



Rhode Island State Council of Churches and the Rhode Island Bible Society

Mr. Jeremy M. Langill
Executive Minister

April 23rd, 2026

Officers of the Governing Board

Rev. Heather Bailes Baker
President

Press Release: Standing in Solidarity with the SPLC

Mr. Roberto Rodriguez, Esq.
1st Vice President

Rev. Charlie Ortman
2nd Vice President

On Tuesday we witnessed the ongoing weaponization of the Department of Justice in action taken against the Southern Poverty Law Center, a non-profit organization dedicated to resisting and dismantling white supremacy and systems of hate.

Rev. Dr. G. Russell Miller
Interim Treasurer

Dr. Laura Gabiger
Interim Recording Secretary

Why should this concern religious people?

Mr. Randy Yorston
Media Secretary

The sin of white supremacy and the co-opting of Christian faith, often used in the justification of our nation's greatest evils, remain a pernicious and unresolved challenge.

Rev. Eugene Dyszlewski
Lead Social Justice Commissioner

Governing Board Members

Ms. Bridget Bennett, LICSW

Rev. T. J. DeMarco

Mr. Geoffrey Greene

Rev. Sarah Reed Jay

Mr. Neal McNamara, Esq.

Mr. Jorge Rico

Rev. Lawri Smalls

Rev. Scott Spencer

Against this backdrop of fear, we choose love. We choose faithful resistance that is grounded in prayer, truthful speaking, and courageous action.

Our nation stands at a pivotal moment.

The Rhode Island State Council of Churches stands in faithful solidarity with the Southern Poverty Law Center and with all whose civil rights and freedoms remain under constant threat and attack.

Jeremy M. Langill, **Executive Minister**
Rhode Island State Council of Churches, **Governing Board**