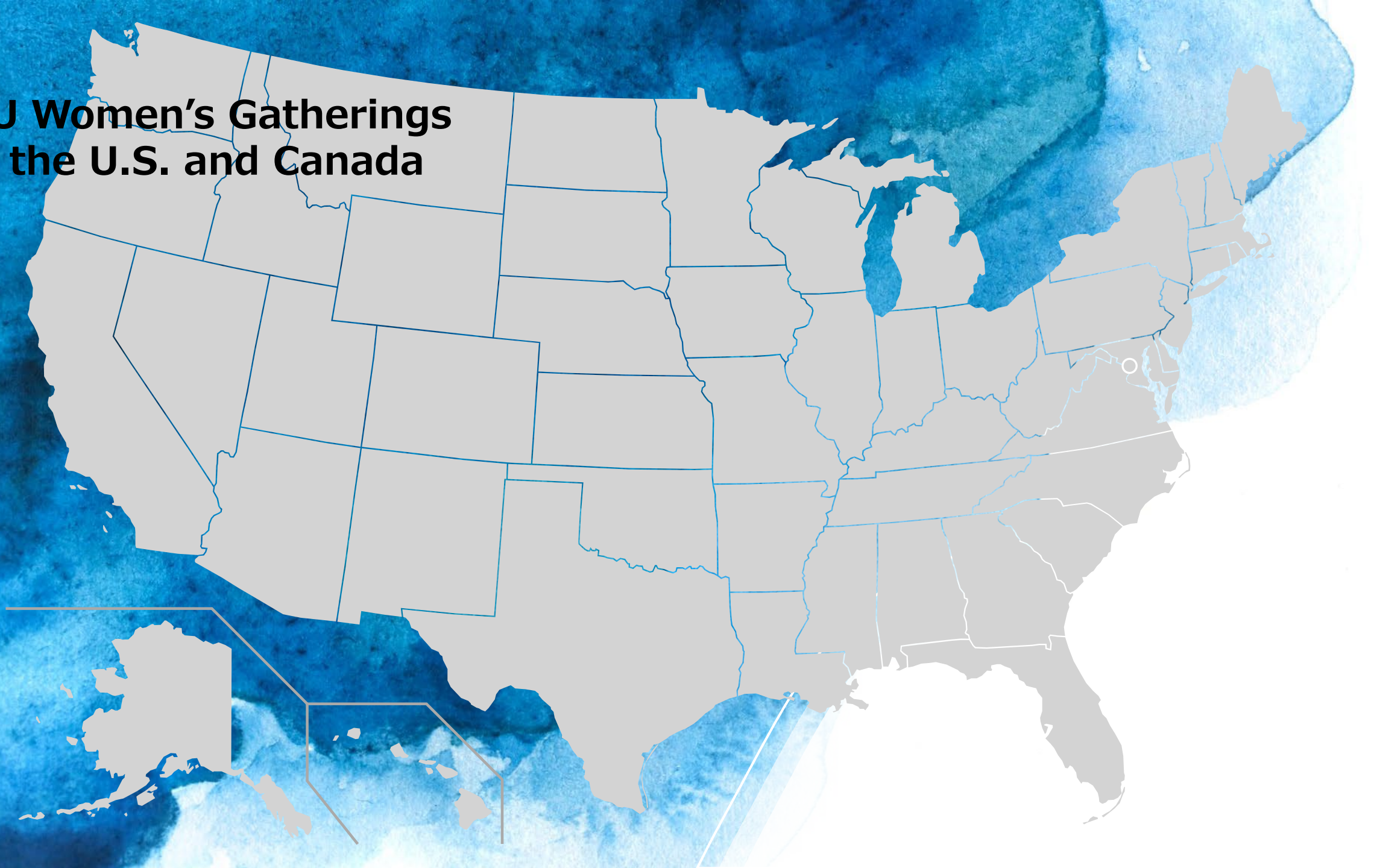
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we are a circle
within a circle
with no beginning
and never ending

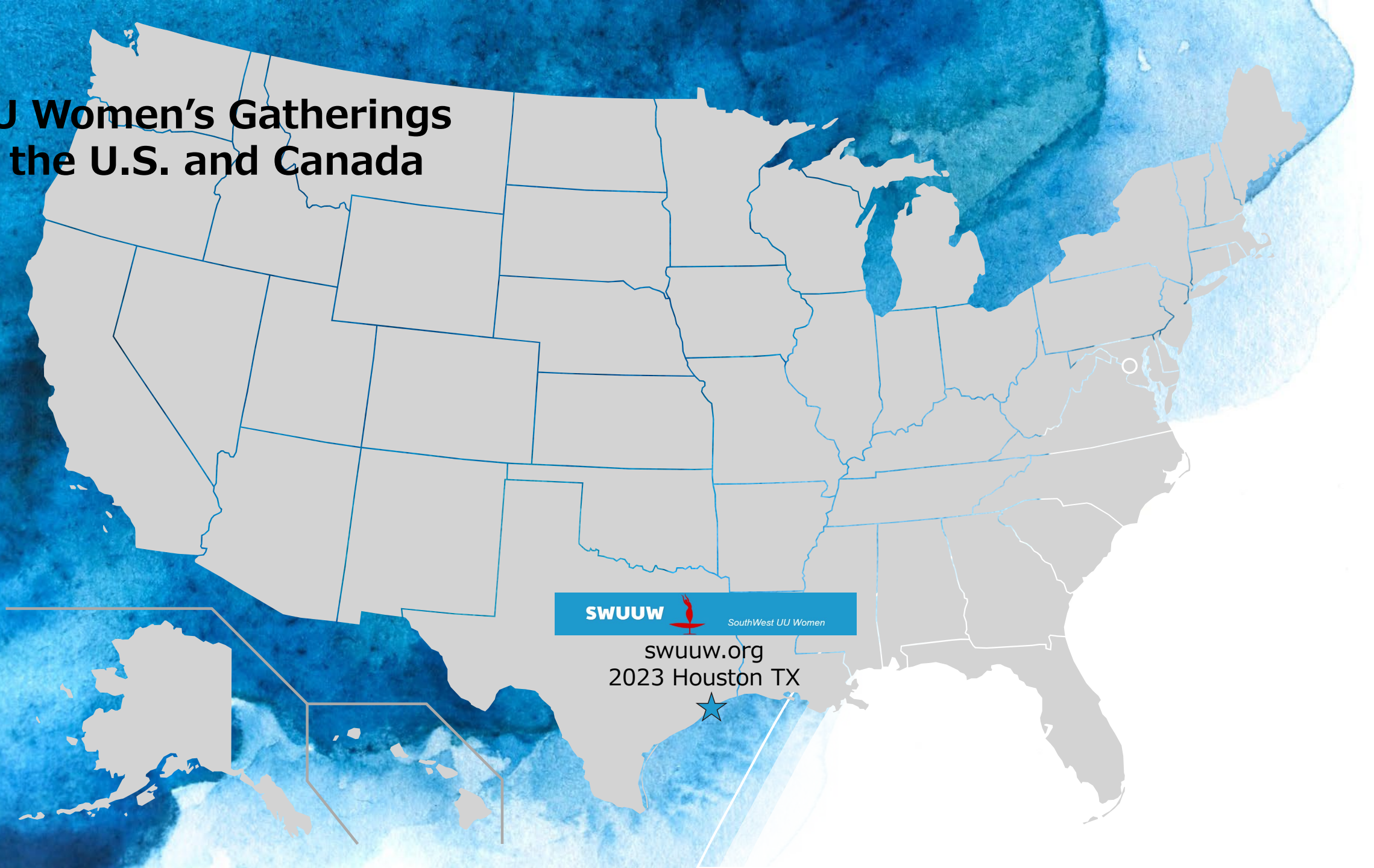


Welcome!

UU Women's Gatherings in the U.S. and Canada



UU Women's Gatherings in the U.S. and Canada



SWUW



SouthWest UU Women

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2023 Houston TX



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Napa, CA

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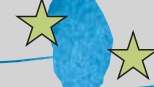


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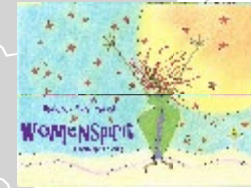


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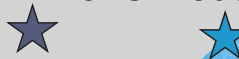


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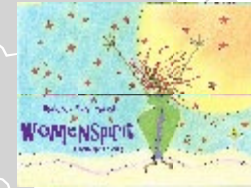
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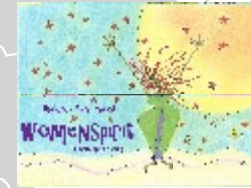
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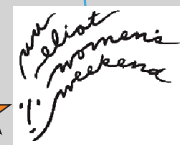
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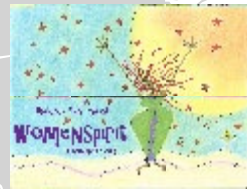
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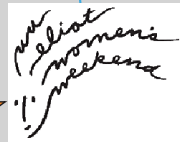
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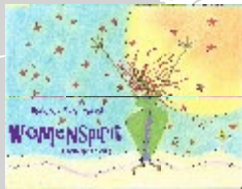
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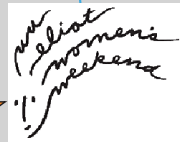
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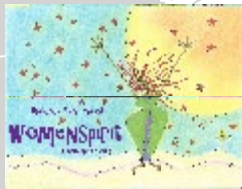
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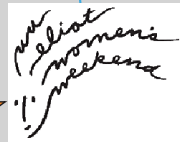
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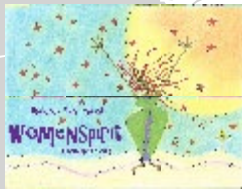
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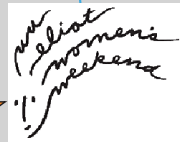
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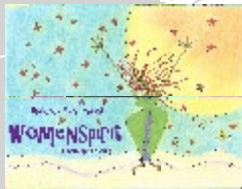
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Circle talk

Where are you connected
and what does that
mean to you?

The background is an abstract watercolor wash in various shades of blue, ranging from deep navy to light sky blue. The texture is soft and painterly. A thin, white, curved line starts near the bottom center and sweeps upwards and to the right, ending near the top right corner.

International / Continental UU Women's Groups

International Convocation of
Unitarian Universalist
Women



Partnering with women all over the globe

International Convocation of Unitarian Universalist Women



First International Women's Convocation Houston, TX, February, 2009



First international gathering of U*U and Progressive Faith Women in the US

600 women participated from 38 U.S. states and 17 other countries

\$100,000 for scholarships to internationals, ministers and young adults

Proceeds of \$10,000

Special collection raised another \$10,000 for women and children in Africa

Online database of model initiatives

Online social networking system for 600 registrants

2010 ICUUW granted tax exempt certification as nonprofit



First International Women's Convocation Houston, TX, February, 2009



International Women's Day – March 8

Resources and Sunday Service packets

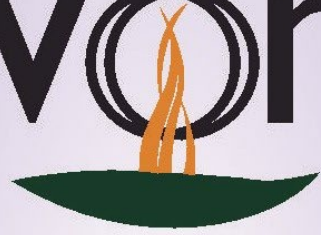




Join Our Tuesday Gatherings!

*Image: Gathering participants striking a #BreakTheBias pose
March 8, 2022 International Women's Day*

FOURTH
International Convocation of
Unitarian Universalist
Women



AND PEOPLE OF PROGRESSIVE FAITHS

“Weaving a Tapestry of Peace
and New Perspectives”

Connect – Collaborate – Create

Cluj-Napoca/Kolozsvár, Transylvania, Romania



Save the Date!

