

# Join Us at General Assembly



## GENERAL ASSEMBLY

General Assembly is the annual business meeting of our denomination, and it's a whole lot more. Inspirational worship services, informative workshops, entertaining programs, and a bustling exhibit hall help make GA an unforgettable experience for the thousands of Unitarian Universalists that attend. Attendees leave with a renewed sense of energy, inspiration, and innovative ideas to take back to their congregations and communities.

## DATE

Wednesday, June 19 through Sunday, June 23, 2019

## LOCATION

**Spokane, Washington:** A place of opportunity, discovery and beauty. Spokane is a gathering place where accessibility, pace, history and hospitality conspire to make an original city experience both manageable and delightful. The Spokane region is the gateway for adventure and exploration in the Intermountain Northwest. Located driving distance from Glacier National Park and Yellowstone, Spokane is nestled in natural beauty.

## TRAVEL

Spokane International Airport is serviced by Alaska, American, Delta, Frontier, Southwest, and United Airlines. Nonstop service is offered to 17 destinations, including Minneapolis, Chicago, Dallas, Phoenix, and LAX. Spokane is accessible by rail via Amtrak's Empire Builder route (Chicago - St. Paul/Minneapolis - Spokane - Portland/Seattle). It is also reachable by Greyhound Bus.

## THEME: "THE POWER OF WE"

This year's theme is about collective power, "The Power of We" – what it means to be together in faithful community. Unitarian Universalism has recommitted to the work of liberation inside and outside our faith community. The antidote to a time of dangerous dehumanization is a love that connects us to our deeper humanity. Come experience what our shared faith can become when we embrace the Power of We.

## REGISTRATION

General Assembly Registration opens March 1 at [uua.org/ga](http://uua.org/ga). Full-time registration is \$425 for adults and \$240 for high school youth and retired and candidate ministers. Rates increase on May 1.

## HOUSING

Two of the three General Assembly hotels are connected to the convention center. Room rates range from \$123 to \$169 per night. UUs from local congregations will serve as host families for Home Hospitality, which is B&B style accommodations. Make your hotel reservation at [uua.org/ga](http://uua.org/ga) beginning March 1.

## FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE

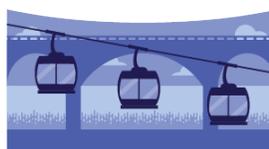
The UUA is committed to the goal of making GA accessible to as many attendees as possible. Go to [uua.org/ga](http://uua.org/ga) to learn about scholarships to support participation - particularly of those from marginalized groups - and volunteer opportunities (work in exchange for registration).

## EXCELLENT PROGRAMMING

GA will offer more than 100 programming selections over the course of five days. This year, in addition to Theme-Based Programming, the schedule will feature Role-Based Track Programming, including time for discussion among attendees, sharing inspiring models and stories, and concrete suggestions for how to further the work or "take it home." More programming details are available at [uua.org/ga](http://uua.org/ga).

## WORSHIP AT GA

Like Unitarian Universalism, GA offers a wealth of theological diversity. A variety of worship choices are offered throughout GA. The **Service of the Living Tradition** is where we commemorate fellowshipped and credentialed religious leaders, those who have died, those who have completed active service, and welcome those who have received fellowship or credentialed status in the past year. **Sunday Morning Worship** at GA is a powerful, communal worship experience and is the largest annual gathering of UUs in Worship.



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[uua.org/ga](http://uua.org/ga)  
#uuaga



### **WARE LECTURE**

Each year a distinguished guest speaker is invited to address the General Assembly as the Ware Lecturer. The Ware Lecturer in 2019 is Richard Blanco. Selected by President Obama as the fifth inaugural poet in U.S. history, Richard Blanco is the youngest and the first Latino, immigrant, and gay person to serve in such a role.

### **EXHIBIT HALL**

The Exhibit Hall features exhibits and sales by UU-related organizations, individual UU artisans, and a variety of other organizations and vendors. The Exhibit Hall also provides a space for networking, eating, and participating in lunchtime poster sessions.

### **BE A DELEGATE**

The votes that GA delegates cast have a huge impact on Unitarian Universalism. They determine our elected leaders, amend the bylaws and rules that govern our Association, and shape the justice work that we do as a movement. If you are interested in serving as a delegate from your congregation, talk to your minister or your congregation’s governing body.

### **ACCESSIBILITY**

The UUA is committed to addressing the inclusion of all people, whatever their abilities might be, in all GA activities. Beyond the physical accessibility of the facilities we use—ramps, captioning, seating cut-outs, etc.—we endeavor to take the next step: to truly welcome people with disabilities into every facet of GA.

### **CHILDREN**

All children are welcome to attend GA events with their parents or guardians. Children who have not yet entered high school (or its equivalent) are welcome to attend GA events with their parents or guardians at no cost, but are still required to register. For parents who need child care, Children’s Programs are available Thursday, Friday and Saturday during GA. Register for Children’s Programs by May 23 at [uua.org/ga](http://uua.org/ga).

### **YOUTH**

Attending the annual General Assembly as a high school aged youth (grades 9-12 in the preceding school year, or the equivalent for home-schooled youth) is an incredible experience. Not only do you get to worship, witness, learn and connect in a multigenerational continental community, you can get to know hundreds of other youth and participate in making an impact on the Association through the democratic process.

### **VOLUNTEER**

Would you like to serve as a GA volunteer? Fully funded GA registration is provided in exchange for volunteer work at GA (18 hours for adults, 10 hours for youth grades 9-12). Positions are available for accessibility services, registration, ushering, greeters, information services, recycling, and more! Applications are accepted March 1 - March 31.

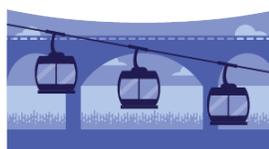
### **OFFSITE PARTICIPATION**

Technology provides opportunities to connect on-site participants with those who cannot attend in person. GA is transforming into a hybrid meeting—incorporating off-site delegate participation, live-streaming of events, and social media to create an interactive experience for on-site and remote attendees.

Off-site registrants are able to watch and ask questions in live sessions, including select workshops and business sessions. Off-site Voting Delegates are also able to propose amendments in the live business sessions, participate in debates, and vote in general sessions.

### **FAITHIFY GA SCHOLARSHIP CAMPAIGNS**

FAITHIFY has a proven record of helping people get to General Assembly. Crowdfunding is a democratic, grass roots, and increasingly common tool to fund GA travel and registration expenses. When we contribute to a GA scholarship campaign, we welcome more people to be full participants in the largest gathering of our faith community. Get inspired at [FAITHIFY.org](http://FAITHIFY.org).



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