

Giving & Generosity

e-newsletter

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UUA Bookstore Has a New Name

The UUA Bookstore wants to share the good news of Unitarian Universalism with a wider audience and has changed its name to [inSpirit. UU Book and Gift Shop](#). The word "inspirit" is rich in meaning. It can mean to fill with spirit, to encourage, to exhilarate, or to bestow with strength or purpose. The new name reflects the many ways *inSpirit* serves UUs, our congregations, and our communities.



inSpirit offers a wide range of books and gifts that reflect the values of our UU movement, including titles from Skinner House Books and Beacon Press, selected titles from other publishers, and fair trade gift and clothing items. *inSpirit* will continue to bring in new merchandise and reading materials to attract a wide, progressive audience online and to the Boston storefront.

Thrive Youth Applications Open

Thrive Youth Applications are now open. Thanks to your generosity, Unitarian Universalist Youth of Color will come together for [a five-day gathering](#) to deepen their faith, lift their spirits, and build critical skills for leadership in the face of our broken, yet beautiful world. Thrive participants will be guided by experienced facilitators as they worship together, play, explore their racial and ethnic identities, develop leadership skills, and create supportive community.



Thrive Youth West is July 9-13, 2016 at First Unitarian Society of Denver, CO, and Thrive Youth East is July 27-31, 2016 at Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church in Bethesda, MD. Thrive Youth is for any youth of high school age who is in 9-12th grade during the 2015-2016 school year (or the equivalent for homeschoolers). It's also open to any youth who bridges into young adulthood the summer of 2016.

The two-part application process includes [an online form](#) and a letter of recommendation. The deadline to apply is February 15, but space is limited, so please apply promptly.

Is Your Congregation on the #BlackLivesMatter Banner Map

Unitarian Universalists across the country are showing their support for the Black Lives Matter movement by displaying Black Lives Matter banners at their congregations. Now you can see all the congregations who are boldly supporting the movement on [our interactive map](#) and even add your own congregation.



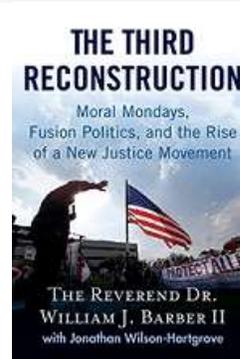
If your congregation could use help displaying your own banner you can find tips [here](#). Banners are just one way to engage in the racial justice work so deeply rooted in UU values. Learn about other ways to get involved and [check out the map](#).

UU Reads: *The Third Reconstruction*

Beacon Press wants to help you connect with other UUs through books. Each month, they feature a #UUReads title about a topic that is meaningful to UUs. These books will prompt great discussions in your book club, congregation, or with your family and friends. Check out this month's #UUReads selection at *inSpirit* UU Books and Giftshop.

The Third Reconstruction by Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II chronicles the story of the Forward Together Moral Movement that gained national attention through “Moral Mondays” and draws on Rev. Barber’s decades of experience in the Southern freedom struggle. Rev. Barber explains that Moral Mondays draw attention to the anti-democratic forces bent on serving special interests. *The Third Reconstruction* is about more than politics and religion. It is about resurrecting the possibility of democracy in the 21st century and saving the soul of America.

The Third Reconstruction is now available at the [inSpirit UU Book and Gift Shop](#) at a 15% discount using the code **TRFeb16**. Read an excerpt from *The Third Reconstruction* in the [UUWorld Winter 2015 edition](#). Because of generous support from UUs like you, a [discussion guide](#) is also available. To participate in this important conversation, follow the UUA and Beacon Press on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#), or search using the hashtag #UUReads.



Donor Feature: Steven Ballesteros

Meet Steven Ballesteros. Steven first became involved with Unitarian Universalism as a child attending youth programming and serving as a member of the worship services team at Mountain Vista UU Church of Tucson, AZ. As the years passed, Steven kept looking for more ways to explore his faith and strengthen his leadership skills. Steven loved attending the UUA’s Multicultural Leadership School and Summer Seminary in 2014. “Throughout and after Summer Seminary, I continued to realize how it was furthering my understanding of myself, not just how I approached Unitarian Universalist leadership, but also how I was trying to live my life.”

When asked to join a Summer Seminary Alumni Program, Steven was happy to give back to financially support the future of the program. “I think its important that young

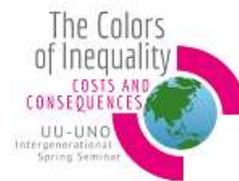


be accountable,” he says. “I think sometimes we ask our youth and young adults for a certain form of leadership, sometimes tokenizing them, and we forget to give them the opportunities as equals to give their resources as well.”

Steven continues to be very involved with Unitarian Universalism. He served as a member of the Youth Caucus staff at the 2015 General Assembly in Portland and currently serves as the Faith Development Intern at Edmonds Unitarian Universalist Church in Edmonds, WA. He also continues to support our Association as a [Faithful Sustainer](#), giving regularly to support the future of our faith. We appreciate Steven’s leadership and dedication to our faith.

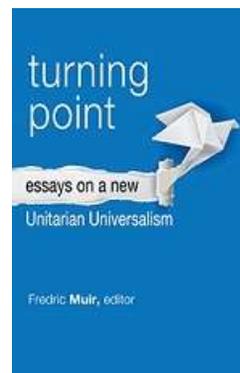
Register Now - UU-UNO Intergenerational Spring Seminar

Registration is now open for the [Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office Intergenerational Spring Seminar](#). The 2016 seminar, "The Colors of Inequality: Costs and Consequences," will take place from April 7-9, 2016 in New York City. The seminar will cover globalization's impact on income inequality, political instability caused by structural discrimination based on race, and more. Through peer and expert-led panel discussions, community building activities, keynote speeches, and worship services, participants will learn, reflect, and grow as we explore some of the most challenging issues facing humanity today. [Registration](#) will be open until March 18.



A Turning Point for Unitarian Universalism

Skinner House Books is proud to present a new title: *Turning Point: Essays on a New Unitarian Universalism* edited by Rev. Dr. Fredric Muir. Outlining a bold vision for the future of Unitarian Universalism, 20 leaders issue a clarion call for change. In inspiring, fresh essays, they implore us to collectively liberate ourselves from patterns that prevent us from becoming a robust faith for a new age. *Turning Point* shows a way forward, by embracing promises shaped from our theology: generosity, pluralism, and imagination. With essays that include the stories of creative new types of Unitarian Universalist communities across the country, this new collection outlines a liberal faith for the twenty-first century. It offers a vision of an



trust that Unitarian Universalism can deepen and grow once again, meeting the aching needs of a new generation.

Your generous gifts to the UUA help to support Skinner House Books so that they can produce this and many other UU titles. Thank you. You can pick up your copy of *Turning Point* at [inSpirit UU Books and Gifts](#) and [read one of the essays](#) in *UU World*.



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