

# Unitarian Universalist Society: East

Member of the New England Region of the  
Unitarian Universalist Association



**Unitarian Universalist Society: East** is a welcoming, open-minded, spiritual community seeking truth and meaning in its many forms. We share responsibility for building a more equitable, peaceful, and sustainable world.

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Find us on Facebook at [/UUSEast](#).



## Sunday Services Schedule

In July and August, we continue to hold one virtual worship service every Sunday morning at 10:00 AM in Zoom. Our Zoom login and call-in information will be shared through the congregational eblasts on Wednesdays and Saturdays. To subscribe to the congregational eblast, please send a message to [e-news@uuse.org](mailto:e-news@uuse.org) or contact Annie Gentile in the UUS:E office to arrange another method of receiving relevant information.

Also: we are reopening, slowly but surely. As part of our "soft" reopening, a limited number of members and friends can join us in the sanctuary for worship! Sign up with our Office Administrator at [uuseoffice@uuse.org](mailto:uuseoffice@uuse.org) or 860-646-5151..

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### August 1: "Small Miracles."

In each of our lives, we experience things that affect us in ways we could not have anticipated. Often, these occurrences help shape our concept of spirituality. They may even be classified as small miracles. In today's service, we will focus on those special events that affect the way in which we view our world. Speakers will include Anne Carr and Robert Sehi.

**Coordinators:** Sheila Foran and Sandy Karosi

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### August 8: "All Souls."

Worship online with All Souls UU Congregation of New London. Worship leader: The Rev. Mark Robel, who was recently ordained by All Souls and the First Church of Sterling, MA. Watch our regular eblast for login information

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### August 15: "Small Celebrations."

This morning's service is to honor those small celebrations that honor the change of the seasons, our appreciation of the natural world and the events of our individual lives. Join us to explore our individual traditions and rituals that mark life's meaning.

**Coordinators:** David Klotz and Beth Hankins

**Music:** Dorothy Bognar

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### August 22: "West Hartford."

Worship online with the Universalist Church of West Hartford. Watch our regular eblast for login information.

**Coordinator:** Rev. Adam Robersmith

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### August 29: "Stories from the Overstory."

Rev. Josh offers reflections on the secret and not-so-secret lives of trees. These reflections are inspired in part by his late father, who spoke

regularly to trees; and in part by his recent reading of Richard Powers' 2018, Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, **The Overstory**.

**Coordinator:** Rev. Josh Pawelek

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### September 5: "On Faith in Labor."

There is a long and sometimes complicated history of faith communities and labor unions working together for social justice. What does that relationship look like today? We'll hear from some prominent Connecticut labor leaders about living our faith in solidarity with workers.

**Coordinators:** Sheila Foran and Rev. Josh Pawelek

## Community Outreach Ministry

Charitable Giving for August 2021

As always, thank you for your generosity.

"We do not gather our gifts only for ourselves, but to share with the larger community."

Continuing our practice of sharing our gifts with the community beyond our walls, fifty percent of our Sunday plate collections for the months of July and August will be split among three area food banks:

- [MACC Food Pantry](#)
- [Hockanum Valley Food Pantry](#)
- [CT Mutual Aid East of River Food Pantry](#)

Please contact Louisa Graver at [lgraver163@gmail.com](mailto:lgraver163@gmail.com), David Lacoss, or Nancy Madar at [nancymadar@hotmail.com](mailto:nancymadar@hotmail.com).

Checks made out to UUS:E will be treated as follows. If the memo line:

- ✓ is blank or "pledge" is written, all will go toward your pledge.
- ✓ has "COM" or the name of the charity is on the memo line, all will go to the charity.
- ✓ has "1/2 pledge, 1/2 COM," it will be divided equally.

## Medicine Bottles for Haiti



Peggy Gagne has set up a yellow collection box for empty medicine bottles in the foyer, near the ink cartridge recycle box, to help Jean Labutis with a project. Jean has a contact in Haiti who has been receiving donations of medicines in very large batches, and they need empty pill bottles to distribute them into. So, we are recycling by collecting pill bottles of all sizes, with the labels removed or with info blacked out. Please drop them in the yellow box in the foyer. Thank you!

