



Healing Our Future, Interfaith Equality Coalition, and Interfaith Alliance

Press Release from three Idaho interfaith groups—March 31, 2015

As people of faith and conscience and as citizens of Idaho, it is heartbreaking for us to see a lack of understanding, fear, and suspicion of unfamiliar faiths and refugees. The recent luncheon hosted by Rep. Vito Barbieri titled “The True Face of Islam” is a glaring example of this kind of ignorance and fear mongering. There are many issues that require our time, money, and attention in this state. Keeping out Muslims is not one of them.

As long as any religion or faith group is singled out and discriminated against, every faith is in danger of the same. We find this unacceptable and offensive. Our country was founded on the basic right of religious freedom. Our constitution ensures that no laws shall be made to endorse or discriminate against any faith. We want our leaders to know that we support tolerance, respect, and equal rights for people of all faiths and their right to participate fully in religious, civic, and political life here in Idaho.

Healing Our Future

Interfaith Equality Coalition

Interfaith Alliance

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Dr. Said Ahmed-Zaid, Islamic Center of Boise
Rev. Duane Anders, Cathedral of the Rockies
Laura Armstrong, member, Cole Community Church
Pastor Nick Armstrong, Refugee Liaison, Cole Community Church
Baha'is of Boise
Bob Baldwin, Vice President, Interfaith Alliance of Idaho
Tammy Berdahl, member, Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Carolyn Blackhurst, Elder, Southminster Presbyterian Church
Rev. Cynthia Brandt, United Church of Christ
Christina Bruce-Bennion
Pastor Ken Carrothers, serving Redeemer Lutheran, Boise
& Grace Lutheran, Horseshoe Bend
Denae Carson, Youth Board Member, Interfaith Alliance of Idaho
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Tish Correa, member, Cathedral of the Rockies—Amity Campus
Rev. Debbie Coutts, Cathedral of the Rockies
Rev. Kim Mislun Cran, Boise First Congregational UCC
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Judy Cross, President, Interfaith Alliance of Idaho
Debbie Espen, member, Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Rabbi Dan Fink, Congregation Ahavath Beth Israel
Rev. Dale Fishwild, Community of Christ
Rev. Marci Glass, Southminster Presbyterian Church
Rev. Debbie Graham, Episcopal Church
Rev. Jim Grunow, serving Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
Jim Hansen, Board Member, Interfaith Alliance of Idaho
Rev. Karen Hernandez, serving Kuna United Methodist Church
Rev. Jackie Holland, Center for Spiritual Living
Rose Hunter, Deacon, Liberating Spirit Metropolitan Community Church
Bryan Jennings, member, Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Wanda Jennings, member, Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Rev. Andrew Kukla, First Presbyterian Church, Boise
Debbie Mallis, member, Hillview United Methodist Church
Barbara B Mark, member, Baha'is of Boise

Pastor Renee McCall, Liberating Spirit Metropolitan Community Church
Reverend Merepeace, Boise Valley Friends
Tariq Mian, Islamic Center of Boise
Leslie Miller, member, Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Geri Metzger, member, Southminster Presbyterian
Rev. Chi Morgan, Nampa United Church of Christ
Rev. Pete Nelson, Hillview United Methodist Church
Anne Palma, MD, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Rev. Kathy Raines, Caldwell United Methodist Church
Melissa Reed, member, Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Rev. Lelelewa Tano Rikiho, Amaraji Maha Marai
Rev. Kari Sanggaard, King of Glory Lutheran Church
Rev. Brenda Sene, Hillview United Methodist Church
Rev. Marc Schlegel, Hyde Park Mennonite Fellowship
Terry Shannon, United Methodist
Hawk Silverthorn, member, Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Morgaine Silverthorn, member, Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Ed Simon, member, Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Rev. Bob Spencer, Retired Episcopal Priest and Hospital Chaplain
Lee Taylor, Deacon, Liberating Spirit Metropolitan Community Church
Rev. Christina Thompson, Whitney United Methodist Church
Rev. Steve Tollefson, Cathedral of the Rockies
Irene Wagner, member, Cathedral of the Rockies
Jennifer Walt, member, Hillview United Methodist Church
Michelle Ward, member, Hillview United Methodist Church
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Jay Wechselberger, member, Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
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Ben Wilson, Board Member, Interfaith Alliance of Idaho
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Rev. Dana Worsnop, Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Jon Young, member, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints