

## **Open Letter from Greater Cincinnati Clergy Supporting Imam Ayman Soliman**

We are clergy and spiritual leaders from across Greater Cincinnati and beyond. We are writing with one voice and a deep sense of urgency, calling for compassion, justice, and the protection of our neighbor.

Our friend and colleague, Imam Ayman Soliman—an imam, a chaplain, a man of compassion and moral courage, an asylum seeker—was detained by ICE on July 9.

Ayman came to the United States over ten years ago, fleeing persecution and torture in Egypt. In 2018, he was granted asylum.

It is devastating that a faith leader who fled violence, who has spent years pouring himself out for our neighbors in their most vulnerable moments, is now sitting in a cell—detained by the very country he trusted to protect him.

Until recently, Ayman served as the first and only Muslim chaplain at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. Ayman provided spiritual and grief support to families of any faith background facing some of the worst moments of their lives. In the neonatal intensive care unit, he met parents in their heartbreak, standing with them when they held their baby for the last time. He lifted prayers of hope when they prepared to bring their little one home. His ability to provide skillful spiritual care to families in Arabic and English meant that parents from all over the world had someone who could understand and support them.

He serves on the board of Clifton Mosque and is deeply invested in his faith community. During Ramadan, for instance, he organized Iftar supper and ensured that leftover food was shared with community members in need.

His detention is heartbreaking—not just for his family and friends, but for countless parents, children, hospital staff, and community members who have come to rely on his steady presence. A mother whose son spent six months in the ICU wrote, *“Ayman Soliman kept my husband and I sane. He offered us support, a friendly face, and a resource that no other medical professional could offer us.”*

We call upon ICE and all relevant authorities to release him immediately and allow him to return home and to his sacred work leading the Clifton Mosque community

**Faith Leaders United in Support of Imam Ayman Soliman:**  
An Interfaith Coalition Advocating for Compassion and Justice

and caring for patients and families at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. He is a vital part of our community.

We appeal on the grounds of shared humanity, faith, and justice:

- To ICE and the Department of Homeland Security: We call upon you to release Ayman from detention so he can return to his community, and halt any efforts to deport him while his case is under review. Reinstate his asylum protections so he can remain in the United States safely and continue his vital work serving our neighbors.
- To our elected officials: We implore you to intervene. Ensure he's given the protection he came here hoping for. Do all you can to repair our broken immigration system.
- To our neighbors and fellow faith communities: We invite you to raise your voices. Contact your representatives. Stand up for Ayman and for all immigrants who deserve to live with dignity and safety.

Across our different traditions, we're all taught to welcome the stranger and care for the oppressed. We're measured by how we treat people who are vulnerable and afraid. We cannot—we will not—remain silent while our friend and neighbor sits behind bars simply seeking refuge in this country.

We stand together in support of Imam Ayman Soliman—and for the kind of compassion and justice we want to define this community.

Signed,

Rev. Dr. Katharine L. Steele, UMC  
Clergy, United Methodist Church

Emily Stirewalt, Silverlink Director,  
Resurrection UMC

Rev. Elizabeth Diop, Disciples of Christ  
Clergy, Board Certified Chaplain

The Reverend Allison English, Rector,  
The Parish of Calvary Church, Clifton

Deidre Hazelbaker, Executive Director,  
EquaSion

James R. Newby, Minister and Public  
Friend, Cincinnati Friends Meeting

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Rev. Dr. Heather W. McColl, Minister,  
Midway Christian Church

Rev. Caleb Henry, Pastor, Oxford UMC

Rev. Ben Williams, United Church of  
Christ

Rev. Dr. Lucinda Perera Isaacs, Pastor,  
Presbyterian Church (USA)

Lisa Allgood, Executive Presbyter,  
Presbytery of Cincinnati

The Rev. Mary Carson, Rector, St.  
James Episcopal Church--Westwood

Rev. Stephanie Rolfe, Pastor, Christian  
Church (Disciples of Christ)

Rev. Bryan Bucher, Senior Pastor,  
Westwood United Methodist Church

Rev. Sarah Beach, Associate Pastor,  
Westwood UMC

Rev. Dr. Rich Jones, Pastor, Westwood  
First Presbyterian

Rev. Tyler Moquin-Lee, Pastor, Gloria  
Dei Lutheran Church, Cincinnati

Rev. Marianne Wilson, Staff Chaplain,  
CCHMC

Rev. Scott Miller, Pastor, Wilmington  
United Methodist Church

Rev. Dr. Mary Laymon, Founder/Ex.  
Director Tikkun Farm, ELCA Clergy,  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in  
America, Tikkun Farm, The Beloved

Community of Tikkun Farm, St. Simon  
of Cyrene Episcopal Church

Rev. Clair Hochstetler, Chaplain, Ohio  
Living Home Health & Hospice Team -  
Cincinnati Region

Rev. Liesebet E Gravley, Reverend  
Canon, Christ Church Cathedral,  
Cincinnati

Rev. Dr. Edward Goode, Pastor,  
Presbyterian Church (USA)

Rev. MiMi Chamberlin, Association  
Minister, United Church of Christ

Stephanie Bornick, Social Worker

Michelle Terry, Pastor, Evangelical  
Lutheran Church in America

Rev. Kate E. Smith, United Methodist  
Clergy, Hyde Park Community United  
Methodist Church

The Rev John Hitzeroth, Pastor,  
Mighty Fortress Lutheran Church -  
Kettering, OH

Nicole Kelly, Reverend, Lutheran  
Church of the Resurrection

Rabbi Ari Jun, Senior Rabbi, Temple  
Sholom, Rabbi, Temple Sholom

Rev. F. Edward Williams, Retired  
Assistant to the Bishop, Southern Ohio  
Synod, ELCAi

