



# Community Conversations

## Gun Violence and its Intersections

In one way or another all of us have had to face the harsh reality of gun violence in communities, or in our friends' communities and unfortunately an ever-increasing occurrence of gun violence where our most vulnerable go to learn and grow, our schools. Our own children are leading this conversation that has affected them so deeply and are teaching us to confront our own fears and demand change. In light of this, faith and community leaders have come together to sponsor and invite us to engage in community conversations around the issue of gun violence and how it intersections through a variety of ways in our lives. Consider joining us for the following conversations:

**Sunday, March 18 join us on the grounds of Kennett Friends as we set up The Memorial to the Lost to Gun Violence 1 - 3 pm** Come and join us to set up a t-shirt memorial with the names and dates of persons who have lost their lives due to gun violence in Chester County.

**Monday, March 26: Gun Safety/Gun Violence: An Officers Perspective with Chief Holdsworth 6:30 pm, Kennett Library.** This will be a sit-down interview conversation to ask about safety issues, and how important this issue is to officers on the ground.

**Thursday, April 5: Intersections: Systemic Racism, Gun Violence and Communities of Color Lincoln University 6:30 p.m. Grimm Hall Auditorium 1570 Baltimore Pike, LU 19352.** Join students and faculty as we discuss the issue from another vantage point. Is the conversation different? In communities like LA, Chicago and Camden where gun violence is a fact of life why hasn't there been a national outcry? Let's dare to have the conversation together.

**Wednesday, April 11: Changing the Story Around Violence, Kennett Friends Meeting, 7 pm with Sarah Kastriner and Jessie Cocks.** What is violence, and why do humans engage in these destructive practices? Join us to learn about the role of violence in our lives, explore strategies for nurturing your inner peace-maker, and sample some nonviolent conflict resolution skills that can help defuse or reduce the potential for violence in various situations.

**Thursday, April 18: Intersections: Domestic Abuse and Gun Violence 7 pm, St. Patrick's Catholic Church.** What is the intersection of domestic abuse and violence and guns? Statistics show that women in the U.S. are 16 times more likely to be shot and killed than are women in other developed nations. Join us.

**Sunday, April 22: Gun Violence Awareness Day, 1 - 4 pm, Kennett Friends Meeting.**

The whole community is invited to gather outside for a time of remembrance, music and prayer, and then move inside for a community forum with a diverse panel of speakers who will share their expertise and perspectives. Details soon.

These community conversations are sponsored by: Kennett Friends Meeting, Church of the Open Door Justice Seeking Team, MLK CommUnity Board and MLK Advocates, St. Patrick's Catholic Church, and Chester County Faith Community Health Ministry Network, in collaboration with Heeding God's Call Gun Violence Prevention ([www.heedingodscall.org](http://www.heedingodscall.org)).

**For more information contact: Rev. Lvdia Muñoz at 215-687-1368 or email at [office@umcod.org](mailto:office@umcod.org)**