



Heeding God's Call

to End Gun Violence

Presbyterians to Consider Updating Stance
Calling For Gun Violence Prevention Activism

The biennial General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA), to be held June 20-27, 2020 in Baltimore, will take up an Overture proposed by its Synod of the Covenant (Ohio) to update landmark PCUSA policy 'Gun Violence, Gospel Values: Mobilizing in Response to God's Call (https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/acswp/pdf/gun-violence-policy.pdf).

GV2, as current PCUSA policy is called, was enacted by acclimation of the 2010 General Assembly and calls on the church and Presbyterians "at every level - from individual member to congregation, presbytery, synod and national church - to become informed and active in preventing gun violence..."

Heeding is proud both that its Executive Director, Bryan Miller, chaired the Task Force that wrote and promoted GV2 and that Heeding is cited in the policy document as a 'prime example' of a faith-based campaign to prevent gun violence.

GV2 will be ten years old at the time of the 2020 General Assembly, so the Overture proposed by the Synod of the Covenant (<https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/3000519>) is timely. It repeats the responsibilities of Presbyterians to gun violence prevention activism and calls for enactment of federal laws requiring universal background checks, extreme risk protection orders, a ban on the sale and ownership of assault weapons and limitations on the use of large capacity ammunition magazines.

Heeding supports enactment of the PCUSA Overture and calls on other faith traditions to take similar steps.

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Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence (Heeding) is a faith-based and grassroots organization devoted solely to saving lives from the uniquely American scourge of gun violence. *Heeding* is headquartered in Philadelphia, with volunteer chapters in the Mid-Atlantic. *Heeding's* activities include using faithful public pressure to persuade gun retailers to eschew sales to those who would resell guns on the street, public interfaith Murder Site Witnesses in effected neighborhoods, installations of Memorials to the Lost™, portable tee-shirt memorials honoring local victims of gun violence and more.

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