
THE POWER OF WE • SPOKANE 2019 Thursday, June 20, 2019

Welcome to GA 2019! This Summary CSW (Commission on Social Witness) Alert is your guide to our social witness work at GA. As delegates of member congregations, it's up to you to participate in the workshops and general sessions. CSW opportunities include a mini-assembly on the draft Statement of Conscience, a panel presentation on the 2018-2021 Congregational Study Action Issue "Undoing Intersectional White Supremacy," a time and space to network with others working on social justice issues, and opportunities for proposing and affirming Actions of Immediate Witness. You can access CSW members at Booth #243 in the Exhibit Hall and up front, on the right, during General Sessions. You can also contact us at socialwitness@uua.org. Let's bear social witness together!

How to navigate our social witness process at GA

Let's first clear up that ornery alphabet soup:

CSAI = Congregational Study Action Issue

SOC = Statement of Conscience

AIW = Action of Immediate Witness

CSW = Commission on Social Witness

The CSAI emerges first in a congregation and moves through a process of congregational and GA selection every two years. An SOC is drafted by the CSW in the third year and presented to congregations and delegates for comments, proposed amendments, and final approval. Delegates will consider a SOC at the General Session on Friday morning.

The draft Statement of Conscience (SOC) entitled *Our Democracy Uncorrupted* found on pages 67-70 of the GA program builds on the study and action congregations have reported since the 2016 General Assembly selected this as a Congregational Study/Action Issue (CSAI) originally titled "The Corruption of Our Democracy." CSAIs emerge in congregations and move through a process of selection every two years. In 2020, delegates will select a new issue. The CSW drafts a SOC in the third year and presents it to congregations and delegates for comments, proposed amendments, and final approval. Delegates will vote on the proposed SOC during the **Friday General Session**. To learn more about the draft statement or to propose changes through amendments, attend the SOC mini-assembly **Thursday afternoon** from 1:30 – 2:30 in Convention Center Room 111C.

You also will have the opportunity at this GA to speak out on specific issues demanding our immediate attention through AIWs. You draft them. You propose them (preference is given to group-originated proposals). Delegates support them by voting for up to three (3) for final consideration. The deadline for proposing AIWs is Thursday at 5 p.m. After the Friday General

Session, delegates will have access to all the qualifying proposed AIWs and will have until Saturday at 2:00 p.m. Pacific time to vote for up to 3. At the Saturday General Session, the proposed AIWs that received the most votes will be presented for adding to the final agenda. Once on the agenda, those three will have time for discussion and then a vote on whether to affirm them as the will of the 2019 GA.

Already adopted Statements of Conscience (full text available at www.uua.org/statements):

2017	Escalating Economic Inequity	2005	Criminal Justice and Prison Reform
2015	Reproductive Justice	2004	Civil Liberties
2013	Immigration as a Moral Issue	2003	Economic Globalization
2011	Ethical Eating & Environmental Justice	2002	Alternatives to the “War on Drugs”
2010	Creating Peace	2001	Responsible Consumption
2007	Moral Values for a Pluralistic Society	2000	Economic Injustice, Poverty & Racism
2006	Threat of Global Warming/Climate Change	1999	Beyond Religious Tolerance

Check your GA Agenda to find additional information on the social witness processes named below. At the CSW booth you’ll find a copy of the Delegates’ Guide to Social Witness.

CSAI: The Corruption of Our Democracy (2016-2019)

Event 1 -- Mini-Assembly on the Draft Statement of Conscience, Thursday, June 20, 1:30 – 2:30 pm, Convention Center Room 111C. The mini-assembly is the only opportunity to propose changes through amendments to the draft Statement of Conscience (available on pages 67-70 in the Program book). The vote on adoption will occur during the Friday General session. The Friday *CSW Alert* will have a revised statement based on feedback from this mini-assembly.

Event 2 (non-CSW sponsored workshop) – **How “We the People” Can Save Our Democracy**, Thursday, 1:30 – 2:30 pm; Convention Center Conference Theater.

Event 3 (non-CSW sponsored workshop) -- **James Luther Adams and the Soul of Democracy**, Thursday, 3:00 – 4:00 pm; Convention Center 100C.

Event 4 – General Session vote on revised Statement of Conscience, Friday 9 – 12, Convention Center Hall BC

Active CSAI—Undoing Intersectional White Supremacy —2018-2021

Event 1 – Workshop: Fighting White Supremacy through Intersectional Organizing, **Saturday** 1:30-2:30 pm, Convention Center 100C.

Dr. Charlene Sinclair, Managing Director at Groundswell Fund, will discuss the greatest threat to undoing structural racism and patriarchy of hyper-individualism that overshadows broad, movement-building of the collective ‘we.’ She will share how silos and issue identities keep us from understanding and fighting structural oppression. The Undoing White Supremacy Congregational Study Action Issue challenges us to practice intersectional organizing grounded by our spiritual commitments.

Event 2 (non-CSW sponsored workshop) -- **The Minns Lectureship: White Supremacy Today**, Thursday 1:30 – 2:30 pm, Davenport Grand, Grand Ballroom C

Event 3 (non-CSW sponsored workshop) -- **A New Way: White Men and Anti-Racist Feminism**, Thursday 3:00 – 4:00 pm, Davenport Grand, Grand Ballroom B

Event 4 (non-CSW sponsored workshop) -- **Expanding “We” in Racial Justice: White People’s Work**, Thursday 4:30 – 5:30 pm, Davenport Grand, Grand Ballroom C

Event 5 (non-CSW sponsored workshop) -- **Disrupting White Fragility in Unitarian Universalist Spaces**, Saturday 1:30 – 2:30 pm, Convention Center 100B.

AIWs

Deadline 1—Thursday, June 21, 5:00 PM – CSW Booth #243, Exhibit Hall

Check the CSW booth [or <https://www.uua.org/action/process/planning-aiw-ga>] to determine if anyone else is preparing an AIW on the same topic. We encourage collaboration. To submit a proposed AIW, get the required cover sheet at the CSW booth or from the GA App and draft your statement. Submit a copy of the AIW at the booth by the Thursday 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time deadline. Off-site delegates: submit as a Word document to socialwitness@uua.org.

Become Informed – Friday morning, the proposed AIWs will be available on the GA App and at the CSW Booth in the Exhibit Hall. Read them. Interact with proposers, others at GA in person and virtually, and congregants in your home congregation. Check the GA App Discussion Channel for AIW Discussion and/or CSW’s FaceBook page UUA-Commission-on-Social-Witness or check Twitter #UUAGA where people might be discussing proposals. There will be no mini-assemblies or opportunities to amend proposals, so you are considering them as written. Review the Rule 12 on page 66 of the program book.

AIW Vote: Friday noon – Saturday at 2:00 p.m. Use the voting form available on the GA App or come to the CSW Booth for a paper ballot, select up to 3 proposed AIWs you would like admitted to the agenda for consideration on Saturday.

AIW Votes at Saturday’s General Session. This is a two stage process. First, delegates must vote (by a 2/3 majority) to add AIWs to the final agenda for consideration. Only the three (3) AIW proposals that get the most votes may be added. Once added to the agenda, delegates can discuss each of the three and vote whether to affirm (2/3 majority vote) each of the 3 proposed AIWs. These three are not competing with one another – delegates may affirm 1, 2, or all 3.

Questions? Visit the CSW at Booth 243 in the Exhibit Hall

E-mail socialwitness@uua.org

Visit www.uua.org/csw