



March 8, 2023

Building Community Since 1830

50 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105

Tel: (860) 233-9897 • Email: hartforduussociety@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. – 3:00 p.m.

Please email/call for an appointment.



Daylight Savings Time ~

Busy night at Stonehenge as they move the stones forward one hour.....

*Don't forget to change your clocks this weekend!



Every modern minister has heard (and likely you as well) a hundred times or more, words spoken by many well-intentioned souls explaining why they don't like or come to church — "Oh, I'm spiritual, but not religious." I'd like to turn that idea around and see how it feels, and why turning it around may be a better path — existing, as the poet Judith Wright says, in the mode of "Living is a Dailiness."



March 12, 2023: 10:30 a.m.

"Religious but not Spiritual"

Rev. Stephen Kendrick, Pulpit Guest

Laurie Kelliher, Worship Associate

Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries

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

10:30 a.m. Religious Education in person

Annie Witzler, Interim RE Coordinator

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

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

Rev. Stephen Kendrick, Pulpit Guest

Reverend Stephen G. Kendrick received his BA from Princeton, an MA from Hollins University, and his Masters in Divinity from Harvard. He has served congregations in Maryland and Pennsylvania, was minister of the Universalist Church in West Hartford, and is now Minister Emeritus at First Church in Boston. Stephen and his wife, Liz, now live in Farmington CT. He is the author of six books, most recently *Nine Days* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2011).



Laurie 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 Calendar

Upcoming Services: Join us, in person or online.

March 19 – “Becoming Truly Welcoming”, Margaret Leiach Pulpit guest/ Sue Smolski, Worship Associate

March 26 - "On Change: Resistance Is Futile", Rev Aaron Payson/Carol Simpson, Worship Associate



April 2 – USH Focused, David Newton Pulpit Guest/Judy Robbins, Worship Associate

April 9 - "Mystery, Myth, and Love"- Michael Michaud, Pulpit guest/Rick Tsukada, Worship Associate.

Sue Smolski

Worship Associate Coordinator

Welcome Team Sign-Up

Volunteer to be a greeter, usher, or to staff the welcome table. 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.



More You Can Do on Sunday

Here are some other things you can do once and be done – see Rick Tsukada or Laurie Kelliher if you're interested.

- Candle Bowl Lifter
- Chalice Lighter
- Welcome Table
- Chancel Art



You've Got Mail!

The in-office mailbox is being reorganized and relabeled. Please stop by **this Sunday** before or after worship to check your mailboxes and empty out anything you may have. After **March 12**, all mail not picked up will be disposed of. Please reach out to the Office Admin if you have any questions/concerns.

Love In Action

Stewardship Campaign

Goal: \$318,000

As of March 6, 2023:

\$55,530 Raised by 24 family units



This means 17.5% of our goal has been raised.

A big **thank you** to those who pledged!

Show your **Love in Action** by pledging **today!**

Also, stop by the Stewardship Table in Fellowship Hall after services and post your examples of “Love in Action!”. Contact [Carolyn Carlson](#) for general questions. Contact [Jim Venneman](#) or [David Newton](#) to discuss donating stock, making a Qualified Charitable Donation (QCD), or using a donor-advised fund.

Thank you!

Looking for a Minister... Part Four

It is with great delight (and some relief) that the Review Committee has recommended a very qualified minister to the Board for our one-year contract opening. Best of all, he wants the position!

But we still have a way to go. The Board is currently working out contract terms with our candidate. Once we have a signed contract, the Board will introduce you to our new minister. Meanwhile, keep a good thought that contract negotiations go smoothly.

~ Judy Robbins, for the Review Committee: Dana Donovan, Rob Spector, Mike Covault, Sarah Harmon McKenzie, Paul Cipriano



General Assembly: 2023 "Faithfully Becoming"

This year's General Assembly (GA) will be held June 21 through 25, in Pittsburgh. Attendees will be able to participate either online or in person.

As stated on the UUA's website, "The General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association is the annual gathering of UUs where we conduct the business of the Association, explore the theological underpinnings of our faith, and lean into our mission and principles."

