Mr. Jeremy M. Langill Executive Minister

January 2024

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## Statement of Concern for Palestine and Israel

As religious leaders, we grieve the violence and immense loss of life that unfolded on and since October 7th.

We see the attempts to create false binaries in theology, politics, and history.

Our faith reminds us that every person is loved by God.

On behalf of the Executive Minister and the Governing Board of the Rhode Island State Council of Churches, we urge our elected representatives to advocate for the following:

- An immediate ceasefire and the provision of essential humanitarian aid
- The immediate release of all remaining hostages
- An end to the indiscriminate killing of innocent people and the destruction of civil infrastructure.

We recognize that the path forward is arduous. Yet, as people of faith, we understand that we cannot create a new and positive reality by embracing our inherited assumptions.

We stand ready as partners for positive change in prayer and action, and we remain active in promoting God's love and justice in the world.

Rhode Island State Council of Churches Executive Minister and Governing Board