5-8 September, 2024

ICU UW Staff and Board



Karen Kortsch
USA, President
(term to 2024)



Renee Hills
Australia, Director
(term to 2026)



Sylvie Nyiramana
East Africa, Director
(term to 2026)



Gizella Nagy
Romania
Vice President
(term to 2026)



Elgiva Dora Shullai
India, Director
(term to 2024)



Zsófia Sztranyiczki
Romania/USA
Executive Director



Geri Kennedy
USA, Treasurer
(term to 2024)



Beth O'Connell
USA, Director
(term to 2025)



Nikki Steele
USA
Bookkeeper



Peg Swain
USA, Secretary
(term to 2025)



Debra Pritchard
USA, Director
(term to 2025)



Gretchen Ohmann
USA
Marketing/Outreach Director

intl womens convo.org

International Convocation of Unitarian Universalist Women



toward a new day . . .



Unitarian Universalist Women and Religion

1977 Women and Religion Resolution



*Participants in the first UUA
Women and Religion conference
at Grailville, Ohio (1979).*

1977 Women and Religion Resolution

WHEREAS, a principle of the Unitarian Universalist Association is to "affirm, defend, and promote the supreme worth and dignity of every human personality, and the use of the democratic method in human relationships"; and

WHEREAS, great strides have been taken to affirm this principle within our denomination; and

WHEREAS, some models of human relationships arising from religious myths, historical materials, and other teachings still create and perpetuate attitudes that cause women everywhere to be overlooked and undervalued; and

WHEREAS, children, youth and adults internalize and act on these cultural models, thereby tending to limit their sense of self-worth and dignity;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the 1977 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association calls upon all Unitarian Universalists to examine carefully their own religious beliefs and the extent to which these beliefs influence sex-role stereotypes within their own families; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the General Assembly urges the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Universalist Association to encourage the Unitarian Universalist Association administrative officers and staff, the religious leaders within societies, the Unitarian Universalist theological schools, the directors of related organizations, and the planners of seminars and conferences, to make every effort to: (a) put traditional assumptions and language in perspective, and (b) avoid sexist assumptions and language in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the General Assembly urges the President of the Unitarian Universalist Association to send copies of this resolution to other denominations examining sexism inherent in religious literature and institutions and to the International Association of Liberal Religious Women and the IARF; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the General Assembly requests the Unitarian Universalist Association to: (a) join with those who are encouraging others in the society to examine the relationship between religious and cultural attitudes toward women, and (b) to send a representative and resource materials to associations appropriate to furthering the above goals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the General Assembly requests the President of the UUA to report annually on progress in implementing this resolution.

LUCILE LONGVIEW CONCEIVED OF AND WROTE THE RESOLUTION



Video by Liz Fisher on
Rise Up website



0:00 / 8:10



Women were prime movers and participants in this effort

REVISION OF UU PRINCIPLES AND SOURCES

Video by Liz Fisher on
Rise Up website



Cakes for the Queen of Heaven completed in 1980, finally published by UUA in 1986. Author/editor Rev. Dr. Shirley A. Ranck. CAKES introduces participants to ancient Goddesses, weaving their stories together with major concerns of women today.

Rise up and Call Her Name originally published in 1995. Elizabeth Fisher (d.2020) was the author and editor. Sponsored by the UUWF and reissued in 2007 with updated components and format.

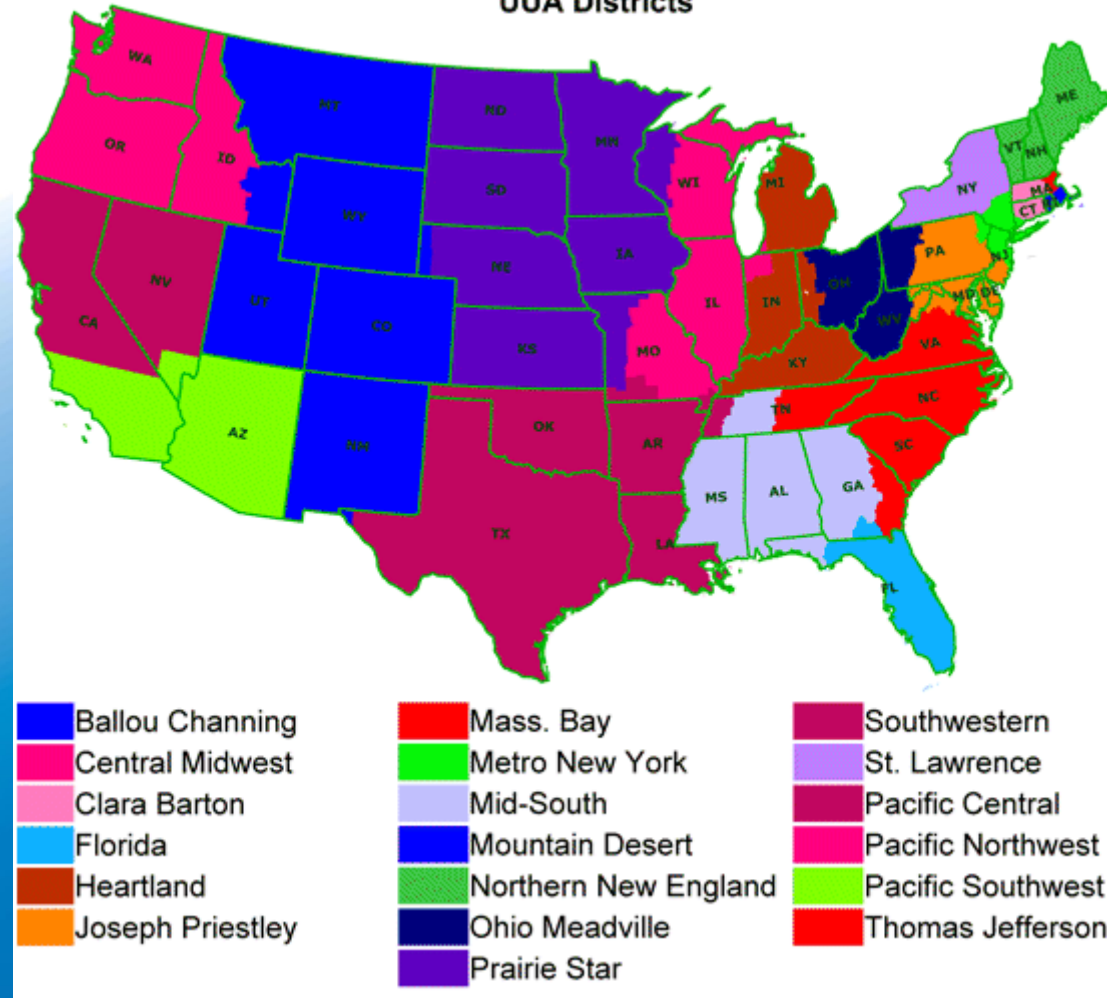


original
large notebook
and tapes

Women asked for feminist curricula

Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations

UUA Districts



W&R task force/committees in every district

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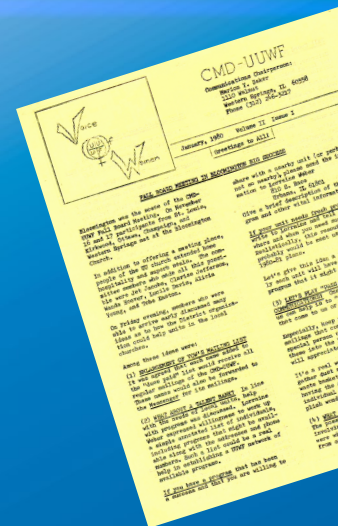
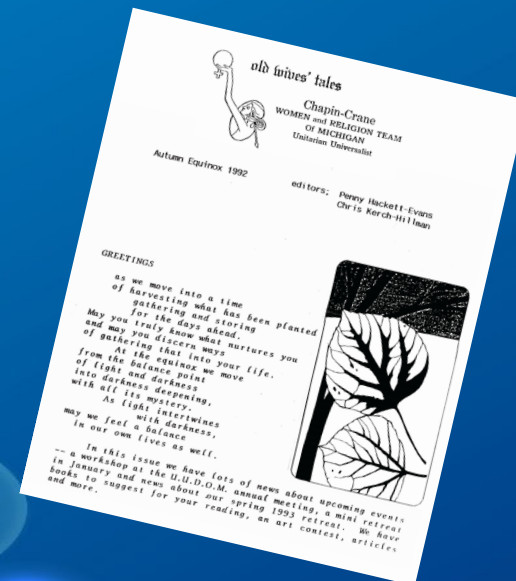
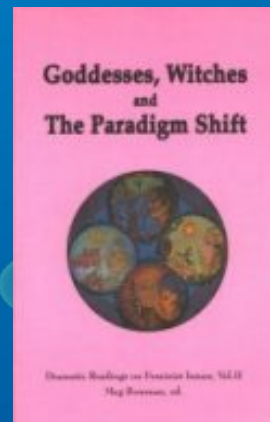
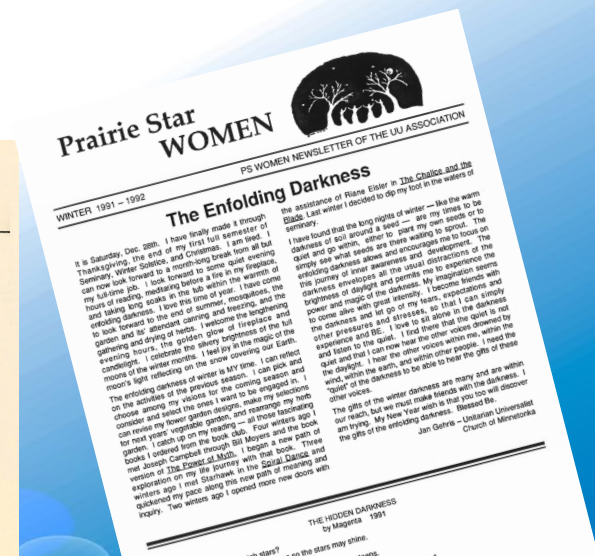
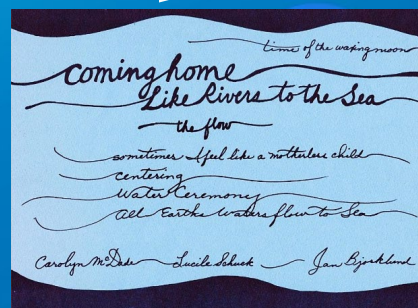
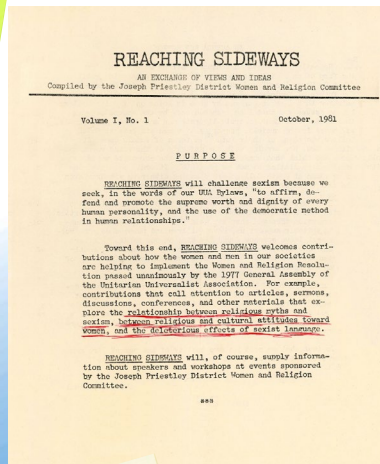
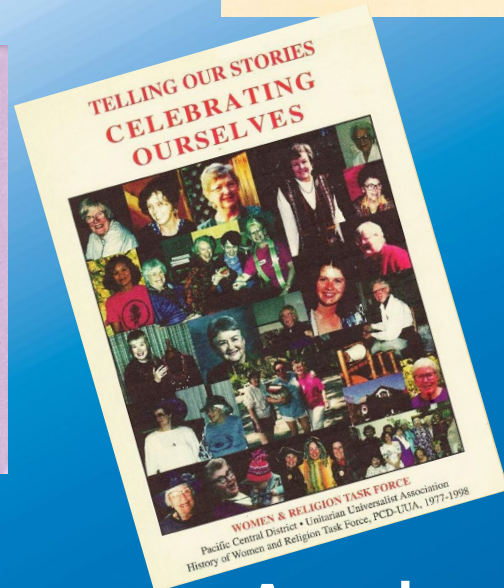
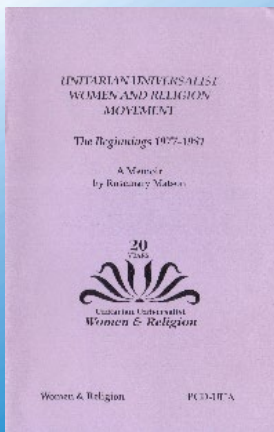
Ronora 1997



Honoring of Women and Religion foremothers/visionary leaders
Left to right: Rosemary Matson, UUA Moderator Denny Davidoff,
Carolyn McDade, and Lucille Longview.

