



## 2019 UU Women's Connection Council

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### YOUR NAME HERE!

Recruiting for Councilors —  
let us know if you want to  
help with the work of con-  
necting women across the  
district!

# Voices of Women

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Spring 2019

## Spring Retreat at Pilgrim Park, May 31 - June 2, 2019

We're getting all sorts of excited about our keynote speaker, **Geri Schrab!** Geri's keynote will be "**Calm Down, Tune In, Walk Your Dream Forward**". Our element for the Spring Retreat will be **Water** and the direction honored will be **West**. Registration information is found in this newsletter and at [www.uuwomensconnection.org](http://www.uuwomensconnection.org)!



Geri Schrab

Geri is an author and artist. Her passion for the Native American lives that were disregarded, lost in the creation of this country, is deep and strong. Their tears were as salty and wet as yours and mine. They loved their children and the land; many lost both, their loved ones and the land beneath their feet.

Geri's keynote will describe how as her artistic voice developed, she allowed her intuition and dreams to lead her down an unlikely path from court reporter to watercolor artist inspired by ancient petroglyph and pictograph sites around the world. Most recently this journey led her to co-author Hidden Thunder: Rock Art of the Upper Midwest published by the Wisconsin Historical Society Press. Her keynote will take you on a journey to the rock art sites and experiences contained in Hidden Thunder and beyond, plus some early dreams and visions along this 25-year path that I've never shared before.

Ultimately Geri's work is about connecting with our inner self, each other and Mother Earth. Never has it been more essential that we all learn our own unique way to do this: calm down, tune in and find your own best path forward.

Geri will also provide a workshop, **Painting Turtles for Mother Earth**. This painting workshop will be a group prayer, all participants creating their own paintings, yet each focused on the healing of Mother Earth. As a symbol to unify us in this painting prayer, we will focus on Turtle as an ancient earth resident, a symbol from the waters, a symbol of Mother Earth.

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Geri will provide basic painting supplies. You are also invited to bring your own supplies that you feel comfortable with; i.e. pencils, pens, markers, multi-media materials. Geri will supply turtle petroglyph symbology; but you are invited to bring your own photos, sketches or turtle imagery that inspires you. The primary goal of this workshop is not perfect individual pieces of art but the energy created towards the healing of Mother Earth in the process of this unified, creative exercise.

More information about Geri and her artwork can be found on her website:

<https://www.gerischrab.com/>



## Membership Dues

We've created three levels of support for the Unitarian Universalist Women's Connection. *Select the level that is right for you!*

### \$15 Supporter

The UU Women's Connection's programs help grow your spirituality.

### \$25 Sustainer

You are also committed to sustaining the work of the UU Women's Connection.

### \$50 Visionary

You are also committed to both the present and future growth of the UU Women's Connection.

**Units of 10 register for \$130 in 2019. Register a unit of 10 or more members for \$13 each!**

## UU Women's Connection Donates to Reproductive Choice Organizations

This past year the UU Women's Connection was happy to have enough funds to give donations to important charities. The **Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice (RCRC)** and **Faith Aloud** were each the recipients of \$1000 from the UUWC.

The national RCRC, located in D.C., reaches out to religious, pro-choice supporters and provides leadership and pastoral care trainings. Faith Aloud, under the parent organization All-Options, provides judgment-free support and clergy counseling for those experiencing emotional or spiritual difficulties with pregnancy, parenting, abortion, and/or adoption. To find out more about these organizations go to their websites: [www.rcrc.org](http://www.rcrc.org), [www.faithaloud.org](http://www.faithaloud.org), [www.all-options.org](http://www.all-options.org).

Thanks to all of you, our members, we will be donating to these organizations again in 2019!



## Musings from our Fall Weekend Retreat

In October 2018, some lucky women made a joyful trek to the Dekoven Center in Racine, Wisconsin for a weekend of reflection, singing, writing and growth. Mary Grace ("M.G.") Bertulfo was our dynamic keynote speaker, workshops were offered, massages signed up for, vendor wares purchased, raffle prizes claimed, old friends reunited, new friends made, and a rousing good time was had by all. The element we honored was "fire"; the fire of passion, the fire that cleanses, the fire that destroys, the fire in each of us.



The Dekoven Center has a nurturing environment. We gathered in the large conference room for the opening ritual Friday night. We had great meals. Dekoven could accommodate almost any diet and went out of their way to meet our needs. There was a distinct Halloween theme in the air with lots of orange and witches' hats. Very festive.