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Dr. James Bodle, Ph.D., Clifton United Methodist Church

Samantha Schapera, Rabbi, Northern Hills Synagogue

Richard J Ponton, Vicar, Trinity Lutheran Church. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Cincinnati, OH

The Rev. Andrew Byrd, Pastor, St. John's Westminster Union Church

The Rev. Anne Reed, Deacon, Deacon, Episcopalian

Rabbi Dr. Gary P. Zola, Executive Director Emeritus, The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives & Professor Emeritus at Hebrew Union College, Rockdale Temple, Wise Temple, Temple Shalom, & Valley Temple

Dr. Daniel Burridge, Executive Director, Metropolitan Area Religious Coalition of Cincinnati (MARCC)

Bobbi Ruddock, UMC deaconess, Clifton United Methodist Church

Rabbi Miriam Terlinchamp, Executive Director, Judaism Unbound

Jonathan Perlman, Rabbi, Community rabbi

Jessie Heizer, Local Network Lead, CincinnatiUNDIVIDED

Grace Olson, MDiv, Chaplain Resident, Clifton United Methodist Church

Rev. Peter Hamm, Pastor, Jacksonburg United Methodist Church

Rev. Gavin Diehm, Deacon, ELCA

Rev. David Annett, Pastor, Presbyterian Church USA

Rev. Kirstin Springmeyer, Board Certified Chaplain, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Rev. Robert English, Lead Pastor, Clifton United Methodist Church

The Rev. Julie Blake Fisher, Rector, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church of Oxford, OH

Cate Beaulieu-Desjardins, Assistant Professor & Executive Director, Rush University Department of Religion, Health, and Human Values; Transforming Chaplaincy; Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship

Rev. Angela R. Meeks, Clergy, Board Certified Chaplain, United Methodist Church

Rev. Dr. Susan Ward Diamond, Lead Pastor, Florence Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Joe Kay, Pastor, Nexus Church UCC, Hamilton, Ohio

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Rev. Susan Jelinek, Board Certified  
Chaplain, United Church of Christ

Rev. Brian Carr, Senior Minister,  
Journey Community Church

Rev Jerry Zehr, Clergy, Christian  
Church Disciples of Christ

Ashley Girard, Administrative  
Assistant, Shiloh United Church of  
Christ

Rev. Mark Anthony, Pastor, St. John's  
United Church of Christ

Rev. Teri Lynn Stackhouse, Pastor and  
Teacher, First UCC, Cincinnati

Rabbi Gerry Walter, Rabbi, Retired

Robert B Barr, Founding Rabbi  
Emeritus, Congregation Beth Adam

Shirah Coran Kraus, Rabbi, Cincinnati  
Children's Hospital Chaplain

Rev. Shane Ward, Board Certified  
Chaplain, Children's Medical Center -  
Dallas, TX

Rev. Dr. Amy L. Snow, Interim  
Minister, Fort Thomas First  
Presbyterian Church

Rev. Scott Parker, Board Certified  
Chaplain, PCUSA Clergy, Presbyterian  
Church USA

Rev Dan Carlson, Priest, Episcopal  
Church, Church of the  
Advent--Walnut Hills

Heather Barrow, Family served by  
Ayman

Sister Sally Duffy, Sister, Sister of  
Charity of Cincinnati

Rev. Alyssa Baker, Pastor, Trinity  
Lutheran Church, Mt. Healthy Ohio,  
ELCA

Sister Leslie Keener, CDP, Director of  
God Space Community, God Space  
Community

Rev. Dr. Judith R. Ragsdale, University  
of Cincinnati College of Medicine

Rabbi Yisroel Kaufman, MSW LSW,  
Rabbi, Jewish Orthodox

Rabbi Zachary S. Goodman, Associate  
Rabbi, Isaac M. Wise Temple

John Wagner, Reverend, Seven Mile  
United Methodist Church

Wendy Puccini, John Wesley United  
Methodist Church

Reverend Carmen Brown, Pastor,  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in  
America

David W. Meredith, United Methodist  
Elder, Great Miami River District,  
United Methodist Church

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Annie Burton, Pastor, State Avenue  
United Methodist Church

Rev. Rebecca Schofield Motter,  
Associate Pastor of Service and  
Justice, Clifton United Methodist  
Church

Rabbi Meredith Kahan, Senior Rabbi,  
Rockdale Temple

Dan Weyand-Geise, Pastor, United  
Church of Christ

The Rev. Phil Hooper, Rector, St. Anne  
Episcopal Church, West Chester, OH

Mary Ann Hegner, Board Certified  
Catholic Chaplain, Retired Chaplain  
Cincinnati Children's Hospital

Robin Benkert, Member, Westwood  
United Methodist Church

Shannon Hughes, Executive Director,  
Ignite Peace

Rev. Rita S. Bair, St Matthew Lutheran  
Church, Darrtown OH

Rabbi Erin Binder, Associate Rabbi &  
Educator, Rockdale Temple

Leland Eilert, Pastor, Retired, Prince  
Of Peace Lutheran Church, Loveland,  
Ohio

Rev. Lisa Dunson Stenner, Pastor,  
Union Presbyterian Church

Rev. Dean Griffith, UCC, Retired. St.  
John UCC, Bellevue, Ky.

