



BCD In-Brief



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BCD Spring Conference Program to Look at Causes and Responses to Human Migration and Immigration.

The 2013 Spring Conference, April 27, 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., will have a format slightly different than in previous years. This year's program will be an extended keynote time with no workshops. The keynote presentation will be by UUA United Nations Office Director, Mr. Bruce Knotts. The BCD Annual Meeting, 11:30 - 1:00, will follow the morning presentation.

In his presentation, "**Migration: Why people move and what to do about it**", Mr. Knotts will discuss "global migration patterns and their causes, as well as refugee and asylum issues. He will look at the challenges people face under current international or national law, the problems of human rights violations, such as human trafficking of woman and children and slavery, and the effect of climate change on the need for migration. Bruce will also discuss aspects of U.S. immigration law and enforcement.. He will end with some ideas about how to combat human trafficking and ways to promote the best interests of the national economy while respecting the human rights of migrants."

The Spring Conference and Annual Meeting will be held at First Congregational Parish, 222 Main Street, Kingston, MA. Registration and delegate credentialing opens at 8:30 a.m. Worship starts at 9:00 followed by Mr. Knotts' presentation at 9:30. First Parish will host a brunch at 10:45 and the Annual Meeting commences at 11:30. Registration is \$15 for adults and \$10 for youth and young adults under 21. Register on line at <http://bcdspringcon.eventbrite.com> or pay at door with check or cash (advanced registration is requested to obtain attendance count for brunch.)

Additional conference information to be sent from the BCD

office March 15 and Annual Meeting materials on April 5.

2013 General Assembly Information Registration, Housing Reservations, Volunteer and Scholarship Applications Available

Building on the experience of the 2012 Justice General Assembly, the GA Planning Committee and the UUA Board of Trustees and Administration seek to create a General Assembly in 2013 that moves our Association "From Promise to Commitment."

Registration and housing reservation now open.

- [GA Registration](http://www.uua.org/ga/registration/index.shtml) <http://www.uua.org/ga/registration/index.shtml>
- [GA Housing Reservation System](http://www.uua.org/ga/travel/index.shtml) <http://www.uua.org/ga/travel/index.shtml>

Volunteer and scholarship applications now being accepted.

- Volunteer - The GA Volunteer Committee funds full-time GA registrations in exchange for 24 hours of volunteer work at GA. [Applications for volunteer positions](http://www.uua.org/ga/registration/financialaid/14930.shtml) at <http://www.uua.org/ga/registration/financialaid/14930.shtml> must be submitted by March 31.
- Scholarships - Secure a pledge of support from your congregation and [apply for a GA Planning Committee scholarship](http://www.uua.org/ga/registration/financialaid/15005.shtml) at <http://www.uua.org/ga/registration/financialaid/15005.shtml> If your application is accepted, the Planning Committee may match your congregation's pledge (up to \$250) and also fund your full-time registration. Apply by March 31.
- Youth and Young adult scholarships - The Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries has [scholarships specifically for youth and young adults](http://www.uua.org/re/youth/events/gacaucus/56024.shtml) application in formation at <http://www.uua.org/re/youth/events/gacaucus/56024.shtml>
- The Davidoff Fund for Lay Leadership serves to subsidize the attendance at GA of lay leaders from congregations who have not been represented by lay leaders at GA in the last three years. Information at http://www.uua.org/documents/stew-dev/davidoff_application.pdf. [Apply](http://www.uua.org/documents/stew-dev/davidoff_application.pdf) by April 30.

Seed Grant Money for Doctrine of Discovery Work.

At Justice GA 2012 in Phoenix, delegates voted to repudiate the "Doctrine of Discovery." The Doctrine of Discovery is a papal decree issued by Pope Nicholas V in 1452 that sanctioned the conquest and colonization of non-Christian territories and peoples. Hundreds of years of decisions and laws continuing up to our own time that invalidate or ignore the rights, sovereignty and humanity of indigenous peoples in the United States and around the world can be traced back to the Doctrine of Discovery. The UUA is offering seed grants of \$500 to \$1,000 to Unitarian Universalist congregations, groups, and organizations for projects that teach about, repudiate, and mitigate the current-day effects of the [Doctrine of Discovery](http://www.uua.org/multiculturalism/dod/index.shtml).

