

Program of Activities



Women in Four Spiritual Traditions: Further Along in the Journey To Wholeness

Date/Time: Sunday, April 8, 2018; 2:00 – 6:00 pm

Location: Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church, 4936 Brownsboro Rd,
Louisville, KY 40222

Community-Wide Program organized by **The Salaam Network**, co-sponsored by the *Social Justice Committee* of **Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church**

WOMEN IN THE NATIVE AMERICAN, JEWISH, CHRISTIAN AND ISLAMIC TRADITIONS: JOURNEY FROM FRAGMENTATION TOWARD WHOLENESS

This event is third in a series exploring Women's Wisdom and search for Wholeness and is an expanded exploration. Theological, historical, sociological, cultural and other factors have been used through the ages to define women. Many have suffered fragmentation due to societal injustice and oppression. Each of our presenters will highlight the greatest challenges for women in her tradition but will also direct attention to the **quest for Wholeness** that lies at the heart of each of our religions and contains **a message of hope: *Living the positive teachings of religious traditions can lead to self-integration as well as communal Wholeness.***

OPENING CEREMONY

Lead by **REV. C. J. WRIGHT** *Calling in the Directions* from the Native American Tradition, followed by the dancing of indigenous People. The dancing by the Fox Family will prepare the space for our gathering.

PART ONE: PLENARY PRESENTATIONS

MODERATOR Rev. Diane Snowa : retired ordained minister in the United Church of Christ; Welcoming the Participants, and Introducing the Program and the Presenters

PRESENTERS:

Rev. C. J. Wright (CTR, CTSS, CCISM) (Cherokee Name: Awahili Gawoni - She Who Talks with Eagle) of Cherokee and English heritage, is an Interfaith Minister and spiritual leader in the Kentucky Native American Community and Director of the Rainbow Spiritual Education Center.

Dr. Marcia Texler Segal: (M.A. Columbia University. Ph.D. Indiana University-Bloomington) Professor of Sociology and Dean for Research Emerita at IUS, has worked in countries in sub-Saharan Africa, Central Asia and Saudi Arabia; active member of Congregation Adath Jeshuran.

Sister Kathryn Huber OSB: a member of Monastery Immaculate Conception and the Spirituality Ministry of the Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand, IN, a vowed religious for sixty-one years, she has served as federation president, prioress, retreat minister, principal, teacher, and spiritual guide.

Dr. Riffat Hassan: (B.A. Hons, Ph.D. Durham University, U.K., Doctor of Humane Letters, Meadville Lombard Theological Seminary, Chicago), Professor Emerita U of L, pioneer of Islamic feminist theology and Jewish-Christian-Muslim dialogue and founder of *The Salaam Network*.

BREAK: 10 minutes

PART TWO: INTERACTION AMONGST THE PRESENTERS AND PANELISTS

MODERATOR OF PARTS TWO AND THREE: Dr. Edwin Segal (M.A., Ph.D. Indiana University, Bloomington), Professor Emeritus U of L, Specializations: Gender, Ethnicity, African Studies.

PANELISTS:

Mary Sue Barnett: a Catholic woman priest who ministers as chaplain at a psychiatric hospital; founder and president of the Louisville Coalition for *CEDAW* (Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women).

Dr. Pamela Beattie: Ph.D., Medieval Studies, University of Toronto, Associate Professor of Comparative Humanities, U of L; primary research areas includes interaction amongst Jews, Christians and Muslims in the European Middle Ages.

Nina Fox: (Cherokee and Shawnee): is a Women's Traditional Dancer who is on the Kentucky Indigenous Peoples Council; she is a therapist, a professional photographer, a grandmother, and avid advocate for equality and religious rights all across the country.

Dr. Cynthia Ganote: Associate Professor, Sociology, St. Mary's College of California in the Bay area whose research areas include critical and feminist pedagogies; a Louisville native currently in Louisville while writing a book called *Diverse Faculty, Reshaping the Professoriate*.

Melanie Hughes: Librarian at IUS, a member of Adath Jeshurun synagogue and co-founder of the Rosh Chodesh Circle in the Red Tent Temple; a convert to Judaism from Protestant Christianity, married to a Thai Theravada Buddhist, she regards herself as a JewBu.

Dr. Fariba Kashan: Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics from U of L, teaching in the Mathematics and Science Department at KSU; originally from Iran, she is a leader of the Iranian Muslim community in Louisville, teaching Islam to children at the Al-Zahra Center and other venues.

Christe Lunsford: M. Div student, candidate for Unitarian Universalist ministry at Meadville Lombard Theological School, and a credentialed Music Leader; they understand their call to be toward parish ministry which involves deep and difficult community conversations.

Dr. Maryam Moezzen: Ph.D. in Islamic Studies, University of Toronto, Assistant Professor in Comparative Humanities at U of L; her research areas include Women and Gender in Islamic Societies, Islamic intellectual and cultural history, Shi'ism and Sufism.

Rev. Dr. Derek Penwell: Ph.D. in Humanities from U of L, senior minister of Douglass Boulevard Christian Church; is an activist, editor, speaker and author of *The Mainliner's Survival Guide to the Post-Denominational World*, and forthcoming, *Political Subversive: Why Jesus Was a Lousy Messiah*.

Lane Stumler: Air Force veteran of the Vietnam era and a retired architect who grew up on a farm in Starlight, Indiana; is engaged in numerous volunteer activities focusing

on helping marginalized groups and is a dedicated Core Group member of *The Salaam Network*.

BREAK: 15 minutes

PART THREE: PRESENTERS, PANELISTS AND PARTICIPANTS IN CONVERSATION

CLOSING CEREMONY

Sufi Dance:

A circle of all persons with a meditation of song and gentle movement that allows us singularly and as a community to acknowledge our own vision of Transcendence. Centered on an Islamic mantra from the tradition of *The Dances of Universal Peace*.

Musical Celebration of Wholeness

Communal singing of a poem by 10th Century Japanese Poetess Izumi Shikibu:

*Watching the moon at midnight
Alone in the middle of the sky
I saw myself completely
I knew myself completely
Whole, no part left out.*

The Salaam Network is an interfaith group of educators, peacemakers, artists and supporters from a wide range of backgrounds. **The Network** is committed to building bridges of understanding and harmony from a knowledge-based foundation. The word *salaam* is an Arabic word that means *peace*, *good will* and *wholeness* and is often used in greetings.



THE SALAAM NETWORK

Striving to make our Beloved Community of Louisville Whole

