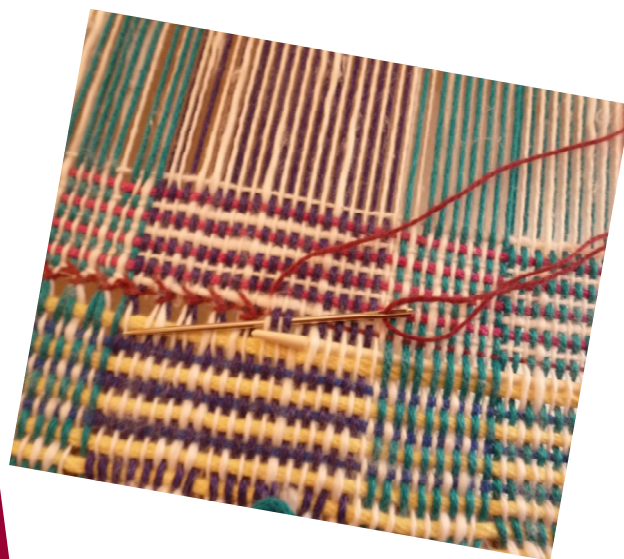


**2015 Joseph Priestley
District Assembly**

***Weaving the Fabric of Our
Faith: A Tapestry of Impact,
Innovation and
Interconnection***



April 10-11, 2015

ACE Conference Center

800 Ridge Pike

Lafayette Hill, PA

**Featured Keynote Addresses: Mark Bernstein and Patricia Infante
Central East Region Congregational Life Consultants**

Register Online at <http://lb.cm/2015DistrictAssembly>

Information on the Keynote Speakers

PATRICIA INFANTE
UUA CENTRAL EAST REGION
CONGREGATIONAL PRIMARY CONTACT



Patricia Infante is a member of the Congregational Life Staff Team of CER and a Credentialed Religious Educator. Before joining the CER staff, Pat has served in the same arena for the Joseph Priestley District for two years. Before that she held the portfolio for Congregational Growth for two years. She had been a Director of Religious Education at the Cherry Hill, NJ congregation for nine years before joining the JPD staff. She brings a wealth of experience in all aspects of faith development to assist congregations in growing in faith. Pat is a lifelong Unitarian Universalist.

MARK BERNSTEIN
UUA CENTRAL EAST REGION
CONGREGATIONAL PRIMARY CONTACT



Mark Bernstein is a member of the Congregational Life Staff of CER. Prior to this position, Mark was a member of the JPD Adjunct Staff leading board/staff/lay leadership retreats and later served as the Director for Growth in the Joseph Priestley District. Mark is past president of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Delaware County, Media, PA. He has been an active lay leader having taught religious education, serving on the canvass committee, being a worship associate, and being elected to the board of trustees twice. Mark brings a deep knowledge of congregational life and ways to support congregations in growing our institutions.

District Assembly Schedule and Highlights

Friday, April 10, 2015

Registration	6-7:30P
Bookstore & Exhibits	7-10P
Opening Worship	7-7:30P
Keynotes	7:30-8:30P
Keynote Tracks Workshop 1	8:40-9:30P
Reception (Cash Bar)	9:30-10:30P

Saturday, April 11, 2015

Breakfast	7:30-8:30A
Registration	8-9A
Bookstore & Exhibits	8A-6P
Worship	8:30-9A
Keynote Tracks Workshop 2	9-10:15A
Keynote Tracks Workshop 3	10:30-11:50A
Lunch	12P-1P
District Business Meeting (with Awards)	1:20-2:50P
Open Workshops	3-4:15P
Break	4:15-4:30P
Leadership Conversations	4:30-5:30P
Closing Ceremony	5:40-6P

District Assembly Highlights

- ✓ **Well Stocked Bookstore**—with up to date offerings for your congregation and leaders
- ✓ **Exhibits** from diverse UU organizations
- ✓ **Awards** for Outstanding UU Adult, Young Adult and Youth in the JPD who have exemplified the best in our faith tradition
- ✓ **Recognition** of Youth Empowering and Support (YES) Churches, Outstanding Chalice Lighter and Chalice Keeper
- ✓ **Friday-Night reception**—Join fellow conference participants where you can greet old friends and make new ones
- ✓ **Leadership Conversations on Saturday** will network us with leaders in other congregations in similar leadership positions to our own
- ✓ **A New Track-Based Workshop Program** that will allow us to explore deeply how to be spiritually centered leaders, as well as how to build connections in and between our congregations

