

USH E-News June 19, 2024

"Seeking, Sharing, Soaring"



Photo: Janice Newton, June 2024

Unitarian Society of Hartford

"Nourishing Spirit, Building Community, Working for Justice"
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www.ushartford.org

Minister's Office Hours:

Tuesdays & Thursdays 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
or by appointment.

Office Administrator Hours:

Sunday 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Monday – Thursday 9:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

***Karolina is away June 14 – 23**

**Sunday Morning Service
10:30 a.m. June 23**

**"Eric Dolphy – “Out to Lunch!”
(60th Anniversary Celebration)**



**Sam Moffett, Director of Music Ministries, Pulpit Guest
Sarah Uyer, Andrew Wilcox, Preston Murphy,
Sarah DiMiceli – Guest Musicians
Margaret Leicach, Worship Associate**



Matters of the Heart

To have a Joy or Sorrow read from the
pulpit
on Sunday morning, e-mail [Matters of the
Heart](mailto:MattersoftheHeart)

In person – use **Matters of Heart** basket for written cards on Sunday morning. Please provide concise information.

Religious Education: 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

Worship 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](#)

Worship Calendar

Join us, in person or online.

Upcoming Services:

June 30 – "Sacred Stories Celebrating Pride", Reverend Bob & USH Panel of Members/Michael Michaud, Worship Associate

SUMMER SERVICES BEGIN
 in Fellowship Hall at 10:30 a.m. in July:

July 7 – "The Four Noble Truths", Reverend Bob/
 Michael Michaud, Worship Associate

July 14 – "The Mythical Jesus", David Klotz,
 member of UUS:E, pulpit guest/
 Judy Robbins, Worship Associate

**July 21 – Nina Elgo, pulpit guest/
 Rick Tsukada, Worship Associate**



June 23, Sunday Worship at G.A.: 1 - 2:30 p.m. "Weaving Our Lives"

Rev. Molly Housh Gordon of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbia, MO leads the Sunday Service at General Assembly 2024. You don't need to register.

The worship collection will benefit Side with Love, including its campaigns for climate justice (Create Climate Justice), democracy (UU the Vote), and bodily autonomy, including reproductive, LGBTQIA+, and disability justice (UPLIFT Action). Your [gift to the Side with Love collection](#) supports all this essential work.

Watch the service from home, live on [Youtube](#).



Rev. Molly Housh Gordon

A lifelong Unitarian Universalist from Tulsa, Oklahoma, the Rev. Molly Housh Gordon is the minister of the UU Church of Columbia, Missouri, where she is currently suing the state of Missouri for their unconstitutional abortion ban alongside 13 other multi-faith clergy co-plaintiffs. Molly is passionate about red-state UU ministry, community organizing, and mutual aid. In addition to her ministry and organizing work, Molly is a published essayist and poet completing a Doctor of Ministry in Creative Writing and Public Theology. Alongside her wonderful spouse, she is the delighted parent of two very fierce young children and one very chill old dog.



Thoughts From Rev. Bob...

I just want to encourage you to come along to West Hartford Pride this Saturday, June 22, from 10:30 a.m. in West Hartford Center. We're sharing a booth with Fern Street Universalist Church. Whoever you are, whoever you love, it's a chance to support one another and celebrate our diversity and our commonality. And it's special to do so as a congregation, I think. See

you there!

Blessings, Rev. Bob



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
VIRTUAL GA • JUNE 20 - 23, 2024

UUA General Assembly Get-Together (Hybrid, Library & Zoom)

Every year, Unitarian Universalists from around the country gather at the General Assembly. This is a four-day-long event, featuring workshops, worship services, and business meetings where votes are taken on Unitarian Universalist policy and practice.

This year, rather than happening at a specific location, the General Assembly is online-only. As you may have heard, this is a major General Assembly as there is a vote in place about Article II, which is our governing document. For more info or to register, see <https://www.uua.org/ga>.

If you'd like to talk about the General Assembly with others in our congregation, Rev. Bob is hosting a general get-together on **Friday, June 21, 4-6 p.m.** in the USH library. You can also come to this virtually via [Zoom Here](#). The business meeting will be going on then, so you can get a glimpse into that process and we can watch it together – or, we can just chat about GA generally.

