



Voices of Women

Newsletter of the UU Women's Connection

Spring 2013

2013 UU Women's Connection Council

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YOUR NAME HERE!

Recruiting for 3 more
At Large Councilors—let us
know if you want to help with
the work of connecting
women across the district!

~Sign Up NOW for the Spring Retreat—Brochure INSIDE!~

Notes from a Quarterly Meeting

On the weekend of April 6th, four Councilors, Sage, Juli, Janet, and Tori, traveled to Macomb, Illinois for one of our quarterly meetings. Four times a year, we visit Churches in the Midwest District for several reasons: to get to know the women in our district, to let them know about us, our retreats and programs, and to get together to plan for our Spring and Fall retreats. **You'll find information about our June Spring Retreat and a registration form in this issue of VOW**, but I wanted to talk about our experiences this weekend.

As Councilors, we have experienced the value of women coming together to share life experiences, to tell their life's story, to be listened to, and supported by, other women who share common values. At our retreats, women who come as strangers often leave as friends, with struggles lifted and life choices validated. If this seems all too serious: sharing music, arts, crafts, and just plain silliness would lift anyone's

spirit, and ain't it great to just get away.

Which brings me back to this weekend, because that's what the four of us did, encouraged and abetted by our hostess: Alice Davenport from the Macomb Fellowship. We were planning the Spring Retreat, but we also had fun, sharing stories, and catching up with one another in real life, as opposed to endless emails.

Alice (and her husband Bill), and the members of the Macomb fellowship made us feel right at home. The Fellowship, which has about 50 members and friends, is very different in spirit and size from some of our bigger home churches. We were lucky because this weekend the Fellowship was having its monthly potluck dinner (yummy) and a square dance—led by one of the members. The Fellowship also has excellent musicians who played for the dance, and everyone—yongster, oldster, member, guest, and stranger all danced, or attempted to dance, nobody cared—it was just plain energetic fun, swept away by fast

foot stompin' fiddle, banjo, and piano music..

On Sunday, we attended the lay led and inspiring service, learning about the founder of the Girl Scouts, an organization which is taken for granted today, but in its own quiet way, provided millions of girls with the encouragement and self-confidence to follow their dreams.

A short trip to explore Western Illinois University, and Macomb, and we were on our way home, refreshed by the tender loving care of home hospitality. We very much enjoyed our weekend.

Those of us who plan retreats and other council activities, meet four times a year throughout the district. We want to get to know you and your congregations, so invite us for a planning weekend. We don't always need home hospitality, we like hotels too! We hope that you would be interested in meeting us, hopefully giving us feedback, about what the Council can do better in helping serve the women in our district.

~Juli Cicarelli

The Fabulous Face of the Divine Feminine

Embracing the Goddess Within

UU Women's Connection



55th Annual Spring Conference
June 7-9, 2013 ~ Pilgrim Park Retreat Center ~ Princeton, Illinois

Featuring: Teressena Bakens

Over the past few decades, all across the planet women have been redefining and rediscovering the Divine Feminine. We began by reconnecting with the Earth Mother and finding the expression of the Goddess in the world around us. Taking it a step further, we began to examine the Goddess in mythology to understand the Divine Feminine within our psyche. Today, we are remembering the Goddess within, claiming our inner wisdom, strength and beauty . . . embracing ourself as Goddess, with a unique expression and way of being the visible and fabulous face of the Divine Feminine.



Workshop:

Triple Goddess: Triple the Fun!

Awaken and embody the primordial archetype of the maiden, mother, crone in a grand new way. This is an invitation to step into the triple goddess that permeates all life and reside within us. A fun playshop to inspire, enliven and express the divine feminine through movement, meditation and creativity. Participants will gain a new understanding, appreciation and confidence for themselves as empowered women and dynamic goddesses!

Teressena is a visionary artist and published author. She has been a keynote speaker and presenter at several conferences and symposiums in the United States and abroad. Teressena is a mother and grandmother and resides with her husband in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

Teressena is a spiritual midwife helping people heal and transform through shamanic ceremony. Her path of shamanic study began with Ojibwe Grandmother, Woman of the Four Skies and Oneida Grandmother, Bright Day Star Woman, who shared their Native American wisdom with her. Teressena passes on the wisdom shared with her by conducting women's circles, shamanic ceremony, and facilitating workshops. She is also a full-mesa carrier in a Peruvian lineage of shaman and a graduate of the Healing the Light Body School. Over the past 13 years, she and her husband, Martien, have studied and received initiations with Mayan and Olmec elders. Together they facilitate sacred journeys to the Mayan lands. She is also the guardian of the crystal skull, Ophelah.

