

SWU UW Conference 2019 Workshops

A Special note from our convener about changes to our workshop schedule –

We want to inform you in advance of changes to your workshop selections. Some of you may not be affected. Most of you will.

Unforeseeable situations with presenters caused two of the originally scheduled workshops, "Peace and Healing Through Expressive Visual Art Journaling" - Jessica Lane and "Human Design: The Art of Self Reflected Crystalline Consciousness" - Susan Blattner, to be cancelled. Special needs of some presenters called for a reassignment of rooms which resulted in session time changes. The good news is we were able to replace one of the original workshops with a presentation on immigration by Mary Overton (see schedule to follow).

The selections you made when you registered online were printed on the back of your name tag. That information will likely be completely incorrect now. You will need to re-select your workshop choices. Following is the revised schedule so that you can be thinking about which sessions to attend.

Please accept my apology for any inconvenience or disappointment caused by these changes. We will also have the new schedule at the Registration Desk and will be happy to help you with changes when you arrive for the conference.

Linda Puckett
Convener, 2019 SWU UW Con
Hot Springs, AR
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Saturday Morning Workshops, Session AM 1 – 10:30 AM – 11:50 AM

AM 1 A – The Power of Unified Breath and Sound: Jacqueline Parker

The workshop begins with all participants joining in a circle as one. Next comes simple yoga stretching exercises to relax muscles and release tension in the body. After that you will receive instructions about and practice a breathing exercise that will lead to becoming a group in unified breathing. Then the group will learn simple toning to use their voices to bring sound into and through their bodies; followed by listening to the varied and pleasurable sounds from Alchemy Crystal bowls and gongs. There will be 5-10 minutes of silence before gathering in small groups to share individual experiences. Some journaling time will also be provided. To end, the group will reform the circle of one.

AM 1 B – Immigration Today: Mary Overton

UU's have advocated for Immigration Justice for decades. Our UUA President, Susan Frederick-Gray, vocally advocated against Sheriff Arpaio for many years in Arizona. Learn about our UU positions on justice and the Wall. Today, UU's are involved in immigration justice in many ways - offering Sanctuary, legal support to asylum seekers, and advocacy at the local and national level. Learn about how UU's affirm our first principle by helping refugees who have left everything they know to look for a better life. We'll put our words into action by writing postcards to current Senators and Congress people with regard to Emergency Wall funding. Also, I have been to a border trip with the UU College of Social Justice and will share my experience.

AM 1 C - Dance Yourself for Healing and Peace/Collective Art Creation: Ana Coutinho

Using the arts of music, dance, painting, photography, and poetry and inspired by the magic of the movies, the group will create a way to share our combined beauty with each other, healing our hearts and souls through the creation of collective art. This experience is very gentle and is suitable for people with disabilities. Come in comfortable clothes and barefeet or with jazz shoes. Our completed art creation will be shared with all conference attendees.

Saturday Early Afternoon Workshop, Session PM 1 – 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

PM 1 A – Visions of Peace and Healing: Small Steps Matter: Lynn Murphy

Sometimes taking small steps towards activism are important. Where do we begin? How do we become involved in activism which can then lead to a sense of peace and healing in our own world and in the world of others? We will first start by sharing our own experiences and questions. We will focus on three areas: 1) black lives matter, 2) women's voices matter, and 3) earth/environment matter. Then we will share how our activism can bring a sense of peace and healing in our own lives and to the lives of others. Next, we will create our own buttons and placards as we take the next step of showing the public our activism and small steps we are now ready to take. We will end our session by enjoying singing to songs of peace and justice.

PM 1 B - Creating Our UU Legacy: Liz Nielsen

In 1953 Caroline Veatch passed away and left a legacy that has not only sustained Unitarian Universalism but has funded organizations and causes that promote our UU principals throughout the world. While most of us do not have the good fortune to have inherited millions of dollars like Ms. Veatch, we can all pass on a legacy that promotes our UU values. In this presentation, Liz Nielsen, a Board-Certified Estate Planning Attorney, will talk about how our UU values can be passed to future generations through estate planning.

PM 1 C - Community Drum Therapy: Denise Marion

This drumming circle will begin with simple techniques and rhythms to build confidence in novice drummers and will continue until a joyful awesome sound is created. You only need a beating heart and clapping hands to have rhythm. Feel the therapeutic effects of the percussion as it touches your primal subconscious. Benefits include improved listening and communication, personal growth and empowerment, and a sense of group synergy and cohesion. Instruments will be provided or you can bring your own. Flutes and recorders are welcome.

Saturday Mid-Afternoon Workshops, Session PM 2: 3:15 PM – 4:45 PM

PM 2 A – The Divine Alchemy of the Andean Orchid Flower Essences: Star Riparetti

Flower essences can help us tremendously during these changing times! Learn what flower essences are, how they work, how to use and choose them and how to incorporate essences into your life. See stunning photos of the Andean Orchid flower essences, and learn their healing qualities. See a beautiful slide show of where these essences were made in Machu Picchu, Peru. We will experience the essences during the workshop, and have fun along the way.

PM 2 B – Shared Leadership: Gretchen Ohmann

A Train-the-Trainer workshop which teaches the concrete group facilitation process of the Circle Model of Shared Leadership to hone participatory group process skills. These make it possible for you to teach this method effectively so it can be put into practice quickly. It presents the core ideas of Shared Leadership, and provides written material and resources that are concise and ready to use when teaching others. Most importantly, participants in this program will be empowered to take the Shared Leadership model into their congregations and committees and utilize the process of consensus decision-making.

PM 2 C - NIA - Neuromuscular Integrative Action aka Non Impact Aerobics: Malinda Zarate

A dynamic body-mind-spirit movement practice. A gentle and enjoyable workout that draws inspiration from many types of dance and includes movements from yoga, Tai Chi, and Qi Gong. NIA has been referred to as Non Impact Aerobics because jumping and pounding on knees has been eliminated. It is effective and fun and anyone at any age at any fitness level can do it. NIA is typically done in bare feet. You may wear exercise shoes or socks if you prefer. Dress in comfortable clothing and be prepared to sweat, smile and have fun.

PM 2 D - Color/Doodle/Meditate: Carol Stanfill

Coloring books and drawing materials aren't just for kids! Coloring, doodling, drawing... all can be relaxing, meditative, and also metaphors for life. Zentangle (c) will be introduced as an especially great way to meditate.