

Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock

# WG

WOMEN'S GROUP

EVENTS | HIGHLIGHTS | SCHEDULES



JULY 2023 – JUNE 2024

# Rosa Parks' Story

by Rev. Dr. Natalie M. Fenimore

Rosa Parks (1913-2005) lived a long and courageous life. Although famous for one act, she was an activist in many areas: women's rights, voting rights, fair housing, anti-apartheid, reparations among them.

Mrs. Parks was not the "tired seamstress" who refused to give up her seat on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama on December 01, 1955—sparking the Montgomery Bus Boycott and the modern Civil Rights Movement. Rosa Parks had been active in the Civil Rights Movement and serving as the secretary of the local NAACP since 1943.

In an example of her other justice efforts: Enduring threats to her personal safety, Rosa Parks, took on the task of gathering evidence to support Black women who were raped by White men with impunity in the pre-Civil Rights South—the case of Recy Taylor in 1944 and Gertrude Perkins in 1949. Parks and her husband were members of the League of Women Voters in the 1940's. She attended a rally and protest against the murder of Emmet Till before her refusal to give up her seat on the Montgomery bus in 1955.

In her own words, "People always say that I didn't give up my seat because I was tired, but that isn't true. I was not tired physically, or no more tired than I usually was at the end of a working day. I was not old, although some people have an image of me as being old then. I was forty-two. No, the only tired I was, was tired of giving in."

A far more political figure than many know, Parks was friend to both Martin Luther King and Malcolm X. And involved with Angela Davis and the Black Panther Party. She trained at the Highlander School in workers' rights and racial equality activism. She was forced to leave Alabama and worked for decades in the office of Detroit Congressman John Conyers.

Mrs. Rosa Parks was driven by a commitment to justice and service. She was not someone who was going to let an injustice stand unchallenged. She withstood isolation and death threats. She never made much money but achieved great stature and respect because of her unwavering courage. At her death, Mrs. Parks, was the first woman and the second non-governmental individual to lie in state at the US Capitol and a statue of her is in Congressional Statuary Hall.

Recognizing the ways in which Mrs. Parks' life's work for justice align with Unitarian Universalists principles, The Unitarian Universalist Association's *Beacon Press*, published a comprehensive biography by Jeanne Theoharis - *The Rebellious Life of Mrs. Rosa Parks*.

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Cover Art by Stephen Foster

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# UUCSR WOMEN'S GROUP BOARD MEMBERS

**JULY 2023 – JUNE 2024**

## **BOARD OFFICERS**

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PRESIDENT	Renée Silver
VICE PRESIDENT	Tinna Kopelow
SECRETARY	Palma Torrisi
TREASURER	Leona Handelman

## **BOARD MEMBERS**

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IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	Diane Mansell
BOOK SERIES CHAIR	Patti Paris
COMMUNITY OUTREACH CHAIR	TBD
HOSPITALITY CHAIR	Judith Wylie-Rosett
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR	Katherine Miller
NOMINATING CHAIR	Courtney Weida
WOMEN'S ISSUES	Maria Ceraulo
WOMEN TALK-DAYTIME	Sandra Frank
MEMBERS AT LARGE (VOTING)	Maxine Dangler
	Marilyn Fischell
	Lee Geisen
	Claire Paccione
	Jo Rymer

## Cookie Baking for Children of Incarcerated



## OUR MISSION

To create a community of caring, committed women and men who are steadfast in their quest for equality, justice and peace.

To value ourselves and to value each other in order to advance women's rights.

To educate ourselves and others on women's issues so as to achieve equality of the sexes.

To enhance our spirituality and to affirm, advocate and support the development of feminist theology.

To be responsive to the needs and aspirations of our members by providing enrichment and support.

To extend our bonds of sisterhood to liberal religious women within and beyond our congregation and denomination.

## OUR COVENANT

We covenant and affirm to relate to one another with sensitivity, support in joys and sorrows, and recognition of special needs. We shall reach out in the spirit of appreciation, respect, support and honesty in accord with our UU principles. Further, our relationship shall be one of creativity, humor and play.

As empathic women who have concern for each other, we will listen to one another. Decisions will be made by consensus whenever possible. In all other cases a majority vote will be taken. In reaching decisions we will encourage flexibility, and sufficient time for exploration and process.

