



UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST
ASSOCIATION

What to Expect at Virtual GA 2020

“Rooted, Inspired, and Ready!”

A UUA Board of Trustees Webinar



What to Expect at GA 2020

Presenters:

- 🕊 Members of the UUA Board of Trustees
- 🕊 Members of the Commission on Institutional Change
- 🕊 Members of the General Assembly Planning Committee
- 🕊 Members of the Commission on Social Witness



Agenda

- 🕒 Introduction (Agenda and Attendee Tools)
- 🕒 Highlights of This Year – *Rooted, Inspired, & Ready!*
 - 🕒 General Sessions
 - 🕒 Featured Speakers
 - 🕒 On-Demand Content
 - 🕒 #UUtheVote
- 🕒 Proposed Bylaw Amendments
- 🕒 Commission on Social Witness
- 🕒 Virtual GA Experience and Resources



Attendee Tools for this Meeting

- 🕒 Webinar is being recorded
- 🕒 Dial-In Connection/Computer Connection
- 🕒 Listen-Only Mode
- 🕒 Use of Chat Tools (Q & A Sessions)
- 🕒 Closed Captioning Available
- 🕒 Audio and Captioning Quality Survey



2020 Highlights



The Grid



— VIRTUAL — UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUMMARY SCHEDULE (subject to change)

MDT	PDT	Wednesday 6/24	Thursday 6/25	Friday 6/26	Saturday 6/27	Sunday 6/28
7:00 AM	6:00 AM		Morning Worship <small>(Available On-Demand)</small>	Morning Worship <small>(Available On-Demand)</small>	Morning Worship <small>(Available On-Demand)</small>	
7:30 AM	6:30 AM					
8:00 AM	7:00 AM		Workshops	Workshops	Workshops	Sunday Morning Worship East
8:30 AM	7:30 AM					
9:00 AM	8:00 AM					Coffee Hour
9:30 AM	8:30 AM					
10:00 AM	9:00 AM		Featured Speaker	Featured Speaker	Featured Speaker	Featured Speaker
10:30 AM	9:30 AM					
11:00 AM	10:00 AM					Sunday Morning Worship West
11:30 AM	10:30 AM		General Session 2	General Session 4	General Session 5	Coffee Hour
12:00 PM	11:00 AM					
12:30 PM	11:30 AM					
1:00 PM	12:00 PM	Organizing Your Congregation to #UUTheVote				Workshops
1:30 PM	12:30 PM		General Session 3 (COIC Report)	COIC Workshops	General Session 6	
2:00 PM	1:00 PM					
2:30 PM	1:30 PM					
3:00 PM	2:00 PM		Report	Report	Report	
3:30 PM	2:30 PM	Orientation				
4:00 PM	3:00 PM		Service of the Living Tradition	Synergy Bridging Worship	Ware Lecture	
4:30 PM	3:30 PM					
5:00 PM	4:00 PM					
5:30 PM	4:30 PM	Welcoming Celebration	Reflections	Reflections	Reflections	
6:00 PM	5:00 PM					
6:30 PM	5:30 PM	General Session 1				
7:00 PM	6:00 PM		Featured Speaker	Featured Speaker	Featured Speaker	
7:30 PM	6:30 PM					
8:00 PM	7:00 PM			Family FuuN Night		

Orientation – Learn about Virtual GA and how to connect with others
 Reflections – Discussion groups about the worship service
 Coffee Hour – Newcomers and UUs introductions/meet-and-greet



The Grid



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Highlights of Virtual General Assembly