1997 General Assembly

W&R groups gathered...



And wrote and published

The Indomitable Luisah

Luisah Teish made us laugh, made us cry. She called us "those loud and colorful women." She enjoined us to "follow our Big Toe" and inspired us to listen to the myriad signals life sends our way every day. The answers to the questions we ask and the quests we endeavor are within us and all we have to do is let our "Big Toe" lead us to knowledge; trust in yourself and the divine within and without. The universe (as all UUs surely know) is an interdependent web which can be traversed, Teish reminds us, by paying attention to the intuition we all possess and by allowing ourselves to listen to "coincidence" and "serendipity" as the places our "Big Toe" is trying to lead.

"Teish is a wise, spiritual woman who brought wonderful energy to the conference. She has given us a glimpse of an ancient, honored religion, parts of which will be incorporated into my own eclectic spirituality," said Carol Phillips, First UU, Houston.

Luisah introduced us to Yemonja, the Mother of the Night. Here are Luisah's words from her book, *Carnival of the Spirits*, ... "Yemonja is the Ocean Herself, the Primal Intelligence that existed on the planet in its Winter, before Life developed in the Garden. Yemonja is the quality of nurturance found in plants, animals, and human beings. She is the call to care, the urge to provide. She is milk-filled breasts and loving hands... She is milk-hair, a Black-skinned mermaid with long seaweed hair, paisley eyes, and voluptuous angular breasts. She has many names."

Teish shared with us a chant which was taught to her by Baba Fangbeni Fasini. It was sung as invocation to cast and close the circles of ritual. The melody is haunting and not easily forgotten. The accompanying movements are simple yet evocative and powerful. This chant was but one of the many gifts bestowed upon us by Luisah. Yet it embodies the feelings and the ambience that ran throughout the weekend.

Ooo oh (on an exhaled breath)
lba'che (Ebai shay)
lba'che o (Ebai shay oh)
lba baba (Ebai bai bai)
lba yeye (Ebai yea yea)
lba'che (Ebai shay)

lba is spirit
Che is power
The O adds emotion
Baba is father
Yeye is sweet mother

Printed with permission of Luisah Teish



Luisah Teish: author, priestess, womanspirit.

SWWIRL

Southwest Women in Religion Letter

Vol. 11, Issue 1

Spring, 1997

W&R Defunded

The budget for Continental Women and Religion was deleted at the 1996 General Assembly. Therefore District is the only resource available for funding. The district has not, at this time, included us in the FY 1997-98 budget.

A petition was circulated at SWUWVC urging the Southwest District to give us nominal funding so that we can continue with our current program. (Among other things SWWIRL is produced partially through the W&R funding.)

If you attend the Spring Conference on April 4,5,6 in Austin, make your voice be heard. If not, talk to your minister or to someone who will attend to apprise them of the situation. Copies of the petition should have gone back to the individual congregations. Find one. Sign it. Or E-mail the SW District- swduua@aol.com.

1996 Women & Religion
defunded by UUA.
District W&R groups
look to Districts for help

2007 60+ groups
Disaffiliated by UUA
Groups struggle; independence

2024 still going...

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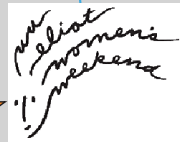
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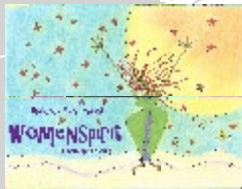
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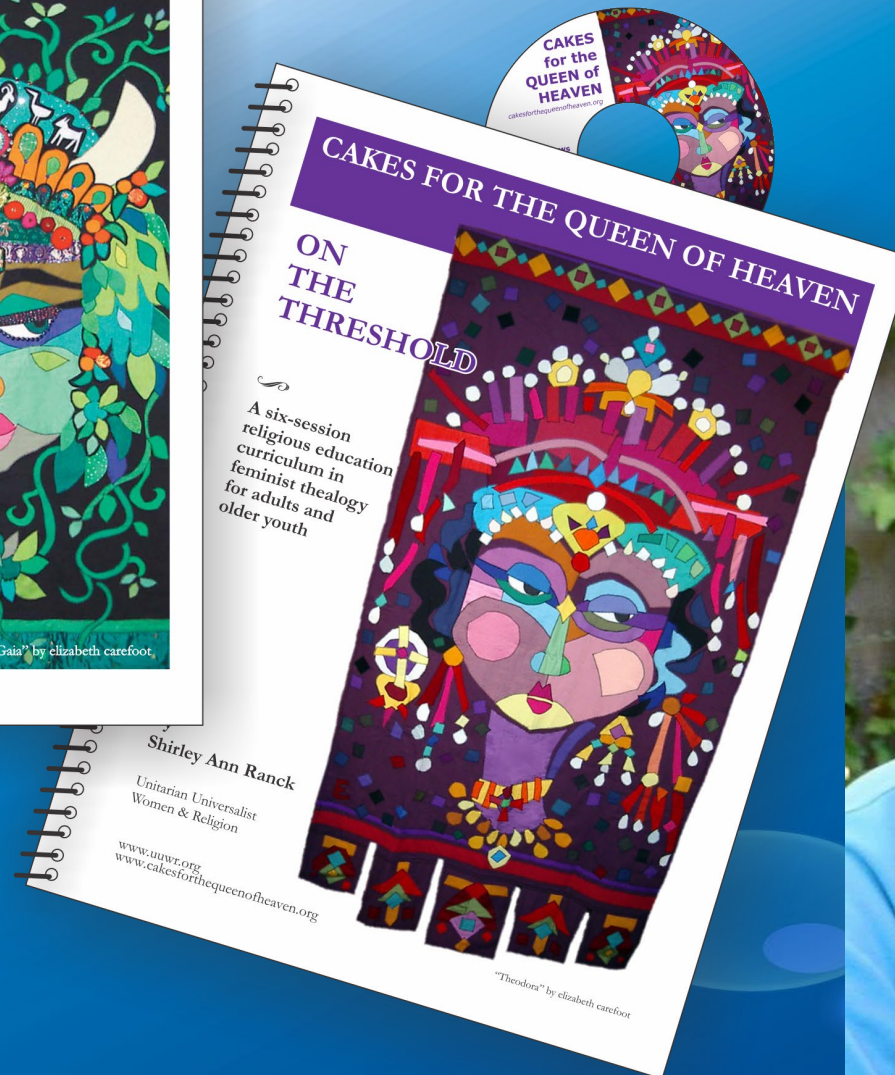
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Highlands NC

2007

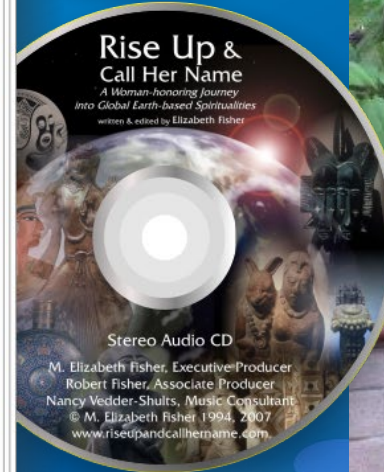
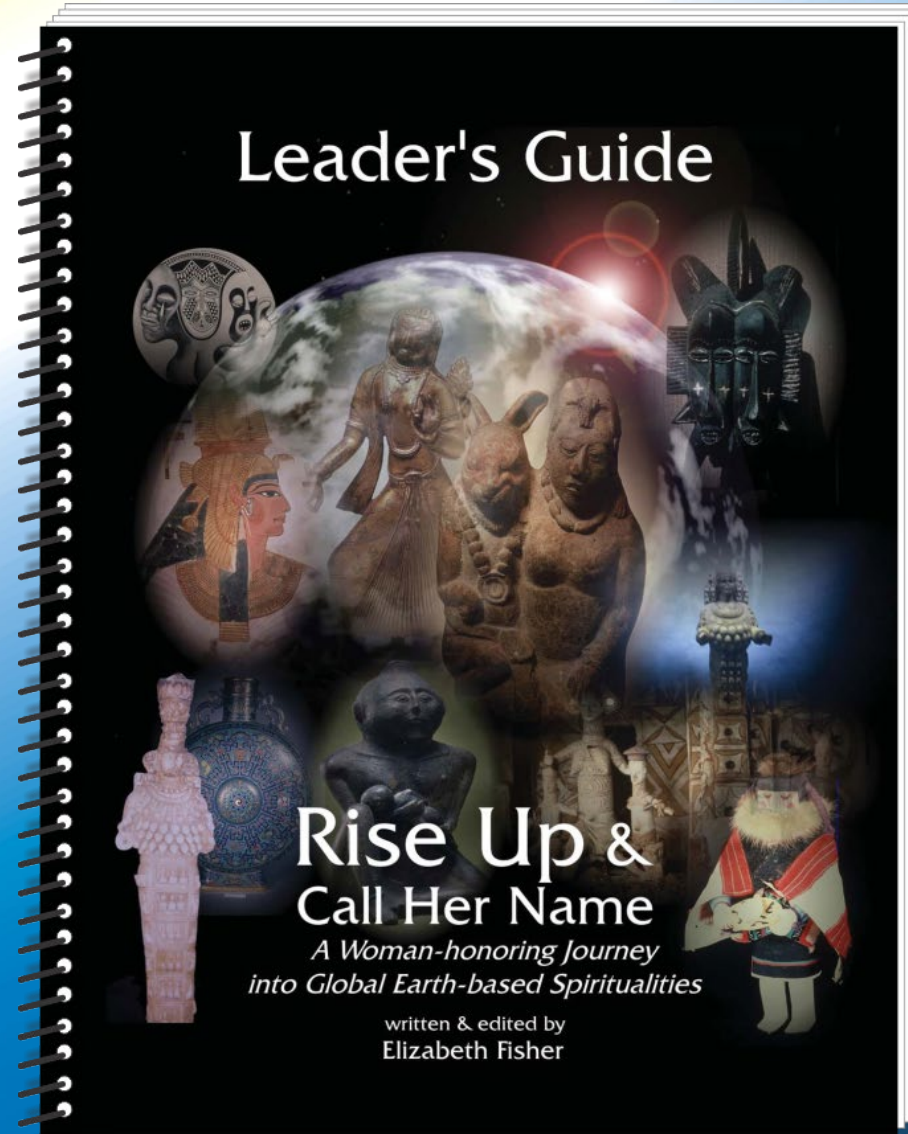
Continental UUWR
began printing and selling
Cakes for the Queen of Heaven
... and then
printing/publishing/promoting
significant UU women's works



