

Anti-Gun-Violence Platform

Standing on the Side of Love - United Against Violence

Because:

*we believe in the inherent worth and dignity of each individual,
we recognize that we live in a culture of violence,
we choose to worship free from its influence, and
we stand on the side of love, united against violence,
we declare our church campus to be a gun-free zone.*

Furthermore, because we recognize that multiple factors contribute to violent behavior, we adopt the following platform to stimulate discussion and call members of our congregation to action.

1. We support the development, funding, and enforcement of legislation designated to create sensible gun regulations, including:
 - Universal background checks for the sale and distribution of all firearms.
 - Mandatory training for gun owners.
 - Promotion of smart guns, which lock out all users except for the legitimate owner.
 - Stricter child access prevention laws and enforcement.
2. We support the safe storage of guns, under lock and key.
3. We support legislation to improve access to mental health services, and encourage early identification, evaluation and treatment for others and ourselves when necessary.
4. We encourage research and education for all regarding violence and gun safety.
5. We advocate for victims of domestic violence and its prevention.
6. We encourage limiting the exposure of children to violence in the media, and encourage adults to consider the personal and societal effects.

Furthermore, to demonstrate commitment to our principles and purposes, we will place a message in front of our church stating:

Standing on the Side of Love – United Against Violence

and,

we will place a sign by our doorways indicating that our church property is a
gun-free zone.

Approved by a supermajority vote of the membership present and by proxy at the Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting November, 2014