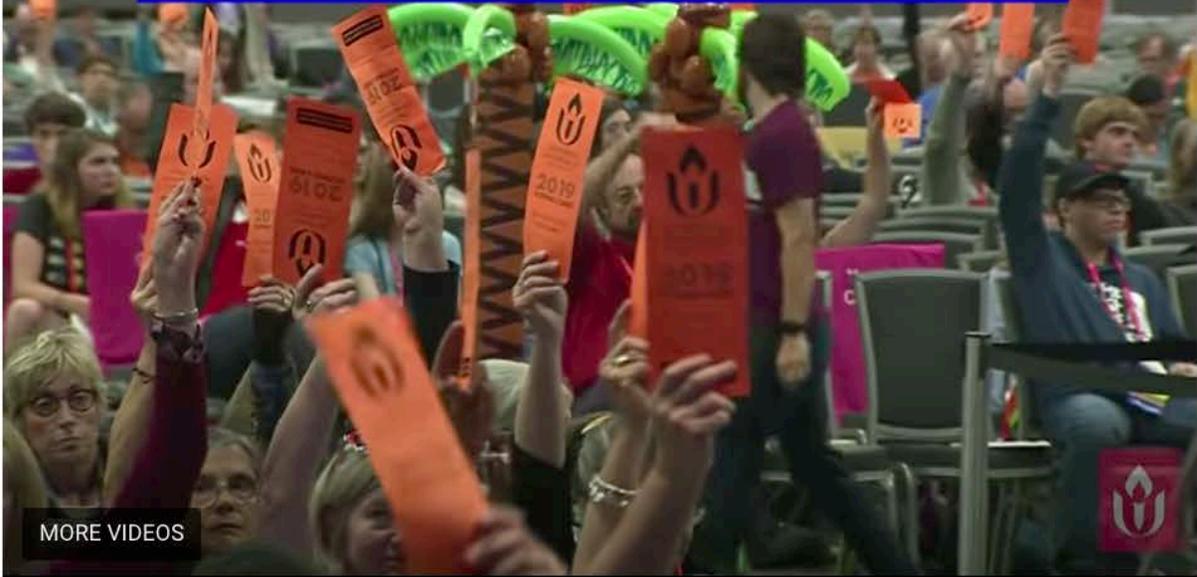
- 🕯️ Theme – *Rooted, Inspired, & Ready!*
- 🕯️ Changes to General Sessions
- 🕯️ Featured Speakers Series
- 🕯️ On-Demand Programming
- 🕯️ The Participation Portal
- 🕯️ Commission on Institutional Change Final Report

www.uua.org/qa



Demonstration of the Participation Portal

Motion 7:00 Amendment 0:00 Speaker 2:00



MORE VIDEOS

Main Hall

Jun 3, 8:48 PM LarryStritof: Who's ready for GA 2020!

LarryStritof

1 online

Live poll 117

Vote - suspend rules to allow Roberts Rules



Voting closed

slido

report voting issue open voting in new window

"Speak" During Debate

Delegates who want to speak during the debates can submit typed statements via the form below

Pro Con Procedural

Text input field for typed statements

Submit



A Thread of Hope Guatemalan Fair Trade

Beautiful and meaningful Fairly-Traded crafts handmade by indigenous Maya artisans and co-ops in Guatemala. Bamboo scarves, beaded jewelry, handbags, clothing, worry dolls, ornaments, and much more. Presentations, travel, fundraising, volunteering.

[View Exhibitor](#)



MeetGreen

For 15 years MeetGreen has closely supported UUA through its comprehensive sustainable event planning, helping ensure that General Assembly embodies the full spirit of the 7th Principle.

[View Exhibitor](#)



Emma's Revolution

Songs of Resilience from Pat Humphries and Sandy O. Bookings, CDs, Peace Wear & more. Come by for a dose of hope & inspiration!

[View Exhibitor](#)



inSpirit: The UU Book and Gift Shop

We feature books from Skinner House, Beacon Press, and other publishers, as well as UU identity, Love Resists, and Side with Love merchandise.

[View Exhibitor](#)

 [Organization Name] logo

[Organization Name]

[Booth Description]

[View Exhibitor](#)



