

General Assembly 2007 Responsive Resolution

Truth, Repair, and Reconciliation

President Sinkford asked, "What are our truths? To whom must we be reconciled?" We have many stories to uncover—genocide, slavery, oppression. Only by knowing our truths can we act boldly on our spiritual journey of healing.

In response to President Bill Sinkford's report, a resolution was passed that delegates begin this work by encouraging their congregations and the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) to research their own and the Association's history: to uncover our links and complicity with the genocide of native peoples; with slavery and the slave-based economy; and with all types of racial, ethnic, and cultural oppression, past and present, toward the goal of accountability through acknowledgment, apology, repair, and reconciliation, and that they report on their progress at the 2008 and 2009 General Assemblies.

*What you and your congregation can do to begin (or continue) the work of
Truth, Repair and Reconciliation:*

- Sundown towns are communities that for decades—formally or informally—kept out African Americans or other groups. They are so named because some marked their city limits with placards warning specific groups of people to stay away after the sun went down. **Is your town a sundown town?**
- In researching his genealogy a Unitarian Universalist minister is stunned to learn that four enslaved Africans lived in his ancestor's home. **Follow him on the path to truth, repair, and reconciliation.**
- Unitarian Universalists can play a pivotal role to help undo the harm that they and the rest of U.S. society have caused and are still causing American Indians. **James Loewen asks, "Whose Land?" and other critical questions.**
- Breaking the Silence: Confronting the Legacy of Lynching. **Is there an alternative story about the place you live?**
- The Work and Witness of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana offers inspiration about **intentional work to dismantle racism in the heartland.**
- When we engage in reconciliation, we invite change that will transform a relationship. **The Practice of Reconciliation.**
- The Unitarian Universalist community is actively working to teach our members how to confront and address racism and oppression. **How do UUs work for racial justice?**

Learn more at:

www.uua.org/leaders/leaderslibrary/araomc/104381.shtml