

General Assembly 2007 Planning Committee Announces Featured Programs

The General Assembly 2007 Planning Committee has selected the following as Featured Programs for General Assembly in Portland OR June 20-24, 2007.

The Pentagon Papers Then and Now: UUs Confronting Government Secrecy

This presentation and panel discussion on the historical significance of the Pentagon Papers and the denomination's role in publishing them 35 years ago features experts who can relate this history to secrecy and deception in government today. Invited speakers: Daniel Ellsberg, Amy Goodman, William Sinkford, Howard Zinn and Bob West. Christopher Finan, moderator.

First Freedom First

Solid research and analysis, cutting edge technology, grassroots and web-roots advocacy, a commitment to religious liberty and the democratic process unite in an exciting, thought provoking presentation of America's First Freedom and our opportunity to strengthen religious liberty and the integrity and vitality of our democracy. Speakers: Welton Gaddy, Barry Lynn, Donna Red Wing, Beth Corbin for The Interfaith Alliance Foundation and Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

Too Much Like Right: Ben Cohen's Peace Priorities

Ben Cohen, cofounder of Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream, demonstrates that a small shift in defense spending could impact positively America's top domestic priorities in education, health care, and energy independence. Cohen's program presents this shift strikingly with Oreo Cookies and then presents his 50 steps for peace.

Lessons Learned

William E. Cross, Jr. analyzes the response to Hurricane Katrina in terms of race, class, identity and the ethical value of justice, and raises the question: Do we have the spiritual and political will to reconstruct New Orleans in fairness and equality to all citizens regardless of race and class.

Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith

What exactly is a 'vocabulary of faith'? And how does it relate to or differ from a 'language of reverence'? How should religious liberals talk about issues of ultimate meaning in the larger world? Noted spiritual writer Kathleen Norris will share her ideas with us