

## Pacific Southwest District

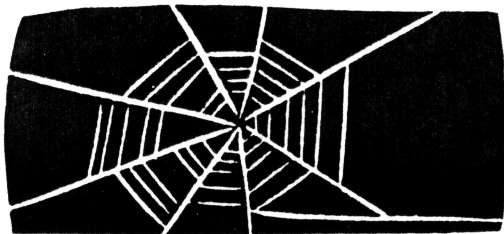
### Women and Religion Committee:

Has sponsored workshops on Sexism Assessment and Stopping Violence Against Women at District Annual Meetings and at UUWF district meetings.

Has used District and UUWF Newsletters to publicize events, programs and conferences.

Has acted as the conduit for information and publications from the continental Women and Religion Committee.

Has promoted the use of "Cleansing Our Temple" and conducted sexism assessment surveys in our largest congregation.



## PSWD Women and Religion Committee

Sarah James

Long Beach, CA

Doris Meek

San Diego, CA

Lorraine Thompsen

Fullerton, CA

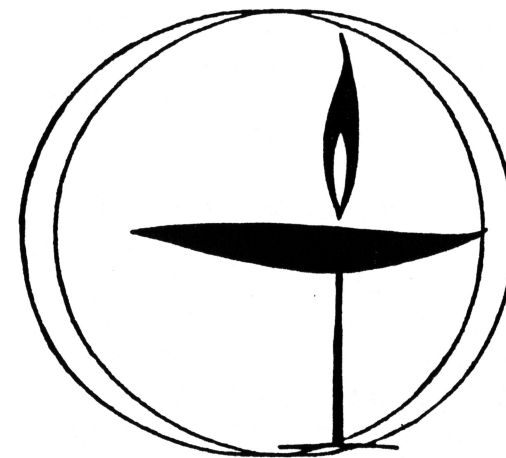
Betsy Stevens, Convenor

San Diego, CA

If you are interested in the program of Women and Religion and would like to be on our mailing list, please contact the convenor. Our activities and concerns are publicized in the quarterly Newsletter of the PSWD-UUWF, with whom we closely collaborate.

*"...the great watershed achievement of the Unitarian Universalist Association was the unanimous vote...for the Women and Religion Resolution."*

*Rev. Judith Meyer*



## Women and Religion Committee

*Pacific Southwest District of the Unitarian Universalist Association*

## Women and Religion Committee



### A Brief History

Women and Religion is a six-member standing committee of the Unitarian Universalist Association. It is appointed by the UUA Board of Trustees and funded by its budget. Each district of the UUA has a Women and Religion Committee appointed by its Board.

The Continental Women and Religion Committee was formed following the General Assembly in 1977 when a resolution was passed calling for UUs 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.

For the past 15 years the Women and Religion Committee has sponsored retreats and conferences; developed curricula; instigated the revision of UU Principles and Purposes to be more inclusive; and worked to make the UUA more gender-inclusive in language, employment practices and all of its activities and publications.

## Charge and Purpose

The Continental Women and Religion Committee shall:

**IDENTIFY and NAME** sexist patterns of thought, belief, behavior and practice which degrade the spirit, mind and body of women, men and children within the UUA;

**EXPLORE and IMPLEMENT** methods to reform and transform these patterns;

**CREATE and PROMOTE** programs, materials, networks and other support services that will offer hope and direction toward liberating ways of thinking, being and becoming;

**ENABLE and INSPIRE** groups and individuals to develop their own bold and courageous responses to sexist thought and practices; and

**CHALLENGE** the women, men and children of our denomination to affirm, defend and promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person and thus change the structures and distribution of power;

**REPORT** to the UUA Board of Trustees and elicit from them response, counsel and support.



## Highlights of Activities



The Continental Women and Religion Committee has:

**WORKED** for gender-inclusive language in:

- revision of UUA Principles and Purposes
- new Hymnal
- "Avoiding Sexist Language" brochure

**PROMOTED** sexism audit at UUA.

**PRODUCED** "Cleansing Our Temple" for sexism assessment in our congregations.

**ENCOURAGED** use of the women's spirituality curricula, "Cakes for the Queen of Heaven" and "Rise Up and Call Her Name."

**SPONSORED** continental conferences to assist women to network, to communicate and to address and work toward resolving their issues.

**JOINED** with UUWF and other UUs in task forces to address Stopping Violence Against Women and Clergy Sexual Misconduct.