

Congregational Responses to Selma

In spring 1965, the UUA Commission on Religion and Race sent a questionnaire to all Unitarian Universalist congregations asking about how they responded to the events in Selma that year. The results of that questionnaire are presented below, in annotated form.

All dates refer to the year 1965, unless otherwise indicated.

California

Unitarian Church of Orange County, Anaheim, California

The congregation did not send anyone to Selma. However, they had sermons on the civil rights movement and took up a collection for the Congress of Racial Equality. They also held an observance for James Reeb at the regular Sunday service and sent ten people to participate in a memorial march in Los Angeles. In addition, they collected almost \$100 for the James Reeb Fund and helped to organize the James J. Reeb Memorial Lecture at California State College, Fullerton.

Emerson Unitarian Church, Canoga Park, California

The congregation held a Sunday service devoted entirely to a memorial and raised \$254 for the UUA Freedom Fund. The minister and the director of religious education participated in the Selma-to-Montgomery march and members of the church participated in local demonstrations.

Chico, California

The fellowship held a special church service and sent its minister as its representative to the Reeb memorial service in Selma.

Universalist Church, Davis, California

The minister went with the group of ministers from the San Francisco Bay area and arrived in Selma on March 14. The trip was planned after the first call for volunteers on March 9 and before the death of James Reeb. Many members, including the minister, wrote to Congressman Robert Leggett about the issue. They made no formal observance of Reeb's death but it was frequently mentioned in the church newsletter and in Sunday sermons. Regarding taking a collection for the Reeb Fund they wrote: "In our church we take no collections." The congregation helped to publicize the opportunity to go to Selma on a community bus filled with people of various faiths, plus others who were non-

affiliated. Those who went joined the march, including two from the church. The minister planned to return to Alabama in the summer.

Unitarian Church of Long Beach, Long Beach, California

The congregation held a memorial for Reeb during a church service and raised approximately \$200 for the James Reeb Fund. They led the local march and the largest civil rights rally in Long Beach city history. They planned to have a Selma marcher speak to social concerns groups at a public meeting.

Palo Alto Unitarian Church, Palo Alto, California

The congregation sent the minister and three laypeople to Selma and organized a hundred people to go to the airport to see the minister off. The congregation paid for the minister's expenses and collected \$541.38 for the James Reeb Fund. They also sent \$619.82 to the Dallas County Voters League in Selma to support their efforts. The minister and three laypeople also participated in the Selma-to-Montgomery march. In addition, the congregation collected \$623.67 for the UUA Freedom Fund; it sent \$155 of this to the Freedom School in Meridian, Mississippi. It also collected money to send one or more church members to the Deep South the following summer and fall. The congregation also organized a Freedom Festival.

Throop Church, Pasadena, California

The minister attended the March 9 march in Selma and members of the congregation participated in picketing the Los Angeles Federal Building. After James Reeb's death the congregation participated in an interdenominational service. Individual gifts were sent to the James Reeb Fund and the minister called a meeting of Selma and Montgomery veterans in Pasadena, of which there were twenty-four, to determine ways to move forward locally.

Redwood City, California

The minister went to Selma. The congregation held a special Quaker-type service on March 15 in which the pulpit was symbolically empty as a witness. The church did not contribute to the James Reeb Fund but did support the UUA Freedom Fund. One member participated in the Selma march and others in local demonstrations. As part of its ongoing activities, the Social Action Committee participated in the local Interfaith Council for Community Responsibility.

First Church, San Diego

The congregation held an observance for Reeb at its regular Sunday service. It also supported the James Reeb Fund, sending \$682, and participated in an interdenominational service. Minister John Ruskin Clark Jr. and lay members participated in a sympathy march in San Diego. That summer Clark spent August 9–24 in Selma as part of the UU Presence in Selma.

Unitarian Church of Marin, San Rafael, California

The minister went to Selma for the March 9 march. While he was there the congregation held a silent service and collected an unspecified amount for the James Reeb Fund. Members of the congregation also participated in a sympathy march to the county court house.

Colorado

All Souls Unitarian Church, Colorado Springs, Colorado

The congregation sent the minister and the president of the board to Selma and held an observance during the regular Sunday service. It raised \$110 for the UUA Freedom Fund. The minister preached on civil rights from the pulpit and spoke at the YWCA and other community organizations. The minister also increased his activity in the local NAACP, ACLU, and Urban League. In addition, the congregation shipped clothing to Selma.

Jefferson Church, Golden, Colorado

Individual members sent letters and telegrams to President Johnson and members of Congress. The congregation held a special Sunday service to commemorate James Reeb and participated in a march and rally on the state capitol steps. They held a special collection that raised \$253.91 for the UUA Freedom Fund and James Reeb Fund. The churches in Denver sponsored a joint memorial service. In addition, the congregation reported “continued activity on local and state level to eliminate discrimination,” and “minister to volunteer to work in South this summer.”

