

InterFaith Leadership COUNCIL of Metropolitan Detroit

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Dear Parents of Religious School Students:

Your child is being offered a wonderful opportunity. The Nineteenth Annual World Sabbath will be held at Christ Church Cranbrook, 470 Church Rd, Bloomfield Hills on Sunday, March 11th, 2018 beginning at 4:00 PM. This special service is a celebration of our religious diversity in the Detroit Metropolitan area and an interfaith effort to work toward breaking down barriers and pursuing peace. We have invited our youth who belong to many of metro Detroit's religious communities and organizations to lead us in prayers for peace in the different faith traditions. In addition, we will have several musical offerings, some of them by children's groups, to add color and sound to our interfaith service.

This year we are asking a number of children from religious schools and houses of worship to involve their students in the making of Peace Banners. We would like the religious school leaders to set aside some time in January or February to allow their students to decorate white felt banners (which we will provide) with their ideas about World Peace. These banners will be glued or stapled to pieces of basswood to make flags that the children will display at the World Sabbath celebration, and then take home with them.

We invite you, as the parents, to join your children on Sunday, March 11th, to participate in the World Sabbath. We would like the children and their decorative flags to be part of the processional into Christ Church Cranbrook to kick off our interfaith service. The children will be seated in a special section in the sanctuary. The Children of Peace (as we will call our child participants) will be honored during the World Sabbath service. The children will also be taught the song "We are Children of Peace" so that when they are called up, these children of many faith traditions will sing this beautiful and moving song together.

Please let the religious school leader/teacher of your religious institution or your organization know that you will be accompanying your child (and his/her artistic flag for world peace) to the World Sabbath on March 11th. We ask that your child be at Christ Church Cranbrook no later than 3:00 PM so that we can rehearse the Children of Peace song and get everyone ready for the processional.

Thank you so much for helping to make the 2018 World Sabbath of Religious Reconciliation such a meaningful interfaith holy day dedicated to making peace among the religions, races and nations of the world. Our goal is to teach our diverse population and our children in Metropolitan Detroit that the work of building a community of justice, equality, reconciliation, and peace is a calling that we all share.

I look forward to sharing this wonderful interfaith event with you and your children. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at 248-978-6664 (cell) or email me at gailkatz@comcast.net.) Please visit our website at www.worldsabbath.org for the music and lyrics to the song, "We are Children of Peace."

Peace!

Gail Katz
Chair, Nineteenth Annual World Sabbat