

REALTIME FILE

UUA-What to Expect at General Assembly 2020

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>> Greg Boyd: Captioning is activated, if you need closed captioning or it helps you to have additional captions, you can turn that on. You should see a CC box at the bottom of your screen.

>> Debra Gray Boyd: I was telling folks, that you are welcome to say hey to us a and not just panelists, but to panelists an attendees.

>> Greg Boyd: We have the Powerpoint up. We are not starting yet. We have a few more minutes. Barb, are you able to check on Pablo?

>> Barb Greve: Yes.

>> Debra Gray Boyd: I know you e-mailed India, did you hear back?

>> Greg Boyd: She is not feeling well today. She will make the final webinar. Marcus is having a day off and I support our staff having days off. Stephanie is at all of the webinars and working all sorts of other hours and she and I have hours flying back and forth all day and I doubt I'm the only one she does that with.

>> Debra Gray Boyd: I was e-mailing her this weekend and I was like, stop answering your e-mail. It is Sunday. Stop. Go to bed

>> Greg Boyd: I had a number of e-mails go back and forth and I was like it is getting busy. Oh, this is the way it is. This is the way it is until the end.

Welcome, everyone. We're at the top of the hour, we are going to wait a moment to see if we can get our final panelists in and we'll start rolling right after that. The current webinar rolls four minutes over. We normally haven't gone much further than 10 minutes over, so if you have 10 minutes to spare this evening, please stick around and if you don't, we understand. It was our hope to have a frequently asked questions document up by Monday.

That didn't happen for a variety of reasons. We will have a frequently asked questions document up and this is the final version of the Powerpoint. There is nothing else to update or renegotiate or all of those fun things, so we have that as well.

We're waiting on the final panelists, I do see one question in the Q&A and there is a question from James Smith about will there be discussion on the eighth principle? There will not be. The eighth principle is not on the agent day for this year. You're welcome to discuss the eighth principle with other folks, you're welcome to discuss your desires or something that expresses the intent of the eighth principle.

It is only partially filled, which we'll talk at GA itself, we do have folks on the commission now meeting with them this week or next week get them up to speed with what our hopes are from them and what we heard from folks already and they will be available at GA, so please

approach them.

All right, I'm going to go ahead and get us started then and welcome to our what to expect at General Assembly rooted and inspired and ready is our theme this year. We have folks with us. I'm Greg Boyd. I use he, him, his pronouns and I'm on the mod squad, leadership team during General Assembly.

I'm joined by my board colleague, co-moderator, reverend, Barb Greve. Marcus uses they, their, them pronouns. Marcus is not able to join us because it is their day off and it is great to have a day off.

We have the chair of the planning committee, Debra Gray Boyd. Barb and I live in California. She uses her, she, pronounces. We have Alison Aguilar Lopez Gutierrez McLeod. They take care of all of the business of witnessing to the public where the board takes care of the internal business, but the internal business has external impact.

We have a Captioner and you will see Stephanie who is the executive assistant to the executive Vice President staff liaison to the board of trustees and she has done so much work and has been in the wings of every single webinar and so grateful for her.

Quickly, our agenda. We already did our introductions. We're going to talk about the theme, which is rooted, inspired, and ready, we'll talk about that. We'll talk about the changes with general sessions, featured speakers content, on-demand content, some of the stuff we're doing with UU the vote. We'll discuss the proposed bylaw amendments.

We'll take a deep dive around the witness process, awesome stuff and we'll discuss some of the things that will help you be prepared for the first ever General Assembly. Before we get all the way into this, I want to make sure you know what the attendee tools for this meeting are. Again, this webinar is being recorded; a version of this webinar will be available on the GA website in a few days.

It may not be this webinar and it may not be doing the leadership there are two from the board sharing the responsibilities for the webinar, but a version will be available in the next few days. You have the ability to dial in or use your computer for this webinar. If there are any issues with your computer connection, you can dial back in using the same information you received at the e-mail, where you confirmed for this.

You are in listen-only mode. We are in webinar format. Only panelists have their videos on and able to speak. you can communicate using the chat box, as well as the Q&A form. The Q&A form helps monitor what question, if you have a quick yes/no question, pop that in the chat box and Debra is watching the chat box. If you have a question, Barb Greve will be monitoring that. Keep the questions coming; we have five minutes at every question slot.

Some of the questions that can be easily answered, one of the panelists can be in the chat box, but Barb Greve is in charge of that. We have closed captioning available. Please use the CC box, which you should see at the bottom right-hand side of your screen. It will say CC, click

on it and allow subtitles and you should see the captions pop up.

Before we go any further, I want to do an audio and captioning quality survey. If you can hear me, will you say yes inside of the chat box? All right, seeing a lot of folks that can hear us. Wonderful. For anyone using the captions, would you pop in cap OK, C-A-P OK if you're able to read the closed captioning.

Wonderful, we have everything working, so let's keep moving. Let's talk about the highlights of the General Assembly.

>> Barb Greve: We're getting questions in the Q&A and let you know we have built Q&A time in specifically, so every section we will take a break to answer the questions. I ask for your patience. A lot of what you're asking, we will address in the webinar itself, so hang tight and we will make this work.

>> Greg Boyd: Thank you for that reminder, Mr. Barb Greve. This is our grid. Our grid is available on the website, so pop that in the chat box for me. Do not worry about memorizing the links. We will make sure they are included in the slide deck. It is available in Mountain and Pacific time and it is as available in Eastern and Central time.

All of it is relative to itself, but we do have it posted in different time zones in the continuous U.S. to make it easier for everyone. One quick reminder and we will go over this many, many, many times, but it is not on this version of the grid. It will be on the version within the next day or two. Our sole business mini assembly where you can make amendments to proposed bylaws changes and proposed business resolutions will be before the welcoming celebration.

Before the welcoming celebration at 3:00 P.M. Eastern Time, 2:00 P.M. Central Time, 1:00 P.M. mountain time, 12:00 P.M. Pacific time, again that is 3:00 P.M. Eastern Time, 2:00 P.M. Central Time, 1:00 P.M. Mountain Time, 12:00 P.M. Pacific Time, which is before the welcoming celebration on Wednesday, June 24. It will be our only business mini-assembly that will be on a version of the grid that is going up on the website in a few days. We want to draw it to your attention, because the mini-assemblies are normally the next day. These are not the same type of mini-assembly; they just function the same way.

Some of the highlights are our theme. We are rooted, inspired, we are ready. We are rooted in the tradition. We are inspired to what the world has brought us to this point and we're using that information to help tackle the challenges of a world transformed by pandemic, of a world that is continuing to announce the injustice of systemic racism to confront a world where sometimes we have not lived out the truest and deepest values of our shared faith of our living and lively tradition.

We also have some changes to general sessions, namely they are significantly shorter. They are shorter, so we can do the most essential business of the association this year and then do more business later on when we figure out how much the world is going to change as a result of everything going on. We still don't know and we may not know for some time, but this gives us a little bit of one way to figure it out.

We have a featured speaker's series and Debra is going to talk about that and we have much on-demand programming. Most of our workshops are going to be inside of the participation portal and on demand. There will be some live programming and there will be the ability to talk back with certain workshop presenters, but the vast majority will be on demand, which means you have access to more than you have had before even if you can't be there at the same time.

As long as you register for and on demand workshop slot, which we will talk about in a second, you will be able to view the content and if you're registered for General Assembly, you can view that forever through the participation portal. There is no plan, no plan to make that content available to the wider public at any point in time right now.

We'll talk a lot more about the participation portal. This is your access to General Assembly. There will be some things you will be able to view through the website without logging in and we'll talk about those in just a bit, but your maniac says will be through the participation portal.

If you want to interact with other people, you must go through the participation portal. After three years of investigating impacts of why supremacy -- white supremacy on the institution, our events that we have every year, as well as our congregations and covenant, the institution is ready to announce the final report. The board of trustees formally accepted the commission on institutional change on Monday, June 1, just about two weeks ago. The report is available on the UUA website right now and it is available on Google and available to order through our UUA bookstore.

First, I want to give you a little demonstration of the participation portal. Here is a screen shot of what the participation portal might look like if you're a delegate. This is no what the participation portal will look like for everyone at all time, but here is one of the ways you might interact. Obviously, there will be no one in a physical hall. The video that you will have this year will be on your mod squad facilitating team.

I hope you get used to our face; you're going to see them rather a bit. We have a virtual exhibit hall and the exhibits will be available to purchase from 24/7. You will be taken to the websites of the various vendors. We have more than 46 of them, however, there will be live times when you can go to people's booths at the virtual learning stage, the virtual learning stage will allow you to interact with presentations with the more than 46 vendors, including elements of staff from UUA. Oh, that I'm going to share a video for just a second that talks about what you can find inside of the participation portal. You should receive access within the next few days sometime over the weekend between June -- lost audio

>> Debra Gray Boyd: Greg's sound cut out and he is the one with the video.

>> Barb Greve: So that is a great opportunity to do some of the Q&A's, you ask the Q's and collectively, we will provide the A's. Katie asks what is going on with the youth program now that the coordinators walked away. We will talk about this later in the webinar, but do know that the UUA's youth office staff have communicated with the youth before they walked away. There will be synergy and deep, meaningful for youth to gather through the General Assembly.

Jessica Vega asks how do you work off of a featured speaker will speak at, we will have that released by the week's end, so folks can plan their lives accordingly. Donna asks, how long will on-demand events be available and Deb remarks I believe you know the answer to that one.

>> Debra Gray Boyd: So all of the on-demand material will be available to folks who have registered through the portal. We think just it will be available and then there is conversation about how and when we my roll out other pieces going forward, but there is no plan to be taking it down and making it secret any time soon. If you're registered, you're welcome to the material and we're so glad you're going to be with us.

>> Barb Greve: Fantastic.

>> Debra Gray Boyd: The schedule is going to be on the portal and in the app, both. When you want to figure out who is going to be where that will be a great place to do it.

>> Barb Greve: We have a couple of questions about the banner parade, John Franks asks anything about the banner parade and Bruce Wiggins asks that they have not been asked to send a picture of their banner and I believe Debra you have an answer for that.

>> Debra Gray Boyd: We put an ask for folks to send in their banners and we got more banners and it was fun to look at where we have been, so we have put together a banner parade from the last 15 general assemblies. If you been to GA before, there will be places you can see the banner parade and you can spot folks over multiple years and they will be on demand, too. If you're a banner parade junkie, you can watch the video over and over again.

>> Barb Greve: Jessica Vega asks, for the same worship at 10:00 Eastern be available at 1:00 P.M. Eastern and it is the same worship service at both times.

>> Debra Gray Boyd: The coffee hours are different.

