



2019 UU Women's Connection Council

Kathleen Miezio, Treasurer
kathleen.miezio@gmail.com

Karin Janowski,
Vice-Chair
karin_janowski@yahoo.com

Diana DeWeese, Chair
kidi71@aol.com

Patricia Hyams, Secretary
patriciahyams@att.net

Debbie Czarnopys-White,
bdcw@frontiernet.net

Heather McMeekan
hmcmeekan@gmail.com

Kathy Salzano
ktsalzano@gmail.com

Kathy Riley
reikimom68@gmail.com

Jenny Berman Ross
jenny60060@comcast.net

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

Page 1

Summer 2019

Summer Retreat at Ronora, August 9 - 11, 2019

Join us for a restful weekend at Ronora Lodge and Retreat Center in Watervliet, Michigan. Our theme will be **“Finding Your Sacred Space”**. We will gather in Trilogy Lodge, a dorm style lodge that sleeps up to 25. Catered gourmet vegan meals, wildflower walks, nourishing workshops, worship circles and a campfire sing along make up this weekend. Enjoy going "back to the land" on the 400+ acres of woodland and lake within the spirit-filled place called Ronora. Take time to explore, relax, drum, sing and commune with nature. Registration information is found on and at www.uuwomensconnection.org



Two workshops will be offered on Saturday afternoon. Create your own portable sacred space by making a tiny altar or two out of a matchbox, spend some time making faux batik fabric with flour paste resist or try both.

Remember to bring drums (and musical instruments if you have them), items to place on one or more of the five altars, and a small, wrapped item of personal significance to pass along via the Giveaway Blanket. Also don't forget an outdoor chair and your swim suit.



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 spiritually.

\$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!

Croning – Am I Ready?

From a UU World publication, the following is paraphrased: In pagan traditions, women's lives were divided into three phases: Maiden, Mother, and Crone. Croning is the ceremony in which women celebrate the end of their years as Mother (which may or may not have involved the raising of children) and the arrival of old age and wisdom. When a woman becomes a Crone "she lets go of mothering and perhaps fears she may have of aging. Her energies are now directed towards spiritual goals, healing, guiding, teaching, and being a living model for girls and women."

These three phases of our life can be viewed as the waxing, full, and waning moon. The Maiden is our youth, our coming into Being. The Maiden represents a promise of new beginnings, youth, excitement, and being carefree. The Mother is an actual mothering time or a nurturing time for what we feel we can contribute to. The Mother represents ripeness, fulfillment, stability, and power. The Mother Goddess can represent wellspring of life in all its forms, giving, and compassion. To become a Crone, one decides, regardless of a specific age, that she is ready to move on to the time of wisdom and sharing, leaving the attractions of youth behind and moving on to more etheric goals. The Crone represents wisdom, repose, and compassion and openly sharing who she's become with others.

Having decided to go through the croning ceremony with my UU Connection sisters at a fall retreat several years ago, I can share that I felt a profound shift in my energy – the energy moving from deep nurturing (did not involve raising children), to a lightening but deeper opening to slowing down, sinking deeper into the "mystery" and beginning to release my former involvement with "Mother". My ceremony was meaningful to me but we've held another since mine where the participants shared something significant to them that they felt called them to the croning ceremony. At our retreats, we may not always do the same type of ceremony but what's more important is your own personal commitment to become a Crone.

There's no urgency to become a Crone – ever – but when you feel so called, listen to that beautiful and wise voice.

Debbie Czarnopys-White

2019 Spring Retreat at Pilgrim Park

The 2019 Spring Retreat was held on May 31, June 1, and June 2 at Pilgrim Park. It was an opportunity to reconnect with old friends and make new ones. Many of the women who attended are included in the group picture that was taken on Saturday afternoon.

Pat Hyams led us in ritual as we welcomed the directions and celebrated our element, water. Geri Schrab provided an informative keynote about rock art and her artistic journey as well as an opportunity for everyone to create a water color turtle of their own. Many women contributed their musical talents to the weekend, among them Kathy Salzono who taught a drumming workshop and Gretchen Ohmann who led us in chants and songs. Gretchen also facilitated a workshop on alternative methods of leading meetings and making decisions. We shared nourishing meals, played games together, and had time to shop from our vendors.



The grounds at Pilgrim Park are always inviting and provide many opportunities to enjoy the outdoors. Some people took advantage of the labyrinth, others enjoyed the sun from one of the outside porches or took a walk. I encountered a living turtle on my walk. It was kind enough to pose for some pictures.

We welcomed some new young women at this retreat and had an opportunity to enjoy the company of some of the older members of our community. They shared their stories and reflected on their roles in creating the UU Women's Connection and other women's groups and organizations associated with the UUA.

It takes many people to put on a successful retreat like this one. If you are interested in helping with a future retreat, contact one of the Councilwomen. Planning is completed for the Summer Retreat at Ronora but fall is just around the corner.



~ Jenny Ross

“Finding Your Sacred Space”

UU WOMEN’S CONNECTION

Summer Retreat – August 9-11, 2019

Ronora Lodge and Retreat Center

Watervliet, Michigan



REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (_____) _____ E-mail: _____

CONGREGATION _____

- I am an adult I am a youth (accompanied by a parent or an adult).

RETREAT FEES *

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

	UUWC Member	Non-Member	
Full Conference (includes room & board)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200	<input type="checkbox"/> \$215	\$ _____
Specify Roommate _____			

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?		

Registrations **must be received by August 2, 2019** – we must notify the Retreat Center on that date.

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, 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

We will offer two workshops. No need to sign up. You can do one workshop, both, or neither!

Faux Batik with Flour Paste Resist – with Jenny Ross

Create your own patterned fabric using flour paste resist, stencils, and a limited number of colors of thickened dye. Materials will be provided to experiment with this fun technique on pieces of white cotton fabric. You are welcome to bring your own items to dye – they must be cotton, silk or a blend of the two and prewashed without fabric softener. There will be a materials fee of \$10, payable at the retreat. Some additional items to dye will be available for sale at the retreat.

Matchbox Altars - with Sage Hagy

Create your own portable sacred space using matchboxes and a variety of art supplies. Create a shrine to a Goddess, a space to hold small sacred objects, a memorial, or anything else you can imagine. There will be plenty of art supplies available but you are welcome to bring your own and your own small sacred objects.

OTHER NEEDS/REQUESTS - All the meals are vegan!

(We will do our best to accommodate.)

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

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.
- **Blanket, pillow and bed spread are provided. You will need to bring your own sheets and towels!**

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 July 22. 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 Treasurer, **Kathleen Miezio, 2357 South 54th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53219***

Units of 10 or more may register for \$13 each in 2018. 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>2019 "Get Connected" Calendar</p> <p>August 9 - 11.....Summer Retreat Ronora Lodge, Watervliet, MI</p> <p>October 11-13.....Fall Retreat DeKoven Center, Racine, WI</p>
--	---