Our workshops included a wonderful variety. One workshop was an introduction to using Tarot. Another was the opportunity to make a grimoire. A third offered singing for justice and ourselves. AND! We had evening drumming and singing. Dekoven is big enough that you can always find a spot to do what you want. If drumming isn't your thing, but a nice quiet dialogue with a friend is, you will always be able to find a cozy out-of-the-way spot to talk.

MG helped us to realize the importance of speaking not only our own truth, but also to reflect others' truth in our writing as a gift to them. As women, we can use all the empowering we can get!

I cannot say enough about the beauty of connecting with others at these retreats. As you meet new friends, and continue to see them through the years, there is an unbreakable thread of strength and joy woven into your life: a new well and resource of satisfaction from which you can draw strength and hope. It is deeply gratifying to raise your voice in prayer, in power, and in healing for the beings our planet.

Our next weekend is being planned for May 31 - June 2, 2019. We will honor the element of water. I hope to connect with you there.

~ Pat Hyams

## Notes from UU Women's Connection's Annual Meeting, November 17, 2018

Jane Adams has served two 3-year terms on the Council. Our bylaws limit membership on the council to 6 years. Janet has served as the Council's Treasurer for several years. Thank you, Janet! To fill the vacancy, the Council decided to ask Kathy Salzano to join the Council. She said "YES"! Yeah!

The Officers for 2018 are Diana DeWeese (Chair), Karin Janowski (Vice-Chair), Kathleen Miezio (Treasurer) and Pat Hyams (Secretary).

The 2019 budget was approved. The Council will continue our support for women's reproductive rights and will donate \$1,000 each to Faith Aloud and the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice (RCRC).

The Council set the 2019 Calendar for UU Women's Connection

- Spring Retreat – Pilgrim Park Camp and Conference Center, Princeton, IL, May 31 - June 2, 2019
- Summer Retreat – Ronora Lodge & Retreat Center, Watervliet, MI, August 9 - 11, 2019
- Fall Retreat – DeKoven Center, Racine, WI, October 11 - 13, 2019

The Council set the Direction and Element that will be honored at the Spring and Fall Retreats:

- Spring, 2019 Pilgrim Park      West, Water
- Fall, 2019      DeKoven Center North, Earth



### Our New Council Woman!

#### **Kathy Salzano**

Kathy lives in Elmhurst, IL, with her husband Antonio and Casey, their dog. She has three grown children and is a member of the Hinsdale Unitarian Church. Kathy is an ESL teacher in Chicago Heights and loves travelling, learning, reading and music. She is active politically and volunteers with children, women and the homeless. At UUWC retreats, she loves the ceremonies, sharing sacred space and community with my sister goddesses, drumming and singing. There is nothing more renewing than these retreats with like minded women.



# “Calming Waters in Turbulent Times”

## UU WOMEN’S CONNECTION

Spring Retreat – May 31 – June 2, 2019

Pilgrim Park, Princeton, IL 61356

### REGISTRATION FORM



NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

CONGREGATION \_\_\_\_\_

#### RETREAT FEES \*

1. Registration Fees - Please check the appropriate registration fee and write the amount in the box:

	UUWC Member	Non-Member	
Full Conference (does not include room & board)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	\$ _____
Saturday Only (includes registration, use fee, lunch & dinner)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$95	<input type="checkbox"/> \$115	
Saturday Only (includes all of the above plus breakfast)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$105	<input type="checkbox"/> \$120	

2. Room & Board – Please check your room selection and write the amount in the box:

Upper Conference Center – Double	<input type="checkbox"/> \$140	\$ _____
Specify Roommate _____		
Upper Conference Center – Triple	<input type="checkbox"/> \$130	
Specify Roommates _____		
Higgins Lodge – Double Occupancy Only (a short walk from the main building)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$135	
Specify Roommate _____		
Lower Conference Center – dormitory	<input type="checkbox"/> \$115	

3. Membership Renewal

<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Supporter	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Sustainer	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Visionary	

4. Scholarship Contribution

Scholarships go directly to help sisters in need attend our Retreats. Won't you lend a sister a hand?