[Learn more](http://www.uua.org/multiculturalism/dod/index.shtml) about the GA resolution and the Doctrine of Discovery at <http://www.uua.org/multiculturalism/dod/index.shtml> and information about the grant

application process is at <http://www.uua.org/multiculturalism/dod/284440.shtml>. Deadline for application is April 5, 2013. Grant recipients will be notified by May 1, 2013. For more information, contact Gail Forsyth-Vail, adultprograms@uua.org.

Unitarian Church of Sharon Recognized as a Breakthrough Congregation Study Guide Created for Breakthrough Congregation Program

The Unitarian Church of Sharon, Massachusetts is the newest UUA Breakthrough Congregation - a congregation that has "broken through" barriers to achieve exemplary goals. The congregation is highlighted in the spring edition of *UU World*. Read the article at <http://www.uuworld.org/life/articles/284022.shtml>

The UUA Growth Strategies Office has issued a study guide for each Breakthrough Congregation to help other congregations think about and discuss what they might do to with their congregations. Link to the study guide pertaining to Sharon at <http://growinguu.blogs.uua.org/?p=1323>

Looking Ahead--General Assembly 2014 in Providence - Part 2

General Assembly is coming to the BCD. Although this "hometown" GA is still 16 months away and serious planning and preparation won't start until the fall, questions about participation are already being asked around the district.

- **We have ideas about resources to be used. What do we do?** If you have names of musicians, organizations that would make a good GA Service Project, special activities we could offer, venues for offsite programming, great local speakers, causes that could benefit from our public witness send your ideas to Beth McGregor at epjmcg@aol.com.
- **What do we do if we want to present a program or workshop?** The overall GA theme will be decided this summer. Programs that address the theme are particularly sought, but other programs are also welcome. Program submission information will be posted at www.uua.org/GA in late summer. Deadline for submission October 15th
- **How do we volunteer?** There will be a need for many volunteers, but it's too soon to think about most of the volunteer needs yet. There will be two types of volunteers - GA engaged and BCD engaged. Individuals can apply to the GA Planning Committee in March 2014 for GA engaged volunteers who, if selected, receive free registration in return for 24 hours of service. There will also be some BCD engaged volunteers. Initially, committee coordinator positions to be interviewed and selected this summer, with additional committee workers selected in Spring. These are the coordinator positions to be filled. To apply, send an email describing prior volunteer or work experience and two references to Beth McGregor at epjmcg@aol.com at any time.
 - Local Information Coordinator -- researches and organizes information about local transportation, restaurants, emergency medical and dental care, site seeing. Requires good knowledge about Providence.

- Ambience Coordinator-arranges the decor on the Plenary Hall stage and other places in the Convention Center, and the banner parade and banner hanging. Requires both artistry and management skills.
- Administrative Assistant-handles volunteer scheduling, expense reimbursements, copy services, and a thousand other details; runs the local GA Volunteer Office.
- Evening Programs and Special Events Coordinator-recruits musicians, arranges and manages evening concerts, dances and other social events.
- Service Project Coordinator-works with the local organization selected to be the GA Service Project. Helps them run their booth, solicit contributions, and provide volunteer opportunities.

In winter 2014 individuals to assist the coordinators will be selected. Information about applying will be provided in early Winter.

New Youth Ministry Program for New England Region.

Staff from the four New England Districts has launched an initiative which will help equip congregations to expand their youth ministries, especially congregations that do not currently employ a Youth Director.

The Clara Barton, Mass Bay, Northern New England, and Ballou Channing Districts have recruited and trained a cohort of Youth Ministry Facilitators (YMF's). These YMF's are available to work with congregations who wish to offer a high quality Unitarian Universalist Youth Ministry event. They can advise a congregation's religious professional and lay leadership (youth and adult) about the tools, skills and expertise needed to plan and implement a successful program to serve youth. In the process, a congregation will learn how to build its own capacity for integrating youth ministry into the life of the congregation.

To learn more about his new program go to <http://cbd-mbd-uua.org/drupal/content/new-youth-ministry-facilitators> or contact Karen Bellavance-Grace, Director of Faith Formation, Clara Barton/MassBay Districts.

