For Immediate Release

October 29, 2018

Statement on Hateful Violence

Eleven dead in a Pittsburgh synagogue — because they were Jews. Two dead in Louisville — because they were African American.

These incidents last week are not without historical precedence, but we must commit anew to the fight against hateful, racist rhetoric. This rhetoric is not harmless and does not reflect God’s heart for all humanity. Christians who take seriously the doctrine of the “Imago Dei,” cannot ignore racism and hatred.

The Christian Life Commission staff encourages Texas Baptists to speak up against hateful and racist language and behavior. We also encourage church leaders to address racial, ethnic, and religious hatred.

The Christian Life Commission joins with those in Louisville and Pittsburgh in their grief. We mourn with those who are unexpectedly planning funerals for their loved ones. We are praying for healing of the deep divisions in our country.

Dr. Gus Reyes, Director, Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission

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The Christian Life Commission speaks to, but not for, Texas Baptists, helping them apply their faith to life through ethics, public policy and impact ministries. The Bible serves as the foundation for the transformative work of the CLC. Texas Baptists (Baptist General Convention of Texas), established in 1886, is the largest state denominational convention, with more than 5,300 affiliate churches seeking to live out the Great Commission and the Great Commandment in Texas and beyond.

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