

In response to multiple antisemitic and racist incidents in the greater Ithaca community, Ithaca Area Clergy, an ad hoc, multi-faith group of religious and spiritual leaders in the greater Ithaca Area has launched the **Hate Has No Home Here Campaign**. At the center of the campaign is the release of a clergy video in which spiritual leaders across religious and denominational lines reflect on texts from their diverse religious backgrounds condemning bigotry, racism, and intolerance.

The **clergy video features 22 faith leaders** quoting a wide range of texts ranging from the Bible to the prophetic words of Martin Luther King Jr. The religious leaders are unified in their belief that combating antisemitism and racism requires a religious response.

“Bigotry thrives in an environment in which the public remains silent, granting tacit approval for – or at least tolerance of – the initial hateful message and leaving its explicit victims isolated,” Rabbi Rachel Safman of Temple Beth-El in downtown Ithaca said. She continued, “it meant so much to me, as a member of Ithaca’s Jewish community, which was targeted in the recent acts, to have my colleagues across faith traditions come together quickly and emphatically to condemn this act of hate and to stand with us – as we would stand with them if, God-forbid the need should arise at a future date.”

The Reverend Dr. David A. Kaden, the Senior minister of First Congregational Church of Ithaca commented “collaborating with faith leaders from many traditions including my own is one way for all of us to live into unity, be gracious with each other, live peaceably, and **demonstrate love for one another, our community, and world.**”

In addition to contributing to the clergy video, members of Ithaca Area Clergy have also pledged to speak out against antisemitism and racism from the pulpit this weekend.

The clergy video is posted on YouTube and [can be accessed at this link](#).