Rev. Dr. Joelle Henneman, United  
Methodist Church for All People

Rev. Jonathan Bradner, Pastor,  
Secretary, Media Chair, Immanuel  
United Church of Christ, MARCC,  
Greater Cincinnati Faith Leaders

Rev. Richard Harting, Christian  
Church (Disciples of Christ)

Rev. Melissa Stephens, Washington  
UCC

Aasees Kaur, Board Member, EquaSion

Rev. Michelle Wilkey, Harmony Creek  
Church

Rev. Scott Casebeer, Zion United  
Church of Christ

Rev. James Waugh, Clifton United  
Methodist Church

Linda B. Troy, Reverend, United  
Methodist Church

Rabbi Scott Shafrin, Senior Rabbi,  
Adath Israel Congregation

The Reverend Jenna Heery, Reverend,  
Network for Hope

Rev. Lorrin Radzik, Ordained Elder,  
The United Methodist Church

Rev. Barry S. Riehle, ELCA, Gloria Dei  
Lutheran Church, Crestview Hills, KY

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Rev. Lesley E. Jones, Truth & Destiny  
UCC

Rev. Troy Bronsink, Clergy,  
Presbyterian Church (USA), Founder  
Emeritus — The Hive

The Rev. Dr. Louisa W. Umphres,  
Presbyterian Clergy, Presbyterian  
Church (USA)

Dr. Linda Wheeler, Bellarmine Chapel

Katherine Peterson, Reverend, Knob  
Prairie United Church of Christ

Rev. Mary Margaret Flannagan, St.  
Giles Presbyterian Church (Greenville,  
SC)

Rev. Pamela Thiede, ELCA Pastor,  
Vicar at Calumet Episcopal Ministry  
Partnership

Dr. Joshua Fagin, Director of Spiritual  
Care, Premier Health, Dayton, Ohio

The Right Reverend Kristin Uffelman  
White, Bishop, The Episcopal Diocese  
of Southern Ohio

Sister Carren Herring, Sister of Mercy,  
Nativity

Rev. Wendy S. Lybarger, Lead Pastor,  
Sulphur Grove United Methodist  
Church

The Reverend Elaine Murray, Pastor,  
Pipe Creek Presbyterian Church

Gene Cline, Pastor, Trinity United  
Church of Christ, Fairborn, Ohio

Velina Durbin, Pastor, Headwaters  
Church

Rev. Leroy F Chambliss, Hope  
Collective United Methodist Church

Rabbi Noah Ferro, Spiritual Leader,  
Northern Hills Synagogue

Rev. Jennell Rue, Chaplain, Evangelical  
Lutheran Church in America

Rev. Laura Young, United Methodist  
Church

Rev. Ashley Mason Brown, PCUSA

Beth A. Holten, United Methodist  
Elder, Great Miami River District of  
The United Methodist Church

Rev. Victoria Front, Minister, St. John  
UCC

Tom Daria, Pastor, Immanuel UCC

Joan Armstrong, Pastor, Retired  
Lutheran Pastor

Rev. Rebecca Barnes, Crescent Hill  
Presbyterian Church, Louisville, KY

Lisa Zimmer, MSW, Clifton United  
Methodist Church

Rev. Kimber-lee D. Adams,  
Pastor/Head of Staff, First  
Presbyterian Church, Valparaiso, IN

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Rev. G. Kevin Brown, Pastor, Mount  
Washington United Methodist Church

Rev. Nancy Millwater, United Church  
of Christ

Elizabeth Rand, Campus Minister for  
Religious and Spiritual Diversity, Santa  
Clara University

Rev. Dr. Russell Gwinn Lacy, retired  
United Methodist pastor and  
Chaplain, West Ohio United Methodist  
Conference

Rev. Dr. Jason Wellman, Senior Pastor,  
Scioto Ridge United Methodist Church

Jerry Kahrs, Ruling Elder, First  
Presbyterian Church of Valparaiso, IN

Rev. Taelor Hickey, UMC Clergy

The Rev. Deborah Gamble, Episcopal  
Church of the Good Samaritan

Rev. Andersen Voinovich, Reverend,  
United Methodist Church

Jim Spicer, Former Senior Minister,  
Highview Christian Church

Susan Keefe, Member of Social Action  
Council, St. Gregory the Great Family  
of Parishes

Rev. Dr. Richard W Moman, United  
Methodist Church

Carol Thomas, President of Council  
Session, St. John's Westminster Union  
Church

Susan Kidd, Pataskala United  
Methodist Church

Rev. Beth Mosier, BCC, MDiv,  
Chaplain, Alliance of Baptists

Rev. E. Tracy Hunter, Chaplain,  
Hospice, Western NC

Julie M Murray, St Francis Seraph  
Roman Catholic Parish

Mackenzie Doyle, Justice Promoter,  
Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati

Dr. Amy Strawser, Ohio Wesleyan

Rev. Joel McClella, United Methodist  
Church

Rev. Amy Simpson, Clinical Director,  
Federation of Christian Ministries

Rev. Kristine S. Ehlert, Reverend,  
Presbyterian Church, USA

Rev. Kathy Callahan-Howell, Founding  
Pastor, Winton Community Free  
Methodist Church

Rev. Lanie Sipes, Associate Pastor,  
Second Presbyterian Church (PCUSA),  
Newark, OH

The Rev. Justin Martin, Director of  
Spiritual Care, Board Certified

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Chaplain, Episcopal Church, Diocese  
of Missouri

The Rev Alice Connor, Associate  
Rector, St Timothy's Episcopal Church

Rev. Kathy Currier, Senior Pastor,  
Epiphany United Methodist Church

Kara Betzer, Pastor, Free Methodist  
Church

Rev. Jana Reister, Knox Presbyterian  
Church

Mary Newman, PhD, St. John's  
Unitarian Universalist church

Rev. Lisa Kerwin, Clifton United  
Methodist church

Scott Russ, Pastor, Epiphany United  
Methodist Church

The Rev. Elizabeth G. Maxwell, Church  
of the Ascension, NYC (Episcopal)

Imam Hossam Musa, Imam, Islamic  
Center of Greater Cincinnati (ICGC)

