



# Gun Violence Prevention

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## THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MISSOURI

### January Update

#### **Education**

The Gun Violence Prevention Mission Team is sponsoring another book study group beginning Monday, January 19. For four consecutive Mondays from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. our co-missioner for education Janet Hyde will be leading a discussion of her recently published book, *The Psychology of Gun Violence: How Smart Choices Can Save Lives*. This smart, insightful book is a great starting point for learning how we can end gun violence in America. The book is available at local book stores and online. There's no need to RSVP for the sessions, just use this link to access the Zoom call: <https://bit.ly/48jeDXB> We hope you can join us!

#### **Advocacy**

The 2026 Legislative Session of the Missouri General Assembly opens on Wednesday, January 7. As always, there have been multiple bills filed that would further weaken our gun safety laws and make it more difficult to prevent gun violence in our state. As in the past, we will look to the experts at Moms Demand Action to help us know when our voices are needed on specific legislation.

The best way to stay apprised of what is happening in Jefferson City on gun safety legislation and a variety of other progressive issues is to sign up for updates at [www.MOChristian.org](http://www.MOChristian.org). Missouri Christian has been championed by The Rev. Teresa Danieley, our Missioner for Public Advocacy. The website features blog posts on a number of political issues as well as information on how to be an effective advocate and communicator. There are also links to flyers you can use to spread the word about this website.

We are also looking forward to Tuesday, April 7 when Moms Demand Action will be holding their annual Advocacy Day, and as in the past we will be organizing a contingent of Episcopalians to witness at the capitol. Please mark your calendars and keep an eye out for further details in the next couple of months.

Finally, our mission webpage at [www.diocesemo.org](http://www.diocesemo.org) has been updated and now includes a full list of our parish representatives. If your church isn't on the list, and you feel strongly about our work to prevent gun violence and want to represent your parish, please email us at [gunsafety@diocesemo.org](mailto:gunsafety@diocesemo.org).