

The logo consists of a solid red square. Inside the square, the word "FAITH" is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. Below "FAITH", the words "IN PUBLIC LIFE" are written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font, also in all caps, and centered horizontally.

FAITH
IN PUBLIC LIFE

Nearly 100 Ohio Clergy Urge Sen. Portman to Reject the Nomination of Sen. Jeff Sessions for U.S. Attorney General

When in the course of a nation's life it becomes necessary to defend our brothers and sisters against unjust laws and systems, people of faith and good will are compelled by the shared values of justice, dignity, compassion, love of neighbor and love of country to join together in moral resistance to misguided rulers. We face such a moment today.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all people are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with inherent dignity and inalienable freedoms, including but not limited to the freedom to vote without obstacle or barrier, the freedom from harassment or targeting by hate groups or law enforcement, the freedom to organize for fairness and respect in the workplace, the freedom to pray and practice one's faith without fear, and freedom from violence and discrimination on the basis of race, gender, sexual orientation, immigration status or economic status.

When those who wield the power of the state deprive the people of these freedoms, whether actively or tacitly, they surrender their moral and political legitimacy. Unfortunately, many serving at the highest levels of our government have compromised themselves and their offices by committing such acts. They must be resisted and held accountable.

Senator Jeff Sessions, who awaits Senate confirmation for Attorney General of the United States -- the nation's highest law enforcement office -- must be rejected. His positions, record and rhetoric reveal him to be a threat to the freedoms we hold dear, not a defender of them. He has subjected civil rights workers to unjust prosecution. He has sat idly by as the Supreme Court and then politicians across the country dismantled voting rights and intentionally erected numerous and varied barriers to voting. He has been one of Congress's most stalwart opponents to common-sense, compassionate reform of our unjust immigration laws. He has legitimized demagogues who demonize Muslims, even receiving an award from a group that exists to manufacture conspiracy theories against Islam. In sum, Senator Sessions perpetuates systemic racism and casts his lot with those who foment bigotry. Confirming him as Attorney General would ensure that the worst of America's past will chart America's future.

As people of faith called to do justice, love mercy, welcome the stranger and love our neighbors as ourselves, we affirm and defend the freedoms and dignity of all people who call our nation home. And we unite in moral resistance to those who threaten and harm our brothers and sisters.

Signed,

Title	First Name	Last Name	Name of Congregation	Title	City
Rev. Dr.	Judy	Alston	Second Chance Christian Church	Minister of Worship	Columbus
Rev.	Joe	Ashby	Grace Episcopal Church	Rector	Mansfield
Mr.	Robert	Ault	Church of the Covenant	Mr.	Shaker Heights
Rev.	June	Begany	retired clergy/Church of the Covenant		Cleveland Heights
Rev.	Glen	Bengson	Evangelical Lutheran Church		Powell
Rev. Dr.	Beverly	Bingle	Holy Spirit Catholic Community	Pastor	Toledo
Rev.	Lynn	Bozich Shetzer	Reedurban Presbyterian Church	Pastor	North Canton
Sr.	carol	brenner	sisters of charity	member	mt. St, Joseph
Rev.	Jennifer J.S.	Brooks	First Unitarian Universalist Church	Interim Senior Minister	Columbus
Rev. Dr.	Eric	Brown	Woodland Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)	Pastor	Columbus
Rev. Dr.	Elliott J.	Bush	St. Stephen's Episcopal Church		Upper Arlington
Rev. Dr.	James	Butler	Lakewood Presbyterian Church	Pastor	Lakewood
Rev.	Lane	Campbell	First Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbus, OH	Minister of Religious Exploration	Columbus
Rev.	Mary	Carson	St. James Episcopal Church	Priest-in-Charge	Cincinnati
Rev.	Susanne	Carter	Church of the Covenant		Willoughby
Rev. Dr.	Bill	Casto Jr	Epworth United Methodist Church		Columbus
Rev.	Nan	Clancy	First Presbyterian Church	Pastor	Celina
Rev.	Alice	Connor	The Edge House campus ministry		Cincinnati
Sr.	Patricia	Corbett	Congregation of ST. Joseph	Sister	Cincinnati
Rev.	Emily	Corzine	First Congregational Church, UCC	Associate Minister	Columbus
Ms.	Sharol	Cremeans	Lakewood Presbyterian Church	Ruling Elder	Cleveland
Rev.	Dana	Cummings	Renaissance Unity of Northern Ohio	Sr. Minister	Cleveland Heights
Rev.	Tricia	Dykers Koenig	Forest Hill Church, Presbyterian	National Organizer	Cleveland Heights