We work together through our commitment to the group by paying attention to our process, by empowering as many members as possible, being open to new and varied ideas, and by allowing time for ritual and celebration in order to nurture our spiritual selves. We will be responsive to the value of one another as unique and important human beings.





*The Final Word is Love*  
—Dorothy Day



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VICE PRESIDENT



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Maxine Dangler  
MEMBER AT LARGE



Marilyn Fischell  
MEMBER AT LARGE



Lee Geisen  
MEMBER AT LARGE



Claire Paccione  
MEMBER AT LARGE



Jo Rymer  
MEMBER AT LARGE



Alexa Jellema  
COMMITTEE  
ASSISTANT

## WOMEN WE ADMIRE

### *Hannah Senesh*

Hannah Senesh, born in Budapest, to wealthy Jewish parents in 1921, had emigrated to Palestine and was trained as a special operations parachutist. In March 1944 she was dropped into Yugoslavia in order to help organize armed resistance to-Nazi forces.

Captured, she was sent to a prison in Budapest where she was tortured for the purpose of revealing information regarding anti-Nazi operations. She refused to talk. Her mother, who was still in Hungary, was arrested as well in the hope of enticing Hannah to reveal her connections. She refused and, at the age of twenty-three, in a snow-covered Budapest courtyard, refusing a blindfold in order to face her murderers in the moments before death, was shot by firing squad in November 1944.

Her mother, who survived, was instrumental in bringing her daughter's courageous life and death to public knowledge by publishing her diary, poetry and plays.

A kibbutz was founded and called Yad Hannah in her memory.



# WOMEN WE ADMIRE

## *Virginia Hall*

### *Virginia Hall, the Wooden-Legged American Spy Who Helped Win WWII*

Virginia Hall (1906-1982) was an American born in Baltimore, Maryland. She attended school in Maryland, Radcliffe College of Harvard, Barnard College of Columbia, and George Washington. Having studied French, Italian, German and economics, she traveled to France where she continued her education.



In 1931 she was appointed as a consul's clerk at the American Embassy in Warsaw, Poland, followed by a transfer to Smyrna, now Izmir, Turkey. An accident necessitated the amputation of her left leg below the knee. Cuthbert was the name she used when referring to her wooden leg.

In 1940, at the beginning of WWII she became an ambulance driver for the French army. After the rapid defeat of France, she made her way into Spain where she joined the British Special Operations Executive (SOE). In 1941 she arrived in Unoccupied France (Vichy France) posing as a New York Post reporter stationed in Lyon.

She was an expert in camouflage and managed to hide her real identity despite her obvious disability. For instance, after filing down her front teeth, wearing kerchiefs and long black skirts, she passed as an elderly lady of no consequence. In this capacity she supported the French Resistance, made safe houses available and smuggled reports to the British. She was responsible for one of the war's most useful operations of its kind when she succeeded in freeing twelve Allied agents held prisoner and scheduled for execution from the Mauzac prison.

To the Nazis, Virginia Hall was "the most dangerous of all allied spies," and they sent their entire stable of double agents to "find and destroy her." Her face, or many of her faces, was plastered on reward posters across occupied France - but the Reich's most elusive adversary remained at large.

The Gestapo's senior officer in charge of her case, Klaus Barbie, a.k.a. "the butcher of Lyon," was right to fear her. He never managed to uncover her true nationality or her real name. This so infuriated Barbie that he once reportedly cried out in a fit of rage, "I would give anything to get my hands on his limping Canadian bitch."

Virginia Hall was honored with numerous medals by the governments she served. Books have been written about her, including Sonia Purnell's 2019 book, *A Woman of No Importance: The Untold Story of an American Spy Who Helped Win World War II*, a work discussed by the Women's Group.

# WOMEN WE ADMIRE

## *Jane Goodall*

We all know Jane Goodall and her extraordinary work with chimpanzees, her compassion, her message of hope. Rather than discuss her life and work, here are some quotes which inspire all of us and give us hope.

### **On the Impact of humans on the planet:**

“There’s too many of us. It’s a planet of finite resources- and we are using them up. And that’s going to mean so much suffering in the future.”

“We’re poisoning the land, we’re poisoning animals, and I truly believe we’re poisoning ourselves.”

