

Community Connections July 3, 2020

UU GA2020 The Day After...

The General Assembly was a stunner. The quality of the many components of special sessions, the chorale, premium speakers, the workshops, the poster sessions, the exhibit hall and with over 4700 individuals registered. Even the presenters promoting special collections were great, especially Loren Spears, Tomaquag Museum. I am pleased that so many of the presenters, facilitators, ministers are people of color and or LGBTQIA. The leadership and commitment for change from participants was exciting.

Racial Justice and the ability of UUA and our member congregations to pursue a planful approach to understand our own bias and our inability as an organization to sustain this work was and is apparent. The organization has prepared a lengthy report Widening the Circle of Concern by the Commission on Institutional Change that details the many "starts and stops" of the initiatives and projects started and never completed under numerous Board of Trustees and Presidents. The pressure is on us all to be persistent and to do the work as allies/accomplices in the movement to make Black Lives Matter.

The Anti-racist Allies and the Racial Justice committee in our congregation is meeting regularly via Zoom on Wednesday evenings at 7:00. We meet for about an hour. You are most welcome to join in the conversation. We are currently looking at the local School and Police Budgets, SURJ activities and discussing in small groups how we ourselves are culpable in the systemic racism in our communities and in ourselves. It is humbling and exciting. Feedback from members tells us this is the work we want to be doing.

If you would like to do more reading or viewing take a look at the Black Lives Matter Resource Document on our website www.uucscri.org .

I am happy to talk or converse in email.

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