

THE PRESBYTERY OF HUDSON RIVER

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Statement by the Rev. Gavin D. Meek, Interim General Presbyter of Hudson River Presbytery
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Our nation's foundation of "liberty and justice for all" is under assault by waves of violence, intimidation, and hatred which refuse the fundamental declaration we are all created equal.

The desecration of Jewish cemeteries and bomb threats to Jewish Community Centers across the country, the arson of the Muslim mosque in Tampa and the gunning down of two Indian technology workers in Kansas are among recent, terrifying examples. These acts shock the conscience and summon all people of faith and goodwill to action.

On Monday, bomb threats were made against the Jewish Community Centers in Tarrytown and in New Rochelle. Children and elderly were among those forced to evacuate. We are horrified by these vicious and cowardly acts of anti-Semitism and as sisters and brothers in faith we shall not stand idly by.

To our Jewish neighbors and to all who have been threatened, we extend the biblical pledge Ruth made to Naomi, "where you will go, I will go."

As the Hudson River Presbytery, we pledge ourselves to walk with you and to stand beside you. We will speak out against hatred wherever it manifests. And we will endeavor in all our words and actions to actively build relationships of dignity and equality within the Hudson Valley and our wider society.