

Witness This! Update from the Commission on Social Witness

Greetings to All,

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the Action of Immediate Witness (AIW) process this year. We knew this year's virtual AIW process could bring new challenges, and the time crunch of fewer than 12 hours, overnight, from submission to initial decision was indeed a challenge. On behalf of all the commissioners, volunteers, and staff serving the Commission on Social Witness, we are grateful for the contributions of time, wisdom, and grace from all contributors. With your good partnership, we have helped to bring forward a vital process of collective witness in our faith.

The poll to assess Delegate support for this year's proposed AIWs closed on Friday at 1:00 PM ET with two AIWs going forward: "[Address 400 Years of White Supremacist Colonialism](#)" and "[Amen to Uprising: A Commitment and Call to Action](#)."

There was strong support for both proposed AIWs, with over 90% approval for each AIW from those participating. Since posting the AIWs and in consultation with the proposers, UUA legal council, Co-Moderators, and the Board, the Commission is recommending only one revision. This modification is identified in underlined text in the "Amen to Uprising" AIW linked above.

And now, the discernment and decision on these AIWs rests in the hearts and minds of the Delegates. The vote to admit each AIW to the business agenda will take place Saturday June 27 during General Session V (opening 1:30 PM ET, 12:30 PM CT, 11:30 AM MT, 10:30 AM PT). Following the vote to admit the AIWs to the business agenda, there will be an opportunity for the proposers to speak in support of their proposed AIW for 2 minutes followed by a pro and con discussion from the Delegates. There will then be a vote for each AIW to affirm each one or not. There can be no amendments. Affirmation will occur by a 2/3rd majority. The AIWs are not in competition with one another.

This is an unprecedented time in our country; one that demands our leaders answer to call to address systemic racism and intersectional oppression in our society. As Unitarian Universalists, we long to answer the call of love, and at times find we are unsure what to do. Each of the proposed AIWs provides a basis and clear calls for action to help create beloved community. The Commission heartily encourages the Delegates, and all GA attendees, to take time to review these proposed AIWs prior to the discussions and votes in General Session V, and then to cast your vote to Witness This!

Blessings,

Commission on Social Witness