Connecticut

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of New Britain, New Britain, Connecticut

The congregation held an observance for Reeb at a regular Sunday service and raised \$28.45 for the James Reeb Fund.

Delaware

First Church, Wilmington, Delaware

The congregation held a special memorial service for Reeb in the church and participated in an NAACP-sponsored service in the city square. They also sent letters to the president and Congress. They raised \$450 for the James Reeb Fund and paid for the minister's expenses for three days in Selma. The minister attended Reeb's memorial service in Selma and participated in the Selma-to-Montgomery march with two members of the congregation. The survey reports, "Just held a congregational meeting (planned before Selma) where the congregation overwhelmingly supported open occupancy housing and pending fair housing legislation in Delaware. This summer an integrated nursery is to begin in our church (probably with "War on Poverty" money, our church supplying space and many Unitarians helping as individuals—church and state being kept separate)."

District of Columbia

Unknown

It is not clear which congregation in the DC area sent in these survey results. It was probably All Souls, Unitarian, in Washington, DC.

The minister and the director of religious education were active in organizing Unitarian Universalist congregations in DC. The congregation held an observance at a regular Sunday service, participated in the DC Sunday afternoon service, and raised \$900 for the James Reeb Fund. The minister stayed for five days in Selma to participate in the Reeb memorial service and the Selma-to-Montgomery march. The minister was joined by fourteen members of the congregation. The congregation paid the expenses of all of its members who went on the Selma-to-Montgomery march. The survey notes, "Our DRE had week off to work for movement."

Davies Memorial Church, Washington, DC

The minister arrived in Selma on March 10. The congregation organized a telephone chain that helped them generate "hundreds of telegrams" to President Johnson. Also, "almost every member of church joined White House picket line at one time." Almost a hundred members of the congregation participated in an interdenominational service in front of the White House on March 14. The congregation raised \$120 for the James Reeb Fund and members participated in the Reeb memorial services in both Selma and Washington, DC. Six members of the congregation, including the minister, participated in the Selma-to-Montgomery march. The survey reports, "Almost everyone in the church is now highly committed to the Movement."

Florida

Marianna, Florida

The congregation sent telegrams and letters to President Johnson and held an observance as part of a regular Sunday service. The survey reports, "We attempted individually to justify this march to members of our Fellowship who disapproved of it, and to local citizens. So far, we have not been able to think of any activities which would be approved by the total Fellowship and which would also be effective in this community."

First Unitarian Church of Miami, Miami, Florida

The congregation sent two people, including the minister, to the initial march in Selma and held a Sunday memorial service for James Reeb. They collected \$633 for the James Reeb Fund. The minister worked with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference for six weeks and his work was largely funded by the congregation, which contributed \$700 to the minister's travel fund for civil rights work. The survey notes that the congregation is "seeking closer association with negro communities."

First Unitarian Church, Orlando, Florida

The minister responded to the initial call to go to Selma. He received publicity on local television and in the local newspaper about going. Following Reeb's assassination, the congregation held an observance at a regular Sunday service and raised \$25 for the James Reeb Fund. The minister also participated in the Selma-to-Montgomery march.

Tampa, Florida

The congregation held an observance at a regular Sunday service and raised \$100 for the UUA Freedom Fund. The minister went to Selma for Reeb's memorial service but did not stay for the Selma-to-Montgomery march. The congregation collected \$75 to pay for the minister's expenses and sponsored a local march with the NAACP.

Kentucky

Clifton Church, Louisville, Kentucky

The congregation held an observance during a regular Sunday service. It did not support the Selma-to-Montgomery march. The member of the congregation who responded to the UUA survey wrote, "March was not supported, in principle or practice; race relations in this community and church are seen only through interpersonal interactions." The respondent also noted, "Church members and congregation have been concerned for

Negro problem only in local community and in the all important sphere of individual relations. Attitude—superior; (i.e., negro-white interrelations are of high quality though few.)”

First Church, Louisville, Kentucky

The congregation sent two people to the first march in Selma, one minister and one layperson. The minister later preached about events there and the congregation publicized the civil rights movement through its newsletter. After Reeb’s death the congregation participated in an interdenominational service and collected \$135 for the James Reeb Fund and \$140 for the UUA Freedom Fund. The congregation sent seven people, including the minister, to the Selma-to-Montgomery march.

