

Taking is home – Florida District Board of Trustees

1. Relationships – We are better together

- We have a lot in common with UU congregations in our association, even more so with those in our backyard! At your board meetings, make it a practice to talk about activities with other UU congregations.
- We need to be in relationship so we need to be accessible. Update your congregational contacts regularly through my.uua.org. If you have contact information on your Web page, make sure it is up to date.
- Respond to survey and discussion requests from Regional Advisory Council and other linkage outreach

2. Elders – wise leaders of any age

- “Been there, done that.” Probably every congregation has someone (or more than one) who has done just about everything there is to do. Talk with the Southern Region Congregational Life Staff and the new Elders Council about recognizing congregational Elders and helping them share their gifts with other UU congregations.
- Words have power. The word “Elder” has special meaning in the Cambridge Platform (one of the church leaders, not a teacher or preacher)
- From the Live Oak Project: An Elder is a person who is still growing, still a learner, still with potential and whose life continues to have within it promise for, and connection to the future. An Elder is still in pursuit of happiness, joy and pleasure, and her or his birthright to these remain intact. Moreover, an Elder is a person who deserves respect and honor and whose work it is to synthesize wisdom from long life experience and formulate this into a legacy for future generations.
- From the Elders FAQ: Congregations will recognize their own elders, who can serve at a congregational, cluster, regional or even national level. Elders can serve Unitarian Universalism on boards or councils, as consultant, teachers or small group leaders. They can represent the larger Association at ceremonial events, joining as one strong body to evangelize the South for Unitarian Universalism. A regional Council of Elders working in shared ministry with staff will help congregations recognize and celebrate elders and identify opportunities for service. Elderhood provides greater opportunities for our members to deepen their understanding of covenant and faith and enter into shared ministry.

3. Clusters

- Are all about building relationships between congregations
- The Cambridge Platform states that churches should cooperate in several ways:
 1. Mutual care and support for the good of the congregation and the advancement of the Faith.
 2. Consulting with one another in regard to a church's experience, process, or practice.
 3. Admonishing one another.
 4. Sharing Elders and professional staff
 5. Giving recommendations to members who wish to move to another congregation.
 6. Giving financial support to churches in need.
 7. Sending Elders to the neighboring churches to introduce themselves.
 8. Sending Elders to plant new churches.

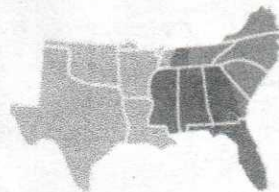
Is our current cluster configuration optimal? How can we build new clusters?

4. Southern Region

- 218 congregations, 30,000 members, 12 states, Mexico and the Virgin Islands
- One of five regions; the only one to vote to date to dissolve district governance
- Your opportunity to meet UUA's from the across the Southern Region will be in Portland at General Assembly.
- Make plans to attend the Southern Region in-gathering at GA (5:45-6:45 pm, Wednesday June 24)
- Chose delegates who will commit to educating the congregation on the issue involved in General Assembly, both before and after. Honor the delegates' work by offsetting some or all of their costs.



Southern
Region



We Are Building a New Way
Florida District Assembly 2015
First Unitarian Church, Orlando FL
April 17-19, 2015

Friday Night

- 4:00** Registration and delegate credentialing opens
- 5:00** Reception
- 6:15** Dinner
- 7:30** Opening Worship
- 8:15** Leadership Discussion with Rev. Peter Morales

Saturday

- 9:15** Registration and delegate credentialing
- 9:30** Ingathering
- 10:00** Message from Rev. Peter Morales, President Unitarian Universalist Association
- 10:20** Q&A with Rev. Peter Morales
- 10:40** Musical Interlude
- 11:00** Keynote, Rev. Jeanne Pupke
- 11:30** FL Board of Trustees Discussion Panel -
From the Orlando Platform to Today
- 12:00** Business Meeting
- 1:00** Lunch
- 2:00** Announcement of Regional Voting
- 2:15** Local Announcements
- 2:30** NOLA presentation, Offering collection and GA 2017 Call to Attend
- 3:00** Workshops
- 4:00** Snack and Break
- 4:20** Workshops
- 5:30** Closing Worship
- 6:00** Evening break, dinner on your own

Sunday

- 8:30- Noon** Blueberry Fest and Breakfast at First Unitarian Orlando (Breakfast \$7.00)
- 9:00** Taking it Home with the FL Board
- 9:30 and 11:00** Sunday Worship
- 12:00** Contra Dancing

Streaming workshops in the Library

3:00

"Whose Gift is This, Anyway?"-Bill Clontz CSN

About a year and a half ago, the UUA asked the Southern Region to validate a new program for the contributions we make as congregations to resource our regions and the UUA. Generously Investing For Tomorrow (GIFT) not only changed how we calculated and processed our contributions; it also led to an expanded discussion of what it means to be in covenant with each other as a movement. Let's take a few moments to see how the program is doing and what we are teaching each other in those discussions.