Patsy Schwaiger, Associate, Sisters of  
Charity

Rev. Dr. Becca Girrell, Pastor, United  
Community Church of Morrisville, VT

Anne Shaffer, St. Joseph Catholic  
Church

Jennifer L Miller, Reverend, United  
Methodist Church

Imam Baseer Faiz, Imam, Dayton  
Mercy Society (DMS)

Reverend Tayler Necoechea, Pastor,  
United Methodist Church

Matthew Petersen, MDiv, BCC,  
Deacon, Lutheran Diaconal  
Association

Imam Faraz Malik, Imam, Islamic  
Center of Mason

Rev. Dr. Deborah Stevens, United  
Methodist Clergy

Rev. Dr. Caitlin Deyerle, PC (USA)  
Pastor, Westminster Presbyterian  
Church Dayton Ohio

The Reverend Brad Sheppard, Pastor,  
Immanuel Presbyterian Church,  
Cincinnati, OH

John Kachuba, Social Justice  
Coordinator, St. John's Unitarian  
Universalist Church

Kate Toensmeyer-Schaich, Teacher  
Minister, Sacred Heart of Jesus  
Catholic Church and School

Robert Schaich, Teacher Minister,  
Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church  
and School

Deborah Vance, Community Member,  
Baha'i Faith

Steve Vance, Community Member,  
Baha'i Faith

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The Reverend Jodi Baron, Canon to  
the Ordinary, Episcopal Diocese of  
Southern Ohio

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Van Brunt,  
Episcopal Church

Janell Lundgren, MD, Talbert House

Amy Witherby, Reverend, Universal  
Life Church

Rev. Dr. Erwin F. Goedicke, Member,  
Presbytery of Cincinnati

Nancy Van Brunt, Church of the  
Redeemer Episcopal Church

Carol Ann Wenning, Sister, Sisters of  
Mercy

Mary Lou Averbek, Sister, Sisters of  
Mercy

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel, Detroit:  
Central UMC

Rev. Dr. Adam J. Shoemaker, St.  
Stephen's Episcopal Church  
(Charleston, SC)

The Rev. Stephen J. Cuff, Episcopal  
Diocese of Southern Ohio

The Rev. Courtney Dale, Rector, St.  
Patrick's Episcopal Church, Lebanon

Sister Barbara Davis, SC, Sister, Sisters  
of Charity of Cincinnati

Sr. Tracy Kemme, SC, Sister, Sisters of  
Charity of Cincinnati

Rev. Marc V. Zumhagen, Chaplain,  
Christian Reformed Church

Yana Keck, Concerned Citizen, Hyde  
Park Community United Methodist  
Church

Patty Normile, Principal, Mercy  
Montessori

Audrey Holtzman, Inclusion Program  
Manager, Peoples Church Uptown

Padre Gerardo Romo, Missioner for  
Latino Ministries, The Episcopal  
Diocese of Southern Ohio

Canon Katie Forsyth, Canon for  
Communications, The Episcopal  
Diocese of Southern Ohio

The Rev. David R. Radzik, Rector, St.  
Luke's Episcopal Church, Newtown, PA

Kim Young, Session Clerk, Venice  
Presbyterian Church

Jason Leo, Rev, Trinity Church,  
Covington KY

Kathy Heekin, Member, St. Francis de  
Sales Church

Rev. Suzanne Fountaine, Clergy,  
United Methodist Church

Rev. Allen V. Harris, Regional Pastor &  
President, Christian Church in Ohio  
(Disciples of Christ)

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Ruth Alpers, Rabbi, Board Certified  
Chaplain, Association for Clinical  
Pastoral Education

Bruce Seidel Jr., Member of Equasion,  
St. Francis de Sales, Cincinnati

Katherine Joseph, Elder, First  
Presbyterian Church Valparaiso,  
Indiana

Imam Fawzan Hansbhai, Imam, Islamic  
Center of Mason

Sr. Alice Gerdeman, CDP, Sister of  
Divine Providence, Congregation of  
Divine Providence

Karen Schaeffer, Rev., African  
Methodist Episcopal Church

Rev Mary Tarbell-Green, Assistant  
Minister, First Unitarian Church of  
Cincinnati

Rev. Dr. Sophie G. Underdown, New  
Thought Unity Center

Janice Stenkn, Being Peace Sangha

The Rev. Dr. Jack Sullivan, Jr.,  
Executive Director, The Ohio Council  
of Churches

Emeka Onah, St Mary's

Sarah Knapton, Spiritual Care  
Provider, MDiv, Cincinnati Children's  
Spiritual Care Department

Rev. Tina Hubert, Director of Faith  
Formation, Knox Presbyterian Church  
- Hyde Park

Susan Bernard, Sister, Sisters of  
Charity of Cincinnati

The Rev. Melanie W. J. Slane, Diocesan  
Transition Minister for The Episcopal  
Diocese of Southern Ohio, The  
Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio

Emily S. Phillips, Associate Pastor of  
Faith Formation and Family Life,  
David's Church (UCC, Kettering)

Rev. Dr. Diana Hodges-Batzka,  
Executive Pastor, Florence Christian  
Church

Rev. Salvador Leavitt-Alcantara,  
Chaplain, Cincinnati Children's

Noelle Ash, Priestess, Solitary

Clara Lynn Bledsoe, Reverend,  
Montreat Presbyterian Church USA

Rev. Makayla Dahleen, Pastor,  
Evangelical Church in America, Pastor  
, St. Philip the Deacon Lutheran  
Church, Plymouth, MN

Paula W Stewart , Reverend, Gaines  
UMC

Rev. Kelly Collins, Pastor, LeRoy UMC  
and Chippewa Church at the Lake  
UMC

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Imam Ihab Alsaghier, Imam, Ihsan  
Islamic Center

