

SWORDS TO PLOWSHARES EVENT JUNE 14, 2026
11am -1pm

TRINITY PARISH EPISCOPAL —300 MAIN STREET —
OLD WETHERSFIELD, CT

**SEE THE SWORDS TO PLOWSHARES MINISTRY
WEBSITE on ECCT:**

<https://www.episcopalct.org/swords-to-plowshares-ministry-network/>

AND SWORDS TO PLOWSHARES NORTHEAST:



<https://www.s2pnortheast.org/>

**TRANSFORMING GUNS INTO GARDEN TOOLS
AND JEWELRY**

*Retired Bishop Jim Curry co-founded Swords to Plowshares,
which works to transform Guns into Garden Tools & Jewelry*

Anyone who despairs about the incidents of gun violence in our country should take note there are groups transforming guns into garden tools. On Sunday, June 14, Bishop Jim Curry, retired bishop of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, will be bringing his portable forge to **Trinity Episcopal Parish at 300 Main Street, Old Wethersfield, Connecticut, to take place after coffee hour, 11am-1pm.**

As a founding member of Bishops United Against Gun Violence and co-founder of **Swords to Plowshares**, Bishop Curry will invite community members to take a few swings at dismantled gun parts that will be reformed into garden tools and other useful items.

In 2016, he said, we were introduced to a group, Raw Tools, which started this concept. It was developed by a Mennonite father and son. After Sandy Hook, they started inviting people to disarm their weapons, then make them into different gardening tools using blacksmithing techniques. We started talking with police departments around Connecticut. I learned as much as I could about blacksmithing, and began raising money to get the equipment and co-created Swords to Plowshares.

We work with police departments in Connecticut to get the guns. Under the oversight of a police department, we follow good dismantling procedures to make sure it can never be put together again. Once the material has been certified by the police, it is returned and used for all these projects. It's such a win-win. The gun buyback is an opportunity to turn in a gun and receive remuneration. Lots of people actually want to get rid of their guns.



Retired Episcopal Suffragan Bishop Jim Curry (right) gives a blacksmithing demonstration at Parish of the Epiphany church.

Photo (Melanie Stetson Freeman/staff) and caption from the Christian Science Monitor: Jan. 21, 2025: "A Retired Bishop Transforms Guns into Garden Tools to Help Youths Envision Peace"