



Legacy: Peace I Give Unto You

Presbyterian Peace Fellowship Case for Giving: Endowment 75 Campaign

In 1944, who would have thought that a scrappy bunch of Presbyterians who suspected that Jesus was serious about nonviolence would survive, much less thrive, 75 years later? Here we are! Celebrating 75 years, we ask you to invest in the future of peacemaking through the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship Endowment 75 Campaign. **Let us create a legacy together.**

The premise of the PPF Endowment Fund is that, as long as there is violence, God will call someone to oppose and transform it. Today, we are among the called! In the face of billions of dollars set aside for war, this is our practical defiance to violence: we provide our gifts and stewardship of this fund to encourage and strengthen peacemakers today and those who will come after us. We do this for our children, for our church, for our nation, for our world.

The world that PPF envisions is one where people are able to live in their home countries with enough food, water, income and freedom from oppression to live full and thriving lives; where children, youth and adults go to school or church or the corner store without worrying about being shot; a world where human resources and the lives of young men and women all over the world are deployed only for the care and nurture of life and creation itself.

The problems that the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship impacts are the most difficult tasks before humanity: preventing nuclear war, practicing climate justice as a peacemaking task, and the prevention of many kinds of violence in our world. The preparation for war receives massive investments of dollars, research, planning, courage and all kinds of expertise. The preparation for peace is funded very scantily by humanity. Our task is to put together all the dollars we can, the energy of Presbyterians, the coordination with others who recognize the momentous work of peace, and the grace of God to seek a future with less war and violence, until tears and crying are no more and the killing of one another has gone away.

Therefore, with hope for the future, we encourage your participation in this 75th Anniversary Endowment Campaign, as we grow the current Peace Fellowship endowment to \$1,000,000.

Our Mission & History

MISSION

Our call is to be activists and transformers within the Presbyterian Church (USA) and beyond, encouraging one another to take seriously God's call to participate in God's nonviolent work of love, peace, and justice in the world.

HISTORY

Founded in 1944 to support Presbyterian Conscientious Objectors to WWII, PPF has grown into a nation-wide community of Presbyterians engaged in education, advocacy and direct action to encourage alternatives to war, violence and the abuse of human rights. Initially, PPF was nurtured by the International Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR), based in Nyack, NY, where we had a tiny, volunteer-run office for many decades alongside other denominational fellowships. In the 2000s we became an independent 501(C)(3) non-profit organization and moved our headquarters to Stony Point, NY. Now we utilize new technologies for communication and a "virtual" office. PPF carefully employs funds to provide full and part-time staffing to coordinate a national community of committed activists, from older and middle aged Presbyterians to a burgeoning young adult membership and leadership. PPF is one of the largest and most active of all the denominational peace fellowships across the interfaith community.

From working for civil rights to opposing nuclear weapons and wars such as the Vietnam and Iraq wars, PPF has helped to shape the witness of our Presbyterian denomination on a full range of international and national issues. We have been evangelists for peace for tens of thousands of Presbyterians by our witness at each General Assembly, lifting up examples of timely peace activism through our Peace Breakfast and Peacemaker Award, and advocating for the application of the nonviolence of Jesus to issues before the Assembly. Over the decades, PPF members have participated as leaders in their local church and presbytery peacemaking efforts, as well as serving to support and complement the PC(USA) Peacemaking Program.

PPF has also worked to change policies that result in violence, such as what has been described as "the war against the poor" in Latin and Central America, the Occupation of Palestine and the implications for massive future violence that we see in climate change and the use of fossil fuels. Sometimes, before realizing any significant results, we work for many years on an issue such as anti-racism work or gun violence prevention to build awareness of the need for change.

The advantages of a thrifty, volunteer-driven and coordinated community have shown themselves again and again: we value our ability to move quickly on issues, such as immigration and Accompaniment, as well as to sustain work on issues that require many seeds and long cultivation such as moving the PC(USA) away from a justifiable war theory toward representing Jesus Christ as a "Peace Church" of active nonviolence.



Current Programs

GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION

With 40,000 deaths from gun violence in 2018, gun violence affects us all. Therefore, PPF creates and promotes resources to help congregations understand and take action on gun violence in their communities. We also work across the PC(USA) to create, sustain and coordinate a network of Presbyterians working to change American culture and policies to prevent gun violence.

