

## E-news July 19, 2023



**Unitarian Society of Hartford**  
"Nourishing Spirit, Building Community, and Working for Justice"  
50 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105  
Tel: (860) 233-9897 • Email: [hartfordusociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartfordusociety@gmail.com)  
[www.ushartford.org](http://www.ushartford.org)

**Minister's Office Hours:**  
Tuesdays & Thursdays 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
or by [appointment](#).

**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.

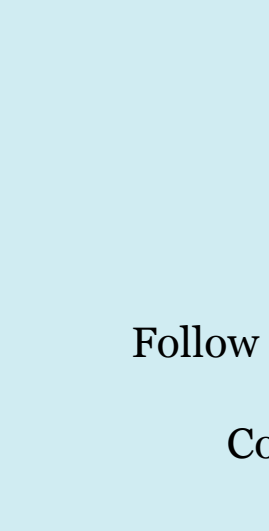


### Sunday Morning Service 10:30 July 23, 2023

**"Everything Must Go; Or, Quassy's Advantage  
vis-a-vis Disneyland"**

**Rev. Bob Janis, Minister**  
Margaret Leicach, Worship Associate  
Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries

[View this Sunday's Order of Service](#)



#### Margaret Leicach – Worship Associate

Margaret was baptized Methodist, raised Moravian, spent a few years as a Congregationalist, and then abstained for a few years. She discovered USH by sheer accident in the 80's and immediately knew she was 'home'. Her adult children and a grandchildren, agnostics all, happily attend USH with her when they are in the area.

#### Matters of the Heart

Electronically by 9 a.m. Sunday: [Matters of the Heart Email](#)  
In person – use the MOH basket for written cards on Sunday morning

Religious Education in person 10:30 a.m.  
[Annie Witzler](#), Interim RE Coordinator

Can't be here in person for worship?

[Join us on ZOOM 10:30 a.m.](#)

Meeting ID: 931 0388 7934

Passcode: 128493

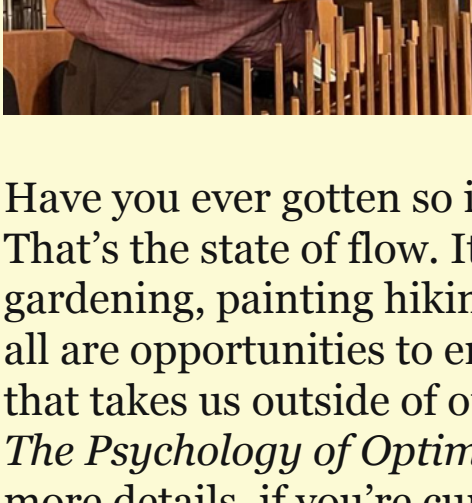
**Virtual Coffee Hour to follow!**

Service is also streamed on [Facebook](#) –

Follow our page and receive notifications every time we go live.

Couldn't make it to USH, and missed the livestream?

Watch any service, anytime, here on [Yimeo](#)



#### Weekly Update from Space Station USH

This past Sunday, we were treated to an engaging, thoughtful, and very creative service by members of our Artist's Way program. Marye Gail Harrison talked about a concept that has meant a lot to me, as a fellow creative: the state of "flow".

Basically, to be "in the flow" is where you are pursuing some meaningful, challenging activity, so much so that you become completely engaged. Have you ever gotten so into some project that you totally lost track of time? That's the state of flow. It often happens for me when I'm writing. But also gardening, painting hiking, mathematics, or being in a conversation. These all are opportunities to enter that state where we feel involved in something that takes us outside of ourselves – in a quite deep, neurological way (*Flow: The Psychology of Optimal Experience*, by Mihai Csikszentmihalyi gives more details, if you're curious.)

What experiences, for you, bring you meaning and challenge? What activities cause you to lose track of time? You can take a moment this week to observe how you yourself change when you're doing something that puts you "in the flow." As for me, this week I'll be meeting people and planning the service for this Sunday – two of my favorite activities.

Yours gratefully,  
Rev. Bob

### Worship Calendar

Join us, in Fellowship Hall or online.

