



WARREN CLARK
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Churches
for
MIDDLE EAST PEACE

ALLIANCE OF BAPTISTS

AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES
USA

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE
COMMITTEE

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX
CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE OF
NORTH AMERICA

ARMENIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

CATHOLIC CONFERENCE OF
MAJOR SUPERIORS OF MEN'S
INSTITUTES

CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
COMMON GLOBAL MINISTRIES BOARD

CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
IN AMERICA

FRANCISCAN FRIARS (OFM)
ENGLISH SPEAKING CONFERENCE,
JPIC COUNCIL

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON
NATIONAL LEGISLATION

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE
OF AMERICA

MARYKNOLL MISSIONERS

MENNONITE CENTRAL
COMMITTEE

MORAVIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
CHURCHES

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
ASSOCIATION

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COMMON GLOBAL MINISTRIES BOARD

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
GENERAL BOARD OF CHURCH AND SOCIETY
GENERAL BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES:
WOMEN'S DIVISION

May 20, 2014

His Beatitude Fouad Twal
Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem
P.O.B. 14152
91141 Jerusalem

Your Beatitude,

Churches for Middle East Peace, a coalition of 25 U.S. national church groups – Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant, and Evangelical - is deeply troubled by the recent graffiti attacks on your Notre Dame Center in Jerusalem. These acts of desecration are an attempt to intimidate and inflame conflict in the Holy Land. We stand with you in deploring these actions.

We are especially concerned about these attacks coming just before the forthcoming visit of Pope Francis to the Holy Land later this month. His message of peace must not be undermined by those seeking to sow discord.

Recognizing that the acts are committed by a small minority of extremists, we join you in calling for increased efforts by the Israeli authorities to find the perpetrators of these crimes and bring them to justice. We agree that rooting out intolerance through education must be the goal so that these hateful attacks are not perpetuated.

The welfare of Palestinian Christians is of ongoing concern to us. We admire your steadfast efforts to ensure continuation of a vibrant Christian presence in the Holy Land.

Sincerely,

Warren Clark
Executive Director

Russ Testa
Chair