



Green Sanctuary
Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations
Congregational Stewardship Services
25 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02108
617.948.4251

Congregations and congregants working together to restore Earth and renew Spirit.

December 16, 2010

Unitarian Universalist Society of Bangor
Green Sanctuary Committee
120 Park St
Bangor, ME 04401

Congratulations! With this letter, the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations, Office of Congregational Stewardship Services is honored to formally recognize the Unitarian Universalist Society of Bangor as an Accredited Green Sanctuary.

We appreciate your thorough documentation of your Green Sanctuary activities. Descriptions of each activity helped us to understand how much you have accomplished. You have succeeded in integrating the Green Sanctuary program goals into the ongoing life of your congregation through the many projects you have carried out. Your application offers strong evidence of the positive environmental consciousness that has developed in your congregation, resulting in new behaviors and new lifestyle choices by members individually and by the congregation as a whole. We were especially inspired by the interfaith worship service and the potential for future collaboration with those involved in the service. We would love to see pictures of your Green Altar as it seems that it is something that has drawn more life into the sanctuary. Your children's spring pageant sounds wonderful, clearly you have included the why we do the things we do and how that relates to our faith in addition to how we care for the Earth. We are also impressed with how your Ethical Eating project started out as religious education and became interweaved with worship and potentially an environmental justice project. You now have a great foundation for continuing action in the future.

We know you are looking forward to celebrating your accomplishments with your congregation. Your Green Sanctuary certificate is being sent under a separate cover for you to display in a prominent place. You will be recognized as an Accredited Green Sanctuary at General Assembly 2011 in Charlotte, NC, as that time nears I will send you more information. In the meantime, you may want to begin to assemble a "scrapbook" which shares information about your Green Sanctuary movement – congregations create these in many different way; some use their applications, some include orders of service, newsletter columns, fliers about special events, and pictures, some write storybooks about the journey, and some come up with new ideas that we've never seen before – this will be a wonderful reminder of where your congregation has

been and will be on display at the Congregational Life booth at GA for other congregations to peruse.

We encourage all congregations to continue engaging in stewardship of the Earth even after they have become an Accredited Green Sanctuary. In four-to-five years, as you look towards re-accreditation in for years we encourage you to continue with your efforts to start a community, you may even find yourself leading workshops on composting as well as storage and preparation of food. We also encourage you to continue to explore ways in which you can build upon the interfaith relationships you created through your interfaith worship service.

I do hope you are proud of your accomplishments. You have truly taken the goals of the Green Sanctuary Program to heart. Again, congratulations on successfully becoming an Accredited Green Sanctuary. Your accomplishments serve as a beacon of hope, demonstrating that we can all make a difference!

To a greener faith-community and world,

Robin Nelson

Robin Nelson
Program Manager, Congregational Stewardship Services

“It’s not easy being Green.” – Kermit the Frog