



First
Unitarian Universalist
Church of San Diego

Rev. Kathleen Owens, Lead Minister
Rev. Ian W. Riddell, Minister of Music and Worship Arts
Rev. Jim Grant, Affiliate Minister
Dr. Melissa James, Director of Children & Family Ministry
Robie Evans, Director of Operations

May 24, 2017

Dear Potential Applicant,

Thank you for considering applying for the Social Justice/South Bay Ministry Teams Coordinator position at First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego. This letter is to give you a sense of our congregation, a bit of history, and a sense of our vision for the future.

For over 140 years, our congregation has been a voice for justice in San Diego. Our mission is to create community, to nurture spiritual growth and to act on our values to help heal the world. Currently we have 673 members, approximately 100 friends (people who financially support the church), and hold worship services on two campuses. Our main campus is located in the Hillcrest neighborhood of San Diego where many of our members and friends come to worship, participate in justice work, learn about our faith and support one another in this caring community. The South Bay campus is located in Chula Vista where a smaller, but growing congregation holds weekday programs and Sunday services that are intentionally bi-lingual. We're excited to have a new member of our ministerial staff be the consistent ministerial presence at this campus.

Unitarian Universalism is a liberal faith coming out of progressive Christian and Jewish traditions. We honor multiple spiritual paths, knowing we don't have to think alike to love alike. We understand diversity in a number of different ways. Our congregation is mixed in terms of age, and we have grown younger in recent years. Though our members and staff mostly identify as white, our racial and ethnic diversity is growing at both campuses and we seek to intentionally broaden our racial and ethnic diversity. We expect our ministry team work to occur through the lens of racial justice and dismantling racism, both internally and externally. We are growing our class consciousness and have a diversity of class backgrounds represented within the congregation and on the staff.

We're excited by the opportunities to us as we engage in the prophetic work of justice-making in San Diego. This fall we'll be expanding our ministry to intentionally reach out to military service members and their families. We're growing in our ministry around mental health awareness and support and we will be offering worship experiences outside of our usual Sunday mornings. And, as we've always done, we'll continue to Stand on the Side of Love, putting our faith in action.

Thank you for considering this opportunity. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

In faith,

Rev. Kathleen Owens, Lead Minister

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Revs. Drs. Carolyn & Tom Owen-Towle, Ministers Emeriti