Illinois

Unitarian Universalist Community Church, Chicago Heights, Illinois

The congregation organized a letter-writing campaign to public officials and sent petitions of protest to President Lyndon Johnson, Governor George Wallace, Congressman Ed Derwinski, and Senators Paul Douglas and Everett Dirksen. The congregation also held an observance during a regular Sunday service and participated in a community memorial service. In addition, it took up a collection for the Reeb family.

The Unitarian Church, Geneva, Illinois

The congregation collected \$54.20 for the James Reeb Fund.

Oak Park, Illinois

The congregation held an observance at a regular Sunday service. It also held a special interdenominational memorial service in which the minister preached the sermon and two other ministers and a rabbi participated. The congregation collected \$151.22 for the James Reeb Fund at this special service. It also contributed \$125 toward the UUA Freedom Fund.

Indiana

Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Bloomington, Indiana

The minister went to the first march in Selma, which the congregation publicized and supported through a collection. They helped support a local campus march and raised more than \$300 for the James Reeb Fund. The congregation sent the minister, three members, and some “other non-affiliated liberals.” The survey reports, “Church paid to send Negro Baptist minister and freed own minister's time to make trip and speak on it. Minister coordinated charter flight from Bloomington—21 persons.” In total, the congregation raised \$1078 for Selma expenses, the James Reeb Fund, and the UUA Freedom Fund.

Hobart, Indiana

Held observance of Reeb’s death at a regular Sunday service and took in a collection of \$110 for the James Reeb Fund. The church held two special meetings, one for youth and the other for adults, at which a participant in the march spoke about its meaning.

All Souls Unitarian Church, Indianapolis, Indiana

The congregation held an observance at a regular Sunday service and collected \$632 for the James Reeb Fund.

Kokomo, Indiana

Held an observance of Reeb’s death at the regular Sunday service and took a collection for the James Reeb Fund. Several members also participated in a march in Kokomo.

Iowa

Ames, Iowa

Initially members had a discussion and were encouraged to financially contribute as individuals. There was a ten-minute memorial service during the regular service and approximately \$100 was collected for the James Reeb Fund. Members also contributed to the Alabama Memorial Fund.

Unitarian Church, Davenport, Iowa

The board of trustees sent a telegram to the president and Congress requesting the guarantee of federal protection for the demonstrators. The congregation organized a special interdenominational and interracial memorial service. The service was preceded by a community-wide silent march. The congregation also circulated petitions and draped the church building in black crepe for a week. There was a collection for the James Reeb Fund which raised approximately \$300. One person from the congregation went on the Selma-to-Montgomery march. In addition, the congregation participated in a "cousin county program" with a county in Mississippi that provided materials for people in the county and for the county's community center.

Iowa City, Iowa

The president of the society sent a telegram to President Johnson urging federal intervention. The minister, William Weir, and his family, plus the social concerns chair and his daughter, and others marched with the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) in front of the post office protesting federal inaction. The minister arranged for the Prairie States Board to send telegrams to the president and senators. The congregation organized and hosted an interfaith service on March 12. It also converted a regular service to a Quaker-style consideration of where they are and why their minister was going to the memorial service in Selma. They raised \$118 for the James Reeb Fund at this special service, and approximately \$170 at the regular service, and more by mail. Three Student Religious Liberals (SRL) members were going to go to the conclusion of the march but weather prevented the small plane from flying. Weir led an interfaith prayer meeting at the post office on March 25, which supported the "Friends of SNCC" campaign in the amount of \$5000. He also gave \$60 from contributions towards his Selma travel expenses and promoted volunteer service for civil rights as the SRL urged. The local Unitarian Social Concerns Council and its housing committee continued its work helping racial minority students get settled well in non-University housing. Weir delivered about six sermons on civil rights including his firsthand account of his time in Selma.

Ottumwa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Ottumwa, Iowa

The church held a memorial service for James Reeb at the regular Sunday service and received a collection of \$6 for the James Reeb Fund. The fellowship of nine members and six families placed a paid statement in the *Ottumwa Courier* urging letters and wires to President Johnson demanding protection of all citizens against acts of violence. No organized effort or action was taken, although members supported activism in spirit.

Louisiana

Lake Charles, Louisiana

It is not clear which congregation returned this survey, but the envelope was postmarked from Lake Charles.

The church held an observance of Reeb's death at its regular Sunday service. The church also named its religious education class "James Reeb Class."

Maryland

Cedar Lane Church, Bethesda, Maryland

Many congregation members participated in White House demonstrations in protest of the brutality in Selma. The board of trustees sent telegrams to President Johnson, as did a large percentage of the membership. The congregation observed Reeb's death at its Sunday service and raised \$1,245.54 for the James Reeb Fund. Many members, including the minister, attended the service at All Souls in Washington, DC. The church established a "Selma Emergency Fund" in the amount of \$337 and turned it over to the president of the Greater Washington Association District Ministers Association, to be distributed at his discretion, to defray expenses of local ministers.