#### Upcoming Services:

**July 30 – "The Spiritual Art of Imperfection"**, Beth Hudson Hankin (UUS:E) Pulpit Guest/Carol Simpson, Worship Associate

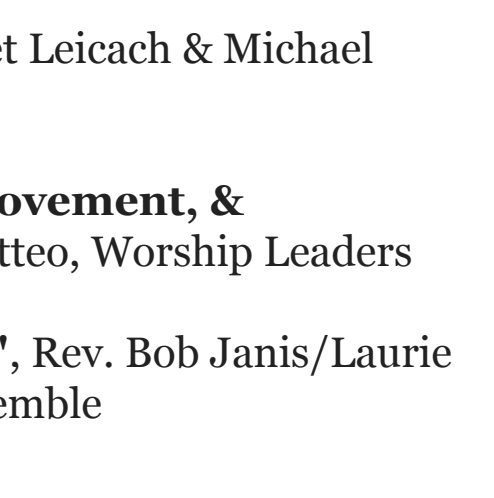
**August 6 – "Woke" and Awakened**, Margaret Leicach & Michael Michand, Worship Leaders

**August 13 – "A Summer Respite: Music, Movement, & Meditation"**, Sue Smolski, and Lucille Giammatteo, Worship Leaders

**August 20 – "Finding The Meaning of Life"**, Rev. Bob Janis/Laurie Kelliher, Worship Associate, Meeting House Ensemble

*Sue Smolski*

*Worship Associate Coordinator*



## USH News

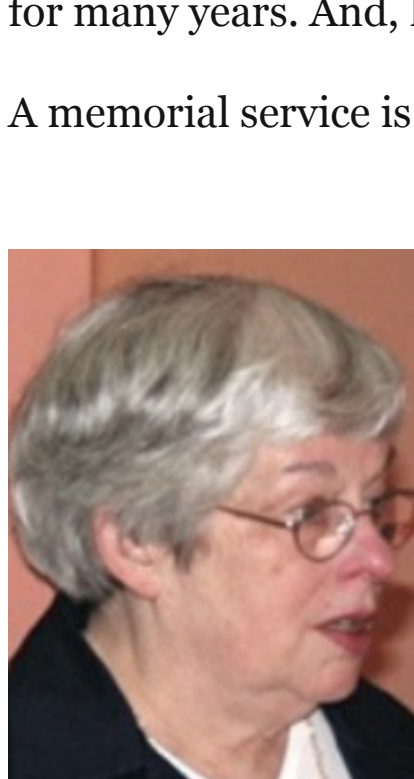
### July Board Meeting

**Thursday, July 20: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Hybrid, Library**

Board meetings are public and all are welcome to attend. If anyone has a topic they wish considered for discussion, please contact [Dana Donovan](#) at least one week before a scheduled meeting, so it may be added to the agenda. There will be **no Board meeting in August** unless some urgent business should arise.

**\*New Zoom Meeting link! Link is updated below and on the website.**  
**Meeting ID: 810 6923 6376**  
**Passcode: 231830**

[ZOOM Link for Board Meeting](#)



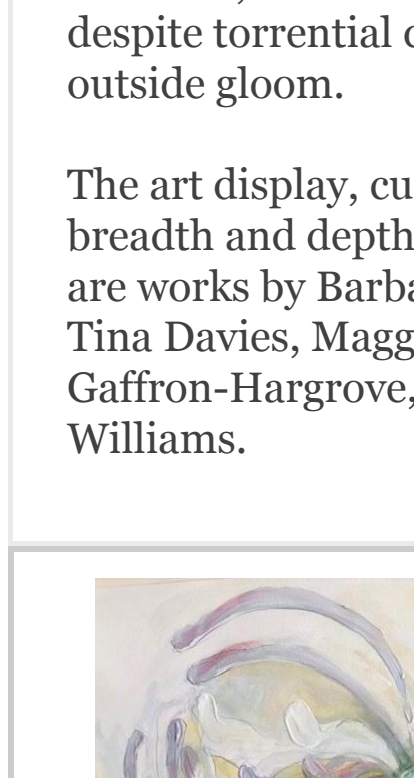
### Remembering Ed Sax

We were saddened to learn, Sunday morning, that Ed Sax had just died. Ed and his late wife, Margaret, were long-time members of USH and deeply involved in our community.

As many know, Ed was Co-Chair, with Stu Spence, of Building and Grounds for many years; only a seemingly short time ago Ed's infirmities caused him to step down from Building and Grounds Sub-Council work.

