

## REPORT OF THE BISHOP'S DEPUTY FOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION

In September, the diocese published *Each Other's Keeper: The Church's Response to Violence*, an electronic adult formation curriculum focused on the role of faith communities in understanding the many dimensions of violence in our society and ways in which we might care for both its victims and perpetrators. The author is the Rev. Marc D. Smith, Ph.D., Bishop's Deputy for Violence Prevention in the Diocese of Missouri.

*Each Other's Keeper: The Church's Response to Violence* includes six self-contained modules, in addition to a Prologue and Epilogue:

- Violence in Scripture
- Violence in American Popular Culture
- Gun Violence: A Public Health Crisis
- Youth Bullying and Suicide
- Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence
- Reconciliation and Forgiveness

The leader's guide for each chapter follows a similar format: opening collect; study objectives; research narrative; expert video commentary; discussion questions; additional resources; concluding collect; and a still photograph and commentary. A PowerPoint presentation and participant handouts also are provided for each module. The electronic format allows for maximum flexibility, including the addition of new chapters. In 2021, we anticipate adding discussions of religious intolerance and the embrace of violence by extremist movements.

*Each Other's Keeper: The Church's Response to Violence* is offered free-of-charge and can be accessed at <https://www.eachotherskeeper.org/>.

The Rev. Marc D. Smith, Ph.D.  
Bishop's Deputy for Violence Prevention  
[cotterboatworks@aol.com](mailto:cotterboatworks@aol.com)  
(314) 452-3378