Any questions, please contact Jean Labutis, [jeanalabutis@gmail.com](mailto:jeanalabutis@gmail.com), or Peggy Gagne, [pgagne15@att.net](mailto:pgagne15@att.net).

## Collecting Backpacks & Socks

Our partners at Verplanck Elementary School in Manchester have asked us to collect new backpacks and socks for their students. Our new Family Resource Coordinator tells us that these youngsters are 4 – 9 years old, usually wearing shoe sizes 1 – 6. You can drop off donations at the church most weekdays, just call ahead to be sure that Annie will be there when you arrive. Please add a note to let us know who you are!! We would like to cut off donations August 25, so that we can get the last delivery made to the school. Any questions? Email Nancy Pappas at [nanapap338@aol.com](mailto:nanapap338@aol.com). And thank you in advance!

## Music Salon

There will be a virtual Music Salon Unplugged on Friday August 27 at 6:30 PM! It will be virtual, so recordings of musicians will be presented, but the musician will be there "in-person." Musicians of all levels are invited to perform. We will be on Zoom, enjoying each other's music and having fun. Bring your favorite beverage and relax! As always, listeners will be welcome. If you would like to participate as a musician or listener, or if you simply want more information, contact Peggy Webbe at [peggywebbe@gmail.com](mailto:peggywebbe@gmail.com). Or contact [MaryBopp@verizon.net](mailto:MaryBopp@verizon.net). A day or so before the event, we will send Zoom sign-in information to those who have contacted us.

## Book Recommendations

Below are books recommended by UUS:E members for this month. Click on the goodreads link to see all recommendations to date.

[https://www.goodreads.com/review/list/130686405-paul-cocuzzo?ref=nav\\_mybooks&shelf=uuse-recommends](https://www.goodreads.com/review/list/130686405-paul-cocuzzo?ref=nav_mybooks&shelf=uuse-recommends)

From: Jessey Ina-Lee...

**Cassandra Speaks: When Women are the Storytellers, the Human Story Changes**, by Elizabeth Lesser, History & Criticism, 307 pages

Summary: **Cassandra Speaks** is about the stories we tell and how those stories become the culture. It's about the stories we still blindly cling to, and the ones that cling to us: the origin tales, the guiding myths, the religious parables, the literature and films and fairy tales passed down through the centuries about women and men, power and war, sex and love, and the values we live by. Stories written mostly by men with lessons and laws for all of humanity. We have outgrown so many of them, and still they endure. This book is about what happens when women are the storytellers too—when we speak from our authentic voices, when we flex our values, when we become protagonists in the tales we tell about what it means to be human.

Recommendation: "**Cassandra Speaks** has a lot of good information and advice on how to change the way we frame everything in our lives around the male rather than female perspective. It's a positive book that offers much food for thought on ways to create a more equitable world for us all."

From: Jean A. Labutis...

**Martha Washington: An American Life**, by Patricia Brady, Historical Fiction, 276 pages

Summary: Profiles the nation's original First Lady as the widowed mother of two children who became George Washington's beloved partner and a mainstay in his stressful life, drawing on numerous sources to reveal her contributions to American character.

Recommendation: "I have always wondered what the women were doing during the founding of this country and the Revolutionary War. Turns out they were a vital part of everything. This book provides the backstory of this part of our history that we never see in history books or learn in history classes. Martha and George Washington become true-to-life people in this superb book. I am loving this book."

## UUS:E Outdoor Tag Sale

Saturday September 18, 9 AM – 2 PM (Rain date September 25)

Please start collecting items to donate! (no clothing or knives please). We will start collecting at UUS:E Sunday 9/12, drop-off times to be announced. Please consider pre-pricing your items!

Fill-a-bag for \$4 starting at 1 PM (We hope this will decrease volume of items left over.) Please collect paper bags from Highland Park or Trader Joe's for the "fill-a-bag" hour.

There will be a booth for new items. Have you gotten something you didn't want or need? Still in box or with tags? Donate to the booth! We can price these items higher. Want to donate collectibles? Please try to research "sold" prices on eBay and recommend a price range.