Registration has now opened with a variety of rates posted through May 15, when some of the rate categories will increase.

Access uua.org, click on "menu", and select "General Assembly" for the details.

~ contributed by Sue Smolski

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Note: while anyone can register for, and attend, GA, only credentialed delegates nominated by their congregations are eligible to "conduct the business of the Association", including voting. In 2023, this business includes potentially advancing controversial changes in the UUA's bylaws (see Judy Robbins' piece, below). USH, with 136 certified members, is eligible to be represented by **three** credentialed delegates. USH members interested in attending GA **as an official, voting representative of our congregation** should email the board (which will be recommending its slate of delegates to the UUA), at ushboardofdirectors@gmail.com, with the notation "GA" in the subject line. The board will then select three delegates and one alternate delegate as our representatives.

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Changes To The UUA By-Laws

Many of you attended an informational meeting that Laura Cipriano and Judy Robbins ran last fall on the proposed changes to the UUA By-Laws. These changes will affect *every* UU church across the USA; Hartford will not be exempt.

The key things to know are:

- The Seven Principles are being dropped. The remnants are turned into “values” with the language greatly changed.
- The familiar Six Sources are gone, reduced to a paragraph of “inspirations.”
- It appears we are losing our self-governance. Unitarian and Universalist churches have always been independent and self-governing. The UUA has been an association of churches, not a governing body. In this new revision, we are being asked to “covenant” (i.e., promise) to align with other UU churches and fulfill the mission of the UUA. In a yet-undefined way, we will be held accountable for that promise.

There is concern nationwide about these proposed changes. Although we are a small denomination, the UUA is a powerful organization. They have put time, resources, and money into these changes and they intend to have this revision ratified at the General Assembly held in Pittsburgh this June. A careful reading of materials currently coming out of the UUA will show that it's assumed the changes will pass — the UUA has already begun changing the wording on many programs and materials.

Please familiarize yourself with both the UUA's point of view here [Article II Study Commission | UUA.org](#) and with the opinions of people across the USA who are opposed to these radical changes at [Saving The Seven Principles – A radical rewrite of Article II of the UUA bylaws threatens our liberal faith](#). [Learn about this: here.](#)

USH can send delegates to the General Assembly who can vote for or against the proposed revisions. There is also a free online option to attend and vote. The stakes are high, and every UU church will be affected. Please inform yourself.

~ Judy Robbins



**Meeting
House
Presents**

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY

CÉLTIC MELODY

IRISH DANCE MUSIC AND SONGS!



**BRENT JANET TOM LIZ EILEEN
MORGAN MORGAN MORGAN RAYMOND BURKE**

7:00 PM
MARCH 17TH @ MEETING HOUSE

50 Bloomfield Ave, Hartford, CT 06105
unitarianmeetinghouse.org



Social Justice



March Good Neighbor Offering:

The Village for Families and Children was one of the first agencies to provide care for neglected children. What began over 200 years ago as The female Beneficent

Society to help children, grew over many iterations to become The Village for Families and Children in 1993. The mission of The Village is “to build a community of strong healthy families to support and nurture children.”

The Village works in collaboration with local and state agencies and relies on supporters and donors. In response to growing needs, The Village now has three campuses. The main, original campus is on Albany Avenue, next to USH. There are two other campuses in Hartford, on Wethersfield Avenue and Spring Street. Programming has also changed to include more resources for adults.

The Village for Families and Children has adapted to the increasing need for mental health services in a complex world.

<https://thevillage.org/>

Social Justice Committee ~

Our next Social Justice Committee Meeting is **March 21, 7 – 8:30 p.m.** in the Library and Zoom.

Zoom Link [HERE](#)

Meeting ID: 819 3540 3837

Passcode: 026862

West Hartford Food Bank Information

The following is a list of all the food groups and foods provided for individuals and families. Please choose those items that you are able to collect and drop off at the West Hartford Town Hall:

- Proteins:** Canned tuna, canned chicken, peanut butter, canned beans, bean-based soups
- Grains:** Pasta, one-pound bags of rice, cereal
- Comfort foods:** Macaroni and cheese, chicken noodle soup
- Fruits and Veggies:** Canned fruits, applesauce, jelly, tomato, and vegetable soups

Grocery bags are now being collected outside the office door.
Food can be dropped off in the bin to the right located in the lobby/entryway.

