

Greater South Sound Faith Network for Immigrant and Refugee Support

As communities of faith we have a commitment to protect people experiencing hate, violence, persecution, profiling, and fear. We therefore stand together in solidarity with our immigrant brothers and sisters and their families, and identify ourselves as the Greater South Sound Faith Network for Immigrant and Refugee Support. We are dedicated to the safety and well-being of all in our community regardless of their immigration status. We recognize the need for short- and long-term sanctuary for persons facing family separation or deportation, and we pledge to support any member faith community that is able to provide physical sanctuary to immigrants and refugees in need.

We will strive to provide the needed services and funding to any faith community giving physical sanctuary. We will establish a communication system to respond to requested needs in a timely fashion.

We respect that each faith community offering short or long-term sanctuary can set individual sanctuary rules and can decide to whom they will extend sanctuary. We agree that a threat or an attack against any member faith community providing sanctuary will be considered an attack against all of us and that we will stand together and, if need be, respond together to any such acts.

We assert that supporting people in sanctuary is not an act of charity. It is a partnership of equals acting in solidarity. We will always remember that sanctuary is not something that we do for our undocumented neighbors; it is something we do with them.

We welcome the support of the larger South Sound community in realizing these efforts, and invite other organizations and individuals to offer assistance.

Community for Interfaith Celebration
Fellowship of Reconciliation
First Christian Church
First United Methodist Church of Olympia
Holy Wisdom Inclusive Catholic Community, individual signers
Interfaith Works, Board of Directors
The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
Olympia Unitarian Universalist Congregation
Religious Society of Friends
St. John's Episcopal Church
St. Benedict's Episcopal Church
South Sound Buddhist Peace Fellowship
Strengthening Sanctuary
Temple Beth Hatfiloh
The United Churches of Olympia
Unity of Olympia

*Statement ratified on May 2, 2018
Signers current as of August 29, 2019*