>> Barb Greve: Those living on the West Coast are delighted for not getting up before the dawn of the sun. We encourage you to go to both if not one worships and all of the coffee hours. Greg, it looks like you are back, is time to pause in the questions and answers and get on the video?

>> Greg Boyd: Let's get through a few more questions and we'll move through the next question block, so we can make time. I think we have a few more mince.

>> Barb Greve: All right, I'm not to not get your name right, Elizabeth is asking if we said the only business meeting was Wednesday, no, not the only business meeting, but the first mini-assembly is Wednesday earlier in the day and the opening business session is Wednesday evening or afternoon depending on your coast.

There are six total business sessions throughout General Assembly where we will do the business of GA and those are blocked in green, I think, on the grid.

Maria asks, will the exhibit hall be available to nonregistered persons? I believe you must be registered to access anything inside of the general assembly. I'm getting nods in confirmation of that. I'm going to push off the conversation about youth and children until the end of the webinar, so we can address that as we have time.

Sally asked if this is being recorded, all of our webinars have been recorded. We will take the best of the webinars and that will be available to folks who want to watch it not live and we will compile an FAQ of all questions that have been asked.

Julia Cochran asks, I'm not sure how you access this portal, is it a Zoom thing? That is the video that Greg is about to show us, so hold on and you will get an example of it. McKayla asks, how much overlap will there be between the app and the portal? Debra Greg, you want to take that on?

>> Debra Gray Boyd: I will be happy to. The portal is where we're going to interact with one another and have access to the worship centers, the app is like an inner circle of GA, so if you want to catch up with someone who is attending the GA this year, you want to do that on the app. All of the things that you're used to seeing is still there, but that is not where you go to engage with the material, you do the portal with that.

>> Barb Greve: I think we will get going with the video, we're starting to get to the ones we know will be answered.

>> Greg Boyd: I did not know I had been disconnected, so it was a total blast.

[LAUGHTER]

And that type of thing just happens sometimes, give me a second. I'm not seeing the window that I'm looking for, so I'm going to make sure I have access to that. Yes, all righty. Share computer sown. We'll try this all over again.

>> Set up a few things, one will be the time zone, so when you're looking at times on the site, it is related to you and your region. We're going to ask for an e-mail address that you associate with Zoom, so when there is a Zoom meeting, we can identify who you are as part of the identification process.

We're going to ask them to review community practices document, just let them know this is how we expect people to behave and treat each other in this virtual environment, so we can point to that if there are issues that need to be brought up. All of this information will be shared. There will be more information going out afterwards in greater detail.

The core of the participation portal is the navigation bar, so let me switch to the full-page view here. The bulk of the portal is the navigation. What we see essentially do is link all of the content for third-party things, so this big white space and we provide navigation.

The bulk of the portal, construction and work is building the navigation and working with people

to create the content that we're linking to, so going back to, walking you through what pieces exist in this, there's going to be your name badge, so you have your identity, who you are, if you're a delegate or not, if you're not registered as a delegate there is a spot below that to put your delegate I.D. We have all of that condensed in one corner. Then we have a chunk of resources that are available, things that we recognize people need quick access to, big one is how to participate, a giant document we're working on right now that is fleshing out all of the things like how to set your chat name, how to install, set up Zoom, links to other documents, all the little things that we may need help with.

We're also going to be building, me or Carrie and other people will be recording how-to videos to put in the guide as well. There will be a program book every year that Don Plant makes, the business agenda outlining the business and the rules that govern GA this year and the bylaws. This language is not going to be a covenant, but it will be guidelines and practice and a link to the GA app, which is public, so the GA app can support public conversations, so people watching free content can watch the GA app and discuss it there.

Within the core piece of the participation portal is the channels, this is the interaction and where the work happens. The home page is where you land and it is going to be a summary of the day's events, the workshops that you registered for and any news or announcements that are posted there and the donation pages for the donation pages.

>> Greg Boyd: OK, that is a preview of the participation portal. Again, you should receive e-mail access to the participation portal this weekend between June 19 and June 21 that is Friday through Sunday coming up. We're going to go back to our presentation now.

And learn more about the commission on institutional changes final report, so quick history of the commission on institutional change. Your board of trustees appointed it to look at structural racism and white supremacy and our association right before General Assembly in June of 2017. They worked through just this past year to create this report.

They finished writing the report in February and have been promoting it on the church of the larger fellowships talk show with the view, so you can get more information from that. They have been able to access the board at every one of their meetings, so we have had periodic updates and they updated us about their findings and what is going on in the association relative to their findings over the past three years at each of the general assemblies.

This year at General Assembly, they will have the ability to lead a couple different workshops, as well as have dedicated time to deliver highlights of the final report. The final report is out now. It is available to read at UUA.org/coic-report, the reports a title is widening the circle of concern. A copy of this version of the report, the bound copy of the report will be sent to your congregation.

You can buy it on the UUA bookstore. You will have them shortly after you place an order. Again, it is available to read at our UUA website, as well as Google right now.

Some of the things they talk about are theologically grounding for diversity, equity and

inclusion, education and transformation in UU communities, why diversity, inclusion and equity matters to your congregation, hospitality, reparations and our first principle and accountability, agility and good governance.

The report has 10 areas they looked at and they consolidated them into five workshops. All five workshops will be available during GA. You can only register for one of them at a time, so you can only participate at one of the workshops. They will be going on at the same time, but they are being recorded and will be made public shortly after GA.

