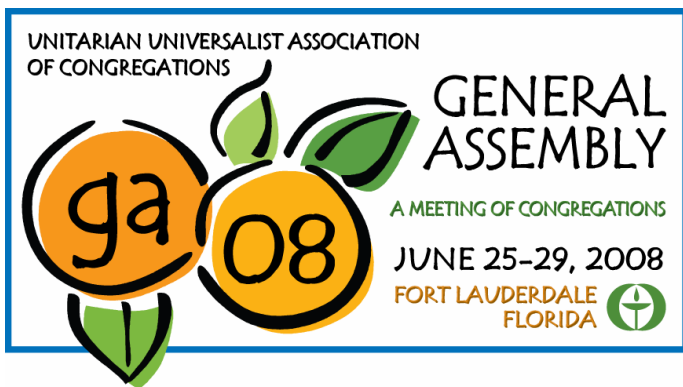


FOR CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP



DELEGATE CREDENTIALS FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2008

**WILL BE MAILED BY MAY 9.
PLEASE WATCH FOR THEM!**

**DELEGATE CREDENTIALS WILL ARRIVE
IN BRIGHT ORANGE 9"x12" ENVELOPES**

HOW DELEGATE CREDENTIALS ARE DETERMINED

For every certified member congregation, the number of member delegates shall be equal to the number of members of the congregation divided by fifty, plus one delegate for any fraction remaining; provided that each certified member congregation shall be entitled to at least two delegates. Each certified member congregation is also entitled to be represented at GA by the ordained minister or ministers in full or associate ministerial fellowship with the Association settled in such congregation, and by the DRE or DREs having achieved Credentialed Religious Education – Masters Level status by the Association and employed in such congregation.

In addition, each certified member congregation is also entitled to be represented at GA by any minister emeritus/a of such congregation in ministerial fellowship with the Association and by any DRE emeritus/a (having achieved Credentialed Religious Education – Masters Level status by the Association) designated as such by a vote at a meeting of the member congregation not less than six months prior to the General Assembly, provided that any such minister has been settled previously in such congregation, and any such director of religious education has been previously employed in such congregation.

ALTERNATE MEMBER DELEGATES

Your congregation may designate one or more Alternate Member Delegates. If an original member delegate is unable to attend GA, or has to leave early, the alternate member may replace the delegate for the entire GA or for the time remaining. An original member delegate and an alternate may also trade positions more than once during the GA. Only member delegates may have alternates; ministerial and other credential types are not transferable.

MINISTERIAL DELEGATES (including Community Ministers)

All settled ministers and community ministers who are registered with Ministry & Professional Leadership at the UUA will be sent credentials. According to UUA Bylaws, congregations may be represented only by ordained ministers in full or associate ministerial fellowship with the Association. A settled minister must be compensated for ministerial activities that constitute fifty percent or more of a typical work schedule. A community minister delegate must

- (1) maintain active involvement in the congregation,
- (2) have written agreement with the congregation,
- (3) receive endorsement from the congregation including a pledge of continuing relationship and support and affirmation that the community minister's work is recognized by the congregation as ministry, and
- (4) be compensated for community ministry work which constitutes fifty percent or more of a typical work schedule recognized by the congregation as ministry.

If you have a question about your *settled* minister, contact Emily Schwab at (617) 948-6408 or transitions@uua.org.

If you have a question about your *community* minister, contact Mohammed El-Khatib at (617) 948-6452 or mfcassistant@uua.org.

MINISTER EMERITUS/A DELEGATES

If a minister emeritus/a will represent a congregation as a delegate, the congregation must have voted this status prior to December 25, 2007. If you have a question about your minister *emeritus/a*, contact A'Llyn Ettien at (617) 948-6406 or aettien@uua.org.

DRE DELEGATES

If you have a question about your credentialed DRE (having achieved Credentialed Religious Education – Masters Level), contact Beth Williams at (617) 948-6417 or recdirector@uua.org.

DRE EMERITUS/A DELEGATES

If a DRE emeritus/a (having achieved Credentialed Religious Education – Masters Level) will represent a congregation as a delegate, the congregation must have voted this status prior to December 25, 2007. If you have a question about your credentialed *DRE emeritus/a*, contact Beth Williams at (617) 948-6417 or recdirector@uua.org.

