

## Raising Money to Send Delegates to General Assembly

On average, sending a delegate to General Assembly costs around \$1,500, including registration fees, transportation, housing, meals and expenses. Here are a variety of ways to raise money for your congregation's GA Delegates Fund:

- Ask major donors from your congregation to contribute \$500 each to the fund.
- Divide \$1,500 by the number of adults in your congregation, and ask every adult to donate that amount to the fund.
- Ask a group of major donors to match contributions made to the fund.
- Organize a monthly "Everyone can dance with everyone" dance. Cost of admission is the amount each adult in your congregation needs to donate to the fund.
- Ask someone who loves to entertain to put on a gourmet feast. Each adult attending should be asked to donate \$50 to the fund.
- Organize a raffle/auction of services and goods. All proceeds go to the fund.
- Ask children and youth to organize a car wash, with a suggested donation of \$20/car. All proceeds go to the fund.
- Auction "Lunch with the minister," "Lunch with the Director of Religious Education," "Lunch with the Music Director," "Lunch with the Administrator," and "Lunch with the Board President."
- Auction off a sermon topic.
- Auction off a worship service focus.
- Ask children and youth in the religious education program to create artworks on "What it means to be a Unitarian Universalist," and auction off the art.
- Ask people to bring loose change to drop into a "GA delegates fund" jar. Children and youth in the religious education program can count the money and report progress toward the goal of supporting all the delegates your congregation could send to General Assembly.
- Put double-sided tape around the perimeter of your sanctuary, and ask people to put quarters on the tape. Children and youth could calculate how many quarters your sanctuary would hold, and how many times you'll need to fill the tape to fund your GA delegates fully.
- Put "GA delegates" trees in the room where you have refreshments after worship, and ask people to pin currency on the trees until they are full. Keep adding trees until you've raised enough money to pay the expenses of all the delegates your congregation is entitled to.
- Put a "GA delegates fund" box next to the refreshments you serve after worship, and ask people to drop paper currency into the box every time they take a cup of coffee or a snack.
- Organize a fashion show, with a suggested donation of \$10/adult. Ask people to model what they think GA delegates should wear.
- Ask someone who loves to bake to donate a "Bread of the Month," and auction it off.
- Ask someone who loves to garden to donate a class in organic gardening, and auction off the class.
- Ask a masseuse to donate massages, and auction them off.
- Auction off musical performances to be used as offertories.
- Ask people to make contributions in honor of people they love, and create a book of photos and short writings about the people being honored. Display the book in a prominent place, with an explanation inviting people to make additional contributions.
- Organize an evening of Circle Suppers with each adult asked to donate to the fund.
- Ask youth in the religious education program to offer babysitting services and donate what they earn to the fund.
- Auction off a portrait photograph.
- Ask people to donate used books, and hold a silent auction of the books.
- Ask people to sponsor children and youth in the religious education program in a trike/bike ride in the parking lot.
- Organize a "Pooch and Pet Parade," and ask people to sponsor the animals.

- Ask quilters to create a wall hanging to celebrate the life of your congregation, and auction off the quilt.
- Ask knitters to knit watch caps, hats and mittens, and auction them.
- Organize a weight loss contest, and ask congregational members to sponsor people losing weight.
- Organize a “Stop Smoking” effort, and ask congregational members to sponsor people who want to quit smoking.
- Ask people to donate Frequent Flyers miles to get delegates to GA.
- Organize a special musical event such as a choir performance, instrumental concert, or SingAlong. Ask audience members to make donations to the fund.
- Ask a composer to create a special piece of music, and auction it off.
- Ask someone to write a play about someone from Unitarian Universalist history, and ask children and youth in the religious education program to put the play on, for donations to the fund.
- Ask someone to act out scenes from the life of a famous Unitarian Universalist, with proceeds going to the fund.
- Organize a Health Fair where people can get their blood pressure checked and get information on nutrition and exercise. Ask people attending to make donations to the fund.
- Hold a contest for the Most Creative Fundraising Ideas, and use the winning idea to organize a fundraising event to raise money for the fund.
- Organize a sleepover, and ask parents and caregivers of those attending to make donations to the fund.
- Organize a bake sale, with proceeds going to the fund.
- Auction off the services of a handyperson who will make small repairs in people’s homes.
- Ask people to donate CDs and DVDs, and hold a silent auction.
- Ask someone who knits or crochets to make a “GA afghan,” and auction it off.
- Ask someone who’s bilingual to offer six conversational sessions in a language other than English, and auction off the sessions.
- Organize a Dance Marathon, and ask dancers to get sponsors who will make donations to the fund.
- Create a “GA Curtain of Currency” by asking people to pin currency to a curtain hung in the social area of the congregation.
- Ask cooks to contribute Dinner for Four, with everything frozen in disposable containers. Auction off the dinners.
- Auction off mending and clothing repair services.
- Auction off a class in basic automotive maintenance services, including changing a tire and changing the oil.
- Auction off a “Get Organized!” session, with someone who will come to your home or office to help you get a room organized.
- Ask people to donate hotel room costs through particular hotel chains.
- Organize a class in how to play bridge, poker, Mahjongg, canasta, and other games, and ask participants to make donations to the fund.