

CAKES RESOURCES

These resources supplement *Cakes for the Queen of Heaven: In Ancient Times* by providing more in-depth information and perspectives than can be included in the sessions themselves. Be sure to check out “*Cakes Highly Recommended Materials*” for books, artwork, music, videos, and additional curricula you’re sure to enjoy. May these resources carry you further along the path of discovering the divine in female form!

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CAKES HIGHLY RECOMMENDED MATERIALS

BOOKS

Christ, Carol P. *Rebirth of the Goddess*. New York: Addison-Wesley, 1997.

Theologian Carol Christ skillfully weaves her own experience into a classic presentation of Goddess theology as it has emerged in recent years.

Eisler, Riane. *The Chalice and the Blade: Our Future, Our Past*. San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1987.

A remarkable telling of a new history of our human history. Based upon extensive archaeological and anthropological research, Riane Eisler's theory of early matriarchy and suggests an early era of partnership and peace. Her exploration of human evolution is especially compelling.

Flinders, Carol Lee. *Reclaiming the World*. New York: Collins, 2002.

Carol Lee Flinders proposes her own hypothesis about patriarchy and the loss of female power in myth and society. She sees the problem as one of increasing lack of balance between caring and enterprise.

Gimbutas, Marija. *The Living Goddesses*. Edited and supplemented by Miriam Robbins Dexter. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 1999.

Archeologist Marija Gimbutas sums up years of work in the excavations of Old Europe and Old Anatolia. She suggests that the evidence supports a peaceful Neolithic in which a Goddess of the entire life cycle was revered.

Goldenberg, Naomi R. *Changing of the Gods: Feminism and the End of Traditional Religions*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1979.

A prophetic book in which religious studies scholar Naomi Goldenberg posed important questions about how religions must change if

they are to take women's experience seriously.

Korten, David C. *The Great Turning: From Empire to Earth Community*. Bloomfield, CT: Orionian Press Inc., and San Francisco: Pantheon/Koehler Publishers Inc. 2006.

David Korten builds on Eisler's theory of an early era of partnership and peace. He argues persuasively that today human beings are about to make a great turning toward communal and democratic values.

Miller, Jean Baker. *Toward a New Psychology of Women*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1976, 1986.

Jean Baker Miller pioneered research on women's power. Her analysis of different kinds of power is still important for our self-understanding as women.

Pipher, Mary. *Hunger Pains: The Modern Woman's Tragic Quest for Thinness*. New York: Ballantine Books, 1994.

Psychologist Mary Pipher spells out the details of a veritable epidemic of eating disorders and the social pressures that are involved. She makes it clear that negative attitudes toward our bodies are still a problem for most women.

Sahtouris, Elisabet. *Gaia: The Human Journey from Chaos to Cosmos*. New York: Pocket Books, 1989.

Philosopher-scientist Elisabet Sahtouris makes the scientific basis for a new world-view accessible to non-science readers. She emphasizes the concept of Earth as a living organism, and cooperation rather than competition as the basis of evolution.

Spretnak, Charlene. *Lost Goddesses of Early Greece: A Collection of Pre-Hellenic Myths*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1981, reissue edition 1992.

Charlene Spretnak researched the very earliest versions of several Greek myths and re-wrote the stories based upon her research. These early versions show far more positive and independent roles for women than the later patriarchal versions.

Starhawk. *The Spiral Dance: The Rebirth of the Ancient Religion of the Great Goddess*. 20th anniversary edition, San Francisco: Harper & Row Publishers, 1999.

Starhawk, one of the most respected voices in modern Goddess religion and Earth-based spirituality, created this sophisticated and readable explanation of modern Pagan religion, its history, beliefs and practices. Her book has been a powerful influence on many women searching for a new religion. She is also the author of *Webs of Power: Notes from the Global Uprising* and nine other books.

Teish, Luisah. *Jambalaya: The Natural Woman's Book of Personal Charms and Practical Rituals*. San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1998.

In this very readable book Luisah Teish tells of Oshun in the Yoruba Lucumi tradition, tells some of the stories, rituals and history of the Yoruba religion of the Americas.

Sacred Source is a leading producer and distributor of ancient deity images in North America, a number of which are included in our Visual Programs. Owners Liana and Peter Kowalzik are members of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Church, UU, in Charlottesville, Virginia. They operate a mail-order and Internet catalog business whose goals are to bring affordable museum reproduction and folk-handcraft deity images back into Western culture. Through the Jai Bhagavan artisan community in West Bengal, India, they produce over 500 separate statues in Ganges clay, polymer resin, gypsum, cast brass and pewter, as well as decorative jewelry. Available at www.sacredsource.com.