### **On living in harmony with nature:**

“Chimpanzees, gorillas, and orangutans have been living for hundreds of thousands of years in their forest, living fantastic lives, never overpopulating, never destroying the forest. I would say that they have been in a way more successful than us as being in harmony with the environment.”

### **On human qualities:**

“It is the undeniable qualities of human love and compassion and self-sacrifice that give me hope for the future. We are, indeed, often cruel and evil. Nobody can deny this. We gang up on one another, we torture each other with words as well as deeds, we fight, we kill, but we are also capable of the most noble, generous, and heroic behavior.”

“I think empathy is really important, and I think only when our clever brain and our human heart work together in harmony we can achieve our full potential.”

“Only if we understand can we care. Only if we care, we will help. Only if we help, we shall be saved.”

“The greatest danger to our future is apathy.”

“The biggest problem we have as environmental activists is to fight the power of money.”





Renée Silver, PRESIDENT

## LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

As I start my first year as president of the Women's Group, I am in awe of the role of women. I am not thinking "equality." Rather, having a long life of experience behind me, I am aware that there is nothing we cannot do! Many years ago, as I sat in on my late husband's class on "creativity" at Carnegie Institute of Technology (now Carnegie Mellon,) taught by Professor Hans Vetter of Vienna, I heard him speak to his nearly 100% male class of young architects, mostly G.I.'s, about the limits of creativity. Professor Vetter spoke of the one area men cannot compete with women for creativity: giving birth!

Many of us have given birth. Yet, that does not limit our access to creativity, courage, ingenuity, and compassion. Nor does it mean that those of us who are not mothers - for whatever reasons - are any less creative.

For getting us through the Covid years, thank you, Diane, and the other valiant Women's Group members! Perhaps not "unscathed," but certainly strengthened by what we have learned. No one is "special." We are all subject to problems. Yet, friendship and caring help us get through catastrophic agony and even Covid!

I look forward to working with the extraordinary members of the Women's Group, our wonderful ministers, and other committees at Shelter Rock.

I also hope to enlist the participation of members of our Religious Education. I am so grateful for their enthusiastic help in our "Cookie Bake" last December! At the same event we had a very special Santa Klaus who, I hope, will join us again this year.

To everyone at Shelter Rock, here are Albert Camus' words:

"Don't walk behind me! I may not lead.  
Don't walk in front of me! I may not follow.  
Just walk beside me and be my friend."

Together, we can do it!

Renée Silver



## UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST WOMEN'S FEDERATION

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UUWF is a continental membership organization that advances justice for women and promotes their spiritual growth. It is an independent non-profit, 501 (c) (3) corporation of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Inheritor of a proud tradition, UUWF was formed in 1963 through consolidation of the Association of Universalist Women (founded in 1869 and believed to be the first organization of lay church women in the United States) and the Alliance of Unitarian Women (1890).

### Purposes

- Affirm the inherent value of each woman within our community;
- Affirm the importance of women's voices in our religious quest;
- Link hearts and minds in service of women's truths;
- Pledge action against the religious roots of sexism;
- Pledge to support the diversity of religious feminisms;
- Work to raise consciousness of the linked nature of oppressions;
- Seek justice for all women in the struggle to transform institutions of oppression;
- Highlight and celebrate women's achievements—past, present and future.

### **Uplifting words by Lee Sung Jin, Emmy-nominated writer and director:**

*Something incredible happens when we accept each other as we are.*

*We breathe easier. We relax. We explore the corners of our minds we had pretended don't exist.*

*We can finally be ourselves, free of judgment or shame, as we were when we were kids.*

*The feeling of separateness fades away and, suddenly, you're no longer an island.*

*You're this massive, interconnected web of continents, brimming with unbridled imagination.*

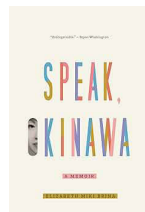
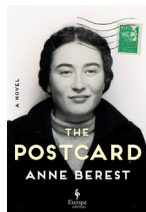
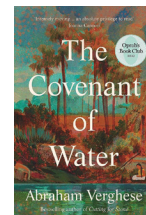
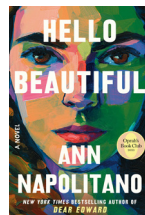
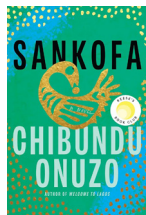
*You're ready to play.*

