

UUFB POLICY

ELECTION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY DELEGATES

Once the pool of UUFB members attending GA is established, the Fellowship Board will identify two attendees using the following criteria to represent UUFB as official delegates at UUA/GA.

The Delegate must:

- Be 16 years of age or older (at start date of General Assembly).
- Be a member in good standing of a UU Congregation for over 2 years at start date of General Assembly.
- Initiate, Hold, or Contribute to a position/activity of service to the congregation (REF1)
- Complete UUA-GA Registration Form
- Complete UUFB Delegate Application
- Complete UUA Scholarship Application, as applicable

Duties of UUFB General Assembly Delegates:

- Agree to dutifully represent UUFB at all General Session meetings by
 - Learning ahead of time about *Congregational Studies (CS)/Action Issues (AI)* to be voted upon
 - Learning about *Actions of Immediate Witness (AIW)* as they arise
 - Contributing to formation of amendments and
 - Speaking in their defense in mini-sessions, as applicable
- Cast votes according to type of issues presented.
 - Congregational Study/ Action Items (CS/AI): Delegates vote to represent the spirit and voice of UUFB Congregation. (REF 2)
 - Action of Immediate Witness (AIW): Delegates represent their own informed opinion on the topic. (See note, "Actions of Immediate Witness" at end.)
- Inform the congregation about:
 - Decisions made and activities in which delegates participated.
 - Explain how governing items may affect our congregation.
 - Describe the impact of this experience for their personal growth as individuals and development of their ideas for social action/witness.

REF 1: A person who takes an active part in meeting needs of UUFB Congregation. The service may take many forms such as seeing an unmet need and initiating a solution, serving as part of a committee, taking a leadership role, serving a solo role such as web posting or advertising, etc.

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REF 2: Who Do Delegates Represent When Casting Votes?

SOURCE: <http://www.uua.org/ga/justice/15344.shtml> (3/2016)

“Actions of Immediate Witness

One of the most exciting aspects of General Assembly is the unfolding Action of Immediate Witness (AIW) process. People come with a wide range of issues, engage one another in conversation, sign petitions, debate the issues, vote, and bring to life the Principles of Unitarian Universalism, all within the span of one General Assembly.

Unlike a Statement of Conscience, an AIW does not carry the full authority of the Unitarian Universalist Association; rather, it expresses the conscience of the delegates at the GA at which it is passed. This difference follows from the difference in procedure: Congregational Study/Action Issues are initiated by congregations or districts or specified UUA-sponsored organizations and move through a three-year period of study and action with opportunities for congregational and district comment. There are no such opportunities for AIWs, which are initiated by individuals and move through their entire creation and adoption process during one GA. Nonetheless, AIWs are also the product of considerable thought, collaboration, and commitment.

The AIW process allows Unitarian Universalists to respond quickly to social issues deemed urgent. Adopted AIWs are used by congregations in local efforts and empower the Washington Office for Advocacy to take action and recommend action through other departments of the UUA and other UU groups.”

Approved May 24, 2016 by UUFB Board