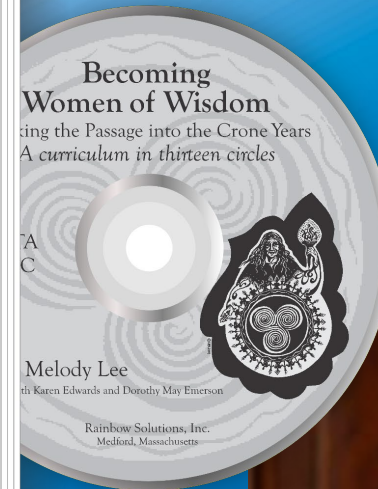
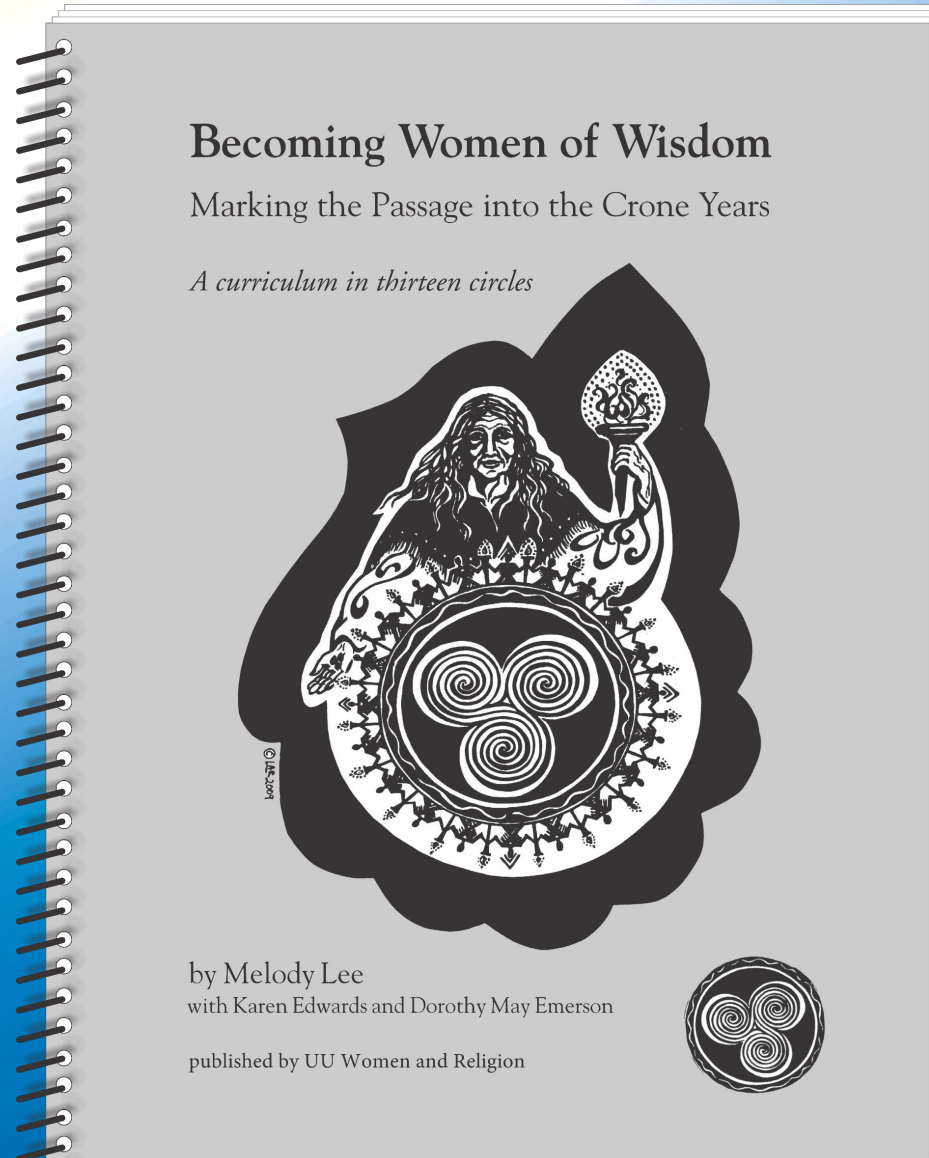
2007-08 revision

CakesForTheQueenOfHeaven.org

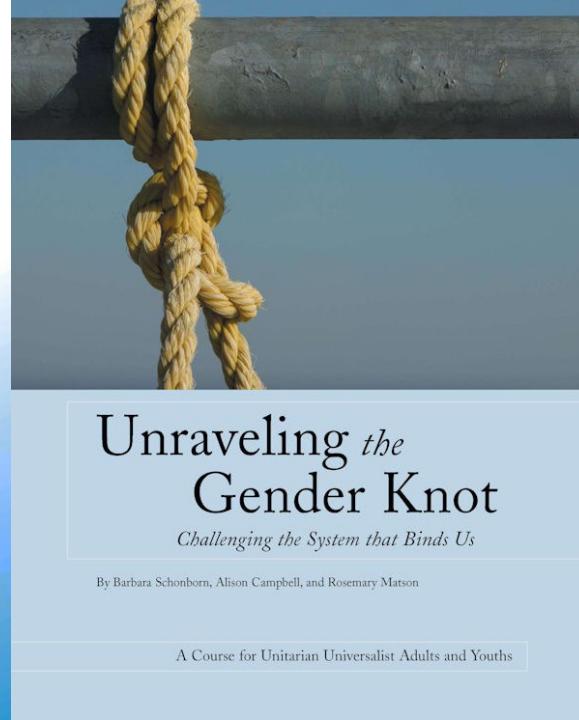
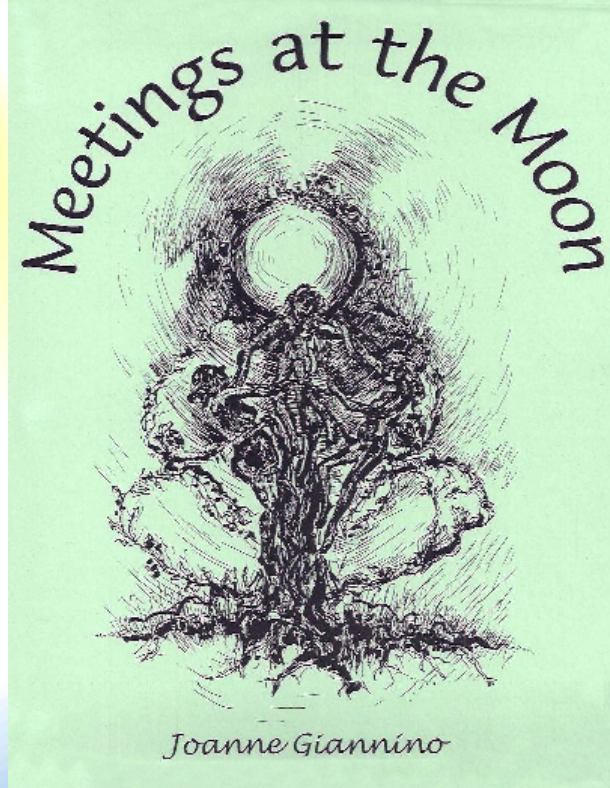
2007 revision

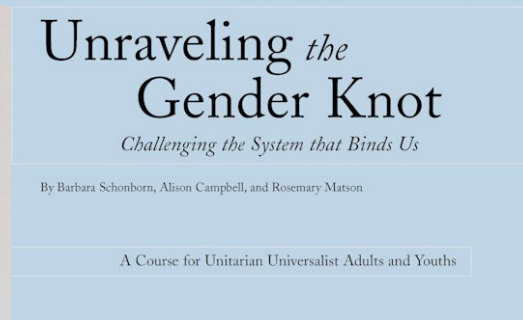
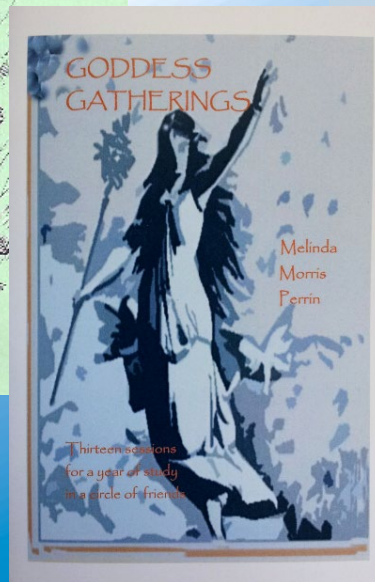
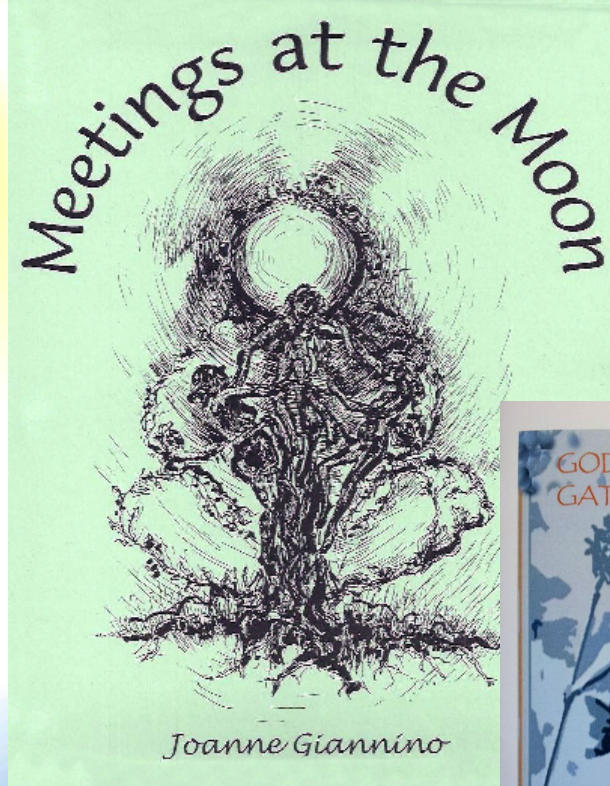


