Unitarian Society of Hartford



Building Community Since 1830

Unitarian Society of Hartford 50 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105

Tel: (860) 233-9897 • Email: hartforduusociety@gmail.com www.ushartford.org

OCTOBER 19, 20922

Office Administrator's Hours: Sunday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Please feel free to email/call for an appointment

October 23, 2022: 10:30 a.m.

What Shared Ministry Means To Me

Rev. Josh Pawelek, Pulpit Guest
Judy Robbins, Worship Associate
Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries
Chancel Art Committee, Chancel Art
Annie Witzler, Interim RE Coordinator, will meet with the children in the Chapel today.

Helen David, Welcome Table
Ginny Hedrick & Dana Donovan, Greeters

Susan Hope & Zean Gassman, 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

10:30 a.m. Hybrid Worship Service

Join us in ZOOM <u>here</u> See Order of Service <u>here</u>

Closed captions are available. Meeting ID: 931 0388 7934

Passcode: 128493

11:30 a.m. – Coffee Hour immediately following the service, in person and ZOOM. Please join us.

You can also watch the Sunday service at https://vimeo.com/unitariansocietyhartford or on the USH Facebook page.

Our October 30 service -- All Souls Day-- will include a Ritual of Remembrance in which we remember loved ones who are no longer with us. There will be a table at the front of the sanctuary where photos and mementos of dear ones can be placed. Take a moment to think about whom you'd like to remember, and what you'd like to add to that table. Please make a note now to bring the items to church with you on October 30.



Pulpit Guest, Rev. Josh Pawelek

The Rev. Josh Pawelek is serving in his 20th year as minister of the Unitarian Universalist Society: East in Manchester. During the past two decades he has provided leadership to a variety of social justice organizations, including the Greater Hartford Interfaith Coalition for Equity and Justice, CT Clergy for Marriage Equality, Moral Monday CT, the Recovery for All Coalition, and

the Domestic Worker Justice Coalition. He lives in Glastonbury with his wife, two sons, three cats, and three chickens.

Worship Associate, Judy Robbins

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.



Sunday Worship

Upcoming Sunday Services: Join us, in person or online.

October 23 – "What Shared Ministry Means To Me" – Rev. Josh Pawelek/Judy Robbins, Worship Associate

October 30 – "A Little Daring" – Rev. Stephen Kendrick/Carol Simpson, Worship Associate.



November 6 – Forum – Judy Robbins, Pulpit Guest/ Sue Smolski, Worship Associate

November 13 — "The Secret Spiritual Lives of Unitarian Universalists" — Judy Robbins, Pulpit Guest/Peter Meny, Worship Associate

November 20 – Title pending – Diane Cadrain, Pulpit Guest/Margaret Leicach, Worship Associate

November 27 – Title pending – Rev. Aaron Payson, Pulpit Guest/Sue Smolski, Worship Associate

Sue Smolski

Worship Associate Coordinator

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 <u>here</u> to be part of our Sunday Morning Welcome Team.

Meeting House Presents – Special Performance!

CALAN!

Between Boston and Brooklyn on the U.S. leg of their AUTUMN THUNDER tour — Meeting House Presents and the

Welsh Society of Western New England bring the Welsh band CALAN to Hartford, Thursday, October 20

When: This Thursday, 7:00 PM

Where: Unitarian Society of Hartford, 50 Bloomfield Avenue,
Hartford CT

What: traditional Welsh band combines song, virtuoso instrumentalists, rhythm, and dance.

See what NPR says about Calan: www.npr.org

Capturing the vibrant spirit of traditional Celtic folk music, the young Welsh quintet Calan is already a staple on the festival circuit across the pond. Calan remains the only Welsh band to have won the "International Folk Band Award" at the Inter Celtic Festival and was named "Best Group" at Festival Interceltique de Lorient.

Accolades aside, the group's mission is two-fold: to spread the word of traditional Welsh music and to keep it contemporary. Singing in both Welsh and English (often in the same song), the melodies evoke mid-century folk songs while the rhythms and textures (some electronic) propel the music comfortably into the 21st Century.

https://www.calan-band.com/ \$20 general admission

tickets: https://calan.brownpapertickets.com or at the door

Two more MHP concerts are planned this fall.

