

FIRST UNITARIAN
CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY
BR  **KLYN**
A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

Transforming Lives

Dale Ho

(Member since March 13, 2016)



I was raised Catholic, and while Catholicism ended up not being the right choice for me, my values and commitment to social justice are very much grounded in the Jesuit education that I received. Part of why I wandered into First U a few years ago was that I wanted to make sure that our children – Madeleine and James – received a spiritual education of their own. When we walked in the door here, it felt like we had come to the right place. And having been here for a few years, we are so grateful to Meagan and the RE staff for all

they do.

But I don't just come here for them. I come here for myself.

In these dark times, I've been fortunate to find a tremendous sense of purpose in my work as a civil rights lawyer. But as a colleague of mine asked me over lunch recently: Dale, do you do what you do because you want to help people – or because you hate conservatives?

What he was getting at is that anger can in fact be a tremendous source of power. For me, righteous indignation can provide a sense of moral clarity, and motivate the long hours needed to get the work done. But it's only a short-term burst. It's not sustaining in the long run.

And so, part of why I come here is to find peace in a community founded on the Unitarian principles of "The inherent worth and dignity of every person," of "Justice, equity and compassion in human relations," and of "Acceptance of one another." Coming here each week, hearing Adam and our amazing choir, listening to Rev. Ana's words of wisdom, and being with all of you – help me carry on.

I don't come here to FORGET the ugliness and pain that's out there; but to process and mourn. And to REMEMBER that love and community are the spiritual foods that sustain us in the long road ahead.

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