

APPENDIX B

Faith Based Books and Articles for Youth and Adults

1. **Standing Our Ground: The Triumph of Faith Over Gun Violence: A Mother's Story** by Lucia Kay McBath (Author), Rosemarie Robotham (Contributor) From the national spokesperson for Everytown for Gun Safety and leading gun violence prevention advocate comes the riveting memoir of a mother's loss and call to action, as well as a faith-based exploration of how the nation's gun laws put a deadly target on American lives.
2. **United Methodist Gun Violence Prevention Faith and Facts Card**
(<https://www.umcjustice.org/news-and-stories/gun-violence-prevention-faith-and-facts-card-411>)
3. **Sojourners article: The Unholy Trinity: God, Guns and Violence**
(<https://sojo.net/articles/unholy-trinity-god-guns-and-violence>)
4. **Peace in Our Cities: Rabbis Against Gun Violence** – by Menachem Creditor (Author, Creator), Jill Jacobs (Preface), Michael McBride (Introduction), & 16 more (2013) Written after the Sandyhook shootings.
5. **Not By Might** by Menachem Creditor et. Al. This is the second collection of writings by faith leaders on the topic of gun violence edited by Rabbi Menachem Creditor, the founder and chair of Rabbis Against Gun Violence after the shooting at the PULSE Nightclub. (2016)
6. **Reclaiming The Gospel of Peace: Challenging the Epidemic of Gun Violence** by Sharon Ely Pearson (Editor) 2015 Resources generated by a gathering of 300 Episcopalians Over 300 Episcopalians came together in April 2014 to renew their commitment to the Gospel call to make peace in a world of violence and help the Church address violence and reclaim the Gospel message of peace and non-violence for our society.
7. **#NeverAgain: A New Generation Draws the Line** by David Hogg and Lauren Hogg (2018) David Hogg and his sister, Lauren on went to school at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on February 14, 2017 like any normal Wednesday. The next day, with 17 classmates and faculty dead, they joined the leadership of a movement to save their own lives, and the lives of all other young people in America. This book is a manifesto for the movement begun that day, one that has already changed America--with voices of a new generation that are speaking truth to power, and are determined to succeed where their elders have failed.
8. **We Say #NeverAgain: Reporting by the Parkland Student Journalists** by Melissa Falkowski (Editor), Eric Garner (Editor) (2018) teen journalists at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School.

9. **Parkland Speaks: Survivors from Marjory Stoneman Douglas Share Their Stories Paperback** by Sarah Lerner (Editor) (2019)
10. **America and Its Guns: A Theological Expose** by James E. Atwood (Author), Walter Brueggemann (Foreword) (2012) A personal, yet deeply Biblically informed testimony about basic idolatry behind America's romance with guns. He closes with a wake-up call to the faith community, which he says is America's best hope to unmask the extremism of the Gun Empire.
11. **Looking for a Few Good Moms: How One Mother Rallied a Million Others Against the Gun Lobby Hardcover** – by Donna Dees-Thomases (Author), Alison Hendrie (Author), & 1 more (2004) About the origins of the Million Mom March and how one mom can make a difference.
12. **Grounded in Faith: Resources on Mental Health and Gun Violence**
<https://www.aapd.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/grounded-in-faith-resources.pdf>
prepared by the Interfaith Disability Advocacy Coalition (IDAC), a program of the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) 2013.
13. **The Gun Violence Archive (GVA)** - <http://www.gunviolencearchive.org/> - The mission of GVA is to document incidents of gun violence and gun crime nationally to provide independent, verified data to those who need to use it in their research, advocacy or writing. GVA is not, by design an advocacy group, but an online archive of gun violence incidents collected from over 2,500 media, law enforcement, government and commercial sources daily in an effort to provide near-real time data about the results of gun violence. GVA is an independent data collection and research group with no affiliation with any advocacy organization. Its mission is to provide online public access to accurate information about gun-related violence in the United States. It is hoped that this information will inform and assist those engaged in discussions and activities concerning gun violence, including analysis of proposed regulations or legislation relating to gun safety usage.
14. **Kids and Violence in Media: How do the images our children see on TV, in movies and video games affect them—and how can parents dial down the exposure?** by Sasha Emmons
<https://www.parenting.com/article/media-violence-children>
15. **Aikido, A Way to God: Christian Spirituality Through the Martial Arts** by Joe Wokoro (Author) Drawing upon his experience in aikido and in ministry, as well as training in theology, the author shows how selected principles parallel and are congruent with the Christian message. Each chapter ends with a prayerful reflection for practical application in Christian life.
16. **HEALING FROM VIOLENCE, NONVIOLENT CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION, DIVERSITY APPRECIATION AND PEACEMAKING STORIES, BOOKS AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH** an online bibliography published by the Minnesota Center Against Violence and Abuse: http://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/436844_e957a5163e8d4c318ed4e3de6653c959.pdf

