



FOR EMBARGOED RELEASE
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VALENTINE'S DAY REIMAGINED:
OVER 100 COMMUNITIES NATIONWIDE TAKE ACTION
AGAINST DISCRIMINATION, VIOLENCE AND OPPRESSION
GROUPS PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL STANDING ON THE SIDE OF LOVE DAY, USE
VALENTINES DAY FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

WASHINGTON, DC – Over 100 communities across the nation took action against discrimination, oppression, exclusion and violence as part of [Standing on the Side of Love Day](#). Acting in support of marginalized communities, people from different socioeconomic, political and religious backgrounds sought to reimagine Valentines Day as an opportunity to live out the values of love for all people in society. In Ogden, Utah, a group of religious and equality leaders held a town hall meeting to call for anti-discrimination legislation and in Long Island, New York, a Unitarian universalist community rallied for comprehensive immigration reform.

“Love is about so much more than greeting cards and flowers,” said Reverend Meg Riley, Standing on the Side of Love Campaign Chair and UUA Director of Advocacy & Witness. “Love is a catalyst for change and transformation. It can unify us and heal the wounds inflicted by hatred and fear. This day is about harnessing that power to defend the worth and dignity of all people and work for a better world.”

Standing on the Side of Love Day has been organized by the national [Standing on the Side of Love Campaign](#) to help local communities take action on issues that matter locally, with strategy that make sense locally. Unitarian Universalist congregations across America have partnered with local groups to host rallies, press conferences, panel events, letter-writing campaigns, and other activities designed to uphold love and counter exclusion and violence towards immigrant communities, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender individuals, and other marginalized groups.

Standing on the Side of Love is a campaign sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Association and promotes respect for the inherent worth and dignity of every person. We believe that no person of any immigrant status, race, religion, gender and sexual orientation, ability level, or political view should be dehumanized through acts of exclusion, oppression, or violence.

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