

## USH E-news August 16, 2023



### Unitarian Society of Hartford

*"Nourishing Spirit, Building Community, Working for Justice"*  
50 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105  
Tel: (860) 233-9897 • Email: [hartfordujsociety@gmail.com](mailto:hartfordujsociety@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.  
**Karolina is away August 16 & 31.**



*Coastal Health, Artwork by Diane Cadrain*

**"Finding the Meaning of Life" –**  
*Is there a meaning of life? Can we find it?*  
*Once, Rev. Bob went on a walk to find out. Travel along...*

### Sunday Morning Service 10:30 August 20, 2023

#### "Finding the Meaning of Life"

Rev. Bob Janis  
Laurie Kelliher, Worship Associate  
Meeting House Ensemble  
Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries

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

#### 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 [Vimeo](#)



#### Hello from England... Part Three

As you read this, I'm almost certainly in transit – physically, heading back to Connecticut, but perhaps in other ways as well. I should be around the Meeting House later this week.

I know I've got a lot of catching up to do. Looking forward to spending time with you, so drop me a line or a voicemail if you'd like to meet up. Thanks!

Yours gratefully,  
Rev. Bob

### Worship Calendar

Join us, in Fellowship Hall or online.

#### Upcoming Services:

**August 27** – "From Broken to Beautiful",  
Vivian Carlson & Sandy Karosi, UUS:E/Judy  
Robbins, Worship Associate

**September 3** – "How Do You Live?", Annie Witzler, Pulpit Guest/Sue  
Smolski, Worship Associate

**September 10** – "INGATHERING/WATER COMMUNION", Rev.  
Bob Janis/Worship Associate, TBD.

**September 17** – Gloria Menguel, Pulpit Guest/ Rick Tsukada, Worship  
Associate

*Sue Smolski*  
Worship Associate Coordinator



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## USH News



#### Notes from the Gnome

Here in mid-August our USH Gnome has observed a few interesting Meeting House activities. Some of you may remember the Gnome is the little fellow\* known to lurk about dark corners of the Meeting House with a self-appointed interest in seeing the building is looked after in an appropriate way by its current inhabitants.

Anyway, the Gnome has happily noted that RE rooms are being prepared for action by recycling a good deal of play apparatus, presumably deposited at the Meeting House over an extended period. The Gnome espied, with appreciation, numerous visitors arriving and then leaving with all manner of toys appropriate to daycare centers or elementary classrooms. These items had been overly abundant in the rooms off Fellowship Hall. In that same vicinity, the Gnome has heard ongoing discussions of rug cleaning and perhaps some new painting occurring in the next week or two.

Elsewhere, he noted all the gravel being removed from the north bay over the drain pipes. Kevin, assisted by David, exerted a great deal of physical labor to move a few cubic yards of stone and then replace it over carefully sited drainage pipes. Apparently, the hope is to duplicate the successful project in the library bay... this resulted in terminating a long-standing water leakage into the downstairs men's room and Fellowship Hall itself.

The sewer repair folks have informed B&G they have received one of two needed replacement pumps. The other is on back order, expected later this week. The repair will then be scheduled as previously planned.

The Gnome has also seen the grounds much benefitted by recent work by Evan Williams and Susan Hope.

During leisure hours, the Gnome has been taking in the extraordinary art show currently hanging in the ambulatory.

\* The Gnome has not yet shared their pronouns with us, and we apologize deeply if offense has been given by use of *he/him* when referring to our friend.



#### 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

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## RE and Chalice Clubhouse

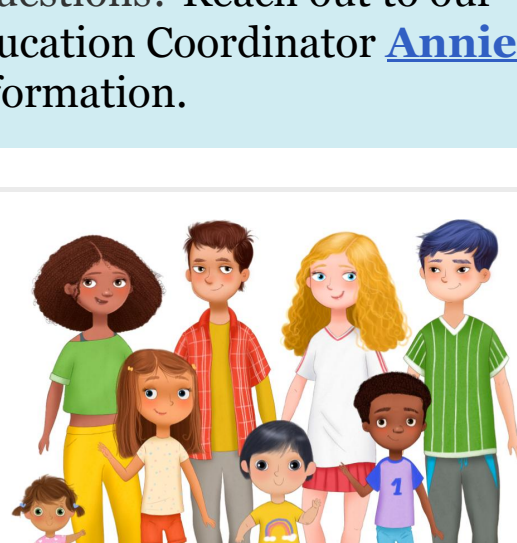


Looking for a supportive, inclusive, non-judgemental home for your family's spiritual needs? Let USH be yours! Visit and learn about Unitarian Universalism, our congregation, and how USH can foster your family's religious or spiritual journeys.

