

ISSUE ONE-PAGER: GUN SAFETY

Quick Facts about Gun Violence in the U.S.

- 100 Americans are killed by a gun each day.
- The U.S. homicide rate is 25 times that of other high-income countries
- Black Americans are 10 times more likely than white Americans to be murdered with a gun.
- An American woman is fatally shot by her partner every 16 hours.
- Only 13 states have closed the loophole that allows abusive dating partners to possess guns.
- States with the highest gun-ownership rates have the highest suicide rates.
- The U.S. has more child gun deaths than any other high-income nation. Nearly 20 American children are shot in an average day.

The UCC on Gun Safety

- The UCC is a member of Faiths United to Prevent Gun Violence, a diverse, interfaith coalition called to confront our nation's gun violence epidemic and to support policies that reduce death and injury from gunfire.
- Faiths United believes: Every person who buys a gun should pass a criminal background check, high-capacity weapons and ammunition magazines should not be available to civilians, and gun trafficking should be made a federal crime.
- General Synod 20 (1995) "Violence in Our Society and World" calls on the UCC to "pursue legislation... that will help diminish the acceptance of violence in any form and restrict the availability of instruments of violence, and to advise our leaders and the leaders of the world that the violence must stop," and "Guns and Violence": calling us to advocate for legislation to strengthen licensing and registration of gun sales, strengthen regulations of gun dealers and ban semiautomatic assault weapons and high capacity ammunition clips.
- General Synod 31 (2017) "On Recognizing and Studying Gun Violence as a Public Health Emergency": Recognition of gun violence as a public health emergency deserving of federal funding for scientific research.

How We Have Taken Action:

Support Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2019
Ecumenical Letter to Support Background Checks

Questions for your candidates

- How will you address senseless gun violence in your community/ state/ our country?
- Do you support strengthening gun regulations? Specifically, regulations for gun dealers and background checks?
- Do you support a ban on semi-automatic assault weapons and high capacity ammunition clips?
- Will you support public health studies on gun violence in office? Including, the relationship between domestic violence and gun violence?

