



Standing Our Holy Ground Webinar Series

Get Your Guns: Why Americans Buy Firearms in Times of Pandemic

April 30, 2020 at 3 pm (EST)

Register [Here](#)

In the time of the COVID-19 pandemic, people are not only stockpiling everything from toilet paper to hand sanitizer. Reports indicate that Americans in record numbers are purchasing massive amounts of firearms and ammunitions. This episode of "Standing Our Holy Ground" explores why people turn to guns in times of fear, uncertainty, and anxiety. We examine the distinction between fear-based and faith-based responses to crisis/disaster, how times of pandemic and crisis amplify the issues that intersect with gun violence, and what faith communities can do in the midst of the crisis to ensure the proper care of vulnerable and marginalized communities.

Panelist Background



Rev. Dr. Laurie Kraus is the Director of Presbyterian Disaster, overseeing domestic and international response initiatives. She appreciates the opportunity to serve as the "face" of PDA, interpreting our mission in churches, presbyteries and synods; and teaching, developing curriculum, and writing for various publications. She leads and supports collaborative efforts with neighboring ministry areas within the PC(USA) and among our ecumenical and interfaith partners in disaster response. Laurie is a certified Compassion Fatigue Professional and has additional certification and expertise with the International Critical Stress Foundation and in training response to Public Violence events. Her 30 years of pastoral experience includes doctoral work and graduate level teaching, both in the theology and practice of ministry in disaster, and in multicultural ministry practice.



Rev. Robert Hoggard earned his bachelor's degree from American Baptist College and his Master's degree from Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School-- both in theological studies. In his Master's thesis, he explored bridging the gap between the #BlackLivesMatter Movement and the Black church. Robert leads the board at Metro Justice as its Vice-President. In his role, he is assisting in the formation of the Rochester Police Accountability Board and pushing for an end to cash bail and new discovery and speedy trial laws. He's also earning his Ph.D. in education at the University of Rochester. His dissertation is where the K-12 education system, public policy, workforce development, and higher education meet. It will explore P-TECH, a grade 9-14 model where students earn the necessary academic, technical, and professional skills to compete in the workforce. Robert fights to see an education system that prepares Black and Brown people for college or work rather than the street corner or the prison system.

Stay up to date on the series by following the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program on Facebook and on our website presbyterianmission.org/standingourholyground



Presbyterian Mission
**Presbyterian
Peacemaking Program**