



Jim



Grandmother Nancy



Raleigh

### “Source Energy and the Earth!”

We gather on April 28<sup>th</sup> at our 11 am service to celebrate Earth Day. Within this service you will be invited to connect deeply to the earth as a continuing source of learning, nutrition and healing. Connection to the Earth as our mother also opens us up to expanded levels of the transcendence and resiliency. Whatever we need to know about life can be found in nature. The natural world is the locus of the sacred and provides all the metaphors that our souls need for growth.

The Facilitators:

**Raleigh Padgett** is a member of the Northern Cherokee nation, and drum and flute maker. He will be providing the rich tones of the call of the drum and serenity of the flute.

**Grandmother Nancy Andry** is an elder and storyteller of Algonquin and French Heritage. She is a lifelong student of the native red road of spirituality. She has studied with medicine teachers of the Lakota, Ojibwa, Mi'kmaq nations. She is also a Sundancer and Sacred Pipe Carrier. She will be sharing a few stories during the service and following it will lead a talking circle. She is known internationally for her work around preserving the purity of our water. Click on this link for Grandmother Nancy's Water Ceremony: <https://vimeo.com/273112273>

**Jim Francek** is currently the Community Minister for Pastoral Care here at the UU Church in Westport and chaplain in the Emergency Room of Bridgeport Hospital. He draws his inspiration and support from his study and practice of indigenous Earth based spirituality. He has studied with medicine teachers from the Narraganset, Lakota and Celtic tribes. He could best be described as following what is known today as “religious naturalism”.