

STATEMENT FROM TGEA *Regarding the Times in Which We Live*

So Many Executive Orders. Yet nothing about you has changed. You still exist. You are still who you are. Your pronouns are your own and they belong to you. What has potentially changed are some of our rights as American citizens. Even then, we have no certainty as to exactly how these Executive Orders will be enacted and/or enforced. We don't know, and we are not sure anyone does. What we do know is that the EOs attacking our communities are being actively challenged by several lawsuits from experienced organizations. We also know that the speed at which these EOs have been issued are intended to disorient and confuse. The best way we can combat that is not to be afraid, and to seek strength in the resilience in our communities. Each other. Reach out. You are not alone. It's true that we can be insular at times, however that only serves our opposition. Keep living your life. Keep showing up. Keep finding joy. Keep finding peace. Seek help when you need it, and offer help to others when you're able. Stay together and stay in touch. Science, ethics, and religion are being distorted and twisted by this administration in ways that suit their own purpose, and in ways that are harmful and dangerous. Yet we are powerful beings. Our stories are powerful. We reveal that the most fundamental thing about humanity- the very first thing that is said about us -is subject to change. We reveal that transformation is possible. While that is a frightening concept to some people, their fear is not our business. We have overcome so many obstacles to be where we are, and to be who we are. We will not stop. And the thing that has gotten us this far is not a law, nor a political party, nor or a President. It has always been the knowledge and assurance of who we are, and our hope for a better future. That hasn't changed. We exist, we resist, we persist. We exist.

Rev. Emma Chattin
Executive Director
On Behalf of the TGEA Board