

INTERFAITH CONFERENCE OF GREATER MILWAUKEE

Founded 1970

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African Methodist Episcopal Church
Milwaukee District

American Baptist Churches of Wis.

Buddhist Peace Fellowship, Milw.

Church of God in Christ,
Wisconsin First Jurisdiction

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day
Saints, *Milw. North & South Stakes*

Episcopal Church,
Diocese of Milwaukee

Evangelical Lutheran Church in
America (ELCA),
Greater Milwaukee Synod

Islamic Society of Milwaukee

Jewish Community Relations
Council/ Milwaukee Jewish
Federation & Wisconsin Council
of Rabbis

Presbyterian Church (USA),
Presbytery of Milwaukee

Religious Society of Friends,
The Milwaukee Meeting

Roman Catholic Church,
The Milwaukee Archdiocese

Sikh Community
Sikh Temple of Wisconsin
Sikh Religious Society of Wisconsin

Unitarian Universalist Association
Southeast Wisconsin Congregations

United Church of Christ,
Southeast Wisconsin Association

United Methodist Church,
South East District

Wisconsin General Baptist
State Convention

Several nonmember faiths also
participate, including Baha'is,
Hindus, Orthodox Christians,
Sufis and others.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 13, 2017

For more information:

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Interfaith Statement on Beating

The Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee strongly condemns the reported attack this week on a Muslim woman who was walking home from the Islamic Society of Milwaukee's mosque at S. 13th St. and W. Layton Ave. after early morning prayers. This assault should be vigorously investigated as a hate crime.

Moreover, this is a moment when people throughout our entire metropolitan area should speak out publicly and privately to make it clear that they stand opposed to all words and deeds of hate and violence against any faith. Disrespectful comments pave the way for hate. Small acts of intolerance may lead to more serious ones and ultimately to violence.

While one individual's heinous act does not define a society, the failure to condemn and oppose bigotry and hate based upon religious differences can. The Conference urges our community to stand for the right of every human being to worship as he or she sees fit without fear of discrimination, hate or violence.

For 47 years, the Interfaith Conference – whose member faiths and denominations now reach across southern and southeastern Wisconsin – has upheld the sacred dignity of every person while opposing hate in all of its forms. We have increasingly presented programs to counter misinformation while providing opportunities for the most effective antidote to hate and intolerance – personal interaction and sharing across religious, racial and cultural lines.

Issued by the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee Executive Committee on behalf of the Interfaith Cabinet (our board of directors).

"To uphold the dignity of every person and the solidarity of the human community"