We need your help! Please consider volunteering:

- Manage a booth (Books or New Items/Collectibles)
- Manage advertising/marketing
- Distribute posters
- Pricing items - 9/12 - 9/17
- Set-up day of sale
- Work at the sale on 9/18, one hour shifts or more
- Break-down day of sale
- Take leftover items to donate

We want this to be a successful fundraiser for our beloved UUS:E and we need your help and support! Look for further announcements through e-blast, newsletters and at beginning of services.

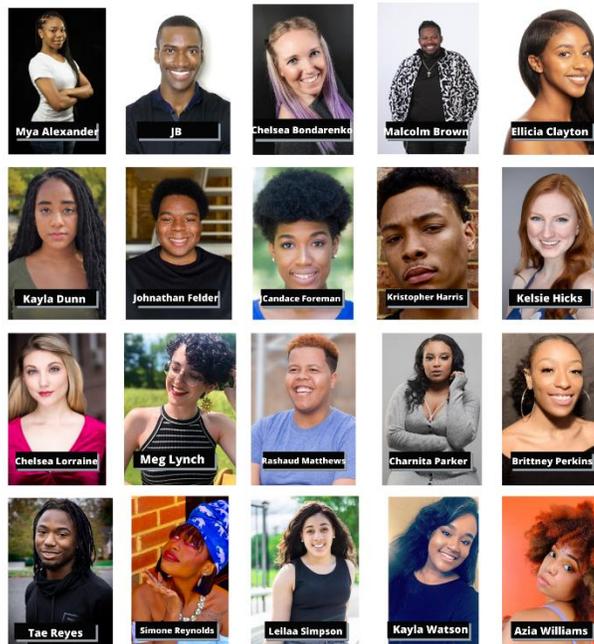
Know you want to help already? Contact Marcie or Sandy

Marcie Brown & Sandy Karosi

## Stop & Shop Cards

Stop & Shop cards can still be purchased despite the pandemic. Anyone who is interested in buying a card can contact Annie, our office administrator. Cards come in \$50, \$100 and \$250 amounts. The money raised from this effort goes into the general fund. And they make great holiday gifts! If you need any help with this or more information, contact Sandy Johnson at 860-888-9673.

## A Special Virtual Musical Theater Event!



Friday, July 30 at 7 PM

Kareem's COVID Café Cabaret (Kareem's CCC) is a night at the virtual theater, paying homage to musical theatre's overall inclusive nature; and this month UUS:E will offer a special showing of this Virtual Musical Event!

Kareem Mack, who presented and performed the wonderful concert, "Black Music in Motion" at UUS:E returns with a virtual program he produced and directed. He and his team have put together an hour-long program of solo, small ensemble, large ensemble and dance numbers from musicals such as **Rent, West Side Story, Little Shop of Horrors, Once Upon this Island** and more! The cast and executive team of diverse, young artists aim to express the essentiality of music, helping the world to maneuver through trying circumstances like COVID-19.

This broadcast is free of charge, though donations are encouraged to help fund Kareem as he heads to Temple University in Philadelphia to pursue a Master of Music degree in Vocal Arts.

**RSVP here to receive your Zoom link:**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScFKk8zEL0FCiW\\_6hh1no5Ty32XLTIVAyFYOkH2ipuDZMyrRw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScFKk8zEL0FCiW_6hh1no5Ty32XLTIVAyFYOkH2ipuDZMyrRw/viewform)

**To view a preview and donate visit:**

<https://gofund.me/5cb66fed>

**Questions?** Email Kareem at [mack.kareem@yahoo.com](mailto:mack.kareem@yahoo.com)

## Books, Classes, and Discussions

Adult Religious Education

### Book Lovers

The Book Lovers meets second Tuesdays at 3:30 on Zoom. Ask Martha Larson ([marlar@wordshard.com](mailto:marlar@wordshard.com)) for the Zoom sign in.

