## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 29, 2016

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## RELIGIOUS LEADERS STAND TOGETHER IN RESPONSE TO RISE IN BIAS AND BIGOTRY AT INTERFAITH PRESS CONFERENCE

In response to the recent rise in hate speech, bias, and division, a diverse group of clergy and interfaith organizational leaders from the Richmond region will come together for a press conference to speak out and stand with those who have increasingly been targeted and marginalized.

What: "Standing Together" Press Conference

When: Thursday, December 1, 2016 at 1:30pm

Where: Temple Beth El (3330 Grove Avenue, Richmond, VA)

**Who:** Clergy from a variety of religions and denominations, as well as interfaith

organizational leaders

**How:** A small number of clergy representing different religious will speak and all in

attendance will stand together behind them. Additionally, this press conference will announce a public event that will take place on December 4. Individual attendees will be available for interviews following the press conference.

**Why:** To demonstrate support for those who have been targeted and to stand together

against divisive and bigoted rhetoric and actions

Organizers include representatives from Bon Secours Richmond Health System, Interfaith Council of Greater Richmond, Jewish Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond, Richmond Hill, Richmond Peace Education Center, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, St. Phillip's Episcopal Church, Temple Beth El, Unitarian Universalist Community Church, Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities, Virginia Council of Churches, Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy, and the Virginia Muslim Coalition for Public Affairs, and others.