Michelle Smith, Former teacher, Grace  
Church

Rev. Melinda Garza Moran, Pastor,  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in  
America

Rev. Martha Camele, Priest, The  
Episcopal Church , St. Thomas  
Episcopal Church, Terrace Park, OH

The Rev. Canon Jane Gerdsen, Rector,  
St. Barnabas Episcopal Church,  
Montgomery, OH

Leah Romanelli DeJes's, Rev, St. Luke's  
Episcopal Church

Rev. Keith M. Haithcock, Pastor and  
Teacher, United Church of Christ

Sister Dianne Short, OSC, Religious,  
Monastery of St Clare

The Rev. Canon Meredith Day Hearn,  
Canon, Episcopal Diocese of Southern  
Ohio

The Rev. Aaron Rogers, Missioner for  
Black Ministries, Episcopal Diocese of  
Southern Ohio

Rev. Mary Weese, Midway  
Presbyterian Church

Rev. Thomas E. Barnes, Regional Elder,  
Christian Church in Ohio (Disciples of  
Christ)

Dr. Jeba Moses, Clifton Adventist  
Church

Megan Lyon, Spiritual Director, Inner  
Path

Seth Lindemann, Pastor, West Ohio  
Conference United Methodist Church

Laura Bolling, Council Member, Nexus  
UCC

Betty J Darst, Key West United  
Methodist Church

Bradley Tupper Upham, St. Paul's  
Episcopal Church, Cleveland Heights

Dr. Sharon Rae McCart, University  
United Methodist Church Irvine

Rev. Jackie Marshall, UCC

Dr. Patricia Timm, Elder, Mt. Auburn  
Presbyterian Church

Mark Butler, DVM, Member, Antioch  
UMC (Northern KY)

Rev. Dr. Suzanne Allen, District  
Superintendent, Great Miami River  
District, United Methodist Church

The Rev. R. Derrick Fetz, Missioner for  
Stewardship, The Episcopal Diocese of  
Southern Ohio

Rev. Emily Kvalheim, Provisional  
Deacon, United Methodist Church

Rev. Michelle Ozier Wallace, Clergy,  
United Methodist Church

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Christopher Slane, Priest in Charge,  
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Dr. Austin M. Schafer, D.HCML, BCC,  
St. Elizabeth Healthcare

The Rev Paula M Jackson , Episcopal  
Priest, Diocese of Southern Ohio

Rev. Michael J Smith, Ed.D., Assisting  
Priest, St. Anne Episcopal Church  
West Chester

Ahmed Elkady, Volunteer leader at  
Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati,  
Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati

Leslie Hershberger, Mrs, Bellarmine  
Chapel

George Coniglio, Reverend,  
Westchester County, NY

Theresa Lorsbach, Bellarmine

Rev. Clarresa Thompson, Overseer,  
True Healing Fellowships, Columbus,  
Ohio

Rabbi Abie Ingber, Rabbi, Xavier  
University, retired

C Stonebraker-Martinez, Co-Director  
and Chaplain, InterReligious Task  
Force on Central America and  
Colombia

Cynthia Ries, Spiritual Director, Circle  
of Light

Rev. Karen Geiger-Behm, UCC Clergy,  
Board Certified Chaplain, United  
Church of Christ

Esho B. Buil, Buddhist Chaplain,  
Community Minister, Society of the  
flora, fauna & friend

Rev. Michael Poulos, Pastor,  
Presbyterian Church USA

Rev. Mark Thompson, Aldersgate  
United Methodist Church

Mary Keilholz, St. James Episcopal  
Church

Leah Ostwald, MDiv, Chaplain, Good  
Samaritan Hospital, Downers Grove,  
IL

Pastor Abraham Brandyberry, Pastor,  
Cincinnati Urban Promise

Rev. Alexa Eisenbarth, Associate  
Pastor, First United Methodist Church  
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Bishop Paula Ivory Hoeffler, Bishop,  
Roman Catholic Woman Priest

Rev. Katie Klosterman, Reverend,  
Tacoma: Browns Point United  
Methodist Church

Jonathan Cline, Episcopal Archdiocese  
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Rev. Alissa K. Amestoy, Pastor,  
Spokane Valley United Methodist  
Church - Spokane Valley, WA

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Rev. Patrick Heery, Presbyterian  
Church (USA) Clergy

Reverend Gwendolen M Powell,  
Chaplain, The Episcopal Church in  
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Rev Justin Almeida, MDiv, BCC,  
Chaplain, Swedish Medical Center

Rev. Nelson Pierce, Jr., Senior Pastor,  
Beloved Community Church

Margaret Copfer, Retired teacher, St  
Columban Parish

Rev. Vicki Robinson, Senior Pastor ,  
Friendship United Methodist Church

Rev. Kim Wildszewski, Senior Minister,  
Unitarian Universalist Church at  
Washington Crossing

Daniel J. Noll, Reverend, Catholic  
Diocese of Lexington

Rev. Abhi Janamanchi, Senior Minister,  
Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation

John J. O'Keefe, Ph.D., Director,  
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Xavier University

Rachel S. Wirrig, Pastor, United  
Church of Christ

Rev. Megan Trischler, Pastor,  
University Christian Church

Cynthia Depoe, Ms, Clifton United  
Methodist Church

Rev. Dr. Jason Hentschel, Pastor,  
Wyoming Baptist Church (ABCUSA)

Dr. Katherine R. Ranum, University  
Christian Church

M. Catherine Smythe Zajc, Social  
Justice & Peace Advocate/Episcopal  
Peace Fellowship, Trinity Episcopal  
Cathedral, Cleveland, OH

Rev. Dr. Margaret Gillespie,  
Presbyterian Church (USA)

