

**Renewing the Covenant Task Force
Report to UUA Board
January 27, 2017**

The Task Force attempted this past fall to replicate the planned activity at General Assembly by organizing gatherings of congregational leaders in various parts of the country. However, that effort turned out to be too complex and time-consuming to be successful.

The Task Force is preparing to lead discussions at GA, via a short report during plenary session, as well as a workshop.

We will present a prototype for renewal of covenant, focusing on three areas:

- The covenant between congregations, covenanted communities, and the UUA
 - Periodic renewal of the covenant between congregations and the UUA
 - Congregations and covenanted communities as Sources of Authority and Accountability for the UUA Board (e.g., helping the UUA Board shape the Ends of the Association)
 - Congregations and covenanted communities as “citizens” of the UUA (e.g., how our congregations and covenanted communities live out the UUA Ends, mission, and purpose)
- The covenant among congregations and covenanted communities (e.g., how our congregations work together for justice, share resources, etc.)
- The covenant within congregations and covenanted communities—provide a model for how congregations and covenanted communities can renew covenants among their members.

As of this month, we are down to only four members. We are concerned that we do not represent the diversity of UUs. We feel it is late in our process to bring on new members. Instead, we will circulate our prototype to leaders of communities not represented on our Task Force. We will also invite feedback from our Presidential candidates.

The Task Force will use the feedback at GA 2017 to develop formal recommendations for GA 2018.