



Ecumenical Peace Institute

the Northern California Chapter of
Clergy & Laity Concerned

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December, 2019

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Dear Friends and Supporters:

We thank you for your support of Ecumenical Peace Institute (EPI) over the years. We continue to strive, in the great tradition of nonviolence, to end U.S. imperialism and to oppose militarism and attacks on civil liberties wherever they occur. We seek to make the connections between a range of justice issues and the foundational problems Dr. King spoke of: “racism, materialism and militarism.”

If you are new to EPI, possibly having come to our recent Autumn Gathering or the Good Friday Witness, we would like to welcome you to a community of nonviolent struggle for justice and peace.

Please consider making a tax deductible contribution to Ecumenical Peace Institute this holiday season and throughout the year so that our vital work can continue.

With your support, the Ecumenical Peace Institute:

• **Continues to organize against the development of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction.** EPI is a principal planner of the Good Friday Service of Worship and Witness at the Livermore Lab. This year we heard Rev. Will McGarvey speak on the theme of “Keeping Faith in the Face of Empire”. Benjamin Mertz sang “Love’s in Need of Love Today” and “Canticle of the Turning.” Benjamin’s son Isaiah read from Greta Thunberg’s challenge in defense of the planet. Benjamin joined with Carla De Sola and Kathleen Robbiano in liturgical dance with sung call and response. Links to video & pictures are posted on www.epicalc.org.

• **Held our Autumn Gathering.** This fall we heard from Alicia Jrapko and Paul Larudee on *American Exceptionalism — “the Doctrine of Humanitarian Intervention.”* They focused on what’s driving U.S. foreign policy in Latin America and the Middle East. The food, catered by East Bay Food Not Bombs was excellent. Visit EPI’s website to see or hear the recordings of the evening. (www.epicalc.org)

• **Has witnessed at the Oakland Federal Building, since 1998, for justice and peace,** calling first for an end to the Iraq sanctions and then to an end of the occupations of Iraq & Afghanistan. We now hold the Living Graveyard at noon on the 3rd Monday of almost every month. This is a “street theater” event at which we mourn the deaths from these wars as well as the death and massive destruction suffered in Palestine and the deaths of people of color at the hands of police in our own country. We provide information and aids for action on issues arising primarily in the Middle East — from Syria to Yemen, from Palestine to Afghanistan.

- **Works with Haiti Action Committee** for justice and democracy in Haiti. This spring we will sponsor with Haiti Action Committee a third benefit fund raiser for Haiti Emergency Relief Fund. We will enjoy two hours of great poetry featuring Devorah Major followed by open mic for poets in the community.
- **Works with Syria Solidarity Movement** to provide insight regarding the ongoing struggle in Syria.
- **Mails our newsletter, Planted by the Waters, to more than a thousand readers**, offering information and in depth analysis of current peace and justice issues.
- **Alerts our supporters to upcoming events and urgent issues requiring action.** Please write to us at epicalc@gmail.net if you wish to be added to this action list.

WE URGE YOU TO BE GENEROUS IN YOUR SUPPORT OF EPI
 AS WE SEEK TO CONTINUE IN THE PATH ILLUMINATED
 BY THE WORDS OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR:

"These are times for real choices and not for false ones. We are at the moment when our lives must be placed on the line if our nation is to survive its own folly. Everyone of humane convictions must decide on the protest that best suits his conviction, but we must all protest."

This is our challenge and our call.

On behalf of the entire EPI board, I wish you Peace and Joy this holiday season,



Janet Cordes Gibson, Ecumenical Peace Institute Board President

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Please return in the enclosed envelope the form below with your contribution.

I/We want to be part of the peace and justice work of Ecumenical Peace Institute by:

- ___ volunteering (mailings, vigils, publicity, calling)
- ___ connecting EPI with my peace & justice group
- ___ making a tax-deductible contribution:
 - ___ \$35 annual membership (\$10 low-income subscription) ___ \$10.00
 - ___ \$25.00 ___ \$35.00 ___ \$50.00 ___ \$100.00 ___ (other)

I will pledge \$ ___ monthly, \$ ___ quarterly

Name _____

Address _____ State ___ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please make checks payable to EPI.

To donate online click the Donate button on the left side of our webpage (www.epicalc.org) and enter an amount to donate to epicalc@gmail.com.

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Plan ahead for the 2020 Good Friday witness. Our speaker will be Ken Butigan, of *Pace e Bene*, who was one of the originators of this witness.