River Road Unitarian Church, Bethesda, Maryland

The minister and one layperson went to Selma on March 12 and stayed for Reeb's memorial service there. Two laypeople participated in the Selma-to-Montgomery march. The congregation held an observance for Reeb as part of regular Sunday service and collected more than \$800 for the James Reeb Fund.

Unitarian Church, Rockville, Maryland

The congregation sent its minister and one lay person to the initial march in Selma. The minister preached three sermons devoted to aspects of civil rights. The congregation held a memorial service for James Reeb on Sunday morning with huge attendance. They also raised \$1,500 for the James Reeb Fund. The congregation then sent six laypeople and the minister to the James Reeb memorial service in Selma, twelve laypeople and the minister on the Selma-to-Montgomery march, and two busloads of people to the rally in Washington, DC. The survey also notes, "Fred Beckner of our church has initiated [a] project to bring fifty Selma high school students on an exchange visit to Rockville. Enthusiastic community support is developing. Intensified work with local Negro community."

Massachusetts

Unitarian Universalist Church, Andover, Massachusetts

The congregation held an observance as part of a regular Sunday service and participated in a march and memorial service in Lawrence, Massachusetts. Members raised \$35 for the James Reeb Fund.

Arlington, Massachusetts

The congregation held an observance as part of a regular Sunday service and helped to organize a special collection taken up by all Arlington Protestant churches. They also took a collection for the James Reeb Fund, which raised \$300. One layperson from the congregation went on the Selma-to-Montgomery march and five people, including the minister, attended the memorial service for James Reeb held in Boston. In addition, the congregation assisted “in introducing resolutions passed by town meeting.”

Unitarian Church, Barnstable, Massachusetts

The congregation sent telegrams to President Johnson urging federal protection and held an observance at a Sunday service after Reeb’s assassination. They collected \$86.90 for the Reeb family. Two people from the congregation attended Reeb’s memorial service in Washington, DC. They also sent two people, one of them the minister, on the Selma-to-Montgomery march.

First Church, Belmont, Massachusetts

The congregation contributed \$200 to the UUA Freedom Fund and held an observance for Reeb at a regular Sunday service. They also raised \$450 for the James Reeb Fund. The minister and three laypeople attended the James Reeb memorial service in Boston and twenty members went to the demonstration on the Boston Common. The survey reports, “Members are urged to contribute to NAACP and CORE [Congress of Racial Equality] and take part in April 23 for ML King.”

First Parish, Concord, Massachusetts

The congregation sent its minister to Selma and held a special church service after Reeb’s assassination. They raised \$390 for the James Reeb Fund. The congregation sent twenty-five people to the memorial service in Boston. The survey reports, “Organized a local march (1200 participants).”

Unitarian Universalist Church, Danvers, Massachusetts

The congregation raised \$100 for the James Reeb Fund and held an observance at a regular Sunday service. Six members of the congregation attended the memorial service in Boston and the minister went on the Selma-to-Montgomery march.

Dover, Massachusetts

A delegation attended the memorial service for James Reeb in Boston. They also sponsored a forum series that focused on civil rights and raised over \$700 for the racial justice work of the UUA, UCC, and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. The congregation also gathered the first Dover Fair Housing Committee.

First Unitarian Society, Gardner, Massachusetts

The congregation held an observance after James Reeb's assassination at a regular Sunday service. The minister and one layperson attended the memorial service in Boston.

All Souls Church, Greenfield, Massachusetts

The congregation held a special service and an observance during a regular Sunday morning service. They also raised about \$100 for the James Reeb Fund.

First Church, Harvard, Massachusetts

The congregation held an observance during a regular Sunday service and participated in an interdenominational service. The church also organized an interfaith service with a Roman Catholic and Congregationalist church that was held at the town hall. Individual contributions were mailed. Msgr. Casey from Lexington addressed an interfaith group on April 4 and received an offering of \$55 for the work of the SCLC. A town Fair Housing Committee was created and the church authorized a Social Responsibility Committee.

Unitarian Universalist Church, Haverhill, Massachusetts

The minister preached a sermon on Selma and wrote an article that was printed in the local newspaper. The regular Sunday service was devoted to a Reeb memorial and the congregation organized a city-wide rally attended by more than a thousand people. The congregation helped to send a delegation from the city of Haverhill and participated in a three-hour local radio program "soliciting funds for Dr. Martin Luther King."

First Church in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts

After Reeb's assassination the congregation held an observance at a regular Sunday service and a group discussion in the minister's home.

Lynn, Massachusetts

The congregation held a special church service. It also contributed \$168 to the James Reeb Fund.

