

Where love is, what can be wanting? Where it is not, what can possibly be profitable. St. Augustine

lpf@ecunet.org ♦ www.LutheranPeace.org

There should be no one on earth in whom we are not prepared to see, in mystery, the presence of Christ.

Thomas Merton

lpf@ecunet.org ♦ www.LutheranPeace.org

I have called you and given you power to see that justice is done on earth. Isaiah 42:6.

lpf@ecunet.org ♦ www.LutheranPeace.org

Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced.

James Baldwin

lpf@ecunet.org ♦ www.LutheranPeace.org

I am in the world to change the world.

Murial Rukeyser.

lpf@ecunet.org ♦ www.LutheranPeace.org

You have heard that it was said, "love your neighbor and hate your enemy." But I tell you, "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." Matthew 5:43-48

lpf@ecunet.org ♦ www.LutheranPeace.org

No one can make you feel inferior without your consent.

Eleanor Roosevelt

lpf@ecunet.org ♦ www.LutheranPeace.org

Leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother and sister, and then come and offer your gift.

Matthew 5:24

lpf@ecunet.org ♦ www.LutheranPeace.org

Seek peace, *and pursue it!*

Psalm 34:14 and
1 Peter 3:11

lpf@ecunet.org ♦ www.LutheranPeace.org

I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to bear.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

lpf@ecunet.org ♦ www.LutheranPeace.org

If you ever think you're too small to be effective, you've never been in bed with a mosquito! Wendy Lesko

lpf@ecunet.org ♦ www.LutheranPeace.org

And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Micah 6:8

lpf@ecunet.org ♦ www.LutheranPeace.org

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God who reconciled us to himself and **has given us the ministry of reconciliation.** 2 Cor. 5:18-19

Christianity stands or falls with its revolutionary protest against violence, arbitrariness and pride of power and with its plea for the weak. Christians are doing too little to make these points clear.... Christendom adjusts itself far too easily to the worship of power. Christians should give more offense, shock the world far more, than they are doing now.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, pastor, youth worker, theologian, writer, anti-Nazi hero and martyr

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other, just as the Lord has forgiven you. Clothe yourselves with love. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

Colossians 3:12-15

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed.... Live in harmony with one another.... Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.... If your enemies are hungry, feed them. **Romans 12**

The followers of Christ have been called to peace. And they must not only *have* peace but also *make* it. To that end they renounce all violence. In the cause of Christ nothing is gained by such methods. His disciples keep the peace by choosing to endure suffering rather than inflict it on others, renounce hatred, maintain fellowship where others would break it off. In so doing they overcome evil with good and establish the peace of God in the midst of a world of war and hate. **Dietrich Bonhoeffer**

You have no excuse, whoever you are, when you judge others; for in passing judgement on another you condemn yourself.

Romans 2:1

Jesus said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them ... But not so with you. Rather, the greatest among you becomes like the youngest, the leader is one who serves." **Luke 22:24-27**

There is no greater illusion than fear, no greater wrong than preparing to defend yourself, no greater misfortune than having an enemy. Whoever can see through all fear will always be safe. In leading, don't try to force issues or defeat enemies. For every force there is a counterforce. Violence, even well-intentioned, always rebounds upon oneself.- **Lao Tsu** (46, 30)

You gain strength, courage, and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. Do the thing which you think you cannot do. **Eleanor Roosevelt**

There remains an experience of incomparable value... to see the great events of world history from below; from the perspective of the outcast, the suspects, the maltreated, the powerless, the oppressed, the reviled — in short, from the perspective of those who suffer... to look with new eyes on matters great and small. **Dietrich Bonhoeffer**, *Letters and Papers from Prison*

When we become serious about resisting violence and injustice, we find that change doesn't just happen by itself. It takes strategizing and planning and discipline. That's how change happens.

James Lawson, leader of Nashville student lunch counter sit-ins, 1960

A basic fact of nonviolence is that it does not seek to defeat or humiliate ones opponents, but to win their friendship and understanding. It avoids not only external physical violence, but also internal violence of spirit. Nonviolent resisters not only refuse to shoot their opponents, they also refuse to hate them.

Martin Luther King, Jr.



www.lutheranpeace.org

The ONE Campaign

With an additional 1% of the US budget we can:

- ◆ keep 10 million children from becoming AIDS orphans
- ◆ get 104 million children into grade school
- ◆ provide safe water to almost 900 million people
- ◆ save almost 6.5 million children under 5 who are dying from preventable diseases

Urge Congress and Pres. Obama today to add just 1% to the US budget to meet basic needs of the world's poorest!

