



501 Front St., Norfolk, VA 23510 • [JesusPeopleForAnimals.com](http://JesusPeopleForAnimals.com)

June 19, 2015

Charleston African Methodist Episcopal Church

Dear Beloved Congregation,

As a fellow Christian, I'm writing on behalf of Jesus People for Animals, PETA's Christian outreach division, and our more than 3 million members and supporters, including thousands across South Carolina, to express our profound sorrow and our overwhelming disgust at the recent attack on your church by a racist young man.

We are against all discrimination on any basis, and we believe in nonviolence to all forms of life, something that many people find hard to grasp. We take to heart Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s words that "[i]njustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere," and we stand in solidarity with you and your congregation. As a small token of support, knowing that we can do nothing to bring back lost loved ones, we are sending a vegan food offering to you today. In addition, we've passed the hat among our staff and will be donating \$720 to help pay for funeral costs for the families affected.

We wish you strength in your efforts to spread Jesus' message of peace and love in the aftermath of this horrific act and add our hope that it will open doors to discussion and action that will result in more understanding and genuine change.

Grace and peace,

Sarah Withrow King  
Director of Christian Outreach and Engagement