# WOMEN'S GROUP BOOK SERIES

An opportunity to gather and discuss recently read books. A new book has been chosen for each month. **Third Fridays, monthly, at 3:30 PM, currently being held on Zoom until further notice.**

*\* Held on Fourth Friday*

FRIDAYS	BOOK TITLE	AUTHOR	LEADER
October 20, 2023	<i>Sankofa</i>	Chibundu Onuzo	Lee Geisen
November 17, 2023	<i>Hello Beautiful</i>	Ann Napolitano	Patti Paris
December 15, 2023	<i>Honor</i>	Thrity Umrigar	Aida Nema
January 19, 2024	<i>Covenant of Water</i>	Abraham Verghese	Patti Paris
February 16, 2024	<i>Lady Tan's Circle of Women</i>	Lisa See	Lee Geisen
March 15, 2024	<i>The Postcard</i>	Anne Berest	Renée Silver
April 26, 2024 *	<i>Speak Okinawa</i>	Elizabeth Miki Brina	TBD
May 16, 2024	<i>The Last Romantics</i>	Tara Conklin	TBD
June 21, 2024	<i>The Wind Knows My Name</i>	Isabel Allende	TBD
July 18, 2024	<i>Evil Eye</i>	Etaf Rum	TBD



## MEETINGS & EVENTS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS

### FALL MEMBERSHIP MEETING & LUNCHEON

Friday, October 6, 2023 6:30 PM

### COOKIE BAKING WITH NEW HOUR & WORC

Saturday, December 9, 2023  
11:00 AM

### WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH BREAKFAST & WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, March 24, 2024

Breakfast: 9:00 AM

Worship Service: 11:00 AM

### MOTHER'S DAY LUNCHEON

Sunday, May 12, 2024 12:30 PM

### ANNUAL ELECTION MEETING & LUNCHEON

Sunday, June 30, 2024 12:30 PM

### MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS

See Women's Group emails and *Quest* calendar for WG Board Meetings date and time.

## ON-GOING PROGRAMS

### FILM DISCUSSION SERIES

The idea of a film discussion series began during the height of the pandemic and the birth of the wonderful Zoom app. Many of us missed getting together in person and decided to watch a film that was on Netflix or Amazon prime. We select the films with input from attendees, watch it whenever it's convenient and discuss it on the third and fourth Friday of the month online. Films and Zoom link are posted in the *Quest*. Join us. Maria Ceraulo, Women's Film Discussion Facilitator and Women's Issues Chair

### WOMEN TALK DAYTIME—MULTIPLATFORM

Meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at NOON. The first Tuesday is an open discussion of Current Events; on the Third Tuesday the discussion starts with a topic that was prechosen by the attendees. We meet in person in the Veatch House Conference Room. Or you can attend online on ZOOM. Onsite you can bring your lunch to have with coffee/tea waiting for you. Come share your insights and wisdom. We will all be together! Sandra Hazel Frank, Chair

### THANK GODDESS IT'S FRIDAY

We offer a wide range of fabulous Friday evening get-togethers focusing on spirituality, community, service, and women's issues. Enticing programs featuring stimulating activities and brainy speakers to kindle your mind, plus musical nights, and drama to entertain you—what better way for you to happily spend your Friday nights than with the Women's Group!

*Women's Group also periodically offers a Saturday or Sunday program. Be sure to check the *Quest* or the UUCSR calendar for more information or for any changes in our schedule. Give your spirit a lift by attending one or all of our innovative programs.*



## CALENDAR EVENTS/MEETING 2023-2024

### JULY

Tuesday, July 11, 2023	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime
Sunday, July 16, 2023	12:00 PM	WG Annual Meeting & Election Luncheon
Tuesday, July 25, 2023	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime
Friday, July 28, 2023	3:30 PM	Women's Group Online Book Series Discussion

### AUGUST

Friday, August 18, 2023	3:30 PM	Women's Group Online Book Series Discussion
Friday, August 18, 2023	7:30 PM	Women's Group Online Film Discussion
Friday, August 25, 2023	4:00 PM	Women's Group Online Film Discussion

