



Ecumenical Peace Institute

the Northern California Chapter of
Clergy & Laity Concerned

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December, 2020

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 peace and 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 virtual Autumn Gathering or the Good Friday Witness, which was also virtual, 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 Nuclear Weapons Lab. This year we heard Ken Butigan, who was one of the group of seminarians who organized the first Good Friday witness at the Livermore Lab in 1983. The theme of the witness and of Ken's sermon was "For the Healing of the Nations." This theme had been selected several months before we realized that we were in the midst of a pandemic. Links to video & pictures of the Good Friday witness are posted on www.epicalc.org.

- **Held our Autumn Gathering.** This fall we heard speakers from four countries at this online gathering, representing crises in regions often forgotten and/or left behind, while we are distracted by fires closer to home. Often thought of as *et cetera* countries which suffer from U.S.-driven crises, they are literally 20 or 30 down the triage list. Pierre Labossiere spoke about Haiti, Rev. Naim Ateek about Palestine, Gloria La Riva about Venezuela, and Lorenzo Cañizares about Cuba. Visit EPI's website to see or hear the recordings of the evening. (www.epicalc.org)

- **The Living Graveyard** has been discontinued for now. EPI remains concerned about sanctions around the world, recognizing them as economic warfare with deadly consequences.

- **Works with Haiti Action Committee for justice and democracy in Haiti.**

- Works with Syria Solidarity Movement to provide insight regarding the ongoing struggle in Syria.
- Sends our newsletter, *Planted by the Waters*, to more than a thousand readers, offering information and in depth analysis of current peace and justice issues. We have moved to an email based mailing. (See below.)* Please send us your email address, if we do not already have it, by writing to epicalc@gmail.net.
- 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 board of Ecumenical Peace Institute, I wish you Peace and Joy this holiday season, and for the coming year.



Janet Cordes Gibson, Ecumenical Peace Institute Board President

~Please return the form below with your contribution. 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.

~I/We want to ___ volunteer

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~**Please note:** We have discontinued sending our newsletter *Planted by the Waters* via US Postal Mail due to monetary and environmental costs. We will continue sending *Planted* via e-mail. Please e-mail us at epicalc@gmail.com and request to receive *Planted* via e-mail.

***Exceptions:** If you need to continue to be a paper-copy subscriber of *Planted* via US Mail, please e-mail us, or call us and leave your name and phone number so we can call you back for details. For paper-copy subscribers, we will be asking for \$35 or \$50 per year (minimum of \$10). Scholarships are available upon request.

~**Thank you for your understanding!**

Plan ahead for the 2021 Good Friday witness. Planning is underway.