ACCOMPANIMENT IN COLOMBIA

2019 marks 15 years since the Presbyterian Church of Colombia asked the PC(USA) to accompany them as they work for peace and human rights in their country at great risk to themselves. We continue this work of training and sending pairs of people for a month at a time. Through the Accompaniment Program, PPF has sent over 100 accompaniers and trained over 150!

CREATION JUSTICE

World violence will only increase as climate change continues and people have to move from uninhabitable homelands. Therefore, PPF is working to shape PC(USA) policy that responds in concrete and meaningful ways to curb climate change, including divestment and other tactics. We do this work in close partnership with Fossil Free PC(USA).

JUSTICE IN PALESTINE

PPF has been an early voice for peace, justice, and genuine security in Israel and Palestine. Although the situation for Palestinians living under Occupation has gotten even more dire, we have also seen shifts in unquestioned support of Israel from the US public. Therefore, PPF works with Presbyterian, ecumenical, and interfaith partners to advocate for an end to US support of the Israeli Occupation of Palestine and for a just and peaceful future in the land that three faiths call holy.

NEW ENDEAVORS

PPF is still growing! Some new areas of work include:

- Creating a network of Peace Churches and helping Presbyterian congregations go through a discernment process to become a Peace Church
- PPF's Activist Council has authorized a trial Accompaniment project in response to an urgent request for Accompaniment along the Mexico/US border.



History of the PPF Endowment

In the words of past PPF Moderator, the late Dr. Clinton Marsh, the task of activists is to “keep on keepin’ on.” In 2006, PPF launched its Endowment Fund to do exactly that: to bring together substantial financial resources of Presbyterians today for the use of the peacemakers of the future. At the time, it was an act of faith as we were not exactly sure who the peacemakers of the future would be. Since then, they have begun to arrive!

Through generous direct gifts, estate gifts and other planned giving, the PPF Endowment Fund stands at \$686,038 as of April 25, 2019. Many of these gifts have been sacrificial, coming in at all financial levels. The Fund is overseen by a PPF Endowment Fund Committee, elected annually by PPF’s Activist Council, under policies created in 2006. These policies provide that the fund is never loaned or used as collateral and that a maximum and prudent amount of 5% of the fund may be allocated each year toward the operating budget of PPF. The fund is currently invested in the New Covenant Funds with the Presbyterian Foundation, where we have been a model and witness for Occupation-Free and Fossil-Free investing. We also benefit from the expertise of the Presbyterian Foundation and from their enforcement of denominational non-investment in weapons, alcohol, tobacco, gambling and corporations engaged in human rights abuse. When the Fund reaches \$1 million, we will receive a significant reduction in investment fees.

The Endowment Fund has already made a lasting impact on the work and growth of PPF, contributing \$153,896 to our programming and action budget over the last five years.

Each dollar we can employ from the endowment earnings is a dollar that PPF does not have to raise that year, freeing staff and leaders to invest more time in action. So the endowment not only funds activism, but it allows the organization to put more energy toward activism and somewhat less toward fundraising every year – year after year.

Organizational Structure of the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship

ACTIVIST COUNCIL

Setting Direction and Implementing Action

All of our work is done by our members, led by our Activist Council, a key group of PPF activists who have committed to what we call the “ABC’s”:

- A – Affirm the nonviolence of Jesus Christ and your intent to follow that way
- B – Being active in the life and work of PPF
- C – Contribute financially in an amount that is generous for you

As the hands and feet of PPF, the Activist Council is open to anyone who affirms these “ABC’s.” If you are not a member, please know we would love to welcome you into this engaged, supportive, and active group.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Coordinates Programs, Staffing and Finance

Co-Moderators: Aric Clark, OR

Shannan Vance-Ocampo, NY

Secretary: Rick Ufford-Chase, NY

Treasurer: Art Hunt, CT

Assistant Treasurer: Whitney Palmer, MD

Executive Committee At-Large:

Christine Caton, CT

Bill Galvin, MD

Jessie Light-Wells, TX

abby mohaupt, CA

Elisabeth Simpson, PA

FULL & PART-TIME STAFF

Executive Director: Emily Brewer, NY

Deputy Director: Art Hunt, CT

Administration: Christa Galvin, NJ

Communications: Katie Blanchard, MN

Accompaniment: Alison Wood, AZ

Gun Violence Prevention: Deanna Hollas, TX

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

	2016	2017	2018
General Budget Income	\$168,122	\$183,409	\$174,222
General Budget Expenses	\$184,759	\$159,736	\$171,831
Endowment Contribution	\$29,300	\$29,873	\$32,615

NOTES

- Currently, the PPF Endowment Policy calls for up to 5% disbursement to the annual budget. This close-to-\$30,000 annual investment, represents a significant impact on the peacemaking efforts of PPF
- While several donations are received in the range of \$5,000-\$30,000 each year, most gifts to the annual budget are received from grassroots donors who give in the \$25-\$500 range. This is a strength of PPF. In 2018, our operating budget received gifts of all amounts from over 900 households and organizations.
- PPF carries a reserve fund for any year where income does not quite meet expenses. Then in years of plenty, the reserve is built back up for future needs.

THE NEED TO ACT NOW

At this pivotal moment, we bring together an inter-generational activist community: those who participated in PPF's history alongside those who are the peacemakers of the future... those who are already carrying the witness of peacemaking forward. Growing our current endowment from \$686,038 to \$1,000,000 in this 75th year will connect the resources and hard work of Presbyterians in the past and present with those who are carrying the work and witness forward in the long-term task of nonviolence. We are in this together.

...an investment in the current and next generations of Peace Leaders.

The current and growing PPF programs highlighted above are important – and so are those who are willing to invest their time and energy in accomplishing our goals. However, our dedicated emerging leaders do not all have the financial where-with-all to ensure that PPF finances match the vital work being done. Therefore, those of us who are able have the responsibility and joy to give as much as we can to the future of PPF. Our giving will ground the future of Presbyterian work for peace in the strong foundation of present and past actions over the last 75 years.

...an investment in the Prophetic Presbyterian Voice.

Our world desperately needs strong voices for the active nonviolence of Jesus Christ, to which the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship remains committed. Giving to the PPF Endowment Fund helps guarantee that strong voice within the Presbyterian Church (USA) for a long time to come, supporting and accompanying each generation of peacemakers as younger individuals carry on with new energy to address the emerging challenges that new times bring.

...an investment in hope for the future.

In a time when climate disaster looms, when rising fear and hatred are leading nations to close borders, to threaten violence, to withdraw from treaties, and to flirt with fascism, we need to commit everything we have to creating a chance for a peaceful future. By building up an endowment for peace action, we declare our hope for the future of humanity and of creation itself.

We invite you to support a legacy of peace.

We live in the most affluent era in history. What we do with the assets entrusted to us now can impact the future of the world. **Our Hope is that you will make a multi-year pledge or one-time donation to endow the current and future activism of the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship.**

- Three Year Pledges are encouraged. Gifts can be spread over 2019, 2020, 2021 or 2022.
- Gifts to PPF of money, stock, real estate, or other assets are tax-deductible.
- Gifts can be made in honor or memory of an individual or church.
- Churches can make grants from special funds or include PPF annually in their peacemaking or ministry budgets.
- For those age 70.5 and beyond with an IRA, donations directly from the IRA may provide tax benefits to the donor.

Please also consider making a legacy gift, such as including PPF Endowment Fund in your will and estate planning or making PPF one of the beneficiaries of your IRA. Let us know if you have questions about these or other planned giving options through the Presbyterian Foundation.

WE PLEDGE TO YOU:

- To stand by our purpose to advance peacemaking as set forth in this Case for Support
- To be faithful stewards of your donation, as well as your generosity and influence
- To celebrate your generosity, within limits of your request, to encourage others in giving
- To follow the best policies and practices of premier non-profit charitable organizations
- To multiply the value of your donation by our own giving
- To report the progress, expenses, success and results of this funding campaign

LEGACY: Peace I Give Unto You

We are already leaving a legacy of unprecedented weapons and violence. As disciples of the Prince of Peace, this cannot be our only legacy. **Let us join our resources together to support the hard work of making peace, now and beyond our lifetimes. *This is a legacy worth leaving.***