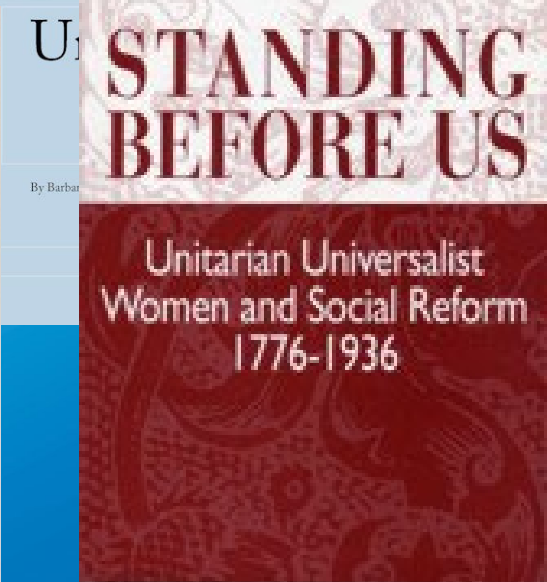
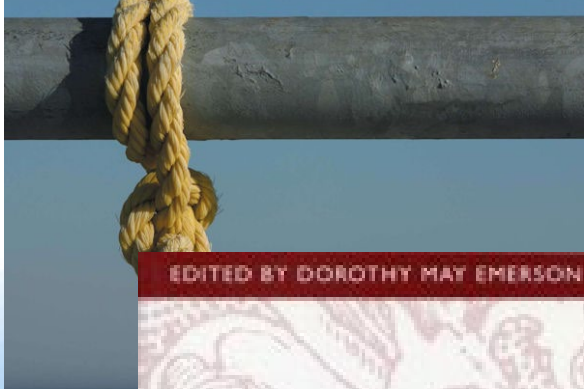
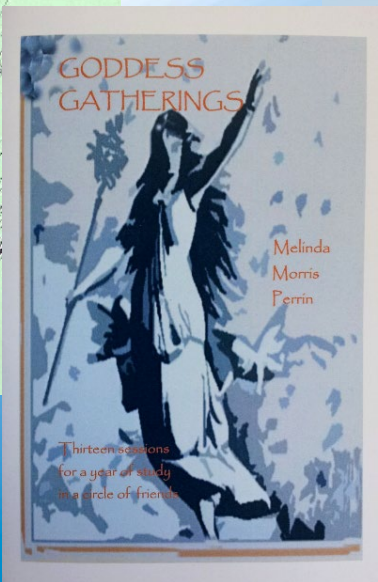
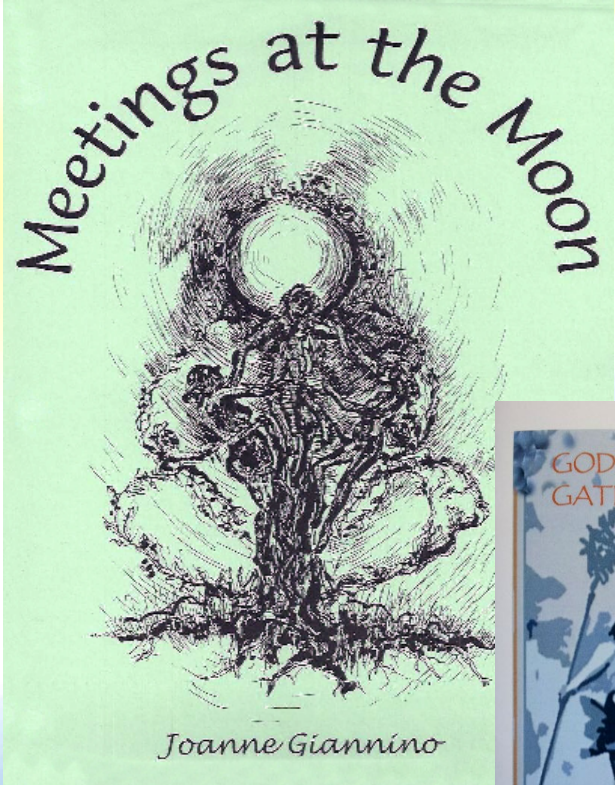
RiseUpAndCallHerName.com

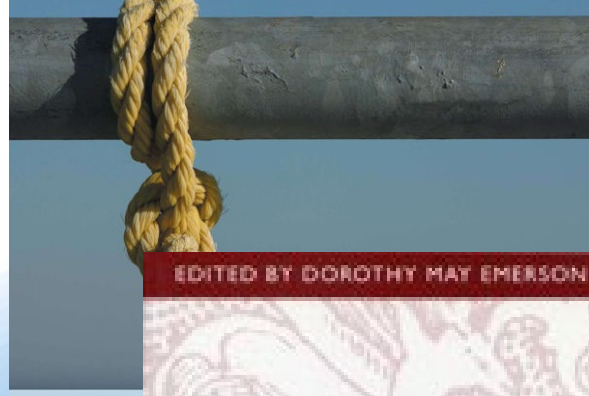
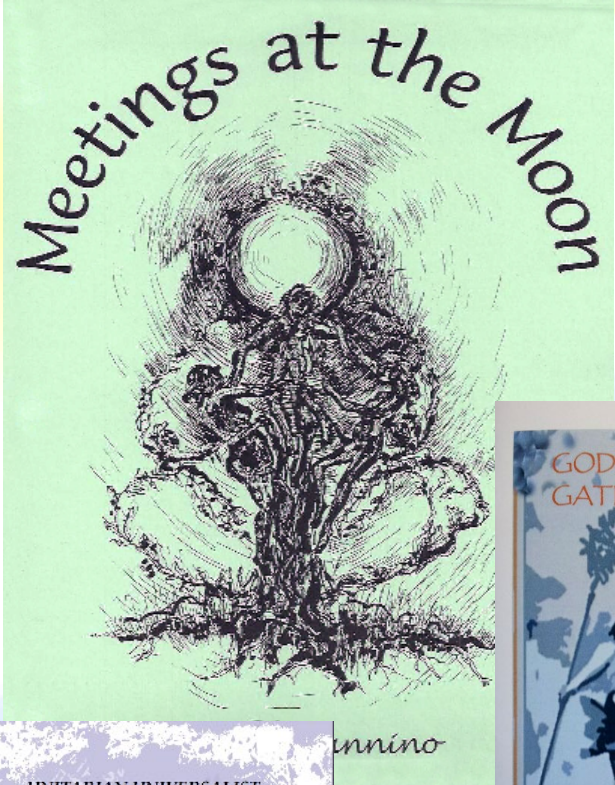


CroneCurriculum.net



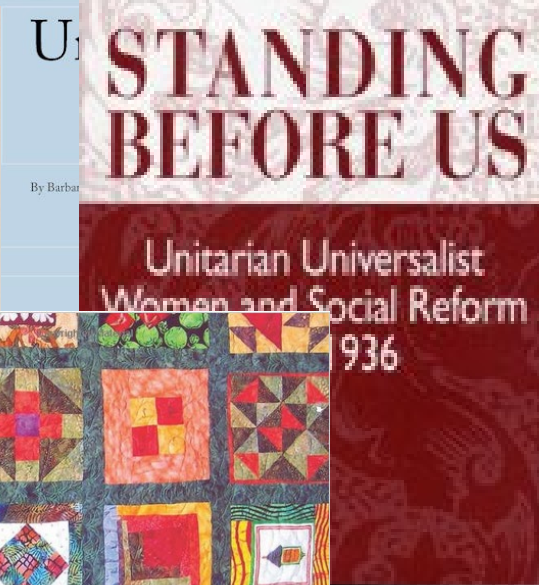
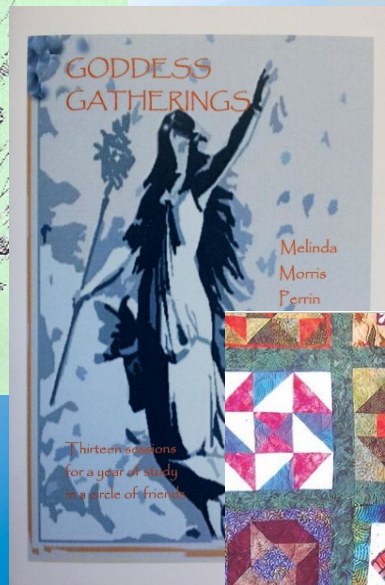




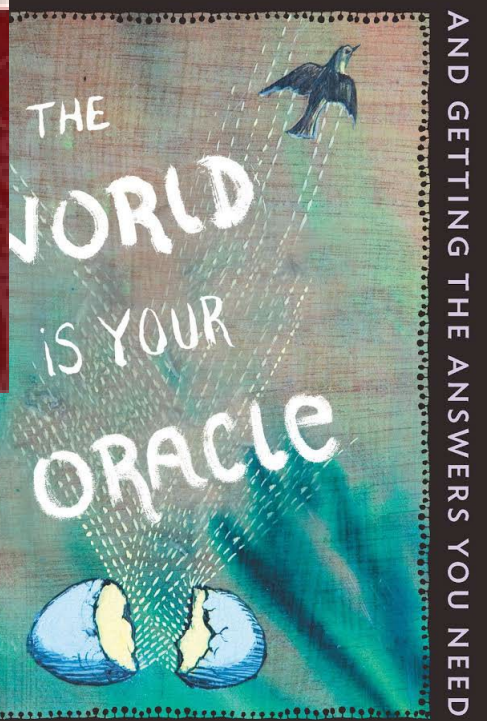


RESTORING WOMEN TO CEREMONY:
THE RED TENT RESOURCE KIT

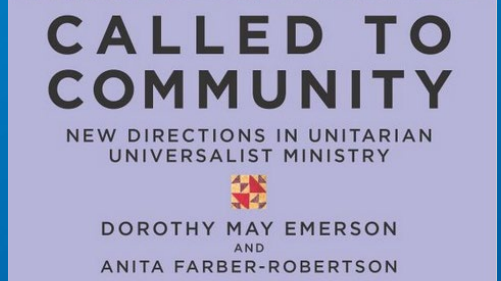
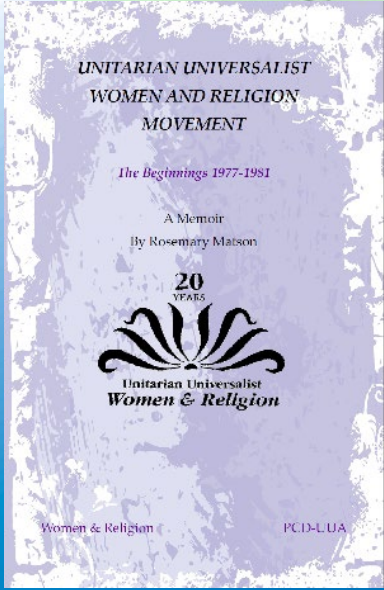
MOLLY REMER

