

An Open Letter from Missouri Clergy & Lay Leaders Supporting Amendment 3

As Clergy and Lay Leaders from a variety of faith traditions, it is our role to care for people—both in our congregations and our broader communities. We have supported, guided, prayed with, and journeyed alongside families through some of the most joyous and painful moments in their lives. And, we have counseled families as they made deeply personal decisions.

With this unique perspective, we stand together to vote YES on Amendment 3 on November 5. We support ending Missouri's abortion ban, which has no exceptions for rape, incest, or a woman's health. Amendment 3 will ensure a woman's right to make her own personal medical decisions with her family, her faith and her doctor—not politicians. While our neighbors are suffering, the stakes are too high for us to remain silent.

We understand there are deeply held spiritual and religious beliefs on both sides of this issue. We, as well, believe that we must honor the liberties necessary for each person to make the decision that is right for them, according to their own personal conscience and values. We must also recognize and respect that many faiths—including many Christian and Jewish denominations—support access to reproductive health care, including abortion.

Our religious traditions teach us that all people have dignity and worth, and that we have a particular responsibility to care for those who are most vulnerable. It is important that we recognize the very different and complex issues and situations experienced by women seeking abortion care. Some are the victims of rape or incest. Some face pregnancy complications that could put their health or lives at risk. Some are struggling with other personal tragedies. Each of them deserves the right to make private medical decisions for themselves, free from government interference.

We believe that each Missourian is the best decision-maker when it comes to their own life's path—not politicians. Women seeking abortion do not deserve our shame or judgment—they deserve our love and support. We join together and ask all Missourians, regardless of their faith or political party, to support women in Missouri.

Please vote YES on 3 on November 5, 2024.

Faithfully,

Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham, St. Louis
The Very Rev. Kathie Adams-Shepherd,
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Rev. Mary Albert, St. Louis
Congregant Claudia Allred, Warrensburg
Rabbi Doug Alpert, Kansas City
The Rev. Dr. Susan Andrews, St. Louis
Rev. Kevin D. Anthony, St. Louis
The Rev. Laurie Anzilotti, Eureka
Rabbi Noah Arnow, St. Louis
Rev. Andrea Asselmeier, St. Charles
Rev. Krissy Avise-Rouse, St. Louis
The Rev. Jan Barnes, St. Louis
The Rev. John Bennett, Jefferson City
Rabbi James Bennett, St. Louis
The Rev. Tony Beyer, Kansas City
The Rev. Traci Blackmon, St. Louis
Rabbi Daniel Bogard, St. Louis
Rabbi Karen Bogard, St. Louis
Rev. Emily Bowen-Marler, Springfield
The Rev. Melissa Bowers, Kansas City
Pastor Michael Brooks, Kansas City
The Rev. Cindy Bumb, St. Louis
Erin Burroughs, Kansas City
The Rev. Barbara Click, St. Louis
The Rev. Andrew L. Cullen, Kansas City
The Rev. Dr. Teresa Danieleley, St. Louis
Rev. DeMarco Davidson, St. Louis
Rabbi Josef Davidson, St. Louis
Rev. Ann Dieterle, Columbia
Rev. Natalie Dixon Crewell, Columbia
Emily Dumlr-Winckler, St. Louis
Rev. Karen Eck, Boone County
The Rev. Dr. Topher Endress, Columbia
Elder Gwen Ervin, Kansas City
The Rev. Dr. Maria L. Evans, Hannibal
The Rev. Renee Fenner, Northwoods
The Rev. Letiah Fraser, Kansas City
The Rev. Sarah Fredriksen McCann, St. Louis
Rev. David Frerichs, Columbia
Rev. Mindy Fugarino, Kansas City
Rev. Pat Glenn, Louisiana
Rabbi David Glickman, Kansas City
The Rev. Dr. Deborah Goldfeder, Louisiana &
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The Rev. Margaret Goldstein, Lake St. Louis
Rabbi Andrea Goldstein, St. Louis
Pastor Charity Goodwin, St. Louis
Rev. Cheryl Walenta Gorvie, St. Louis
The Rev. Dr. Cassandra Gould, St. Louis
The Rev. Julie Graham, St. Louis
The Rev. Darryl Gray, St. Louis
Rev. Tracey Harris, St Charles
Elder Gwen Hawks-Blue, Kansas City
The Rev. Michelle Higgins, St. Louis
The Rev. Bob Hill, Kansas City
The Rev. Dr. Molly Housh Gordon, Columbia
The Rev. Josh Huber, Columbia
The Rev. Deth Im, Kansas City
Rev. Meredith Jackson, St. Louis
Pastor Thomas James, Kansas City
The Rt. Rev. Deon K. Johnson, St. Louis
The Rev. Elizabeth Rolf Kanerva, St. Louis
The Rev. Dr. Jay R. Kanerva, St. Louis
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The Rev. MaryLou Kegler, Kansas City
Pastor Rev. Gabrielle NS Kennedy, St. Louis
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The Rev. David R. Luckes, Eureka
The Rev. Helen Ludbrook, St. Louis
Rev. Kim Mason, St. Louis
Dr. Billie Mayo, St. Louis
Rev. Brittany McDonald Null, Columbia
The Rev. Holly McKissick, Kansas City
Rev. Meagan McLaughlin, St. Louis
The Rev. Christoher Miller, Kansas City
The Rev. Dr. Mark R. Miller, St. Louis
The Rev. Ryan Missel, Cape Girardeau
The Rev. Bridget Mitchell, Booneville
Rev. Eric Moeller, Franklin County
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The Rev. Barbara Phifer, Kirkwood
Ashley Quinn, Springfield
The Rev. Rebecca Ragland, St. Louis
The Rev. Tom Ressler, St. Louis
The Rev. Kristina Reyes, St. Louis
The Rev. Deacon Mandi Rice, Webster Groves
The Rev. Dr. Kristin Riegel, Kansas City
Rev. John Riggs, PhD., St. Louis
Rev. Sally Robinson, Columbia
The Rev. Aaron Rogers, Ferguson
The Rev. Bill Rose-Heim, Kansas City

