

## ***Beyond business as usual***

This GA will have as a prime objective raising the capacity of all our congregations to engage with community based partners to do effective advocacy and witness.

Workshops will focus on justice issues, including topics such as the spiritual foundations of justice work, the theology of social justice, as well as a more tactical focus on organizing.

All participants will be afforded opportunities to experience social justice through service, witness, and reflection.

There will be hands-on projects working directly with Arizona partner organizations. We expect work to be in areas of voter registration as well as in direct human services.

Congregations will learn to assess their strengths and weaknesses and learn skills for social justice work according to their region, congregation size and resources.

Both the hours and the pace of programming will be different from other GAs. We expect to have major worship services and speakers in the middle of the day when it is hottest, and community engagement in the morning and evening hours.

For updated information on GA 2012 visit

**[www.uua.org/ga/2012](http://www.uua.org/ga/2012)**

Our time together next June, be it in worship, education, outreach or reflection sessions, will offer opportunities for deepened understanding of our religious call to justice and human rights, for profound transformation, and for building capacity in congregations, regardless of size or geographic location, to become more engaged in this work.

### ***Start preparing for GA 2012 now***

Attend sessions on GA 2012 Preparation listed on Page 9 of your GA Program Book.

Go to: **[www.uua.org/immigration](http://www.uua.org/immigration)**

Find Immigration Resources

See what other Congregations are doing

Join Interfaith and Community Partners

Advocate for Immigration Reform

Halt ICE ACCESS Programs

Buy or order copies of ***The Death of Josseline*** by Margaret Regan from the UUA Bookstore (Booth #127) and organize a "Common Read, Common Reflection, Common Action" on Immigration in your congregation.

Learn how to raise money to help members from your congregation attend GA. Fundraising ideas are posted at **[www.uua.org/ga/registration/financialaid](http://www.uua.org/ga/registration/financialaid)**



***"We are not a religious tradition with a creed, but a religious movement that has always wedded social justice work to theology."***

***James Luther Adams***

## ***Come to Phoenix!***

General Assembly 2012 in Phoenix is the time we have committed to respond to one of the great moral issues of our time. We will gather to bear witness, to stand on the side of love, to work with grassroots partners in Arizona.

Last July dozens of UUs were arrested protesting the injustice of Arizona's SB 1070 and the inhuman treatment of migrants by the Maricopa County Sheriff's department. Our 50th GA this year is bracketed by two trials: Rev. Susan Frederick Gray's will take place just days before GA 2011. My own trial is scheduled for this July.

Our act of protest and civil disobedience has already had an effect in Arizona. Imagine the impact we can have when we all gather for GA 2012.

At this Justice GA we will increase our capacity to be a powerful force for justice throughout our Association. The real measure of the success of this Justice GA will be the effect it has on our congregations five years from now.

In Phoenix we will join hands with others to make love more powerful. Our workshops on a broad spectrum of issues will span justice work as spiritual practice to local organizing. As always, we will worship together. We will hear inspiring speakers. We will work with local congregations and community partners to create activities appropriate for people of different ages, abilities, and temperaments.

Come to Phoenix. This is the opportunity of a lifetime.

*Rev. Peter Morales, President, UUA*

## ***Why not boycott?***

We have been invited across the picket line by a number of the groups that have called for and are working for the boycott. Due to our witness in Arizona in the summer of 2010, we have been asked to come as an act of solidarity and to take part in a justice-centered gathering. UUA staff researched available venues in the Phoenix area; the convention center was the only facility that could accommodate a group of our size and provide accessibility for all participants. The GA Planning Committee is committed to ensuring that all events will be as accessible as possible, recognizing that in all places those from historically marginalized groups face issues of physical and spiritual safety.



## ***Who should be encouraged to attend?***

Everyone! With the different focus of GA in Phoenix, there are likely many in your congregation for whom this could be a life changing experience. Think board members, congregational leaders, social action committee members, youth and young adults and other activists. Don't forget those who have never attended a General Assembly before. At this GA, we will hone our skills as social justice advocates and bring the power of our religious witness to one of the most important civil and human rights issues of our time.



## ***Is it only about Immigration?***

There will definitely be a strong focus on immigration in keeping with our commitment to the organizations that have invited us to Phoenix. Programming and action will deal with immigration both specifically and in a broader context of human rights and justice. But GA 2012 is first and foremost a religious gathering. Our passion for justice is founded on spiritual and religious principles that call us to gather in nonviolent protest for public witness and social action. We will gather to broaden and deepen our understanding of justice and to bring that understanding home to our congregations, that we might grow in spirit as well as serve.

We will seek out exhibitors from UU and other human rights and service organizations, as well as vendors of goods sold to benefit human rights and justice causes. The Exhibit Hall will be an important networking hub for the exchange of information and ideas.

Worship will be an integral part of GA 2012 – more rather than less. Worship services each day will be important for inspiration, reflection, and for spreading our messages of love and unity.



**worship**  
**education**

**reflection**

**programming**



**practice**



**witness**

**assessment**

