

Our 49 Texas Unitarian Universalist congregations can make a real difference by working together! Sustaining Individual Membership Levels-

\$200/month – Texas Platinum membership

\$100/month – Texas Diamond membership

\$50/month – Texas Marble Membership

\$20/month – Texas Quartz Membership

\$10/month – Texas Bedrock Membership

\$5/month – Salt of the Earth Membership

Annual Individual Membership Levels:

\$500 and above – Gabe & Betsy Gelb

Founders Giving Circle

Your Annual Individual Membership is to a tax deductible 501c3 education organization.

Membership Form

Name _____

Church _____

Your Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Membership Level _____

Amount _____

Mail to: **TXUUJM**
P. O. Box 170064
Austin, TX 78717

TXUUJM and the State of Texas Today

This is a critical time for the social justice of our UUs across the country and especially here in Texas with our quickly changing demographics and public policy landscape. We will share TXUUJM's actions on our website- **txuujm.org**, our newsletter and on our facebook page at **www.facebook.com/TXUUJM**

Our Executive Director

The Rev. Chuck Freeman has been a UU minister in the Austin area since 1996. He has served Texas UUs in many capacities including the District Board, Adult Program Director at SWUUSI and President of our UUMA Chapter. Chuck is a founding Minister of the Texas Freedom Network with Cecile Richards in 1995. He is the first and only UU to be a full time Board member of Texas Impact. The Rev. Freeman serves on the Executive Council of UU State Action Networks (CUUSAN). His email is **Exec.Dir@txuujm.org**

**TEXAS
UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST
JUSTICE
MINISTRY**



*"Bending Texas
Toward Justice"*

(txuujm.org)
Facebook.com/TXUUJM

Texas UU Justice Ministry

The Texas Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry (TXUUJM) seeks to sustain a statewide justice ministry giving voice to Unitarian Universalist values in the public arena. Guided by UU principles, TXUUJM works to educate, organize and advocate for public policies that:

- Uphold the worth and dignity of every person
- Further justice, equity and compassion in human relations
- Ensure use of the democratic process
- Protect religious freedom
- Promote respect for the interdependent web of all existence
- Engage the sustaining power of worship, the arts, community building and friendship in the work of social justice
- Foster collaboration and civic engagement among Texas UUs and encourage close partnership with our interfaith allies
- Put our faith into practice in ways that address systematic injustice and create lasting, positive social change
- Provide UUs with information, education, training and opportunities for dialogue on pressing issues of public policy, legislation and ballot initiatives

TXUUJM Accomplishments 2016 - 2017

- * TXUUJM organized a Legislative action day February 15, 2017 that drew 240 UUs from across Texas. This number is more than double our first Legislative action day in 2015!
- * TXUUJM issued over 25 calls to action during the 2017 Legislature and Special session. This afforded UU members and congregations opportunities to express our faith values on a myriad of bills.
- * TXUUJM helped secure \$5 million for the Adult Career Education Fund (ACE). TXUUJM worked in concert with Texas Network of Organizations to find state funding for long term job training programs to enroll more low income adults in community colleges to train for living wage jobs. The programs that will benefit are in the Valley, Austin, El Paso, San Antonio, Dallas and Houston.
- * Rev. Freeman is one of the founders of “Reproductive Justice Congregations.” TXUUJM is encouraging our congregations sign on. We have 8 UU congregations with this designation more than any other faith group in Texas.
- * TXUUJM organized, testified, rallied at least 5 times with our allies to flush the bathroom bill out of Texas!
- * TXUUJM has collaborated with the UUSC to oppose placing immigrant women and children in for-profit prisons, and we've helped the Austin Sanctuary Network win three Stays of Deportation for two Guatemalan women and one child.

How Can My Congregation Become A Member of TXUUJM?

Currently 34 of our 49 Texas congregations have covenanted with the Justice Ministry. How can your congregation join us?

Congregations sign a covenant with TXUUJM and support the Ministry through dues equal to \$2 per member annually. The dues can come from individual memberships, congregational budgets or other fundraising.

Congregations that covenant with TXUUJM appoint two members to the TXUUJM Advisory Council. The Advisory Council members become ambassadors for TXUUJM for their congregations, listening, sharing ideas and keeping them informed of our spiritual activism. They take part in a monthly conference call with our Executive Director and chart the course for our legislative agenda.

TXUUJM Issues for 2017-2018

Here are the top 3 issues our TXUUJM member congregations voted to focus on through 2018:

1. Economic Justice/Income Inequality
2. Reproductive Justice
3. Immigration/Refugee Reform/Rights

TXUUJM will respond nimbly to other issues that spring up during and between legislative sessions which resonate deeply with our bedrock values as UUs. We will also use our influence/forums to support trusted congregations and individuals who want to expand beyond these three.