

## **Minutes of the UUCGT Special Meeting Following the Service on Sunday, October 29, 2017**

On October 29, 2017, President Karl Love convened as special meeting at 12:00 noon. The meeting had been called by the Board of Trustees for the purpose of considering and adopting a UUA Declaration of Conscience. The meeting took place in the sanctuary.

### **1. Quorum**

Karl asked for verification that a quorum is present as required by Article V. Section A of the Bylaws. Kay Sturgeon and Mike McDonald reported that the quorum requirement was satisfied.

### **2. Chalice**

The chalice remained burning, having been lit for the service which preceded the meeting.

### **3. Reading the Statement of Conscience**

The following Statement of Conscience was read aloud:

## **Declaration of Conscience**

At this extraordinary time in our nation's history, we are called to affirm our profound commitment to the fundamental principles of justice, equity and compassion, to truth and core values of American society.

In the face of looming threats to immigrants, Muslims, people of color, and the LGBTQ community and the rise of hate speech, harassment and hate crimes, we affirm our belief in the inherent worth and dignity of every person.

In opposition to any steps to undermine the right of every citizen to vote or to turn back advances in access to health care and reproductive rights, we affirm our commitment to justice and compassion in human relations.

And against actions to weaken or eliminate initiatives to address the threat of climate change – actions that would threaten not only our country but the entire planet – we affirm our unyielding commitment to protect the interdependent web of all existence.

We will oppose any and all unjust government actions to deport, register, discriminate, or despoil.

As people of conscience, we declare our commitment to translate our values into action as we stand on the side of love with the most vulnerable among us.

We welcome and invite all to join in this commitment for justice.

The time is now.

#### 4 Motion Made and seconded

Emmy Lou Cholak made a motion to adopt the Statement of Conscience. The motion was seconded by several members.

#### 5. Discussion and Adoption

Rick Walter and Jane Watts spoke in favor of adopting the Statement. Paper ballots had been distributed to each member as he or she entered the sanctuary. Paper ballots had also been available to absentee voters as provided in the by-laws. Following collection of the paper ballots, a voice vote was taken and the Statement was adopted by unanimous voice vote. Subsequent counting of the paper ballots confirmed that the congregation had voted to adopt the Statement.

#### 6. Adjournment

The purpose of the special meeting having been achieved, the meeting was adjourned at 12:11 pm.

Submitted by Tom Darnton, Trustee and Acting Secretary