

## Wednesday Wanderings

(Email to all OSLC members following the mass shootings in Buffalo, NY, and Uvalde, TX in May, 2022)

Pastor Leta Behrens – June 1, 2022

Pentecost is coming... and it's already here! As people of faith, we mark the times of the year to help us remember and to recreate our own walk with God step by step. So we know the Holy Spirit is with us and we look to celebrate that rush of wind and flames of fire and touch of the divine upon our heads. So first, I say to you that Red is the color of the day on Sunday and you are invited to participate as you wish in the wearing of that color! Red will remind us that it is a celebration day and day of renewing our connection with Jesus as we journey throughout the summer.

We also this Sunday will have a letter to Senator Bennet encouraging him and other legislators to look seriously at what improvements need to be made in our laws regarding gun violence. A copy of the letter will be available for you to read and to sign if you choose. This is one action, a simple one, that our faith and justice team is taking to help us work together on creating a world where we can live as the kin-dom of God. It is prayer inspired and living in hope for what can be.

Included in this email, we also have a list of actions that you can consider and a prayer litany done by the Episcopal church that can be prayed as lament and open prayer. I encourage you to do this prayer on your own or with your beloved people.

Be well on this day and go with this blessing-

- Blessed are you who pray. Who lift your hearts, your passions, your sighs, your words for the Holy Spirit to carry forward and upward and inward.
- Blessed are you who are weary and cannot consciously pray, you who's sighs and words and passions and hearts are stumbling, for the Holy Spirit and your beloveds intercede.
- Blessed are you who long for more, long to be heard, long to understand, long for peace.
- May you know that the rush of wind can feel like a breeze and the flame of fire like a small tea light candle and that is enough and it is from God.

Peace. Love. Pray. Act,  
Pastor Leta

### LIST OF ACTIONS

1. ELCA Resource: A 60-Day Journey Toward Justice in a Culture of Gun Violence Created in 2019, this resource offers some tangible ways for communities of faith to engage in conversation and action toward the prevention of gun violence as people of God who strive for justice and peace in all the world. [Resources can be found here.](#)
2. Follow Moms Demand Action, Everytown, and/or Sandy Hook Promise for ways to be informed or involved. Text ACT to 644-33.
3. Go to Everytown.org to learn stats, advocacy and other information around violence prevention.
4. Write Senators and Congress Representatives
5. Donate Blood. Gunshot victims require 10x the amount of blood than other kinds of serious injuries. In Colorado a lot of our blood is sent to other states since we have a high number of donations.
6. Donate to World Central Kitchen who is feeding the Buffalo community as well as the Uvalde community.
7. Read Beating Guns: [Beating Guns: Hope for people who are weary of violence by Shane Claiborne](#)
8. Pray alone, with others, out loud, silently, shouting, crying, with joy in our God who loves all the people
9. Remember to take deep breaths and live in the hope of the promise of love and mercy

### PRAYER LITANY

[Litany in the Wake of a Mass Shooting](#) is on the website of Diana Butler Bass. Follow the link and scroll to read and pray.