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

Thank You!
 ~Diana Heymann

RE and Chalice Clubhouse



Spring will be here soon and we're planting the seeds of the 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 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.**



The Chalice Clubhouse (Grades K-6th):



The Chalice Clubhouse will not be meeting this weekend on Sunday, March 12th, 2023. Our RE coordinator will be away on a field trip with the Youth Group.

We will resume meeting on Sunday, March 19th, 2023, and will be working on a special USH stewardship-themed project for the next two weeks. See you then!

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



This weekend, Sunday, March 12th, 2023, the Youth Group are taking a special field trip to Church Street Eats in Hartford to assist with their lunch service.

Church Street Eats has been partnering with the USH Youth Soup project for the last decade and together have served hundreds of those in need of a hot meal in the city of Hartford. We used to visit and assist in serving lunch on Sundays annually but have been unable to since the pandemic. We are honored to be going again!

Any youth and their families are welcome to attend!

Please arrive at the Meeting House at 9:30 am this Sunday with your signed permission slip (which can be printed off [here](#)). We have transportation for approx. eight youths available. We plan to be returning to the Meeting House at approx. 2:30 pm for pickup.

Please call or email Annie Witzler at 706-248-9438 and re4ush@gmail.com for additional information.

Events & Happenings

Monthly Gatherings

Pizza and Movie Nights – Join us, **Friday March 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. Our March selection is *Selma*,

widely acclaimed as a powerful and faithful representation of events surrounding the historic march. This 2014 release signals Ava DuVernay's directoral debut and stars David Oyelowo as Dr. King. Sign up at the Caring Network table at coffee hour, or email [Janice Newton](mailto:JaniceNewton@gmail.com) to register. \$15 covers pizza, salad, dessert, non-alcoholic beverages. Feel free to bring your own beer or wine, if that's your preference.

Generally, we begin gathering at 5 for libations and conversation. The pizza arrives at 5:30; we aim for a 6:15 'showtime'.

Second Saturday Sing-Along – March 11

Join us at the next Meeting House Sing-Along — Fred Louis and Ed Savage offer an opportunity to join in song on the second Saturday of each month from 2 to 5 p.m. Song sheets and some loaner copies of Rise Up Singing will be available. Bring your own 'Rise Up Singing' if you have one, as we have used it a lot in other months. We will also use the NEW “Rise Again” sequel – 1200 more songs to sample. Let's see if we can find some songs to celebrate the coming of spring!

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

The Lunch Bunch – Our next gathering is **Tuesday, MARCH 21, at NOON in Fellowship Hall**. Please brown-bag *your own* lunch and beverage... you'll ensure having something you enjoy! Whatever direction the conversation takes, it should be interesting. 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, March 21, 7 p.m.** Everyone's invited... contact [Judy Sullivan](mailto:JudySullivan@gmail.com) for information.

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 **860-904-7768**.

INVITATION FROM THE BOOK GROUP

Our UU Book Group invites you to join us in reading our March selection – The Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles (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, March 9 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

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 March selection:***

"The Lincoln Highway" by Amor Towles

In June, 1954, eighteen-year-old Emmett Watson is driven home to Nebraska by the warden of the juvenile work farm where he has just served fifteen months for involuntary manslaughter. His mother long gone, his father recently deceased, and the family farm

foreclosed upon by the bank, Emmett's intention is to pick up his eight-year-old brother, Billy, and head to California where they can start their lives anew. But when the warden drives away, Emmett discovers that two friends from the work farm have hidden themselves in the trunk of the warden's car. Together, they have hatched an altogether different plan for Emmett's future, one that will take them all on a fateful journey in the opposite direction—to the City of New York.

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) 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

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 **November and December 2022, and January 2023** 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

Have a question or comment for the board? Send an email to: ushboardofdirectors@gmail.com.

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 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 March 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 by: Kevin Girouard January 2023

www.ushartford.org