(**Date**)

Dear Unitarian Universalist Colleagues in the struggle for Peace and Justice:

With the growing turmoil in our nation around race relations, religious freedom, and the threat of wars, it is becoming increasingly important for communities of faith and ethical convictions to speak their values about these issues.

A strong contingent of Unitarian Universalists from (**Congregation)** is seeking to express our convictions by planning an Interfaith March for Peace and Justice for April 29th in our area. We welcome involvement from interested members of the UU Community, like you, in organizing with us locally and in spreading the word.

The first Interfaith March for Peace and Justice began early in 2017 in Columbus, Ohio, and is expanding to the national stage this year. Below is the background and purpose for the march as explained by one of the march organizers Michael Greenman from First UU Church in Columbus:

“The “**Interfaith March for Peace & Justice**”: a positive, non-partisan event that affirms the freedom of religion (guaranteed by the 1st Amendment of the U.S. Constitution) and condemns all acts of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or violence directed at people because of their religion, race, or place of origin. The first event, on Sunday, April 2nd, 2017, was organized in Columbus, Ohio by the “Safe Alliance of Interfaith Leaders” and co-sponsored by some 20+ religious groups from the Central Ohio area. Over 200 adults and youth marched at the State Capitol to let our beliefs and wishes be known. A news clip of the event is at: <http://interfaithmarch.com/index.php/2017/08/26/nbc4i-tv-coverage/>

The enthusiasm and power of the event has led organizers and participants to envisage a national event on **Sunday April 29, 2018**. This expansion began with the arrival of an ally: “Peace Catalyst”, an alliance of Christian and Muslim believers in over 15 major cities around the U.S. Their site is: (<https://www.peacecatalyst.org/)>.

Since marches are being planned for April 29 in multiple locations from coast-to-coast, there will be a coordinated start time for the 2018 Interfaith March for Peace & Justice, which will work as follows: events will begin simultaneously at 4:30 ET, 3:30 CT, 2:30 MT, and 1:30 PT. At that same moment, we will all be able to lift up our voices with the knowledge that our colleagues in the struggle for peace and justice are doing the same throughout the nation. In each location, wherever the Interfaith March for Peace & Justice is being held, we hope that it maintains the same peaceful, positive, non-partisan tone.

Many of the resources for planning a march in your community, including our grant application and assembly guidelines, can be accessed through <http://interfaithmarch.com/>”

If this march resonates with you and your congregation, we would like you to consider collaborating with us to get the ball rolling. It only takes a few committed individuals to get the process started. We value your input and partnership to join together for peace and justice.

Sincerely,

(march organizer, name, congregation)

(contact information)