Commission on Institutional Change

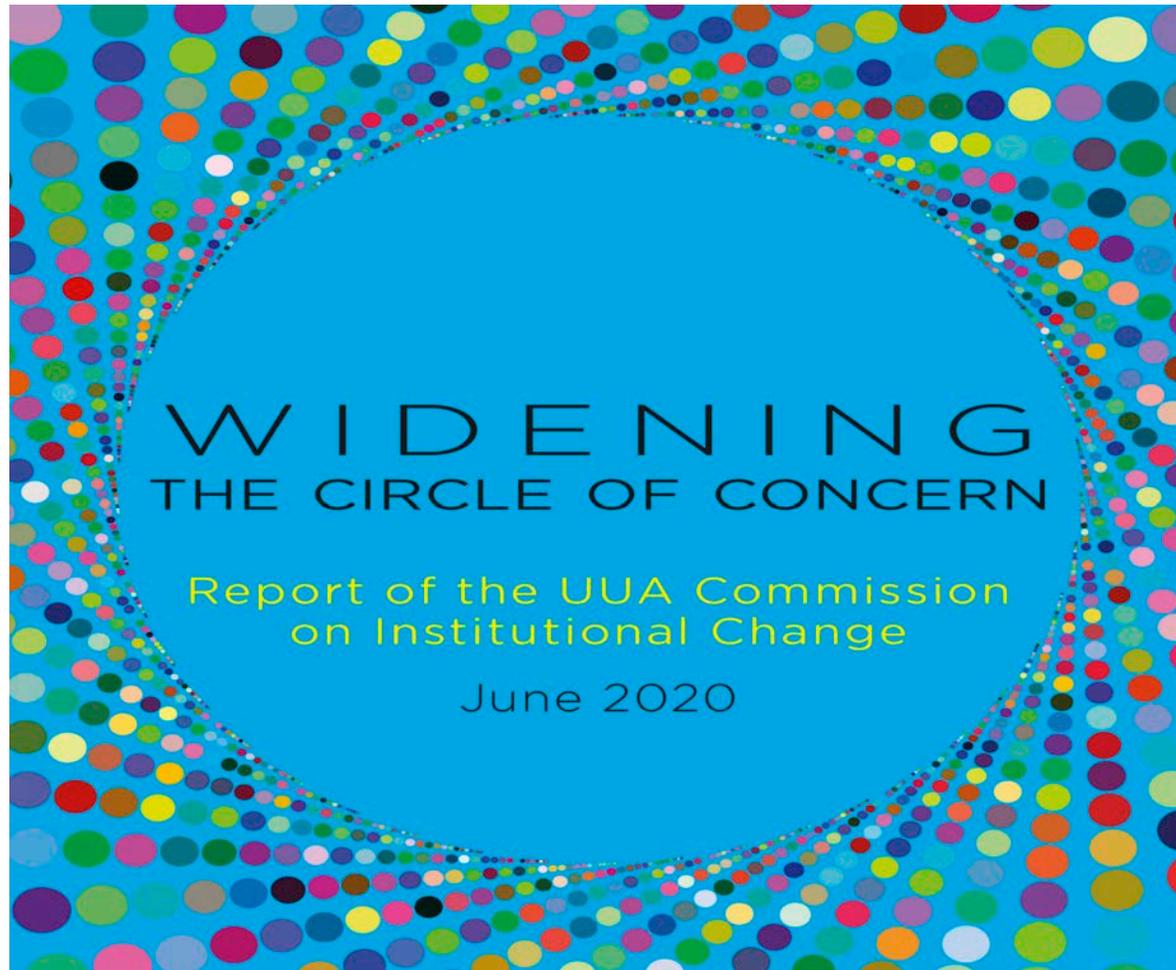


Commission on Institutional Change

The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) Commission on Institutional Change is charged with long-term cultural and institutional change that redeems the essential promise and ideals of Unitarian Universalism. Appointed by the UUA Board of Trustees in June 2017 and commissioned through GA 2020, the Commission will analyze structural racism and white supremacy culture within the UUA.



The complete summary of the Commission, including the full charge, member bios, and the commission's blog are available on [the UUA website](#).



The Final Report of the Commission on Institutional Change

Available to read **now** at www.uua.org/coic-report and
to purchase at www.uuabookstore.org.



Five Workshops on the Report

1. Theological Grounding for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
2. Education and Transformation In UU Communities
3. Why Diversity, Inclusion and Equity Matters To YOUR Congregation
4. Hospitality, Reparations and Our First Principle
5. Accountability, Agility and Good Governance



Questions?



