

**Remarks for Community Solidarity Gathering at  
Congregation Shaarey Tefilla – Monday July 30, 2018**

**Shalom- I am Charlie Wiles executive director of Center for Interfaith Cooperation. On behalf of our 38-person board of directors, to Rabbi Benjamin Sendrow and to the members of Congregation Shaarey Tefilla, we share a deep and sincere sadness for the hideous act of vandalism that this synagogue and your community endured this past weekend.**

**Our vision at CIC is a community that pursues peace through interfaith understanding and cooperation. We lament the circumstances that brought us together this evening. However, we are honored to stand together with you and this vibrant community to continue the work of inter-religious solidarity. Where we lift-up and share the beauty and the joy that each of our diverse faith communities brings to central Indiana. We are committed to turn the shock, the sadness, and the anger from this act of hatred into a more robust commitment to work together in support of the pluralistic values that make our community and this country a strong, resilient, and desirable place to live.**

**CIC sees an attack on any one of our religious communities as an attack on all of us. Again, we stand with our Jewish sisters and brothers at Congregation Shaarey Tefilla and we are honored to add our voice to the Community Solidarity Gathering this evening.**

**Shalom**

*Center for Interfaith Cooperation*

*Hoosiers of many faiths in community, pursuing peace through interfaith understanding and cooperation.*

*CIC's MISSION is to strengthen community in central Indiana and beyond by:*

- Supporting existing connections between and among faith communities;*
- Fostering additional interfaith opportunities through social, cultural, and educational interactions; and*
- Connecting interfaith communities through volunteer service and civic engagement.*