

Covenant Presbyterian Church Faith Based Summit on Gun Violence

On Saturday, June 4, 2022, eight congregations representing Presbyterian, Baptist, African Methodist Episcopal Zion, and Catholic black, brown and white members, met on the lawn of Covenant Presbyterian Church to express their concern about gun violence in Durham.



This Invitational Faith-Based Summit was hosted by the THESES Project of Covenant as a listening session for Durham elected officials and agency leaders to hear how gun violence has affected the lives of church goers and how they are negatively impacted by it.



Several issues were raised to urge people to take action to vote out lawmakers who stand in the way of gun safety measures such as red flag laws, background checks, raising the gun ownership age to 21, and banning assault rifles. There was also urgent testimony given on how gun violence has affected the youth of Durham. It also relates to where and how people live, their education, their mental and physical health and their economic survivorship.





Elected officials representing Durham city and county governments were in attendance as well as the district attorney and other leaders who responded to some of the concerns. Responses will be recorded and plans to continue a movement that will include having faith-based groups to gather for active contacts with local leaders, contacting federal and state legislators and becoming more active in getting out the vote This is a start with plans to continue in the near future. Over 85 individuals attended at the Summit.