



Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association 2019 Ministry Days

June 17 – 19, 2019 – Spokane, Washington



What's New:

In response to your feedback, we have redesigned this year's Ministry Days to provide more opportunities for collegial connections. Our events will begin with a simple reception on Monday evening and continue Tuesday, when we will begin our day with worship on the theme *Stronger in the Broken Places: Accountable Nurturing of our Shared Ministry*. Worship will blend into a time of small group reflection, where we will go deeper into the topic. In place of Vespers, we will end the day with an opportunity to engage the theme through art and spirituality. This year, your registration will include a simple lunch on Tuesday to allow all to eat together and make new connections, and lunch Meet-Ups on Wednesday to let cohort groups gather individually. Wednesday will feature traditional aspects of Ministry Days with the 25/50 Worship Service with the Reverends John Nichols for the 50 year Class and Joan Montagnes for the 25 year class, Annual Meeting, and Berry Street Essay given by the Reverend Leslie Takahashi.

All our events on Tuesday and Wednesday will be held at the Davenport Grand Ballroom A-B. You can pick up your registration materials in the Grand Ballroom Foyer from 2:00-7:00 on Monday, June 17 or again at 7:30 AM on Tuesday, June 19. The opening reception will be held on the roof-deck patio.

Accessibility is an important aspect of all UUMA Events. Here are some of the things we are planning to help Ministry Days be accessible to all: Scooter cut-outs in both theater and banquet seating, vision screens on both front and back of hall, hearing-assistance devices, designated accessibility seating at front of hall, large-print and electronic versions of all printed materials, alternate spaces for attendees to rest, separate small-group meeting spaces for individuals sensitive to background noise, all presenters will use microphones, volunteers will be available to help with meals and event navigation, creation of a hospitality coordinator position to receive and address issues as they arise, gender neutral bathrooms, gender pronouns on nametags, food buffets will be labeled, and menus will be available before the event. If there are additional accommodations we can make, please let us know. Please be aware that all UUMA events are peanut-free and low-fragrance (please refrain from bringing peanuts, perfumes or other scented cleaning, hygiene, or cosmetic products to Spokane).

While we are excited to see many of you in Spokane, we are also pleased to offer off-site voting and participation again this year, with improvements made as we continue to learn. In this packet you will find the preliminary schedule of events, information about the Tuesday programming, request for topics for collegial conversations, information on child care, and an initial nominating slate. Off-site registration will be available later this spring.

Where & When:

Ministerial Formation Network Gathering (June 16-17): [Davenport Grand](#)

Chapter Leader Training (June 17): [Davenport Grand](#)

Ministry Days Registration, Choir Rehearsal (June 17): [Davenport Grand](#)

Ministry Days Opening Reception (June 17): [Spokane Convention Center Roof-Deck Patio](#)

Ministry Days Programming (June 18-19): [Davenport Grand](#)

How:

Registration begins March 1, 2019. Please register as soon as possible; everyone benefits when we know how many people to expect. Keep in mind that the deadline for early registration is April 30. There are financial incentives for early registration. You may register online at www.uuma.org/event/md2019 or by filling out the enclosed form and mailing it, along with your payment, to the UUMA office in Boston. Partners and Spouses are welcome at program events and for UU Ministers' Partners meetings, but must register.

Scholarships are available to UUMA Members. To request these funds, visit www.uuma.org/page/scholarship. Preference will be given to those who have not been able to attend programming in recent years. The deadline to submit applications is April 12. Criteria for distributing these funds are financial need, last attendance, and availability of professional development funds. Housing reservations may be made through the UUA's General Assembly Housing system www.uua.org/ga/travel.



MINISTRY DAYS 2019

Tentative Schedule

Sunday, June 16 – Davenport Grand

Ministerial Formation Network Gathering	5:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Sensory Break Space	5:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Monday, June 17 – Davenport Grand

MFN Gathering	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Sensory Break Space	9:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Disability Justice Training	9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Chapter Leader Training	2:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Registration	2:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Choir Rehearsal	4:30 PM – 6:00 PM
Reception/Welcome – Spokane Convention Center Rooftop Deck	7:00 PM – 9:30 PM

