

April 27, 2017

Midcoast Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
PO Box 1021
Damariscotta, ME 04543

Dear Julia,

Congratulations!

I am delighted to inform you that the Midcoast Unitarian Universalist Fellowship's application to become recognized as a Welcoming Congregation has been approved! Sincere congratulations on taking this powerful step, doing collective work to educate yourselves on LGBTQ issues, and committing yourselves to vital ongoing ministry in this area.

It was a pleasure to learn about all you have accomplished and the powerful work you have done. Your work during "Phase Two" of your WC process to lead a transgender workshop for area churches and to host a silent vigil following the Orlando shooting, makes clear that your congregation understands that being recognized as a Welcoming Congregation is a commitment rather than an end point. I recommend you continue to be active in the social justice movement by understanding how white supremacy intersects with the LGBTQ experience and work toward deconstructing the gender binary and uplifting gender non-conformity. To ensure this excellent work continues, I encourage you not to waste any time publicizing your extravagant hospitality as a Welcoming Congregation in Unitarian Universalism. Congregations can lose energy after they see the poster on the wall.

As you continue to make your congregation an even more welcoming one, I hope you will see the UUA as a resource for you—please reach out should any questions arise or if we can be of service or support. I encourage you to visit our website often, as we are continually adding new resources that will help you on your journey toward inclusive community.

You can expect to receive two newly designed Welcoming Congregation posters in the mail. In the meantime, you have approval to use the Welcoming Congregation logo on your website and other materials.

Thanks again for your congregation's life-giving, essential work!

With Peace Through Justice,

Michael J. Crumpler
LGBTQ and Multicultural Programs Manager
Unitarian Universalist Association