



**ECUMENICAL
MINISTRIES**
—OF OREGON—

INTERFAITH STATEMENT OF UNITY

September 2024

To Our Community,

Oregon's faith communities stand for love, justice and harmony. We do not believe that any form of violence will solve the issues facing our community. We work together to foster understanding, combat hate in all its forms and promote love for all people.

As leaders in Oregon's faith communities, we commit ourselves to be peacemakers in this time of heightened violence and fear. Violence in the world is also in our communities within the United States, and many are feeling threatened—both physically and emotionally. We abhor the hatred and bias that leads to such violence. We oppose any false information that inflames hostilities.

Despite our differing political and religious views, we call on ALL people of conscience to stand against hatred, bigotry, and discord and to be the peacemakers that God calls us to be.

We encourage our fellow citizens to practice tolerance and to build bridges based on our common values of love, justice, harmony and mutual respect. We urge our civic and elected leaders to foster environments for dialogue and understanding, to overcome animosity and to promote peace.

Signed,

Frank J. So, Executive Director, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO)

The Rev. Giuseppe Amato, Pastor, Parkrose Community United Church of Christ

James A. Anderson, Retired Pastor, Evangelical Covenant Church

Katharine EE Hunt, Church Women United of Lane County, Oregon

The Rev. Valerie Austin, Interim Minister, Beavercreek United Church of Christ

Sahar Bassyouni, Muslim Educational Trust

The Rt. Rev. Patrick (Pat) Bell, Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon

The Rev. Paul Belz-Templeman, Presbytery of the Cascades

The Rev. Linda Bergeon, American Baptist Transitional Pastor (Oregon)

Dr. Melissa Bird, Lay Preacher, Corvallis

Bishop Cedrick D. Bridgeforth, Resident Bishop, Greater Northwest Area of The United Methodist Church

Carl Britsch, President, Corvallis, Oregon Stake, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Bishop Laurie Larson Caesar, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Oregon Synod

Rabbi Michael Z. Cahana, Congregation Beth Israel, Portland

The Rev. Andrea Cano, Former Interim Executive Director, EMO

Ben Chonachan, Pastor, Pearl Church, Portland

The Rev. Cathy A. Clark, Rector, St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, McMinnville

The Rev. Coqui Conkey, Interim Minister, Ainsworth United Church of Christ

The Rev. Tyler Connoley, Conference Minister, Central Pacific Conference of the United Church of Christ

Kodo Nancy Conover, Priest, Zen Community of Oregon, Portland

The Rev. Scott Dalgarno, Senior Pastor, Southminster Presbyterian Church, Beaverton

Laurie Day, Director of Connectional Ministries, Oregon-Idaho Conference, The United Methodist Church

Evelyn Delgado, Member of the Baha'is of Washington County North

The Rev. Ben Devoid, Pastor, Medford United Methodist Church

The Rev. Joanna Jew Dunn, Pastor, Bethany Presbyterian Church, Portland

Jan Elfers, Former Executive Director, EMO

Peter Epp, Lead Pastor, Albany Mennonite Church

The Rev. Richenda Fairhurst, Member, EMO Board, Chair, Creation Justice Committee and Oregon Interfaith Power & Light

The Rev. Galen Gingerich, Lead Pastor, New Horizons Church, McMinnville

Marilyn Grendele, Mission Chair, Sanctuary Chair, Cedar Hills United Church of Christ

Jeff Hammarlund, Member, EMO Creation Justice Committee

The Rev. Kimberly Hawkins, Senior Minister, Center for Spiritual Living, Rogue Valley

The Rev. Dr. LeRoy Haynes Jr., Presiding Elder, Oregon/Washington & Alaska Districts, Christian Methodist Episcopal Church; President, Albina Ministerial Alliance

The Rev. Dr. J.W. Matt Hennessee, Pastor, Historic Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church

Phyllis Hockley, Church Women of United of Lane County

The Rev. Beverly R. Jackson, Pastor, Allen Temple Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

The Rev. Matthew Johnson, Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, McMinnville

Jawad Khan, Muslim Educational Trust

Holley Lantz, Member, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Corvallis, Corvallis Interfaith Network

