



A Statement from Rev. Dr. Soni Cantrell-Smith, CSL Spiritual Leader

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Our Response to Recent Events in Venezuela

Move Beyond Fear, Division and Domination to Harmony, Compassion and Wholeness

As a community rooted in the philosophy of Science of Mind, we affirm our belief in the unity of all life and the infinite value of every human being as a unique expression of Spirit. We hold that the nature of God is loving, creative and inclusive, and that each of us is called to embody that spirit in our thoughts, words and actions.

These teachings invite us to move beyond fear, division and domination toward harmony, compassion and wholeness.

The recent unfolding of military actions involving the United States against Venezuela, including large-scale strikes and the capture of Venezuela's president, represent a dramatic escalation in conflict that has already caused suffering and uncertainty for countless people. Many nations, international legal experts and faith leaders across the globe have expressed concern about the legality and humanitarian impact of these actions.

From a Science of Mind perspective, we are guided by principles that call us toward peace, justice and the transformation of consciousness. The belief in the unity of all life and the indwelling Spirit means that no nation, group or individual is separate from the whole, and that violence and coercion distort our shared humanity rather than heal it.

We acknowledge the legitimate complexities inherent in international relations, including concerns about human rights, governance and the rule of law. Yet we are called to respond not from fear or retribution, but with clarity of mind and compassion of heart, seeking pathways that prioritize diplomacy, mutual respect and peaceful resolution. We hold a vision of a world that works for everyone, one in which conflicts are resolved through understanding and cooperation rather than force.

We join with the World Council of Churches, Pope Leo and interfaith leaders across the world in reiterating that these actions set a dangerous precedent and example for others who seek to shrug

off all constraints against the use of armed aggression and brute force to achieve political objectives.

We pray for all those affected by these events — Venezuelans, Americans and the global community — that peace may take deeper root in human consciousness, that compassionate dialogue may prevail and that the Spirit of unity may guide leaders and citizens alike into right action.

Let us each be instruments of healing in our spheres of influence, committing to work for peace within ourselves and in our world.

Peace and blessings,

Rev. Dr. Soni Cantrell-Smith

CSL Spiritual Leader