Ed's legacy of work to maintain the Meeting House is found throughout the building today, and his contributions go back many years. He was a confirmed craftsman, repairing/designing electrical, plumbing, drainage and other "fixes" for many years. And, he was a kind, gentle man.

A memorial service is tentatively planned for September 9.



### Remembering Mary Leonard

Longtime member Mary Leonard passed away Monday morning at her Seabury healthcare residence after a long period of declining health.

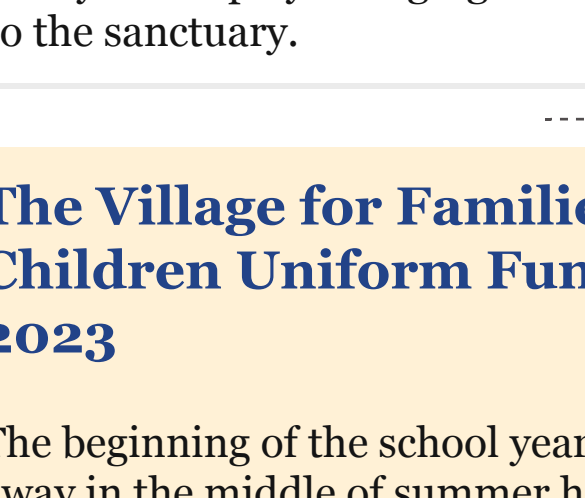
We expect to have more information to share next week.

### Artist's Way Art Show

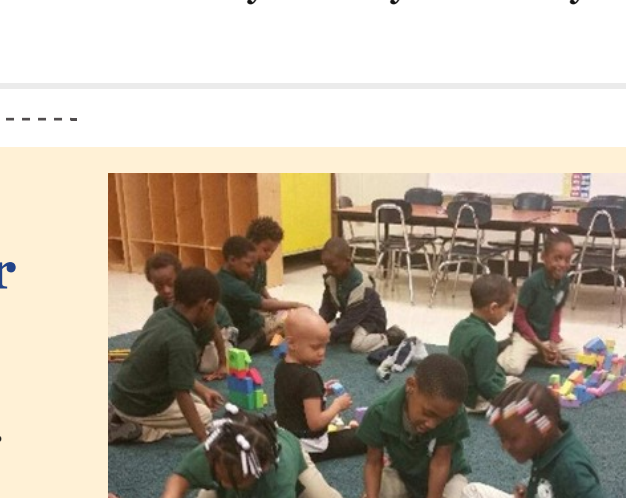
Participants in our Artist's Way program, one of our congregation's longest-lived and most popular activities, recently presented both a worship service and a gallery display of their artwork.

The service, led by Maggie Greene, Marye Gail Harrison, and Evan Williams, combined dance, storytelling, and poetry. It was well-attended despite torrential downpours, and offered a welcome bright contrast to the outside gloom.

The art display, currently hanging in our Ambulatory Gallery, shows the breadth and depth of some of the Artist's Way participants' skills. Included are works by Barbara Alex, Martha Bradley, Diane Cadrait, Helen David, Tina Davies, Maggie Greene, Marye Gail Harrison, Diana Heymann, JoAnn Gaffron-Hargrove, Betsy Olguin, Susan Spaniol, Beverly Spence, and Evan Williams.



*Chrysanthemum*, by Susan Spaniol, created with acrylic paints and ink.



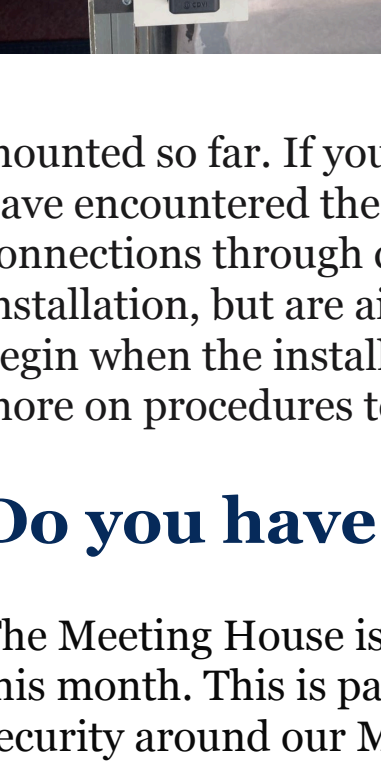
*Elegant Fisherman*, by Helen David, created with acrylic paints.