Featured Speaker Series



Rosemary Bray McNatt & Elías Ortega



Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz



Jean Mendoza & Natalie Martinez



Howard Bryant



Dina Gilio-Whitaker



Robyn Henderson-Espinoza



John Buehrens



Ware Lecture: Naomi Klein



Naomi Klein is the inaugural Gloria Steinem Endowed Chair in Media, Culture and Feminist Studies at Rutgers University, and an award-winning journalist, syndicated columnist and international and *New York Times* bestselling author of, *On Fire: The (Burning) Case for a Green New Deal* (2019), *The Battle for Paradise: Puerto Rico Takes On the Disaster Capitalists* (2018), *No Is Not Enough: Resisting the New Shock Politics and Winning the World We Need* (2017), *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. The Climate* (2014), *The Shock Doctrine: The Rise of Disaster Capitalism* (2007) and *No Logo* (2000).



Featured Speaker Series

- ⌚ Watch Anytime and Interact during specified times including daily reflection times.
- ⌚ Featured Speakers are a combination of Beacon Press authors, public theologians, and UU leaders (some are all 3!)
- ⌚ More information available at www.uua.org/ga/program/highlights



The Business of the Association



Changes in 2020

- ⌚ Significantly Shorter General Sessions
- ⌚ Consent Agenda
- ⌚ Updated and Modified Rules of Procedure
- ⌚ Mini-Assemblies
- ⌚ Actions of Immediate Witness



General Sessions

- ⌚ General Sessions will take place in the Participation Portal. Only registered delegates will be able to participate in the discussion.
- ⌚ General Sessions will be live streamed.
- ⌚ Registrants and delegates will be able to discuss business through chat rooms in the Participation Portal.
- ⌚ The Final Agenda and Rules of Procedure are available at www.uua.org/ga/program/business-agenda.
- ⌚ There will be time limits/word limits—this was omitted accidentally



Amendment Recap

- 🕒 Bylaw Amendments to Sections 8.7 & 8.8 **clarify how vacancies in the role of Co-Moderator are filled**
- 🕒 Bylaw Amendments to Sections 9.4 & 9.6 **extending nominating and election process to conform to contemporary speed of communication**



Business & Responsive Resolutions

- ⊕ Proposed Business Resolution, “Embodying Human Rights in Our Investment Decisions” asks for us to **support socially responsible investing (SRI) by divesting from organizations with human rights violations**
- ⊕ Responsive Resolutions that respond to a significant part of a report delivered at GA may be presented during GA.



Responsive Resolution

⊕ What is a responsive resolution?

- Response to a substantive portion of a report during General Assembly. A responsive resolution differs from an AIW, in that it originates from content in a substantive portion of a *report by an officer or committee* reporting to a regular General Assembly.

⊕ Why don't I see any responsive resolutions on the agenda?

- Because they are “responsive,” they are based on information shared during GA

⊕ How would I propose a responsive resolution?

- The author of a Responsive Resolution must notify the Moderator in writing of the title and content of the Responsive Resolution as soon as it is practical to do so, but not later than 2 PM PT / 3 PM MT / 4 PM CT / 5 PM ET on Friday, June 26 for Responsive Resolutions based on reports delivered throughout the week.

⊕ When are responsive resolutions presented?

- They are presented in General Session 5 on Saturday afternoon of GA.

Moderator@uua.org



Mini-Assembly Process



Mini-Assembly Basics

- ⊕ Mini-Assemblies serve to **learn** about the specific **details** of the scheduled topic and to propose amendments. They are **not** a place to **debate** the pros and cons of an issue.
- ⊕ If you wish to **propose amendments** to a proposed bylaw amendment your proposed amendment(s) must be submitted for consideration at the appropriate Mini-Assembly in order to be offered at the General Session. *New amendments cannot be made in the General Session.*
- ⊕ After a Mini-Assembly and before voting in General Session, the Board may **incorporate proposed amendments** into a Bylaw.
- ⊕ The Business Mini-Assembly will be held at 12 PM PT / 1 PM MT / 2 PM CT / 3 PM ET on Wednesday, June 24, before General Session 1.



Questions?



Commission on Social Witness Implementing Statement of Conscience

Actions of Immediate Witness



Commission on Social Witness

Mission:

The Commission's charge is to oversee the UUA process of social witness.