Rev.	Christopher	Eldridge	Prince of Peace Lutheran Church	Pastor	Columbus
Rev.	Nathan	Esala	St. John Lutheran		Amlin
Rev.	Joel	Esala	Presbyterian Church (USA)		Westerville
Rev.	Julie	Fisher	Christ Episcopal Church of Kent		Kent
Rev.	Kathleen	Fowler	First Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbus		Columbus
Rev.	June	Fryman	Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church	Pastor	Wilmington
Rev. Dr.	C. Eric	Funston	St. Paul's Episcopal Church	Rector	Medina
Other	Rachael	Gardner Purdy	Pastor Gardner P	Assistant Pastor	Columbus
Rev.	Pamela	Gaylor	St Marys Episcopal Church		Waynesville
Rev.	Jane	Gerdson	Diocese of Southern Ohio		Cincinnati
Rev.	Ian	Gibson	Peoples Community CME Church	Pastor	Dayton
Rev.	Priscilla	Grant	Episcopal Diocese of Ohio	Canon for Ministry	Cleveland
Rev.	Rich	Hagopian	Smoky Row Brethren Church		Columbus
Sr.	Carren	Herring	Sisters of Mercy	Sister	Cincinnati
Rev.	Susan	Holderness	PCUSA		South Euclid
Rev.	Sandra	Huber	Powell UMC	Deacon in Residence	Powell
Rev.	Jerome	Hurst	Southeast Seventh-day Adventist Church	Senior Pastor	Cleveland
Rev. Dr.	Paula M.	Jackson	Church of Our Saviour/La Iglesia de Nuestro Salvador	Rector	Cincinnati
Rev.	Kenneth	Jones	Church of the Covenant		Willoughby
Sr.	Joyce	Kahle	Sisters of the Precious Blood	Member	Dayton
Rev. Dr.	Rachel	Kessler	Kenyon College / Harcourt Parish	Priest / Chaplain	Gambier
Rev.	Emily	Krause Corzine	First Congregational Church UCC	Associate Minister	Columbus
Rev.	Laury	Larson	Honorably Retired		Skaker Heights
Rev.	Jody	LeFort	Presbytery of the Western Reserve		Bay Village

Rev.	Margaret	Leidheiser-Stoddard	St. John's Episcopal Church	Deacon	Worthington
Rev.	Cheryl	Lindsay	My. Zion		Cleveland
Rev.	David	Long-Higgins	David's United Church of Christ	Sr. Pastor	Canal Winchester
Rev.	Ian	Lynch	Old South Church, Kirtland	pastor	Kirtland
Sr.	Anne	Lythgoe, OP	Dominican Sisters of Peace		Columbus
Rev.	Meredith	McDougle	New Horizons UMC	Executive Director	Columbus
Ms.	Debra	McGuire	First Unitarian Universalist Church	Religious Education	Columbus
Rev.	Jacqueline	McMillen	Grace United Church of Christ	Pastor	Canton
Rev.	Eric	Meter	First Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbus		Columbus
Rev.	Susan	Michelfelder	St. Stephen's Episcopal Columbus		Columbus
Rev.	Joel	Miller	Columbus Mennonite Church	Pastor	Columbus
Rev. Dr.	John	Paddock	Christ Episcopal Church, Dayton	Priest	Dayton
Rev.	Ruth B	Paulus	St. Christopher Episcopal Church	Rector/pastor	Fairborn
Deacon	Carol	Potterton	Ascension and Holy Trinity		Cincinnati
Ms.	Anna	Powell	Advent United Church of Christ		Columbus
Rev.	Jason	Prati	All Saints Episcopal Church	Rector	Columbus
Sr.	Jo Ann	Recker	Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur	Professor Emerita	Cincinnati
Rev.	David	Rice	First Presbyterian Church	Pastor/Head of Staff	Wooster
Rev.	Jason	Ridley	Hilltop Community Worship Center	Pastor	Columbus
Rev.	Christopher	Rinker	First Community Church	Clergy Associate	Bexley
Rev.	Margaret	Sammons	Christ Episcopal Church	Transition Priest-in-Charge	Springfield
Rev.	Kristin	Santiago	Christ Lutheran Church	Pastor	Heath
Rev.	William	Scrivener	Christ Church Cathedral		Cincinnati
Sr.	Julia	Sheatzley	Congregation of St, Joseph	Yes	Cincinnati
Rev. Dr.	J. Roger	Skelley-Watts	J. Roger Skelley-Watts	Pastor	Huron

Rev.	Lynda	Smith	First Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbus	Co-Chair Unitarian Universalist Justice Ohio	Columbus
Rev. Dr.	Susan K	Smith	Crazy Faith Ministries	Founder and Executive Director	Gahanna
Ms.	caroline	smith	Crazy Faith Ministries		Gahanna
Rev.	Gene "AJ"	Stack	St. Peter's Episcopal Church		Gallipolis
Ms.	Elizabeth	Staten	Move United Church		Columbus
Rev.	Rebecca	Sunday	St. Paul UCC	Senior Pastor	Wapakoneta
Sr.	Cecilia	Taphorn	Sisters of the Precious Blood Dayton	Vice President/Councilor	Dayton
Rev.	Juliana	Tilden	WCAG		St. Louis
Rev.	Rebecca	Tollefson	Presbyterian Church (USA)		Worthington
Rev.	Larry	Trover	retired	Pastor	Columbus
Rev.	Carol	Wedell	Member at Large, Presbytery of the Western Reserve		Pepper Pike
Rev.	David	Westphal	David Lutheran Church	Pastor	Canal Winchester
Rev.	Elizabeth	Westphal	unaffiliated		Canal Winchester
Rev.	Meredith	White	Noble Road Presbyterian Church	Pastor	Cleveland Heights
Mr.	Joel	Wildermuth	Gethsemane Lutheran		Columbus
Ms.	Diana	Woodbridge	Forest Hill Church presbyterian		Cleveland Heights
Rev.	Francis	Miller	Lyndhurst Community Presbyterian Church	Pastor and Head of Staff	Lyndhurst
Rev.	Robert	Turner	University Baptist Church	Pastor	Columbus