If you're wanting to participate in all five of the workshops, it is OK. You will be able to see the information going on later on. You can already view the talk show "the View" through the church of the larger fellowship available on Youtube and hear what their discussions have been about this report over the past few months and there is a higher level of the version of the final report that will take place during general session in GA.

It is on your grid, so know we have time for that. This is our questions slide, I'm going to keep moving because we did questions and answer. I see more questions coming in, please continue to use that as well as using the chat box for simple yes/no questions that we can answer that way.

Debra, will you talk to us about the featured speaker series?

>> Debra Gray Boyd: I will, but I will also post the link to the featured speakers in the WARE lecture in the chat to save us time on that front. We have amazing folks lined up and they have not only committed to presenting their materials, but they will be available for back and forth conversation in chat.

All of the speakers being dropped at the same time, but they are also times later in the day where you can have an opportunity to speak with those folks as well. Check out both of those parts and like I said, I will put that in the chat and I save us time because we need to make up a little.

>> Greg Boyd: Thank you, Debra. Again, we will keep on moving. Here is the business of the association and to talk a little bit more about that, we have co-moderator Mr. Barb Greve. He and I will chat back and forth during this session.

>> Barb Greve: I'm glad you said it that way.

[LAUGHTER]

There are -- because we have going to online, we the board, intentionally decided to make our sessions a little bit shorter and to do a scaled-down version of necessary business, so that is happening. The consent agenda, you will find it in the rule, but this particular year, we do not have a consents agenda the idea behind a consent agenda so the board or moderators that we think will pass through the agenda easily.

In a mini-assembly, they will have the opportunity to take those things off of the agenda if they felt the items needed to be discussed, but this year in 2020, we have no items on the consent

agenda, so we don't have a consent agenda on the final agenda, so how is that for a good number of agendas? We only have one mini-assembly this year and you're going to remind men when he that is happening.

>> Greg Boyd: That is 12:00 P.M. Pacific, 1:00 P.M. Mountain Time, 2:00 P.M. Central, 3:00p.m. Eastern Time on Wednesday, June 24, which is before the opening celebration.

>> Barb Greve: To note that the mini-assembly is a place where if you have amendments to the pieces of business coming before the assembly for vote and decision that is the place to make those proposals. We'll talk about actions of immediate witness in a little bit. Why don't we head on the next slide?

So as we have said earlier, the way to participate, you have to be registered for GA and to be a delegate to speak and vote on the business that comes before the assembly. All of that, happens through the participant portal. The participant portal will go live this weekend, so for those who are waiting to get into it, we appreciate your patience as we finish the tweaks and the writing of the code and more tweaks.

All of our general session will be live streamed so you can watch it if you're a delegate or not, but only delegates can participate in the governance process. There are a number of ways to engage, one is through the portal and another is to use the chat rooms in the portal, so even though who are not delegates can participate in the conversation just as you would be able to if we were gathered in a large venue in person.

The final agenda and rules of procedure are on the UUA's website at UUA.org/Ga/program/business-agenda; I trust someone is going to put that in the chat, because that magic happens. I want to lift up a couple of rules, if you're a delegate and you're hoping to speak or type to an issue on the floor, we're asking that you submit a recorded statement or written statement two hours.

This is the way it helps me to remember things, two, two, two, it can be two hours ahead of time to be submitted, two minutes recorded or 200 words written, so two, two, two to keep it in your head, but that is how we will participate. There will be cues, like we have in the Pacific with microphones on the floor, there will be cues, one for pro, one for concern, one for amendments and procedural questions.

They will be obvious when you're in the delegate portal and you will be encouraged to put yourself in the queue and when your turn is up, your submitted question will be played or read to the assembly. Let's go on to the next slide. So there are two bylaw amendments up for business that felt urgent to the board to get us to address, one, clarifies how vacancies in the role of co-moderators are filled. We don't have that in our bylaws. We made the adjustment last year to allow for co-moderators, obviously, Alandrea and I have been serving for three years.

Meg Riley and Charles have been identified for nominees, they are two different people and we wanted to make sure there was assurance on if one has to resign for any number of reasons, so this bylaw addresses the vacancy. The other is to extend the nominating and election

process. Historically, the deadlines have been early in the church year, so September, October, November with a December 1 deadline and that has been based off the postal mail system.

This allows us to move the D.N.A. lines later in the year, recognizing that we use digital, which moves more quickly than postal mail. We are hoping this opens up the process for everyone.

So those will be discussed and hopefully voted on. We also have a proposed business resolution embodying human rights in our investment decisions that asks us to support socially responsible investing by divesting from organizations with human rights violations.

This makes it a little bit more clearer this year, so we will discuss that and vote on it as well. And then there will be other types of resolutions that happen at General Assembly, Alison will tell us more about reaction of immediate witness. Our only viable if they are directly addressing a substantial piece of information that has been provided in the assembly itself paper

So to follow through on that card, you won't see the responsive resolutions on the agenda, because they come out of the assembly itself. There are deadlines printed in the rules for you and they are right here that Friday, June 26, 2:00 P.M. Pacific, 3:00 P.M. Mountain, 4:00 P.M. Central or 5:00 P.M. Eastern is the deadline and you will submit them to moderator@UUA.org. There we go.

>> Greg Boyd: I will talk to you about the mini-assembly process. Once again there is a single business mini-assembly business this year. This is the place where you make amendments to the proposed bylaws amendments, as well as the proposed business resolutions. There is only one proposed business resolution including human rights violations on part of our human rights investing and make sure we filter those businesses out for investments.

