

UUA GA 2025 Delegate Report
Assembled by the Denominational Affairs Committee

Delegates were: Lisa Dutton, Deborah Coleman, Dev Howerton, Treva Burger and Vanessa Lowe

Denominational Affairs Committee is: Susan Bockius and Margaret Thompson, co-chairs, Treva Burger, secretary, Lousie Lisi, John Duey, outgoing Board liaison, Brad Flamm, incoming Board liaison

Educating About the Issues, Seeking Congregational Feedback

On May 22, the Denominational Affairs Committee held an open meeting on Zoom to discuss the GA business agenda, moderator election and Congregational Study Action Items (CSAIs.) We did two Zoom polls.

For moderator, of the 8 people taking the poll, 7 chose the team of Rev. Kimberly Quinn Johnson and Bill Young. The conversation was around a team working really well for the past two moderator cycles, the fact that Natasha Walker has not had any national UU experience other than BLUU-which could be an advantage in that she is coming in very fresh and she stated an interest in creativity and figuring out how to better communicate what the board is doing, but could also be a disadvantage in that there may be a steep learning curve and she'd be doing it alone, and that She stated that leading GA was the thing that made her most nervous and that's the only thing the majority of people see. We hoped maybe she would be elected to the UUA Board in the future and then run for Moderator again after that if it still appeals. Rev. Kimberly and Bill bring a wealth of experience at the UUA, in congregations and other UU entities, and for Bill in other non profit organizations.

The GA Business agenda contained only two other very technical votes, one to essentially remove the District language from the UUA Bylaws, since we now have Regions, and the other to extend the suspension of the Bylaw governing the UUA Planning Committee as the Bylaws are being reviewed and the GA Planning Team is doing some new and different things since the beginning of Covid in 2020. Both Business items were not contentious, there was no discussion and they passed with overwhelming support.

Moderator Vote:

All USG delegates voted for the team Rev. Kimberly Quinn Johnson and Bill Young.
Rev. Kimberly and Bill won.

Congregational Study Action Issues (CSAI) - [Congregational Study Action Issues](#) are issues selected by Unitarian Universalist member congregations for [three years of study, reflection and action](#).

We also had a good conversation about the CSAIs, and there were good reasons to choose each one, but one of the group, having just taken early retirement from the dept of Housing and Urban Development, made a compelling argument for the urgency around Housing and it received all 8 votes.

The three to consider were:

1. [Abolition is Faith Formation](#)
2. [Fat Liberation: Building Justice and Inclusion for Larger Bodies](#)
3. [Housing: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion](#)

At GA:

Four delegates voted for: Housing: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion consistent with the USG pre-GA meeting on this topic. One attended the information session for Abolition is Faith Formation and thought their case was very compelling.

One voted for: Abolition, because they made a compelling argument that something that we would study for 3 years should be something that we needed to really do a deep dive into learning about and Housing is an obvious need and is something we should just be working toward.

The winning vote was supporting: Abolition is Faith Formation.

AIW - An [Action of Immediate Witness](#) is a statement about a significant action, event, or development in the world that necessitates immediate engagement and action among UU member congregations and groups.

The five Proposed AIWs for 2025 were:

- [Bringing a Feminist and Womanist Lens to Resistance and Activism](#)
- [Faithful Defiance of Authoritarianism: Reaffirming Our Covenants for Democracy and Freedom](#)
- [Defending LGBTIQ Freedom Amid Funding Crisis: A Call for Global Solidarity](#)
- [Voter Justice and Racial Equity for the Citizens of the Nation's Capital](#)
- [We Declare and Affirm: Immigrants Are People Who Have Inherent Worth and Inalienable Rights](#)

On June 12, we held a second open meeting on Zoom to talk about the 5 AIWs because delegates were to vote before GA on which three of the five would be added to the GA Business Agenda. Only 7 people attended for at least part of the meeting. We read through the AIWs. The results of the discussion and Zoom poll were 100% support for Faithful Defiance of Authoritarianism and Immigrants are People Who Have Inherent Worth and Inalienable Rights, 80% for Bringing a Feminist/Womanist Lens, 60% for Defending LGBTIQ Freedom and 20% for Voter Justice for DC.

USG delegates voted as detailed below before GA to narrow the five submitted AIWs to the three that would be admitted to the GA Business Agenda:

Three voted for: Immigrants are People Who Have Inherent Worth and Inalienable Rights; Faithful Defiance of **Authoritarianism**; and Voter Justice and Racial Equity for the Citizens of the **Nation's Capital**.

One voted for: Immigrants are People Who Have Inherent Worth and Inalienable Rights, Faithful Defiance of **Authoritarianism** and Defending **LGBTIQ Freedom**.

One voted for: Immigrants are People Who Have Inherent Worth and Inalienable Rights, Faithful Defiance of **Authoritarianism**, Bringing a Feminist and **Womanist Lens** to Resistance and Activism

The 3 that were added to the Business Agenda to be voted on at GA were: [Immigrants are People Who Have Inherent Worth and Inalienable Rights](#), [Faithful Defiance of Authoritarianism](#) and [Defending LGBTIQ Freedom](#).