



Jewish Federation of Greater New Orleans & ADL South Central Region Statement on Arrest in St. Landry Parish Church Fires

April 11, 2019 -- The Jewish Federation of Greater New Orleans and the ADL South Central Region stand in solidarity with St. Mary Baptist Church in Port Barre, LA, and Greater Union Baptist Church and Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, both in Opelousas, LA, in the aftermath of the horrific fires that destroyed their buildings. We also commend law enforcement for its swift apprehension of the alleged perpetrator of the arsons, and await more information as the investigation proceeds. We appreciate their efforts to ensure the safety and security of other religious institutions in those communities throughout the state.

That the alleged perpetrator appears to have specifically singled out African-American churches is deeply troubling, and certainly no house of worship should ever be targeted for violence.

The Seventh District Missionary Baptist Association, part of the Louisiana Missionary Baptist State Convention, is actively raising funds to benefit rebuilding efforts for all three churches. We encourage those interested in donating to visit:

<https://www.gofundme.com/church-fires-st-landry-parishmacedonia-ministry>

Arnie D. Fielkow | CEO | Jewish Federation of Greater New Orleans

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