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Religious, Immigrant Leaders Rally Opposing Threatened Escalation against Immigrant Families

MILWAUKEE (June 24, 2019) — On Monday, June 24, religious leaders, clergy and delegates from the United Church of Christ General Synod meeting at the Wisconsin Center will join the Racine Interfaith Coalition, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, representatives of Milwaukee's Jewish community, WISDOM, a Wisconsin justice organization, the community group MICAH-Milwaukee and Voces de la Frontera members rallying outside the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Milwaukee Office at 1:30 p.m. CT. This show of solidarity by people of faith is calling for humane and fair treatment for immigrant families.

Concerned about President Trump's recent threat to increase deportations, the United Church of Christ General Synod, the governing body of the mainline Protestant denomination, passed a resolution of witness on Saturday, June 22, to advocate for an immediate end to the practice of separating migrant children and families.

At Monday's rally, hundreds of UCC members plan to put their faith in action.

Paola Hincapie, the daughter of recently deported Racine student pastor Betty Rendón of Emaus Lutheran Church, will be speaking at the rally.

UCC national delegates and visitors will process from the Wisconsin Center at the corner of Wisconsin Ave. and Vel Phillips Ave. to the ICE building beginning at 1:15.

What: March and Interfaith Rally to Resist Trump's Threatened Escalation Against Immigrant Families.

When: Monday, June 24. UCC March begins at 1:15 PM at Wisconsin Center entrance. 1:30 PM arrival at ICE office.

Where: Rally at 1:30 PM Milwaukee ICE Office — 310 E. Knapp St.

Speakers:

- Rev. Linda Jaramillo, Former UCC Justice and Witness Ministries Executive Minister
- Rev. Traci Blackmon, UCC Associate General Minister, UCC Justice and Witness Ministries
- Paola Hincapie, daughter of student pastor Betty Rendón of Emaus Lutheran Church in Racine, whom ICE deported and separated from her family last month
- Nikki Fisher, Vice President of Racine Interfaith Coalition
- Rev. Willie Brisco of WISDOM
- Rev. Joe Ellwanger of MICAH
- Rabbi David Cohen of Congregation Sinai in Milwaukee

Co-Sponsors: Voces de la Frontera, UCC National Collaborative on Immigration, United Church of Christ Justice and Witness Ministries, UCC Latinx Ministries, Racine Interfaith Coalition, MICAH, WISDOM, more.

Visuals: Clergy in religious attire, hundreds of marchers and demonstrators, colorful signs and banners calling for a stop to deportations.

To arrange an interview or media opportunity, contact Connie Larkman, larkmanc@ucc.org or 216-496-5540. All press must preregister for General Synod access. Visit <http://www.generalsynod.org/press>. Media members should please have press credentials with them at all times. There will be a designated access area in the Plenary Hall, and reporters are requested to attend news briefings for information/questions on high-profile issues.

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About the United Church of Christ The United Church of Christ is a mainline Protestant denomination comprised of nearly 900,000 members and 5,000 congregations nationwide. Headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, the UCC is a church of many firsts, including the first mainline denomination to ordain a woman, the first to ordain an openly gay man and the first predominantly white denomination to ordain an African American. The UCC and its members are tireless advocates for social issues such as immigration reform, racial equality, LGBTQ rights, marriage equality, environmental protection and economic justice.