Melrose Unitarian Church, Melrose, Massachusetts

The board of directors refused to hold a collection for the James Reeb Fund and the congregation "in no way" responded to Reeb's assassination. Between three and six people from the congregation attended the memorial service in Boston "as individuals."

Natick, Massachusetts

The congregation held an observance at a regular Sunday service and the congregation contributed \$43 to the James Reeb Fund.

First Congregational Parish, Petersham, Massachusetts

The congregation sent its minister to the initial march in Selma, raised \$87 for the Freedom Fund, and sent \$50 to the American Friends Service Committee. They sent one person to the memorial service for James Reeb in Boston and the minister and one layperson participated in the Selma-to-Montgomery march. The congregation paid "expenses of delegates to Selma [and] . . . voter registration layman worker in Raleigh, NC."

Quincy, Massachusetts

The congregation sent a telegram of support to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and held a special church service on Sunday. Two hundred people attended from the parish and the community. Six members attended the memorial service held in Boston. Bradford Gale preached a sermon on "The Philosophy of Martin Luther King" and a sermon entitled "What Keeps Quincy Segregated" was being planned.

The Unitarian Church, Sharon, Massachusetts

The minister went to Selma and the congregation collected money to pay for his expenses. The congregation held a special service after Reeb's assassination and twenty-five people, representing twenty-five percent of the congregation, went to the rally and memorial service in Boston. The congregation held a collection for the UUA Freedom Fund, which raised \$150. The minister spoke to many community groups about the importance of civil rights work in Selma. As a result, "a friend, unchurched, un-Templd, made the march." The minister also volunteered to stay in Selma for fifteen days.

First Parish, Sudbury, Massachusetts

The congregation participated in an interdenominational service for Selma. It raised \$160 for the James Reeb Fund and sent one person to the last day of the Selma-to-Montgomery march.

First Parish, Waltham, Massachusetts

The congregation held an observance as part of a regular Sunday service and sent approximately ten people to the memorial service for Reeb in Boston.

First Parish, Westford, Massachusetts

After Reeb's assassination, the congregation held an observance at a regular Sunday service and a collection for the James Reeb Fund.

Michigan

Ann Arbor, Michigan

The congregation held an observance during the regular Sunday service, at which more than \$300 was collected for the James Reeb Fund. The minister went to the memorial in Selma and the minister and two laypeople went to the end of the march. The minister reported on it from the pulpit. The social action committee continued to support the Batesville project, but no new plans emerged as the result of Selma.

Unitarian Church, Birmingham, Michigan

The congregation sent the minister and one layperson to Selma and held an observance at a regular Sunday service for James Reeb. It also participated in an interdenominational service "in cooperation with a number of Detroit Negro churches." A special fund was

sent up for Selma, which collected more than \$375. The congregation sent two laypeople and the minister to the Selma-to-Montgomery march. It also sent additional funds to the Unitarian Church in Birmingham, Alabama.

Downriver Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Wyandotte, Michigan

The congregation held an observance at a regular Sunday service and raised \$83 for the James Reeb Fund.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Farmington, Michigan

The congregation held an observance at the church and some members attended a memorial service in Detroit. They also raised an unspecified amount for the UUA Freedom Fund.

Minnesota

Mankato, Minnesota

The congregation replaced its regular Sunday service with a memorial service and publicized it in the wider community. Members and non-members contributed \$81. On March 21 half of the fellowship participated in a local march. Posters from the march read, "Not a Southern problem, but an American problem." The survey also reports, "We hope to reactivate the local Human Rights Council, and to do something about discrimination in housing among students on Mankato State College campus. The one Negro resident of Mankato (not a student) has now solved his housing problem himself. Part of the problem here is making people aware that there are problems, since there are just a handful of Negro students, the one Negro veterinarian here. We do not even have any American Indians living in or near Mankato, so it is very easy to be ignorant of any difficulties."

Mississippi

Jackson, Mississippi

Two people from the congregation, one of whom was the minister, participated in the first Selma march. Afterward, "There was a rush of requests for information about Unitarianism. A message was left, telling the minister to leave town." One member from the congregation participated in an interdenominational service. The congregation raised \$42 for the James Reeb Fund. No one was able to participate in events in Alabama after Reeb's assassination because of "lack of funds."

Missouri

First Church, St. Louis, Missouri

The congregation held a special church service after Reeb was assassinated and raised \$317.50 for the James Reeb Fund. The minister attended the James Reeb memorial service in Washington, DC.