News from the Larger UU World

- **UU College of Justice Activities summer program**

The UU College of Social Justice was launched in June of 2012 to help Unitarian Universalists deepen and sustain the work of justice in their congregations and communities. One way to accomplish this is through experiential learning. During this summer, UUCSJ will offer

- Youth Justice Trainings for high school youth - a three-week social justice training, from June 30 through July 21, 2013, offers high-school youth interactive social justice education and real-world internships. Information and application at uucsj.org/programs/youth-justice-training. Application deadline: April 15
- Youth-focused Civil Rights Pilgrimage - one-week experience, from July 6 through July 13, 2013 will begin and end in Atlanta, Ga., traveling to Birmingham and Selma, Alabama to visit sites and people of significance in the U.S. civil-rights movement. This program is open to youth who attended high school during the 2012-

2013 school year. Application deadline May 5, 2013. Information at www.uucsj.org

- **UU-United Nations Office: Annual Intergenerational Spring Seminar**

The UU United Nations Office's 2013 Intergenerational Spring Seminar is April. 4-6 in New York City. It will focus on stopping violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI). Participants gain a deep understanding on a topic of global concern in an intergenerational environment, with several sessions led by key national and international speakers. A tour of the UN is part of the program. Youth under 18 and youth advisors may stay at Manhattan-based 4th Unitarian Congregation as part of the registration fee. Other housing is available also. Register at uua.org/justicecalendar/200149.shtml. Deadline March 15.

- **Congregation Learning Workshops Offered by Clara Barton/Mass Bay Districts**

The Clara Barton/Mass Bay Districts invite BCD congregation leaders to attend their Learning Congregation Workshops. Registration is to open to individuals from the four districts in the New England Region (NER).

The up-coming workshops are:

- Navigating Differences in the Beloved Community - Saturday, April 6, 2013
- Evaluating Congregational Ministry - Saturday, May 11, 2012
- Creating and Leading Dynamic Lay-Led Worship - Saturday, June 8, 2013

Congregations are encouraged to send teams. Programs are held on Saturdays 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM. For more information about each workshop and to register go to:

<http://www.cbd-mbd-uua.org/drupal/content/saturday-workshops>

Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>
Mar 16	South Shore Presidents Cluster food drive <i>Grocery stores at various locations</i>	
Mar 16	Pastoral Care with Youth workshop <i>First Unitarian Church, Providence, RI</i>	1:00 p - 5:00 p
Mar 18	BCD Board of Directors meeting <i>Conference call</i>	7:30 p
Mar 22-23	New England Region Boards Gathering <i>Nashua, NH</i>	
Apr 6-7	Senior High Con <i>First Parish Duxbury, Duxbury, MA</i>	TBA
Apr 6	Navigating Difference in the Beloved Community [a Clara Barton/Mass Bay District seminar] <i>First Parish UU, Northborough, MA</i>	8:30 a - 12:30 p

Apr 8	South Shore Presidents Cluster meeting <i>All Souls Church, Braintree, MA</i>	7:00 p
Apr 27	Spring Conference & Annual Meeting <i>First Congregational Parish, Kingston, MA</i>	9:00 a - 1:00 p
Apr 28	Rev. Paul Langston-Daly installation <i>First Unitarian Church, New Bedford, MA</i>	3:00 p
May 11	Junior High Con <i>First Parish Duxbury, Duxbury, MA</i>	TBA
May 11	Evaluating Congregational Ministry [a Clara Barton/Mass Bay District seminar] <i>Location; TBA</i>	8:30 a - 12:30 p
May 12-15 [@]	BCD UUMA Retreat <i>Glastonbury Abby, Hingham, MA</i>	3:00 p (start)
May 15	South Shore Presidents Cluster meeting <i>Location; TBA</i>	7:00 p
May 20	BCD Board of Directors meeting <i>First Parish Brewster, MA</i>	6:30 - 9:00 p
Jun 2	Rev. Sarah Person installation service <i>First Unitarian Universalist Society of Middleboro, MA</i>	TBA
Jun 8	Creating and Leading Dynamic Lay-Led Worship [Clara Barton/Mass Bay District seminar] <i>Location: TBA</i>	8:30 a - 12:30 p
Jun 19-23	General Assembly <i>Louisville, KY</i>	

Change of information from last *BCD in Brief*

@ New from last *BCD in Brief*