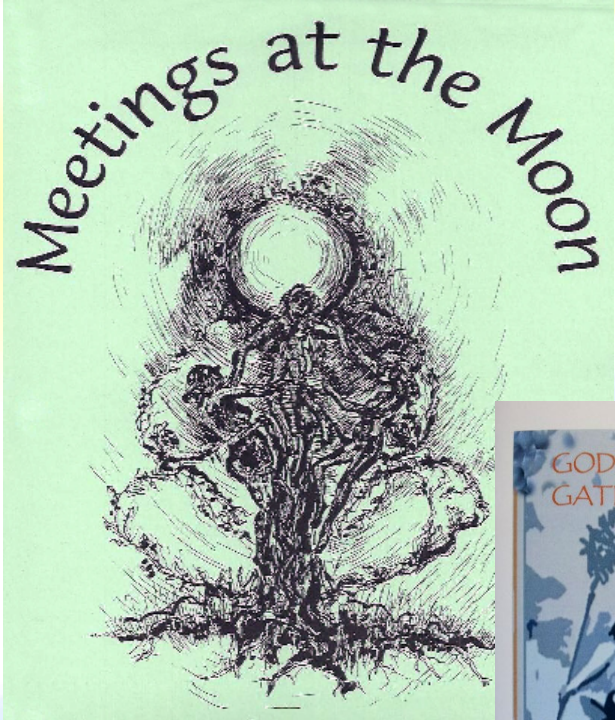


ING YOUR INNER WISDOM •



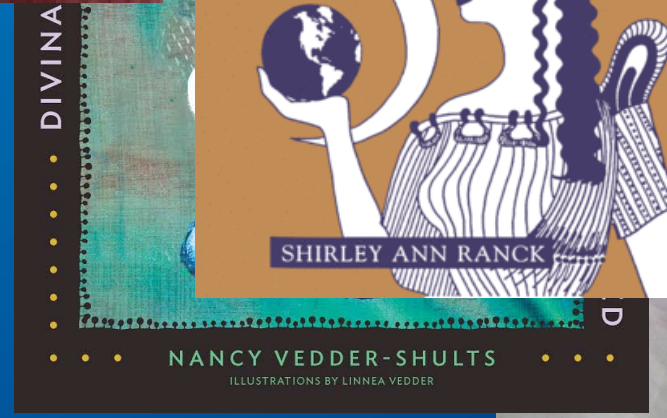
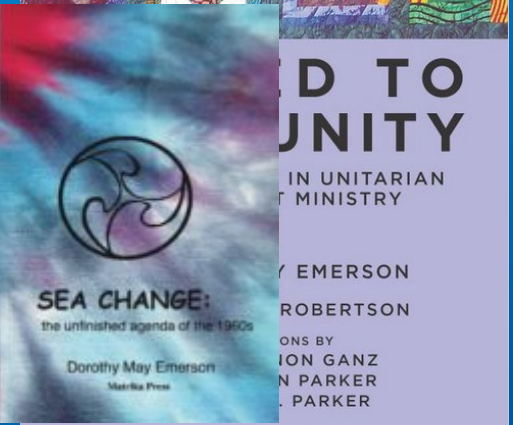
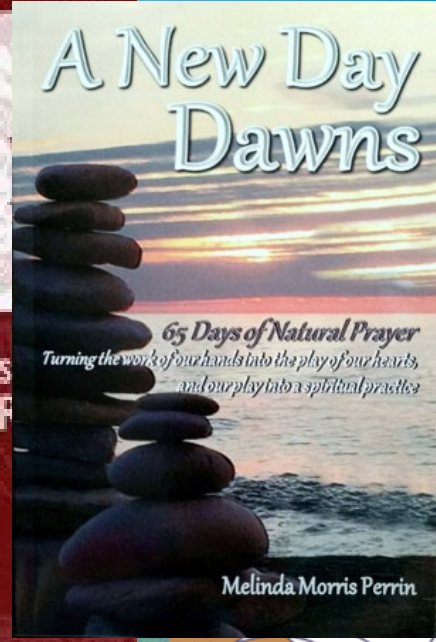
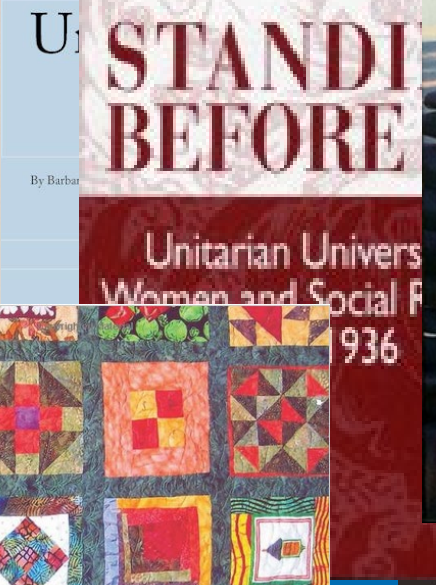
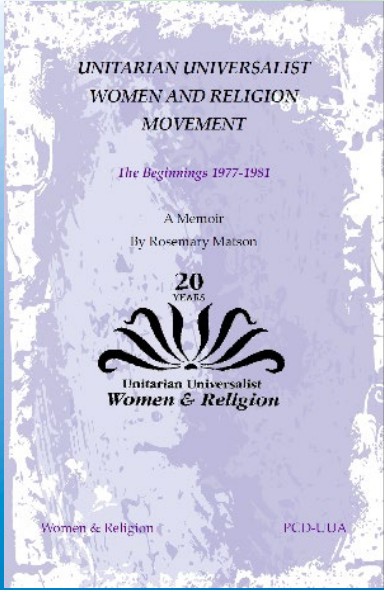
AND GETTING THE ANSWERS YOU NEED

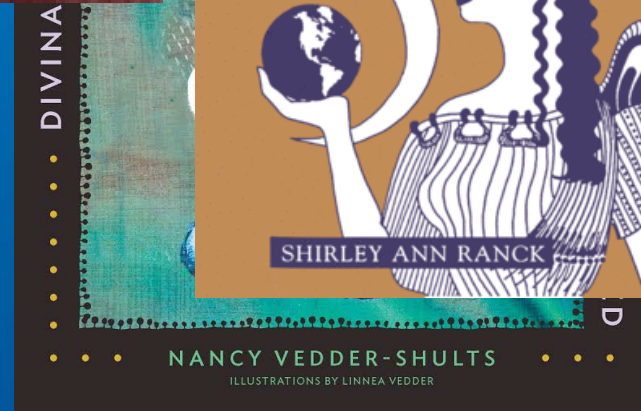
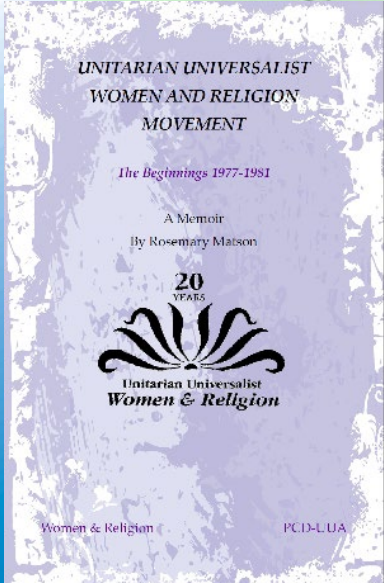
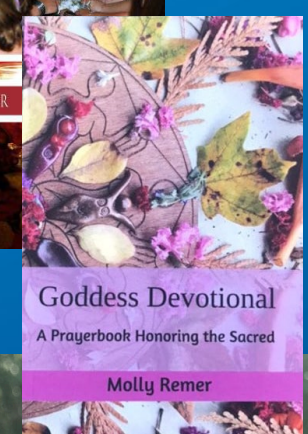
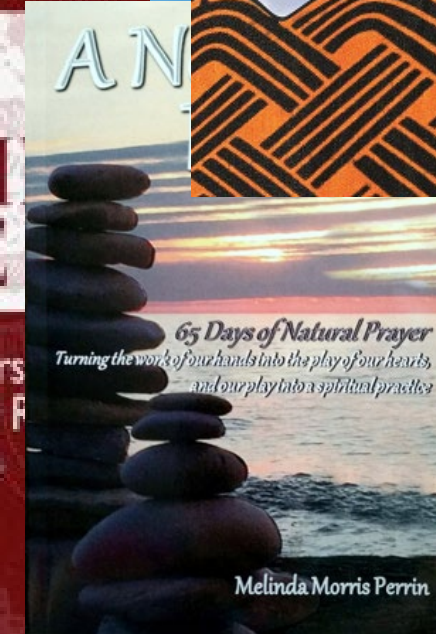
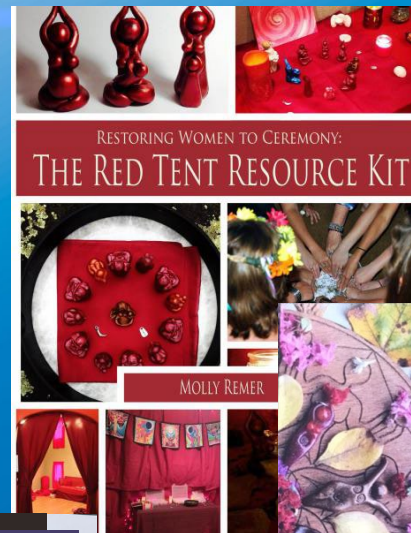
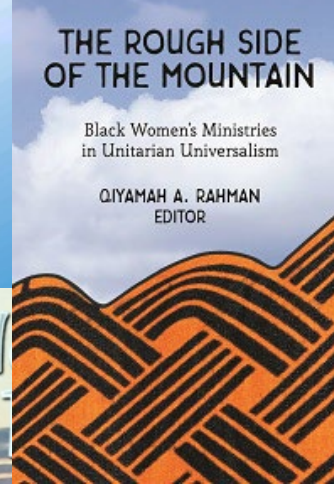
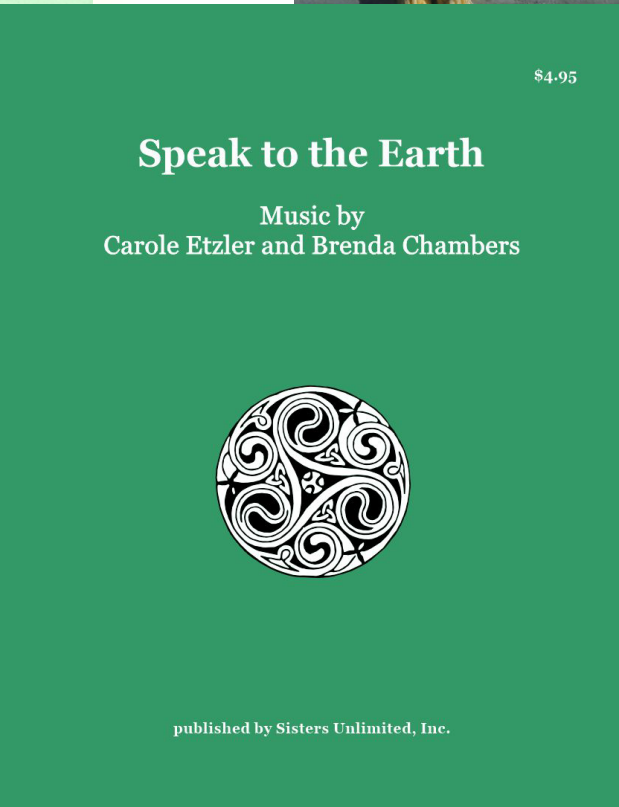
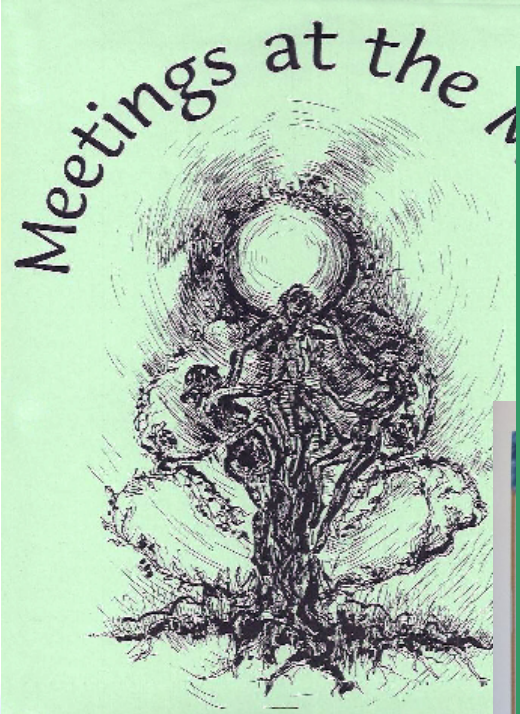




RESTORING WOMEN TO CEREMONY:
THE RED TENT RESOURCE KIT

MOLLY REMER





Meetings at the

\$4.95

Speak to the Earth

Music by
Carole Etzler and Brenda Chambers



published by Sisters Unlimited, Inc.

