

TPC Racial Justice Motions for Congregational Vote, May 7, 2017

Motion #1: Public Commitment to Racial Justice

As a member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association, Theodore Parker Church covenants to affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person, and to work for justice, equity, and compassion in human relations.

As members of this congregation:

- We know that Black lives have been, and continue to be, devalued throughout the history of the United States by slavery, Jim Crow laws, segregation, mass incarceration, violence, and other ongoing manifestations of systemic racism.
- We affirm that Black people have the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.
- We acknowledge the need to educate ourselves about the past and present struggles and victories of Black people, and to reflect on our own individual and collective roles in perpetuating racism, and
- We commit to take clear action in solidarity with those most marginalized by institutional power structures and dynamics.

Motion #2: Visual Display Affirming that Black Lives Matter

As a symbol of this commitment, as a sign of solidarity with Black people, and as an invitation to all people to stand together on the side of love, we display a public statement affirming that “Black Lives Matter.” We propose that this statement be a flag, to be designed by the Racial Justice Task Force in conjunction with the Standing Committee, that contains the following elements:

- Standing on the side of love
- Black Lives Matter
- Join the conversation
- Theodore Parker Church
- UUA chalice symbol

