



Image: Courtesy of Kevin Girouard December 2022

Unitarian Society of Hartford

January 18, 2023

**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 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Monday & Tuesday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Wednesday & Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Please email/call for an appointment.**



January 22, 2023: 10:30 a.m.

“I’m in Charge of Celebrations”

**Martha Bradley, Pulpit Guest
Laurie Kelliher, Worship Associate
Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries
Annie Witzler, Interim RE Coordinator**

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 [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.

"Under the Stairs" — join a few board members for conversation, questions, and updates

**You can also watch the Sunday service
at <https://vimeo.com/unitariansocietyhartford>
or on the USH [Facebook](#) page.**

Mask Update

Due to the uptick in Covid cases in Hartford county, the CDC is recommending wearing a mask in public indoor spaces. Our policy is to follow CDC Guidelines. Accordingly, we urge our congregants to wear masks during our Sunday services and we will have masks available for those who forget to bring them.



Martha Bradley, Pulpit Guest

Martha is a lifelong UU who grew up in Detroit. After graduating from University of Michigan, she taught high school English and Journalism in Michigan, Pennsylvania and Connecticut, and helped found one of the first Charter Schools in Connecticut. Here at USH she has served on the Board, a search committee, and in several other capacities.

Lauries Kelliher, Worship Associate

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



Worship Services

Upcoming Services: Join us, in person or online.

January 29 – "Buddhism": Fred Louis, Pulpit Guest/Margaret Leicach, Worship Associate



February 5 – Reproductive Justice: “How It Matters to Unitarian Universalists”; Judy Sullivan, Dana Donovan, Louise Harmon, Pulpit Guests/Sue Smolski, Worship Associate

February 12 – Title pending, Rev Jan Carlsson-Bull, Pulpit Guest/Michael Michaud, Worship Associate

Sue Smolski

Worship Associate Coordinator

Looking for a few moments of spiritual pick-me-up to greet the new year?

***Braver/Wiser**, series of weekly inspirational messages from a variety of UU writers, may appeal to you. See this week's message [here...](#)*

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.



Something To Do On Sunday

Here are some things that you can do once and be done.

See [Rick Tsukada](#) or [Laurie Kelliher](#) if you're interested.

- Usher
- Greeter
- Candle Bowl Lifter
- Chalice Lighter
- Sermon
- Reflection
- Welcome Table
- Summer Service Pulpit Desk
- Chancel Art

UU Spirit Life

The SpiritLife Conversations winter/spring schedule is now posted at UUSpiritLife.org. The zoom meeting on Saturday morning, January 28, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. presents a rare chance for UUs to discuss a bible verse!

Read the short verse first at UUSpiritLife.org and then drop-in to a facilitated discussion with UUs from the three area churches, no registration required. For log-in instructions, go [here](#). These conversations are heartfelt opportunities to go deeper with other UUs!



Art in the Ambulatory



Latest Exhibit: Stuart Williams, Ladies, and Landscapes

USH's most recently-installed Art in the Ambulatory display features works created by Stuart Williams (father of member Evan Williams). Immediately, the viewer will think: "I've seen these paintings before" and, indeed, that is so. Here's some background...

Evan relates that her dad had always been drawn to artistic pursuits and, in his four years at Pittsburg's then-Carnegie Tech (now Carnegie Mellon University) majored in fine arts. Post-graduation, starting a family and facing attendant financial realities, led him to the growing advertising industry. His combined technical capability and artistic sense brought success, to the degree that he was able to retire comfortably at age 55. In retirement he re-engaged his earlier passion for fine art, visiting museums and studying style and technique of acclaimed painters. Like many an art student he sought to capture the spirit of these masters by recreating famous works, and some of these are now presented in **our** Ambulatory gallery. And there are no

timed tickets, no lines, and no museum guards either. Seriously — enjoy!

Above photo: Evan Williams, with Stuart Williams' "Starry Night" recreation.

Board Notes ~

- Though only just past the halfway point of the year, we are thinking about next year's board and who will represent *you*, the membership. Our Constitution specifies term limits for board positions; Sarah McKenzie (Secretary) and Peter Meny (Spiritual Life Council Chair) are approaching the conclusions of their respective allotted consecutive terms. Also, Dana Donovan will be moving from his President-Elect post to that of the President.

Our Nominating Committee is chaired by **Rob Spector**, who will appreciate hearing from anyone potentially interested in serving on our board, or from those who may have someone in mind who would be a good candidate for one of these valued slots.

