

Albany Coalition of Sanctuary Congregations

As people of conscience and faith, living in a time when the political and social climate of our nation has become increasingly hostile towards minority groups, we are mindful of our sacred calling and moral duty to welcome the stranger, protect the vulnerable, and accompany the oppressed. Today, we are witnessing injustice, and we are called to holy resistance. United in moral conviction and grounded in our diverse communities of faith and conscience, we, who have signed below, pledge to protect those members of our communities who have been placed in increasing danger because of their race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or immigration status. We are grateful for the opportunity to live our faiths in a community of mutuality and respect, affirming the inherent worth of all.

These commitments include:

- I. Sanctuary: We, the undersigned, pledge to become a Sanctuary network, to support members of our community who are under threat of deportation, including providing within our coalition physical sanctuary as needed.
- II. Advocacy: We, the undersigned, pledge to advocate for an end to unjust deportations which tear families apart and cause irreplaceable losses to our communities. We will work not only within our faith communities, but also at local, state, and federal levels to advocate for a new, fair immigration process. We will work alongside, and in partnership with, undocumented and irregular visa status people in this advocacy.
- III. Community Engagement: We, the undersigned, pledge to build relations with our neighbors who are immigrants and refugees, regardless of their documentation status. We will work with them to support their communities in a manner that they consider useful and worthwhile. We will extend similar support to other marginalized individuals and communities in our society.

Signed:

Albany Friends Meeting, First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany, Unity Church of Albany

(with gratitude to the Cambridge Interfaith Sanctuary Coalition for their words of Covenant)