Sandra M. Stanton

Sandra Stanton has created an amazing series of 60-plus paintings of Goddesses from around the world, a number of which appear in our Visual Programs. Over the past seven years, she has also been creating

a series of 70 paintings for *The Green World Oracle: Listening to the Voices of Sacred Trees & Plants*, a new Tarot deck with text by Kathleen Jenks. Sandra's painting process involves in-depth research about the particular Goddess, so the symbols she uses are authentic. Friends and acquaintances pose for the Goddesses so they look like real women rather than the common idealized versions of women we generally see in the media. She explains that the Goddess is in every woman and every woman is the Goddess. Her most recent project is to let Her speak to Goddesses from various cultures are available at www.goddessmuse.com.

MULTIMEDIA CURRICULA

Rise Up and Call Her Name: A Woman-honoring Journey into Global Earth-based Spiritualities. The multimedia curriculum, written by Elizabeth Fisher, explores multicultural images of the female divine and Earth-centered spiritual values. Published initially by the Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation in 1994, a reprint edition with expanded resources is now available at www.uuwr.org or from the author at erfisher@1mi.net or 510-236-9131. www.riseupandcallhername.com.

Unraveling the Gender Knot:

Challenging the System that Binds Us

This course, developed by Rosemary Matson, Barbara Schonborn, and Alison Campbell and published by UU Women & Religion (2005, 2006) gives UU adults and youth opportunities to learn and discuss how patriarchy systematically affects all individuals. Participants observe sexism in daily life, and they consider how to make small or large changes that lead to better lives for everyone. Available at www.uuwr.org.

MUSIC

Eagleheart, Carole Etzler
She Calls to Us: Songs of the Goddess
Carole Eagleheart spent 20 years traveling throughout the U.S. and Canada as a UU troubadour. She is now living in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and is music director at the UU Westside Congregation. Five of the songs on this CD are used in this curriculum. You can order this CD or songbook at www.uuwr.org. You can also order this and Carole's other CDs and songbooks by contacting her at ceagleheart@gmail.com or 505-349-8957.

Vedder-Shults, Nancy
Chants for the Queen of Heaven
Inspired by Goddesses from around the world, this CD reflects the richness and diversity of woman-honoring traditions. Nancy Vedder-Shults is a UU singer, storyteller, educator, workshop facilitator, and performer from Madison, Wisconsin. This CD is available at www.uuwr.org and www.mamasn.net by calling 608-231-3362 or nancy@mamasn.net.

Signs Out of Time
A documentary by filmmaker Donna Read about archeologist Marija Gimbutas, who found that Europe's origins lay in a cooperative, peaceful, Neolithic Goddess culture. Her theories challenge conventional archaeology, spirituality, theology, and religious studies, while inspiring artists, feminists, environmentalists and activists. Available at www.belili.org.

Who's Counting: Marilyn Waring on Sex, Lies, and Global Economics
Marilyn Waring demystifies global economics from a feminist perspective. This is one of the videos suggested for use with *Unraveling the Gender Knot*. Also useful with this curriculum, particularly with Session Three. Available at www.bullfrogfilms.com.

Women and Spirituality Series
These three videos by filmmaker Donna Read provide considerable background about the whole field of women's spirituality. Available from www.directcinema.com.

Goddess Remembered examines pre-Christian, Goddess-worshipping religions. Incorporating the work of archeologist Marija Gimbutas, author of *The Lower Sorcery*, and scholar of the Solon, Cypriote Spinnak and Spinnak—who link the roots of Goddess religions to societies with today's environmentalists—this video offers insights into these ancient cultures and explores contemporary Women's Spirituality movements inspired by them.

The Burning Times explores Europe from the 15th through the 17th centuries, a time when the church and state cooperated in the torture and execution of women accused of being witches. In an attempt to eradicate the woman-based power of midwives, wise old crones and healers, the Christian church along with local governments instigated a reign of terror.

Full Circle examines many manifestations of Women's Spirituality and Goddess religions in the Western world in the last decade of the 20th century, from women discussing spirituality around kitchen tables to circles on hilltops and rituals that give women strength to transform their personal beliefs into political and social action.



A new world view would mean a new formulation of religion.

—Shirley Ann Ranck