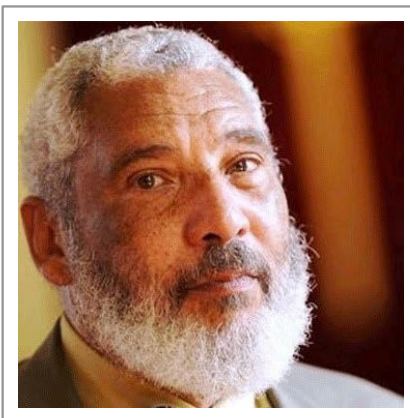




STOP in the Name of God

Multi-Generational Perspectives on Gun Violence

Pax Christi Metro DC-Baltimore (PCMDCB) invites you to join us in hearing from those closest to this rising tide – the most local and personal aspect of our nation's fatal addiction to violence. We will gather virtually in a plenary session to begin the day, choose from among two pairs of workshops, and then reconvene to sum up lessons learned and directions for the road ahead.



KEYNOTE: “Addressing a Culture of Violence”

Our keynote speaker, Rev. Graylan Scott Hagler, has long been a powerful advocate for all who seek justice and peace. He worked on Chicago’s West Side in the 1970s and in Boston’s Mission Hill and Roxbury neighborhoods in the 1980s. In 1993, he came to DC, where he helped transform Fort Totten from a neighborhood of corner liquor stores and open-air drug markets to an engaged and uplifting community. Retired from DC’s Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ since 2022, Rev. Hagler is now a senior advisor for the Fellowship of Reconciliation; director of community relations with CORE DC, which strengthens supportive housing for returning District residents; and founding director of Faith Strategies LLC, among other roles. “Silence is not an option when your eyes have seen and your heart is filled with memories of Jim Crow, apartheid, discrimination, and human beings’ inhumanity to other human beings,” he says.

Saturday, May 4
8:30 am to 1 pm
via Zoom

WORKSHOPS (Descriptions on reverse. The first two will be concurrent, as will the next two.)

1. Voices from the Front Lines: Youth Perspectives 1
2. Spiritual Perspectives: Swords into Plowshares
3. Voices from the Front Lines: Youth Perspectives 2
4. Legislative Advocacy: Developments at the Federal, State, and District Levels

Register online at <https://bit.ly/spring-assembly-2024> by May 1.

Registration is free. All are welcome!



WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

1. **Voices from the Front Lines: Youth Perspectives 1**

In urban areas with high rates of gun violence, young people bear the brunt of its impact. Students from local high schools and PCMDCB's 2018 Peacemaker of the Year (POY) awardee Bex Heimbrock will share their experiences, feelings, and thoughts about street shootings, mass shootings, suicides, and the toll it all takes on their communities. This panel, moderated by MJ Park, will explore causes and solutions, amplifying the urgent need for change.

2. **Spiritual Perspectives: Swords into Plowshares**

In Matthew 22:36-40, Jesus emphasizes love of God and love of neighbor as the foundation of his message. This workshop, presented by Bernadette Trowell and Rose Pope of MOTHERS ON THE MOVE SPIRITUALLY, INC. (M.O.M.S.), will address the tension between the Second Amendment and the second of the two Great Commandments. How can we beat swords – or guns – into plowshares?

3. **Voices from the Frontlines: Youth Perspectives 2**

More than five years after the historic March for Our Lives, our 2018 POY awardees continue to champion gun violence prevention. Current local students will join moderator Bob Cooke to introduce Matt Gannon, Laurelle Maubert, and Jaxon O'Mara (on video), then offer their own views about progress made, challenges faced, and the road ahead.

4. **Legislative Advocacy: Developments at the Federal, State, and District Levels**

Gun safety legislation can save lives. Advocates in DC, Maryland, and Virginia have been working hard to enact meaningful reforms. Where do their efforts stand? And what effect will recent and pending Supreme Court cases have on their work? Join moderator Bob More, Terri Robl from Moms Demand Action - Maryland, and a speaker from DC for important updates.

SCHEDULE

9:00 Plenary – welcome, opening prayer, keynote speaker

9:50 Break

10:05 Workshops (first two)

11:05 Break

11:20 Workshops (second two)

12:20 Break

12:30 Plenary – wrap-up

1:00 Adjourn