Nebraska

Unitarian Church of Lincoln, Lincoln, Nebraska

The congregation held an observance for James Reeb at a regular Sunday service and the minister participated in an outdoor service on the grounds of the state capital. The congregation collected about \$40 for the James Reeb Fund and the minister and four laypeople attended Reeb's memorial service in Selma. The congregation also participated in and publicized a local sympathy march circling the state capital. The survey describes future hopes "to create awareness at home, and to enlist volunteers for southern tours of duty this summer and afterward."

First Church, Omaha, Nebraska

The congregation held a memorial service for James Reeb on March 14 and participated in a community service on March 10. It raised more than \$260 for the James Reeb Fund and "Communicated with Concerned White Citizens of Alabama offering help." The survey also notes, "Work with local Negro leadership in Urban Renewal, voter registration, housing legislation; also, demonstrations and rental surveys."

New Hampshire

Unitarian Church, Concord, New Hampshire

Held a special interdenominational service in its sanctuary and collected \$287. Its minister attended the memorial services in Washington, DC and Boston and marched with another member of the congregation. Upon his return he preached about it and gave a talk at Concord Human Rights Group, of which members of the church were founding members.

First Society, Milford, New Hampshire

The congregation held an observance after James Reeb's assassination at a regular Sunday service. The minister went to Selma for the Selma-to-Montgomery march. The survey reports, "a conflict of opinion providing moral growth within the church! Perhaps support for Mississippi!"

New Jersey

Lincroft, New Jersey

The congregation held an observance at a regular Sunday service and participated in an interdenominational service. They raised \$197 for the James Reeb Fund and "at least fifty members" attended local marches. The survey reports that the congregation is "already deeply involved in local civil rights work" and didn't "like the implication that we do it because of Selma." One member of the congregation attended the memorial service for James Reeb in Boston.

Unitarian Society of Ridgewood, Ridgewood, New Jersey

The congregation held a memorial service for James Reeb and raised a sum of money for his widow and children.

New Mexico

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Held observance of Reeb's death at its regular Sunday service and took in a collection of \$1,177 for the James Reeb Fund. The survey reports that twelve people, including the minister, attended a march; it isn't clear which march it refers to.

Los Alamos, New Mexico

The minister went to Selma and the congregation held an observance at its regular Sunday service. The congregation collected approximately \$850 for the UUA Freedom Fund and approximately \$200 for the James Reeb Fund. The minister, his wife, and perhaps others were planning on returning to the South that summer.

New York

First Unitarian Church, Albany, New York

The congregation held an observance at a regular Sunday service and participated in a special interdenominational and interracial service at the Albany state capitol building. They also raised \$350 for the James Reeb Fund and the minister attended the James Reeb memorial service in Washington, DC.

Central Nassau, New York

The minister, Farley Wheelwright, responded to the initial call, as did a layperson. Wheelwright returned to Selma prior to the memorial service. The congregation held an observance during its regular Sunday service and contributed approximately \$150 to the James Reeb Fund. The Fellowship for Social Justice (FSJ) continued to work locally for civil rights. The congregations also provided leadership for the Nassau County Southern Christian Leadership Conference rally (fund raising.)

The Unitarian Universalist Church, Cortland, New York

The minister and two lay members went to Selma on March 16 and remained for the march on the courthouse. The front entrance of the church was draped in black crepe and a large sign read, "We Are in Mourning for Selma, Alabama." The congregation raised money for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference through bake sales. It also formed a Committee for Social Responsibilities to support work in Alabama. The committee then sent money and clothing to civil rights projects in Alabama. The congregation also sent telegrams to members of Congress and President Johnson.

Middletown, New York

The minister went to Selma and was there March 16–18. The congregation held an observance at a regular Sunday service and draped their wayside pulpit with black cloth. They also raised \$68 for the James Reeb Fund.

All Souls Church, New York City

The congregation held an observance at a regular Sunday service and raised \$3,500 for the James Reeb Fund. They also made a contribution "directly to [the] family."

Newburgh, New York

The congregation held a special church service after James Reeb was assassinated and raised \$157.25 for the James Reeb Fund. Forty people, “practically the whole congregation,” participated in a thousand-person local march. The survey reports, “Our activities pre-date Selma—mainly on Fair Housing.”

First Church, Johnston, Niagara Falls, New York

The congregation held a special collection for the James Reeb Fund.

Oneonta Unitarian Universalist Church, Oneonta, New York

The congregation held a memorial service before the regular church service and raised \$85 for the James Reeb Fund. Offerings from the church school for the three Sundays following James Reeb’s assassination were donated to Martin Luther King Jr., the UUA Fund, and the Friends Fund.

First Universalist Church, Syracuse, New York

Held a memorial at the regular Sunday service, at which a collection for the James Reeb Fund raised \$156.73. The ministers shared a public "Pray-in" service and delivered a sermon supporting the march on Sunday. The church’s response to the question, “What continuing activities do you plan out of the Selma campaign?” was “Nothing at present.”