Tuesday, June 18 – Davenport Grand

Registration Continues	7:30 AM – 5:00 PM
Sensory Break Space	8:30 AM – 8:00 PM
UUMA Café Space	8:30 AM – 8:00 PM
Opening Worship/Small Group Experience	8:30 AM – 12:15 PM
Snack Break	10:00 AM – 10:15 AM
Catered Lunch (included in registration)	12:15 PM – 2:00 PM
Collegial Conversations	2:00 PM – 3:15 PM
Snack Break	3:15 PM – 3:30 PM
Time with UUA President Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray	3:30 PM – 4:30 PM
Choir Rehearsal	4:45 PM – 6:45 PM
Art as a Spiritual Practice	7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Wednesday, June 19 – Davenport Grand

Registration Continues	7:30 AM – 2:00 PM
Sensory Break Space	8:30 AM – 5:00 PM
UUMA Café Space	8:30 AM – 5:00 PM
Worship Celebrating 25 & 50 Year Ministries	8:30 AM – 10:00 AM
Coffee Break	10:00 AM – 10:15 AM
Annual Meeting	10:15 AM – 12:15 PM
Lunch Meet-Ups	12:30 PM – 2:00 PM
Berry Street Essay	2:00 PM – 3:30 PM
Aspirant/Candidate Reception	3:45 PM – 5:00 PM

PROGRAM DETAILS

Monday Registration, Reception, and Welcome

Pick up your registration materials outside the Grand Ballroom A&B of the Davenport Grand anytime between 2:00 and 7:00 on Monday, then head over to meet your colleagues and watch the sunset on the Rooftop Deck of the Spokane Convention Center at our wonderful opening reception! Join your colleagues as we enjoy each other's company, reconnect, and sample food and music of Spokane. We will have a game area which is family friendly where pastor parents, their partners, and other members can gather with their children for games (people are encouraged to bring a favorite game). In the connected main space, there will be food and conversation from 7:00-8:00 and live music from 8:00-9:30. We will all be together at 7:45 for a welcome from your UUMA Board.

Café and Sensory Break Space: This year we are providing alternate spaces for participants to take a break from the programming. In addition to a simple café (with chairs, and complimentary coffee and snacks), a separate room designated as a sensory break room, with low stimulation and space for attendees to sit, move around, or lie down will be available.

Tuesday Opening Worship

We will begin our day with worship on the theme *Stronger in the Broken Places: Accountable Nurturing of our Shared Ministry*. Worship will blend into a time of small group reflection, where we will go deeper into the topic. As is our tradition, we will joyfully celebrate the dedication of children in our collegial community during this worship service. If you would like to have your child dedicated during the service, please indicate so on your registration form or inform Janette Lallier, Director of Operations, at lallier@uuma.org by June 1. Because our morning session will include small group work in a large space, we ask that anyone who is sensitive to background noise please indicate so on their registration form so that we may have an appropriate number of alternate spaces available. Additionally, as we will be inviting you into conversation that will include reflection on your experiences with colleagues, we will designate some small group circles solely for people who want to join with others who have a shared identity or experience. If you are interested in this option, you will find a place to so designate on the registration form.

About the Presenters:

Rev. Dr. Leon Dunkley ministers to North Universalist Chapel Society in Woodstock, VT. He is deeply committed to the hard work of compassion and forgiveness on the individual and interpersonal dimensions as well as on the institutional and structural dimensions. He is also a Red Sox fan, a fierce dog-lover and an unabashed beer snob. Rev. Dunkley serves on the UUMA's Leadership Development Committee.



Rev. Debra Faulk is currently in her 9th year serving in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Debra is a life-long UU. Her passions are relational, building beloved community within her congregation and beyond through Interfaith engagement, reconciliation processes with the Indigenous people and community organizing. She is currently a Good Officer and member of the UUMA's Collegial Development Team.

Rev. Duncan Teague is the founding minister for the emerging Abundant LUUV Congregation of the West End community in Atlanta, GA. Abundant LUUV is led by a Core Team of eight and celebrated their first anniversary in February. Teague serves on The UUMA's Committee for Anti-Racism, Anti-Oppression, and Multiculturalism, and he is a member of the Southeast UUMA chapter on the Nominating Committee.



Tuesday and Wednesday Lunch

To provide much needed time for you to connect with your colleagues, we have opened the schedule to allow for longer lunches. We hope that you will use this time to both reconnect with old friends and to meet new colleagues. On Tuesday, we will provide a simple lunch of soup and salad in the main meeting space so that we might all share a meal and make new connections. To help old friends reconnect with each other, we will again use Meet-Ups to gather over Wednesday lunch (you can also plan an evening gathering!). Anyone can create a Meet-up or look over what's been created and join in. Please note: No breakfasts will be provided, but the morning break will be a little fuller. To help you plan your meals, menus will be available in May.