Friday, November 18, 2022 at 7:00 Kevin Gallagher on Jazz Guitar with Peter Woodward on Piano. Friday, December 2, 2022 Oldies Show with Kevin Gallagher.

Details will follow.



From the Board

A Note on Staff Reporting Relationships

Recently, we've become aware of a few interactions between members and staff which prompt clarifying the chain of communication. During this time while we are ministerless, temporary reporting relationships have been established so staff members have designated individuals serving as resources for them. These "resource relationships" were set up so staff would have one or two members familiar with their functions, who can knowledgably help support and provide administrative guidance when necessary.

Our staff serves us best when they can look to recognized sources for direction. We ask that any member's concerns about staff assignments or performance be communicated to me, and I will delegate the issue to the board member designated as that person's primary contact. Thank you.

~ Eve Pech, President

Sermon Reflections



Image: James Webb Space Telescope

Recover and Discovery of Us(H)October 16 Reflection by Rick Tsukada

Take a look at the cover image of today's service. We earthlings received this picture this past July — one of the first images transmitted from the James Webb Space Telescope. James Web was the director of NASA from 1961 – 1968 during the Mercury, Gemini and Apollo programs.

The telescope named after him is the largest optical telescope in space. Its high resolution and sensitivity especially in the infrared frequencies allow it to view objects too old, too distant, or too faint for the Hubble Telescope to see. Incredibly this telescope may allow us to see the first stars and the formation of the first galaxies.

What the Webb telescope is seeing originated many millenia ago, perhaps some of it even at the beginning of our galaxy. I can wrap my mind around centuries but before geological time? ...that eludes me. What you see in that starry, black, deep image happened already, long ago, light years ago yet it is absolutely new to us "now" as that light is just now reaching us. We are in fact recovering and discovering simultaneously... we are learning something new from something that has already happened...that is the subject of today's sermon... what can we learn by recovering our history...what has happened to us? And how might that inform us about our future?

Read Rick's full reflection <u>here</u>:

Congregational Matters

New Art Exhibit in USH Ambulatory

There's a new display of artwork in our ambulatory... these photographs and paintings come to us courtesy of longtime Artist's Way member Martha Bradley, and reflect her personal experiences while traveling. Thanks to Martha for sharing her work with us.

Art in the Ambulatory is by invitation. If you know an artist who may be interested in showing their work, please contact Diane Cadrain.

USH Ambulatory Art Sub-council

Community



USH 2022 Auction – Sunday, November 13

One month remaining until this year's auction! We will have an online silent auction, with bidding open starting October 16 followed by a hybrid live /zoom auction of select items on Sunday November 13 at noon. USH member Bob Hewey is

our auctioneer. The auction provides great additional opportunities to connect and interact as well as contribute to our Stewardship fundraising.

Do you have a special talent, skill, or a unique service to offer? Can you host a dinner? Your donation(s) of a service, teaching, cooking, guiding, craft/art item,

local business gift certificate, guided walk, historical outing, vacation time share {let your imagination run wild} are needed in the next few weeks to generate our catalog of auction items to bid on.

We are using an auction website — www.togetherauction.com/ushartford — that we've used the last few years. This site has preloaded member/friend information, allowing you to sign in to the site easily using your telephone number. Simply the clear directions on the website.

You can enter donated item description or bring forward your description from the 2021 auction if you'd like to start there. Alternatively, you can email us information about items you'd like to post on the auction site at USH.auction2020@gmail.com. Volunteers are needed to contact folks to encourage item donations for the auction as well as to help plan and set up the live auction on November 13th.

Thanks — auction team Michael Michaud, Paul Cipriano, Mike Covault, Ginny

Hedrick, Jon Covault and... YOU?



Soup Crew Excels

by John Bengtson, Sunday, 10/16/22

"We had a good size soup crew today! First time since 2019 that we were able to max out this kitchen with 20 gallons! That means 4 buckets instead of 3

delivered. 2 each to Church St Eats & South Park Inn. We are all very proud of these awesome kids!"

