



## UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST WOMEN'S FEDERATION

Statement re Occupy Wall Street and Related Protests

October 17, 2011

Today I join with The Rev. Peter Morales, President of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations, and The Rev. William Schulz, President and CEO of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, in decrying the conditions of economic injustice that have led to the Occupy Wall Street and other related protests across the country.

Overwhelming debt, unemployment and underemployment, and the growing disparity between the very rich and the shrinking pocketbooks of the rest of Americans are not just limited to men. While the current Great Recession initially hit men harder, a just released report (the Institute for Women's Policy Research) indicates that men are recovering in terms of job recovery three times faster than women. A higher percentage of women worry about savings for the future. The recession has hit single mothers the hardest, as they have fewer financial resources to begin with and more responsibilities for the care and feeding of their minor children.

As an organization dedicated to advancing justice for women and girls, we support efforts to provide more jobs in sectors in which women predominate, including health care, education, and childcare; and policies that provide for and increase safety net supports .

UUWF is a continental membership organization, one of only two associate member organizations of the Unitarian Universalist Association. Inheritor of a proud tradition, UUWF was formed in 1963 through consolidation of the Association of Universalist Women (founded in 1869 and believed to be the first organization of lay church women in the United States) and the Alliance of Unitarian Women (1890).

*Rev. Marti Keller*

Rev. Marti Keller, President