



727 Campbell Avenue
West Haven, CT 06516
www.connecticuturks.com
203. 934-4900



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Episcopal Ministry in West Haven since 1723

28 Church Street
West Haven, CT 06516
www.holyspiritwh.org
203-934-3437

In fact, faith should bring us together. And that's why we're forging service projects in America to bring together Christians, Muslims, and Jews... Around the world, we can turn dialogue into interfaith service, so bridges between peoples lead to action—whether it is combating malaria in Africa, or providing relief after a natural disaster.

—President Barack Obama, “Speech to the Muslim World,” Cairo, Egypt, 4 June 2009

1 July 2009

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to share the story of our interfaith group that has launched just such a project!

The **Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit** and the **Turkish Community Center of Connecticut** have joined together in friendship and mission for a project called **Abraham's Garden**; in Turkish, **Hz. İbrahim'in Bahçesi**. Stemming from the need for fresh produce for our city's hungriest population, the vegetables from this community garden will be donated to the food banks and soup kitchens in our community.

Attached please find a media kit with a short documentary, photographs, and a link to a story in our local newspaper.

We hope that you and your staff will feel heartened by our project that is cultivating life-giving friendships as well as food for the table. We share your vision of tolerance and diversity in these troubled times. The recent tragic shooting at the Holocaust Museum only serves to underscore the need for projects like Abraham's Garden to bring people together at the most fundamental level of life's joys—planting a garden, sharing a pot luck dinner, watching adorable children dance and sing.

Respectfully,

The Reverend Dr. Lisa D. Hahneman
Rector, Church of the Holy Spirit
Seyma Aslan
TCC Team Leader, Hz. İbrahim'in Bahçesi

Nebi Demirsoy
Executive Director, Turkish Cultural Center, CT
Meg Greene
CHS Team Leader, Abraham's Garden