No need to register, just show up if you're interested. Feel free to ask [Rev. Bob](#) if you have any questions. Thanks!

USH News

Endowment Committee Asks FOCUS Group for Guidance

Last Sunday, June 16, a FOCUS group of interested USH members and friends gathered in Servetus to assist the Endowment Committee in its plans for an Endowment Campaign in late summer through the fall.

Sherry Manetta briefed the group on the general governance of the Endowment Committee's activities and outlined the present status of our Endowment. Then, she asked the group what questions the congregation might want answered during a campaign; what modes of communication would be most effective; and if there were specific concerns and clarifications that might be helpful to address with the congregation.

As part of the presentation, a brief history of the USH Endowment (posted [here](#)) was passed out. We discussed how endowments are an important element in present and future success of USH; how a strong financial base supports future USH leaders; and how our present actions and preparation can help those who follow us, just as we have been helped by past generations.

The group enthusiastically supported the idea of aiming for 100% participation among the congregation — offering a 'menu' of ways to participate (i.e. bequests, gifts of appreciated securities, cash) noting that no contribution is too small — or too large. The **most** important aspect is to involve everyone, at all ages and income levels, so we all share in the success of this effort.

Other comments and suggestions were recorded, and will form a basis for the ongoing refinement of the campaign. We will see more in coming weeks, as the responses from the group are molded into a widespread approach.

Can You Help Save a Life ??

Joe Rubin and Diane Cadrain asked this plea be shared with our community... **Nate Parks needs a liver transplant.**

Nate is the partner of their youngest daughter, Lucia Rubin-Cadrain, who grew up at USH. Nate's been waiting for six years, and his family and friends are sharing Nate's story as broadly as possible to find potential donors. If you want to familiarize yourself with his story this far, visit the website made by Lucia Rubin-

Cadrain: **<https://linktr.ee/nateyneedsaliver>**.

A liver donor donates *only a portion* of their liver, which then regrows.

Over the last year or so, several potential donors, including Nate's brother, have been screened as donors and all have been turned down. The search continues, and the more potential donors reached, the better the chances of finding someone who can in fact donate a part of their liver to Nate. Donor eligibility is subject to a variety of factors — blood type, health, family history, physical condition, community support during recovery, and more.

Find out more about living organ donation **[here](#)**:

If think you'd like to be screened as a potential donor, please contact Nate's brother, benjaminhparks(at sign)**[gmail.com](mailto:benjaminhparks@gmail.com)**.

**MeetingHouse
Presents**



**Concert with ResQ
and Bluebyrd
Welcomes Summer!**

Friday, June 21, 2024 at 6
p.m.

In Fellowship Hall

\$10 donation

With extreme heat forecast for the week, we are moving **indoors** to

enjoy air conditioning along with the music... join us **downstairs in Fellowship Hall!**

USH Gatherings

**Everyone's invited to see *Princess Mononoke*
on Sunday, July 14, 3 p.m.
at the AMC Plainville theater**

This is a Japanese animated film created by master filmmaker Hayao Miyazaki and the famed Studio Ghibli, who recently won an Academy Award for Best Animated Film, for *The Boy and The Heron*.

It is an epic fantasy story set in 1400s Japan, where the rapidly modernizing civilization of man and the ancient spirits of the forest are on a collision course set for a catastrophic war. An outsider, Ashitaka, seeks to stop the fighting before all is lost for both sides of the conflict.

This film is rated PG-13 for its depictions of war and violence, suggestive themes, nightmarish imagery, and brief strong language.

Please contact Annie Witzler via email (re4ush@gmail.com) or by phone (706-248-9438) if you would like to reserve tickets, which can be refunded up to an hour before showtime. **Tickets are \$15 per person.**

Stay tuned for further details closer to the show!

For more information on our weekly and monthly gatherings, click [here](#).