Take Up the Song

Music by
Carole Etzler and Brenda Chambers



Carolyn McDade &
Lucile Longview

The Water Ritual



Women & Religion

PCD-LUA

An intimate expression of a young life lived on
earth, hope, change, and possibility in the 1960s.
It resembles the spirit of the Summer of Love
and the spirit of the Summer of Love was the air
weath of our society continues to demand ex-
pression of spirit, public, cultural diversity, and
responsibility. This memoir is a call to action
generations to keep the dream alive. There is
a story.

of the States as articulated in Sea Change has
to transform our collective future. Carolyn's
story reminds the possibility of love, hope, and
beautiful, intimate offering is a gift of resistance.
See also, author of *Deeply Resistant*
in *Threshold Between Loss and Revelation*



EMERSON
ROBERTSON
ONS BY
ION GANZ
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PARKER



SEA CHANGE:

the unfinished agenda of the 1960s

Dorothy May Emerson
Matrika Press

D TO UNITY

IN UNITARIAN
MINISTRY

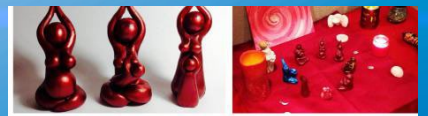
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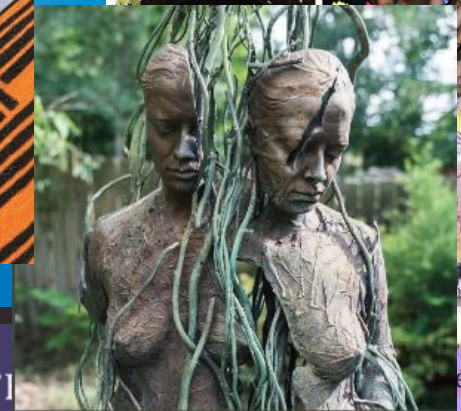
THE ROUGH SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN

Black Women's Ministries
in Unitarian Universalism

QIYAMAH A. RAHMAN
EDITOR



RESTORING WOMEN TO CEREMONY: THE RED TENT RESOURCE KIT



Gaia's Cry poems NAN LUNDEEN

65 Days of Natural Prayer

Turning the work of four hands into the play of four hearts,
and four play into a spiritual practice

Melinda Morris Perrin

DIVINA



SHIRLEY ANN RANCK

NANCY VEDDER-SHULTS

ILLUSTRATIONS BY LINNEA VEDDER



Meetings at the

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Carole Etzler and Brenda Chambers



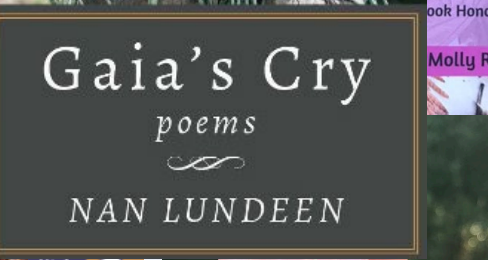
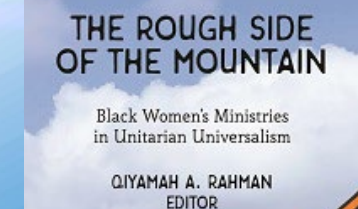
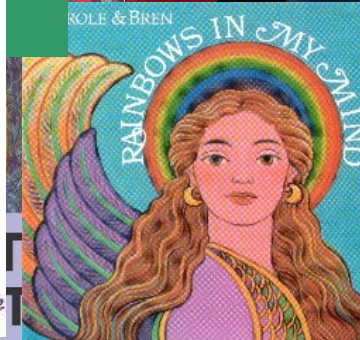
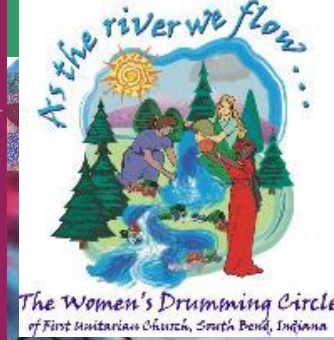
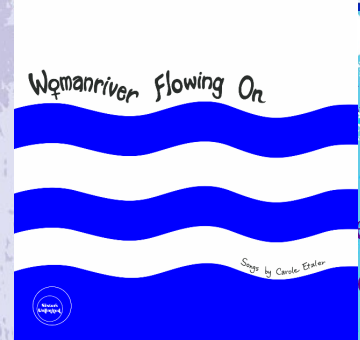
published by Sisters Unlimited, Inc.

Take Up the Song

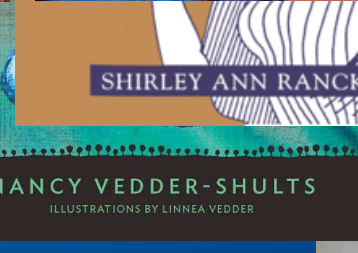
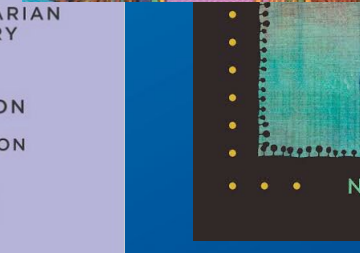
Music by
Carole Etzler and Brenda Chambers



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Women & Religion



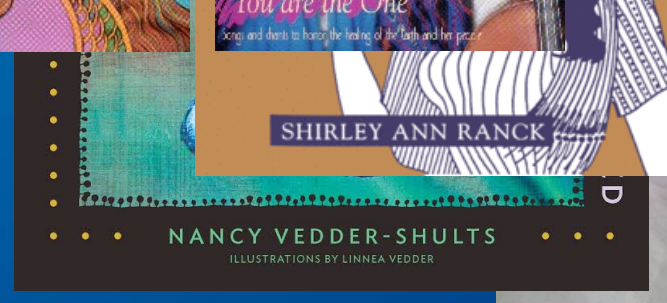
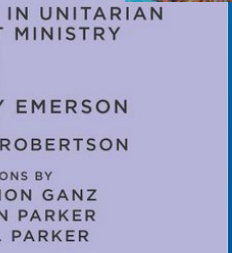
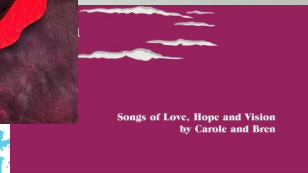
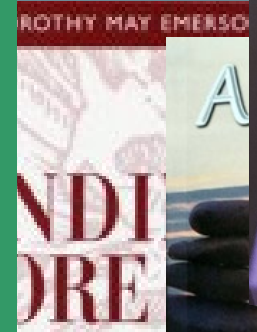
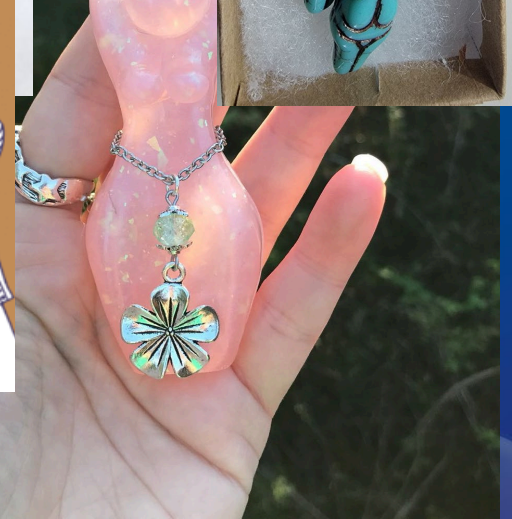
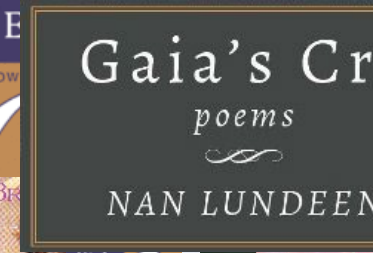
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Speak to the Earth

Music by
role Etzler and Brenda Chambers

Take Up the Song

Music by
Carole Etzler and Brenda



UUWR Core Group (Board)



Left to Right:
Patti Clark, Houston TX
Pauline Jackson, Chicago, IL
Geri Kennedy, Seattle, WA
Gretchen Ohmann, SW Michigan

toward a new day . . .



Unitarian Universalist
Women and Religion

uuwr.org





SISTER SOURCE

BLACK UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST
WOMEN & GIRLS

womxn
lgbtqia+
non-binary
inclusive



Rev. Dr. Qiyamah A. Rahman

SisterSOUURCE was born out of Unitarian Universalist Black women and girls' needs and desires for a space, sanctified and made holy by our presence and devoted to our existence.

Frances Ellen Watkins Harper, 19th Century Black Unitarian

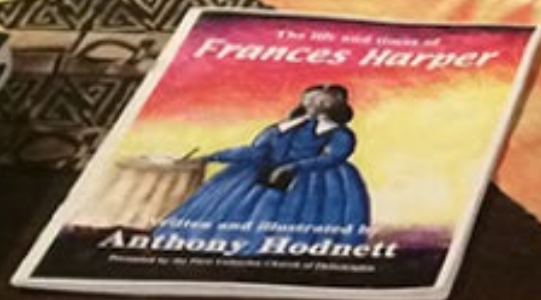
Our Mission

is to act as a catalyst to encourage greater activity around, provide support for, and marshal resources that benefit Black Unitarian Universalist women and girls.



Frances Ellen Watkins Harper
Sept. 24, 1825 – Feb. 22, 1911

Frances Ellen Watkins Harper:
A 19th Century Black Female
Religious Renegade
September 24, 1825–February 22, 1911

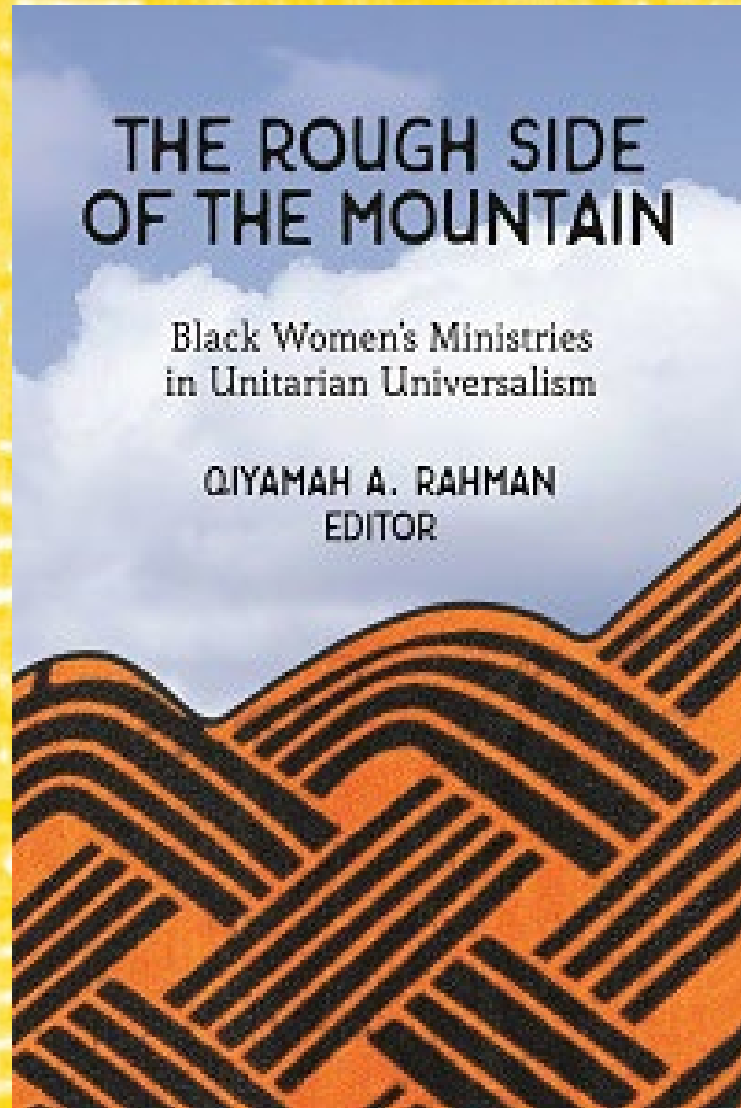


Who are all bound up together
in one great bundle of
humanity, and society cannot
trample on the weakest and
feeblest of its members
without receiving the curse in
its own soul. — Frances Ellen Watkins Harper



Frances Ellen
Watkins
Harper
Represents a
proud legacy
of one of our
Unitarian
ancestors
whose
shoulders we
stand on.





