



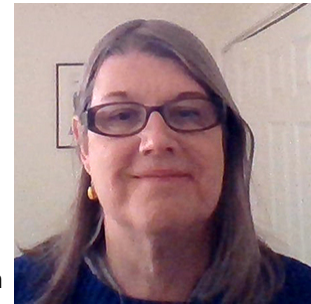
Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation

News – August 2019

Racist "Go Back Home" Tweets Are Also Misogynistic

A personal reflection by UUWF Transitional Board member, Rev, Terry Cummings.

As Unitarian Universalists, we are understandably dismayed by Donald Trump's outrage, the singling out of four congresswomen of color, Representatives Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez of New York, Ilhan Omar of Minnesota, Ayanna Pressley of Massachusetts and Rashida Tlaib of Michigan.



Trump's mantra that they should "go back home" to a country other than the America which *is* their home, and which they love, is the latest example of the personal and cultural racism that is the hallmark of his administration. I am glad that the House of Representatives passed a resolution condemning Trump's comments as racist, and I am grateful that much of the national news media has called out the inherent racism underlying his virulent attacks.

We should not overlook, however, that Trump's latest demagoguery is also misogynistic. Rather than engage in an honest dialog about the legitimate concerns they have raised about racial and social justice in America, Trump and his supporters have dismissed these women as socialist and unpatriotic. Their intelligence has, in essence, been questioned. Such blatant condescension is typical behavior of a misogynist.

The four women, "the Squad", are women who have ascended the political ladder and emerged as leaders. They have been attacked in part because they are women leaders. And that is another reason to support them and resist the attacks against them and women everywhere.

Abortion Ban Actions



The UUWF has written [a statement](#) regarding the recent attempts to ban abortions at the state level. If you are wondering what you can do as an individual or as a congregation, there are actions you can take depending on what type of involvement you can commit to. Justice work can look different for different people and groups.

Volunteer: Call a site that provides abortions to see what you can do to support them.

Donate or Organize a Funding Campaign

- [Sister Song](#)
- [Planned Parenthood](#)

- [National Network of Abortion Funds](#): The network is comprised of approx. 70 organizations that are autonomous, diverse, and united to move towards a world where all reproductive options, including abortion, are valued and free of coercion. Member organizations work across the network to remove financial and logistical barriers to abortion access, including helping pay for abortions and offering support such as transportation, childcare, translation, doula services, and housing for women who have to travel to get an abortion.

Direct Action

- [NARAL](#) (National Association to Repeal Abortion Laws). Attend rallies, events, and participate in actions to oppose abortion laws.
- Join [All Above All!](#) for information on what is happening across the country and by state, and learn when to attend rallies and actions.

Advocacy

- Write to your newspapers, and visit your state and federal legislators.
- Follow the issues through reading updates on NARAL and Planned Parenthood website.
- Keep up to date on national policy through the [Guttmacher organization](#).

Educate Others

- Share your abortion story with the [1 in 3 Campaign](#).
- Host a training from anti-racist, anti-oppressive perspective on reproductive health and abortion justice through [Sister Song](#).
- [Host a Performance!](#) Destigmatize abortion and promote access to abortion service by hosting a storytelling event around abortion.
- Become a trained Our Whole Lives (OWL) instructor. Get details on the [website](#) or via [email](#).

Organize

- Attend the [Let's Talk About Sex Conference](#) in Atlanta, GA in October, 2019.
- Organize a Day at the Legislature in your state, and encourage UU's across the state to come to talk with their representatives about abortion.

What Congregations Can Do

- Get the UUA's [Reproductive Justice Resources Packet](#). Resources for worship, small group sessions, and actions your congregation can take for Reproductive Justice.
- [Worship resources](#) are available from The Religious Institute.
- [Prayers for reproductive justice](#) are available from the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice.
- Celebrate, honor and mourn in community. Host a speakout, a special worship service, or another event for one or more of these key dates:
 - - Roe vs. Wade Anniversary on January 22nd
 - Abortion Provider Appreciation Day on March 10th
 - Anniversary of the Murder of Dr. George Tiller on May 31st
 - Rosie Jimenez Day (honoring those who have died due to lack of access to safe abortion) on October 3rd

UUWF Funding Programs Updates and Deadlines

Dreamers, Devisers, Doers: Women Transforming Themselves and the World

The UUWF is providing funding through the Fuller Grant to Elizabeth Cogliati (at the UU Church in Idaho Falls) to develop a new feminist curriculum for congregations. This new curriculum is intended to compliment the previously well received *Cakes for the Queen of Heaven* and *Rise Up and Call Her Name*. This new course will synthesize feminist legacy from the past with modern contributions, and will be anti-racist and multi-cultural in approach.