### SEPTEMBER

Tuesday, September 12, 2023	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime
Friday, September 15, 2023	3:30 PM	Women's Group Online Book Series Discussion
Friday, September 15, 2023	7:30 PM	Women's Group Online Film Discussion
Friday, September 22, 2023	4:00 PM	Women's Group Online Film Discussion
Tuesday, September 26, 2023	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime

### OCTOBER

Tuesday, October 3, 2023	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime
Friday, October 6, 2023	6:30 PM	Women's Group Annual Fall Membership Dinner
Thursday, October 12, 2023	5:00 PM	League of Women Voters Candidate Night
Tuesday, October 17, 2023	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime
Thursday, October 19, 2023	6:00 PM	League of Women Voters Candidate Night
Friday, October 20, 2023	3:30 PM	Women's Group Online Book Series Discussion
Friday, October 20, 2023	7:30 PM	Women's Group Online Film Discussion
Friday, October 27, 2023	4:00 PM	Women's Group Online Film Discussion

### NOVEMBER

Friday, November 3, 2023	7:00 PM	Thank Goddess It's Friday: Cannabis for Health
Tuesday, November 7, 2023	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime
Friday, November 17, 2023	3:30 PM	Women's Group Online Book Series Discussion
Friday, November 17, 2023	7:30 PM	Women's Group Online Film Discussion
Tuesday, November 21, 2023	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime
Friday, November 24, 2023	4:00 PM	Women's Group Online Film Discussion

\*See Women's Group emails and *Quest* calendar for Women's Group Board Meetings date and time.



## DECEMBER

Friday, December 1, 2023	7:00 PM	Thank Goddess It's Friday: Psychic
Tuesday, December 5, 2023	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime
Saturday, December 9, 2023	11:00 AM	Cookie Baking with New Hour and WORC
Friday, December 15, 2023	3:30 PM	Women's Group Online Book Series Discussion
Friday, December 15, 2023	7:30 PM	Women's Group Online Film Discussion
Tuesday, December 19, 2023	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime
Friday, December 22, 2023	4:00 PM	Women's Group Online Film Discussion

## JANUARY

Tuesday, January 2, 2024	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime
Friday, January 5, 2024	7:00 PM	Thank Goddess It's Friday: Saving Mothers (Kit Making)
Tuesday, January 16, 2024	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime

## FEBRUARY

Friday, February 2, 2024	7:00 PM	Thank Goddess It's Friday: Women's Work
Tuesday, February 6, 2024	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime
Tuesday, February 20, 2024	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime

## MARCH

Friday, March 1, 2024	7:00 PM	Thank Goddess It's Friday: <i>Doing Our Time on the Outside</i>
Tuesday, March 5, 2024	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime
Tuesday, March 19, 2024	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime
Sunday, March 24, 2024	9:00 AM	WG Breakfast Celebrating Women's History Month

## APRIL

Tuesday, April 2, 2024	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime
Friday, April 5, 2024	7:00 PM	Thank Goddess It's Friday: Women and Finance
Tuesday, April 16, 2024	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime

## MAY

Tuesday, May 2, 2023	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime
Friday, May 3, 2024	7:00 PM	Thank Goddess It's Friday: Raging Grannies Peace Brigade
Tuesday, May 7, 2024	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime
Sunday, May 12, 2024	9:30 AM	Mother's Day Luncheon
Tuesday, May 21, 2024	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime

## JUNE

Tuesday, June 4, 2024	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime
Friday, June 7, 2024	7:00 PM	Thank Goddess It's Friday
Tuesday, June 18, 2024	12:00 PM	Women Talk Daytime
Sunday, June 30, 2024	12:30 PM	Women's Group Annual Election Meeting & Luncheon

\*See Women's Group emails and *Quest* calendar for Women's Group Board Meetings date and time.

# WOMEN'S ISSUES

## The Good, the Bad...

Every year, this page calls me. As Women's Issues Chair, I try to educate and empower. This year we find ourselves celebrating some victories and recovering from the blows when our rights are withdrawn, disregarded, or overturned. The blows propel me, and I hope you, to act.

Will it be the good news or the bad news? We'll start with the good news. It's the ERA-Equal Rights Amendment. After almost 100 years women in Congress are not giving up. It's back on the agenda. This ERA will explicitly guarantee sex equality that will protect reproductive rights. A national archivist needs to certify and publish the 28th Amendment.