The Artist's Way exhibit will be on the Ambulatory walls until the end of September when it will be succeeded by:

- *Photography by John Benford*, son of Marye Gail Harrison (October through December, 2023)
- *Paintings on glass by JoAnn Gaffron-Hargrove* (January through March, 2024)
- *Fiber art by Anne Sheffield* (April through June, 2024)

We encourage everyone to visit the show and maybe even buy a piece – many are available for purchase. (Contact Karolina in the office to arrange.)

Anyone interested in showing their work can find a copy of guidelines and policy for displays hanging in a frame on the ambulatory wall by the entry to the sanctuary.



### Security Camera and Keypad Door Installation Progress

What you see, on the left (or above if you are using your mobile device), is what will greet us – and visitors – for the foreseeable future as people approach the front door of the Meeting House. The system is not yet "live", but there's visible progress (along with some not-so-visible).

To date, the keypad and door camera have been installed by the main door. Wires to connect the cameras have been strung, and two security cameras have been mounted so far. If you've recently visited the building during the week, you might have encountered the installer on a ladder, in the lobby, as he weaves wire connections through ceiling slats. We do not have a projected "end date" for the installation, but are aiming for sometime in August. Training on the system will begin when the installation is complete. See below – *Do You Have a Key?* – for more on procedures to be put into place.

### Do you have a key?

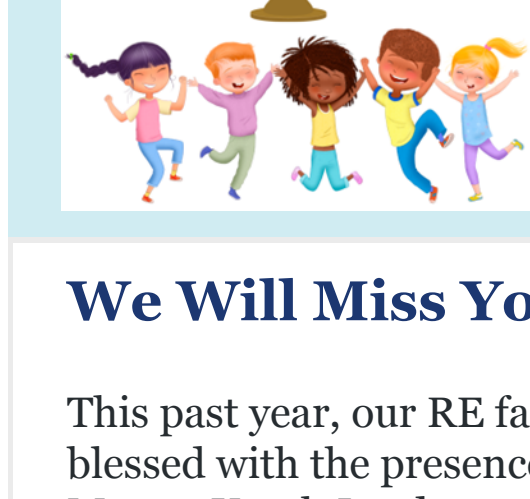
The Meeting House is installing a new keyless entry system this month. This is part of USH's ongoing effort to upgrade security around our Meeting House.

The keyless entry pad will be installed on the main entrance to the lobby. During regular business hours there will be doorbell access to the building for visitors or others without codes.

After normal office hours, entry to the Meeting House will require a code to gain access to the building. To obtain a code, see Karolina Wojtylsko, in the office, during regular business hours (shown above). **Forms will be available in the Fellowship Hall. If you have a key, please fill one out and bring it upstairs to the office.**

After this keyless entry system is installed and tested, keys will no longer be functional. We expect to have the keypad system fully in use by Ingathering in September, when Sunday services move back into the sanctuary.

– *Paul Cipriano, Chair, Administrative Council*



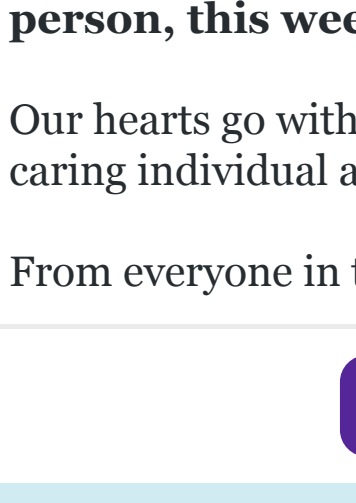
### Food Pantry News

Hunger and food insecurity never take a vacation.

Please continue to fill our bins in the Lobby with food for our neighbors in need. They are incredibly grateful for all you do.

– *Diana Heymann*

## RE and Chalice Clubhouse



Looking for a supportive, inclusive, non-judgemental home for your family's spiritual needs? Let USH be yours! Visit and learn about Unitarian Universalism, our congregation, and how USH can foster your family's religious or spiritual journeys.

Sign up for Sundays here online or in person at the welcome table. Questions? Reach out to our Interim Religious Education Coordinator [Annie Witzler](#) for more information.