Funding Program Deadlines

Marjorie Bowns-Wheatley Scholarship provides direct financial support to aspirants or candidates to the Unitarian Universalist ministry, or candidates in the UUA's religious education or music leadership programs, who identify as women of color, Latina, or Hispanic. [October 1 deadline.](#)

Equity & Justice Grants Program welcomes proposals addressing a wide range of issues consistent with UU principles and which prioritize the achievement of social justice for those who identify as women. [November 1 deadline.](#)

Margaret Fuller Grants Program funds projects that explore feminist thought and action within a religious or spiritual context. We prefer projects that result in a product that can be shared widely — such as a book, curriculum materials, program outlines/ descriptions, DVDs, audio recordings, workshop templates, or publishable articles. [November 1 deadline.](#)

In Memory of Dorothy May Emerson



Rev. Dr. Dorothy May Emerson passed away on May 13th, 2019. Dorothy was beloved in her community. Her life and works touched many. Her memoir *Sea Change: The Unfinished Agenda of the 1960s* was published just last year. We are grateful to have this glimpse of her life's experiences and philosophies written in her own words.

Dorothy was a semi-retired Unitarian Universalist minister. She and her spouse Donna co-founded Rainbow Solutions to promote socially responsible investing as an important tool for social change and to offer consulting services to support those who want their lifestyles and business practices, as well as their money, to reflect their core values. After Donna and associates have launched Rainbow Investment Solutions, the focus of Rainbow Solutions was on Dorothy's ministry and publications.

A member of the UUWR core group that revised the bylaws in 2005, after her term Dorothy continued to be a mentor and advisor, and a frequent presence at the UUW&R booth at General Assembly.

Dorothy gave public lectures and led workshops and worship services. She also performed weddings, funerals and memorial services, child dedications, and a variety of other special rituals. She specialized in interfaith ceremonies, personally designed to suit your needs and reflect your values.

Dorothy has edited and published feature articles and books. She also helped create programs to help adults grow spiritually and gain insight into ways to implement their values in daily life. In addition to her ministry, Dorothy was active in UU and community organizations. In her free time, she enjoyed time with family and friends, traveling, reading mysteries by women, and exploring nature's beauty.

News from UU Women & Religion

General Assembly 2019

We had a great week at General Assembly talking with visitors at our booth. The UUWR Store featured books, music and art by UU women, including [Rachel Carter](#) (top photo) who brought her stone and bead wall hangings.



Many people enjoyed quiet time in the safety of The Red Tent, by themselves or with friends. UUWR co-convener Twinkle Marie Manning arranged for some amazing women to lead meditations and other activities.

UUWF's Sermon Award breakfast, with Rev. Kimberley Debus (bottom photo), was packed. After the sermon, we asked permission to bring Big Woman to the UUWF/UUWR booth where many more heard her story.



Hot Off the Presses

UUWR introduced a new book this year, a reworking of Elizabeth Fisher's [Circle Model of Shared Leadership](#). From the foreword, "this book outlines a Train-the-Trainer workshop which teaches the group facilitation process of the participatory Circle Model of Shared Leadership... It presents the core ideas of Shared Leadership, and provides written material and resources that are concise and ready to use when teaching others. Those attending this workshop will be empowered to take the Shared Leadership model into their congregations and committees and utilize the process of consensus decision-making as they answer the call to build beloved community."

Fall UU Women's Retreats

- [UU Womensphere Fall Retreat in SE New England](#): September 28-29
- [UU Women's Connection Retreat - Racine WI](#): October 11-13
- [UU Womenspirit at The Mountain, NC](#): October 16-20

UU Rainbow History: Request for Book Proposals

Unitarian Universalist Retired Ministers and Partners Association (UURMaPA) announces a search for an editor or editors to compile or write a book telling stories of the past 50 years of LGBTQ+ history in Unitarian Universalism. The group envisions this as a "Conference Book," drawn largely from materials generated by the UU Rainbow History Project, in particular its February and October 2019 Conferences on this subject. The materials include videotape presentations and interviews, as well as written submissions, some of which can be found [on the website](#). The submission deadline is September 1, 2019. Full details are available on the [UURMaPA website](#).

New Clara Barton Sisterhood Members



The First Unitarian Church of Oklahoma City recently honored **Margaret Roseboom** (pictured) and **Barbara Breer** with membership in the Clara Barton Sisterhood.

The Clara Barton Sisterhood was created 1979 as a way for local women's groups, congregations, and individuals to honor women aged 80 and over for their contributions to their congregations and communities. [Learn more here.](#)

Donate / Join UUWF

Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation

advancing justice for women and girls and promoting their spiritual growth

www.uuwf.org

Contact us: uuwf@uuwf.org