The Rev. Elizabeth M. Hoster, Interim  
Rector, Ascension & Holy Trinity  
Episcopal Church

Gayle Tabor, Rev, SALT United  
Methodist Wilmington NC

Steven Joseph Bruening, Ruling Elder,  
Permanent Judicial Commission  
(Synod of the Covenant), Commission  
on Ministry (Presbytery of Cincinnati),  
PC(USA), Mt. Washington Presbyterian  
Church

The Rev. Mary Taflinger, Pastoral  
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Hume Jamison, Sub Deacon, Trinity  
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**Faith Leaders United in Support of Imam Ayman Soliman:**  
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Rev. Dr. Adam Wirrig, Lead Pastor, St. John's UCC

Rev. Julia Joyce-Miesse, Rector, St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Peggy Sinclair-Morris, Elder, Pewee Valley Presbyterian

Rev. Diane Teichert, Minister Emerita, Unitarian Universalist Association

Julia Malkin, Member, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church

Rev. Charlotte Lehmann, Minister/Clergyperson, Unitarian Universalist Association

Jim Savage, Attender, The Open Table Church

Kathy Savage, Attender, The Open Table Church

Chaplain Tala Mohammad Ali, Chair, Islamic Association of Cincinnati and Clifton Mosque

Dr. Judith Heiny, Attender, St Rose Catholic Church

Charlene Younger, Member, Our Lady of the Rosary

Rev. Dr. Madelyn Campbell, Minister, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Huntington

Rev. Al Hirt, OFM, Pastor, St. Francis Seraph Catholic Church

Rev. Ross M. Reddick, Lead Pastor, Sycamore Presbyterian Church

Emily Kaylor BSN, RNC, C-OB, Member, Hype Park United Methodist Church

Rev. Mary Sullivan, Senior Pastor, Trinity United Methodist Church, Bowling Green, Ohio

Rev. Patrick McLaughlin, Minister, Beacon Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Rev Christy Miller, Priest in Charge, St George's Episcopal Church, Newburgh NY

Rev. Dr. David Long-Higgins, Conference Minister, Heartland Conference, United Church of Christ

Rev. Marti Swords-Horrell, Retired United Methodist pastor, member, Cincinnati Sanctuary Coalition, Clifton United Methodist Church

Sequoia Powers-Griffin, Elder, Mount Auburn Presbyterian Church

Rev. Kelley M. Woggon, Board Certified Chaplain, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

Rev. Mary Virginia Burks, Director of Clinical Pastoral Education, Norton Healthcare, Louisville KY

**Faith Leaders United in Support of Imam Ayman Soliman:**  
An Interfaith Coalition Advocating for Compassion and Justice

Robert Young, Former Moderator of  
Presbytery, Sycamore Presbyterian  
Church

Rev. Dr. Kristin Langstraat, Manager of  
Clinical Pastoral Education & United  
Methodist Clergy, TriHealth Bethesda  
North Hospital

The Rev. Canon William E. Scrivener,  
Canon for Pastoral Care, Christ  
Church cathedral

Rev. Julia Bertalan, Senior Pastor,  
Packanack Community Church of  
Wayne, NJ

Laura Hershberger, Member,  
Cincinnati Grail

Jen Morin-Williamson, Peace, Justice  
and Ecology Coordinator, Sisters of  
the Precious Blood, Dayton, Ohio,  
Sisters of the Precious Blood, Dayton,  
Ohio

Rev. Dr. Richard J. Forest, D.Min, FT,  
Chaplain/Thanatologist, Norton  
Children's Hospital, Louisville KY

Sister Margie Efkeman, OSU, Justice  
Promoter, Ursuline Sisters of  
Cincinnati

Rev. Dr. Anna Blaedel, Chaplain,  
Sacred Collective, and enfleshed

Rev. Dr. Rose C. Taul, Honorably  
Retired, Presbytery of Cincinnati

Rev. Carrie Finegan, UMC Clergy,  
Board Certified Chaplain, ACPE  
Certified Educator, United Methodist  
Church for All People

Rev. Adam Fronczek, Pastor, Knox  
Presbyterian Church

Rev. Dr. Jason Emerson, Rector, St.  
Patrick's Episcopal Church

Sister Louise Lears, SC, PhD, Member,  
Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati

Rev. Dr. Dana K. Horrell, Retired  
United Methodist clergy, Faithful  
Citizen, Inc.

Terrie Puckett, Executive Director,  
The Grail

Dr. Rachel Pennington, Spiritual  
Director, The Pie Chest

Rev. Chad Quick, Manager  
Mission/Pastoral Care, Washington  
UCC

Mr. Christopher Rocca, Member,  
Trinity Cathedral, Portland OR

Rev. Rodney Craggs, Pediatric  
Oncology Chaplain/Ethics Consultant,  
Norton Children's Hospital

Kerry Stephens, Member, Episcopal  
Christian

Vicar Shari Rasch, Vicar, All Saints  
Lutheran Church ELCA

**Faith Leaders United in Support of Imam Ayman Soliman:**  
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Rev. Dr. Alice Diebel, Community  
Minister, Miami Valley Unitarian  
Universalist Fellowship

Rev. Kiya Heartwood, Minister,  
Unitarian Universalist Church of the  
Brazos Valley Bryan, Texas

Pastor Victor Martinez, Community  
Pastor, Crossroads Church

Dr. Troy Jackson, Pastor, UNDIVIDED

Rev. Jennifer Luong, ELCA

Randy W. DeMint, Member, Clifton  
United Methodist

Rev. Barbara Bullock, Chaplain,  
University Baptist Church, Columbus,  
OH

Rev. Kathleen A. Herington, UMC  
clergy, United Methodist Church,  
Pastor, Christ United Methodist  
Church, Columbus, OH

