

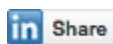


### HOW TO REGISTER

Email the words "register me" to [waterstaff@waterwomensalliance.org](mailto:waterstaff@waterwomensalliance.org) by May 15 and you will receive dial-in information.

Please make a [secure online donation](#) for use of these valuable resources. Thank you!

Donate



## WATER's Feminist Conversations in Religion Series Presents

### "What No Longer Serves Us"

An hour-long teleconference with  
**Melanie Morrison and  
Julia Watts Belser**

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

1 pm-2 pm EDT

Melanie and Julia teamed up to co-author an article entitled "[What No Longer Serves Us: Resisting Ableism and Anti-Judaism in New Testament Healing Narratives](#)" published in the [Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion](#). On May 16th, they will be joining WATER for a teleconference to discuss their article and their work together.

[Melanie S. Morrison](#) is founder and Executive Director of [Allies for Change](#). She is a seasoned anti-oppression educator, activist, author, and spiritual director. She works with individuals and organizations to better understand the connections between systemic oppressions. Melanie got her Masters from Yale Divinity School and her Ph.D. from the University of Groningen (Netherlands). Melanie served as Executive Director of [The Leaven Center](#), a retreat and study center in Michigan. She also co-founded [Doing Our Own Work](#), an intensive anti-racism program for white people. She is the author of numerous articles and three books including [The Grace of Coming Home: Spirituality, Sexuality, and the Struggle for Justice](#) (Pilgrim Press, 1995). As a United Church of Christ pastor, she served three congregations: two in Michigan and one in the Netherlands. She currently lives and works in Okemos, Michigan.

[Julia Watts Belser](#) is a rabbi, scholar, activist, and educator passionate about the intersection of religion and social change. She is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Women's Studies and Jewish Ethics at Harvard Divinity School, as well as an Assistant Professor of Judaism in the Religious Studies department at Missouri State University. She co-authored [A Health Handbook for Women with Disabilities](#) (Hesperian Foundation), to help women around the world advocate for better health and stronger communities. A training partner with [Allies for Change](#), she engages LGBT issues, disability rights, and racial justice work. Her current scholarly research sets feminist environmental ethics in conversation with classical Jewish texts on natural and political disaster. She received rabbinic ordination from the Academy for Jewish Religion, California and her Ph.D. in Jewish Studies from U.C. Berkeley and the Graduate Theological Union.

Join us on Wednesday, May 16th, 2012, at 1pm (EDT) to talk with Melanie and Julia about their article and

their work in feminist theology.

To register, email the words "**register me**" to [waterstaff@waterwomensalliance.org](mailto:waterstaff@waterwomensalliance.org) by May 15th, and you will receive dial-in info.

WATER:

Women's Alliance for Theology, Ethics and Ritual  
8121 Georgia Avenue, Suite 310 | Silver Spring, MD  
20910 | 301.589.2509  
[water@hers.com](mailto:water@hers.com) | [www.waterwomensalliance.org](http://www.waterwomensalliance.org)

## Save the Date! Upcoming Teleconferences

**June 13th: Nikki Young** "Queering the Human Situation"

**July 18th: Teresa Berger** "Gender Differences and the Making of Liturgical History"

**September 12th: Judith Plaskow** TBA

**October 10th: Melissa Browning** "HIV/AIDS and Marriage in East Africa"

## Contemplative Prayer at WATER Monday, May 7, 2012

WATER offers a regular contemplative prayer opportunity each month. [Join us on Monday, May 7, 2012, at 7:30 PM.](#) This will be a communal meditation, a time of silence and reflection followed by a short discussion. Cynthia Tootle, associate minister of the Takoma Park Chapel, will lead the meditation entitled "Tea with the Goddesses."

The office will be open at 7 PM for a cup of tea and conversation. Silence will commence promptly at 7:30 PM, so please be here by then. We will finish and be on our way by 8:30 PM. [You can also join us by telephone.](#)

[RSVP by Friday, May 4, 2012, to \[water@hers.com\]\(mailto:water@hers.com\) or 301.589.2509](#) so that we can expect you. If you wish to join by phone, please indicate that so we can send you the phone-in number and other information relevant to the session. The phone option is increasingly popular and seems to work quite well so feel free to try it! Be sure that we have your email when you respond so we can send you the materials that Cynthia has prepared as background.

Donations are always welcome.

Parking is free in the garage behind the office after 7 PM. The front door of the building has a phone entry system; find "WATER" and dial the office to be buzzed in.

All are welcome. Some of us have been involved in the Engaging Impasse process ([www.engagingimpasse.org](http://www.engagingimpasse.org)), which combines meditation with community dialogue. No experience required! Just come with a contemplative spirit. Your presence will enrich us all.

The next WATER meditation will be on Monday, June 4, 2012 at 7:30 PM led by Janis Roihl from Cambridge, Massachusetts.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The meditation scheduled for July 9th has been moved! July meditation will take place on Wednesday the 18th! Please mark your calendars to reflect this change.

---

[Click to view this email in a browser](#)

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line or simply click on the following link: [Unsubscribe](#)

---

Women's Alliance for Theology, Ethics and Ritual (WATER)  
8121 Georgia Avenue  
Suite 310  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-4933  
US



[Read](#) the VerticalResponse marketing policy.