\$ _____
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**Registrations must be received by May 17, 2019 – we must notify the Retreat Center on that date.**

**We cannot take registrations after May 17, 2019.**

#### TOTAL RETREAT FEES

- Please add the amounts in each of the boxes above: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*This is the Total Amount Due.*
- Subtract the amount enclosed with this form: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*At least 50% of the total must be included with your registration form.*
- This will be your amount due at the retreat: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please REGISTER ONLINE on our website, [www.uuwomensconnection.org](http://www.uuwomensconnection.org), or  
mail completed registration form with payment to:  
Diana DeWeese, 716 S Douglas Ave, Springfield, IL 62704  
Make checks payable to: UU Women's Connection  
Questions?? - Call Diana at 217-546-5834 or email her at: [kidi71@aol.com](mailto:kidi71@aol.com)

**Our keynote's workshop – Painting Turtles for Mother Earth will be offered after our lunch break. Everyone is welcome to participate in Geri's workshop.**

This painting workshop will be a group prayer, all participants creating their own paintings, yet each focused on the healing of Mother Earth. As a symbol to unify us in this painting prayer, we will focus on Turtle as an ancient earth resident, a symbol from the waters, a symbol of Mother Earth. Geri will provide basic painting supplies. You are also invited to bring your own supplies that you feel comfortable with; ie, pencils, pens, markers, multi-media materials. Geri will supply turtle petroglyph symbology; but you are invited to bring your own photos, sketches or turtle imagery that inspires you. The primary goal of this workshop is not perfect individual pieces of art but the energy created towards the healing of Mother Earth in the process of this unified, creative exercise.

**Following our keynote's workshop we will offer 2 late afternoon workshops.  
Please select your first choice.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Shared Leadership** – with Gretchen Ohmann

A Train-the-Trainer workshop which teaches the concrete group facilitation process of the Circle Model of Shared Leadership to hone participatory group process skills. These make it possible to teach this method effectively so it can be put into practice quickly. It presents the core ideas of Shared Leadership, and provides written material and resources that are concise and ready to use when teaching others. Most importantly, participants in this program will be empowered to take the Shared Leadership model into their congregations and committees and utilize the process of consensus decision-making.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Drumming** - with Kathy Salzano

Women have been drumming for thousands of years. Just look at those cave drawings! Drumming is empowering. Join the ancient lineage of women drummers. Kathy will teach the basics of drumming.

**OTHER NEEDS/REQUESTS** (We will do our best to accommodate.)

Dietary concerns/restrictions  Please list \_\_\_\_\_  
(e.g. gluten-free; lactose intolerant)

Vegetarian meals preferred  Indicate type of vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_

Other  Please list \_\_\_\_\_

**\*ROOM/BOARD INFORMATION**

- Rates listed are per person for the entire retreat, Friday evening through Sunday morning.
- Meals included are Friday dinner (6-7 p.m.) through Sunday breakfast.
- Check-in time is 4 p.m. Friday. Room checkout time is 10 a.m. Sunday.
- Sheets, pillow, blanket, towel and washcloths are provided.
- *There are a limited number of rooms in the Upper Conference Center, so send in your reservations early!*

**SCHOLARSHIP/GRANT APPLICATION**

The UU Women’s Connection budget funds four grants of up to \$100 each. Additional \$40 grants are available to help with childcare expense. *Note: On-site childcare is not available, though nursing babies are welcome.*

**Applications must be postmarked by May 3. These go fast!**

You’ll get an answer to your request within 10 days.

My need is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

My home church/group will provide \_\_\_\_\_

An additional scholarship is allocated for ministerial students. Please list school name and degree sought.

\_\_\_\_\_



UU Women's Connection  
 716 S. Douglas Ave,  
 Springfield, IL 62704

*www.uuwomensconnection.org*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Time to renew your membership?** *It is, if the date on your mailing label shows a date earlier than March 2018.*

*Include recent update below and make check payable to "UU Women's Connection."*

*Send to the Connection: Diana DeWeese, 716 S. Douglas Ave, Springfield, IL 62704*

**Units of 10 or more may register for \$13 each in 2019. Save \$20 by registering as a group. Individual memberships are \$15.**

<p style="text-align: center;">Membership/Mailing List</p> <p>Have you moved? Let us know so you won't miss a thing.</p> <p>NAME: _____</p> <p>ADDRESS: _____</p> <p>PHONE: _____</p> <p>E-MAIL: _____</p> <p>CHURCH/ ORGANIZATION _____</p>	<p><b>2019 "Get Connected" Calendar</b></p> <p>May 31-June 3.....Spring Retreat Pilgrim Park, Princeton, IL</p> <p>August 9 - 11.....Summer Retreat Ronora Lodge, Watervliet, MI</p> <p>October 11-13.....Fall Retreat DeKoven Center, Racine, WI</p>
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