



## *The Heart of Unitarianism/Universalism*

11 FEBRUARY – 15 FEBRUARY 2018

To fulfill the mission of the ICUU to sustain and grow our global faith we need to better articulate what our global faith actually **is**. During the International Council of Unitarians and Universalists Conference we will explore the multifaceted nature of our global faith. We will hear from several keynote speakers, each speaking not only to the unique expression of Unitarian/Universalism in their faith community but also about how we bridge the differences of our faith expressions and how to become a stronger, more united voice for religious freedom in our world. We will invite Unitarians / Universalists from our global community to offer workshops and trainings that will deepen our connections to one another as well as strengthen our diverse identity as religious liberals. Participants will gain experience in multicultural religious conversation and be invited to explore how then to share those conversations with their faith communities.



We invite you to join us and our hosts, the Unitarian Union of North East India (UUNEI), for our 2018 Conference being held for the first time in the Khasi Hills of India where they have been living Unitarian/Universalist values and faith for generations. Join us for learning and inspiration, worship and conversation, and of course, good food, all in a beautiful corner of India.

### WHERE WE ARE STAYING

We will stay and meet at the Earle Holiday Home in downtown Shillong. The hotel puts us within walking distance of the heart of the city, where we will be able to enjoy the dynamic energy of the Khasi Hills, and it also has one of the best restaurants in the city. We will use the meeting spaces at Earle Holiday for all our programming as well. Accommodation selection will be handled separately from registration. Once you register, you will be sent an accommodation form in which you will be able to select from the many levels of room type available so you will have many options to choose from to meet your needs.



If, however, you wish to make your own hotel accommodations, we recommend:

Hotel Centre Point <http://www.shillongcentrepoin.com/>

Pinewood Hotel <http://megtourism.gov.in/hotels/pinewood.pdf>



### HOW TO GET THERE

We recommend that you fly into Guwahati airport. You will likely fly through Delhi or Mumbai and then onto Guwahati. We do not suggest you attempt to fly into Shillong, because the airport is not consistently open and you risk having your flight cancelled. You will be greeted at the Guwahati airport by one of our UUNEI hosts. They will direct you to one of the coaches we have arranged to bring you directly to Shillong.

### COST

Early Registration	20 May - 31 August 2017	\$250.00
Regular Registration	1 September - 30 November 2017	\$300.00
Late Registration	1 December 2017 - 15 January 2018	\$350.00

#### Please Note:

- Accommodation costs are additional and will depend upon what type/level of room you choose.
- Air Travel/Transportation costs to Guwahati are the registrant's responsibility. Transport **from** Guwahati airport to venue is included in registration fee.

### REGISTRATION

You can register either from the "Register Here" link below or from the ICUU website

**[REGISTER HERE](#)**

[www.icuu.info](http://www.icuu.info)

**Schedule** (subject to change)

	2/10	2/11	2/12	2/13	2/14	2/15	2/16
	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
7:00 AM	ARRIVALS	UUNEI Annual Meeting	Morning Meditation	Morning Meditation	Morning Meditation	Morning Meditation	DEPARTURES
7:30 AM			Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	
9:00 AM			Worship	Worship	Worship	Worship	
9:30 AM			Council Meeting	Program	Program	Program	
10:00 AM							
10:30 AM							
11:00 AM			Break	Break	Break	Break	
11:30 AM			Council Meeting	Program	Program	Program	
12:00 PM							
12:30 PM							
1:00 PM			Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
1:30 PM							
2:00 PM							
2:30 PM			Council Meeting	Program	Program	Program	
3:00 PM							
3:30 PM							
4:00 PM		Tea/Coffee	Tea/Coffee	Tea/Coffee	Tea/Coffee		
4:30 PM							
5:00 PM		Opening Celebrations	Free Time	Free Time	Closing Celebrations		
5:30 PM			Travel to Madan Laban				
6:00 PM			Worship at Madan Laban				
6:30 PM							
7:00 PM		Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner		
7:30 PM				Dinner			

*There will also be an optional 2-day post-conference tour of the Khasi Hills. For more information please email Executive Director Sara Ascher at [execdir@icuu.info](mailto:execdir@icuu.info)*

**THINGS TO KNOW**

The following are a few things to keep in mind as you make your plans to come to India.

**IMPORTANT:** *Please purchase travel insurance to cover cancellations as once reservations are made, payments cannot be refunded.*

**Visas**

Most participants from outside India will need to apply for a visa to enter India. You will need to apply for a **TOURIST VISA**. India now has an online process for visa applications, which we recommend. However, you will have to wait to apply for the visa until 120 days prior to your date of travel to India. The process will require an electronic copy of your passport photo page and an electronic copy of a passport-sized recent photo of you. You submit these online and usually hear a response within 3-5

business days. Please be sure to review the Indian Visa website at <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/visa/index.html> for further details.

### **Spending Money**

If you wish to obtain Rupees for some spending money, there are ATMs in the city center at which you will be able to use your debit card to receive Rupees. If you bring cash with you to exchange, your best option is to change it at the airport either in Delhi or Mumbai. There are banks in Shillong that may be able to change currencies, but your best option is to get cash via an ATM. This will give you the best exchange rate and is also the safest.

### **Language**

The language for worship, presentations, workshops, and main sessions will be in English.

### **Worship**

Each day begins with a communal act of worship led by participants from several countries. These services are an opportunity to share in the spiritual practice of other cultures.



### **Chalice Circles**

These are an opportunity to meet daily with a small group of participants from other countries, getting to know each other, focusing on elements of faith and spirituality. Lifelong friendships and connections are often formed in Chalice Circles.



### **Young Adults Program**

Young adults (ages 21-35) are again especially encouraged to attend the ICUU Council Meeting and Conference. In addition to participating in the general programming, young adults are provided an enriching program throughout the week, including leadership building, workshops, and social time.

Special funding will be available for young adults for all or part of the cost. To be eligible for these funds, young adults will need to fill out a separate request form in addition to the Council Meeting and Conference online registration. Contact Melody Moberg ([melody.moberg@uuchurch.org](mailto:melody.moberg@uuchurch.org)) for more information.

### **Sponsorships**

A limited number of eligible participants from member groups and emerging groups can apply for sponsorships covering all or part of international travel and on-site costs for the Council Meeting and Conference. Details and an application form will be available on the ICUU website or by email request to [execdir@icuu.info](mailto:execdir@icuu.info). The closing date for applications is 1 October 2017. If you are considering applying for sponsorship, please do not register online at this time.

**FOR ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS or for further information -- please contact ICUU Executive Director Sara Ascher at [execdir@icuu.info](mailto:execdir@icuu.info).**

*NOTE: The information contained within this guide is accurate to the best of our knowledge. Arrangements are subject to change in case of circumstances beyond our control.*

**[REGISTER HERE](#)**

**[www.icuu.info](http://www.icuu.info)**