



San Francisco Interfaith Council

*Celebrating our diverse faiths & spiritual traditions
Bringing people together to build understanding
Serving our community*

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San Francisco Bay Area Religious Leaders

Condemn the Killing of George Floyd and Structural Racism

June 2, 2020

As religious leaders of diverse traditions we understand human life to be the greatest and most sacred gift endowed by our Creator. Inherent in that gift is the inalienable right to live freely and not in fear. The May 25, 2020 abhorrent killing of George Floyd, in Minneapolis, at the knee of a law enforcement official, sworn and entrusted to protect the public and keep the peace, is yet another stark reminder of humanity's blindness to the sacredness of that gift of life and society's failure, if not refusal, to act to ensure equal rights for all created beings. We lament the murder and death of George Floyd and pray for him, his family, loved ones and all in need of strength and comfort in this fragile time of grief. The overwhelming national response to George Floyd's death, manifested in peaceful protests, not only honors his life, but powerfully expresses the threshold of tolerance we as Americans have reached for injustice, systematic racism and discrimination against people of color. This powerful resurgence of a long overdue civil rights movement will not be silenced until structural change is realized. We lift our voices and stand in unity and solidarity with our sisters and brothers of color in proclaiming that **BLACK LIVES MATTER**.

- Kaushik Roy, Chair, San Francisco Interfaith Council
 - Mario Paz, Vice Chair, San Francisco Interfaith Council
 - John McKnight, Treasurer, San Francisco Interfaith Council
 - Nancy Nielsen, Secretary, San Francisco Interfaith Council
 - Rita Semel, Past Chair, San Francisco Interfaith Council
 - G.L. Hodge, Past Chair, San Francisco Interfaith Council
 - Michael G. Pappas, M.Div., Executive Director, San Francisco Interfaith Council
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- Rev. Jeanelle N. Ablola, Lead Pastor, Pine United Methodist Church
 - Rev. Ineda P. Adesanya, President/CEO, The Chaplaincy Institute
 - Rabbi Dan Ain, Congregation Beth Sholom
 - Fr. Arturo Albano, Pastor, St. Mary's Cathedral
 - Abu Qadir Al-Amin, Imam, San Francisco Muslim Community Center
 - The Rt. Rev. Dr. Marc Handley Andrus, Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of California
 - Fatih Ferdi Ates, Director, Pacifica Institute
 - Wilma Batiste, SF Interfaith Council Board Member, Neighborhood Baptist Church
 - Fr. Greg Bonfiglio, S.J., Pastor, St. Ignatius Catholic Church

- Rev. Gerry Brague, Associate Pastor, Forest Hill Christian Church
- Rev. Dr. Amos C. Brown, Pastor, Third Baptist Church & President, SF Branch NAACP
- Rev. Angela Brown, JD, Minister: Community Engagement, Advocacy & Justice, CA-NV Conference, United Methodist Church Conference
- Rev. Dr. Joseph, Bryant, Jr., Senior Pastor, Calvary Hill Community Church
- Rev. Alexis Cambe, Grace United Methodist Church
- Rev. Gerald P. Caprio, Executive Director and Board Chair, Interfaith Center at the Presidio
- Rev. Richard Carlini, RN BA C-RNPC, Transform Myself Inc., A Unity Ministry
- Rev. Calvin Chinn, Transitional Pastor and Head of Staff, Calvary Presbyterian Church
- The Rev. Canon Dr. Ellen Clark-King, Vice Dean and Canon for Social Justice, Grace Cathedral
- Rev. Robert E. Collins, Minister at Large, Centers for Spiritual Living
- Rev. Kōdō Conlin, San Francisco Zen Center
- Lisa Countryman-Quiroz, Chief Executive Officer, Jewish Vocational Service (JVS)
- Rev. Staci Current, Bay District Superintendent, CA-NV Conference, United Methodist Church
- Rev. Linda Ruth Cutts, Zen Buddhist, San Francisco Zen Center, Green Gulch Farm Zen Center
- Rev. Dan C. Damon, FHS, Richmond First United Methodist Church
- Quentisha Davis Wiles, MSW, ASW, MDIV, Senior Pastor, Pittsburg United Methodist Church
- Rev. Kristi Denham, Peninsula Multifaith Coalition
- M. Rev. Robert M. Dittler, OSB, Abbot-Bishop, White Robed Monks of St. Benedict
- Rev. Elaine Donlin, Minister Assistant, Buddhist Church of San Francisco
- Rev. Lori Eickmann, Interim Pastor, St. John's Lutheran Church (ELCA), Antioch
- Rabbi Serena Eisenberg, Northern California Director, AJC
- Rev. Elizabeth Ekdale, Lead Pastor, St. Mark's Lutheran Church
- Maha Elgenaidi, Executive Director, Islamic Networks Group (ING)
- Rev. Greg Fain, San Francisco Zen Center
- Fred Fielding, Global Council Trustee - North America, United Religions Initiative
- Rev. Paul J. Fitzgerald, S.J., President, University of San Francisco
- Rev. Victor H. Floyd, Minister of Spiritual Care, Calvary Presbyterian Church
- Rev. Norman Fong, Parish Associate, Presbyterian Church in Chinatown
- Rev. Rochelle Frazier, Pastor, South Hayward United Methodist Church, Hayward
- Dr. Anita Friedman, Executive Director, Jewish Family and Children's Services
- Rabbi Pam Frydman, Congregation B'nai Emunah and President, No. California Board of Rabbis
- Andrew Galvan, The Ohlone Indian Tribe and Curator, Old Mission Dolores
- Fr. Donal Godfrey, S.J., Associate Director for Faculty & Staff Spirituality, University of San Francisco
- Michael Gonzales, Senior Pastor, Beautiful Redeemer Ministries, Richmond
- Rev. Harold G. Gordon, Jones Memorial United Methodist Church
- Rabbi Jessica Zimmerman Graf, Senior Rabbi, Congregation Sherith Israel
- Rev. Tova Green, San Francisco Zen Center
- Julie Greenfield, President, Eden Area Interfaith Council
- Tyler Harris Gregory, Executive Director, Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC)
- Iftekhar Hai, President, UMA Interfaith Alliance
- Rev. Caiti Hamilton, Pastor, Open Door United Methodist Church, Richmond
- Rev. Donald P. Hammond, Interim Co-Pastor, Presbyterian Church in Chinatown
- Fred Harrell, Senior Pastor, City Church San Francisco
- Rev. Ofa Haunga, Pastor, St. Luke's United Methodist Church, Richmond
- Commissioner Hala K. Hijazi, San Francisco Muslim Community Center
- Cantor Linda Hirschhorn, Spiritual Leader, Temple Beth Sholom, San Leandro
- David Hoffman, Chair, Interfaith Council of Sonoma County
- The Rev. Mark W. Holmerud, bishop, Sierra Pacific Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- Paige Hosking, SF Interfaith Council Board Member, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
- Elder Gayle Humphrey, Child of God
- Rev. Heather More Iarusso, San Francisco Zen Center
- Rev. Dr. Theon Johnson, III, Downs Memorial United Methodist Church, Oakland

