

# **Unitarian Society of Hartford**



**Building Community Since 1830**

**Unitarian Society of Hartford**

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

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**[www.ushartford.org](http://www.ushartford.org)**

**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**

**NOVEMBER 2, 2022**



**November 6, 2022: 10:30 a.m.**

**"The Coins Are In The Air: A Forum on Decision Making"**

USH Forums are opportunities for us to hear one another deeply as we speak about different topics in our lives. This week we take up the issue of decision-making.

Judy Robbins, Forum Facilitator  
Sue Smolski, Worship Associate  
Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries  
Paula Bazydlo Bleck, Chancel Art  
Annie Witzler, Interim RE Coordinator

Dana Donovan, Welcome Table  
Fred Louis & Peter Meny, Greeters  
Deb Meny & Margaret Leicach, Ushers

Matters of the Heart:  
Electronically by 9 a.m. Sunday: email [HartfordUUHeart@gmail.com](mailto: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 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.**

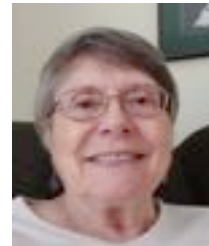


**Forum Facilitator, Judy Robbins**

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.

**Worship Associate, Sue Smolski**

In appreciation for this community of seekers and doers.



**Daylight Savings Time ENDS on  
Sunday, November 6, 2022, 1:00 a.m. local standard time.**



**Remember to set your clocks back!!**

## *Sunday Worship*

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

**November 6** – "The Coins Are In The Air: A Forum on Decision Making" – 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** – "Gratitude" – 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 [here](#) to be part of our Sunday Morning Welcome Team.



## ***Congregational Matters***



### **USH 2022 Auction – Sunday, November 13**

One and a half weeks remaining until this year's auction! There's currently an open online silent auction, (you can visit the site and enter your bids), 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.togethераuction.com/ushartford](http://www.togethераuction.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](mailto: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, and Jon Covault.**

## *Social Justice*



The November Good Neighbor Offering supports Connecticut Foodshare, whose mission is to provide nutritious food to people in need throughout the state. They partner with food retailers, growers, financial donors, and volunteers to source food and distribute it through a network of 500 food access points that include community-based pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, as well as their Mobile Pantries, Dairy Express, and Senior Supplemental Food Program.

According to estimates from Feeding America, more than 490,000 Connecticut residents struggle with hunger; and more than 131,000 children are food insecure. These are people from all walks of life – children, working parents, seniors, or people living with disabilities. They are our neighbors.

Last year, Connecticut Foodshare distributed enough food to prepare nearly 37 million meals to people in need in Connecticut.

We can help fulfill their mission by:

- Donating in November at USH
- Volunteering your time
- Advocate – learn about the issues affecting hunger in our communities and help share the message with our representatives

Learn more at: <https://ctfoodshare.org/>



### You are invited....

**What?** A virtual open house with Hands On Hartford's Co-Director of Housing, Stephanie Boyce, and Renato Salomao,

Manager of Homeless Prevention and Outreach

**Why?** Hear about the Homeless Outreach Program and how we're working to connect folks to services and permanent housing (and any other questions you may have)

**When?** Tuesday, November 8, 12:00 - 1:00 pm

**Where?** By Zoom - please [RSVP HERE](#) (or reply to this email) and we'll send you the Zoom link.

**Questions?** Contact Kate Shafer at [kshafer@handsonhartford.org](mailto:kshafer@handsonhartford.org) or 860-706-1505. Hope to see you in November!

### 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](#).

**GHIAA Orientation:** 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 [clicking here](#).**

- **Option 1** –Zoom/Online, Friday, October 28th 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)

## 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 **supports** amending the state constitution to authorize the state legislature to provide by law in-person early voting before an election.

