

Giving & Generosity

e-newsletter

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UUs at the National Convening of the Movement for Black Lives

Thanks to your gifts to the [James Reeb Fund](#), the UUA was able to send ten UU activists—a group of youth and young adults, clergy, organizers and UUA staff—to the [National Convening of the Movement for Black Lives](#) which took place July 24 - 26 in Cleveland, OH. The gathering brought together over 1,000 Black activists around the country organizing within the #BlackLivesMatter framework, and created a safe place for Black people to discuss a variety of issues facing their community, such as police violence, increasing criminalization, a broken education system, and physical and economic violence faced by the Black trans and queer communities. Thanks to your support, our UU activists were able to be a part of this healing dialogue.



Photo By Rev. Carlton Elliott Smith

10 Years After Hurricane Katrina: Intersecting Injustices

This month marks the 10th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, a hurricane that killed 1,800 people and caused over \$80 billion of damage across the Gulf Coast. In the aftermath of the disaster, many UUs like you donated more than \$3.5 million to the [UUA/UJSC Gulf Coast Relief Fund](#), which provide assistance for marginalized people who were affected and to support local UU congregations and community partners. Thank you.

Hurricane Katrina was just one example of how social justice issues intertwine, as racism and climate change collided during the disaster. While most people have recovered from the devastating damage of Hurricane Katrina, many underlying problems still exist, calling us to keep working to solve the problems that made a disaster of this magnitude possible. With your support, our UUA will continue to work for both racial justice and climate justice.



Photo by Jocelyn Augustino/FEMA

Boy Scouts of America Ends Policy of Discrimination

On July 27, the Boy Scouts of America ended its discriminatory ban on openly gay adult leaders. While the new policy still allows local unit leaders to restrict leadership positions to heterosexual men, the policy change is a step in the right direction on the path to full inclusion for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people. As a faith community that has consistently spoken out in support of full inclusion for LGBTQ individuals, and amending the Boy Scouts' policies, Unitarian Universalists welcome this change. UUA President Peter Morales issued a [statement](#) applauding the decision stating, "a more inclusive BSA will not only strengthen it as an organization, but will benefit all boys and young men who look to scouting for guidance... Together, we can create a welcoming community for all UU boys and young men who want to participate in scouting."



Photo by Scott Lum

A Special Message from the Annual Program Fund

We enjoyed greeting so many of you at General Assembly! Thank you to those of you who stopped by our booth to learn about all of the ways your support amplifies Unitarian Universalism. During General Session, we enjoyed sharing with you the important ways that the Annual Program Fund (APF) amplifies the work of our faith. If you missed our APF presentation, you can view it [online](#).

Please be on the lookout for a special mailing which will come to your congregation in September. You'll be introduced to a fresh new look for APF and you'll find tools for talking about APF with your congregation. Thank you for all that you do to strengthen stewardship in Unitarian Universalism!



Donor Feature: A Legacy of UU Generosity

Meet Lars and Lucille Watson. Lars and Lucille were active leaders of the Quimper UU Fellowship in Port Townsend, WA. They did everything from raising funds to pouring the concrete to form the foundation of the congregation. Passionate about justice, they often participated in civil rights demonstrations and anti-war protests. Most recently, Lars could be found, cane in hand, at the Occupy demonstrations at Bank of America in Seattle.

Although both Lars and Lucille passed away a few years ago, their legacy of love is still with us. They started a Charitable Gift Annuity with the UUA which provided them income for life. When they passed, the remainder of that gift was divided to support our UUA and the Quimper UU Fellowship.

We share the story of Lars and Lucille not only because they shared an extraordinary legacy gift, but because they are representative of the thousands of UUs who support our UUA and our congregations in large and small ways through their lives and their estates. We feel honored to be carrying on the work they started.

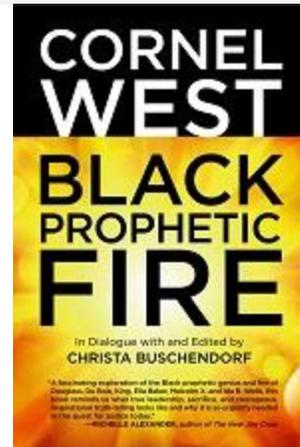


August UUReads: Black Prophetic Fire

Beacon Press wants to help you connect with other UUs through books. Each month, we feature a UUReads title about a topic that is meaningful to UUs to prompt discussions in your book club or with your family and friends.

Income inequality in America is at an all-time high, and African Americans are disproportionately victims of the prosperity gap. *Black Prophetic Fire* sheds light on what is missing from the fight for justice today by examining past Black leaders who, Cornel West explains, “courageously raised their voices in order to bear witness to people’s suffering. These Black prophetic figures are connected to collective efforts to overcome injustice and make the world a better place for everyone.”

Offering wide-ranging examinations of six African American leaders, West discusses how each of them transcended their times, from the barbarism of slavery to the Jim Crow era, while being very much shaped by the social movements around them. Now available in paperback, preorder *Black Prophetic Fire* from the [UUA Book Store](#) and get 15% off your copy throughout the month of August when you the discount code **BPFAug15**.



UU United Nations Office Seeks Spring Seminar Youth Dean

The Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office is looking for youth who are interested in serving our faith and the Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office community in a two-year position planning and leading the [Intergenerational Spring Seminar](#). The 2016 Spring Seminar’s theme will be Income Inequality and it will take place April 7-9, 2016 in New York City.

Applications are available [online](#) and are due on August 25.



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