



July 25, 2019

Rev. Paige Getty
UU Congregation of Columbia
7246 Cradlerock Way
Columbia, MD 21045-5054

Dear Rev. *Paige* Getty,

This past year has been a challenging one for human rights and the values we all hold dear. We witnessed the construction of new “tent cities” and child detention centers that brought an already abysmal practice to new lows. Our hearts broke with the escalation of violence and police hostility in Honduras. And recently, we were discouraged to learn of the decision to re-try Scott Warren for his work distributing humanitarian aid in the U.S.-Mexico borderlands.

Having your congregation beside us – in these struggles and more – keeps us going. This year, your congregation’s support made it possible for UUSC to help close one detention center, Tornillo, and build a movement that is working to close others. It brought clergy into the courtroom to show support for Scott during his trial and funded the first-of-its kind international convening on climate change led by indigenous leaders. It sent emergency supplies to support the migrant exodus, or caravans, and helped amplify the voices and efforts of those fighting ethnic and religious hatred and genocide in Burma. In these ways and more, your congregation joined hands with UUSC and our tenacious grassroots partners – and together we made significant strides. I hope you will share some of these impacts with your congregation so they will understand the reach of their support for UUSC.

For your outstanding support during our recent fiscal year (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019), UUSC is delighted to recognize your congregation with the Creating Justice Banner Society and James Luther Adams Awards. Thank you so much for joining with UUSC and our grassroots partners as we advance human rights, dismantle systems of oppression, and uplift the inherent worth and dignity of all people.

In gratitude,

Mary Katherine
Rev. Mary Katherine Morn
President and CEO

Justice Banner Membership Awards

- Spirit of Justice Banner Society: congregations with 100% UUSC membership.
- Beacon of Justice Banner Society: congregations with 75–99% UUSC membership.
- Vision of Justice Banner Society: congregations with 50–74% UUSC membership.
- Creating Justice Banner Society: congregations with 25–49% UUSC membership.

Congregational Giving Awards

- Helen Fogg Award: congregations that contributed a budgeted gift of \$25 or more per member.
- James Luther Adams Award: congregations that contributed a budgeted gift of \$1-\$24 per member.
- Guest at Your Table Special Recognition: congregations that raised \$5,000 or more for this program.

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

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THANKS