Qiyamah A. Rahman, ed.

*The Rough Side
of the Mountain:
The Ministries of Black
Unitarian Universalist
Women. 2022*



sistersouurce.org



SISTER SOURCE

BLACK UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST
WOMEN & GIRLS

womxn
lgbtqia+
non-binary
inclusive



UUW Women

Celebrating 60 Years • 1963-2023

Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation



Early UUWF Herstory

Predecessor Organizations

Compiled in August 2007 by Ellen Spencer, UUWF Executive Administrator, and Phyllis Rickter, UUWF President 1987-91, with thanks to the Rev. Elinor Artman for permission to use excerpts from her Timeline.

1869



Universalist women form the Women's Aid and Centenary Association.

Between then and 1939, the organization undergoes restructuring and renaming four times before becoming the Association of Universalist Women (**AUW**).

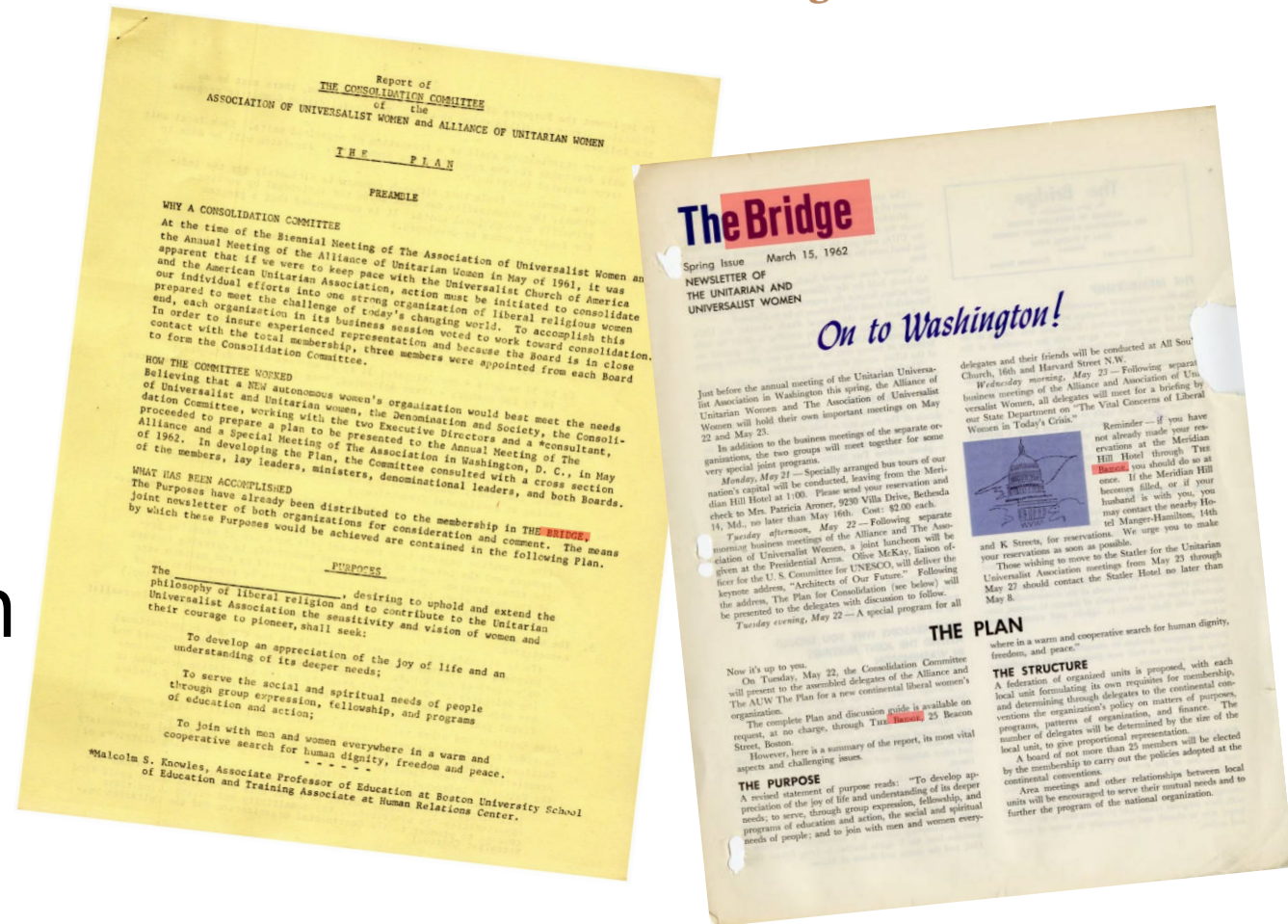
1880



Unitarian women form the Women's Auxiliary Conference. Between then and 1960, the organization undergoes restructuring and renaming five times before becoming the Alliance of Unitarian Women (the **Alliance**)

Late 1950s

AUW and the Alliance begin joint activities, including publication of *The Bridge*, and begin planning consolidation of their organizations.



1963



The AUW and Alliance consolidate into a non-profit membership organization incorporated in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, known as: the **Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation**. They set up office at 25 Beacon Street.

<https://uuf.wildapricot.org/resources/Documents/Historical/History-I-UUWF-PredecessorOrgs.pdf>

UUWF Past Presidents

1963-65	Juliet L. Underwood, Cincinnati, OH*
1965-67	Dorothy Chapman, Silver Spring, MD
1967-69	Beatrice B. Carpenter, Greenville, RI*
1969-73	Alice H. Kimball, West Hartland, CT*
1973-77	Drusilla E. Cummins, Minneapolis, MN*
1977-81	Natalie Gulbrandsen, Wellesley Hills, MA*
1981-85	Denise T. Davidoff, Norwalk, CT*
1985-87	Clarise Jefferson, Normal, IL
1987-91	Phyllis C. Rickter, Arlington, MA*
1991-95	Kay Aler-Maida, Brooklyn, NY
1995-98	Arlene Johnson, Tulsa, OK
1998-01	Tina Jas, Eastham, MA
2001-04	Linda McAffrey, Ferguson, MO
2004-07	Nancy W. Van Dyke, Sea Cliff, NY
2007-10	Linda Lu Burciaga, Newburyport, MA
2010-13	Rev. Marti Keller, Decatur, GA
2013-16	Kirstie Lewis, Ph.D., Seattle, WA
2016-17	Justice Waidner Smith, Tulsa, OK
2017-22	Claire Sexton, Waco, TX



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Now

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(she/her)
Atlanta, GA



Administrator
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Milwaukee, WI



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(they/them)
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Member-at-Large
Rev. Denise L. Graves
(she/her)
New Orleans, LA



Treasurer
Rev. Kimberly Quinn Johnson
(she/her)
East Hampton, NY

The UUWF builds covenantal relationships amongst UU women that equip us all to be better co-conspirators and allies in the movement for collective liberation.



UUWomen
Celebrating 60 Years • 1963-2023



uuwf.org



Circle talk

Why and how are women's groups important?

UU women gathering



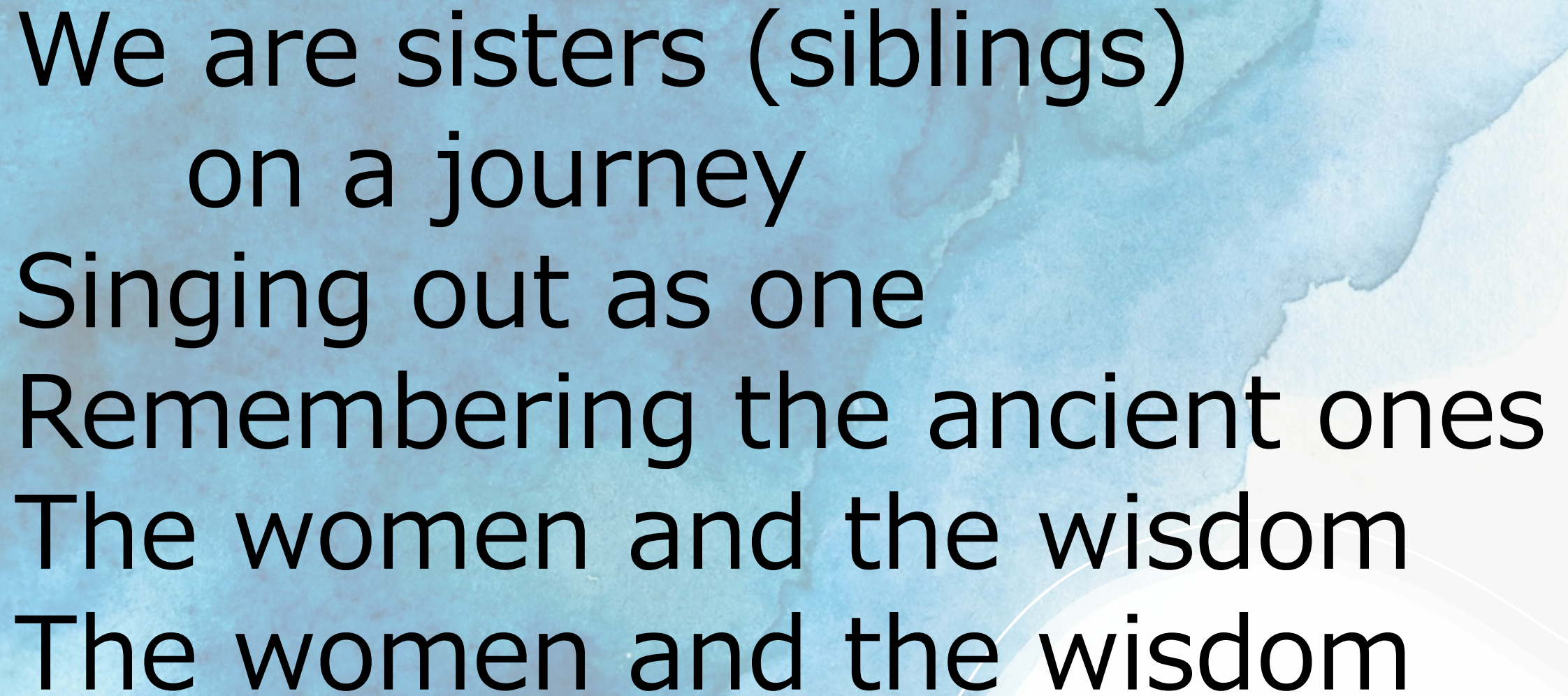
UUWF at a GA workshop:

The women of our congregations have been gathering since long before the formation of either the UUWF or the UUA. Seen at left are yesteryear's Ladies Sewing Society of the First Unitarian Church, Portland, OR, and at right, today's Women of Westminster Unitarian Church, East Greenwich, RI.



UU women gathering





We are sisters (siblings)
on a journey
Singing out as one
Remembering the ancient ones
The women and the wisdom
The women and the wisdom



Thank you!