Collegial Conversations

Do you have a proposal for a Collegial Conversation? Collegial conversations are a time for colleagues to gather and discuss topics of importance within the UUMA, the UUA, and the life of ministry. Past topics have included Guidelines Revision, Ministerial Transitions, Retirement, Addiction Ministry, Race and Collegiality. Please send a title and description to Rev. Melissa Carvill Ziemer, Director of Collegial Practices, by the end of March (carvillziemer@uuma.org). We will select conversations to host from among those submitted in April, with a goal of ensuring we have a range of conversations for your consideration.

Conversation with UUA President, Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

Gather with your UUMA Colleagues for the annual conversation with the UUA President.

Art as a Spiritual Practice

End the day with an opportunity to engage the theme of *Stronger in the Broken Places* through art and spirituality. Using different modalities, we will explore the power in our brokenness, especially when shared in community.

WEDNESDAY PROGRAM DETAILS

25/50 Worship

Continuing a long tradition, UUMA Colleagues will gather on Wednesday morning in celebration of Ministry. This year's speakers, representing ministers ordained in 1969 and 1994, will be the Reverends John Nichols (50 year class) and Joan Montagnes (25 year class).



Rev. John Nichols graduated from Dickinson College in 1965 and Meadville Theological School in 1969. He served the Unitarian and Universalist congregations in Canton MA, the Unitarian Church of Hinsdale IL, and, for twenty-three years, the Unitarian Society of Wellesley Hills, MA, where he is Minister Emeritus. He is an Accredited Interim Minister, having served ten UU congregations in that capacity. John is the author of four books with a fifth moving toward publication. He and his wife, Nancy, are parents of two adult children and grandparents of five.

Rev. Joan Montagnes was born in Toronto, Canada. She was educated at the University of Toronto and picked up a degree in Botany at the University of Alberta before entering Meadville Lombard Theological School for the Ministry in 1990. She likes to believe that science is a good foundation for a life in the ministry, but who's kidding who? Joan has been honored to serve congregations in Edmonton, Alberta; Beaconsfield, Quebec; Wenatchee, Washington.



Annual Meeting

There is a lot going on in the UUMA. Join us for our annual meeting when we will hear about new initiatives, consider proposed changes to the UUMA guidelines, elect new leaders, and celebrate those who have served. Gather with your Colleagues and be part of UUMA history.

Berry Street Essay

Truth, Trauma and Transformation: A conversation on holding the spirits among us

Rev. Leslie Takahashi came into Unitarian Universalism as a young adult and credits the faith with saving her life. Unitarianism was her family religion on her mother's side—and she was raised unchurched. She has served in various leadership positions in the UUA, the UUMA, and at the district and cluster level. She has been privileged to serve as convener of the Accountability Panel for Justice GA, as part of the planning team for the last Convo, as president of DRUUMM and as part of two on-going collegial study groups which ground her.

She is the co-author, with Rev. Chip Roush and Leon Spencer of *The Arc of the Universe is Long:*

Race and the UUA, published by Skinner House, and is a contributor to a number of UU anthologies and to Worship Web. Currently, she serves as Lead Minister of the Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church and as the Chair of the Commission on Institutional Change. She is the grateful parent of Garner Takahashi Morris and Liam Takahashi, and mother to canine trauma-survivors Crystal and Ferdinand.



SCHOLARSHIPS

The UUMA is committed to making scholarship funding available for all UUMA events. To apply for a scholarship for Ministry Days, visit <https://uuma.site-ym.com/?page=scholarship>. The deadline to apply for scholarships for Ministry Days is April 12, 2019. There will be a quick turnaround on our answers so that you can complete your travel plans.

CHILD CARE

The UUMA will offer free onsite child care during the period of Ministry Days for all those who pre-register. This year, you may register at the same time as you register for the program. If you have questions, please contact lallier@uuma.org.

The GA Office provides limited child care offerings for the Wednesday preceding General Assembly. For information on child care offered through the GA Office please visit <https://www.uua.org/ga/program/childrens-programs>.

