

"What in the world is all this Open Space at General Assembly??!!??"

Good question - and you have the answer.

Open Space sessions are scheduled at this year's General Assembly to address the question "In today's complex world, what is our mission in as a faith community?" Open Space offers everyone at GA 07 the chance to give the Board of Trustees guidance from member congregations as trustees prepare to create Ends statements that are informed by the work we will be doing in Portland. We will use some of the principles of Open Space to play a key leadership role in our Association as we work to become the difference we want Unitarian Universalism to make in the world.

What's most critical? What's needed - and what is not? How can the Association be most effective in supporting member congregations? How do we become the change we want to see?

The questions we raise, and the solutions we propose, are up to all of us, through those who will represent our congregations at General Assembly. In Open Space, there's no preset agenda, nothing set in stone or even sand. There will be facilitators ready to set up basic structure, places to meet, methods for output of every session to be recorded and reported. In the end, the output from the Open Space sessions will be prioritized by the delegates and referred back to the Board.

The future is ours to create. Join us in Open Space at GA 07 this June.

Dr. Helen Bishop
Chair, Open Space Planning Group