



GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION TOOLKIT

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RESOURCES

How PDA Responds to Public Violence

HOW PDA RESPONDS TO PUBLIC VIOLENCE

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) responds to public violence as a human-caused disaster and supports mid-councils that request assistance as they reach out to help their communities recover.

- National Response Team (NRT) deployment:** members of PDA's NRT provide a ministry of accompaniment and presence throughout the various phases of a human-caused disaster from impact to recovery. NRT members can be deployed at the invitation of the mid council to provide a ministry of presence, assessment of resilience/spiritual distress, facilitate sacramental and community partnership in response and recovery, advocate for spiritual caregivers and more. Support can be long term as anniversaries will often bring back strong emotions.
- Liturgical resources for worship and special services:** Worship resources are available on the PDA website. If needed, PDA can provide worship planning around significant disaster-related dates and events.
- Training:** PDA can lead workshops in Responding to Human-Caused Disaster as Faith Leaders, Pastoral and Spiritual Care, Resilience and Renewal for Responders, and Compassion Fatigue and Resilience. Online trainings, including active shooter training and security guidance for congregations from partner organizations are available at www.pda.org/PDAresources.
- Facilitate Clergy Retreats:** PDA can provide customized retreats sacramental and liturgical addressing the aftermath of violence for faith leaders that include liturgical weapons, bible studies, self-care, worship planning and more. PDA can also offer a clergy sabbatical for highly affected clergy to regain resilience in ministry.
- PDA grants** are available to mid-councils to assist faith communities responding to the aftermath of violence.
- Healing Camps:** a collaboration between PDA and Faithful Care, the first healing camp was offered in 1994 after the school shooting in Jonestown, Arkansas. Over the next five years, eight programs were offered for youth affected by gun violence, and eventually expanded to include those affected by other disasters and traumas.

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Gun Violence Prevention Congregational Toolkit

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Presbyterian Peace Fellowship

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Holy Discontent Booklet

HOLY DISCONTENT

Grassroots Advocacy and Organizing in the PC(USA)

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No Guns in God's House Information Brochure

NO GUNS in God's House

pcusa.org/peacemaking

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No Guns in God's House Information Sign

NO GUNS in God's House

pcusa.org/peacemaking

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10 Things You Can Do to End Gun Violence

10 THINGS YOU CAN DO TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE

- Contact your representatives in the U.S. Congress and state legislatures to urge them to support:
 - Universal background checks and waiting periods for gun purchases.
 - A ban on assault weapons, armor-plated handgun magazines, and semi-automatic assault rifles.
- Join or form a local chapter of the Alliance for the Gun-Free Future in your community to lobby for gun-free zones and get involved in public policy discussions.
- Contact your mayor and city council members and urge them to pass a ban on open carry to prevent gun violence.
- Hold up the gun-free zone sign at your place of work and school.
- Responsible gun purchases with NO BACKGROUND CHECKS.
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"They Shall Not Hurt or Destroy" Window Decal

THEY SHALL NOT HURT OR DESTROY

www.pcusa.org/peacemaking

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End Gun Violence Postcard

End Gun Violence

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TRIGGER: The Ripple Effect of Gun Violence

TRIGGER: THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF GUN VIOLENCE

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GUN VIOLENCE POLICIES, STUDIES AND RESOURCES

The PC(USA) and its predecessor bodies have addressed gun violence through the actions of many General Assemblies in the last fifty years. Beginning in the late 1960's, in response to the assassinations of public leaders, the General Assembly called for "...control [of] the sale and possession of firearms of all kinds." Similar resolutions were passed again in 1976, 1988, 1990, 1991, 1996 and 1998.

[Learn more...](#)

DO YOU NEED ARMED SECURITY?

Ask yourself a few questions before you consider armed security...

- What risk is your organization facing that justifies this level of security?
- Has faculty, staff or another representative of your organization received threats?
- Do you have a high-profile student?
- What other steps have you taken to prevent or reduce a violent incident from occurring at your facility?
- Do you have an unarmed security team already in place?
- Do you have a relationship with your local law enforcement agency?
- Does your state have a law prohibiting weapons, including concealed weapons, from being brought into schools?
- Be aware that security personnel who are to engage should be better trained and well paid. They also could pose higher risk (as they can use excessive force) or fail to prevent what they are hired to protect, etc

[Learn more...](#)

ARMED INTRUDER TRAINING

GuideOne Insurance is proud to announce its alliance with Strategos International, a Kansas City-based organization that will bring training and consulting to its customers in all niches – churches, schools, nonprofits, senior living communities and small businesses – to help them best prepare for and react in an armed intruder situation.

[Learn More...](#)



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