



8300 Old Georgetown Rd,
Bethesda, MD 20814
301-652-2990

T-SHIRT MEMORIAL TO THE LOST

READ, LEARN, PRAY, and ACT

Why are these t-shirts on display?

They represent just a few of the people in the Greater Washington area who were shot to death in 2019 by guns. (This figure is homicides only – it excludes accidental shootings and gun suicides which would greatly increase the number.) **So far in 2020, the Washington, D.C. metro area has had 246 gun homicides.**

What is the point of the display?

Each shirt represents a victim: the name of a victim plus the age of each victim and the date of each victim's death. Each one is a human being, a child of God. Each one deserves to be remembered. Each passing deserves to be noted and mourned. Each t-shirt represents much more than the name. It represents a mother, a father, a child, an aunt, an uncle, a neighbor, a boyfriend, a girlfriend, a co-worker, etc.

In Christian scriptures a person asks the question "*Who is my neighbor, Lord?*" We believe our faith tells us the answer is "All of them." Please remember the victims of gun violence. All of them.

Bethesda United Methodist Church's gun violence prevention (GVP) ministry, together with other area faith groups, is displaying this t-shirt memorial of D.C.-area gun violence victims as a way to remind us that **seeking racial justice in our society includes lessening gun violence.**

- Black Americans are 10 times more likely than white Americans to die by gun homicide.
- Black children and teens are 14 times more likely than white children and teens of the same age to die by gun homicide. [Gun Violence in America report, May 2020, by Everytownresearch.org](#)



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What can we do to resist this injustice?

Learn about gun violence - *Beating Guns: Hope for People Who Are Weary of Violence*, by Shane Claiborne <https://www.beatingguns.com/>

Everytown for Gun Safety <https://everytownresearch.org/report/gun-violence-in-america/>

Learn more about *Heeding God's Call*: <https://www.heedinggodscall.org/>

Advocate for commonsense gun laws with *Moms Demand Action* <https://momsdemandaction.org/about/>

And listen to good music at the **Concert Across America to End Gun Violence**
Performers including Jackson Browne, Bonnie Raitt, John Fogerty, Melissa Etheridge, and Wynton Marsalis.

Concert will be live-streamed from [the Concert Across America Facebook page](#) on **October 7th from 7:30-9:00pm ET**. A free concert, it hopes to raise donated funds to groups fighting gun violence across the US.

***Join us Sunday evenings from 5-6pm for
an in-person***

Racial Justice Witness

***outdoors, along Old Georgetown Rd
(please wear a mask and maintain social distancing)***



[Heeding God's Call.org](https://www.heedinggodscall.org/) and the t-shirt memorial project to end gun violence