USH E-news January 24, 2024

"Seeking, Sharing, Soaring"

Photo: Kevin Grimwood, Sunset 2012

Unitarian Society of Hartford
"Inspiring Spiritual Growth and Social Justice for Justice"
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Minister's Office Hours:
Tuesday - Thursday: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
or by appointment

Office Administrator Hours:
Tuesday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Monday - Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Virtual Hours: Monday - Thursday, 1 - 2 p.m.

Sunday Morning Service 10:30 a.m.
January 28

"Lessons in Soaring"

Popular myths and well-meant assurances notwithstanding, aging is a glorious art both for those who practice it and those who observe it. What can we learn from the masters of aging to soar in heaven?

Rev. Aaron Payson, Pulpit Guest
Rev. Aaron Payson is a Unitarian Universalist and a graduate of Andover Newton Theological School. He is the Senior Minister of the First Parish in Sudbury, Massachusetts, a church with a long history of social justice and religious liberal ministry. Prior to his ordination, he was a Hartford Seminarian. He has been Ministers of the UU Congregation of Southern Maine and the Senior Minister of Trinity Church in Manchester, which he helped found and is an adjunct faculty member at Andover Newton. He is the author of "Ten Commandments" and "The Gatehouse" and has served on two young adult ministries, including one at Yale.

Carol Hampson, Worship Associate
Carol Hampson is a member of the Unitarian Society of Hartford and a graduate of Andover Newton Theological School. She is a Worship Associate working with the Staff Ministry Team and Ministry to Children and Youth. She is also a member of the Worship Committee and a Religious Education teacher. Carol is continuing as a Worship Associate for the Spring.

Matters of the Heart
To have a joy or heaviest load from the pulpit please fill out the "Matters of the Heart" form.

In person - see the Matters of Heart basket in the Sanctuary Narthex.
*Please provide contact information.

Religious Education: 10:30 a.m.
Nursery through 5th grade available

Visit the home or parents for weekly*
Julia Ann at (203) 231-1114,
Ann at (860) 232-4817
Danielle: (484)

Virtual Coffee Hour follows

Worship is also streamed on Facebook —
Follow us (page and/or subscribe) every time we go live.

Visit our Facebook page and "like" us to receive Facebook alerts and notices, anytime, here or here.

Worship Calendar

Join us, in person or online.

Upcoming Services:

February 4 - Reverend Rich Michael
Worship Associate

February 11 - **"What's Love Got To Do With It?"** - Julia Bergman, Pulpit Guest for Sunday Worship Associate

February 18 - Reverend Ed Johnson, Pulpit Guest for Sunday Worship Associate

February 25 - Reverend Rich, Rich Tuesday, Worship Associate

Thoughts From Rev. Bob...

There's a lot going on underneath our remarkable roof... and beyond.

Last weekend, UAH member Judy Robbins and COOLE member Jeanne Gaudette represented our Unitarian Society at the annual Congress in Lake of the Ozarks Unitarian Universalist Association. The session was well-researched, insightful and thoughtful, and conducted in a collaborative spirit. Jeanne and Judy participated in an extensive of priorities and concerns and a wide-ranging discussion of the future of our Association. Jeanne and Judy will reflect the views of our other individual, including the minister, ", but they will also bring back to us the wisdom of the Congress, and contribute to our democratic processes in a fresh and generous way. Thanks, Jeanne and Judy, for your service to our Society.

Sunday also featured a sending service led by Laurie Kelliher (with Jeanne and Judy) for our Hartford Seminarian, Leading to all who were in attendance, it was a beautiful and moving ceremony. We look forward to great one spiritual practice gap (no James or Lucy) as our Parish Minister, and we look forward to the return of our Seminarian, Laurie. Bob Davis is good as ever, and I may explain Sarah, who will be with us for a few more weeks, and we look forward to her return.

Finally, sometime in February we'll likely be co-hosting a "lower meeting" with another congregation by the Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance, of which we are proud to be a member. A home meeting is a relatively informal gathering of people from different neighborhoods, and we look forward to Bob and Sarah's first home hosting, and to your participation.

More outright is on the way... are you feeling the urge to grow in wisdom, inspiration and community?

Gratefully yours,
Rev. Bob

First Thoroughgoes in the Chapel, starting February 1, 6 p.m.

On the first Thursday each month, come to the Chapel for a contemplative discussion on one chosen topic. Participants will share from different poems, poetry, spiritual readings from multiple religious traditions, and music. Bring a piece to share, if you wish. We are an experimental, just-for-us, drop-in, freeform, and (for the time being) monthly gathering.

Come experience the calm of Thursday night at Unitarian Society of Hartford. First Thursday, beginning February 1st, in the Chapel. Contact Rev. Bob Tuttle for more information. Ages 4 to 4 - 100 Kids around 5 yo - 100.

USH News

Next Month —

USH is welcome Groundhog Day with a Pancake Breakfast, Sunday, February 4, 9:30 a.m. Sign up in the Narthex or on the new Sunday, February 4, "Groundhog Breakfast" Google Doc. Breakfast is only one of the Groundhog Day events — with lots of opportunities to be involved in Unitarian Society of Hartford's annual celebration!

AUA's UU-Liners hosted international Worship is sending Valentines to our members who are homebound or residing in our nursing homes. The date is set for the Hosted up, though we can still use more volunteers. Sign up in the Narthex or contact Rev. Bob for sending a card.

Link to the Touch-Ds

For those who were not able to make the Touch-Ds on Sunday, January 21, the USH Leaders, Rev. Bob Tuttle, Sam Hunt and Carol Hampson, made the Touch-Ds with the Congregation. Enjoy watching the video below or click on the link below to make a quick-pick.