Interactive Worship Leaders

Friday Evening Worship, Saturday Morning Worship, and Saturday Evening Closing Worship will be led by **Rev. David Pyle**, JPD District Executive, and **Rev. Erik Martinez Resly** with **members of The Sanctuaries, Washington, DC**, www.thesanctuaries.org.

Keynote Tracks Workshops

In order to go deeper than any single workshop usually allows, this year at District Assembly we will go deeper on fewer issues. After encountering two keynote addresses, participants will be invited to attend a series of workshops led by each of our keynote speakers and others, to explore and engage in authenticity and depth.

Keynote by Patricia Infante

“Spiritual Strength for Bold Living”

Impact Workshop

Friday Night 8:40pm—9:30pm

We will:

- Introduce the characteristics of a “spiritually strong” congregation.
- Explore how faith development for all ages is a key factor in bold living.
- Consider the value of healthy leadership and a strong mission in living out a bold vision.

Interconnection Workshop

Saturday Morning 9am—10:15am

We will:

- Consider the meaning of “covenant” in a spiritually strong congregation.
- Introduce tools for starting or re-energizing small group ministry.
- Practice healthy communication skills within the congregation.

Innovation Workshop

Saturday Morning 10:30 am—11:50am

We will:

- Consider ways in which using “theme-based ministry” can challenge and grow a more spiritually mature people.
- Look at how “theme-based ministry” can be applied across the lifespan.
- Introduce other innovative ideas such as full faith week and the flipped classroom.

Keynote by Mark Bernstein

“Where Two or Three Are Gathered: The Power of Congregational Connections”

Impact Workshop

Friday Night 8:40pm—9:30pm

We will:

- Explore the benefits of connecting with other congregations
- Consider the compelling reasons why congregations will not want to connect
- Present additional examples of congregational connections

Interconnection Workshop

Saturday Morning 9am—10:15am

We will:

- Consider the model that best fits your congregation
- Look at the “readiness” factors in your congregation
- Discuss the first steps to take and the process to follow

Innovation Workshop

Saturday Morning 10:30 am—11:50 am

We will:

- Discuss the concept of change in the congregation and sources of potential resistance
- Explore ways of enrolling the congregation in the change process
- Share available resources to support congregations in this endeavor

Open Workshop - Taking Community beyond the Congregation—Saturday, 3pm – 4:15pm—Presenter Jim Wehner

This workshop will address how we engage the communities around our churches through innovation and interconnection. Together we will think about ways that every church member can engage in holistic and innovative service that honors and builds the community around the church.

Jim joined the FCS team in September 2008 as the Executive Director of Charis Community Housing. In January 2014, Jim moved to the role of President at FCS. With experience in for-profit and non-profit sectors, Jim brings a balance of ministry experience and business skills to this non-profit, community development organization. Prior to joining the FCS team, Jim spent nine years as the lead pastor of Common Ground Fellowship, a participating member of the Evangelical Free Church of America and approximately nine years in retail sales and management with Recreational Equipment Incorporated (REI).

Jim has led and participated in multiple workshops at the Christian Community Development Association conference and at churches regarding Responsible Charity, Affordable Housing, the impact of the foreclosure crisis on neighborhoods, and Neighborhood Dynamics of Redevelopment. He has also worked with multiple churches and leadership teams to aid them in developing a vision for ministry in the communities where they serve. Jim supports multiple organizations at the board level assisting them as they develop thinking and best practices around organizational structure, board governance, and team development.