USH Security Planning

The second of two USH Emergency Response workshops is scheduled on Sunday, 10/23, in the sanctuary and on Zoom. We will be guided in preparing for major and minor emergencies by

facilitator Cressy Goodwin, from UUS:E. FEMA-trained, Cressy has helped numerous churches develop emergency plans tailored to their specific needs, and he has offered to work with us in our own efforts. Members of our congregation have inquired about our state of emergency preparation, and the USH board has endorsed developing an up-to-date plan focusing on awareness and action.

The workshops involve not only information and training but also strategies for planning, deterrence, and response. Some systems and policy elements may suggest themselves, and it will be helpful to have representatives from all major "function" areas at these sessions. Board members, Worship Associates, employees, committee chairs — everyone is invited to participate in the workshops. The first session was held 10/9, but if you missed that one, you still can attend on the 23rd. The workshops are not identical — each covers different terrain. Both are better than one, and one is better than none. Friends and members who are trained as fire, police, or EMT responders are especially needed.

There is some sense of urgency as grant money has been released by the state of Connecticut and the application deadline for this year is November 18, 2022. There was some discussion about whether we should make a plan first or if we should apply for the grant this year. The consensus was to try for the grant this year along with making a plan. We have a wish-list from previous Building and Grounds meetings: upgrading camera monitors, motion detectors, keyless entry, a back-up battery for power outages, two-way radios for use in an emergency. We know the list might be completely different after the two planning sessions.

Please join us if you can.

We will provide all the handouts. Please register by Thursday, October 20, so we know how many copies to print and how much pizza to order. Use the registration link below, or email pcipriano01@gmail.com. Let us know if you will attend in person or by Zoom.

For more info: https://ushartford.org/emergency-

planning-task-force/

RSVP registration

link: https://forms.gle/acXztMjPPbgZDG2S7

p.s.: A few folks have noted that it takes a lot longer than two sessions to develop a comprehensive plan. That is quite true; these can be considered an introduction, albeit one packed (we understand) with content and process. However, we will make a beginning, initiating a process which can be amplified and expanded for years, as circumstances dictate. What we **can** do, in these two sessions, is take the first steps, and that will put us farther ahead than we are right now!

Social Justice

Important GHIAA Information

There are several important dates and training opportunities coming up!

Racial Justice Training: GHIAA is hosting introductory racial justice trainings several times over the next six months. The first 3-session training is Thursdays 6 pm – 9 pm October 27, 2022, November 3, 2022 and November 10, 2022. To learn more and to register for the training click here.

<u>GHIAA Orientation</u>: If you are new to GHIAA or interested in learning more please join us for one of two 90-minute orientation sessions being held this fall. This orientation is required prior to taking the core team training which will be offered in February (dates TBD). Please share with members of your congregation who may have an interest in serving on your core team. **Register for GHIAA orientation by** <u>clicking here</u>.

• **Option 1** –Zoom/Online, Friday, October 25th 12-1:30 pm Virtual, a Zoom Link will be sent the morning prior to the session.

• **Option 2** – In Person, November 9, 6:30-8pm, at Asylum Hill Congregational Church, 814 Asylum Avenue, Hartford.

GHIAA POWER SUMMIT - SAVE THE DATE! Wednesday, December 7th (7pm to 9pm) at Central Connecticut State University. This will be a large GHIAA Action where we officially launch campaigns, negotiate with legislators and other power brokers, and welcome new GHIAA members. Details for turn out and other issues will be sent to core teams shortly!

Cori Nicewander Executive Director (If you have any questions for USH members, you can speak to Diana Heymann or Judy Sullivan)



hawkwing is October's GNO Recipient

by Diana Heymann

Our Good Neighbor Offering for October goes to *hawkwing* which, "for more than 20 years, has served the people of Cheyenne River Sioux/Lakota Tribe (CRST) in South Dakota. It works to

empower The People of CRST to enhance health and education, end hunger, bring clean water, and empower individuals to overcome generational repression through programs focused on personal and community development." Its vision is that "the People of Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe get the chance to live healthy, fulfilling lives free from generational trauma and hardship while building better relationships among all people."

For more information, visit www.hawkwing.org

You can donated to **hawkwing** throughout October; there will be a

50/50 split of funds between USH/hawkwing (unless specified for another purpose) by:

- Giving in person during the Sunday offering;
- Mailing a check to USH; Use the memo line to indicate "pledge"; GNO-100% or 50/50 or
- Donating online at the USH website.