### We Will Miss You!

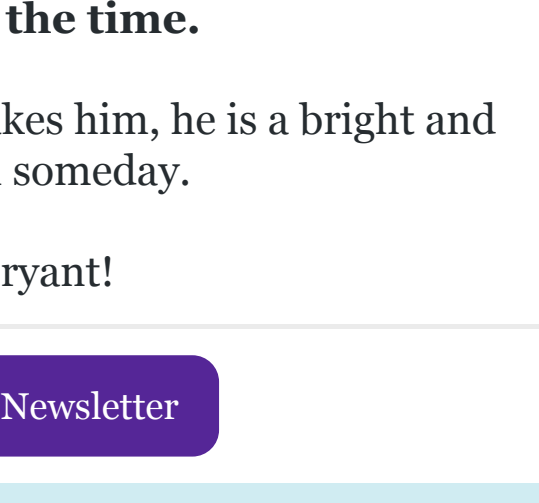
This past year, our RE family at USH was blessed with the presence of Mr. Bryant Moore, Youth Leader extraordinaire!

He is moving to continue his graduate school studies and will be speaking about his experiences working with our middle and high schoolers this coming Sunday.

**This is the last Sunday he plans on worshipping with us before moving to New Hampshire, so if any who worked with Bryant may like to say goodbye in person, this weekend's service would be the time.**

Our hearts go with Bryant wherever his path takes him, he is a bright and caring individual and we hope to see him again someday.

From everyone in the USH family, thank you Bryant!



[Click HERE for this week's RE Newsletter](#)

## Monthly Gatherings

**Disability Support Group** – This group meets online on 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 Ben](#) for more information or call 860-904-7768.

### Second Saturday Sing-Along – August 12

Join us at the next MeetingHouse Sing-Along! Fred Louis and Ed Savage invite CT families, singers, songwriters, and audience members to join us on the second Saturday of each month from 2 to 3 p.m. Song-sheets and some loaner copies of Rise Up Singing or "Rise Again" are available.

Come early or come late, whatever fits your family schedule. Singing starts at 2 p.m. Some of us bring snacks, but that is not required (or organized). If the weather is good, we meet outside around to the right of the building, in the Memorial Garden. If you feel unwell, we ask that you postpone your visit. Contact: [Fred Louis](#) or [Ed Savage](#) for more information.

### Social Justice Council –

There will be **no regular council meeting in July or August**.

## USH Resources

### 2023 – 2024 USH Board of Directors

**Dana Donovan**: President  
**Nancy Kemmerer**: President-Elect  
**Jon Covault**: Treasurer  
**Gloria Mengual**: Secretary  
**Riek Tsukada**: Spiritual Life Council Chair  
**Paul Cipriano**: Administrative Council Chair  
**Judy Sullivan**: Social Justice Council Chair  
**Tina Davies**: Community Within Council Chair  
**Laurie Kelliher**: Membership Council Chair  
**Jim Venneman**: Finance Council Chair

Have a question or comment for the board? Send an email to: [ushboardofdirectors@gmail.com](mailto:ushboardofdirectors@gmail.com).

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**The latest financial reports for FY 2023-2024 have been posted,** click [HERE](#) to view.

The 2022/23 Annual Report is available [HERE](#)

The Board Meeting Minutes for April and May 2023 have been posted. Click [HERE](#) to view the USH Directory, Reports, meeting minutes, and other church business information online. Contact [Karolina Wojtylsko](#) for the username and password.

### USH Staff:

**Rev. Bob Janis, Minister**  
[ushminister@gmail.com](mailto:ushminister@gmail.com) | 860-233-9897 ext. 103

**Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries**  
[samoffett@gmail.com](mailto:samoffett@gmail.com) | 860-233-9897 ext. 108

**Annie Witzler, Interim Religious Education Coordinator**  
[rcush@gmail.com](mailto:rcush@gmail.com) | 860-233-9897 ext. 104

**Patty Peck, Bookkeeper**  
[ushtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:ushtreasurer@gmail.com) | 860-233-9897 ext. 102

**Karolina Wojtylsko, Office Administrator & Building Rentals**  
[hartfordusociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartfordusociety@gmail.com) | 860-233-9897 ext. 100

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

Please write in the "Subject" field "USH Enews", and include the dates that your submission should be featured. Announcements about upcoming events appear for two consecutive weeks minimum 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.  
Thank you for your submission!

[Email Your Submission](#)

[Missed Last Week's Enews? Click HERE](#)

### USH Calendar of Events

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

Please consult our Online Calendar regularly for all upcoming events coordinated by the Unitarian Society of Hartford

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

