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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## PUBLIC INVITED TO WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY ASSEMBLY SUNDAY, FEB. 8, 2015

Syracuse, NY–The public is invited to attend the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual World Interfaith Harmony Assembly on Sunday, Feb. 8, 2015, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral, 220 E. Fayette St., Syracuse. InterFaith Works of Central New York and Women Transcending Boundaries are organizing the event, which is held in recognition of World Interfaith Harmony Week.

First proposed at the United Nations General Assembly by King Abdullah II of Jordan, World Interfaith Harmony Week has been celebrated since 2011 to help build ties among world religions and provide a focal point from which all people of good will can recognize that the common values they hold far outweigh the differences they have. The event fosters mutual understanding and interreligious dialogue to help build a culture of peace and to promote harmony between all people regardless of their faith.

At the local event, many faith traditions will be showcased and celebrated through song, dance, traditional dress and poetry. A free will offering and canned food donations will be accepted. No pre-registration is necessary. For more information, contact Daryl Files at 315-449-3552, ext. 208.

InterFaith Works of CNY, through education, service and dialogue, affirms the dignity of each person and every faith community and works to create relationships and understanding. Founded in 1976, InterFaith Works addresses deeply embedded social divisions leading to community action and policy change. Empowering people in need, including refugees, the elderly and institutionalized, InterFaith Works' service and educational programs include the <u>Center for New Americans</u>, <u>Ahmad and Elizabeth</u> <u>El-Hindi Center for Dialogue</u>, as well as <u>Senior Services</u> and <u>Spiritual Care Programs</u>.

<u>Women Transcending Boundaries</u> is an egalitarian community of women from many faith and cultural traditions. Through programs, events and social interactions, they seek to nurture mutual respect and understanding by sharing information about their diverse beliefs, customs and practices. Further, they seek to share their personal and collective experiences with the wider community, to educate and to serve