

Resolution Regarding Gun Violence Prevention

Whereas, gun violence surrounds us in this country such that we barely have time to begin to mourn one mass shooting before the next one happens; and

Whereas, laws have been passed in Georgia that have greatly expanded access to guns, often disregarding the circumstances or the capacity of the person to responsibly handle a weapon; and

Whereas, as people of faith, this continued gun violence, and the death, injury, and trauma that result from it, should be of particular concern to us; and

Whereas, as Christians, we believe that all people who suffer from violence, whether as victims, survivors, family members or communities, are deserving of being treated with dignity and in ways that recognize their sacred worth; and

Whereas, silence in the face of continuing gun violence at the very least violates God's commandment that we love our neighbor as ourselves; and

Whereas, the United Methodist Church calls on congregations to address gun violence through prayer, conversation, support for those affected by gun violence, practicing and teaching gun safety, and advocating for laws that prevent or reduce gun violence; and

Whereas, the Church Council of Glenn Memorial United Methodist Church passed a motion to work for gun safety and to lament with our neighbors who have experienced gun violence; and

Whereas, that motion contained a provision to submit a resolution to the North Georgia Annual Conference to call upon State and Federal officials to work to end gun violence.

Therefore, be it resolved that the North Georgia Annual Conference call upon the Governor and Lieutenant Governor of Georgia, and the State and Federal legislators representing the parts of Georgia included in the North Georgia Annual Conference to enact meaningful measures to reduce gun violence in Georgia.

Be it further resolved that, upon approval, this resolution be sent to the Governor and Lieutenant Governor of Georgia, and the State and Federal legislators representing the parts of Georgia included in the North Georgia Annual Conference.

Submitted by Cheryl Griffin, Lay, Glenn Memorial UMC Church Council Chair