Gathering for Aspirants and Candidates

All aspirants and candidates are invited to gather for a reception from 3:45 to 5:00 pm on Wednesday after the Berry Street Essay. This is an opportunity for connection with one another and with some of the leaders of the UUMA, as well as a chance to meet with Rev. David Pettee, the UUA's Ministerial Credentialing Director, and Jesse King, Chair of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee.

PRE-MINISTRY DAYS TRAININGS

A Gathering of the Ministerial Formation Network

Participants in the Ministerial Formation Network are warmly invited to gather in person with others in the program and with a variety of ministers for worship, spiritual practice, learning, networking, and collegiality. This retreat will begin prior to Ministry Days at 5pm, Sunday June 16, and end 5pm on Monday, June 17. There is no program fee to participate

in this gathering. Reimbursement for travel and housing are only available to those who have not yet attended a MFN retreat in the last year. Registration for this retreat is at <https://www.uuma.org/event/mfn-retreats-2018>.

Disability Justice Training

Many people do not realize how widespread fear, pity, hate, and revulsion of disabled people are in the world, with ableism everywhere in society, including in mission, ministry, and social justice movements. In this training, we will learn about institutional, societal, and everyday ableism, along with strategies for recognizing and responding to it as we labor for disability justice as part of our freedom work.

All UUMA leaders, including chapter leaders, Good Officers, committee and team members, and program volunteers are invited and encouraged to attend this four-hour training prior to the start of Ministry Days. This training will be led by Lydia X. Z. Brown. You can learn more about them and their work and find links to a wealth of resources at their site: <https://autistichoya.net/bio/>



As this training is formally part of the biennial Chapter Leader Training, there is no charge for current and incoming chapter leaders to attend. All other UUMA leaders, committee members, and invited guests are welcome to attend the Disability Justice Training for \$30, which includes snacks and lunch at the hotel after the training. UUMA leaders and guests may register and pay for this training by using the Ministry Days registration form.

Chapter Leader Training

Training for leaders of UUMA chapters will continue into the afternoon on June 17. This training will offer chapter leaders an opportunity to engage with important and timely questions about collegiality in practice at the local level. Chapter Leaders can register on the Ministry Days registration form for the whole day of chapter leader training from 9 am to 5 pm, including lunch. We are also able to subsidize (\$150) the additional hotel room night for this training for up to two leaders per UUMA chapter.

2019 NOMINATING SLATE

The Nominating Committee submits the following candidates for election at the June 2019 UUMA Annual Meeting:

UUMA President: Reverend Wendy Williams

UUMA Vice-President: Reverend Rod Richards

UUMA Trustee at Large for (Counsel & Advocacy): Reverend Elizabeth Stevens

Nominating Committee: TBA

Nominating Committee Members: Sian Wiltshire, Amy Morgenstern, Amy DeBeck, Elaine Peresluha, and Paul Boothby

From the UUMA Bylaws:

ARTICLE XI - NOMINATING COMMITTEE AND ELECTIONS

Section 5: All nominations of the Nominating Committee shall be submitted to the President at least 90 days prior to the date of the membership meeting. At least 75 days prior to the membership meeting, the President shall submit the names of all nominees to the membership, along with the bylaw provisions for nomination by petition.

Section 6: Nominations by petitions shall be made by a signed petition of ten or more voting members. Petitions shall indicate the office sought and must be submitted to the President not less than 45 days prior to the annual meeting, along with indication by the candidate of his/her willingness to accept the nomination.

2019 MINISTRY DAYS REGISTRATION FORM

Online registration is also available at uuma.org/event/md2019

Registration Information: One form per person – Duplicate as necessary – Please print clearly.

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address _____ City: _____ Province/State: _____ ZIP/Postal Code: _____

E-Mail: _____ Cell Number: _____

I would like my number included in the cell phone directory available to registrants.

Tell us how you would like your name badge to read:

Name: _____

City, State: _____

Preferred Pronouns: _____ (What pronouns do you prefer to be addressed by?)

Attendee Type: UUMA Member in good standing Partner/Spouse Invited Guest

Opportunities:

Yes, I would be interested in volunteering! (Registration, UUMA Booth, etc.)

I plan to add my voice to the choir. Voice part: _____

I wish to receive May Annual Meeting Materials by postal mail.

My family would like to be included in the Child Dedication Ceremony.

I would like to be a Ministry Days Host (welcome first-time attendees).