A **"no"** vote **opposes** 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:

**Rice: 1lb. bags**

**Soup**

**Tuna**

**Chicken-canned**

**cold cereal**

**pasta and sauce**

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 temperature is dropping, but our fun levels are off the charts 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 we will not be holding Time for All Ages this weekend, so children and youth who wish to participate in RE programming should report directly to their classes when they arrive. Locations for all classes are indicated in red under each category!**

### **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! **Located downstairs adjacent to Fellowship Hall.**



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

This past weekend, all our age groups gathered together to celebrate Halloween! We met in Fellowship Hall which was decked out in spider webs, paper lanterns, and plenty of pumpkins. Everyone was sent home with smiles and plenty of prizes (not just candy!).

We dressed up in costumes, acted out scenarios, and even had some brave souls reach into mystery bags to touch a vampire's heart, a zombie's brain, a mummy's skin, a tarantula's fangs, and a sea witch's hair! (They were, in reality, a peeled tomato, a coarse sponge, baked stale tortilla strips, broken up plastic fork tines, and some spaghetti dyed green, never fear).

Gathering as a group, expressing ourselves freely, and sharing our space respectfully is the very foundation of our Unitarian Universalist faith. Below are photos from our spectacular celebrations!





This weekend, November 6, we will be entering into the season of giving with a brand new interactive story and activity.

We hope to see you **downstairs in Fellowship Hall!**

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

Last weekend, our youth group joined forces with the Chalice Clubhouse to enjoy Halloween. They gave their unique ideas, humor, and flare to our activities!





This Sunday, the USH Youth Group will be meeting for its fourth session of the fall. **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!

**Also a huge thanks to Bryant Moore, Jazaira Perez-Acevado, and Nani Perez for their assistance in putting on a wonderful Halloween Sunday for our children and youth! All three of you are absolute rock stars!**

## Events & Happenings



### **UU SpiritLife**

November *SpiritLife Conversations* are 11/5 on Verse 2 of the Tao Te Ching and 11/19 on Insights from a Nondual Rabbi. Saturday mornings 9-10:30. Read the article first at [UUSpiritLife.org](http://UUSpiritLife.org) and then drop-in to a facilitated discussion with UUs from the three area churches, no registration required. For the complete fall schedule, and log-in instruction, go [here](#). One of last year's participants said: "Wow, what an interesting, heartfelt 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). Movies are recommended by your friends at USH who have found them interesting, perhaps provocative, and worth seeing. This month's feature is ***LoneStar***, John Sayles' 1996 mystery/western focusing on power dynamics and ethnic tensions in Texas' borderlands. Chris Cooper, Matthew McConaughey, Kris Kristofferson, Elizabeth Peña, Joe Morton, Frances McSormand. Rated "R". Reserve at the Caring Network table this Sunday; \$15 covers pizza, salad, dessert, non-alcoholic beverages. Feel free to bring your own beer or wine, if that's your preference.

### **Second Saturday Sing-Along –**

Sing-Alongs, 2nd Saturday each month: NEXT UP: **NOVEMBER 12.**

Contact: Fred Louis ( FLouis@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 [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 2022/23***

***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*

\*Our November selection:

**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.

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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. The Nationwide Mental Health Crisis and Suicide Prevention hotline is available by calling or texting **988** to talk with a counselor.

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 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 [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. 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/>

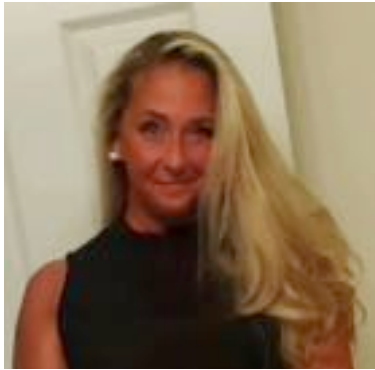
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Annie Witzler, Interim Religious Education Coordinator  
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Buffie Pinney, Office Administrator & Building Rentals  
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*From Buffie's Desk*



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!



USH Calendar of Events

The calendar for November 2022 can be viewed [HERE](#).

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](mailto:hartforduusociety@gmail.com)



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