

Action Steps and Resources for Making Peace

Peace & Justice Committee
Eastern District & Franconia Mennonite Conferences

◀ Pray for peace daily: for your own inner peace (disarming your heart) and for the world.

<http://www.cofchrist.org/prayerpeace/>

◀ Build peacemaking into your congregation's curriculum, for children, youth, *and* adults.

<http://www.teachpeace.com/speakersbureau.htm>

http://www.ppu.org.uk/learn/early/early_index.html

<http://anacleta.homestead.com/peace.html>



◀ Think and act globally *and* locally. Notice how attitudes, stories, purchases, and tax money (among others) portray and/or affect people of other races, cultures and countries. Learn to speak the truth in love when you hear untruths being proclaimed.

<http://urbanext.illinois.edu/conflict/pdfs/eyes.pdf>

◀ Develop an alternatives to the military handbook for youth, to help them discover employment & educational opportunities in your area.

http://www.wpmf.com/AlternativesToMilitaryList_july%202007.pdf

◀ Support conscientious objectors who are facing long legal battles and prison terms, or activists who speak out against violence, torture and the military.

<http://www.couragetoresist.org/x/>

<http://tortureontrial.org/>

◀ Get involved in established peace groups, and/or learn from their experiences and knowledge.

<http://www.swarthmore.edu/library/peace/peacewebsite/scpcWebsite/Documents/ResourcesPeaceOrgs.htm> [list]

◀ Dedicate a peace pole on your church's grounds; hold a monthly prayer vigil at the pole, inviting people from the church's neighborhood to join you.

http://www.worldpeace.org/activities_peacepoleproject.html

◀ Host a children's peace festival. Invite neighborhood children to participate.

<http://www.celebratingpeace.com/Childrens.htm>

◀ Educate the public about how war toys affect children's attitudes, and/or organize a war-toys turn-in.

<http://www.lionlamb.org/tradeins.html>

<http://www.codepink4peace.org/downloads/Wartoyflyer.pdf>

http://www.peacecoalition.org/facts/toys_are_for_fun.html

<http://members.shaw.ca/womeninblack/War%20is%20not%20a%20game.pdf>

<http://www.woodcraft.org.uk/resources/wartoy/wt-actn.htm>

◀ Support the Mennonite Peace & Justice Network (which has many helpful web pages for education and advocacy).

<http://peace.mennolink.org/about.html>

◀ **Hold a peace art contest for children and/or adults. Invite the public and the media to attend a showing of the art. Or, send peace art to a contest offered by an established organization.**

<http://www.whataboutpeace.org/>

◀ **Hand out peace literature, buttons and pencils with a peace logo, etc. at neighborhood fairs. Create a peace coloring book for children to give out, and/or have a kid's table where they can color pages while at the fair.**

<http://dannellycolt.com/catalog/core.shtml>

<http://www.celebratingpeace.com/coloring.htm>

http://peace.mennolink.org/clipart.html#coloring_pages

http://www.veggieplace.com/children/show.asp?id=b_sheep.swf

<http://www.peacekids.net/handouts/dinopals-cooldown.jpg>



◀ **Visit your local prison in order to befriend those whose lives have been deeply affected by violence.**

http://www.prisonpolicy.org/scans/mcc/prisons_guide.pdf

<http://www.easterndistrict.org/pjnews/pjn0905.pdf>

◀ **Learn/teach about conflict resolution.**

http://secure.mcc.org/mccstore/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=6_1_34&products_id=291; <http://stop-fighting.crinfo.org/>

<http://www.peacekids.net/handouts/angries-out.jpg>

◀ **Preach peace from the pulpit in your congregation whenever possible. Use Scriptures to show God's plan for peace (shalom) and to highlight Jesus, the Prince of Peace.**

<http://www.preachingpeace.org/>



FIGURE 8.2. The "Repentance Walk and Mail" against the war in Vietnam, Bethel College, fall 1966. Courtesy of The Mennonite.

◀ **Be courageous in speaking out for peace and justice. Leaflet military recruitment centers. If necessary, be the lone voice for peace in your congregation. Get arrested on behalf of those who have no voice. Get training in nonviolence.**

<http://www.forusa.org/programs/nvtraining/faq.html>

◀ **Contact local, state and national politicians to support legislation that promotes peace and justice (and/or violence prevention and reduction), or to protest against bad legislation.**

<http://mcc.org/us/washington/resources/guide/advocacyguide.pdf>

◀ **Help others make the connections between urban and rural violence, and the steps needed to lessen it. For instance, handgun violence does not just happen in**

big cities, but also in small towns and farming communities, and, asking states to enact handgun control laws does not impede game hunters from purchasing guns for that activity.

<http://www.heedinggodscall.org/gvp>

<http://www.ceasefirepa.org/node/13>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPuJcvT7PiY>

◀ **Play games that teach team-building and cooperation.**

http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=2448&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

<http://www.calpeacepower.org/0301/pdf/games.pdf>

<http://urbanext.illinois.edu/conflict/>

<http://www.planetpals.com/IKC/pdf/IKCpuzzle1.PDF>

By Anne M. Yoder, PJC Member

September 2009

To learn more about the Peace & Justice Committee, see <http://www.efpjc.ppj.org>