Maria Ceraulo

We were glad to see that a musical was made about Rosalind Franklin: "Double Helix. It attempted to finally give the scientist credit for her work which was the basis for discovery of the double helix structure of DNA.

Some of us remember when our women's group highlighted the stories of sexual assault in the military. Our President gave final approval to reshaping our country's Uniform Code of Military Justice, stripping commanders of their authority over cases of sexual assault, rape, and murder. The White House called it "a turning point for survivors of gender-based violence in the military."

Two events on the federal level will have enormous impact. The FDA approved the first pill to aid postpartum depression. The FDA also approved selling the birth control pill over the counter.

Now we'll look at what could use not just our attention, but commitment to act. Reproductive health care glares at us. As maternal mortality rates soar in America, one in five reports being mistreated while receiving care. Mothers are dying. Many American women are afraid of giving birth. The UN found that bias imperils Black women in pregnancy where the mortality rate is far greater than for white women.

Although the military took a giant step regarding sexual assault, the House voted to revoke military abortion-access guarantees. They also voted to bar transgender health services and limit diversity training. One step forward, one step...?

Our Governor authored an opinion piece in the New York Times. For her mother's 70th birthday present, she asked for help to open a home for survivors of domestic violence and their children. It was called the Kathleen Mary in her honor. It's who our governor was named after. Her concern as well as ours surfaced when the Supreme Court overturned New York's 100-year-old concealed carry law. The court ruled that perpetrators of domestic violence had a constitutional right to possess a gun. Later this year, the Supreme Court will decide whether firearms can flood the homes of domestic violence survivors. As the Governor stated, the stakes could not be higher. We need to keep guns out of the hands of abusers. In New York, there are many protections. Nine thousand extreme risk orders of protection were issued last year. In honor of her mother, Gov. Hochul vows to never stop fighting for justice. In whatever way I can, I will too. How about you?

We've looked at the good, the not very good, and the downright ugly developments in women's issues. Throughout the year, you will receive emails possibly asking you to sign petitions, contact your legislators, attend a rally or event to support efforts to improve the lives of women. I hope you'll join us and work with us in our commitment to women's issues.

# WRITE! EMAIL! CALL!

Shout your message for Equal Rights, Peace, Justice & Compassion!

## New York State's U.S. Senators

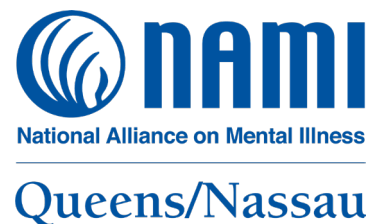
Senator Charles Schumer  
313 Hart Senate Office Bldg  
Washington, DC 20510  
schumer.senate.gov

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand  
531 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg  
Washington, DC 20510  
gillibrand.senate.gov

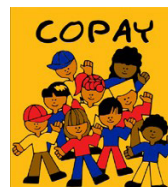
Go to the League of Women Voters website [www.lwvofnassaucounty.org](http://www.lwvofnassaucounty.org)  
for elected official contact information.



## YOUR YEARLY DUES SUPPORTED THESE NON-PROFITS IN 2022-2023



THE WOMAN'S OPPORTUNITY REHABILITATION CENTER  
"WORC"



# WOMEN'S GROUP MEMBERSHIP 2023-2024

## MEMBERSHIP

All are welcome in the UUCSR Women's Group programs and activities. Men are encouraged to join and take part in the activities and programs too. Please renew your membership or join for the first time and help the WG to support activities that—

- Help guarantee reproductive justice for women
- Help stop the abuse of women and children
- Help secure pay equity for women
- Help provide affordable day-care and sick-leave for mothers
- Help to advance the rights of women
- Help women and children seeking immigration status
- Participate in programs to preserve natural resources and prevent climate change

Monthly WG activities include: TGIF programs, Book Series discussions, Women Talk Daytime meetings, Film Discussion Series, and the WG Board meeting—open to all.

The WG also sponsors fun special events. Being a WG member includes a *courtesy* ticket for admission to the following events:

- Annual Fall Membership Meeting and "Luncheon"
- Women's History Month Breakfast
- Mother's Day Luncheon
- Annual Membership Election Meeting & Luncheon

Your Women's Group Membership includes:

- Center for the Women of New York
- National Organization for Women (NOW)
- Planned Parenthood

## HOW TO JOIN WOMEN'S GROUP

Membership dues are \$30.

