



May, 2017

Dear Round Table Members and IFW Faith Partners:

It is no secret that we are living in a time when our Muslim neighbors are under critical scrutiny and are often viewed with great misunderstanding and hostility. The call to generous hospitality invites us to counter this negativity. It is appropriate that those of us who know Muslims to be neighbors, colleagues and friends would act in a supportive and visible way in their direction.

Muslims are coming into their holy season of Ramadan. This is a time of fasting and prayer in order to come into closer relationship with God and to think about the needs of hungry and lonely people. InterFaith Works of Central New York and its Round Table of Faith Leaders are once again offering faith organizations and individuals the opportunity to display a lawn sign that wishes our Muslim friends a Blessed Ramadan. We have received the endorsement of the Muslim leaders of our community for this show of friendship and support.

On our Website, [www.interfaithworkscny.org](http://www.interfaithworkscny.org), and included with your lawn sign will be small packet of materials which you can use to educate your congregation about Islam, Muslims, and specifically, about this holy time of Ramadan. The whole community is invited to the various Iftar dinners (breaking of the Fast) that will be held at local masjids (mosques) and hosted by various Muslim groups to introduce the rest of us to this holy time. These events are free and all are welcome. My experience has been that people are deeply grateful when we attend these dinners, and that it is a time of spiritual growth for all of us .

Call Gracious Moyo, InterFaith Initiatives Director, at the number below to reserve a sign, which costs \$15, including the hardware. Display your lawn sign through June 25th, the last day of Ramadan. Then store it for next year!

We would love to hear from you about your experience with this project, and will send an evaluation sheet in the next email for you to return to us so that we can compile results.

Our faiths are deepened and preserved as we work to protect the faith of all others in our community. Let us stand together.

Sincerely,

*Beth A. Broadway*

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