Tonawanda, New York

Held observance for Reeb’s death at regular Sunday service.

Ohio

Cincinnati, Ohio

It is not clear which congregation returned this survey, but the envelope was postmarked from Cincinnati.

The congregation raised \$550 for the James Reeb Fund and held two Sunday services devoted to events in Selma. They also sent four people to the Selma-to-Montgomery march and raised \$1,000 for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.

First Church, Columbus, Ohio

The minister participated in the March 9 march in Selma and the Selma-to-Montgomery march. Afterward he spoke “at CORE-sponsored protest march and interdenominational outdoor service. Some 2,000 or 3,000 attending.” The congregation raised \$500 for the James Reeb and UUA Freedom Funds. The survey reports, “We have formed a ‘Freedom Corps’ of a dozen people who stand ready to go South on short notice.”

First Church, Dayton, Ohio

The minister, Harold LeVesconter, called for a local memorial march dedicated to James Reeb. The congregation helped organize the march. The survey reports, “As direct result of the march, an Interfaith Realty Corp has been formed in Dayton, many religious faiths being represented. The organization has been formed to help negroes find homes in all-white communities, to have available in the community for those both white and negro, a method of buying and selling homes on an open-occupancy basis. Group to be patterned somewhat on lines of Cleveland organization.”

First Church, North Olmsted, Ohio

The congregation held a memorial service as part of its regular Sunday service and raised \$120 for the James Reeb Fund. In response to the question about participating in the Selma-to-Montgomery march, the survey reports, “The community exhibited considerable hostility to the march which I and others sought to refute.”

The Unitarian Fellowship, Yellow Springs, Ohio

The congregation sent one layperson to the initial march in Selma. It co-sponsored a local sympathy march and two of its Sunday morning services featured Selma participants. The congregation raised \$161.27 for the James Reeb Fund and sent one person to Reeb’s memorial service in Selma and the Selma-to-Montgomery march. The survey reports, “To us, Selma was an incident in a continuing struggle. In this community every place of public accommodation, including barber shops and beauty parlors, has been effectively integrated. Employment and housing opportunities are above average, but still being worked on. None specifically based on Selma. This fellowship has been in the forefront of the civil rights struggle since before it was popular.”

First Church, Youngstown, Ohio

The congregation raised \$392.11 for the James Reeb Fund and participated in a memorial service and demonstrations in Youngstown. The congregation sent one person to the Selma-to-Montgomery march.

Oklahoma

All Souls Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma

The survey reports, “A protest march was called—to be started with a service at the Unitarian Church and carried through town to the Federal Bldg.—this was done in conjunction with Civil Rights and Interfaith groups locally! When notice came of Reeb's death—the service in the church was made a memorial service—All races and faiths participated—Catholic, Protestant, Jewish—the Church Sanctuary and Parish Hall was filled.” The congregation raised \$575 for the James Reeb Fund. The survey also states, “Contributions were made to CORE [the Congress of Racial Equality] and NAACP for the purpose of sending a delegation. This was done through our Religion in Action Committee. We are now actively engaged in a dispute with the local school Board in Tulsa—further activity in Selma will depend on events there.”

Ontario, Canada

Unitarian Church of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

The survey reports that the congregation “held special Sunday services [that] had two SNCC [Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee] workers from Selma speak at length on their work there. Minister spoke at SNCC rally March 13, participated in Parliament Hill demonstration and march to U.S. Embassy in Ottawa on March 14 (4,000 took part, including 75 local Unitarians).” After Reeb’s assassination, a special church service was held and \$320 was collected, \$160 of which was sent to the UUA Freedom Fund. The congregation also supported SNCC through the Ottawa Committee for Human Rights.

Oregon

Corvallis, Oregon

The congregation held an observance during a regular Sunday service and collected \$36 for the James Reeb Fund. Individual members attended a sympathy march in Corvallis.

Pennsylvania

Unitarian Church, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

The congregation participated in an interdenominational service and raised \$55 toward the James Reeb Fund.

Media, Pennsylvania

It is not clear which congregation returned this survey, but the envelope was postmarked from Media.

The congregation held an observance as part of its regular Sunday service. It sent two laypeople to the Selma-to-Montgomery march.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

No one in the congregation went to Selma but they did take a collection for the James Reeb Fund that raised \$898.

Rhode Island

Church of the Mediator, Providence, Rhode Island

The minister and two lay people responded to the first call for volunteers. The congregation cooperated with the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee in organizing a community demonstration in which five laity participated. The congregation held a special church service in which there was community-wide participation. One layperson went to Selma for the end of the march, while others demonstrated at the state house.