You may contact Rob through the new board email address: ushboardofdirectors@gmail.com. Please specify "nominating committee" in the subject line, and your message will be forwarded to Rob.

- The customary informational Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled on Sunday, February 19, following the worship service. This is a meeting where information, questions, and discussion is shared: no votes, elections, or quorums apply. Bring yourselves, your questions, and an appetite (it will be a Soup Sunday).

- Join a couple of board members "Under the Stairs" during coffee hour on January 22. Ask questions, or just keep us company. We'd love to know what's on your mind about USH.

Social Justice



January Good Neighbor Offering

Error! Filename not specified.

Operation Fuel ensures equitable access to energy for all by providing year-round energy and utility assistance, promoting energy independence, and advocating for affordable energy. <https://operationfuel.org/>

Dear GHIAA Leaders and Friends,

1. Anti-racism training: Register now for April series!

GHIAA's winter training is currently in session and we are pleased to offer a **spring** introductory anti-racism training via zoom, beginning in April.

- Spring Training Series — **Tuesdays 6 p.m. – 9 p.m., April 25, May 2 and 9**
- For more information and to register visit: <https://cljct.org/ghiaa/trainings/racial-justice-registration/>

2. GHIAA Core Team Training: The next GHIAA core team training will be offered via Zoom in the evening on Thursdays, February 2, 9, 15, and 23, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. This training is for those who want to join the core team at your congregation and/or for those who want to deepen their faith based organizing skills.

Register for Core Team Training

here: <https://www.tfaforms.com/5037056>

3. Next steps after GHIAA Power Summit: How to get involved! If you missed this email prior to the holidays, please read for details on how to engage with GHIAA moving forward if you are not already part of an issue team.

Many of you were present for the GHIAA Power Summit on December 7. In case you were not able to attend, the recording is available online: <https://vimeo.com/event/2691900>. It was a powerful evening of joy, lament, and shared commitment to the work of justice. Many thanks to everyone who had a role, large or small, in making it a successful action.

We want to invite you to take a next step with GHIAA if you are so inclined. GHIAA has launched issue campaigns in five areas (mental health, housing, education, environment, and gun violence). For each issue area we are building **rapid response teams** for the upcoming legislative session which begins in January and runs through June.

These teams allow people to plug into an issue campaign in more direct ways. Members of rapid response teams will receive more frequent updates on the campaign(s) they are interested in, and will be invited to contribute at key times, sometimes on short notice, to some of the following actions:

- Submit public testimony (written and/or oral)
- Attend press conferences and other smaller actions
- Participate in legislative visits
- Other action as needed!
- If you want to be part of a rapid response team, please fill out this form: <https://cljct.org/ghiaa/action/>.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to reach out. Happy New Year!

Cori Mackey
Executive Director
Center for Leadership and Justice
Office: 860-527-9860

cmackey@cljct.org

www.cljct.org

47 Vine Street, Hartford, CT 06112

West Hartford Food Bank Information

The West Hartford Food Bank is located at West Hartford Town Hall.

Here are this week's needs:

- **Baked beans**
- **Canned fruit/applesauce**
- **Pasta and sauce**
- **Cold cereal**
- **Canned chicken and tuna**
- **Rice – 1 lb. package**
- **Peanut butter – 16 - 18 oz. jars.**

Check your local needs by going online. Some towns have multiple donation sites from which to choose.

Please give as you are able! Thanks!

Grocery bags are now being collected by the office door.

~Diana Heymann

RE and Chalice Clubhouse



It's a brand new year and the fun is here 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 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. There are toys, books, art supplies, and plenty of room for imagination to grow free!

We have dedicated personnel and volunteers 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):

Last weekend, for our Community Sunday, our clubhouse goers helped clean and decorated Fellowship Hall for our Soup Sunday with the theme of Lunar New Year in mind. This coming year is the Year of The Rabbit, said to bring calm, hope, and prosperity to all! Our participants scrubbed tables, dried them, and then created a fun and festive atmosphere by setting up paper lanterns and creating lucky red envelopes for the congregation. The red envelopes are a traditional Lunar New Year gift often filled with good wishes and small gifts. We filled ours with happy fortunes for all our congregants! A huge thank you to everyone who helped out!



This monthly activity reflects 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, January 22nd, the Chalice Clubhouse will have a new story and craft also connected to Lunar New Year.

We hope to see you in Fellowship Hall at 10:30 am!

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



This weekend, Sunday, January 22nd, our Youth Group will meet for their second session of 2023! (And there will be snacks!) They will be continuing to work on their new youth room, Classroom C in Fellowship Hall.

