



Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ

Spiritually Alive, Joyfully Inclusive, Committed to Justice

1501 Gilbert Road
Madison, Wisconsin 53711-3515
Phone: (608) 271-7212, Fax: (608) 271-7265, Email: office@orucc.org,
website: www.orucc.org
Revs. Winton Boyd, Tammy Martens, and
Ken Pennings

Press Statement

Dane Sanctuary Press Conference; July 6, 2017

Ruthanne Landsness; Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ

I am Ruthanne Landsness, Moderator and Lay Leader of Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ in Madison, Wisconsin.

Senior Pastor Winton Boyd joins me in saying that we are thrilled to announce that Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ, by congregational vote, is a Sanctuary Church and a member of the Dane Sanctuary Coalition.

Through this action, we commit ourselves to action consistent with the vision statement of our church to be spiritually alive, joyfully inclusive, and committed to justice.

Providing sanctuary is faith in action. It is a moral response. It is an act of resistance, a stance against fear and hatred.

In faith, God calls and compels us to acts of justice. Providing sanctuary is an answer to God's call to love our neighbor, do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. We do so as a gold and prophetic witness of solidarity with immigrants and refugees who live in fear of deportation and separation from their families.

Providing sanctuary is consistent with the long tradition of the United Church of Christ to stand on the side of justice and unbridled welcoming, whether it be action in support of women's rights, the equality of people of color, the safety of children, or the rights of the gay community.

To our immigrant and undocumented neighbors, we say "bienvenidos" (welcome). Together we say, "sí, se puede" (yes, we can). The Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ, with our partners in faith, opens its doors to you.

Thank you.