Social witness is the act of courageously affirming what is just and good through speech and action that demonstrate solidarity with those who are mistreated or that imagine and articulate social justice or collective liberation.



Commission on Social Witness

Guiding our work:

We envision a faith that engages in multigenerational, multicultural, accessible, social witness that is in relationship with what is emerging in social justice movements within and beyond the UU faith tradition, enabling us to live into discomfort and to adapt into a healing, transformative reality. As we work toward this vision, we do so in accountable relationships that seek equitable empowerment with people and groups most impacted by oppression, hate, and violence.



Commission on Social Witness

Some activities of the commission:

- **Statements (and acronyms!)**
 - **Statement of Conscience (SOC):** UU member congregations select Congregational Study/Action Issues (CSAIs) for study, reflection, and action as Statement of Conscience. Currently supporting
 - Implementation of SOC titled “Our Democracy Uncorrupted” (finalized in 2019)
 - Study and reflection on CSAI “Undoing Intersectional White Supremacy” (to be finalized in 2022)
 - **Action of Immediate Witness (AIW)** (see next slide)
- **Seeking new ways to Witness This!**



Actions of Immediate Witness

Actions of Immediate Witness (AIW) profess convictions grounded in UU values on issues that are immediate, specific, and where such statements provide opportunity for engagement (UUA website for detail). The AIW timeline this GA:

Wednesday

- AIW proposals due after first general session to socialwitness@uua.org

Thursday

- Poll for AIWs released Thu 1:30 PM ET (vote by Fri 2:30 PM ET)
- Webinar to discuss and share on AIWs, Thursday @ 7:30 PM ET

Saturday General Session 5

- Motion to admit 3 AIWs to agenda (requires $\frac{2}{3}$ majority)
- Discussion & vote for each of the 3 AIWs (requires $\frac{2}{3}$ majority)



Witness This! at GA

Seeking new ways to Witness This!

- We continue to learn, adapt and invite members to join in discernment at this GA about a *responsive* future of Social Witness.
- We invite you to join one of our sessions exploring the intersection of the current Congregational Study Action Issue on Undoing Intersectional White Supremacy and the pandemic.
- We recently administered a survey on engagement with the UUA social witness process to a small random selection of congregations from each UUA region. On Sunday afternoon at GA we will offer a session to share the results and explore future work of the Commission.

We invite YOU to Witness This! at GA 2020



Questions?



Your GA Experience

Chaplain Team

Right Relationship Team



Your GA Experience

- 🕯️ **Delegate Credentials**—More info at www.uua.org/ga/congregations/credentials
- 🕯️ **Are you a minister or LREDA member in service to a congregation?** Visit: ga-delegate.uua.org
- 🕯️ **Encourage Registration**—More UUs making more justice
- 🕯️ **Technology Scholarships**—Still Available but Limited



Your GA Experience

- 🕒 **Registration and Volunteer Scholarships**–Still Available
- 🕒 **Chaplains** are available to all attendees throughout GA to offer spiritual support
 - Info in Participation Portal
- 🕒 The **Right Relationship Team** exists to listen and engage with people who have experienced any form of oppression or identity based marginalization during GA
 - Info in Participation Portal



Additional Information and Resources



Additional Resources

Get ready to grow in faith at General Assembly 2020

- 🕯️ Prepare to be together
- 🕯️ Prepare your spirit
- 🕯️ Prepare to worship
- 🕯️ Prepare your inner activist
- 🕯️ Prepare to be online several hours a day for a week

There are dozens of resources to help you prepare! Visit the [GA website](#) get ready.

For a list of links, see

<https://docs.google.com/document/u/0/>



Thank you for participating!

 Download the GA app on your mobile device for up-to-the-minute information.

- [iTunes App Store](#) (for iPhones and iPads)
You can also search “UUA General Assembly” in the app store.
- [Google Play](#) (for Android devices)
You can also search “UUA General Assembly” in the app store.
- [For all other devices](#)

 Recorded webinar and this presentation will be posted on the General Assembly Delegate Information webpage.

 Welcome to Virtual GA!



Final Questions?