

Minutes
Monthly Envoy Conference Call
Tuesday, April 21, 2020 3pm & 6pm Eastern

- I. In attendance
 - a. 3pm EDT
 - i. Allison Hess (Office at the UN, NYC)
 - ii. Genia Peterson (Central Unitarian Church in Paramus, NJ)
 - iii. Jeannie Lewis (San Marcos UU Fellowship, TX)
 - iv. Dana Burch (Community Church of New York, NY)
 - v. Peggy Montgomery (Unitarian Church of All Souls in New York, NY)
 - vi. Jerry Ross (First Parish in Bedford, MA)
 - vii. Janet Bendowitz (UU Congregation of Shelter Rock, NY)
 - viii. Ron Glossop (First Unitarian Church of Alton, IL)
 - b. 6pm EDT
 - i. Allison Hess (Office at the UN, NYC)
 - ii. Bill McPherson (University Unitarian Church in Seattle, WA)
 - iii. Jim Hemstock (First Unitarian Church in Victoria, BC)
 - iv. Phyllis Baxter (UU Church of North Hatley, QC)
- II. UU Office at the UN name change! Clarifies that we are not an office **of** the UN, but rather **at** the UN.
 - a. Ron: Suggestion: UU World article about the name change (and the office generally).
- III. Seminar re-cap: Two events were live-streamed on YouTube; find them here: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG5jHrI0D0WQTbqIUQM2_ZQ The UU@UN will see about opportunities to use some of the other Seminar content for future resources for congregations.
 - a. Janet: Seminar had a huge scope with so many pieces and yet it went very smoothly. Speakers were wonderful, learned so much. Encouraged by the positive actions that people are already engaged in. Before we left, each person made their own plan. In some ways it felt more interactive than if we were in a big room together because could read the chat instead of waiting for Q&A time to get other people's comments & contributions. Serving as a Collab Group Leader was a great experience meeting 3 times over the weekend with the same group. Was nervous with Zoom, but it went well. Still thinking about it and processing it!
 - b. Peggy: Been involved with the Office for a long time and have been to many Seminars – this was unique! and put together so well and so fast. Impressed by how articulate the young people are. How much they know and how determined they are to make sure we have a world for them to be in. The part where Bruce asked lots of questions and everybody answered was somewhat tedious – it was a long time sitting & etc. It was sad we couldn't take everybody to the UN since that's such an important part of the Seminar. The 2 collab. group meetings Peggy attended were great. The other session happened at the same time as a meeting with church friends to celebrate the birthday of UU poet Phoebe Hoss.
 - c. Jerry: Amazed that they pulled it off... well! Surely was a great sense of satisfaction for the young people who worked over months to make it happen. Something gained and

- g. Ron: Citizens for Global Solutions has a special program for UN 2020. The 75th anniversary of the UN's founding is a good time to talk about rejuvenating and reforming the UN so it can be more effective.
 - h. Jerry: Trump's defunding of WHO is an outrage and we should be sure to lift that issue up with our congregations. (Here's a petition to sign calling on congress to reject funding cuts to the WHO: <https://unausa.org/advocacy/coronavirus/>)
 - i. Bill: Really missing Choir. The choir still meets on Zoom just to chat. Don't sing on Sunday, they just have a pianist. (Here are some videos of UU hymns: <https://sites.google.com/a/uucrt.org/main/board-and-committees/arts/hymns-in-singing-the-living-tradition>)
 - i. Jim: University Unitarian choir is fabulous (Jim goes to Seattle often).
 - j. Phyllis: UUEstrie does Sunday worship on Zoom, as well as a Wednesday evening informal gathering.
 - k. Jim: Someone at Toronto Unitarian Congregation has a blog and has done a survey of what congs across Canada are doing. In Victoria they do worship services over Zoom, Women's club & Men's club meet in Zoom, as does Choir. Ministers have office hours where you can Zoom in. Zoom coffee hour. Every day except Sunday they have an evening story hour for the kids. Music has been quite difficult; it's getting better but they still have some more to figure out.
- V. Earth Day 2020 activities to celebrate the 50th anniversary
- a. Earth Day Live! You can't miss it if you've visited UUA.org recently. From April 22-24, activists, performers, thought leaders, and artists come together for an empowering, inspiring, and communal three-day live-stream mobilization. <https://www.uumfe.org/act/global-climate-strike/>
 - i. Check out especially the film screening of The Condor and the Eagle offered by UU Ministry for Earth in conjunction with partners. It's being screened on Wednesday, April 22, 2020 at 9pm EDT: <https://event.webinarjam.com/register/39/k6yx6h20>
 - ii. UUMFE & UUSJ Letter-writing Campaign Friday at 3pm EDT – support a bill to reduce hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) by 85% over 15 years. <http://uusj.net/wp1/whwn-virtual-letter-writing/>
 - b. Fridays for Future 24-hour livestream starting Friday April 24, 2020 at midnight UTC (8pm EDT Thursday) Find it at www.fridaysforfuture.org/fff24
 - c. Bill: here's a link for the Earth Day session including an interview with Denis Hayes: https://zoom.us/j/871880073?tk=07iJRvkey2CjDU_1oLmqkvZgBTUglyBYpmKDaV3L-bo.DQEAAAAM_fViRZrZlYyUnd2QIQ3S1pjQi1zVXZGNjh3AA
- VI. Adjourn