First Universalist Church, Woonsocket, Rhode Island

The congregation held a special service and participated in an interdenominational service. They raised \$48 for the James Reeb Fund and participated in the freedom march on March 17.

South Carolina

Beaufort Unitarian Fellowship, Beaufort, South Carolina

The congregation responded to the survey but did not indicate any engagement with the civil rights movement.

Tennessee

Tennessee Valley Church, Knoxville, Tennessee

The Selma-to-Montgomery march took place on the date of the congregation's annual dinner so no one went but they did send telegrams to President Johnson. After Reeb's death a pastoral letter went out and the minister and members of the church took part in promoting and planning a city-wide prayer meeting presided over by the mayor in the civic auditorium. It was attended by two thousand people. The congregation also contributed \$344 to the James Reeb Fund. In addition, the congregation circulated petitions calling for appropriate federal action on voting rights and the minister was one of a delegation that presented these petitions to two senators and two congressmen in Washington. One of the members represented those who participated in the Sunday city-wide meeting at Selma on the following day. The minister attended the memorial service in Washington, DC, and then participated in the Selma-to-Montgomery march. He reported on the march to the congregation, to a Jewish Temple, and to the annual meeting of the Knoxville branch of the NAACP.

First Church, Memphis, Tennessee

The minister, James Madison Barr, writes, "I preached a sermon on the Selma situation" and the congregation raised \$125 for the James Reeb Fund. Reflecting on the Selma-to-Montgomery march, Barr continues, "We did not support the march—in any way. I plan to continue to seek to bring some reason and reality out of the current chaos—To work for the individual dignity of all men—but to oppose the present Martin Luther King Southern Christian Leadership Conference—COFO [Council of Federated Organizations] and such similar organizations—which are breeding a new Reconstruction and are doing more damage to brotherhood than anything I can think of."

First Church, Nashville, Tennessee

The initial response was participation by the minister and other church members in a community prayer service sponsored by the local chapter of Southern Christian Leadership Conference. The congregation held an observance of James Reeb's death at its regular Sunday service. Church members also marched to the federal building in large numbers and participated in a memorial service.

Texas

First Church, Dallas, Texas

The congregation held an observance at a regular Sunday service and raised \$533.42 for the James Reeb Fund.

First Unitarian Church of San Antonio, San Antonio, Texas

The congregation observed Reeb's death at the regular Sunday service. It also participated in an interdenominational service and the minister gave the eulogy at a community service held at the Alamo on March 14. More than fifty Unitarians attended. Money was contributed to the James Reeb Fund. A letter of appreciation was written to the local Roman Catholic Archbishop, who sent a priest as his personal emissary. The Social Responsibilities Committee developed a plan for a continued concern in this area in the church. The survey reports, "Like many Unitarian churches in this area, we have a strong and vocal minority, who have strong feelings against events in Selma and even the Memorial observation here."

Washington

University Unitarian Church, Seattle, Washington

Members of the congregation participated in the local vigil in front of the federal courthouse. One of the church's ministers went to Selma. The church held a special memorial service civil rights event at which \$343 was raised. The congregation worked with and supported the Delta Project, which its senior minister, Peter Raible, had participated in. Raible returned to Mississippi after the minister in Jackson, Mississippi was shot in August 1965.

First Church of Seattle (Now Saltwater Unitarian Universalist Church), Des Moines, Washington

The congregation held a special service on March 12, conducted by the minister just before he departed for Selma. A collection was taken of approximately \$30 for the James Reeb Fund, plus \$100 for the UUA Freedom Fund. Several members participated in a sympathy march held in Seattle. A lawyer from the congregation went South that summer. The minister and his wife also planned to spend a few weeks there. The survey reports that new vitality had been given to the local Human Rights Council, concentrating on open housing.

Wisconsin

Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

The congregation held an observance at its regular Sunday service and took a collection for the James Reeb Fund. The church's minister went to Selma. The congregation participated in a local march and service on March 15. It also worked for open occupancy legislation and circulated the minister's sermon about Selma.

Vermont

All Souls Church, Brattleboro, Vermont

The congregation held an observance at its regular Sunday service after Reeb's assassination. It raised more than \$1,500 for the James Reeb Fund. The Social Action Committee voted to send the minister at next call. They sent two people to James Reeb's memorial service in Boston and four people, including the minister, to the Selma-to-Montgomery march.

Virginia

Lynchburg, Virginia

The congregation held an observance at its regular Sunday service and held a discussion. Donations were made to the UUA Commission on Religion and Race rather than to the James Reeb Fund. Greta Crosby, the minister, was a member of that commission. While she wanted to go to Selma she was caring for a newborn and could not. Two members participated in a local walk and public service. Information was sent to local media.