

Christ Episcopal Church

The Rev. Julie Blake Fisher, Rector

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To: Ministerial Candidates for the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent

From: The Rev. Julie Blake Fisher, Rector
Christ Episcopal Church of Kent

Re: Reputation of the UUCK in Kent

Date: Thursday, November 2, 2017

I am pleased to be asked to write this note of support for the UUCK as its members invite ministerial candidates to reflect with them on their call to potential partnership in ministry with the congregation and the community. I have served at my congregation for over eleven years, and have been blessed to count the UUCK as a stable and reliable partner to my congregation, particularly in the area of social ministry.

The UUCK was way out in front of local churches in welcoming LGBTQIA people into full inclusion. Its example was inspiring to the many local churches (including mine) who have followed in its footsteps.

Its active lay people are involved in many different community organizations, such as the university, the music community, the helping professions and especially social justice outreach. My church joined with the UUCK and a few other local congregations in 2015 to form the Kent Interfaith Alliance for Reconciliation and Justice (KIFA). KIFA has since issued statements, led rallies and held an anti-racism workshop to address local issues of racial justice, immigration discrimination and civil discourse in politics. As a KIFA board member, we hope that whoever the UUCK invites to become their minister will share our passion for social justice and join with us as an active leader of this organization.

And on a personal note, my husband (also an Episcopal minister) and I have visited the UUCK over many years on our rare Sundays off, as well as for community evening services, to enjoy creative worship that really feeds our spirits. We have always received a very warm welcome there when we visit, and see many familiar faces from our engagement in the community.

Best wishes as you discern your call to ministry in Kent. I look forward with tremendous pleasure to welcoming and working with the UUCK's next minister.