Refer to UUA Bylaws Section 4.8 for a full description of how General Assembly delegates are determined.

General Assembly Office • 25 Beacon Street, Boston MA 02108 • (617) 948-4209 • gaoffice@uua.org • uua.org

GA DELEGATE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I register for GA as a delegate?

Delegates do not declare their delegate status when registering for GA. They simply register in the appropriate category (adult, youth, retired minister, etc.).

How do I get a delegate voting card and ribbon?

Bring your credential card, signed by a minister or officer, to GA and receive your delegate voting card and ribbon after you have picked up your GA name badge.

What if I lose my credential card before GA?

You may request a replacement from the UUA Secretary at GA. If you need a replacement before GA, contact the GA office no later than June 13 at gaoffice@uua.org or (617) 948-4209. After June 13, replacement materials must be requested onsite.

Who can vote at GA?

Delegates from certified UUA member congregations.

Can our congregation instruct delegates how to vote?

The relationship between a congregation and its delegates is determined by the congregation, not the UUA. There are no guidelines in the UUA Bylaws governing individual congregations. So, if a congregation wants to instruct its delegates, it can.

How many delegates does my congregation have?

All certified congregations have one member delegate for every 50 members (or fraction thereof), with a minimum of 2 delegates. Additional delegates include ministers in full or associate fellowship with the Association and employed by certified congregations (including extension and interim ministers); emeritus/a minister(s); and community ministers who maintain active involvement and receive endorsement from the congregation. Refer to UUA Bylaw Section 4.8 and Rule 4.9.2 for more information.

Membership of Member Congregation	
1 - 100	2 Member Delegates
101 - 150	3 Member Delegates
151 - 200	4 Member Delegates
201 - 250	5 Member Delegates
251 - 300	6 Member Delegates
301 - 350	7 Member Delegates
351 - 400	8 Member Delegates
401 - 450	9 Member Delegates
451 - 500	10 Member Delegates
over 500	One Member Delegate for each additional 50 members or fraction thereof.

What is an alternate delegate?

An alternate is a member of the congregation designated to replace a member delegate at GA, if necessary or desired. This may be decided before or during GA. The alternate member presents a signed alternate card and either the original delegate's credential card or the original delegate's badge, ribbon, and voting card at GA.

How many alternate delegates does my congregation have?

A congregation may have the same number of alternate delegates as member delegates. Alternates may replace delegates as necessary before or during GA.

How are delegates selected?

Every certified congregation decides how to select its member and alternate delegates. All delegates must be voting members of the congregation.

How many different types of delegates are there?

In addition to member delegates, certified congregations may also have delegates who are:

- ministers in full or associate fellowship with the Association and employed by certified congregations (including extension and interim ministers);
- emeritus/a ministers designated as such by a vote at a meeting of the member congregation not less than six months prior to the General Assembly, provided that any such minister has been settled previously in such congregation;
- community ministers who maintain active involvement and receive endorsement from the congregation;
- DREs having achieved Credentialed Religious Education – Masters Level status by the Association and employed in such congregation; and
- emeritus/a DREs (having achieved Credentialed Religious Education – Masters Level status by the Association) designated as such by a vote at a meeting of the member congregation not less than six months prior to the General Assembly, provided that any such DRE has been previously employed in such congregation.

While each congregation decides how to select its member and alternate delegates, it does not select its other delegate types. Ministers and DREs' eligibility to be delegates to General Assembly is determined by the UUA's Ministry and Professional Leadership staff group and the UUA Religious Education Credentialing Committee, respectively. These credentials are for specific individuals and are not transferable. Refer to UUA Bylaw Section 4.8 and Rule 4.9.2 for more information.

Can we send Youth delegates?

There is no special category for "youth" delegates, but young people may be delegates so long as they are members of the congregation.

Can I be a delegate and not go to GA?

A delegate can vote by absentee ballot in elections. However, there is no proxy voting on business items during GA.

How does our congregation register delegates?

Delegate status is irrelevant to registration. The registration process is the same for delegates and non-delegates. The GA office mails delegate credential cards to certified congregations in early May. Congregations then distribute the credential cards to their delegates. Delegates simply bring their credential cards (signed by the minister, chair or clerk) with them to GA. Individuals serving as delegates must register as GA attendees.

If you have any additional questions, please direct them to gaoffice@uua.org or (617) 948-4209.