As well as the four proposed bylaw amendments that Mr. Barb Greve just discussed. You will go into the participation portal. It will look like this. This is the primary mode that delegates will interact with. You will be able to submit information in audio or video two hours ahead of time or type it. I imagine most people going to the business mini-assembly type real time, so you can send things in ahead of time.

There is no reason to wait. You have a week before this happens, get a jump on it. We would love to know what you're already thinking, it will help us make the session go more smoothly, so we can make sure everyone gets to talk about the things that are most important to them, concerns that are most valuable to the congregations in association whom you represent.

Again that is single business assembly will be held at 12:00 P.M. Pacific, 1:00 P.M. Mountain time, 2:00 P.M. Central Time, 3:00 P.M. Eastern time, in reverse, 3:00 P.M. Eastern time, 2:00 P.M. Central Time, 1:00 P.M. Mountain time, 12:00 P.M. Pacific, June 24, the opening celebration. We want to make sure you know this. It is not typical for us to have a business mini-assembly ahead of the official start of the General Assembly, so we can do things differently in an online space.

We're taking advantage of what that means for a very first General Assembly. On that note, we're going to take a few questions. I see there are quite a few in the Q&A. I'm going to stop the screen sharing for a moment now as we work through some of those. Let's see what we've got.

We'll talk more about what is going on with young adults to save time to keep it specific to business for right now.

>> Barb Greve: Going in order, there used to be a great start of day Yoga gathering, will those be online this year?

>> Debra Gray Boyd: We have all sorts of things going to be online, including morning worship and including opportunities for embodied experiences and other pieces that will be available, so yes, please check that out.

>> Barb Greve: And do we have to register for workshops individually and if yes, how?

>> Debra Gray Boyd: You will register for workshops individually inside of the portal and you can change workshops. We ask you to do that sparingly, but do make that available to folks. If it turns out to not be the workshop for you, back out and register for the next one you want to try and do that one instead.

>> Barb Greve: There are a few questions around delegate I.D.'s being entered in the portal and how to access the portal? The portal is not active yet. It will be web based, so if you're concerned about bandwidth, it won't be 6,000 people trying to be in one Zoom conference, it will be -- you will log into a website. Part of the website will be a video feed pushing out to you and if you are registered for General Assembly, you will receive a link and information later this week.

That same for registering the workshops will work the same way, you will do it through the portal. If all of the items dropped into the chat will be available to folks after today's session is over? The simple answer is no. The longer answer is we are collecting all of the pieces of information and questions and they will be put into an FAQ document put up in the UAA's website very soon.

Are these amendments and resolutions in writing so you can look at later? Yes, you will find the specific wording to all of the amendments and existing resolutions in the final agenda, which can be found on the UUA.org's website. The same goes, Marcy asks about resolutions and there is more information on the UUA's website and in the bylaw, but the easiest is to read the rules for the General Assembly. I think that covers most of the questions at this point.

>> Greg Boyd: Yeah, I'm seeing more technical questions and let's keep going. Some of these questions we answer inside of the PowerPoint, so we're not ignoring you. We anticipated that you have the question and want to give you the most accurate information. That brings us to great information about the commission on social witness. Alison will talk to us about that.

>> Alison Aguilar Lopez Gutierrez McLeod: Thank you. Welcome. So excited. Hi, Mom and dad. OK, business, so the commission on social witness is we're doing exciting things this year and I cannot be more thrilled. Our mission is to oversee the UUA process of social witness.

Social witness is the act of courageously affirming what is good and just through speech and action for those who are mistreated and articulate social justice or collective liberation. Next slide, please.

We were only witnessing to a small percentage of the population during the general assemblies and what we are doing is we are reforming and trying to decolonize the commission and we came up with a statement of faith 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, 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 accountabilities relationships that seek equity empowerment of people.

There are a bunch of acronyms that you need to know that people will be throwing out all over the place and here are the explanations. So the SOC, which is the statement of conscience, UU member congregation select congregational study action issues, so we published it and it is on the website of the UUA, so please check it out.

We are studying undoing intersectional white supremacy. We're always looking for new ways to witness this and I will get into the AIW's, which is action of immediate witness.

AIW's are great way for us to take the pulse and act on and come out with these wonderful statements of how are UU faith reacting to certain topics that are very much in the news, on our mind, on our hearts. This is really important. Wednesday, AIW proposals are due after the first general session and you can e-mail that to socialwitness@UUA.org.

Thursday, the poll for actions of immediate witnesses is released on Thursday at 1:30 P.M. Eastern Time. We're going to vote on Friday at 2:30 Eastern Time. We will have a webinar to discuss and share the AIW's with each other Thursday at 7:30 P.M. Eastern time. Since we are going to do this, all AIW proposals are due on Wednesday. I encourage people to submit them now because there is time to do that now and we are trying our best when we have people with similar goals and similar missions and similar ideas to connect each other before the actual GA begins. Saturday is the motion to admit three AIW's to the agenda like usual and requires a two-thirds majority vote and we discuss and vote the three AIW's afterwards. Next slide, please.

All right, so because we're trying to expand our vision and how to witness to this denomination, we are really looking for this responsive reaction and we're going to invite you to please come to one of our sessions exploring the intersection of the current congregational action issue, the CSI. We do recently have a webinar and we had ministered a survey on engagement with UUA social witness to process to a small random selection of congregations from each UUA region.

