

Remarks :

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Sanctuary Project Coordinator

Sanctuary Press Conference

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Now to why we are here this morning. We are here to declare that Northwoods UU Church is a Sanctuary Church. What we are now offering is **PROPHETIC HOSPITALITY**.

This is not a unique offering on our part. We join some 800 faith communities across America who have so declared. We place ourselves into a long history of UU involvement. And we **stand** within the ancient religious traditions of offering sanctuary to the stranger in our midst.

With an estimate of over 500,000 undocumented neighbors in the greater Houston area, with people being arrested for a simple act of offering life giving water to migrants, with children being separated from their parents and caged in "FOR PROFIT" prisons like

criminals, when a 21 year old declares that he was out to kill as many Mexicans as he can, demands that we do something.

This congregation has overwhelmingly decided to be a Sanctuary Church. This is not an **Act of Civil Disobedience** but an Act of Obedience to our core values as a faith community. For I have come to believe that only in resistance to evil are we really free. By that I mean, **to say NOTHING ,to do NOTHING** is to be coopted as a slave into the evil ideology of hatred and fear. So we have chosen to **say** and **do Something** in our declaration this morning