To help: www.one.org bread.org elca.org/one lutheranpeace.org

The Circle of Social Change

- | | |
|---|--|
| Socially responsible living:
recycle, carpool, fair trade... | Legislative advocacy
lobbying, networking |
| Community building, arts,
cultural, and craft projects | Vigils, rallies, marches,
picketing, direct action |
| Research, writing, media
on issues and root causes | * Voter registration, work
on electoral campaigns |
| Publications, web, list serve,
forums, workshops, flyers, | Service projects like food
banks, lunches, shelters |
| Leadership development
Relationships, mutual support, spirituality | Community organizing |

Highlights of the Path of Hope

Peace & Justice movements and heroes

1350 B.C.E., **Hebrew midwives**. 600-520, **Jeremiah, Isaiah, Micah...** 1-60 CE, **Jesus, apostles, Paul**. 1200s, **St. Francis**. 1500s, **Martin Luther**. 1681, **Wm Penn**. 1840s, **Underground Railroad, Harriet Tubman**. 1919-47, **Gandhi**. 1920, **Women's suffrage** achieved. 1930s, **Dietrich Bonhoeffer; Dorothy Day, Catholic Worker**. 1940s, **White Rose; UN**. 1955, **Montgomery bus boycott, Rosa Parks**. 1960s, "sit ins." 1963, **March on DC, "I Have a Dream."** 1964- **Vietnam War protests**. 1965, **grape boycott, Cesar Chavez**. 1970s, **Liberation Theology**. (over)

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Principles of Nonviolence

- Non violence: 1. is not passive, it requires courage;
2. seeks reconciliation, not defeat of the adversary;
3. strives to eliminate evil, not destroy the evil-doer;
4. entails a willingness to accept suffering for the cause, if necessary, but never to inflict it;
5. rejects hatred, animosity or violence of the spirit, in addition to refusing to commit physical violence;
6. nurtures faith that justice will prevail.

(as outlined in King's book, *Stride Toward Freedom*)

Leadership is important, often essential, frequently rewarding. It can also be challenging in a culture with such distorted views on the subject as ours.

1. Leadership is only rarely getting others to follow *your* plans; it is helping the group come together and be **energized by its own vision and goals**.
2. Good leadership is rarely about wielding power; it is about **helping others** become more powerful. Thus it's often more useful to ask good **questions** or restate what others say than give 'my answers.'

To Be a Bridge in a World Full of Walls

- Pause:** Find your center in God's Grace. Pray to be open. (*Release any hurts and fears.*)
Listen first. (*Don't just assert your viewpoint.*)
Inquire, to discern the other person's feelings, needs, and humanity. (*Paraphrase to verify.*)
Speak: Share your feelings, needs, humanity.
Seek win-win. (*Make requests, not demands.*)
Nurture the relationship. (*Tone, body language of openness, non-judgment, respect, warmth.*)

Prayer can support our efforts to grow in Jesus' Way of *Shalom* in our daily life. Prayer can help us to try out new ways of living and to work through the places we're confused or stuck. Examples of prayers:

"Give me the eyes today to see You in each person I meet, to respond in new ways, to seek to grow in Your Way of *Shalom*."

"Help me to find new places today where I can practice the power of forgiveness."

Supporting one another

Lutheran Peace Fellowship is a growing network of of those who seek to be faithful to the Gospel call to work for peace and justice. Info on current priorities:

__ Advocacy Update, __ occasional LPF e-mails on __ advocacy, __ youth, __ leadership, __ peace ed.

Resources: __ conflict transformation, __ hunger & poverty, __ Iraq, __ leadership development, __ peace education

lpf@ecunet.org ◆ LPF, 1710 11th Ave., Seattle, WA 98122

Recommended reading:

Marc and Craig Kielburger, *Take Action!*

Julia Butterfly Hill, *One Makes the Difference*

Walter Wink, *The Powers That Be; Peace Is the Way, Engaging the Powers; Jesus and Nonviolence*

Richard Deats, *Martin Luther King, Jr.; Mahatma Gandhi*

Marshall Rosenberg; *Speak Peace in a World of Conflict; Nonviolent Communication; Life-Enriching Education*

Costs of Iraq War, March 2003 to July 2009...

US soldiers killed: 4320

US soldiers injured: est. 90,000

Iraqi civilians killed: est. 1,173,000

Financial cost: \$685 billion + indirect costs

Psychologically traumatized US and Iraqi soldiers and civilians, both adults and children: untold millions

sources: www.antiwar.com/casualties Johns Hopkins/Lancet nationalpriorities.org ◆ for more on costs and on efforts to end the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan see: www.lutheranpeace.org

What Brings Security?

A month after 9-11, Pres. Bush, in a major address at the U.S. Naval Academy, asserted that there were three pillars to strong U.S. security: defense, diplomacy, and development. We agree. Yet, here are the US budget numbers for 2008:

Defense	\$751 billion
Diplomacy	\$18 billion
Development	\$12 billion

Pres. Bush made a significant increase in development aid in his HIV/AIDS Initiative. But it's only a small step. (over)

Lutheran Peace Fellowship: peacemaking, conflict transformation, and advocacy resources and workshops
lpf@ecunet.org 206.720.0313 www.lutheranpeace.org

Peace activity in other faith traditions: www.forusa.org/rpf

Nonviolent communication: www.cnvc.org

Family, church resources: www.ipj-ppj.org

Parenting: www.handinhandparenting.org

The larger picture: www.forusa.org sojo.net fpif.org
bread.org commondreams.org truthout.org

"Today, help me love those with whom I struggle, to listen, see their viewpoint, understand their needs..."

