

# Statement of Solidarity and Support from Morris County Interfaith Clergy

*January, 2026*

As faith leaders representing diverse religious traditions, we the undersigned speak with one voice in response to the immigration enforcement actions that took place on Speedwell Avenue in Morristown on Sunday, January 11, 2026.

Across our varied faiths, we share a fundamental conviction: every human being is created in the image of God and possesses inherent dignity that cannot be diminished by legal status, country of origin, or any other circumstance. Our faith traditions call us to welcome the stranger, to defend the vulnerable, to speak truth to power, and to stand with those who are marginalized. When masked agents in unmarked vehicles detain people from laundromats, businesses, and public spaces without transparency or accountability; when families are left in anguish not knowing where their loved ones have been taken; when entire communities live in fear - this violates the dignity we are called to uphold.

Immigration agents engaging in indiscriminate sweeps are creating a climate of terror among our neighbors, regardless of immigration or citizenship status. People washing their clothes on a Sunday morning, including a high school student, were taken into custody. This is not justice. This is not who we are as a community.

## **We call upon immigration enforcement authorities to:**

- Cease immoral, unconstitutional, and indiscriminate enforcement actions that target individuals based on race, ethnicity, or national origin
- Provide transparency and due process to those detained and their families
- Respect the dignity and humanity of all persons, regardless of immigration status
- Allow access to pastoral and spiritual care for those who are detained.

## **We call upon our faith communities and all people of conscience to:**

- Stand in solidarity with our immigrant neighbors
- Speak out against fear-mongering and dehumanizing rhetoric
- Offer practical support to those affected by these enforcement actions
- Remember that our strength as a community comes from our diversity and our shared commitment to human dignity.

As people of faith, we cannot be silent when the sacred dignity of any person is violated. We will continue to work for justice, compassion, and the protection of all members of our community.

Together, we stand with our immigrant neighbors in Morris County and beyond.

In hope and faithful witness,

Rev. Hannah Faye Allred	Rev. Lance A. Mann
Rev. Dr. Edwin David Aponte	Rev. Jeff Markay
Paul Becker	Rabbi Ellie Miller
Rev. Dr. Tanya Linn Bennett	Rev. Gladys G. Moore
Jeffrey Bird	Rev. Michael Muller
Bernadette Blong, Lay Pastoral Leader	Deacon Mark Nixon, Ph.D.
Rev. Deacon Ken Boccino	Cantor Shana Onigman
Rev. Emilie Boggis	Rev. Sasha Ostrom
Rev. Don Brown	Rev. Robert A. Picken
Rev. Thomas A. Brown	Deacon Trink Prinz
Rev. Sarah J. Cairatti	Rev. Gilma Ramos
Rev. John Callanan	Rev. Dr. Robert Rogers
Rev. Jerry Carter	Rabbi Michael Satz
Rev. Timothy Clarkson	Rev Chris Scrivens
Rev. Dr. Lisa Clayton	Pastor Philip Scherzer
Rev. Kisha Cohen	Rabbi Inna Serebro-Litvak
Rev. Luana Cook Scott	Rev. Nicolette L. Siragusa
Rev. Elizabeth Cotten	Rev. Dr. Althea Spencer Miller
Cantor Galit Dadoun-Cohen	Rev. Carie Stanley
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Rabbi Murray Ezring	Rev. Heather Valosin
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Rev. Carol Howard	Bishop Rohan Walker
Rev. Susan Ironside	Rev. Audrey Webber
Rev. Manuel Islas	Rev. Traci West
Rev. Elizabeth Ivell	Rev. Dr. Sidney Williams
Dr. Melanie Johnson-DeBaufre	Rev. Marilyn N. Wolfe
Catherine Keller	Rev. Dr. Thomas V. Wolfe
Rev. Thomas Kildea	Rev. Julie Yarborough
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Rev. Ellen Kohn-Perry	Stephen Yun
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