

## **UUJusticePA Board participates in Jubilee Three Training**

Over the last weekend, the UUJusticePA Board and our Staff participated in Jubilee Three Anti-racism training. Of course, we spent several portions of each day on Zoom. It was an intense three days, but we all learned a lot, and we look forward to discerning together how we incorporate this knowledge into our work.

Through well-paced presentations, discussions, videos, exercises, and small group work, we covered the following topics:

- The history of racism and resistance to racism in America
- Defining racism
- The effects of racism on people of color and on white people
- Dismantling racism
- Claiming and Shaping an anti-racist identity

The final bullet point is the work we are in now. Claiming and shaping an anti-racist identity for Unitarian Universalism and for UUJusticePA.

The Jubilee Three experience has been developed by Paula Cole Jones, Dr. Leon Spencer, and Lutricia Callair. The purpose of the 2-1/2 day workshop is to give UUs the tools to consider adopting the 8th Principle for our denomination.

Of course, there will be much more discussion of adopting the 8th Principle in our congregations and within UUJusticePA. In June 2023, at our UUA General Assembly in Pittsburgh, we will vote.

But regardless of that decision, the UUJusticePA Board will spend our next Board meeting discussing racism and how we will move forward in dismantling racism through the work of each of our justice teams.

Dismantling centuries of deep-rooted racism will be hard work. But, many of us agree with Paula Cole Jones, that if we do the work and create a multi-cultural beloved community in our congregations and state-wide justice organizations, we will create a vital, thriving Unitarian Universalism. And this vital, thriving UU will create easy on-ramps into our fold.

So, our work is two-fold, to do the honest hard work we all need to do in dismantling racism and create new invitations for individuals and families of all races and ethnicities to join our faith.

May it become so. And may we all be intentional and inclusive of others as we move forward.

Rev. Joan