- The Rev. Victor H. Kazanjian, Jr., Executive Director, United Religions Initiative
- Archbishop Franzo W. King, Saint John Coltrane African Orthodox Church
- Father Stephen Kyriacou, Dean, Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral
- Rev. Junchol Lee, Senior Pastor, San Francisco Swedenborgian Church
- Michael Lee, Executive Director, Donaldina Cameron House
- Rev. Joy-Ellen Lipsky, CCP, PMP, CCM, Silicon Valley Interreligious Council
- Robert Mar Ephrem Lopez, Bishop, Mar Thoma Orthodox Church in America
- Rev. Valerie McEntee, San Francisco Night Ministry
- Rev. Will McGarvey, Executive Director, Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County
- Rev. Jake Medcalf, Lead Pastor, First Presbyterian Church of Hayward, Castro Valley
- Jilma Meneses, Chief Executive Officer, Catholic Charities
- Rev. Eric Metoyer, Director of Ministry Development, Episcopal Diocese of California
- The Rev. Jenna Meyers, Seventh Avenue Presbyterian Church
- Rev. Ron Moe-Lobeda, Associate Pastor, St. Mark's Lutheran Church
- Sister Michele Anne Murphy, PBVM, President, Sisters of the Presentation - San Francisco
- Rev Dr. Arlene K. Nehring, Senior Pastor, Eden United Church of Christ, Hayward
- The Rev. Monique L. Ortiz, St. Mary and St. Martha Lutheran Church and SF Night Ministry
- Rev. Kristin Powell, Lead Minister, Unity of Walnut Creek
- Dr. Deon Nielsen Price, organist, Golden Gate Ward, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
- Rev. Scott Quinn, Executive Director, Marin Interfaith Council
- Jay Roller, Board President, Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Alameda
- Rabbi Amanda Russell, Congregation Beth Shalom
- Abiding Abbess Fu Schroeder, Green Gulch Farm
- Rev. Lien Shutt, Head Priest of Sudden Leap/Access to Zen
- Fr. River Sims, Temenos Catholic Worker
- Rabbi Beth Singer, Senior Rabbi, Congregation Emanu-El
- Rabbi Jonathan Singer, Senior Rabbi, Congregation Emanu-El
- Harriet Skelly, President, Congregation Shir Ami
- The Rev. Debra Low Skinner, Vicar, Christ Episcopal Church Sei Ko Kai
- Camilla Smith, Vice President of Development, Interfaith Center at the Presidio
- Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern, Senior Minister, First Unitarian Universalist Society of SF
- Wanika Stephens, Arch Priest, Saint John Coltrane African Orthodox Church
- Rev. Sadie Stone, Bethany United Methodist Church
- Rabbi Andrew Straus, Deputy Northwest Regional Director, J Street
- Rev. Dr. Leslie Carole Taylor, Senior Minister, First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Concord
- Naomi Tucker, Executive Director, Shalom Bayit
- Dr. Mary J. Wardell-Ghirarduzzi, Vice Provost & Chief Diversity Officer, University of San Francisco
- Angie Watson-Hajjem, Chair, Alameda All Faiths Coalition
- Rev. Dr. Dale M. Weatherspoon, Easter Hill United Methodist Church, Richmond
- Rev. Steven Weintraub, Zen Buddhist, San Francisco Zen Center, Green Gulch Farm Zen Center
- Marvin K. White, Minister of Celebration, GLIDE Memorial Church and GLIDE Foundation
- Rev. Dr. Joann Whitt, Calvary Presbyterian Church
- Rev. Gengyoko Tim Wicks, San Francisco Zen Center
- Pastor Connie Winter-Eulberg, St. Andrews Lutheran Church, San Mateo
- Rev. Marvin Lance Wiser, Associate Minister, Eden United Church of Christ, Hayward
- Malcolm Yeung, Executive Director, Chinatown Community Development Center
- The Very Rev. Dr. Malcolm Clemens Young, Dean, Grace Cathedral
- Rev. Dr. Mark Zier, Pastor, El Sobrante United Methodist Church
- Rev. Tenzen David Zimmerman, Abiding Abbot, San Francisco Zen Center