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Embracing the Goddess Within



UU Women's Connection

Spring Conference

June 7 – 9, 2013

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (_____) _____ E-mail: _____

CONGREGATION _____

CONFERENCE FEES

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

	UUWC Member	Non-Member	
Full Conference	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	
Saturday Only (incl registration, use fee, plus lunch & dinner)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$80	<input type="checkbox"/> \$95	
Saturday Only, including everything listed above, plus breakfast	<input type="checkbox"/> \$90	<input type="checkbox"/> \$105	

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

Upper Conference Center – Single (on the main floor, with private bath)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$140	
Upper Conference Center – Double Preferred Roommate _____	<input type="checkbox"/> \$125	
Lower Conference Center (dorm type room with shared bathroom) Preferred Roommate(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> \$105	
Higgins Lodge – Double Occupancy Only (a short walk from the main building) Specify Roommate _____	<input type="checkbox"/> \$120	
Tent Camping (bring your own tent and bedding)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$55	

3. Membership Renewal

***The date is on the upper right corner of your mailing label**

- \$15 Supporter
 \$25 Sustainer
 \$50 Visionary

\$ _____

4. Scholarship Contribution

Scholarship donations go directly to help sisters in need attend this Conference or the fall Conference. Won't you lend a sister a hand?

\$ _____

5. Late Fee – if mailed after May 23, 2013

\$20

\$ _____

TOTAL CONFERENCE 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: \$ _____

***On the Electronic list? Email us to discover your membership renewal date. info@uuwomensconnection.org**

Please REGISTER ONLINE on our website, www.uuwomensconnection.org
or mail completed registration form with payment to:

Nicole Nichols, 1461 Meadowside Drive, St. Louis, MO 63146

Make checks payable to: **UU Women's Connection**

Questions?? - Call Nicole – 314-409-7027 or email – registrar@uuwomensconnection.org

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

- Steps are a problem
- Mobility/stamina problems
- Dietary concerns/restrictions Please list _____
- Vegetarian meals preferred Indicate type of vegetarian _____
- Other Please list _____

Open Mic : Share your passion in song, dance, poetry or music! Time limits will be applied.

What talent(s) are you sharing? _____

ROOM/BOARD INFORMATION

- Rates listed are per person for the entire conference period, 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 (except tent camping – you will need your own tent and bedding).

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 15. 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.

Spring Conference 2013 ~ June 7-9 ~ Pilgrim Park Retreat Center ~ Princeton, Illinois

Workshops offer a variety of ways to explore and find YOUR unique voice. Sign up on arrival.

Do-It-Yourself Activities will provide opportunities to make something yourself or Walk the Labyrinth, Visit with Sisters, Hike, Nap, Day Dream, Read, get a massage or spend time in the music, sights and sounds of nature.

Pilgrim Park offers a limited number of modest accommodations and well prepared, simple food. See enclosed Registration form and Register early.

Book Exchange/Sale Hardbound and soft bound book donations are sought for our bargain book tables.

Silent Auction Bring your gently used items to contribute to the Connection's only fundraiser! The auction begins on Friday and ends Saturday Evening.

Don't miss Open Microphone!!

NEW THIS YEAR: There will be vending by the keynote speaker and a few other vendors.

On-line registrations are available at our website or simply download the registration form:
www.uuwomensconnection.org

Register before May 23rd to avoid penalty.

See **Scholarship information** in the registration form, included in this issue of the *Voices of Women Newsletter*. **Apply Early.**

Direct your registration questions to Registrar, Nicole Nichols at 631 4-409-7027 or e-mail
registrar@uuwomensconnection.org



Greening of UU Women's Connection. Saving trees and more.

Thank you to the many members and friends who are helping us go green by subscribing to the Connection's new e-mail list serve, *Voices of Women. (VOW)* We still however, continue to send many "snail mail" brochures and newsletters in this time of ecological concerns and increasing postage. For information and an invitation to subscribe to the *VOW* list please make your request known to us by e-mailing:

info@uuwomensconnection.org



Why not friend UU Women's Connection on Face Book?



Want to renew your membership on line with Pay Pal? Click on the link at the bottom of our home page at:
www.uuwomensconnection.org



UU Women's Connection

1461 Meadowside Drive

St. Louis, Missouri 63146

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 April 2013. Include recent update below and make check payable to "UU Women's Connection."*

*Send to the Connection Treasurer, **Nicole Nichols, 1461 Meadowside Dr., St Louis MO 63146***

Units of 10 register for \$130 in 2013. Register a unit of 10 members for \$13 each! Individual memberships are \$15.

Membership/Mailing List

Have you moved? Let us know so you won't miss a thing.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

CHURCH/
ORGANIZATION _____



2013 "Get Connected" Calendar

April1st Qtr Mtg — Macomb, IL
 June 7-9Spring Confernece, Pilgrim Park, IL
 TBD.....2nd Qtr Mtg, TBD
 October 18-20.....Fall Retreat, Racine, WI
 TBD.....Council Annual Retreat, TBD
 TBD.....4th Qtr. Council Mtg. TBD

Would you like us to come to your congregation? We hold quarterly meetings a various locations throughout the district. Ask us to come to your women's group! We offer programing in addition to holding our UUWC meetings. Contact Sage Hagy at csageh@comcast.net. Hope to see you soon!