James Hudgens, Assistant for  
Transitions and Congregations,  
Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio

Sister Caroljean Willie, SC, Ph.D.,  
Member, St. Leo the Great Parish

Sherri Barnes, Biblical Unity leaders,  
Vineyard Cincinnati

Rev. Joy E. Wigal, Clergy, The United  
Methodist Church

Rev. Karen M. Cook, UMC Clergy,  
United Methodist Church, Director of  
Connectional Ministries, Christ UMC

Rev. William D Eavenson Jr., Rector,  
The Mission Cincinnati

Rev. Dr. Drew Smith, Pastor, College  
Hill Presbyterian Church

Rev. Matt Byrd, Pastor, Christ the King  
Lutheran Church

Chris La Rue, Executive Director, The  
Hive: A Center for Contemplation, Art,  
and Action

Darius Kemp, Member, Vineyard  
Cincinnati

Rev. Jennifer Gracen, Minister, St.  
John's Unitarian Universalist Church

Rev. Erika Spring, Chaplain & ABC  
Clergy, American Baptist Churches  
USA

Katina Marie Marathe, RN, Anderson  
Hills Church member and volunteer,  
Undivided Cincinnati Leadership  
Team, Catholic Charities of  
Southwestern Ohio, board member,  
Anderson Hills Church

Rev. Scott Hicks, J.D., UMC Clergy,  
Oregonia UMC and Jamestown UMC

Rev Adam Allen, Chaplain, Cincinnati  
Mennonite fellowship

**Faith Leaders United in Support of Imam Ayman Soliman:**  
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Rev. Gary Chorpenning, Retired  
Pastor, Teaching Elder, Evangelical  
Presbyterian Church

Rev. James Kinney, Pastor, Catholic  
Diocese of Lexington

Brian Taylor, Pastor, Every Nation  
Cincinnati

Jamie Phillips, Chaplain, Norton  
Healthcare

Rev. Kandy Burch, Retired elder, Broad  
Street UMC Columbus OH

The Rev. Beth Scriven, Associate  
Rector, St. Paul's Episcopal Church,  
Indianapolis, IN

Janice Seymour, Lay Person, Hyde  
Park Community United Methodist  
Church

Melanee Rizk, Lead Storyteller,  
Haywood Street Congregation

Sharon Smith, Local Network Team;  
Community Member,  
Cincinnati UNDIVIDED; Crossroads  
Church

Rev. Dr. Susan Lowe, Minister of  
Congregational Care, Beargrass  
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

The Rev. Dr. Karn S. Carroll,  
Pastor/Chaplain, Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America

Sister Kathleen Hebbeler, OP,  
Member, St. Joseph, Cincinnati, Ohio

Rev. Dr. Robert J McGeeney, Jr.,  
Part-time ACPE Educator, Ohio Health

Rev Tara Reck, Pastor, Anchorage  
Presbyterian Church

Shannon Bostrom, Chaplain and  
Candidate for Ordination,  
Presbyterian Church (USA)

Dr. Robert M. Fowler, Professor  
Emeritus of Religion, Trinity Episcopal  
Cathedral (Cleveland)

Rev. Olivia Hamilton, Priest, Episcopal  
Diocese of Southern Ohio

Rev. Lisa M Evans MDiv BCC,  
Chaplain, The UMC

Hosam Mawas, Member Attender,  
Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati

Rev. Andy Call, Lead Pastor, Church of  
the Saviour, United Methodist

Rev. Katherine Beckett, Pastor, St.  
John's UCC Penntown, Sunman, IN

Rev. Daniel (D. Lamar) Hughes,  
Minister (BCC), Pastor (TFCOT),  
Beloved Community Church, The  
Future Church of Tomorrow

Savannah Eavenson, First Lady, The  
Mission Cincinnati

**Faith Leaders United in Support of Imam Ayman Soliman:**  
An Interfaith Coalition Advocating for Compassion and Justice

Rev Deanna Stickley-Miner, Executive  
Director for Mission Engagement,  
General Board of Global Ministries,  
UMC

Reverend Lori Kirstein, Reverend,  
Revelation Spiritual Church

Teresa Phillips, Director, Office of  
Justice Peace and Care of Creation,  
Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur

Gina Huiet, Director of Mission  
Advancement, Sisters of Notre Dame  
de Namur

Rev. Kathy Angi, Presbytery of  
Cincinnati

Rev. Ashley Wynn, Associate Pastor,  
Sylvania First United Methodist  
Church

Denise Dufresne, Citizen, Bellarmine  
Chapel

Rev. Kate Meeks, Priest, Palliative Care  
Chaplain, Episcopal Church

Rev. Allison Schwarz, Pastor, Vineyard  
United Methodist Church

Rev. Steven Straub, Senior Minister,  
Carrollton Christian Church (Disciples  
of Christ)

Dr. Samina Sohail, Board member,  
Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati

Rev. Katherine L. Osier, Minister,  
Asbury United Methodist Church

Jessica Sattler, Community Member,  
Cincinnati UNDIVIDED, Crossroads  
Church

Rachel Hershberger, Board Member,  
The Grail

Steve Herbold, Peace and Justice  
Committee, Cincinnati Mennonite  
Fellowship

Rev Michelle Jissan Nicolle, Zen Priest  
and Chaplain, Boundless Heart Sangha

Gregory A. Roberts, Elder, Cranston  
Memorial Presbyterian Church

Rev. Matthew Eddleman, Chaplain  
Manager, Religious Naturalist  
Association

Dr. Rodney Swope, Elder, Peoples  
Church

Rev. Ann-Marie Illsley, Clergy, United  
Church of Christ

Judith Clemens, Peace Care of  
Creation Committee, Sisters of Notre  
Dame de Namur Justice

