



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

## The Muslim Community Center, Inc.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** – MCC Stands With Community Churches Against Racist Vandalism

November 15, 2016

**The Muslim Community Center (MCC)** of Silver Spring, Maryland, one of the oldest Muslim faith-based organizations in the Washington, DC area, expresses its support and solidarity with area churches who have been the victim of racist vandalism over the past week.

On election night, Tuesday Nov. 8, a “Black Lives Matter” banner on the property of Christ Congregational Church in Silver Spring was vandalized, with the word “Black” cut out of the banner. On the night of Saturday, Nov. 12, a banner advertising a Spanish-language service was slashed, with the words, “Trump Nation – Whites Only” written across the back; the same message was also spray-painted on the wall of the church’s memorial garden.

Members of the MCC community visited both churches on November 15 to deliver flowers and messages of support. Our society is made stronger by the presence of religious community centers that bring people together in a spirit of diversity and inclusiveness. MCC stands alongside members of our community, individual or congregational, who are threatened by racist acts, and we condemn the divisive rhetoric that rives our nation during this difficult time. By standing together, we send a clear message that hate and bigotry are not welcome in our community, and we will continue to support each other and work together to encourage peace and unity.

*MCC’s mission is to promote brotherhood and human dignity among all by developing an environment of understanding, compassion, and justice in our personal and professional lives. We strive to serve the needs of the Muslim community and community at large in a manner that promotes its positive image and standing in a changing environment. We aim to represent the Muslim community in interfaith circles, in government, public and media relations, and in the society at large.*

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For more information, please email [info@mccmd.org](mailto:info@mccmd.org) or call 301-384-3454