17. **Reiki Healing Touch and the Way of Jesus** by Katherine and Bruce Epperly
https://www.amazon.com/Reiki-Healing-Touch-Way-Jesus/dp/1896836755/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1536853313&sr=8-1&keywords=reiki+healing+touch+and+the+way+of+jesus
18. **Aikido, A Way to God: Christian Spirituality Through the Martial Arts** by Joe Wokoro(2010) https://www.amazon.com/Aikido-Way-God-Christian-Spirituality-ebook/dp/B0047GN84S/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1536853478&sr=8-1&keywords=aikido+and+christian+spirituality
19. **Scripture Yoga: 21 Bible Lessons for Christian Yoga Classes**, by Susan Neal (2016)
https://www.amazon.com/Scripture-Yoga-Lessons-Christian-Classes/dp/0997763604/ref=sr_1_1_sspa?ie=UTF8&qid=1536853526&sr=8-1-spons&keywords=christian+yoga&psc=1
20. **Stretching Your Faith: Practicing Postures of Prayer to Create Peace, Balance and Freedom** by Michelle Thielen (2016) https://www.amazon.com/Stretching-Your-Faith-Practicing-Postures/dp/148357055X/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1536853526&sr=8-2&keywords=christian+yoga
21. **WHAT KIND OF GUN WOULD JESUS CARRY?** by Rev. N Graham Standish March 3, 2013, *Forum* Excerpt: Jesus tells us not to repay evil for evil, but to bless our enemies and turn the other cheek. At one point, as Jesus was being arrested, a disciple tried to protect him by cutting off a soldier's ear with his sword. Jesus healed the wounded soldier, then chided the disciple, saying that those who live by the sword will surely die by the sword. Does this mean that Jesus was against owning weapons? For those of us who seek certainty, he confounds us on this question. Near the end of his ministry, being one of his disciples had become a dangerous vocation. So he told them to carry a sword for self-protection while spreading the Gospel. If they didn't have a sword, they were to sell their cloak and buy one. One disciple responded in a very American way. If one sword is good, more is better. Excitedly he told Jesus, "Look, I have two!" Jesus replied, "That's enough. "So ... Jesus refused to carry weapons, allowed his disciples to do so for protection, but opposed stockpiling them. After Jesus' execution, Christian example shifted to living unarmed. We are told, both in Scripture and Christian tradition, that the apostles became more like Jesus in eschewing weapons. All of them were beaten, arrested, tortured and killed (except John), as they offered little or no resistance. Since then, Christians from the Franciscans to the Quakers to the Mennonites to Martin Luther King Jr. have provided a strong, non-violent, non-weapons-bearing Christian witness. Off course, there are those who appeal to the Old Testament, in which a number of biblical characters wielded weapons. For centuries nations have used these passages to justify wars, abusing the Bible in order to support their causes while ignoring the simple First Commandment: "Thou shalt not kill." The Bible is filled with imagery and instructions to put down arms and turn swords into plowshares. The Bible isn't against self-defense or national defense, but it clearly sees an obsession with weapons and self-defense as eventually leading to destruction. It also suggests that Christians who obsessively accumulate weapons probably

aren't placing Jesus' teachings at their core. Their love of guns seems to grow stronger than their love of God and of people. Actually, that statement may be inaccurate. It may be that their fear of assault from criminals and of the potential tyranny of governments is stronger than their faith or their inclination to imitate the model of Christ. But even when it comes to fighting tyranny, the biblical example of Christ, the apostles, the prophets and so many others is to stand against it with faith, not by stockpiling or brandishing weapons. This leads to a deeper issue for Christians who own guns. Which holds more sway over their lives, the Bible or the Second Amendment?

18. [How to Talk to Your Kids About the Violence in Charlottesville](http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-charlottesville-talking-to-kids-20170812-htmlstory.html) by Sonali Kohli
<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-charlottesville-talking-to-kids-20170812-htmlstory.html> (the wisdom from this article is applicable to other violent situations.) Excerpt samples:

1. Talk to your kids, but educate yourself first.

It's reasonable to want to protect children, to maintain their innocence for as long as possible. But that can do them a disservice in the long run, parents and mental health experts say. The children are going to get the news somewhere, and controlling their first exposure allows you to make sure they're getting accurate information in an age-appropriate way....

2. Treat children according to their age.

While young children will likely hear about what's happening, they may not be ready to process all the details. It's important to contextualize these events in the world that a child is living in. I liken it to being really mindful of not handing too heavy a suitcase to someone to carry," ...

How to talk to children of different ages:

Elementary school age

- Relate the issue to their world — make sure they know who they can go to if they ever feel unsafe.
- Tell them that if they see people being picked on at school, to always tell an adult, and to treat others with respect.
- Use age-appropriate language.

Teenagers

- Watch/read the news with them, then ask how they feel and what they think.
- Share your experiences.
- Help them discover what actions they can take to educate themselves and effect change.
- Remind them that you're there, even if they don't want to talk.

3. Turn the TV off

If children (and adults) see violent images repeatedly, they can experience secondary trauma, Sapp said. She was flipping through channels with her son Saturday morning when they saw the news of the violence beginning in Charlottesville. Sapp called her daughter into the room as well, and talked to them about what was happening. But after that conversation, she turned

the TV off and kept up with the news on her phone. When friends called to talk about it, she went to a different room and closed the door, she said. Too much exposure “takes away from their childhood,” Sapp said. She also suggests having the conversations about what’s happening away from the TV and violent images, and in an environment where the children are doing an activity they enjoy or are most comfortable. For example, “if we’re playing basketball or we’re watching ... their favorite cartoon or we’re sitting down eating dinner,” Sapp said, she might have these talks.

4. Ask them questions, and answer theirs as you are able.

For older children especially, it’s important for adults to let them take in the information and have a reaction, said Jonathan Vickburg, a therapist who counsels L.A. students through the Cedars-Sinai Psychological Trauma Center. “We want to allow them to have their own reactions. That’s the key,” Vickburg said. “Because we can then ask them what they think.”

Before sharing their own reactions, parents should ask kids what they think is happening, and how it makes them feel, he said. That way they can fill in any knowledge gaps and address the feelings their children are having, without undue influence. Show them they have agency in the world“