Rev. Curtis Clemons, Minister,  
Gumlick Baptist Church

Rev. Ellen L. Keyser BCC, Pediatric  
Ethics Fellow and Associate Chaplain,  
Children's Mercy Hospital

Katie Diaz, Minister of Spiritual  
Formation, Duke Memorial United  
Methodist Church

**Faith Leaders United in Support of Imam Ayman Soliman:**  
An Interfaith Coalition Advocating for Compassion and Justice

Shaina Rose Horner, Member,  
Vineyard Central

Mary Beth Basch, Ordained lay person  
in The Order of Interbeing, Being  
Peace Sangha

Rev. Lorie Jacobs, Louisville, KY,  
Chaplain, Norton Healthcare

Sister Karen Elliott, C.P.P.S., Catholic  
Sister, St. Dominic Catholic Parish

Nikki Holm, Board Certified Chaplain,  
MN Valley Unitarian Universalist  
Fellowship

Joel Taylor, Program Director,  
EquaSion, Director, Bespoken Live,  
Church of the Redeemer

Dr. Martha Misheff, Elder and Member  
of Session, Cranston Memorial  
Presbyterian Church

Sister Denise Curry, SNDdeN, Sister,  
Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur  
Washington, DC

Scott Engle, Elder, Wyoming  
Presbyterian Church

Minda Matthews-Smith, Member, The  
Episcopal Church of Redeemer

Rev. Bill Lyon, Minister Designate,  
Heritage Universalist Unitarian  
Church

Brian Shircliff, Biblical Translator &  
Publisher

Rev. Amy Miller, Lead Pastor, St.  
Andrew's Church

Catharine Liggett, Community Care  
Team, Crossroads Church Oakley

Rev. Debra Handkins, Board Certified  
Chaplain, Bethesda North Hospital

The Rev. J. Christopher Torrey, Pastor,  
Honorably Retired, Presbyterian  
Church (U.S.A.)

The Rev. Claire Mis, Deacon, St. Paul's  
Episcopal Church, Patchogue, NY

Chaplain Ben Iten, President, Chair of  
the Chaplain Committee, Advanced  
Humanist Chaplain of the Humanist  
Society, Humanist Community of  
Central Ohio

Rev. Dr. Allen M Fluent, Pastor, St John  
United Church of Christ, Bellevue KY

Frank Lesko, MA, Social Justice  
Committee, Community of St. Peter

John Price, Outreach Pastor,  
Montgomery Community Church

Joshua Stoxen, Pastor, Vineyard  
Central Church

Briana Blanchard, Worship Leader,  
Missio Dei Church

Randy Wade Murphy, Justice Group  
Facilitator, University Christian  
Church

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Natasha Rodriguez, Parishioner,  
Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption

Rev. Michael Lee, Chaplain, Norton  
Healthcare

Matthew Korte, Pastor, Missio Dei  
Church

Ms. April Zaghw, Christian Education,  
Cranston Presbyterian Church

Rev. Samantha Jewell, Board Certified  
Chaplain, United Church of Christ  
Clergy

Rev. Jessica Jasper, MDiv, BCC.,  
Director of Spiritual Care, Baptist  
Health Hardin

Rev. Barbara Eppich, MTh, BCC,  
Chaplain, Clergy, Vineyard USA

Peggy Holthaus, Chaplain, Hosparus  
Health

Rev. Jim Schutte, Retired Pastor, St.  
Leo the Great Catholic Church

Rev. Tom Sherwood, Lead Pastor,  
Peoples Church House to House

Kristen Barker, Co-Director, Co-op  
Cincy

Mary C. Miller, Prayer Commission  
Leader, University Christian Church

Rev. Angela M. Wells, Pastor, Christ  
UMC, Columbia, MD

Sister Nancy Wellmeier, PhD, Sister of  
Notre Dame de Namur, Cincinnati,  
Member, Mount Notre Dame

Rev. Dr. Brian Moll, Lead Pastor,  
Cincinnati Mennonite Fellowship

Luis Caiza, Rev. Luis Caiza. Staff  
Chaplain at Baptist Health Hardin, KY,  
Baptist Church

Judy Vander Henst, Member,  
Cincinnati Mennonite

Sister/doctor Fran Repka, rsm, Sister  
of Mercy, Spiritual Director, Corpus  
Christi

Scott Ellis, Elder, University Christian  
Church

Shabana Ahmed, Board Member,  
Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati

Ms. Debbie Potochnik, Attender, St.  
John's Unitarian Church

Cody Delk, Pastor, Missio Dei Church

Elizabeth Murray, Rev. South Carolina  
United Methodist Church

Sister Mary Ann Zwiack,  
SNDdeNamur, Sister, Sister of Notre  
Dame deNamur

Sr. Jeri Fuhrmann, Oldenburg  
Franciscan

Reverend, Lead Pastor, Redeemer  
Church

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Rev. Nancy Hopkins-Greene, Priest,  
Episcopal Church

Rev. Roger Greene, Rector, St.  
Timothy's Episcopal Church

Rev. Jeremy A Garbat-Welch, Board  
Certified Chaplain, Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)

Brooke Wadsworth, Community  
Member/Undivided, Crossroads  
Church

Haroon Moghul, Board Member,  
EquaSion

Sister Mary Ann Cook, Sisters of Notre  
Dame de Namur, Cincinnati, OH

Rev. Abby King-Kaiser

Tariq Sultan, Chair, Islamic Center of  
Greater Cincinnati

*The signatures included with this letter  
were collected through an online form  
and email from July 10-July 13, 2025.  
Each signer provided their name and  
organizational affiliation voluntarily  
and authorized their inclusion.*

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Deidre Hazelbaker  
Executive Director, EquaSion