



January 23, 2020

The Juneau Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (JUUF) strongly supports the upcoming Youth Congress for the Global Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, to be held in Sitka this coming April. We believe the important work of the Youth Congress reflects renewed hope for the future of this planet.

Unitarian Universalist congregations affirm and promote seven Principles, which we hold as strong values and moral guides. UUs are called to live out our faith as represented by these Principles on a daily basis. The act of protesting nuclear proliferation most closely aligns with our 6th Principle, *The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all*, and our 7th Principle, *Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part*, though our first five Principles also support caring for all people on the planet through the elimination of all nuclear weapons.

JUUF is a member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), which has a long history of going on record as opposing nuclear proliferation:

- In 1966, the Unitarian Universalist Association's General Assembly adopted a General Resolution on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, affirming the need for governments of the U.S. and Canada to take steps to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons, including "continue efforts to halt and reverse the growth of the nuclear weaponry in all nations."
- At the 1977 General Assembly: BE IT RESOLVED: That the 1977 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association urges the United States government to undertake substantial independent initiatives for nuclear disarmament, to challenge the other nuclear powers to match these initiatives with equivalent action and to review their disarmament policies periodically for progress.
- In 2009, the UU faith community asked individual congregations to support of the US Ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) through consideration of an Action of Immediate Witness: BE IT RESOLVED that the 2009 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association calls upon UUA congregations and their members to ask their United States Senators to give advice and consent to ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and reaffirms its support for the definitive cessation of nuclear weapons testing.
- In 2018, the UUA was one of many signatories to a 2018 Interfaith Statement of Support for the UN Secretary-General's call to nuclear powers to resume negotiations to reduce nuclear arms.

In recognition of this faith-based history of opposing nuclear weapons, JUUF stands firmly on the side of the Youth Congress for the Global Elimination of Nuclear Weapons. We commend the organizing committee and all participants for their commitment to improving the chances for peace on this planet.

Sincerely,

Jetta Whittaker, Chair
JUUF Board