

**Dear Church Member,**

Welcome to our neighborhood. This is a place where, over the decades, people have come in order to feel safe, being who they are.

Many of our neighbors have come here after having suffered trauma from the leadership and laity in their church homes or in the conservative religious practices of their family of origin.

While it is your legal right to express your religious beliefs, it is re-traumatizing many of our community members.

**RELIGIOUS HATE SPEECH IS SPIRITUAL VIOLENCE.**

Violence is not the path of a follower of Jesus

Violence is only used by those who seek power over others. Jesus brought a new covenant, one of compassion and love. Jesus corrected the religious institutions because of their legalism and lack of love.

Be like Jesus. Break bread with us. Dance with us. Laugh with us.

**Be like Jesus**

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