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Rev. Hannah Ryan, Columbia
The Rev. Meghan Ryan, Creve Coeur
The Rev. Dr. Tex Sample, Kansas City
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The Rev. Susan Schmalzbauer, Springfield
The Rev. Dr. Paul K Schwartzkopf, Franklin County
The Rev. Leslie Scoopmire, Ellisville
The Rev. Michelle Scott-Huffman, Springfield
Dr. Neal Seipp, Warrensburg
Congregant Susan Seipp, Warrensburg
Rabbi Scott Shafrin, St. Louis
Rev. Ayanna Shivers, Ph.D, Mexico
The Rev. Susan Shumway, St. Charles
Rev. Jenn Simmons, Springfield
The Rev. Dr. Donna Simon, Kansas City
Rev. Elizabeth Simpson, Columbia
Rabbi Jared Skoff, St. Louis
The Rev. Christi Slizewski Tennyson, St. Charles
The Rev. Melanie Smith, St. Louis
Rev. Susan Sneed, St. Louis
The Rev. Dr. Phil Snider, Springfield
The Rev. Alyssa Spradlin, Springfield
Elder Lauri Squiric, Warrensburg
Rabbi Jeffrey Stiffman, St. Louis
Rev. Beverly Stith, St. Louis
The Rev. Darron Story, Kansas City
Rabbi Susan Talve, St. Louis
The Rev. Krista Taves, St. Louis
Pastor LaRon Thompson, Kansas City
Rev. Rebecca Turner, St. Louis
Mrs. Susan Vann, St. Louis
The Rev. Dr. Alex Wales, Kansas City

Cantor Seth P. Warner, St. Louis
The Rev. Doris Westfall, St. Louis
The Rev. Deacon Diana Wheeler, St. Louis
The Rev. Mike Williams, Columbia
The Rev. Rodney Williams, Kansas City
The Rev. Dietra Wise, St. Louis
Pastor Tracey Wolff, Springfield
The Rev. Dr. William Yancy, St. Louis