Good News for September Good Neighbor Offering

Thank you for your generosity in

donating to CIRI (CT Institute for Refugees and Immigrants) during the month of September. The total raised is \$1,186.70 and will contribute to CIRI's work of refugee resettlement, rental assistance, workforce readiness and employment support throughout the state. We appreciate the good work of our Good Neighbor, CIRI.

Mid-Term Elections are November 8, 2022

What's new this year?

Connecticut's November general election ballot will let voters weigh in on a state constitutional amendment that would allow the Connecticut General Assembly to introduce early in-person voting. The question will be; "Shall the Constitution of the State be amended to permit the General Assembly to provide for early voting?" Voters can vote "yes" or "no."

A "**yes**" vote <u>supports</u> amending the state constitution to authorize the state legislature to provide by law in-person early voting before an election.

A "**no**" vote <u>opposes</u> amending the state constitution, thereby maintaining that early voting is not authorized in the state.

Connecticut is one of 4 states that does not allow early voting. To make this major change, the state constitution would have to be amended. The amendment to the Connecticut Constitution would allow the Connecticut General Assembly to pass laws allowing early voting. In states that permit early voting, a voter does not have to provide an excuse for being unable to vote on Election day.

During the 2021-2022 legislative session, the amendment was introduced as House Joint Resolution 59 (HJR 59). HJR 59 passed the House by a vote 115-26 with 10 absent or not voting. It passed the Senate by a vote of 26-9 with one absent. **YOUR VOTE** on **November 8th** could be the deciding factor in our states next steps!

West Hartford Food Bank Information

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

Here are this week's needs:

Cold cereal
Peanut butter and jelly
Baked beans
Canned tuna and chicken
Canned fruit/applesauce

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



Fall is here and so is fun at USH!

We have exciting opportunities available for ages 0-18!

Signup online here or on Sundays in person at the welcome table!

Please note that there will be no Time for All Ages this weekend, so children who wish to participate in RE programming should be in Fellowship Hall (which is located directly downstairs from the main sanctuary) when service begins at 10:30 am, or be dropped off there when their family arrives for service.

The Sprouts Nursery (Ages Infant-Pre-K):



Our nursery is open to all infants, young children, and their families.

We have dedicated personnel and volunteers there to supervise every week, and the best part? You can now listen and participate in the service while you're there! Nursery go-ers can listen to the service and even participate in our Candles of Memory and Hope ritual.

Come visit any Sunday and never miss a single sermon!



In The Chalice Clubhouse (Grades K-6th):



Last week, our clubhouse participants decorated Fellowship Hall for Youth Soup Sunday. We scrubbed the table tops, put chairs at each table, laid table runners, then added stylish felt pumpkins and decorative bottles. Working together we created a beautiful, festive space for all our congregants to enjoy.



This activity is reflective of our great covenant: "Love is the spirit of this church and service is its law. This is our great covenant. To dwell together in peace, to seek the truth in love, and to help one another." Our church is strongest when we work together. Things are more beautiful, there is enough to share with all, and we feel connected to our fellow congregants.

Next weekend, we will be hearing a story fitting for this season of harvest and sharing and decorating our very own mini-pumpkins.

We hope to see you there!

USH Youth Group (Grades 6th-12th):



This past weekend, our youth group continued their tradition of making soup on the 3rd Sunday of the month for both our congregation and for various soup kitchens around the city of Hartford. They achieved something truly incredible and made a record **20 GALLONS** of chicken and vegetarian soups! Thank you to all eight of our youths and youth leaders for their hard work, and a very special thank you to USH alumni John Bengtson who is the driving force behind this inspiring project!



The USH Youth Group will be meeting for its third session of the fall this weekend, October 23rd. There will be snacks!

They will be continuing their discussions on the concept of identity and how it connects to our seven UU principles.

Any youth who wishes to participate should report directly to The Youth Room (also known as Faustus Socinus) when they arrive. We hope to see you there!

Events & Happenings

Last chance to be part of a Fall Connection Circle

The Tuesday afternoon Connection Circle group starts next week. If that suits your schedule, there are a couple of places still available. If you have been thinking about joining a Connection Circle, there's no time like the present!

