, August 12.

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
Canned Tuna
Canned Chicken

Canned pasta (like spaghetti)
Packaged Macaroni 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!

Grocery bags are now being collected by the office door rather than the main entrance.

~Diana Heymann

RE and Chalice Clubhouse



**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!

We hope to see you there!



Remember to Register for Fall RE!

It's that time of year again... time to register for the 2022-2023 Religious Education year at USH! We have exciting opportunities for every age range coming up this year!

Forms are available online for printing or [online completion](#), 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!

There are also plenty of [opportunities for volunteering with the RE program](#) as well! Please contact Annie Witzler (re4ush@gmail.com) for additional information.



The school buses are back on the roads and the backpacks are filling up! We wish all our members and friends, whether you're beginning Pre-K or your residency, a smooth and productive year of learning!

We hope to see you on Sundays this fall for our RE programming!

Programs & Events



***Monday Mornings
@ 10***

6 weeks

9/12 – 10/17

**Lucille Giammatteo will
lead one-hour yoga**

sessions in the Meditation Room.

Please wear comfortable clothing and, if possible, be barefoot during class. If 'barefoot' is not your preference, socks are fine. We will be doing Chair Yoga, but for those wishing to bring and use a yoga mat... that is also fine. There is still room for 2 more people.

Yoga is not a competitive sport...always listen to your body and enjoy the many benefits of stretching, breathing, and mindfulness.

Autumn Programs (and Possibilities...)

Coming up: new and revived occasions to gather for shared conversation, fellowship, and camaraderie. Here are some opportunities —

Gentle Yoga – See description above. There are still a couple of openings for this class beginning **Monday, September 12**.

The Lunch Bunch – Resumes **Tuesday, September 20** at Concetta's in Bloomfield. Join your USH friends at this monthly lunch-plus-speaker interlude.

Pizza and Movie Nights – The movies will return, starting **Friday October 14** and continuing on the 2nd Friday each month through June.

We have a couple of people interested in planning and organizing **Connection Circles**... if you'd like to join this endeavor, let us know by emailing enewsush@gmail.com with "SGM" in the subject line.

INVITATION FROM THE BOOK GROUP

Our UU Book Group invites you to join us in reading our September selection – Search, by Michelle Huneven. This novel focuses on a fictional search for a Unitarian minister. Because we will soon be going through this process “in real life,” you will find this book educational as well as entertaining.

One reviewer says this of the book: “It’s a front row seat to a juicy in-fight that’s all too familiar to anyone who’s ever tried to get something done by committee... The narrator of Search reflects that ministry... is about asking, ‘How do we live in this world?’ and this novel suggests many possible answers, touching on friendships, food, charisma, gossip, the notion of home, and the challenge of making all those things meaningful.” (Sanjena Sarhian).

Another reviewer comments: “The wondrous Search tells the story of a group of people whose task is to unify around an important decision, and... rest assured that this droll novel will demonstrate in hilarious and painful detail all the ways in which our best intentions run afoul of how powerfully we want what we want.” (Ann Packer)

Enjoy the reading.

If you want to participate in (or listen to) a discussion of the book and related issues, join us on Thursday, September 8 at 2:30, by Zoom or a hybrid meeting.

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 2022/23

Second Thursday of each month

September 8 – Search by Michelle Huneven
October 13 – Tasha: A Son's Memoir by Brian Morton
November 10 – Girls of Tender Age by Mary-Ann Tyrone Smith
December. 8 – Midnight Library by Matt Haig
January 12 – Things We Lost in the Water by Eric Nguyen
February 9 – The Premonition by Michael Lewis
March 9 – The Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles
April 13 – Power: The limits and prospects for human survival by Richard Heinberg
May 11 – Beloved by Toni Morrison
June 8 – The Book of Lost Friends by Lisa Wingate
July 13 – Matrix by Lauren Groff
August 10 – Mismeasure of Man by Stephen J Gould

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#### **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.

**And** — are you aware of the new Nationwide Mental Health Crisis and Suicide Prevention hotline? If someone close to you... or you, yourself... are experiencing a crisis, you can call *or text* **988** and talk with a counselor. In 2020, the Lifeline answered more than 2.1 million calls and over 200,000 chats. Officials said they hope the three-digit number will be easier to remember than the old 1-800 number, making emergency mental health care more accessible.

## ***Around Greater Hartford: UCONN's "ALP"***

***Lifelong Learners — Do you know ALP?***

***by Carol Simpson***

**ALP** is the UCONN Adult Learning Program. It offers courses in the fall and spring of each year that are a wonderful way to expand your mind and to meet other lifelong learners. Most courses are held at Seabury Retirement Community in Bloomfield. They range from a single two-hour session to several sessions, usually a week apart. The cost, whether you sign up for one or ten courses, is the same -- \$55. This fall, you can choose from 16 multi-session courses and 9 single-session courses. They include: a series of local hikes, a movie discussion, a Great Courses seminar on the American Revolution, Neonatology, Abstract Art, and a History of Witches! The Fall Preview meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, September 6 from 9:30 to 11:30 in the Seabury Chapel where presenters will be introduced, questions will be answered, and you may win a raffle for free tuition. For more information, go to [alp.uconn.edu](http://alp.uconn.edu). Paper copies of the ALP-Horn, the ALP newsletter listing all courses, will be available in mid-August. Watch for it!



(Fun fact: our own Flo Grieb has a long-time involvement with ALP, having just retired from a years of service on their board.)

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.

### **2022-2023 USH Board of Directors**

**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 September board meeting will be 9/13, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom  
link [HERE](#) and in the USH calendar via this [LINK](#)**

**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/>

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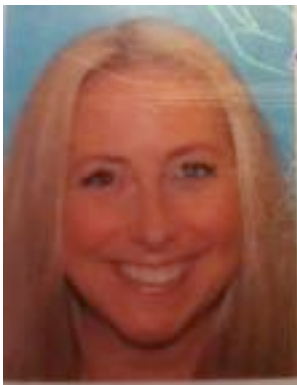


## USH Calendar of Events

**calendar  
for August 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 a.m. – 2 p.m..

Please email her at [hartforduusociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartforduusociety@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)

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

