

COUNCIL OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS OF METROPOLITAN CHICAGO

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

African Methodist Episcopal Church
African Methodist Episcopal Zion
American Baptist Churches Archdiocese of Chicago
Baptist Ministers Conference
Baptist State Convention of Illinois
Catholic Theological Union
Chicago Baptist Institute
Chicago Board of Rabbis
Chicago District The Salvation Army
Chicago Metropolitan Association
Chicago Theological Seminary
Church Federation of Greater Chicago
Church of God in Christ
Church of the Brethren
Community Renewal Society
Diocese of the Midwest
Serbian Orthodox Church in U.S. and Canada
Episcopal Diocese of Chicago
Evangelical Covenant Church of Chicago
Illinois Conference United Church of Christ
Lutheran School of Theology-Chicago
McCormick Theological Seminary
Metropolitan Chicago Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
National Baptist Convention of America
National Baptist Convention U.S.A. Inc.
Northern Illinois Conference
United Methodist Church
Orthodox Church in America
Presbytery of Chicago
Unitarian Universalist Association

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FURTHER INFORMATION:

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A STATEMENT ON THE CRISIS IN THE PERSIAN GULF The Council of Religious Leaders of Metropolitan Chicago January 9, 1991

Our Jewish and Christian religious traditions hold sacred every human life and impel us to seek a just and nonviolent solution to war and aggression. In this light:

The Council of Religious Leaders of Metropolitan Chicago condemns the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq and strongly opposes the brutality and violence of their invasion.

We call for the persistent pursuit of nonviolent international efforts to halt and reverse Iraq's aggression. At this critical time, we call for commitment to a negotiated political solution without resorting to war.

We accept the rigorous application of sanctions against Iraq but are opposed to the withholding of essential food and medicine as a weapon against civilian populations.

We urge that our government, with its worldwide influence, take this opportunity to provide the nations of the world with diplomatic and political -- rather than a military -- models for resolving international conflict.

As the members of the Council of Religious Leaders of Metropolitan Chicago, we call upon our various faith communities -- and the community at large -- to engage in earnest prayer and public witness for a just peace. We particularly urge that January 11 through January 13 be dedicated to this purpose.