

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST LEGISLATIVE MINISTRY OF VIRGINIA

In June 2015, the General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association adopted an Action of Immediate Witness supporting the BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT. The statement read, in part: "The 2015 General Assembly urges member congregations to engage in intentional learning spaces to organize for racial justice with recognition of the interconnected nature of racism coupled with systems of oppression that impact people based on class, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability and language...the 2015 General Assembly recognizes that the fight for civil rights and equality is as real today as it was decades ago and urges member congregations to take initiative in collaboration with local and national organizations fighting for racial justice against the harsh racist practices to which many black people are exposed." [[*Action of Immediate Witness*](#)]

It is imperative that the UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST LEGISLATIVE MINISTRY OF VIRGINIA [UULMVA], as a member organization engaged in promoting Unitarian Universalist values in civic life, honor and heed the call to action from the General Assembly of UUA. Also, daily tragedies and important dialogues throughout our Nation, Commonwealth and Communities demand our unconditional commitment to STANDING ON THE SIDE OF LOVE. As a legislative ministry, the Board of UULMVA commits to approaching each action issue through the lens of systems of oppression, to deepen understanding of the impact of policies and politics on communities and individuals of color and to encourage intentional anti-racism/anti-oppression actions and sensibilities. We support the BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT.

The Board of UULMVA petitions the Governor, Attorney General, Lt. Governor and all members of the Virginia General Assembly to join us in STANDING ON THE SIDE OF LOVE and to support the BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT through specific acts of Immediate Witness: Proclamations, Declarations and Legislation. Equally as pervasive and important, we petition county and municipal governmental leaders to STAND UP and proclaim support for the BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT. We ask Unitarian Universalists and other faith groups to STAND UP.

Enacted by the UULMVA Board, Saturday, November 21, 2015