Touch-Ds on Article II Revisions on Vimeo

Announcing the completion of the new UAH Worship Associate Handbook

This work began in the summer of 2022 and is a collaborative effort of our Worship Associates. The essence of this endeavor is captured in the following paragraph:

"This new Worship Associate Handbook grew out of the need to capture the growing gathering, to create additional guidelines for our Worship Associates, to provide a resource for those who are thinking about the Good Fashioned in 2020, and to memorialize some of the history of our Unitarian Universalist Association Worship Service."

There is a deep appreciation for the Rev Worship Associates, for all who have answered the call at this day, and for those who will become Worship Associates in the future.

There is a deep appreciation for the Worship Associates in 2020 when Covid-19 pandemic forced us into the virtual world, for Rich Michael, Rich Davis, Bob Davis, Sarah Wolfe, Rich Michael, Julia Bergman, Carol Hampson, Ann Hampson, Ann Hampson.

There is a deep appreciation for Karolina Wojtkiewicz, offer administration, when she joined the Worship Associate team in 2021 and 2022 and 2023 and 2024 and the Spiritual Journey to create different services and activities and tasks.

And this weekend, it took a village to create this Worship Associate Handbook. We are grateful.

New Lobby "Graffiti Pattern"

As an experiment, we've opened up entry to the sanctuary by removing the walls to the lower and upper lobbies. Our Sanctuary Committee has created a "graffiti pattern" on the lobby walls, which can be seen on the middle of the archway. Please enjoy conversations with friends while you are waiting for the service to begin in the lobbies.

Let's see the system for a few weeks and then submit comments to Laurie Kelliher.

Announcing **SpiritOut Chat**
Sundays, 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Nonduality programs that display spiritual teachings of our world's enjoyment unity, everything arises from and is part of a fundamental Oneness. This is a non-denominational, non-religious, non-political, non-dogmatic, non-hierarchical, non-guru, is considered an element of spiritual awakening.

Spiritual Teacher Nicholas Roerich, a former monk, is offering a zoom/spiritual chat on Sundays, 2 p.m. - 3 p.m. Nicholas Roerich is a former monk, a former spiritual counselor, formerly an open-to-all-in-an-open-to-being — or — open-to-anything-seeker. He is free will offering of time or whatever the your income is or donation. Please contact Nicholas Roerich for more information at Nicholas.Roerich@gmail.com.

Did U U Know?

Ambulatory Luminaries

Bill Sayre: We are enjoying this worship series, highlighting the issues that have been of concern to us and the ways we have responded to them. Where did you notice?

Were you not noticed that the numerous crosses of the Ambulatory are made of wood? Wood is a sustainable material, and it is a material of Unitarian Universalism. Wood is a material that allowed us to build our meeting houses, our pulpits, our pews, our tables, our chairs, our pews, our pulpits, being turned to these locations.

Henry Whitney Bellows, 1814-1882 (Hymn 3)
Unitarian Minister, Author, Hymn Writer, Abolitionist

Henry Whitney Bellows was born in Boston in 1814. His first preaching was in the Dutch and he was known as the Dutch Bellows. He was a Civil War Chaplain, a Unitarian Minister, a hymn writer, a prolific author, a prominent Unitarian and nationalist and an abolitionist. He was a member of the Civil Rights Commission, a member of the Boston Board of Education, a member of the Massachusetts Commission to Revise the Laws, and a member of the Massachusetts Commission to Revise the Laws. Together with his friend, Rev. Theodore Parker, he was instrumental in the establishment of the Unitarian Church in New York City, which he served for 50 years.

Henry Bellows acquired a high reputation as a pulpit orator and lecturer. Lectures and was a congregational leader of the Unitarian Church in New York City. He was a friend and advisor to several Unitarian and Christian publications, including the Christian Examiner, the Christian Register, and the Christian Inquirer. He was the editor of a prayer book and a hymnal for the Unitarian Church in New York City, which he served for 50 years.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, he planned the United States Sanitary Commission, which was a forerunner of the Red Cross. He was a leader in humanitarian, educational, and reform movements of the nineteenth century, and the recruiting of thousands of volunteers to help Union soldiers. He was a friend of President Abraham Lincoln, and he was called to support soldiers and veterans.

In 1865, he proposed and organized the National Conference of Unitarian and Other Christian Churches, which was a forerunner of the Unitarian Universalist Association. He was a prominent abolitionist in the United States, and he was a friend of Frederick Douglass. He was a friend of Jenny Lind, the Swedish Nightingale, and he was a friend of Charles Dickens, and he was a friend of Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Bellows died in New York City on 29 January 1882. A bronze memorial bust by Augustus Saint-Gaudens was unveiled in 1885 in Boston's Public Garden.

(See more Ambulatory Luminaries on our website. Here.)

USH Gatherings

For information on our weekly and monthly gatherings, click here.

Social Justice

January SOUL Operation Fuel

Operation Fuel is the nonprofit which helps people in need throughout the state of Connecticut. United Shares, providing year-round emergency energy assistance, weatherization, and energy education. The workloads of local fuel funds is a primary source of energy and utility assistance for low- to moderate-income households who struggle financially.

Zoom Zoom Discussion Series: "The Sum of Us" Podcast Start your 2024 with Waves of Gratitude, Joy and Stronger Communities

Grant's level of the 'Zoom and coffee' discussions, which are based on the podcast series, which starts in the English colonies and ends in Another Mother's Kitchen, is a great way to start your day. The podcasts are short and well-produced and are followed by a lively discussion. Grant's group meets about each podcast will take place monthly from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. The next discussion will be on Tuesday, January 30. Contact Grant for the Zoom invites or any questions he can answer.

Here's the link to all of the Sum of Us podcasts:
https://www.pbs.org/wnet/the-sum-of-us/episode/episode-1-kicks-off/
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