On Sunday afternoon at GA, we are going to offer a session to share the results and they are

pointing to what happens after GA, how do we get access to the AIW's, how can we connect and I see great things for the future and the commission of helping those come to fruition. We're excited. Thank you.

>> Greg Boyd: All right, we have time for more questions if there are questions specific to the immediate witnesses, but people are popping things in the Q&A, so we can take those questions that are open as well.

>> Barb Greve: I'm going to go with the first question that bridges those two together. Alan writes, how can two delegates share the same computer?

>> Greg Boyd: I think I will take that one. So you do have the ability to watch all the time through a single device, whether you're logged into the participation portal or not specific to general sessions, the only things that will be available on the UUA website to see not inside of a participation portal are the business of the association, so general sessions.

You will be able to see the service of the living tradition directly from the website, the synergy or young adult bridging ceremony will be available and the Sunday morning worship service, which will be live streamed at 10:00 a.m. eastern and 10:00 a.m. Pacific. It is the same service, but it will restart from the top at 10:00 a.m. Pacific after it aired at 10:00 a.m. eastern then later in the afternoon, it will be available as a recording on all coasts, but that is later in the afternoon.

If you need to vote, you need to be on two different devices, most of the final votes on any issues will actually be left open for a long period of time. We don't have any bylaw amendments or business resolutions that will depend on one thing passing before a thing passes, so it is our intention to leave the final votes up for a while. Are we ready to vote by the end of the discussion, you need two separate devices to register your opinion. You are able to share all of those ways.

>> Barb Greve: Thank you Greg.

>> Greg Boyd: It will only be available through the participation portal.

>> Barb Greve: Fair enough. So Summer asks, the webinars for AIW's will be recorded in the ending or before voting?

>> Alison Aguilar Lopez Gutierrez McLeod: I know it will be recorded, but I'm not sure of its availability that is up to the technical staff and that is a good question. I don't know if Debra can help me. Do you know?

>> Debra Gray Boyd: The I.T. team is working really hard to make them available as we possibly can, for those who attended in-person GA's, sometimes they get up darn quick and sometimes we run into challenges. Everybody is going to be doing their best and I just really invite people to be gracious and supportive as we experiment together. Not our first virtual GA, this is you are our first 100% virtual GA, we have been doing hybrid GA's for almost two

decades.

>> Barb Greve: And just a lifting up of the brilliance of our I.T. folks who made this possible this year and years prior. Bruce says I didn't get all of that from the CSW, is it better to watch this webinar again or question mark, question mark, question mark, Alison that is to you.

>> Alison Aguilar Lopez Gutierrez McLeod: I would encourage you to watch it again, if there are specific questions that you have, e-mail us at socialwitness@UUA.org with your specific questions and we will get back to you. I'm sorry if it was very quick.

>> Barb Greve: It is a lot to take in.

>> Alison Aguilar Lopez Gutierrez McLeod: There is a lot going on.

>> Debra Gray Boyd: I think you recorded the full long hour and a half video, and that is long, but if you can find a link to that, we will pop it in the chat. Google and I didn't find it.

>> Barb Greve: We will go on to other questions. A question about working two devices, I'm working with three, so someone not me have this.

>> Debra Gray Boyd: It will be better if two delegates have two devices, however, you can open up your link in two different browsers, so you have two different portal, so if you open one portal in Chrome and one in Explorer, you can try to share and make it work, if there is any way you don't have to, it will be easier for everyone in the house told they have their own device.

>> Barb Greve: We recognize that is not all possible, so Debra has a great solution, multiple browsers.

>> Debra Gray Boyd: For folks who have technical pieces and financial challenges there are a very few scholarships left to help folks who have that need for access in technology who don't have it in their home.

>> Barb Greve: Can one of the devices be a cell phone, absolutely. Carlene asks when is the Thursday night webinar mentioned? I'm not sure which webinar that is, other than we have been doing these webinars over the last couple of weeks and have another one or is in the last one?

>> Greg Boyd: We have one more on Thursday.

>> Barb Greve: You can join us again on Thursday, different questions, same answers.

[LAUGHTER]

Give or take. Here is a fun one. Judith asks how many folks are registered for this General Assembly.

>> Debra Gray Boyd: Last I heard we have over 3,300 folks registered for the virtual GA, which is on par how many we get registered for in-person GA. We have 3,000-6,000 of us, so we're

going to be in that range, which is quite exciting.

>> Barb Greve: I'm seeing --

>> Greg Boyd: I just got an update this around and I believe we are already at 4,000.

>> Debra Gray Boyd: That is exciting. That is really exciting.

>> Barb Greve: Kitty says that teachers not yet registered so we're going to go a few more.

>> Debra Gray Boyd: Invite your friends, the more and merrier and it is important how we share and make it possible for all of us together.

>> Barb Greve: That is fantastic. Bring all of your friends. Will there be an option to listen to workshops on the phone, I will be traveling during one of the workshops and don't want to miss anything?

>> Debra Gray Boyd: Phone is always a good choice. Bounding that is true. The phone is an option and things will be recorded and if you do miss it in real time, you can watch it again later or if you make it in real time, you can watch it again later. This is my first GA, how do we get our delegate credentials? If you are registered for GA and your congregation listed you as a delegate, you will get the credentials next week at the latest.

