

Statement Regarding the May 14, 2022, Mass Shooting in Buffalo, New York, and May 15, 2022, Shooting in Laguna Woods, California

On Saturday, May 14, 2022, 13 shoppers at a Tops grocery store in Buffalo, NY, were shot in a senseless act of violence. Ten innocent people lost their lives, and three others were injured in this massacre. In a manifesto written by the shooter, racial hatred was his motivation for the shooting. Eleven of the victims were African Americans.

On Sunday, May 15, 2022, a gunman opened fire at the Geneva Presbyterian Church in Laguna Woods, CA, during a lunch reception for the Irvine Taiwanese Presbyterian. One person was killed, and five others were wounded.

Our faith, which sees everyone as a reflection of our loving God, calls us to grieve with our sisters and brothers in Buffalo and Laguna Woods and recommit our efforts to dismantle structures of oppression and the culture of violence that perpetrates atrocities such as this.

We pray for the people killed and injured, their loved ones, and all impacted by these horrific acts, along with all the gun violence that is plaguing our cities.