Note On Meals: This year your registration will include a simple lunch on Tuesday to allow all to eat together and make new connections and lunch Meet-Ups on Wednesday to let cohort groups gather individually. A reception on Monday evening (cash bar) and morning and afternoon coffee/snack breaks on Tuesday and Wednesday will be provided. Please check www.uuma.org for menus in May.

Food/dietary needs:

Gluten Free

Vegan

Vegetarian

Omnivore

Dairy Free

Other

Small Group Circles: We will be inviting you into conversation that will include reflection on your experiences with colleagues as part of our Tuesday morning worship and small group experience. We will designate some small group tables solely for people who want to join with others who have a shared identity or experience. Please indicate if you would prefer to be in one of these small groups so we know how many tables to designate with the appropriate placards. All other small group circles will have open seating.

people of color

people with disabilities

people who are trans or non-binary

women

men

LGBTQ

UUA staff

I need to be in a small group with less background noise.

Accessibility Needs: Accessibility is an important aspect of all UUMA Events. Here are some of the things we are planning to help Ministry Days be accessible to all: Scooter cut-outs in both theater and banquet seating, vision screens on both front and back of hall, designated accessibility seating at front of hall, large-print and electronic versions of all printed materials, alternate spaces for attendees to rest, separate small-group meeting spaces for individuals sensitive to background noise, all presenters will use microphones, volunteers will be available to help with meals and event navigation, creation of a hospitality coordinator position to receive and address issues as they arise, gender neutral bathrooms, gender pronouns on nametags, food buffets will be labeled, and menus will be available before the event. If there are additional accommodations we can make, please let us know. Please be aware that all UUMA events are peanut-free and low-fragrance (please refrain from bringing peanuts, perfumes or other scented cleaning, hygiene, or cosmetic products to Spokane).

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Child Care: To participate in child care please complete below.

Child 1 (Name, Age, Gender Identity): _____

Child 2 (Name, Age, Gender Identity): _____

Child 3 (Name, Age, Gender Identity): _____

Times Needed:

Monday, June 17 8:00am—5:00pm 7:00-10:00pm

Tuesday, June 18 8:15am-6:00pm 6:45-8:15pm

Wednesday, June 19 8:15am-12:30pm 1:45-5:00pm

Child’s Food preferences/Special Needs/Allergies: (required) _____

Disability Justice Training: There is no cost to UUMA chapter leaders for this training. All other UUMA leaders, committee members, and invited guests may attend for \$30, which includes lunch.

I plan to attend as a:

Chapter Leader attending Disability Justice Training only Chapter: _____

Committee member Committee: _____

Invited Guest Organization: _____ (UUA, AUUMM, LREDA, etc.)

Chapter Leader Training:

Do you plan to attend Chapter Leader training? Yes No

Is this your first Chapter Leader Training Yes No Chapter and role in chapter: _____

2019 Registration Rates

	UUMA Member	UUMA Partner/Spouse	Life Member/Can/Asp Salary <20k	One Day* UUMA Member	One Day* Partner/Spouse	One Day* Life Member Can/Asp
Early Bird 3/1 – 4/30	\$228.75	\$60.00	\$168.75	\$114.38	\$30.00	\$84.38
Pre-Registration 5/1-6/1	\$259.25	\$68.00	\$191.25	\$129.63	\$34.00	\$95.63
Onsite**	\$305.00	\$80.00	\$225.00	\$152.50	\$40.00	\$112.50

*If attending One Day, please let us know which day you plan to attend: _____

**Lunch is not available for those registering onsite.

Amount Enclosed:

MD Registration Fee (Circle Category Above): \$ _____ +

Disability Justice Training for non-Chapter Leaders \$ _____ +

Scholarship Fund Donation: \$ _____ +

Total: \$ _____

Payment Method: I have received an educational grant (do not include any money)

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$ _____ (payable to UU Ministers Association)

Charge my MasterCard Visa Discover AMEX the following amount: \$ _____

Name on card: _____ CVV Code: _____

Account Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Billing Address: _____ ZIP/Postal: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail or Fax this completed registration form with payment to:

UUMA, 24 Farnsworth Street, Boston, MA 02210-1409 ~ Phone/Fax: (617) 848-0498

Cancellation Policy: There will be a cancellation fee of \$50 for any registration canceled before June 1, 2019. After this date refunds will only be granted in the case of severe hardship.