We hope to see you **downstairs in Fellowship Hall at 10:30 am!**

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Events & Happenings

Monthly Gatherings

Pizza and Movie Nights – Join us, **Friday February 10**, 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. The February feature,, just in time for Valentine's Day, is *I'm Your Man*: a 2021 release which might be categorized as a sci-fi-fantasy-rom-com. It's a German film, with English subtitles, and is rated "R" (with adult content). Sign up at the Caring Network

table at coffee hour, or email [Janice Newton](#) to register. \$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 – Looking Ahead to February 11

Depending on Hartford-area Covid statistics, February's Sing-Along Event will, we hope, take place. That hope is subject to change, so please stay tuned for updates.

Contact: Fred Louis (FLouis@yahoo.com) or Ed Savage 860-966-8155 (mobile) (EdSavage03@yahoo.com) for more information.

The Lunch Bunch – Our next gathering is **Tuesday, FEBRUARY 21, at NOON in Fellowship Hall**. Please brown-bag *your own* lunch and beverage... you'll ensure having something you enjoy! We plan to talk about AI (artificial intelligence) and how its ubiquity is changing how educators are fashioning their classroom activities. Please contact janicecnewton@gmail.com to sign up so we can arrange enough places at the table.

Social Justice – Interested in justice work? Come meet with us to learn the latest about ongoing activities and discover new initiatives. Our next ZOOM meeting is **Tuesday, FEBRUARY 21, 7 – 8 p.m.** Everyone's invited... contact [Judy Sullivan](#) for information.

INVITATION FROM THE BOOK GROUP

*Our UU Book Group invites you to join us in reading our February selection – **Thhe Premonition** by Michael Lewis (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, February 9th at 2:30, by Zoom.

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*****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 February selection:*****The Premonition by Michael Lewis***

For those who could read between the lines, the censored news out of China was terrifying. But the president insisted there was nothing to worry about. Fortunately, we are still a nation of skeptics. Fortunately, there are those among us who study pandemics and are willing to look unflinchingly at worst-case scenarios.

Michael Lewis's taut and brilliant nonfiction thriller pits a band of medical visionaries against the wall of ignorance that was the official response of the Trump administration to the outbreak of COVID-19. The characters you will meet in these pages are as fascinating as they are unexpected. Michael Lewis is not shy about calling these people heroes for their refusal to follow directives that they know to be based on misinformation and bad science.

Disability Support Group:

This group meets online the first Saturday of each month at 10:30 a.m. The zoom link is sent a few days prior to the meeting. In this group participants discuss the challenges of physical disability (chronic illness, chronic pain, impaired senses, impaired mobility) and emotional pain (loss, mental illness) and the stresses of caretaking a loved one. What is said in the group stays in

the group. Email **Gloria Bent** for more information at **bentgloria@gmail.com** or call at **860-904-7768**.

Caring Network

The Caring Network has had a number of requests for Pastoral Care during the past few months. Generally, we have been able to reach out to the individuals and meet their needs. However, there are situations when contact with a minister is preferred. If you wish to speak to a minister, please contact me and I will give you the contact information. You can reach me by phone (860/212-6923), by email ([janicecnewton\(at sign\)gmail.com](mailto:janicecnewton@signgmail.com)) or see me on Sunday. I will usually be at the Caring Network table at the entrance to Fellowship Hall. Please also know there is a wide range of community services available to those in need by calling the Community Info Line at **211**, and the Nationwide Mental Health Crisis and Suicide Prevention hotline is available by calling or texting **988**, where you can speak with a counselor.

Janice Newton, Chair From the USH

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 **September, October and November 2022** have been posted. To view the USH Directory, Reports, meeting minutes and other church business information

online, click [HERE](#). Contact Karolina Wojtyska 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 February 2023 board meeting is February 14, 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/

To submit a Calendar Request (also for an online USH Zoom Room gathering) click [HERE](#).

E-News Contributors please note: The deadline for USH E-News submissions is *Tuesday at 12 Noon*. Please include the dates that your submission should be featured 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

Karolina Wojtysko, Office Administrator & Building Rentals
hartforduusociety@gmail.com | 860-233-9897 ext. 100



USH Calendar of Events

The calendar for January 2023 can be viewed [HERE](#).

Please contact the office with any questions or concerns.

The deadline for USH Enews submissions is
Tuesday at Noon.

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

Email to: hartforduusociety@gmail.com



*Photo courtesy of Martha Child
December, 2022*

www.ushartford.org