



NEWS RELEASE for February Congregational Newsletters

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For Immediate Release

The Gathering V Unites Christians and Jews for Common Cause

On February 26, Jews and Christians from all over the Kansas City metropolitan area will unite for The Gathering, a citywide celebration of hope and a time of prayer for the peace of Jerusalem. The Gathering will be held at 7 p.m. at The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection, located at 13720 Roe Avenue, Leawood, KS. The Gathering is free and open to the public.

This is the fifth year of The Gathering. This event not only represents a continued strengthening of relationships between the Jewish and Christian communities in Kansas City, but also embodies a united call for peace in Israel.

“The Christian and Jewish communities of Greater Kansas City are shining examples as they momentarily lay down their differences, embrace their commonalities, and unite for a common cause – peace in Jerusalem,” said Paul Brooks, Senior Pastor of First Baptist Raytown.

Brooks is co-chairperson of The Gathering, along with Rabbi Alan Cohen, Senior Rabbi of Congregation Beth Shalom.

The Gathering V will feature a musical performance by children and adult choirs from both the Jewish and Christian communities, prayers for peace and a video of children expressing their thoughts about their religious traditions and beliefs. Rabbi Amy Wallk Katz, Congregation Beth Shalom and Reverend Adam Hamilton, The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection will present a dialogue about building bridges between Christians and Jews. “Our message will highlight our differences and

similarities and celebrate what we have in common as we seek ways in which our joint communities can come together to repair the world,” comments Rabbi Amy Wallk Katz.

“The Jewish and Christian communities have built a wonderful bridge to understanding these past few years. Much of this has come from our work together on The Gathering and praying for the peace of Jerusalem,” said Cohen.

The Gathering is sponsored by a diverse group of organizations, including the Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association, Colonial Presbyterian Church, First Baptist Church of Raytown, Jewish Community Center of Greater Kansas City, Jewish Community Relations Bureau/American Jewish Committee, Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City , Kansas City Baptist Temple, Ministries of New Life, Pleasant Valley Baptist Church, Rabbinical Association of Greater Kansas City, Sheffield Family Life Center, United Methodist Church of the Resurrection, and Unity Coalition for Israel. The Gathering is also supported by over 100 individual churches and synagogues.

For more information about the Gathering, visit www.jerusalemgathering.org.

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