



Unitarian Church of Montpelier

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*We welcome all
as we build a loving community
to nurture each person's spiritual journey,
serve human need,
and protect the earth, our home.*

March 10, 2026

Dear [first name],

One Saturday morning this past fall, nearly two dozen members and friends of UCM gathered on the church lawn before walking together to the “No Kings” rally at the State House. People of all ages stood side by side, holding signs in support of democracy before making the familiar climb up the hill together.

At the rally, one of our youth stepped up to the microphone and spoke about where she is finding hope and how young people are leading the way toward a more just future. Her words were clear and courageous, and many of us felt a quiet pride in seeing our congregation's values expressed through her voice.

Moments like this remind me that love is stronger — stronger than cynicism, stronger than fear, stronger than the forces that would pull us apart. When we act together from a place of love and shared purpose, we create something that endures.

This year's Annual Pledge Drive theme, ***Love Is Stronger***, reflects a truth affirmed each time we gather in community. We see love's strength in the life of this congregation every day — in the warmth of Sunday mornings, in the care and guidance offered to our children and youth, in voices lifted together in song, and in the deep listening and trust that grow in friendships and small groups. We also see it in the ways this church shows up for the broader community as a place of welcome and connection.

Together, we are creating a community rooted in love and sustained by mutual care.

Your financial pledge for the coming church year is essential to this shared ministry. Your generosity helps ensure that we can continue offering meaningful worship and spiritual exploration for all ages, support our staff with fair and equitable compensation, care for our historic building, and remain a steady and compassionate presence in the wider community.

Your pledge is more than a financial contribution. It is also a statement of faith — in this community and in the power of love to sustain us through changing times.

I encourage you to make a pledge that reflects both your commitment to this congregation and your financial capacity. Every gift strengthens our shared work and helps ensure that love continues to flourish.

Thank you for all the ways you give of yourself to this congregation. Together, we continue to build a community rooted in compassion, sustained by generosity, and guided by the enduring truth that love is stronger.

I am grateful to be a part of this community where love truly is stronger.

With love and gratitude,

Rev. Joan Javier-Duval, Minister