

# **EAST DISTRICT E-ALERT FOR August 5, 2015**

## **Editorial Policy of the East District E-Alert:**

Because of the recent launch of a redesigned Eastern Pennsylvania Conference Website (<http://www.epaumc.org/>) which has a link, at the bottom of the Home Page, to a new East District website (<http://www.epaumc.org/districts/east/>), articles will appear for only one week, and, if pertinent, will be posted on the District web site. Previously published E-Alerts will be posted to the East District website.

The E-Alert is sent to Pastors and Church Offices on the East District and to lay people who have requested being added to the distribution list. Feel free to clip or copy any article for your church's bulletin or newsletter unless permission has specifically been granted to the East District for publication, in which case, request permission from the source. The District Office requests that pastors forward the E-Alert to church leaders and congregants who might find the E-Alert helpful and informative.

## **PRAYERS REQUESTS**

Bishop Peggy Johnson will be praying for the East District next week, August 9-15. Prayer concerns and joys can be shared with her at [pjohnson@epaumc.org](mailto:pjohnson@epaumc.org).

## **TWO "HEEDING GOD'S CALL" VIGIL AND A DEMONSTRATION AUGUST 5 & AUGUST 9**

The next vigil at **Mike & Kate's Sports Shoppe** (Oxford and Rockwell Aves., Philadelphia) is **today, Wednesday, August 5** from **4 pm-5 pm**.

Also, **Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence** is hosting a public demonstration of **OPPOSITION TO A NEW GUN STORE** at the former **Colisimo's** gun range at the corner of Spring Garden and North Percy Streets (between 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Streets), Philadelphia, on **Sunday, August 9** at **4 pm**. It was a happy day in late 2009 when it was learned that **Heeding God's Call** had embarrassed federal authorities into, finally, shuttering notorious **Colosimo's** Gun Center. That single gun shop, according to Philadelphia law enforcers, accounted for twenty percent of guns recovered from crime in the city. Praise God and thanks to all who joined with **Heeding** in those days, **Colisimo's** is no more. However, a new owner of a business called **The Gun Range** is seeking a zoning variance to open a new gun store at a site right around the corner from the old **Colisimo's** store. This is despite overwhelming community opposition, an earlier refusal by Philadelphia Licenses and Inspections, and the proximity of residences, senior housing, restaurants, a concert venue, and two faith communities. The **August 9<sup>th</sup> demonstration** takes place three days before the Zoning Board of Adjustment hearing, to let the new owner, the Zoning Board of Adjustment, and the community, know of the intense opposition to plans for a new gun store.

For more information, contact "**Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence**" at [infoheedinggodscall@gmail.com](mailto:infoheedinggodscall@gmail.com).

One more thought about violence: August 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> are Hiroshima Day and Nagasaki Day – the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the launching of nuclear violence by the U.S. against Japan. On those two days, over 200,000 people were killed. The heritage of radiation has affected the lives of survivors and their descendants to this day and the specter of nuclear warfare still hangs over the world today. Gun violence, though killing people fewer at a time, is likewise insidious over time in its impact of families and whole communities: a slow-rolling unnatural disaster. Consider participating in the opportunities presented by "**Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence**."

## **SOLID ROCK UMC HOSTING WORDSWORTH COMMUNITY EVENT**

"**Tiki Time For Yourself**," or "Taking Care of Yourself" is the subject of an event taking place this **Friday, August 7<sup>th</sup>** from **Noon to 3 pm** at **Solid Rock UMC** (199 E. Tabor Road, Philadelphia) for parents and other caretakers. Take time out of

**YOU** and participate in lively conversation. Participants must be 18 or older to attend this **FREE** event. Free Child Care available for RSVPs only. For more information, contact Sandy Williams at 267-294-1975 or Ben Hassell at 267-275-4059, or email [swilliams@wordsworth.org](mailto:swilliams@wordsworth.org).

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