

Women, Spirit and Imagination

Inspire, Create and Connect

Join us for the launch of our Spring Series of Women, Spirit and Imagination!

Session: Sacred Activism: Women Vote!
Presenters: Janet Luongo and Sari Bodi
Date: Wednesday, February 26
Time: 7:00 – 8:30 PM
Where: The East Wing, TUCW
RSVP: tucwomen@uwestport.org



Sacred Activism: Women Vote!

It's been exactly one hundred years since women received the right to vote in 1920! The Suffragettes fought against politicians, corporations, and even other women known as "Antis."

In this workshop, Sari will lead us in exploring who our founding mothers were -- not only Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, but the remarkable next wave of Suffragettes who used the organizational skills of modern-day CEO's to get 36 states to approve the Nineteenth Amendment, granting women the right to vote.

Janet will lead us in sharing why we each believe in democracy, how these beliefs connect with our UU principles of deserving a voice, and exploring our vision of what America could be if, as a nation, she lived up to her ideals.

Participants will be invited to write and share short personal stories about why they vote. The session will also include ideas for doing our part to get out the vote.

I vote because my father's ancestors fled famine in Ireland and built a better life in America by becoming engaged in politics. My father joined the army in WWII, prepared to fight and die for my right to vote, so I consider it a sacred duty to vote in every election.

Janet Luongo

Lead Presenters:

Janet Luongo is a faith-based activist, a life-long Unitarian Universalist who recently offered programs at TUCW on #MeToo and women's spirituality. Her coming of age memoir of 1967, when she was involved with liberation of women and people of color, is to be published by She Writes Press in 2021. She is also an artist, author, yogi, and experienced teacher, preacher, workshop leader and speaker. In 1990 she founded a nonprofit which gained visibility for feminist women artists in CT. Every year she works on *Getting Out The Vote* (GOTV) nationally and locally. In 2018 she wrote a blog *InsightToAction* for Indivisible-CT-4, and served as Norwalk town captain for the Electioneers, aiding the Blue Wave! She volunteers with *ReSisters of Westport* to increase voting in key states for the critical presidential election in 2020.

Sari Bodi continues her interest in history by recently taking college classes in U.S. history and American government. She is the author of a middle-grade novel *The Ghost in Allie's Pool*, inspired by the tale of an ancestor who sailed on the Mayflower, and she is currently working on an historical fiction novel based on Benjamin Franklin's youngest sister. She writes for several *Scholastic* children's magazines. Last spring, she taught a TUCWomen's workshop on memoir writing and this semester she is teaching a writing workshop for fifth graders at Beardsley School in Bridgeport.