



International  
Council of  
Unitarians and  
Universalists

*Be Part of History*  
at the **2012**  
**ICUU Gathering**  
in the Philippines!



*Join Unitarians and Unitarian Universalists from every continent for ICUU's historic Council Meeting and Conference, meeting for the first time outside North America and Europe.*

South Sea Resort on Negros Island, the Philippines is the location for the gathering from February 7 to 12, 2012. Situated near the headquarters of the UU Church of Philippines in Dumaguete City, this remarkable seaside hotel will offer comfortable accommodation and a picturesque setting for ICUU's biannual Council Meeting.

In the fifteen years since ICUU was founded, attendance has grown significantly at this meeting when member groups convene to plan the work of ICUU and review progress.

Welcoming this involvement, a Conference will be integrated with the Council Meeting offering both opportunities for learning about the many cultures and expressions that make up our worldwide liberal religious community and for advancing the objectives of ICUU through networking and collaboration.

*How do we determine what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist when in different countries and cultures we differ about often cherished values such as democratic principles, the priesthood of all believers, and particular theologies?*

The Conference theme “Sharing Our Faith, Transforming Our World” asks how we can “love alike” in appropriate right relationship. Creative tension in our multi-cultural dialogue will be explored through a variety of talks, workshops and other interactive experiences focusing both on our diversity and what we have in common. Some sessions will consider how the ways we express our faith can make an impact on social justice and the environment in our local communities.

Worship and spiritual sustenance will be a special feature of the gathering including acts of worship in the style and custom of different member groups, Chalice Circles for small group sharing and participative workshops focusing on creative arts such as dance and music.

Other highlights will include the opening night celebration attended by the leader of every UU congregation in the Philippines, to be broadcast live on television, and opportunities to experience more of UUism in the Philippines through optional tours.

Prior to the Meeting, a tour will explore the Manila area from 3 to 6 February, including participation in worship services at the two UU Fellowships in the capital city. Following the Conference a more rural tour will visit local congregations on Negros Island on February 12 and 13.

Admittedly attendance at this memorable event will involve considerable travel for some, but the price for air-conditioned accommodation, all meals, all program fees and use of the resort’s facilities such as the swimming pool and transport from the airport is at the modest cost of 13,000 Philippines Pesos (approx. \$303) for shared accommodation and 15,890 Philippines Pesos (approx. \$370) for a single room. As only a limited number of single rooms will be available, early registration is encouraged.

## **REGISTRATION**

Registration is now underway and be sure to register before November 1 to save \$50 and to reserve your place with a 35% deposit (remaining payment is due no later than 30 November)

Until 1 November, there is a \$50 discount. From November the full fees is due upon registration.

Participants are strongly advised to purchase travel insurance to cover cancellations as once reservations are made, payments cannot be refunded.

Registration is now available online at [ICUU CM12 Registration](#)

## **SPONSORSHIPS**

A limited number of eligible participants from member groups and emerging groups will receive sponsorships covering international travel and on-site costs for the Council Meeting and Conference. Details and an application form are available from the ICUU website or by email request to [execsec@icuu.net](mailto:execsec@icuu.net). The closing date for applications is September 15. ***If you are considering applying for sponsorship, please do not register online at this time.***

## SCHEDULE

Preceding the opening ceremonies on Tuesday Feb. 7, leaders of all the UUCP congregations will join us, and showcase their own congregational life and work and that of the UUCP. The provisional schedule is as follows:

	Monday 06-Feb	Tuesday 07-Feb	Wednesday 08-Feb	Thursday 09-Feb	Friday 10-Feb	Saturday 11-Feb	Sunday 12-Feb		
08:00	Pre-Meeting Tour Manila		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast and goodbyes		
08:30									
09:00	ALL DAY from Friday 3 Feb		Worship	Worship	Worship	Worship	Post-Meeting Tour Negros Island (ALL DAY) until Monday 13 Feb		
09:30			Council Meeting I with coffee break 9:30 - 13:00	Guild Keynote Lecture with coffee break 9:30 - 13:00	Theme Session with coffee break 9:30- 13:00	Theme Session with coffee break 9:30 - 13:00			
10:00	EARLY ARRIVALS arrive today						LATE DEPARTURES stay one more night and depart Monday 13 Feb		
10:30									
11:00									
11:30									
12:00									
12:30									
13:00				Lunch 13:00-14:30	Lunch 13:00-14:30	Lunch 13:00 - 14:30		Lunch 13:00-14:30	
13:30									
14:00			Welcome Encounter with Leaders Of Philippines Congregations	Council Meeting II with coffee break	Workshops A	Regional Gatherings and Other Group Meetings		Council Meeting IV	Executive Committee meeting
14:30					Workshops B				
15:00									
15:30:00									
16:00	Executive Committee Meeting (ALL DAY)		Chalice Circles	Chalice Circles	Chalice Circles	Free time			
16:30									
17:00					Free Time	Free Time			
17:30									
18:00		Dinner 18:00-19:30	Dinner 18:00-19:30	Dinner 18:00-19:30	Dinner 18:00-19:30	Dinner 18:00-19:30			
18:30									
19:00									
19:30		Ingathering Celebration / Worship Opening Session	Council Meeting III	Creative Workshops	Generative Workshop	Closing Event and Ceremony			
20:00									
20:30			Worship	Worship	Worship				
21:00									

## COSTS

Registration for Council Meeting & Conference in shared accommodation including meals  
- 13,000 Philippines Pesos (approx. \$303) until 1 November

Registration for Council Meeting & Conference in single accommodation including meals  
- 15,890 Philippines Pesos (approx. \$370) until 1 November *[Limited number of singles]*

Optional Pre-Tour Manila (February 3-6)  
in shared accommodation - 16,290 Philippines Pesos (approx. \$380)  
in single accommodation - 25,290 Philippines Pesos (approx. \$590)

Optional Post-Tour Negros Island Congregations (North or South Bound)  
Feb 12-13 in shared accommodation  
in shared accommodation - 9,000 Philippines Pesos (approx. \$210)  
in single accommodation – 10,740 Philippines Pesos (approx. \$250)

Optional Early Arrival and/or Late Departure-  
per night accommodation including meals  
in shared accommodation – 2400 Philippines Pesos (approx. \$56)  
in single accommodation – 2900 Philippines Pesos (approx. \$68)

## OPTIONAL TOURS

### MANILA TOUR 2012 FEBRUARY 3-6

Accommodation at Lotus Garden Hotel in Manila. Saturday includes Guided tour of the Ayala Museum in Makati City, Guided Tour of Intramuros and Port Santiago in Manila. **On Sunday**, visit UU Congregation in Bicutan Taguig City and UU group in Quezon City.

### CHOICE OF DUMAGUETE NORTH BOUND AND SOUTH BOUND TOURS FEBRUARY 12-13

**North Bound Tour:** The first place to be visited is the Congregation in NATABAN in San Carlos City situated at a distance of 200 kilo meters north of Dumaguete, on Negros Island. NATABAN is the birth place of Universalism in the Philippines. The place the Founder the late Rev. Toribio S. Quimada preached the liberal message. Universalism began from Nataban in the year 1955. Today there is a 12 hectare land that belongs to the church and on a small portion stands a chapel built in 2005. The Congregation at present is lay led and is about 12 families in number. There is a three hectare tree plantation within the 12 hectare land. A spring that's flow from the land provides water to a cluster of families living in the vicinity of the chapel. This is a farming community, Corn peanuts and root crops are grown in Nataban. The land is mountainous rolling land. The second place to be visited is in the Mountain City of CANLAON at the foot of the Volcano. Canlaon is situated 170 kilometers from Dumaguete, a bird fly distance of 30 kilometers between Nataban and Canlaon. The Congregation is in a village called AQUINO that has a UU membership of over 70 families. The UUCP learning School is in Aquino about which much can be learned. This is a Rice farming community and in the hinterland vast Vegetables farms.