Social Justice

May Social Justice Council Minutes have been posted [here](#)



Manhattan Beach, California ~ Swimming Together

Join *The Sum of Us* discussion group in person to reflect on the final session. **Podcast description:** After pressure from white residents and the Ku Klux Klan during the early 1900s, a local

government seized a thriving Black-owned beach resort in Manhattan Beach, CA. Activists won the return of the beach to the Bruce family in the first-known U.S. case of land reparations for Black people. The community confronts what it lost when it destroyed a Black beach paradise, and redefines itself as reparations become reality. Also listen to the final reflection podcast, *The America that's Becoming*, focused on how to move to action locally to address similar issues. Both podcasts are available to listen to

at: <https://open.spotify.com/show/19VMtc487rqmrb6GC8eRvd>

We will be gathering at **USH in Classroom D from noon – 1:00** following coffee hour after the **June 30** service to discuss both podcasts. If you have questions, contact Gloria Mengual at gloriafmengual@gmail.com or call her at 860-729-2093.

Pictured above is a photo of the family of color holding up their property paperwork.

Church Street Eats.

A simple act of kindness goes a long way to help those in need



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL
CONNECTICUT'S CATHEDRAL

June Good Neighbor Offering

Church Street Eats is a cooperative ministry operating out of the historic Christ Church Cathedral, providing meals and clothing to people in need, in and around Hartford. The number of people who depend on Church Street Eats continues to increase. Likewise, the opportunities to be a part of this caring community also continue to grow.

USH is one of more than 40 groups that commit their time and talent — schools, businesses, and various religious groups from all over the state to aid in their basic but dedicated mission: A simple act of kindness goes a long way to help those in need.

Each month this church year, our Youth Group has made soup that has been donated to serve those in need of a meal. Inspired by their mission of kindness, the USH Youth Group has chosen to partner with them for this month's Good Neighbor Offering.



Saturday, June 22: West Hartford Pride

Join the celebration! West Hartford Pride @ WH Town Hall

USH and the Universalist Church of WH are again sharing a booth.

Volunteer to welcome guests for an hour or more and be rewarded with fun, community spirit, and a free USH t-shirt! Sign Up Genius link below or contact [Judy Sullivan](#)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0D49AEAC2CA2FF2-50039855-west>



Food Pantry News:

One in eight CT residents experienced food insecurity in 2022". That's nearly half a million people!.Can you just imagine what the numbers are now with the incredible increases in food costs?

Please give generously to the Horace Bushnell Food Pantry. Lots of protein, please!

RE and Chalice Clubhouse



Join the fun at USH –

Looking for a supportive, inclusive, non-judgmental 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.



It's summertime and there's still so much fun at USH – join us downstairs in Fellowship Hall for free play for all ages while we listen to the service. All are welcome.

USH Resources

Board Meeting

The next board meeting is Tuesday, July 9

6:30 p.m. Hybrid

[Zoom Link HERE](#)

2023 – 2024 USH Board of Directors

Dana Donovan: President

Nancy Kemmerer: President-Elect

Jon Covault: Treasurer

Gloria Mengual: Secretary

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

Rick Tsukada: Spiritual Life Council Chair

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

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

See the 2023/24 Annual Report [HERE](#)

The [Board Meeting Minutes](#) for April 2024 have been posted.

Click [HERE](#) to view the USH Directory, Reports, and other church business information online. Contact [Karolina Wojtysko](#) for the username and password.

[Link for Welcome Team Sign-Up Genius](#)

USH Staff:

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**The deadline for USH E-news submissions
is
noon Tuesday**

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.

When forwarding information concerning an "outside" event or organization, **please pre-edit your copy** in order to keep the piece to 200 words or less. Note that all material is subject to editing prior to publication.

Articles should be sent as email file attachments, (MS Word preferred) and images need to be sent separately as jpeg, jpg, png, tiff, bmp, or gif files. Thank you for your cooperation.

Editor-in-Chief: Tina Davies

Production and Technology Manager: Karolina Wojtysko

[Email Your Submission](#)

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

[Want to Donate Online? Click Here](#)

USH Calendar of Events

The calendar for **June 2024** 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 or Zoom Meeting click [HERE](#).

Unitarian Society of Hartford | 50 Bloomfield Avenue | Hartford, CT 06105 US

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