Goodreads descriptions:

[https://www.goodreads.com/review/list/130686405-paul-cocuzzo?ref=nav\\_mybooks&shelf=uuse-book-lovers](https://www.goodreads.com/review/list/130686405-paul-cocuzzo?ref=nav_mybooks&shelf=uuse-book-lovers)

- August 10: **The Water Dancer**, by Ta-Nehisi Coates
- September 14: **The Left Hand of Darkness**, by Ursula Le Guin
- October 12: **The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek**, by Kim Michele Richardson.
- November 9: **Friday Black**, by Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah

### Buddhist Group

The Buddhist Group meets via Zoom at 7 PM Tuesday, August 3, for meditation and discussion. All are welcome; no meditation experience necessary. Contact Nancy Thompson at [nancythompson123@yahoo.com](mailto:nancythompson123@yahoo.com) for the Zoom info.

### Yoga at the Meetinghouse!

All welcome to gentle-to-moderate yoga classes in the UUS:E Meetinghouse, Wednesdays at 10:00 AM with Susan Barlow. \$5 drop-in fee. Bring a yoga mat or towel and wear comfortable clothes. All welcome, including beginners! Yoga provides an opportunity to quiet the mind as well as strengthen and relax the body. Direct questions to: Susan at [SBarlow627@aol.com](mailto:SBarlow627@aol.com) or Annie at the church office, 860-646-5151. Yoga is one of the UUS:E adult education offerings. We are polling interest in a Monday evening class. For the time being, masks are required whenever inside the building.



## UU SpiritLife

UU SpiritLife offers spiritually-focused programs to members and friends of the three Hartford area UU churches.

Fall 2021 Offerings Include:

### Daytime

- Spirituality for UUs - This course helps UUs to establish and deepen their spiritual lives in a religion without a creed. 12 weekly Zoom sessions; Sept 7-Nov 23; Tues, 10 AM – noon with Judy Robbins and Rick Tsukada

### Evening

- Living Your Faith - participants articulate the tenets of their faith and explore how this faith is manifested in their daily lives. 12 sessions; Tue: 7:00-8:30; dates TBD. Zoom with Tom Gervais

—OR—(Either Living Your Faith OR Spiritual Practices for UUs will be offered, depending on the sign-ups for the two programs)

- Spiritual Practices for UUs is a 9-month program in which participants experiment with different spiritual practices to explore how these practices can change how they experience and live life. 16 sessions; Tue: 7:00-8:30; dates TBD. Zoom with Tom Gervais
- Tending Your Spiritual Garden - participants explore how they might reap the bounty of a soulful spirituality. 2 sessions; Thu 7:00-8:30; dates TBD. Zoom with Tom Gervais
- Being a Monk in the World—finding and living from your inner monastery. 4 conversational Zoom sessions, including a review of recent writings on the subject. First Wed 7:00-8:30; Sept-Dec. with David Gonci
- How Your Former Catholicism Can Expand Your UUism - Ex-Catholic? No need to drop it all. 8 Zoom sessions on alternate Thurs starting Oct 14; 6-7:30 PM. With Rev Joy Christi Przeworski and Judy Robbins.

For more complete information including registration visit <http://www.UUSpiritLife.org>

**UUS:E GENERAL INFORMATION**

**UUS:E Office Schedule:** Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

**Meetinghouse Office:** 860-646-5151

**Office Administrator:** Annie Gentile email: [uuseoffice@uuse.org](mailto:uuseoffice@uuse.org)

**Minister:** Rev. Joshua Pawelek 860-652-8961, [minister@uuse.org](mailto:minister@uuse.org)

**OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesday 10 AM to 7 PM and Thursday 10 AM to 4 PM

**President:** Peggy Webbe, 860-871-8035, [peggywebbe@gmail.com](mailto:peggywebbe@gmail.com)

**Director of Religious Education:**

Gina Campellone, 860-875-8468, [redirector@uuse.org](mailto:redirector@uuse.org)

**Newsletter Editor:** Paul Cocuzzo, 978-270-2056, [newsletter@uuse.org](mailto:newsletter@uuse.org)

**Website Coordinator:** Carol Marion 860-643-8765, [uuse.web@uuse.org](mailto:uuse.web@uuse.org)

**World Wide Web address:** <http://uuse.org>

Newsletter Deadline:  
The 20<sup>th</sup> of Each Month

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