**South Bound Tour:** The first place to be visited is the Congregation in a village called NAGBINLOD. 90 kilo meters south of Dumaguete in the municipality of Santa Catalina. It was the last congregation the founder served at his death in 1988. The Headquarters of the UUCP happened to be where the founder lived and so then, it was in Nagbinlod. Today there about 30 UU families in Nagbinlod. Most of the land is cultivated with Sugar cane owned by few individuals who live away from the community. People in Nagbinlod are mostly tanners and laborers. There is little corn and rice grown with root crops in Nagbinlod. The UUCP owns 8 hectares of land in Nagbinlod in a portion of it stands the UU chapel. The 8 hectares are planted with Mangos, one of the income generating projects of the UUCP. In the municipality of Santa Catalina, A visit to the graveyard where the remains of the founder is laid to rest will be of great significance, laying of wreath and offering prayers are expected. The third place to be visited is the BANAYBANY Congregation situated in the village called Banaybanay moving still more to the south from Santa Catalina. Banaybanay is the last village of the Bayawan City and located inland at a distance of 35 kilometers from the city. Bayawan is 100 kilometers form Dumaguete. This congregation has the largest UU membership

**Accommodation:** For the North Bound Tour Accommodation will be provided at Pension Houses in San Carlos City. And for the south bound tour the same is pension houses in Bayawan City. Air conditioned rooms with Hot and Cold water are the facilities offered.

## TRAVEL

Participants will need to travel first to Manila on an international flight and then change Terminals for a domestic flight to Dumaguete Airport on Negros Island, unless your international and domestic flights are both on Philippines Airlines. (Note it takes considerable time to clear customs, change to the other terminal, and check in for the domestic flight. Please allow at least a couple of hours for this.)

Due to the length of flights to Manila and the time needed to change to domestic flights, many travelers choose to spend a night in Manila and travel on the next day. ICUU can provide information on hotels in Manila if requested.

Considerably discounted fares to Manila can be found on internet sites such as [Kayak](#) and [Skyscanner](#). Early purchase will provide the best fares.

Tickets for the flights from Manila to Dumaguete need to be purchased from the web site of one of the two airlines that flies that route, namely [Philippines Airlines](#) and [Cebu Pacific](#). Special offers are often available on those sites. (Be aware that the included weight allowance of baggage without paying extra fees is usually considerably less on these flights than for international flights.)

More travel information such as detailed guidance about changing flights etc. will be circulated later to participants. Participants will also be asked later to provide information about their travel plans.

## **VISAS**

Nationals from most countries (check list below) who are travelling to the Philippines for business and tourism purposes are allowed to enter the Philippines without visas for a stay not exceeding twenty-one (21) days, provided they hold valid tickets for their return journey to port of origin or next port of destination and their passports valid for a period of at least six (6) months beyond the contemplated period of stay. However, Immigration Officers at ports of entry may exercise their discretion to admit holders of passports valid for at least sixty (60) days beyond the intended period of stay.

### [Countries Not Needing Visa for Philippines](#)

If you are from a country *NOT INCLUDED* in the above list, please contact [execsec@icuu.net](mailto:execsec@icuu.net) as soon as possible for assistance with arranging a visa.

## **DELEGATES**

Each ICUU full member group is entitled to have one or two voting delegates during the Council Meeting portions of the agenda. Delegate certification forms will be sent to the official contact for each member group.

The Council Meeting portions of the gathering are open to all attenders and are anything but boring. Information about member groups is shared and there are strategic discussions about the development and future of Unitarianism and Unitarian Universalism around the world.

## **FURTHER INFORMATION & QUESTIONS**

Further information about the Council Meeting & Conference and other related events will be circulated to registered participants from now until February via a special email announcement list.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact ICUU Executive Secretary Steve Dick by email at [execsec@icuu.net](mailto:execsec@icuu.net) or on Skype (User Name StephenWD) or by phone on +44 20 84072866.

**DO JOIN US IN THE PHILIPPINES IN FEBRUARY 2012 TO SHARE  
AN EXCITING AND INSPIRING EXPERIENCE WITH  
UUS FROM AROUND THE WORLD.  
YOUR PARTICIPATION IS NEEDED AND VALUED.**

**REGISTER TODAY at [ICUU CM12 Registration](#)**

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU TO  
THE 2012 ICUU COUNCIL MEETING & CONFERENCE!**

**ICUU CM 12 PROGRAM PLANNING TEAM:**

*Rev Nihal Attanayake (UUCP Staff & ICUU EC, Philippines),*

*Rev Steve Dick (ICUU Staff, UK), Emod Farkas (Registration, Romania),*

*Roberto Guerrero (Publicity, Philippines), Rev David Gyero (ICUU EC, Romania),*

*Rev Jill McAllister (ICUU Staff, USA), Rev Celia Midgley (ICUU EC, UK),*

*Rev Rebecca Sienes (UUCP President, Philippines)*