If you arrive at the GA and don't have delegate status yet, connect with your minister who will help you get navigate replacement credentials. Victoria asks why do I need or want the app? You don't need the app to experience General Assembly. It is a great source of information. If you are an app-based person, you can access the schedule and last-minute announcements and interact with other attendees and you can do that with the portal. Many find it enjoyable, some don't. Andrew Fisher asks, can we speak with the featured speakers?

>> Debra Gray Boyd: So the featured speakers, some are getting done in Zoom rooms will you will have the opportunity to have that interaction, some of them are chatting back and forth, so it just depends on how the featured speakers wanted to engage with the attendees and that is all going to be in the virtual program book in the portal and on the website.

>> Barb Greve: Wonderful. Is there a deadline for registering people as delegates? The deadline to register for GA delegate included is the last day of General Assembly, which is Sunday. I would recommend folks who need to or are going to be delegates would want to register on the earlier side so you can participate on the business of association. It will be harder to function as a delegate after the General Assembly.

It doesn't work that way. Is the orientation on Wednesday at 4:00 the same as this one? It is not. There will be a lot of information overlap there will be additional information geared towards those who never been to a General Assembly before. Certainly, anybody who has been to a General Assembly but feeling the strain or stress or excitement or all of the above of virtual GA is encouraged to go as well.

>> Debra Gray Boyd: In some ways we're all new first year attendees, so all will be welcome.

>> Barb Greve: I do want to lift up; there have been folks who have been doing virtual GA for 10 years that is how the platform has been designed. They have been beta testing for a long time, so I want to give props to those who have been virtual delegates. We wouldn't make the decision to do this without as much confidence as we do have had it not been for your faithful participation in our governance process over the years.

Where are we on our presentation?

>> Greg Boyd: I think we're ready to go in the last section. We're going to hold on to the final question in the Q&A right now because we get to it. We're going to talk a little bit more about your virtual GA experience and I love my mouse pointer for a second. I like having that in order to do this type of presentation. We're going to talk a little bit more about where do you get your delegate credentials? Delegate credentials awarded to you by your congregation. The only way we know you're a delegate from your congregation is the congregation let the association know.

If for some reason an e-mail was sent out a few months ago, your congregation did not receive information about all of their delegates were in the system, they can go to the link that has been posted in the chat box but also on the slide, UUA.org/GA/congregation/credentials, you can you make sure your congregation has you registered for delegate. If you know your congregation did that work and you still don't have your Dell grit credentials, they have not been sent to everyone just yet, you can also retrieve them yourself at ga-delegate.UUA.org. Do not put the WWW in front of that address, it is an internal address. That is as in the chat box.

This is how you retrieve your credentials by being a minister, a retired minister, minister emeritus in service or relationship with a congregation still, if you're a LREDA member or a DRE emeritus or retired DRE or LREDA member, retrieve your credentials at ga-delegate.UUA.org. Encourage people to register.

Standard registration is 3,000-4,000, right now we're on our way to finishing at 4,000 individuals, not households, 4,000 individuals registered by Friday which will be exciting. It will be a typical GA. It is already a typical GA registration numbers wise, but we would love to have more UU's making justice together, sharing the ways they witness for justice in the wider world.

I saw a question about how there are opportunities to do marches and protests and vigils in person, this is how we will do it this year. For the first time, GA can be everywhere you use it and the best way for us to know about that is for you to register and make sure you're interacting with other folks. There are still limited funds for technology scholarships if you need a tablet, maybe you need to upgrade to the next level of Internet access, if you need that support, please e-mail General Assembly and conference services

There are minimal funds left, but there are funds left. This is a deficit budget year, but we want to make sure everyone can participate in a robust way as possible. Debra, tell us other things

we can expect in our GA experience.

>> Debra Gray Boyd: All sorts of things in the GA experience, but one of the things we know is we gather as religious people and we have chaplains available to people who are exploring and struggling in their own spirituality and theology and they will be available through the phone number you used in the past. They will have their own Zoom room and other tools to engage with you as well.

The right relationship team is about us being able to be authentic and in right relationship with one another. In large part, it is to have a place for folks who come from historically and currently marginalized communities to have a way to engage, re-establish relationship if they want with other folks and folks' path of the white community can question and try to understand the interactions that may be going on.

They are a real skilled tool to create space, create relationships that are healthy and productive for all so we are creating justice, not only outside, but inside within our own relationships and community. Is there another slide going on or do you want me to talk about something else? I think my headset is dying.

>> Greg Boyd: There we go. Tell us more about the resources we can use. Are you seeing that?

>> Barb Greve: I will jump in. I want to name this is for many of us a first, so we want you to prepare to be together, prepare your spirit, prepare your worship and prepare to be online for several hours a day for a better part of a week, attend the things you're excited about, but also tend to your body, tend to your soul.

Be general with yourself, take breaks as you need. There are dozens of resources available. If you go to UUA.org/GA, you can find all sorts of information, wording for the resolutions and how to pass things, as well as how to care for yourself and attend to being together in virtual space.

>> Debra Gray Boyd: Seriously, think about planning your food ahead of time. It will make a difference.

>> Barb Greve: I have done my meal prep. I figured out what I'm eating for breakfast, lunch, and dinner and I have my snacks figured out. I am cooking this weekend. I ask you to join me in nurturing your body.

>> Greg Boyd: I also have a meal plan. I had to bring in extra refrigeration to have all of those things, if you have a cooler available and you know your favorite beverages or dry snacks, prep them ahead of time. We want you to do those things. Close your eyes from time to time for a minute or two every 15-20 minutes is a great idea. All of those great things.

