The Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly (GA) in New Orleans, June 21-25, 2017, was a powerful witness to the sacredness of Mother Earth and our interconnectedness as humanity and with the web of life. The Opening Celebration was quite beautiful. The stage was filled with painted trees from the “Environmental Justice Forest”, an art display coordinated by the UU Young Adults for Climate Justice and created by UUs all over the UUA. As GA progressed, trees from the Environmental Justice Forest made appearances in numerous workshop and worship spaces: decorating the Young Adults space and Welcoming Worship, the UU Climate Justice Collaboratory, Decolonization is Climate Justice, CUUPS Solstice Worship, and Saturday Morning Worship. The Environmental Justice Forest took root nearby the Plenary Hall of the GA. Passers-by were encouraged to answer the question “What Lives in the Environmental Justice Forest?”

A huge thank you to long-time UU Ministry for Earth board member Cindy Davidson for crafting a strong sermon on climate change to share with UUs during this challenging Earth Day season and beyond, “Truth Telling and Movement Building in the Climate Crisis.” Other materials for Earth Day were an order of service, “Honor a Congregational Eco-Hero” program, and art projects.

The Environmental Justice Practitioners Network (EJPN) is a community focused on learning about — and taking action at — the intersections of racial, class, and ecological justice. The EJPN hosts a webinar with a special guest speaker every month, and will soon be launching a new web portal for community organizing and small group ministries.

On April 29, 2017, Unitarian Universalists and people of all faiths came together with hundreds of organizations and hundreds of thousands of people for the People’s Climate Movement mobilization.

The mission of the UU Young Adults for Climate Justice is to grow a diverse network of Unitarian Universalist young adult activists grounded in faith, supported by each other and the UU community at large, and working together for climate justice. Our members are young adults, aged 18-35, who are climate justice activists with some connection to the Unitarian Universalist faith.
Financial Summary
Fiscal Year 2017 (July 2016 – June 2017)

INCOME
Total FY 2017 income: $104,619
Donations (20%)
Grants (61%)
FY 2016 carryover to FY 2017 (19%)  

EXPENSES
Total FY 2017 expenses: $114,738
Programs/direct service: 73%
Young Adults for Climate Justice (41%)
Environmental Justice Practitioners Network (4%)
UUA GA program grant + Faithify campaign (9%)
FY 2017 carryover to FY 2018 (19%)
Operating (27%)
Staff/consultant stipends (17%)
Office rent (3%)
Administration (4%)
General Assembly (3%)

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