



The Community Church of Chapel Hill

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

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May 12, 2016

Mr. James C. Key
UUA Moderator & Chief Governance Officer
24 Farnsworth St.
Boston, MA 02110-1409

Dear Jim:

The Board of Trustees of The Community Church of Chapel Hill Unitarian Universalist respectfully requests that the UUA Board use the procedures and persuasive power at its disposal to remove the upcoming resolution titled "Divestment from Corporations Complicit in Violation of Palestinian Rights" from the 2016 UUA General Assembly (GA) agenda.

We make this request, after thoughtful consideration, for two reasons.

First, since the UUA Common Endowment Fund has already divested of the corporations listed in the resolution, the intended action of the resolution is no longer necessary.

Second, a discussion of and a vote on this resolution at GA would likely be damaging to not only the UUA but to our congregation and other member congregations of the UUA.

The language of the proposed resolution calls for taking sides in a complex territorial dispute fueled by hundreds of years of racial and religious animosity. We would be making such a judgment absent anything even resembling a process that has allowed and encouraged our congregations to study and make informed decisions about these issues.

We decry the violence in the Middle East and wish to see the involved parties reach a peaceful solution. However, we see this vote as doing nothing to encourage peaceful solutions overseas. Instead, this resolution inserts a divisive wedge that is certain to negatively impact our own UU faith communities here in the United States and impede our work to achieve the ends of the association.

We trust you will favorably consider our request and are looking forward to a rewarding experience for all at GA 2016.

Sincerely,

William O. Poteat
President, Board of Trustees