Please join on-line with a credit card at the following link: **WGFall23-24**

Or you can write a \$30 check, per person, payable to UUCSR and add Women's Group 23–24 Membership in the "memo" line. Your dues entitle you to a full year of membership—from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. As well as a yearly membership in the UU Women's Federation.

Mail your check with your name, address, phone number and email address to UUCSR, Attention: Alexa Jellema. Thank you and WELCOME!

If you have questions about becoming a Women's Group Member please call Katherine Miller, Women's Group Membership Chair, 516.446.5286 or email kmns45@yahoo.com. If you can't reach Katherine you can call Alexa Jellema, Women's Group Committee Assistant, at 516.472.2920 or email ajellema@uucsr.org

**WE ARE GLAD YOU HAVE JOINED US!**



# OUR HISTORY

The first Meeting of Women's Group was held on January 16, 1963. It was held at the North Shore Unitarian Church, with forty-one women present. (Agnes Burton, Mary Watts' mother, Pat Luciano, and Paulette Dundore were at this Meeting.) Included in their goals was the desire "To offer a diverse program to satisfy the needs and desires of all its members, including service and education programs, social events, and occasional fund raising." The Group's spirit was embodied in the quote, "They say it couldn't be done, but I, poor fool, didn't know it, so went ahead and did it." If you attended any of our Programs, you could see we continued following in the footsteps of our insightful Foremothers.

Our Women's Group is part of and contributes to the national organization, the Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation (UUWF).

Women's Group has held an opera night, galas with champagne, and delicious desserts. Proceeds went to benefit organizations that help women and girls. We have had two very successful theatrical productions, a staged reading of *The Vagina Monologues* and an all-girl musical revue *A: My Name is Alice* which included Religious Education students. One of our galas featured music by Fanny Mendelssohn, sister of the famous Felix Mendelssohn. It was performed by Julliard musicians.

We produced a PowerPoint during the time of COVID. The PowerPoint, *Suffrage at 100*, was produced to celebrate the anniversary of the 19th Amendment and featured Women's Group members. It was recorded and is available to watch on our website.

Proceeds from our yearly Holiday sale were

donated to a non-profit organization that works to meet the needs of women and children.

Our members crafted our Women's History month Worship Service featuring experiences related by our members as well as an additional service on reproductive justice. As people of the Unitarian Universalist tradition, we are committed to helping those in need and to encouraging what is good in this world to grow and thrive.

**The Women's Group functions under its own Bylaws, but it is responsible to the Board of Trustees. It elects its own officers. Women's Group provides support for women in personal, spiritual and life transition issues, and sponsors educational and cultural programs to enrich women's lives. We are actively engaged in the advancement of women's issues, such as pay equity, reproductive freedom, and the Equal Rights Amendment.**

We continue with our intellectually stimulating and lively monthly Book and Film Discussion Groups, our TGIF Programs, as well as our Fall Membership Meeting, Worship Service and Breakfast, and our Mother's Day Luncheon. We end our year with the Annual Election Meeting and Luncheon.

We hope that you find, on our new calendar, many things that you will enjoy.

All are welcome!

AIM FOR THE STARS...  
JOIN THE WOMEN'S GROUP!



Artwork by Kagaya



Where have all the flowers gone ....

McCarthyism, "Cold War," names of the period during which Pete Seeger was ostracized and humiliated by his own government.

While returning from an engagement at Oberlin, one of the few universities courageous enough to invite him, he remembered a phrase from the 1934 novel by Michael Shokohoo, And Quiet flows the Don.

It was a traditional Cossack (Ukraine) lyric "Koloda - Duda." Seeger borrowed an Irish lullaby for the music.

The song has been translated into virtually every known language.

I used it as an inspiration to complete this quilt. While it originally referred to the loss of life due to wars, I also think of it as a symbolic question.

"Where have all the flowers,  
frogs, birds, snails,  
butterflies gone -----  
When will you ever learn ----"

# Where Have All the Flowers Gone

QUILT BY RENÉE SILVER



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**Human. Kind.**

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