



# Expanding the Welcome Table:

## *UUs Get Real about Class*

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Rev. Elizabeth Nguyen

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# Chalice Lighting



We stand on the side of love with the 99%.

We want a society that works for 100%.

How we care for one another is a moral question.

How we divide the nation's prosperity is an ethical question.

How we witness to injustice is a faith question.

May this chalice light inspire us to bring justice and healing to our troubled world.

- Adapted from Interfaith Worker Justice



# Who We Are



- **UU Class Conversations**
  - Independent project supported by grants from the Fund for Unitarian Universalist and the New York State Convention of Universalists, plus many individual donations—**Faithify Campaign**
- **Commission on Appraisal**
  - Elected by the General Assembly; charged to independently review and study activities and issues of importance to the UUA, and report findings to the GA at least every four years:  
<http://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/coa>



# Workshop Goals



- Introduce UU Class Conversations and the Commission on Appraisal.
- Explore the meaning of class and classism
- Identify examples of classism in UU settings.
- Share what the COA has learned about UUs and class and its recommendations for future study.
- Invite participants to continue the work of addressing class and classism in UU settings.

# Covenant



- Honestly raise issues that come up for you, and speak with “I” statements.
- Listen carefully to each other with respect. Share airtime. Assume good intentions.
- Questions are welcome. It is okay to disagree with each other respectfully.
- Confidentiality: Passing on information and ideas after the workshop is encouraged, but keep personal statements or experiences confidential. ***(This applies to tweets, etc.)***

# Social Media



## Hashtag for GA 2015: #uuclassGA

### Commission on Appraisal

- Report:

<http://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/coa>

### UU Class Conversations

- On the web: [www.uuclassconversations.org](http://www.uuclassconversations.org)
- Faithify Campaign: [www.faithify.org](http://www.faithify.org)
- Facebook: UU Class Conversations
- Twitter: @uuclasstories



# Class Indicators



Record indicators

# Definition of Class



Class is relative social rank in terms of income, wealth, education, status/position, and/or power.

- Class affects us both economically and emotionally.





# Classism Defined



The institutional, cultural, and individual practices and beliefs that assign differential value to people according to their socioeconomic class; ***and*** an economic system that creates excessive inequality and causes basic human needs to go unmet.



# Intersection of Identities and Oppressions



There is no such thing as a single-issue struggle because we do not live single-issue lives.

- Audre Lorde

If you have come to help me, you are wasting your time. But if you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us walk together.

- Lila Watson



# Classism in UU Settings



Record examples

# More on Class at GA



## Workshops Today

- **Class Conscious—Curriculum Overview**  
3:00-4:15 pm, Oregon Ballroom 204
- **Class Diversity: Exploring our Past, Building our Theologies**, 4:45-6:00 pm, B 110-112

## Information Table

- Booth 218 (*UU Women and Religion*)

## Vote on Changes to COA:

- **Support Responsive Resolution**



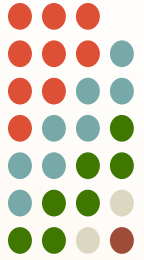
# UU Class Conversations



- **Day-long Workshop**
  - Organizing for Change: Addressing Classism in Your Faith Community
- **Facilitator Training Process**
- **Faithify Campaign:** [www.faithify.org](http://www.faithify.org)
- **Online Resources:** [www.uuclassconversations.org](http://www.uuclassconversations.org)
  - Videos and webinars coming this fall
  - Facebook: UU Class Conversations
  - Twitter: @uuclasstories



# Thank you. We carry the flame!



- As we extinguish our chalice, we know that this work will continue, because we carry the flame in our hearts.
- Response: **I carry the flame!**
- Please support our UU Class Conversations **Faithify Campaign!**
- Thank you.