

CATALYST

HIGHLIGHTS FROM MULTICULTURAL MINISTRIES REGARDING RACIAL AND ETHNIC CONCERNS



General Assembly 2012:

Justice General Assembly is finally upon us! The intentional planning, relationship-building, and hard work that have gone into planning this year's GA have modeled crossing borders and working in solidarity for social justice in multicultural community. UUA President Peter Morales, UUA Board Moderator Gini Courter, the GA Planning Committee, the Arizona Immigration Ministry, our coalition partners in Arizona, and many other staff members and volunteers are eagerly anticipating your arrival. All of the programming during this year's GA is focused on building the capacity of Unitarian Universalists to stand in opposition to systemic racism and to witness on immigration, racial justice, and economic justice. For those who are unable to attend Justice GA, plans for a National Day of Witness are in the works. Stay tuned. With that in mind, this issue of Catalyst is dedicated to highlighting GA programming that we hope you'll find useful, engaging, and vital.

Arizona Immigration Ministry Witness!

Turning the Tide from Fear to Human Rights

Wednesday, June 20 9:30 pm - 10:00 pm
Heritage Square, 100 N. 6th Street, Phoenix

(1.5 blocks away from the Phoenix Convention Center)

Join the UU Arizona Immigration Ministry (AZIM), Arizona UU congregations, the National Day Laborer Organizing Network, the Committees for the Defense of the Barrios, and SOMOS to kick off five days of action, education, skill building, worship, and witness. For more witness information, visit <http://www.uua.org/ga/values/12746.shtml>



The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration and Institutional Racism

Thursday, June 21 10:30 am - 11:45 am
Phoenix Convention Center, 120 A

Racial profiling, criminalization, and mass incarceration of African-Americans constitute today's legal system for institutionalized racism, discrimination, and exclusion. **Michelle Alexander**—civil rights advocate, litigator, and scholar—author of *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* exposes today's racial caste system and how to resist it.

Beloved Conversations: Transforming Church Culture on Race & Ethnicity

Thursday, June 21 10:30 am - 11:45 am
Phoenix Convention Center, 232 AB



Race and cultural identity continue to be determining factors in our society. Even so, there exists a sense of "stuckness" and fatigue around the work of building Beloved Community—especially for people of color. Come experience an alternative approach, led by **Rev. Kate Lore**, **Rev. Mark Hicks**, and **Rev. Bill Sinkford**, that engages the arts, deepens compassion, and strengthens multicultural competency.



Transgender & Racial Identity in Immigration Politics

Thursday, June 21
3:15 pm - 4:30 pm
Phoenix Convention Center, 222 BC

Attorney **Pooja Gehi** of the Sylvia Rivera Law Project represents low-income, transgender, and intersex people of color around discrimination, immigration, health-care, and more. Come explore the intersections between transgender identity, immigration, race, economic justice, and how transformation can be grounded in the margins.

Beyond Hola: Incorporating Spanish into Congregational Life

Friday, June 22 9:00 am - 10:15 am
Phoenix Convention Center, 224 A

Come hear from **Rev. Fred Small, Rev. Lilia Cuervo, Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones, and Janice Marie Johnson** as they share the rewards and challenges of trying to be more bilingual, as well as the innovative ways they found to incorporate Spanish into congregational life.

Cooking Together: Immigration Justice Resources for All Ages

Friday, June 22 3:15 pm - 4:30 pm
Phoenix Convention Center, 231

In this workshop, **Gail Forsyth-Vail, Kat Liu, Jessica York, and Pat Kahn** will offer education, reflection and action immigration resources for all ages and explores how they might be adapted for your congregation. Included are stories and activities drawn from Tapestry of Faith programs as well as highlights from the Immigration Justice Resources project.

Sad News

We are aggrieved that **Dr. James (Jim) Brown** passed away on April 30th. Jim served his UU community with distinction, commitment, and integrity: as a lay leader at the First Unitarian Church of Dallas; as District Executive for the Southwest UU Conference; as President of Diverse and Revolutionary Unitarian Universalist Multicultural Ministries. May we honor Jim's legacy by continuing his work in the struggle against institutional racism. Our hearts go now to Jim's family, friends, and colleagues.

Building the World We Dream About: The Experience

Saturday, June 23 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Phoenix Convention Center - 226

How do we make a dream come true? On matters of changing cultural patterns and practices, we know it takes not only knowledge, but realizing how we are socialized into the world, and what it takes to operate in more inclusive and welcoming ways. Come join **Dr. Mark Hicks** and experience an innovative, collaborative, arts-based approach to building multi-racial, multi-cultural and theologically diverse communities.

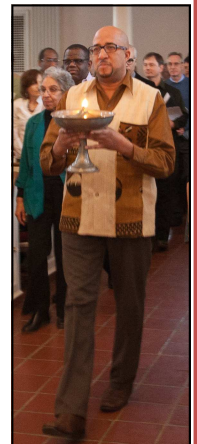


Photo by Colin Bent

Dream with us. Strategize with us. Build community with us. Support us...Join us in this holy work.



Janice Marie Johnson

Multicultural Growth Director



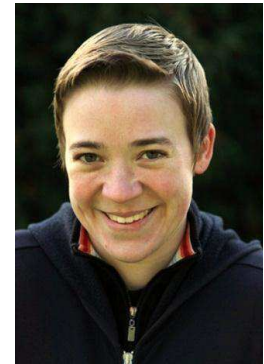
Rev. Alicia Forde

Multicultural Congregations
Program Coordinator



Tracy Ahlquist

Multicultural Growth
Program Coordinator



Alex Kapitan

Congregational Justice
Administrator

The programs and services of the UUA are made possible by the generosity of individual donors and gifts to the Annual Program Fund. Please consider making a donation today to sustain our work: uua.org/giving/apf.