I see in the chat box, will there be beer? If you're a person who drinks beer and you like beer, the GA concession stand is available in your sewn space, so supply your space with the things

that make you feel most able to participate in GA and be mindful of our participation agreement if substances take you away from being able to honor the participation, we want to make sure you do not use the substances.

There are lots of ways to make sure you can fully participate. I'm going to bring us home before we get to the final questions. You have the ability to download the app. It is available as HTML5. You can access that information in the Apple App Store, iTunes store, Google play store. It is available on the UAA website where you can get access to the app as well.

There are known issues with creating an account for the app. We are working on that, but in general, you need to create a new account. UUA has not created an account for you to use the app. You have to create one on your own. This webinar is being recorded pap version will be available in just a few days and welcome. Welcome, welcome to the first entirely virtual GA every everyone is participating entirely virtually.

I can't wait to interact with all of you there. Can't wait to make justice together and can't wait for you to bring your friends, colleagues, as well as the people you call kindred in faith for our first entirely virtual GA. We have a few more questions as we wrap up. Barb, will you let us know which ones those are?

>> Barb Greve: I will. Absolutely. Katherine asks, once we enter the credential, will the system know who we are or do we enter them fresh every time?

>> Greg Boyd: It will know who you are. I was playing in a preview yesterday, you get a pop-up screen if you want to vote, enter your delegate credentials, once you hit enter and it is confirmed, you're good to go and it knows you're a delegate forever. If you empty your cache there is possibility that something might go array, but that is not something you have to worry about inside of your browser.

>> Barb Greve: If I set my agenda on the app, will the information transfer to the portal?

>> Debra Gray Boyd: The portal and the app do not talk to one another, but we have populated both with all of the information that you need, as far as what is available for the schedule and those types of things.

>> Barb Greve: How do I register for the newbie orientation?

>> Debra Gray Boyd: The newbie orientation is going to be inside of the portal, so you will click on the newbie orientation and say you like to come join us.

>> Barb Greve: Victoria says on the app, I heard all times are EDT.

>> Debra Gray Boyd: Yes, on the app, all times are Eastern, we were working to change that, but it was designed for an in-person experience where we would be in the same location.

>> Barb Greve: I will add that my understanding is the portal; your time zone is local. Yes?

>> Debra Gray Boyd: I think so, but I would not stake my life on it.

>> Barb Greve: I will remind those who are not in Eastern Time that the grid, the schedule of GA has been converted, so no matter what time zone you are on the continental U.S., you can find one every time you need to know what time something is. It seems like a small win, but that was a big win for us.

>> Debra Gray Boyd: Print it out and keep it next to your computer.

>> Barb Greve: It is the background of my computer right now. Bruce says what about singing, such an important part of the spirit?

>> Debra Gray Boyd: Singing is important and we have a GA choir, so they have been busy. You will see them performing and they are excited to do that and there are opportunities during worship services for us to be singing together, too. Did we hit this one, how did we register for the newbie orientation?

>> Debra Gray Boyd: We got that covered.

>> Barb Greve: Bob asks, will there will special activity for youth or emerging adults?

>> Debra Gray Boyd: We have a whole area around child engagement. This will is something we're doing different you this year. We had child care in the class, it was not viral, so we're going to have a link that is structured by what the grownups are going to work on and I will let Barb and Greg tap into that piece if you want.

>> Barb Greve: All but one of the other questions are about the youth programming and the way we have done youth, "staffing" which is a volunteering youth over the years and decades. Let me start by saying this is part of a much bigger conversation that the board has had around what does it mean to volunteer and what are the expectations are, as well as the impact is on the people who do the volunteering, whether that is youth and young adults at General Assembly.

The musicians who offer their skills at General Assembly or the planning committee who are all volunteers as well, not to mention the UUA board of trustees. It can be boiled down that we ask too much of our volunteers and it is much more complicated than that. The youth released a video on how they have been treated and unheard over years of build up.

This is a conversation that board welcomes, but can't make the changes necessary to do General Assembly youth programming significantly without them and some of the key things for GA will continue, such as synergy, which is the bridging ceremony for those who are leaving high school for whatever comes after. It is a live conversation that will continue.

>> Debra Gray Boyd: I want to mention there will be the youth caucus time, so there is space that set aside in the portal for youth to gather and talk about how they want to engage the

business if they want to use the space as such. The UUA staff is covering synergy, youth caucus and youth and young adults of color opportunities together.

>> Barb Greve: Thank you for that, Debra.

>> Greg Boyd: That looks like the last question other than some praise about where you got your background from, Mr. Barb?

>> Barb Greve: That is what I had to step off of camera for. Let me see if I can do this. The background stems from this lovely Lego Chalice that is hard to show you against its own background, beautifully made with youth that I have worked with over the years.

Due you to technology, I was able to put into a graphics program and add words, so the background is a picture of that turned into the words Unitarian Universalist. I'm amazed it is such a hit. I will try to make this more openly available to folks and post it far and wide. I'm happy for people to use it. With that, I want to say thank you all for joining us and staying long. We're grate to feel have you this happens when we're talking GA, particularly when you have a panel who will love to be engaged in our faith and faith work. Remember friends, this is the first time we will all be virtual. It is going to be fantastic and challenging and grueling and hard on our bodies and it will be wonderful. Take care of yourselves, be gentle with each other. Be gent with us. We're doing it for the first time, too. Blessings and have a great week. See you next week.

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