4:15

"Building Healthy Youth Ministry" -

Bart Frost, UUA Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries

During this workshop, we will discuss what healthy youth ministry looks like and its importance, vital tools and resources, youth leadership development, and the next steps in creating visionary youth ministries.

Live Onsite workshops 3:00

"UU Justice Florida Gathering"

Saturday, April 18 at the Florida District Assembly: Special UU Justice Florida 2nd Annual Meeting. Representatives from all Florida UU congregations are invited! Vote on our core issues and UUJF board members. See how you can take action. Together we are making a difference!

"Welcome Home Wednesdays: A Sustainable Model for Mid-week Programming"

Imagine Wednesday evening as a church night for all ages, a time for communing and good food, intergenerational worship, and engaging programming for everyone. In this workshop, Lois Cole, Ministerial Intern at First Unitarian Church of Orlando, will show you how to start and sustain Wednesday night programming for six weeks twice a year through a model she developed called Welcome Home Wednesdays. Lois has run Welcome Home Wednesdays programs for nine years, in her former capacity as Lifespan RE Director at the UU Society of Iowa City, and successfully launched Welcome Home Wednesdays at First Unitarian Church of Orlando this year. Lois is studying for ordained ministry at Meadville Lombard Theological School.

Live Onsite workshops 4:15

Be the Change: Activist Dinner Party

Imagine hosting a meal with guests ranging from Jesus, Thich Nhat Hanh and Rumi, to Maya Angelou, Marge Piercy and Martin Luther King Jr. That's the scenario for this interactive workshop that uses the wit and wisdom of the sages to explore how we stay spiritually engaged when we are frustrated and overwhelmed. This script by Rev. Steve Wilson, based on a book by Rev. Stephen Shick, was performed at General Assembly 2014, and we will adapt it to a readers theater presentation that offers those who register for the workshop an opportunity to participate in the performance. Facilitator: Margie Manning, President, Florida District Board of Trustees

Environmental Justice

Irene and Bob Keim, UU Ministry for Earth and UUJF leaders, share how to join the exciting Commit2Respond campaign to engage in climate justice actions. Learn how to grow hope and effective action by plugging into this growing network of concerned UUs, partner organizations, and useful, inspiring resources to help us manifest our UU values towards building sustainable communities."



Southern
Region



The Annual Assemblies — Districts of the Southern Region

Florida

Mid-South

Southeast

Southwestern Conference

A Covenant for Doing Business Together

We will participate attentively.

We will respect the rules for the meeting.

We will show respect for our leaders.

We will show respect for all participants.

We will ask questions to clarify, not to make points.

We will speak for ourselves, not for others, using 'I' statements.

We will assume good intent and the sincerity of all.

We will balance strongly felt conviction with compassionate care for others.

We will comport ourselves in keeping with the highest values of Unitarian Universalism.

Rules of Procedure

All motions submitted by the District Board are admitted to the agenda and automatically "seconded."

No item not previously admitted in accordance with the District's bylaws will be in order.

Each motion may be debated for 10 minutes. At 10 minutes, the chair may ask for an extension of time, for an additional 10 minutes; a simple majority may affirm the request.

Only credentialed delegates may speak before the body.

Each speaker may speak for no more than 2 minutes.

Each speaker must speak from the designated microphone, identifying themselves by name and the congregation they represent.

The chair will alternate between pro and con speakers; ushers shall ask each potential speaker to stand to one side or another (if a single microphone) or line with the pro or con microphone.

If there are no additional speakers at a con microphone, the chair may close debate and call for a vote.

No one shall speak a second time until all those desiring to do so have spoken once.

A motion to postpone consideration of an item is in order after 10 minutes; this is not debatable. The chair shall ask the question. A simple majority may affirm the motion.

Motions of gratitude, thanks, or appreciation may be admitted to the agenda under new business.

Wifi

User: 1uguest

Password: vx6ERjnz