Contact Martha Bradley, <u>marthabradley49@yahoo.com</u> or text (860) 305-3307.



UU SpiritLife

The second October SpiritLife Conversation takes place 10/22 on Lao Tsu. We meet on Zoom Saturday mornings, 9 – 10:30. You read an article first and then drop-in to a facilitated discussion with UUs from the three area churches, no registration required. Go to UUSpiritLife.org for the complete

fall schedule and log-in instructions. One of last year's participants said: "Wow, what an interesting, heartful opportunity to go deeper with other UUs!"

Monthly Gatherings

Pizza and Movie Nights – Join us, Friday November 11, for conversation, pizza, a movie, and more conversation (about the movie). "What is the movie?" you ask. We will tell you soon; movies are recommended by your friends at USH who have found them interesting and, perhaps provocative, and worth seeing. For now, you can find out more at the Caring Network table during Coffee Hour.

Second Saturday Sing-Along -

Sing-Alongs, 2nd Saturday each month: NEXT UP: **NOVEMBER 12**. Contact: Fred Louis (FlLouis@yahoo.com) or Ed Savage 860-966-8155 (mobile) (EdSavage03@yahoo.com)



Book Cart Replenishment!

Please help us restock after the summer of giveaways. We are looking for adult fiction, mysteries and non-fiction primarily, and the more recent the edition the better. The idea is to pass on books you really enjoyed.

They can be left in a marked bin in the staff office. Thanks!

INVITATION FROM THE BOOK GROUP

Our UU Book Group invites you to join us in reading our November selection – Girls of Tender Age by Mary-Ann Tirone Smith (see preview* below). Enjoy the reading.

If you want to participate in (or listen to) a discussion of the book and related issues, join us on Thursday, November 10 at 2:30, by Zoom.

Please contact Ginny Allen at <u>fiddlenurse1@gmail.com</u> 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

November 10 - Girls of Tender Age by Mary-Ann Tirone 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

Girls of Tender Age

"Girls of Tender Age" by Mary-Ann Tirone Smith is a revelatory memoir of what life was like for a young Catholic girl living in the south end of Hartford, CT from the mid 1940's to the mid 1950's... the freedoms, the boundaries, the relationships, the ethnicities... the things she knew, and the very scary and tragic things she only learned about through research when she was older. The author paints vivid pictures of this childhood: the streets, stores, play areas, schools, the library and churches as well as the behaviors, both expected and forbidden, that were the stage for growing up in her mid 20th century Hartford environment.

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.

^{*}Our November selection:

Caring Network

<u>From the USH Caring Network:</u> 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. The Nationwide Mental Health Crisis and Suicide Prevention hotline is available by calling or texting **988** to talk with a counselor.

In & Around Greater Hartford

Tales of Hallowe'en at the Bushnell

John Jesensky, our virtuoso instrumentalist back in the late 'aughts, is (briefly) back in town, conductiong



the Hartford Symphony in a program of thrilling musical favorites from the concert hall and silver scree. One of John's own compositions is showcased. This Halloween, take a trip through the world of spooky folklore alongside the Hartford Symphony Orchestra. This concert will be a joyful fright for the whole family!

Costumes are encouraged! Tickets: <u>hartfordsymphony.org</u>

See John's conversation with his alma mater, Hartt School of Music, here:

The latest financial reports for **FY Nov-Dec 2021** have been posted, click <u>HERE</u> to view.

The **2021/22 Annual Report** is available <u>HERE</u>

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 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 November board meeting will be 11/8, 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 <u>HERE</u>.

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. Articles should be sent as email file attachments, and images need to be sent separately as jpeg, jpg, png, tiff, bmp, or gif files. Thanks for cooperating.

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

Patty Peck, 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 a.m. – 2 p.m..

Please email her at hartforduusociety@gmail.com

Buffie is always happy to hear from you!



USH Calendar of Events

The calendar for October 2022 can be viewed <u>HERE</u>.

Please contact Buffie with any questions or concerns.

The deadline for USH Enews submissions is Tuesday at 12 Noon.

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

Email to: hartforduusociety@gmail.com