"Center my efforts in Jesus' Way of *Shalom*."

"Make me an instrument of Your peace..." (*pause, repeat several times... ponder what comes up*).

Grow from praying with others, and In prayer and conversation, support one another's discipleship.

lpf@ecunet.org ♦ www.LutheranPeace.org

Staying connected, Supporting peace

___ \$35, regular member, ___ \$52, supporter (\$1/week for peace), ___ \$19, new contributor, ___ \$8, student, low income, ___ \$100, sustaining, ___ other: \$.....

name:

address:

..... zip.....

phone:

e-mail:

lpf@ecunet.org ♦ LPF, 1710 11th Ave., Seattle, WA 98122

Jim Wallis, *God's Politics; The Great Awakening Engage, From Violence to Wholeness, Peace Bene*
Peter Ackerman, Jack DuVall, *A Force More Powerful*
Pam McAllister, *This River of Courage; You Can't Kill the Spirit; Reweaving the Web of Life* anthology
John Howard Yoder, *The Politics of Jesus; Just War*
Joan Bondurant, *Conquest of Violence*

see also: www.LutheranPeace.org

There are many ways to be peacemakers: advocacy and service projects, organizing and research efforts. Each is valuable; combinations of methods can be especially effective. Each calls for strategizing, planning, and discipline. Questions to ask of any activity: Can it reach its goal? Is it empowering? Can it lead to fundamental change? Can we respect the opponent while we work for justice? Can we grow as disciples as we seek faithfully to walk in Jesus' Way of *Shalom*?

For more on current social change issues, resources, and efforts: lpf@ecunet.org ♦ www.LutheranPeace.org

....1970, **Kent State; Earth Day**. 1973, **Bread for the World**. 1977, **Nestle boycott**. 1979, **Gay Rights** march. 1980, **Oscar Romero** killed. 1982, **Sr. Helen Prejean**. 1986, **People Power** ousts Marcos. 1989, **Tiananmen Square**. 1989, freedom for **Hungary, Poland, East Germany**...; South Africa **divestment**. 1990-91, **Gulf War** protests. 1994, **Nelson Mandela** elected Pres. of S. Africa. 2001-10, UN "**Decade for Peace**." 2000s, **ONE**, Jubilee, MDG campaigns. 2002- **Iraq war** protest. 2006, **immigrant rights** protest. 2008, **nuclear** cuts gain support. 2009, **election** protest in Iran. *Full Path text, activities, leader tips, resources, etc.:* www.lutheranpeace.org lpf@ecunet.org

King's 6 Steps of Nonviolent Action: 1. Information gathering and research to get the facts straight; 2. Education of adversaries and the public; 3. Personal commitment to nonviolent attitudes and action; 4. Negotiation with the adversary in a spirit of goodwill to correct the injustice; 5. Nonviolent direct action – marches, boycotts, picketing, sit-ins, etc. – to help persuade or compel the adversary to work toward resolution; 6. Reconciliation of adversaries in a win-win outcome that fosters a sense of community.

For information, web sites, and workshops on nonviolence, see: www.LutheranPeace.org ♦ lpf@ecunet.org

3. A good leader helps build and sustain a positive spirit in a group, nurturing compassion and healing.
4. Overall, leadership is helping things go well for the group. Thus shared leadership makes sense; those not in front might restate a group member's useful insight, spot a question, or notice a key dynamic...
5. A good leader is encouraging, kind, observant, flexible, able to think widely, fair, patient, humble...

for leadership resources, workshops: www.LutheranPeace.org

The biblical word "Shalom" means more than just "peace." The word fully includes our concepts of justice, inclusive community, wholeness.

Imagine the difference if we that is what we meant when we say, 'peace'! LPF's Peace Deck of quotes, bible texts, action tips, and resources aims to help us act on this deeper vision of peacemaking... It can be useful for morning meditation, in the grocery line, on the bus, at bedtime – for growing in *Shalom*.

To suggest a quote or advocacy tip, email us at lpf@ecunet.org

The world's 191 countries unite to make poverty history

The Millennium Development Goals

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership for development

-- see websites (over) for current advocacy efforts --

"This madness must cease!...I speak as a child of God and brother to the suffering poor of Vietnam. I speak for those whose land is being laid waste, homes are being destroyed, culture is being subverted. I speak for the poor of America who are paying the double price of smashed hopes at home, and death and corruption in Vietnam. I speak as a citizen of the world, as it stands aghast at the path we have taken. The initiative in this war is ours; the initiative to stop it must be ours." **Martin Luther King, Jr.**, "Beyond Vietnam," 4-4-67

In the years since 2001, the Defense "pillar" received 35 times more **additional funding** than either of the other 2 pillars. State Department **diplomats** in DC and in all our embassies in the world **combined** is about the number of sailors serving on **one** U.S. aircraft carrier. As a proportion of per capita income, U.S. development aid is less than **any other** industrialized nation allocates. Yet, we spend \$2 billion each day on defense. It's time the U.S. puts more focus on prevention and diplomatic responses to conflict

For an engaging computer activity that explores these issues, check out "What Brings Security?" at www.lutheranpeace.org