

## ACTIVITIES

### Retreats

Since 1977, the Women and Religion Task Force has sponsored weekend retreats for district women which provide opportunities to discuss women's issues, learn about women's history, envision our future, learn leadership skills, plan action programs, and worship together. In addition, there is time for fun, relaxation, walks in the woods, art projects, and joy in sisterhood.

### Resources

The PCD Women and Religion Task Force publishes and distributes texts of lay-led services and books of interest to women. The Women & Religion Task Force encouraged the UUA in the development of the women's spirituality curriculum, *Cakes for the Queen of Heaven*. The Women and Religion Task Force also encouraged the Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation in the development of *Rise Up and Call Her Name: A Woman-Honoring Journey into Global Earth-based Spirituality*.

Models of shared leadership have been used since our beginnings in 1977. Women and Religion Task Force has sponsored district workshops on shared leadership, as well as workshops and programs on feminist and earth-based spirituality.

## NEWSLETTER

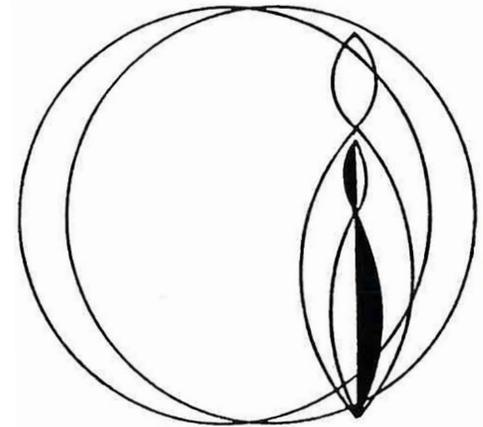
Designed to be a forum where readers can speak to one another through its pages, the newsletter includes articles, news of activities, poetry, book reviews, and viewpoints.

## GETTING INVOLVED

Many resources are available for you to encourage exploration of women's issues in your congregation. Through participation in W&R activities you will meet UU women from the Pacific Central District, which includes California, Nevada and Hawaii. If you care about dignity and equality for all, shared leadership at all levels, and respect for all life, we hope you will watch your church newsletters for information about our retreats and meetings, ask that your name be put on our newsletter mailing list, or contact our co-conveners. We are not a membership organization. As a Unitarian Universalist Woman you are encouraged to participate.

Please do join us in any of the activities. Contact our co-conveners through the Pacific Central District Office.

Women and Religion Task Force  
2441 LeConte Avenue  
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## WOMEN & RELIGION TASK FORCE

Pacific Central District  
of the  
Unitarian Universalist Association

## BEGINNINGS

The Pacific Central District Women and Religion Task Force was formed in response to the passage of the Women and Religion Resolution, which was approved by unanimous vote at the Continental Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly on Thursday, June 23, 1977.

### **Excerpts from the Resolution on Women and Religion**

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

“*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED*: that the . . . Unitarian Universalist Association calls upon all UUs to examine . . . their own religious beliefs and the extent to which these beliefs influence sex-role stereotypes within their own families; and urges . . . the UUA . . . administrative officers and staff, the religious leaders within societies, the UU theological schools, the directors of related organizations, and the planners of seminars and conferences, . . . to:

- (a) put traditional assumptions and language in perspective; and
- (b) avoid sexist assumptions and language in the future . . .”

## GOALS

The Women & Religion Task Force strives to promote equal opportunity by:

- encouraging global feminism
- emphasizing processes that express feminist values
- affirming our spiritual quest and the answers we find
- encouraging gender-inclusive language and imagery



## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

For the past 15 years, women active in various UU organizations have:

- sponsored retreats and conferences
- developed course materials
- instigated revision of the UU Principles and Purposes to make them more inclusive
- worked to make the UUA more gender-inclusive in language, employment practices and all of its activities and publications

While empowering one another we have continued to envision a whole and healing world with shared leadership and affirmation of each person's dignity and worth.

## THE CONTINENTAL WOMEN & RELIGION COMMITTEE

The Continental Women and Religion Committee was formed following the General Assembly in 1977, when a resolution was passed calling for UU's to examine the relation between religion and sexism. Continental Women and Religion Committee members were chosen from the UUA at large, Ministerial Sisterhood, Ministerial Association, Liberal Religious Educators Association and the Women's Federation.

The Continental W & R Committee is a committee of the Unitarian Universalist Association. The members are appointed by the UUA Board of Trustees and funded by its budget.

Each member of the Continental Committee is a liaison to a local district Women and Religion Committee. The Continental Committee has supported the process of holding annual gatherings where the district representatives have an opportunity to network with each other. There is a mutually beneficial relationship between local districts and the Continental Committee, although there is no official connection.