

Faith Presbyterian Church is a peace church.

We follow Jesus of Nazareth, the Prince of Peace.

We are committed to moving our country and the world beyond war through nonviolent alternatives to conflict.

We strive to embody the command to love God and neighbor by following the path of nonviolence, for violence in all of its forms, including war and militarism, has no power to save us.

We recommit ourselves to the continuing work of peacemaking:

Commitment to Peacemaking

Responding to God's Covenant, Faith Presbyterian Church now commits itself to peacemaking. In fulfilling this commitment, we will do peacemaking through:

WORSHIP: provide worship that expresses the reality of God's peace giving;

PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY: encourage prayer, Bible study, and spiritual disciplines that nurture and deepen the spiritual life of the community and equip people to share the gospel message of peace to the world;

PEACEMAKING IN FAMILIES AND IN COMMUNITY LIVING: create opportunities for people of all ages to develop peacemaking skills such as conflict resolution, mediation, or nonviolence training that will help them grow as peacemakers in their families, in the congregation, and in the community;

COMMUNITY MINISTRIES: work with and support ecumenical and interfaith partners and other bodies in their pursuit of social, racial, and economic justice, to confront racism and all other forms of prejudice, and to respond to people in communities, local, national, and worldwide, who are caught in poverty, hurt by unemployment, or burdened by other problems;

STUDY AND RESPONSE TO GLOBAL ISSUES: support human rights and economic justice efforts in at least one area of the world—through presbytery partnerships and sister countries;

GLOBAL SECURITY: study global security concerns, work for worldwide arms control, and support alternatives to military solutions to international and civil conflicts;

MAKING PEACE WITH THE EARTH: protect and restore the environment through study, advocacy, and individual and corporate lifestyle commitments;

RECEIVING THE PEACEMAKING OFFERING: support financially the churchwide peacemaking effort by receiving the Peacemaking Offering and through other means.

We are guided by the following affirmations:

Five Affirmations to Guide the Peacemaking Witness of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Approved by the 222nd General Assembly (2016, Portland, Oregon)

1. We affirm that **peacemaking is essential to our faith** in God's reconciling work in Jesus Christ, whose love and justice challenge evil and hatred, and whose call gives our church a mission to present alternatives to violence.
2. We confess that **we have sinned by participating in acts of violence**, both structural and physical, or by our failure to respond to acts and threats of violence with ministries of justice, healing, and reconciliation.
3. **We follow Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace and Reconciler, and reclaim the power of nonviolent love** evident in his life and teaching, his healings and reversals of evil, his cross and resurrection.
4. Learning from nonviolent struggles and counting the costs of war, we draw upon the traditions of Just War, Christian pacifism, and Just Peacemaking to cultivate moral imagination and discern God's redemptive work in history. **We commit ourselves to studying and practicing nonviolent means of conflict resolution, nonviolent methods for social change, and nonviolent opposition to war.** Even as we actively engage in a peace discernment process, we commit ourselves to continuing the long tradition of support by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) for our sisters and brothers who serve in the United States military, veterans, and their families. We promise to support materially and socially veterans of war who suffer injury in body, mind, or spirit, even as we work toward the day when they will need to fight no more.
5. We place our faith, hope, and trust in God alone. We renounce violence as a means to further selfish national interests, to procure wealth, or to dominate others. **We will practice boldly the things that make for peace** and look for the day when 'they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.'