



January 25, 2018

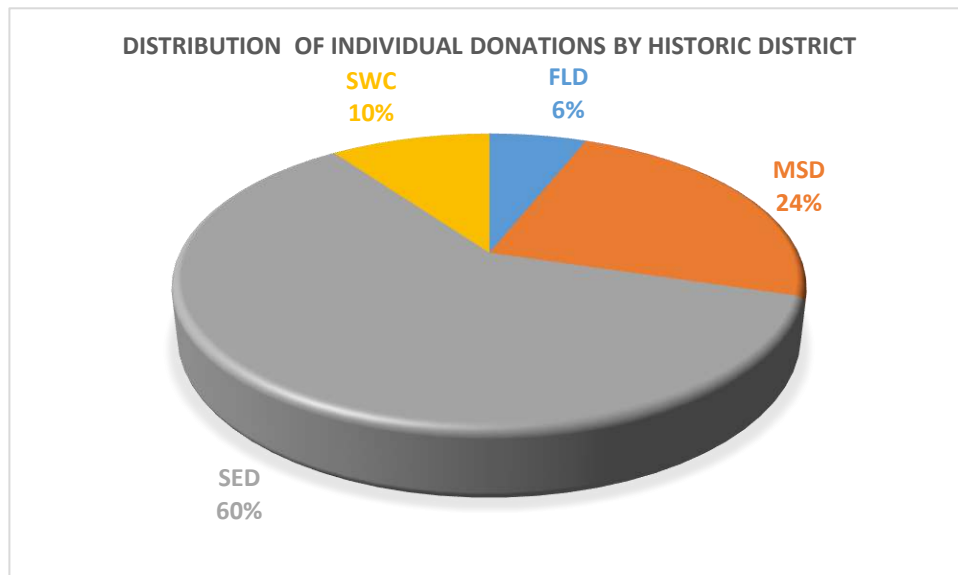
Dear Southern Region UU,

One year ago, the Southern Region Chalice Lighters Committee awarded its first ever regional Chalice Lighters call to First Unitarian Universalist Church of Richmond, VA, for The Pledge to End Racism Program. We are pleased to provide you with our first annual report of the results of the call and our progress over this past year.

Total Donations

	# of donations	Total	Average donation
Individuals by check	88	\$2,779.88	\$31.59
Individuals by credit card	297	\$10,018.85	\$33.73
Congregations and organizations	13	\$5,426.29	\$417.41
Total contributions	398	\$18,225.02	

Although the ultimate total was less than we had hoped for, we appreciate each and every donation and we will do everything we can to maximize the programming we can offer the Southern Region over the course of 2017-18.



We especially want to thank the ten congregations and one ministers cluster that made donations:

- Community Church of Glen Allen, VA
- First UU of Richmond, VA
- Georgia Mountains UU Church of Dahlonoga, GA
- Unitarian Universalist Church of Augusta, GA
- Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Blacksburg, VA
- Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Raleigh, NC
- UU Congregation of Gwinnett, GA
- UU Congregation of Swannanoa Valley, NC
- UU Congregation of Wilmington, NC
- UU Fellowship of Fredericksburg, VA
- Virginia Area Cluster of UU Ministers

Report on Activities

Over the past year, we have provided Leaders and Facilitators training and/or consultation and support to over sixty leaders from six congregations:

- First UU Richmond, VA
- UU Community Church of Glen Allen, VA
- UUs of Williamsburg, VA
- Unitarian Church of Norfolk, VA
- UU Fellowship of Raleigh, NC
- UU Congregation of Blacksburg, VA
- UU Metro Atlanta North, Roswell, GA

In addition, we have Leaders and Facilitators trainings planned in the following locations:

- First UU of Nashville, TN - January 23-24, 2018
- UU Church of Tampa, FL - March 2-3, 2018
- UU Fellowship of Raleigh, NC - April 27-28, 2018

Because of the generous donations made by Chalice Lighters throughout the Southern region, we are covering expenses for these trainings and asking each congregation to pay only an annual partnership fee of \$250 for access to the curriculum and materials, training, consultation, and support.

If your congregation would like to join one of the scheduled trainings or host an additional training for congregations in your area, please contact us. With careful financial management, we hope to be able to offer two to three additional trainings around the region before the end of the year.

More about The Model of The Pledge to End Racism

The Pledge to End Racism program is designed using a leadership development model so participants gain skills and develop competence in not only talking about racism, but in facilitating discussions about race, and then working together to organize *Living the Pledge* workshops for people throughout their community. Instead of just talking about racism, we're developing knowledgeable,

passionate leaders who can do something to address it. The *Pledge* strengthens local antiracism efforts, brings congregations together with other faith communities with like commitments, and creates teams of people involved on the local level in making change in their own communities.

The Pledge to End Racism program includes:

- an organizers' guide
- a workshop leaders and facilitators guide
- a training module for small group facilitators
- participant workbooks with six two-hour workshop modules
- online resources for participant pre-work
- individual commitment cards
- training, support, and consultation, as needed
- inclusion in a national network of Pledge to End Racism congregations

A Vision

By spreading the Pledge to End Racism program throughout the South and beyond, Unitarian Universalist congregations can have a recognizable impact on the rise in racial tensions and division and can play an essential part in building stronger communities imbued with justice, equity, and compassion.

Beyond the Southern Region

Representatives from the Pledge to End Racism offered a workshop at UUA General Assembly in 2016 and invited any congregations in attendance to become beta partners in the program. As a result, congregation around the country have started their own Pledge to End Racism Programs. This list includes the following six congregations outside the Southern Region:

- Eliot Unitarian Chapel, Kirkwood, MO
- First Unitarian Church of Cleveland, OH
- First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego, CA
- Unitarian Universalist Church of Amherst, NY
- Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent, OH
- Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, VA

Conclusion

How fitting is it for the first Southern Regional Chalice Lighter's call to be used to confront the racism that has so long plagued this area? How wonderful is it to see our congregations generate waves of personal pledges, rooted in the strength of religious congregations?

Thank you for your faith in us and in the power of us all to work together end racism.

Submitted by:

Anita Lee, Co-director

Annette Marquis, Co-director

The Pledge to End Racism

Rev. Jeanne Pupke, Senior Minister

First Unitarian Universalist Church of Richmond

Contact us at thepledgetoendracism@gmail.com

For more information about the Pledge to End Racism, visit richmondpledge.org