

There are thousands of current and former military personnel, defense contractors, civilian Department of Defense (DoD) employees, and their families in our congregations. Many of them strive to reconcile their Unitarian Universalist values with their professions while encountering ignorance, prejudice, and even oppression from their fellow congregants. This panel program explores how UU congregations can become more informed, accepting communities, supporting UUs who are engaged in our nation's defense to find equilibrium between their religious lives and their livelihood.

To provide a first-hand perspective on the challenges facing military-affiliated UUs, we present an active duty Marine, a DoD civilian, a Navy spouse, and a UU Navy chaplain. Each of these panelists will briefly discuss her/his experiences both as a UU in the defense establishment and as a military-affiliated person in a UU congregation, and any internal conflicts she/he may have experienced reconciling UU values and military/DoD involvement. Following the presentation, there will be time for the panelists to answer questions from the audience.

This program is intended mainly for UUs belonging to congregations with military-affiliated members and friends, or congregations located in or near areas of high military/DoD concentration. It will also be of interest to UUs who are members of the active or reserve armed forces, DoD civilian employees, defense contractors, and their spouses and family members. All UUs are welcome to attend this program in affirmation of our Third Principle – Acceptance of One Another.

## Sponsors

Thank you to our sponsors, whose generous support makes this program possible.

The GA Planning Committee

Bull Run Unitarian Universalists (BRUU),  
Reverend Nancy McDonald

The Unitarian Universalist Church of the  
Monterey Peninsula (UUCMP), Reverend Beth  
Miller

BRUU is located in Manassas, Virginia, close by Quantico Marine Base, Ft. Belvoir, the Manassas Lockheed Martin facility, and of course Washington D.C. and the Pentagon.

UUCMP, in Carmel, California, is near the Naval Postgraduate School, Defense Language Institute, and Defense Manpower Data Center.

Both congregations currently include active duty military, civilian DOD employees and/or contractors, former military personnel, and their families.

## Other Resources

Unitarian Universalist Military Ministries serves over 850 members, families and veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States of America, through their website [www.uumm.org](http://www.uumm.org) and a UUA-sponsored military chat list at [uumil@uua.org](mailto:uumil@uua.org).

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# Unitarian Universalists in the Military Program #3040



Unitarian Universalist  
Association  
General Assembly  
*Saturday, June 25, 2005*  
*11:30 A.M., Room 100*



Major Greg Rouillard, the active duty military panelist, is a member of the BullRun Unitarian Universalists of Manassas, VA. He has been an officer in the

United States Marine Corps for the last seventeen years, and claims "I've been a UU my whole life, but I just didn't know it until a few years ago." Greg has long felt like a "black sheep in wolves' clothing," but his personal and spiritual journey in the last few years has led him closer to integration of his military and UU identities. He recently spent five months in Iraq as a member of the Third Marine Aircraft Wing, and plans to answer the call to UU ministry upon retirement from the Marines.

Lieutenant Cynthia Kane, Chaplain Corps, United States Navy, is the panel's military Chaplain; she describes herself as someone "with a lifelong attraction to matters of the spirit." Cynthia explains her incongruous position as a pacifist in the military with the



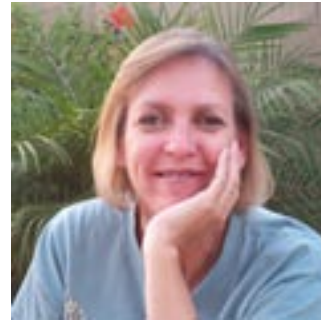
idea that "since conflict and fighting have been a part of human history since the beginning of time, then for me to do the work of peace, I must understand the making of war." A Harvard Divinity School graduate, since 1992 she has served in our ministry as a parish intern minister, hospital chaplain, and the JPD District campus ministry program director. Cynthia's career as a Navy chaplain began in August 2001, and she is currently assigned to the aircraft carrier USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74).



Nancy Hickman, the panel's military spouse, is a member of the Kitsap UU Fellowship in Bremerton, WA. Her UU roots took hold in her youth, when she was a member of the Second Congregational Meeting House, Unitarian Universalist, on Nantucket Island.

Nancy has been a Navy spouse since 2003, when her husband Michael joined the US Navy as a culinary specialist; he is now assigned to the USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74). She has worked as a personal assistant, chef and au pair and an innkeeper, is a certified Pastry Chef, and is currently employed as a hotel catering manager. Nancy will begin seminary studies in Seattle this summer.

Leana Bresnahan, the panel's DoD civilian, serves as the International Human Rights Coordinator in the United States Southern Command in Miami, and is an active member of the River of Grass UU Church. A Unitarian Universalist for twenty



years, she has belonged to both of the sponsoring congregations and says "my work in the DoD is an extension of my UU values, [and] an opportunity to put my UU values into action." In her twenty years as a military spouse, Leana lived in three foreign countries, acquiring an international perspective on life. She acknowledges a need in today's world for security and military forces, and works to ensure that these forces respect basic human rights and the law of war.



Ann Jacobson, the panel moderator, is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Monterey Peninsula in Carmel, CA. Ann has been a UU for the past twenty years, and currently works as

a librarian at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA. A DoD civilian for seven years, she has struggled to reconcile the fact that she works for the military with her values as a UU. She looks forward to gaining new insights on this and other topics related to supporting UU's in the Military from this program on the topic. Ann was an active Toastmaster for five years, and previously facilitated two professional library conference programs.

