

## INFO PACKET FOR COUPLES



# #justmarriage

A Celebration of Marriage Equality  
51 marriages in 48 hours, July 11 – July 12, 2015



# Logistics and Other Details

First and foremost: Thank you! We are so honored to be a part of your special day!

## About the event

For more than 30 years, Unitarian Universalists have been celebrating, honoring, performing, and recognizing same sex marriages around the country. It seems only fitting that we cap these three decades of solidarity with an event that speaks to our principles, offers public witness to our values, and celebrates the groundbreaking moment: a marriage in every state over 48 hours.

**Our celebration will take place July 11 and July 12, 2015.**

**51 Marriages in 48 Hours:** We are looking for one same sex couple in every US state and the District of Columbia to have a wedding officiated by a Unitarian Universalist minister. We will be inviting the public to follow along on social media as these weddings occurs, and need couples who are comfortable providing photos and details on a quick turnaround (within an hour of the wedding). **A photo of the ceremony or of the minister and couple is required for participation.** If you are interested in participating, please fill out this form: <http://goo.gl/forms/zg1xdZ9sqB>.

- Do you already have a same sex wedding scheduled for that weekend with a Unitarian Universalist minister? Please consider including it as part of this celebration. Check with the minister and send them to [www.uua.org/justmarriage](http://www.uua.org/justmarriage) for more details, then email us with their contact information.

Note: By “free wedding”, we mean the minister will offer their services and when needed, the congregation’s space can be used. We do not mean decorations, invitation, clothes, reception, and all the other things that couples often incorporate into their weddings.

## What You Need To Do

We hope this packet will answer any questions you might have about the event but if you have any additional questions, feel free to email [justmarriage@uua.org](mailto:justmarriage@uua.org).

**Ministers:** We will pair couples with a minister in their area as soon as possible. Couples are required to contact ministers within 48 hours to begin process, as ministers will want to have at least one conversation about the service.

**Marriage License and Other Legal Documents:** Couples are responsible for securing necessary legal documents needed for a legal marriage, such as marriage licenses.

**Release Information:** Included in this kit is a release form. Each partner needs to submit a release form. Please send both by July 6. It can be scanned and emailed to [justmarriage@uua.org](mailto:justmarriage@uua.org) or faxed to (617) 948-6469, ATTN: Audra Friend.

**Photos:** Please arrange to have someone on hand to photograph you and the minister, either during the service or after. **Photos need to be emailed to [justmarriage@uua.org](mailto:justmarriage@uua.org) within an hour of the event.** Photos taken with a digital camera are preferable; large, hi-res photos can be sent via <https://uua.wetransfer.com> to [justmarriage@uua.org](mailto:justmarriage@uua.org).

**Social media:** We will be using the #justmarriage hashtag for this event and updates will be posted on the UUA and Standing on the Side of Love Facebook pages and Twitter feeds. Download the social media cheat sheet after June 29 at [www.uua.org/justmarriage](http://www.uua.org/justmarriage) for other suggested hashtags and sample tweets.

## What if the Supreme Court doesn't rule for federal marriage recognition?

In the event that the Supreme Court doesn't rule for equality, we still plan to hold the event. Participating couples are asked to have weddings regardless; in our communications, we'll highlight the similarity in marriages in most of the country; noting that while those in 14 states don't receive the same marriage opportunities and recognition as those in the rest of the country.

## What about other LGBTQ issues?

While marriage equality has been an important LGBTQ issue for Unitarian Universalists, we know that federal recognition of same sex marriages is just a small part of the fight for equality for LGBTQ couples and families. This celebration is just part of ongoing witness for equality for all, and we are committing ourselves toward continuing to expand the rights of LGBTQ people -- with recognition of people who are disproportionately impacted by systemic oppression like trans, gender non-conforming, and queer People of Color.

We are inviting Unitarian Universalists and others to consider giving to the Freedom to Live Drive for Standing on the Side of Love, to support the important work of this campaign.

## Other questions or concerns?

Email: [justmarriage@uua.org](mailto:justmarriage@uua.org).

## Unitarian Universalist Association Photo, Audio, and Video Release Form

I hereby authorize the Unitarian Universalist Association (“UUA”) to make use of my appearance in photographs, audio, and/or video recordings (hereafter, “media”). The UUA shall have complete ownership of the media. I grant the UUA the right to use it with no restrictions or claims, including, but not limited to, the right to edit, use, and reuse the media as the UUA deems appropriate. I also hereby release the UUA and its officers, employees, agents and volunteers, from all claims, demands, and liabilities whatsoever in connection with the above.

Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

(must be signed by a parent/guardian if the participant is under 18 years of age)

Each partner must submit a release. Scan and email both forms to [justmarriage@uua.org](mailto:justmarriage@uua.org) or fax to (617) 948-6469 by July 6, 2015