

# A Letter to President Bush and Fellow Citizens

We, the undersigned, call for restraint and a world view in our national response to last week's horrific acts of terrorism. Take heed that the havoc of war is exactly the chaos these demonic gestures aim to foster: to disable our better selves, to weaken our resolve for liberty and justice by encouraging hate, to wound our love and trust in what is sacred by defying our inherent worth and dignity, and to breed fear.

We urge a reasoned response in the campaign to rout terrorism. Guilt by association and spirals of hate, caused by the momentum of vengeance, work to tear a society apart. The more we detach from each other, the more the fabric of our society frays. Let none of us be guilty of intolerance, hatred or bigotry. Let us not condemn Muslims. The terrorists were as ignorant about the heart of Islam's message as most of we Americans are. No religion calls for slaughter of innocents.

We beseech transcendence not vengeance. Nothing we do will allow us to fully recover from this tragic loss. The horrendous deed is done. We have now fully joined most nations in the world in knowing the devastating loss due to terrorism. Yet we have every confidence that, as a world community, we can find a way not only to exact justice, but to disable the networks of terrorism wherever they flourish. We even hope, some day, to eradicate the desire for vengeance in our nations, in our homes, and in our hearts.

Our hearts, our prayers, our love embrace all those suffering from this terrible event. May that which helps heal be ever present in the long days to come.

We, the undersigned, are teachers and students, military and retired military, artists, scientists, engineers, secretaries, accountants, ministers and volunteers. We are your neighbors, friends, and fellow citizens. We are members and friends of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Harford County.

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Harford County (UUFHC)  
2515 Churchville Road (Route 22)  
Churchville, MD 21028  
410-734-7122  
<http://host13.hrwebservices.net/~uufhc/>

Rev. Lisa Ward, Minister  
Ed Roberts, Board President

The Rev. Dorris Aleott  
Marge Appel  
Amanda Bendis  
Linda M. Boyle  
Kit Brown  
Glenn Brown  
Leigh Brown-Faunce  
Pam Burns  
Carrie Carlevaro  
Lisa Chenoweth  
Ross Chenoweth  
Kenneth D. Converse  
Patricia L. P. Converse  
Debora Cruise  
Deborah Cruise  
David M. Daugherty, Jr.  
Dr. William D. Faunce  
Beryl Fleming  
Charles D. Harris  
Judith S. Harris  
Cindy N. Hertzog  
Bill Hofherr  
Laura Hofherr  
Dana Knighten  
Judy Layon  
Dr. Dorothy Lemmey



Dr. Rob Lieb  
Marlene Lieb  
Darlene Lilly  
JoAnn M. Macdonald  
Leanne MacIntire  
Kathleen Mader  
Paul McGuire  
Merrill Milham  
Beate Monreal  
Georgiana H. Moore-Wise  
Rebecca Motil  
Scott Norris  
Andrew Powell  
Mary Reagan  
Edward H. Roberts  
Edward H. Roberts  
Glenn Rogers  
Karen Russell  
David Rydzewski  
Michelle Santos  
Jeff Schmale  
Ken W. Schmidt  
Janet Turner-Hampton  
Nick Waldron  
Judy Walkley  
Beth Wood-Roig  
Anthony Yiannakos