



LOVE &  
LIGHT  
FROM THE  
MOUNTAINS  
TO THE SEA

## **NNED Proposes Financial Support for Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism (BLUU)**

In October 2016, the UUA Board voted to give \$300,000 to BLUU (<http://www.blacklivesuu.com/>) for current operating expenses and committed to raise or make a gift of an additional \$5 million to set up an endowment to fund future operating expenses. (<http://www.uuworld.org/articles/board-commits-5-million-bluu>)

The NNED Board would like our district to support this important work. At the annual meeting on April 22, the Northern New England District Board will put two proposals up for a vote by the congregations:

1. Give \$100,000 with no conditions to the BLUU Endowment Fund, and
2. Offer up to a maximum \$100,000 match over two years for additional donations from our congregations.

The \$200,000 will come from unrestricted monies that the NNED has.

In addition to sending money, our board has challenged itself to take further actions to educate ourselves and to engage our congregations around issues of race, white privilege and economic justice. We will:

- Encourage congregations to read the Common Read, *The Third Reconstruction* by Rev. William J. Barber II. Members of the NNED Board will host a series of video conference calls for conversations about the book, particularly focusing on how to engage with this method of organizing.
- Find, interview and amplify the stories of three congregations in our region who are doing work with fusion coalitions. If your congregation is doing this work and would like to tell your story, please let us know! Email Kendra at [kford@uuma.org](mailto:kford@uuma.org).
- Offer congregations a list of resources about where they can get connected to racial and economic justice work already happening in our region.

We will host 3 video conference calls between now and the Annual Meeting for conversation and questions about this proposal. These calls will take place on:

March 22, 12pm-1:15pm

March 25, 11am-12:15pm

March 29, 7pm-8:15pm

All calls will be held on Zoom. To connect via computer:

1. Start up Zoom on your computer (Download at [zoom.us](https://zoom.us))
2. Click on Join a Meeting
3. Enter the meeting ID 207-603-8020
4. Enter your name
5. Adjust your equipment (camera, microphone, speakers)
6. Participate

To connect to via telephone:

1. Dial 1-646-558-8656 or 1-408-638-0968
2. When asked for a meeting ID enter 207-603-8020

All calls will use the same call-in information.

Feel free to email us at [nnedboard@gmail.com](mailto:nnedboard@gmail.com) with any questions about the calls or the proposal.

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