



THE DIETRICH BONHOEFFER INSTITUTE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEWS ADVISORY

CHRISTIANS LEADERS TO CALL FOR NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF PASTORS IN WAKE OF TEXAS TRAGEDY

*The National Clergy Council, The Dietrich Bonhoeffer Institute, and the Christian Defense Coalition will hold a **Facebook Live News Conference** in Washington to call pastors to engage in solving the plague of violence that has most recently invaded the sacred space of a church sanctuary, taking 26 lives, injuring 20, and traumatizing a whole community.*

(Washington, D.C.) – November 7, 2017: The National Clergy Council, The Dietrich Bonhoeffer Institute, and the Christian Defense Coalition will hold a Facebook Live News Conference tomorrow, Tuesday, November 7, 11:30 AM EST, to urge pastors and churches across America to take action to prevent future mass shootings like the one this past weekend in Sutherland Springs, Texas.

President of the National Clergy Council, the Reverend Rob Schenck, an evangelical Methodist minister, who also heads the Washington, DC-based Dietrich Bonhoeffer Institute, said,

“We are all praying for those affected by this most recent horrific tragedy. It’s not the first time a church has been violated by gun violence, but we always pray it will be the last. Beyond our prayers, though, we must also act. It is time for church leaders, particularly from evangelical churches, to lend their voices to the national conversation on ending mass shootings. We all support legal action to take car keys away from drivers with alcohol problems, so, why can’t we find a way to deny access to high-powered deadly weapons to people with violent mental, emotional, and anger problems?”

Director of the Christian Defense Coalition, the Reverend Patrick J. Mahoney, a Presbyterian minister, said, “Pastors and churches across the country must do whatever we can to reach out and help our brothers and sisters in Christ; and the time to do that is now. There are tangible and immediate ways to help as well as long term work to end this kind of violence against churches everywhere. We can’t wait for government and politicians to solve this. Our time to act has come. This is a moral and biblical issue.”

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Details:

National Clergy Council Facebook Live News Conference

Pastors of various church denominations call for action in wake of Texas church shooting

Speaking: Rev. Rob Schenck (Evangelical Methodist), Rev. Patrick J. Mahoney (Presbyterian),
Rev. Kenneth Barney (Baptist)

11:30 AM EST

Facebook, @TheDietrichBonhoefferInstitute

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About Rev. Rob Schenck

The Rev. Dr. Rob Schenck is an ordained Evangelical minister and president of the Dietrich Bonhoeffer Institute, located in Washington, DC. A leader among American Evangelicals, Rev. Schenck served a 2-year term as chairman of the Evangelical Church Alliance, America's oldest association of independent Evangelical clergy.

Rev. Schenck holds a B.A. in Religion, M.A. in Christian Ministry, D.Min in Church and State, and is a senior fellow at the Centre for the Study of Law and Public Policy at Oxford.

Rev. Schenck serves on numerous boards and committees, including the National Advisory Board on Community Engagement in the State Courts. His professional memberships include the National Association of Evangelicals, the American Academy of Religion, the Capitol Hill Club, and The University Club of Washington.

Rev. Schenck lives in Washington, DC, with his wife, Cheryl, a psychotherapist in private practice.

About The Dietrich Bonhoeffer Institute

The Dietrich Bonhoeffer Institute (TDBI) is a non-profit charitable and educational institution dedicated to applying the theological and ethical insights of this brilliant World War II-era Protestant church leader, Nazi resister, and moral philosopher to the social crises of our time. TDBI sponsors lectures, symposia, and discussion forums and publishes relevant material online and in books, opinion papers, and pamphlets.

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