**And the March Goes On…**

Friends… these are some scary times.

AND they are also some of the most beautiful times I have ever seen.

I was meant to go to the women’s march on one of the three buses leaving from Binghamton so that I could go with the UUCB group. However, when two of the buses got cancelled last minute, I made the decision that my friend Stephanie and I would drive down. I posted on several UU minister Facebook pages of needing a place to stay in Baltimore THAT night so that we could take the train into DC in the morning, within minutes I had 8 offers of housing, some from people I had never interacted with in my life. We drove down that night to a seminary friend’s house and then left for DC in the morning. Once in DC we parked a few miles away and walked into town where the march would begin.

I cannot describe well enough in words the way my heart swelled and spilled open just in the walk to where the march was to begin. There were people EVERYWHERE… tons and tons of people… all there to march for ME, for YOU, for US. Tears spilled onto my cheeks from the overwhelming emotions I felt that WE were showing up, WE were saying that women matter, WE were here to march with and for one another.

Then just this past weekend, I attended an immigration justice rally for immigrants and refugees in the PA Valley that I live in. The event was attended by a few hundred people which was overwhelming to me because I know that the political views in this valley are very exclusive and painful even though this coal mining community was built on the backs of immigrants not that long ago.

It makes me curious… Trump always said that he wanted to unite this country, to get away from the divisiveness. I questioned that he thought he could unite us together across political views, but what he has done is so much bigger than that. While we may be united against his hateful speech, we are united with each other. Millions of people AROUND THE WORLD have come together to say that they do not agree with his hateful, misleading, racist, misogynistic speech and that people everywhere will not sit idly by and allow him to turn our world upside down.

Oh no, my friends, we are united, we are a people who say “NO MORE!” We have come together to fight because love always wins… every time.

How are you going to show up in this life, be a voice for those who cannot use their own, be a willing carrier of love, justice, equity and compassion…

But the real question is, my friends… what are you going to do when hate knocks on your door?