

Board of Trustees

MEETING: September 15, 2025, 7:00 pm Eastern Time

Pursuant to notice duly given, this meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Universalist Association was held via Zoom conferencing.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sofia Betancourt (President), Barbara de Leeuw, Kimberly Quinn Johnson (Co-Moderator), Gail Forsyth-Vail, Adam Robersmith, John Simmonds (Secretary), Oscar Sinclair, David Stewart (Co-Financial Advisor), Justine Sullivan, Sam Trumbore (Financial Secretary), Bill Young (Co-Moderator)

ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANTS: Carey McDonald (Recording Secretary & Executive Vice President), Stephanie Carey Maron (Governance Manager), Betty Clark (Executive Assistant to the Executive Vice President and the Vice President for Programs & Ministries), Danielle Di Bona (chaplain), Chris Buice (chaplain), LaTonya Richardson (Director of General Assembly and Conference Services)

OBSERVERS: Amy Kent

Meeting Minutes

OPEN SESSION

Co-Moderators Johnson and Young opened the meeting to observers at 7:09 pm ET, and Board Chaplain Danielle Di Bona shared an opening reading.

Welcome

Co-Moderators Bill and Kimberly welcomed the Board members and observers.

General Assembly 2026 Proposal

EVP Carey McDonald explained the proposal for General Assembly 2026, which included a multi-site plan with a single production site, two satellite locations, and congregations hosting watch parties.

The Board discussed the central production/studio site for General Assembly 2026 and considered two options: Louisville (Galt House) and Grand Rapids, (Amway Grand). Both venues offer unique advantages and challenges. Louisville's Galt House is preferred for its centralized management and proximity to local UU congregations. Grand Rapids' Amway Grand is noted for its cost alignment and attractive amenities. The Board emphasized the importance of accessibility, safety, and UU community engagement.

EVP McDonald shared the internal analysis prepared on physical safety for attendees at various sites, including trans and non-binary individuals. The Board considered these travel and safety concerns and decided to proceed with multiple engagement options to accommodate attendees' needs.



A final vote favored Louisville, with a contingency plan to revisit the decision if necessary. Director of General Assembly and Conference Services, LaTonya Richardson, will now move forward with contract negotiations.

Barbara moved, Justine seconded, and the Board unanimously approved the following resolution:

The UUA Board of Trustees approves the location of General Assembly 2026 as multisite:

- As previously approved by the UUA Board, the first part of GA will be the business meeting which will take place all online, June 14-16, 2025.
- The second, program-focused part of GA will take place June 19-21, 2025, with flexible attendance options.
- The UUA will offer multiple host sites, including one all-online site, one studio site, and at least two satellite physical sites. Louisville, KY is approved as the UUA's studio host site and live production center.
- Additionally, member congregations and related organizations will be invited to host their own local GA sites and watch parties, with materials from the UUA.
- All national content will be available online for attendees.

The meeting ended at 8:25 pm ET.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Carey McDonald

Recording Secretary