Open Workshop - From Districts to Regions - Saturday, 3pm – 4:15pm - Presenter JPD Board of Directors

Five years ago, the Boards of the Joseph Priestley District, the Metro New York District, the St. Lawrence District, and the Ohio Meadville District began a journey of closer collaboration. That journey has grown into ongoing discussions about what might be possible in the future. In this workshop, the JPD Board of Directors will share with you the current planning of the Regionalization Transition team formed by these four Boards, and will begin the process of gathering feedback from our congregations. The goal is to find ways to maximize the support that is provided to our congregations and also honors the history and characteristics of the JPD.

Open Workshop - People of Color Caucus—Saturday, 3pm – 4:15pm

As a part of the District's ongoing mission to help build community and power among People of Color in our congregations, this workshop will continue the series of People of Color caucuses that have been sponsored by the District's Director for Racial Justice. In this caucus, members of the CERG Transition Team will be present to hear concerns that People of Color may have in the process towards regionalization, and to vision how we can expand some of the important work begun in the JPD to other parts of our movement.

Leadership Conversations — Saturday, 4:30pm to 5:30pm

Facilitated by members of the UUA Central East Regional Staff, you are invited to attend one of several conversations about the programming and support different areas of congregational life need in order to live the mission of our congregation. These are listening sessions, designed to help Regional Staff to determine the programming needs of our congregations. Sessions include:

Congregational Board Members and Officers

Search and Transition Team Members

Religious Education / Faith Development Leaders

Membership and Hospitality Leaders

Worship Leaders

Social Justice Leaders

Youth and Young Adult Ministry Leaders

ACE Conference Center

www.aceconferencecenter.com

Physical Address: 800 Ridge Pike, Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

Please use 309 Manor Road, Lafayette Hill, PA when using GPS

- ✓ Sleeping Room Rates—\$125.00 for single/double occupancy. \$135.00 for triple/quad occupancy. Taxes not included.
- ✓ **Sleeping rooms are limited!** If you're interested, please make your reservation as soon as possible.
- ✓ To reserve a sleeping room, please call 800-523-3000 and request to speak with reservations. Please note that reservations can be made during the hours of 7:30am to 6pm, Monday through Friday.



✓ **A limited amount of sleeping rooms are available to reserve at the ACE Conference Center. You are responsible for making your own room reservation by calling 800-523-3000.**



ACE CONFERENCE CENTER

<http://lb.cm/ACEDirections>

Joseph Priestley District Assembly Registration Form

After completing ENTIRE registration form, please mail with a check for the appropriate amount, payable to "JPD of the UUA", to the following address: 100 West 10th Street, Suite 1008, Wilmington, DE 19801. Questions? Please contact the JPD Office at 302-778-4564, 800-351-6637 or office@jpduua.org. To register online, visit: www.jpduua.org

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

_____ Young Adult (18-35) _____ Adult

Role in Congregation: _____

_____ Omnivore _____ Vegetarian _____ Vegan

Other Dietary Needs: _____

Accessibility Concerns: _____

Congregation (Full Name): _____

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

_____ Young Adult (18-35) _____ Adult

Role in Congregation: _____

_____ Omnivore _____ Vegetarian _____ Vegan

Other Dietary Needs: _____

Accessibility Concerns: _____

Childcare Requests: All requests for childcare must be received by Friday, March 27th.

Name : _____

Age: _____ Allergies/Special Needs: _____

Name : _____

Age: _____ Allergies/Special Needs: _____

Exhibit Space—Choose Size (Limited Availability):

1/2 Table @ \$15.00 _____ **OR** Full Table @ \$25.00 _____

Name of Exhibit Group: _____

Donation to DA Scholarship Fund (help fund those who would otherwise be unable to attend) \$ _____

Thank you for your registration! You will receive an email confirmation once your information has been entered. We look forward to seeing you at the 2015 District Assembly!

Registration Options and Fees:

All registration fees will incur a late fee of \$25.00 after March 27th.

Adults (Friday Only) x \$50	\$
Adults (Saturday Only) x \$115	\$
Adults (Full Conference) x \$145	\$
Young Adult (Ages 18-35) (Friday Only) x \$35	\$
Young Adult (Ages 18-35) (Saturday Only) x \$65	\$
Young Adult (Ages 18-35) (Full Conference) x \$95	\$
Childcare (up to age 4) (Full Conference) x FREE	\$ FREE