The Rev. Lynne Smouse López, retired clergy of The United Church of Christ

Annette Luthy, Chair, Gorge Ecumenical Ministries
The Rev. Beth Mallon, Rector, St. James Episcopal Church, Tigard
Charlotte Maloney, Church Women United of Lane County
Monique Manley-Smith, Co-Chair of Respond to Racism, Bethel United Church of Christ, Beaverton
The Rev. Margaret Marcuson, American Baptist, Portland
The Rev. Dr. Erika Marksbury, Senior Pastor, First Baptist Church of McMinnville
The Rev. Stephanie Ahn Mathis, West Hills Covenant Church
James Matichuk, Pastor, Medford Congregational United Church of Christ
The Rev. Dr. Randolph T. Miller, American Baptist Minister and Spiritual Director
The Rev. Steve Mitchell, Pastor, Christ's Church: Methodist and Presbyterian United, Monmouth, and Falls City United Methodist Church
The Rev. Jonathan Mitchell, First Presbyterian Church, Pendleton
Mary Sharon Moore, President, Church Women United of Lane County
The Rev. Anita Mortimer, Community of Christ Greater Pacific Northwest Mission Center, and Member of the EMO Board of Directors
Imam Muhammad Najieb, Muslim Community Center of Portland
The Rev. Karen Nelson, Convener of Oregon-Idaho Methodist Federation for Social Action
Barbara Nixon, United Methodist retired clergy, Albany
Anne Ehrlich O'Brien, Church Women United of Lane County
Barbara O'Hare, Member, EMO Board of Directors
Poppy Olson, Member Baha'?' Faith, Corvallis Interfaith Group
The Rev. Timothy L. Overton-Harris, Special Assistant to the Bishop, Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference, The United Methodist Church
Allen & Geri Oyler, Communication Directors, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the Greater Portland Area
The Rev. Dr. Rodney Page, EMO Executive Director Emeritus
The Rev. R. Scott Painter, Rector, St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church
Douglas Parker, Corvallis Interfaith Network, Urantia Book member at large
Erin Peters, Executive Director, Northwest Catholic Counseling Center
The Rev. Peg Pfhah, Westside Interfaith Neighbors (WIN)
The Rev. John Pitney, Bend United Methodist, Oregon Interfaith Power & Light, and Member of EMO's Creation Justice Committee
Imam Abdulah Polovina, Islamic Bosniaks Educational and Cultural Organization
The Rev. Cecil Charles Prescod, Minister of Faith Formation, Ainsworth United Church of Christ

Alice & Mark Rampton, Communication Directors, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the Greater Eugene Area

The Rev. Jeremy Richards, University Chaplain, Linfield University

The Rev. Murray Richmond, Pastor, First United Presbyterian Church, Medford

The Rev. Heather Riggs, Pastor, Montavilla United Methodist Church

Mike Roth, Pastor, Pearl Church, Portland

The Revs. Allison and Jared Ruari, Co-Ministers, First Christian Church of Albany

Wajdi Said, Co-founder and President, Muslim Educational Trust

The Rev. Ryan J. Scott, Lead Pastor, Eugene First United Methodist Church

Peter Sergienko, Member of EMO's Creation Justice Committee and GreenFaith Fellow

The Rev. Stacy Shelton, Pastor, First Christian Church, Medford

Mary Slayton, Westside Interfaith Neighbors (WIN)

The Rev. Wayne Smith, Evangelical Covenant Church

Jane Snyder, Multnomah Monthly Meeting of Friends

Joseph Hoyt Snyder, Multnomah Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Rod Stafford, Lead Pastor, Portland Mennonite Church

Rick Staggenborg, Social Justice Coordinator, Albany First Christian Church

Don Streeter, Priest and Pastor, Eugene Community of Christ

Jahed Sukhun, Muslim Educational Trust

The Rev. Dr. Troy Sybrant, Pastor, Murray Hills Christian Church

The Rev. Bonnie Tarwater, Minister, Church for Our Common Home

The Rev. Leo C. Tautfest, Retired, Presbyterian Church (USA)

Lynn W. Walker, Corvallis Meditation Circle of Self Realization Fellowship and Corvallis Interfaith Network

Mozafar Wanly, Salman Alfarisi Islamic Center Corvallis

The Rev. Charlotte Wells, Rector, Episcopal Church of the Redeemer

The Rev. Dr. David L. Wheeler, Grant Park Church, Palmer Theological Seminary

Sean P. Williams, Children and Youth Minister, First Baptist Church of McMinnville

Jennifer J. Williams, Associate Professor of Religious Studies, Linfield University

Nancy Winston, Co-Chair of Respond to Racism, Bethel United Church of Christ, Beaverton

Rabbi Joey Wolf, Havurah Shalom

Dr. Slayden Yarbrough, Retired, American Baptist Churches USA

The Rev. Ted Yuen, Lead Pastor, McMinnville Covenant Church