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.

**Registration for the 2023-2024 RE Year at USH** is now open for all ages! Also available are official descriptions of our three programs for the upcoming year.

Be first in line to register for the fun we have in store this next year either online in the RE E-newsletter below or at Coffee Hour this Sunday in Fellowship Hall!



[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 Bent](#) for more information or call 860-904-7768.

#### Second Saturday Sing-Along – September 9

Join us at the next Meeting House Sing-Along! Fred Louis and Ed Savage invite families, singers, songwriters, and audience members to join us on the second Saturday of each month from 2 to 5 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.

#### Security Justice Force – September 17

We meet on third Sundays from 12-1 and welcome new committee members. Contact [Laura Cipriano](#) or [Lu Giammatteo](#) for more information.

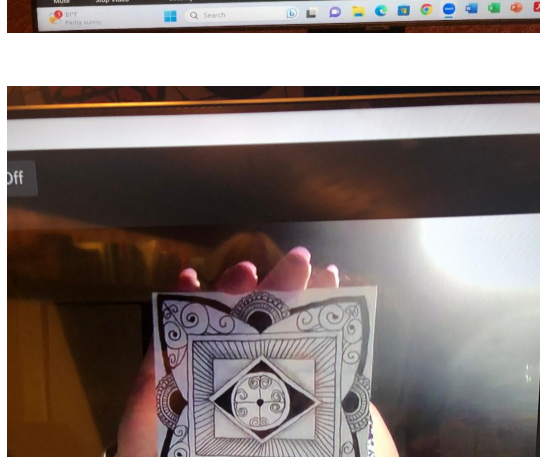
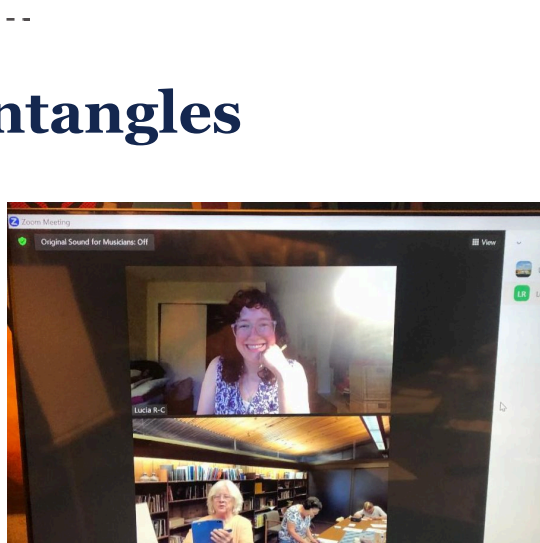
[Zoom Link for meeting](#)

#### Social Justice Council –

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

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#### Playing With Zentangles



#### Artist's Way starts its year with creative play...

The Artist's Way group encompasses a mix of formats, ranging from discussions (about a reading, or segments of a chosen book) to field trips, to hands-on creative experiences. This week, as the group re-formed for 2023/24, they revisited a previous experience of what might be considered high-class doodling, known as Zentangles. Helen David led the process for a mostly in-person gathering, although there were a couple of Zoomers in attendance. Many of USH groups and activities offer a way to participate online these days, and the possibilities continue to expand.

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## USH Resources

### 2023 – 2024 USH Board of Directors

**Dana Donovan**: President  
**Nancy Kemmerer**: President-Elect  
**Jon Covault**: Treasurer  
**Gloria Mengual**: Secretary  
**Rick Tsukada**: Spiritual Life Council Chair  
**Paul Cipriano**: Administration 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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#### Board Meeting

**There will be no Board meeting in August**  
unless some urgent business should arise.

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

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#### USH Staff:

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

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

**Annie Witzler**, Interim Religious Education Coordinator  
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**Patty Peck**, Bookkeeper  
[ushtreasurer30@gmail.com](mailto:ushtreasurer30@gmail.com) | 860-233-9897 ext. 102

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

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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 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.  
Thank you for your submission!

[Email Your Submission](#)

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

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### USH Calendar of Events

The calendar for August 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](#).

