

Greater Lansing Faith Leaders' Response to Comparison of Gun Control to the Holocaust

As faith leaders of the Greater Lansing Area - Christians, Muslims and Jews - we condemn in the strongest terms possible the statement put out recently by the Michigan Republican Party Leaders comparing Gun Control to the Holocaust. Comparing the proposals currently being debated in Michigan to the slaughter of over 6 million Jews and millions of others shows a total lack of historical knowledge and is highly offensive to people of all faiths. Statements which promote fear have become all too common in our political discourse. They have no place in a civilized society and must not be tolerated under any circumstances. This statement, which targets one of our faith communities, targets all of us in every faith community.

We call on The Michigan Republican Party to remove the statement from their social media accounts, issue a formal apology to every faith community across Michigan and ensure that this type of communication and hatred is not used nor fostered again in future communications.

Rev. Betsy Aho, Haslett Community Church, United Church of Christ, Haslett

Rev. Rebekah Anderson, Presbyterian Church of Okemos

Rabbi Amy Bigman, Congregation Shaarey Zedek, East Lansing

Rev. Gary Bunge, University Lutheran Church, East Lansing

Rev. Melanie Lee Carey, University United Methodist Church, East Lansing

Rev. Dr. Kit Carlson, All Saints Episcopal Church, East Lansing

Rev. Susan Carter, St. Katherine's Episcopal Church, Williamston

Imam Sohail Chaudhry, Islamic Society of Greater Lansing

Rev. Dawn Christenson, United Church of Christ, Interim
Clergy

Rev. Melissa Congleton, St. Katherine's Episcopal Church
Williamston

Rev. Amy Eld Maffeo, Hospital Chaplain & Episcopal Clergy

Rev. Alice Fleming Townley, United Methodist Clergy

Rev. Dr. Timothy Flynn, St. Michael's Episcopal Church,
Lansing

Rev. Tom Fox, United Methodist Clergy, retired

Rev. Leslee Fritz, Grace United Methodist Church, Lansing

Rev. Krista Heuett, All Saints Episcopal Church, East Lansing

Pastor Bob Higle, Plymouth Congregational Church, Lansing

Rabbi Matthew Kaufman, PhD, Congregation Kehillat Israel,
Lansing

Rev. Sharon Ketchum, Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing

Rev. Karen C. Lewis, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Lansing

Rev. Donna McNeil, Episcopal Missioner to Michigan State
University

Pastor Liz Miller, Edgewood United Church, UCC, East Lansing

Rev. Laura Miller-Purrenhage, First Congregational UCC,
Grand Ledge

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe, The People's Church, East
Lansing

Rev. Lisa Schrott, Presbyterian Church of Okemos

Rev. Kristin Stroble, Eastminster Presbyterian Church, East
Lansing

Rev. Ellen Zienert, United Methodist Clergy, retired