

What is our role as people of faith?

Many Americans feel a sense of hope these days. Yet all too many of us are in a passive mode, waiting to see where our new elected officials lead us. The special interests that benefit from current arrangements will be lobbying for their agendas. We cannot afford to be silent.

Time and again, history shows that social problems get solved partly by electing effective leaders... and mostly after elections, as citizens roll up their sleeves to advocate for their deepest concerns. We invite you to:

- * **Read and share information and insights you find helpful.**
This flyer highlights a few issues and some groups that can help.
- * **Communicate with your elected officials.** 3 to 5 sentences is fine:
State what you want. Add a reason or statistic. Ask for a response.
- * **Join the peace and justice fellowship in your faith tradition.**
Encourage and be encouraged by others working for justice & peace.
- * **Talk with friends, neighbors, co-workers, relatives...** Support their becoming active; share info on a group in their faith tradition.

Groups committed to helping build a just, caring, peaceful world.

American Friends Service Committee
(Quakers): 215/241-7172 www.afsc.org

Baptist Peace Fellowship
704/521-6051, www.bpfna.org

Buddhist Peace Fellowship
510/655-6169 ext. 311, www.bpf.org

Catholic Peace Fellowship: 574/232-2811
staff@catholicpeacefellowship.org

Pax Christi USA (Catholic)
814/453-4955, www.paxchristiusa.org

Church of God Peace Fellowship
765/643-0049, www.peacecog.com

Disciples Peace Fellowship
888/346-2631, www.dpfweb.org

Episcopal Peace Fellowship
312-922-8628, www.epfnational.org

Jewish Peace Fellowship: 845/358-4601
ext. 25, www.jewishpeacefellowship.org

Lutheran Peace Fellowship
206/720-0313, www.lutheranpeace.org

ELCA Equipping for Peacemaking Network
605/347-9011, www.elca.org/nonviolence

Mennonite Church USA: 330/683-
6844, www.mennoniteusa.org/peace

Methodist Federation for Social Action
202/546-8806, www.mfsaweb.org

Muslim Peace Fellowship
845/358-4601, www.mpfweb.org

Orthodox Peace Fellowship
www.incommunion.org

Presbyterian Peace Fellowship 845/358-
4601, www.presbypeacefellowship.org

Unitarian Universalist Peace Fellowship
719/480-4206, uupeace@uua.org

United Church of Christ FOR
845/454-4604, jsteitz@ptd.net

Also: www.christianpeacewitness.org forusa.org sojo.net unitedforpeace.org

Some Key Issues In Need of Our Advocacy Support

A. Withdraw U.S. troops and bases from Iraq. Close Guantanamo. End policies that allow torture, mistreatment, and extraordinary rendition of prisoners.

B. Increase U.S. poverty-related development assistance to 1% of the federal budget. This would do more for U.S. and global security than most of what our military budget supports.

C. Move immediately to stimulate the economy. Ensure that relief plans reach ordinary people especially those at risk with their mortgages, health care, employment, retirement and college savings...



Affluent Americans will eventually have to face themselves with the question...How responsible am I for the well-being of my fellows? To ignore evil is to become an accomplice to it.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

D. Address the conflict in Gaza with a commitment to support genuine security and justice for both Israelis and Palestinians. Use nonviolent means to confront conflict elsewhere in the world.

E. Encourage emerging powers to renounce nuclear weapons and to join nonproliferation efforts. Lead the way with significant reductions in the U.S. nuclear arsenal, deployment, and budget.

F. Place active nonviolence at the center of our public policies. Not the empty stereotype of passivity or weakness, but the creativity and power of the movements that took Nelson Mandela of South Africa from prison to President in a half dozen years... pulled down the Berlin Wall and 12 Eastern European governments... sent the Philippines' ruthless dictator into exile... and are central to efforts in the U.S. for civil rights, peace, gender justice, the environment, etc.

For further information, see organization list.