

FRIENDS IN SAN ANTONIO

7052 North Vandiver at Eisenhower

December 2017

Global Race

There is a race problem in America -- black and white. The whites are Europeans. But in Europe the blond northern Scandinavians are notably different from the southern dark-haired Italians. We think they are both white. And if we cross the Mediterranean to Africa -- they're black, right? But Khoisan-speaking San people of South Africa are distinctly different from the Bantu further north and they are different from the Cushitic people of Ethiopia further north still. I (Ken) was in a fastfood store once. The servers behind the counter were all young black guys. The one who served me had a foreign accent. I looked at him and asked "Are you from Ethiopia?" He was so pleased to be recognized. He was Ethiopian, not black American, but a sad contrast.

Further north in Africa, of course are a variety of people known as Arabs. I knew a Lebanese grad student once who said she spoke Arabic but she was Phoenician. How many similar Arabic-speakers identifying differently are there?

Farther east we come to India, where the northern people are distinctly light-skinned and the southern Dravidians distinctly black, with much confusion in racial identification. More easterly, in Malaysia, the Philippines, and Indonesia the physical types are Malay. But in the forests of the Malay Peninsula there are three types of aborigines, proto-Malay, Negrito, and Australoid. In China, northerners differ slightly from southerners.

Passing down through Indonesia we come to New Guinea, where the hill dwellers are so wonderfully different from the Malay types in the ports. Further south, in Australia are the Australian aborigines, different from all.

North of New Guinea we come to the Solomon Islands, where people resemble Bantu Africans but are genetically unrelated. And across the Pacific are Amerindians in South America, related to the people north of China, but become different.

Four centuries ago, Margaret Fox rebuked Friends for thinking that "they must be all in one dress and one colour. "This is a silly poor gospel. It is more fit for us to be clothed with His eternal light." We should feel the

Calendar

- 3. Sunday**
10.0 Meeting for Worship
11.30 Potluck lunch at ..
Book & DVD exchange.
Weekend Retreat, Lebh
Shomea

- 10. Sunday**
10.0 Meeting for Worship.
Forum -- announced later.

- 14. Thursday.**
6 p.m Soup & Salad.
7pm Midweek meeting.

- 17. Sunday.....**
10.0 Meeting for Worship
11.30 Meeting for Business,

- 24, Sunday**
10.0 Meeting for worship.
6:30 Meeting for Worship
7:30 Tamales for Christmas Eve

- 27. Wednesday**
7.0 pm Midweek Meeting,
Gary's home.

- 31- Sunday**
10.0 Meeting for Worship
11.00 New Year's Eve Fellowship. No forum

same, that it is a silly poor gospel that all humans should look alike. The world is full of human variety and we should delight in it.



Personal News

Friends celebrated Ruth's 101st birthday with a scrumptious chocolate cake and cards. Suggested by Joni and organized by David N, the day included expressions of gratitude on November 26.

James G celebrated his birthday with 50 wellwishers on Facebook including one from the day when he acted Thomas-a-Becket in T. S. Eliot's *Murder in the Cathedral*, who said he should be on the short list for cloning.

Marian was bringing Janet and Ken to Meeting but had a flat, so she got a taxi. The driver was from Eritrea and the three chatted with him. During meeting she had a phone call from Virginia state. The driver's friend, who, he explained, spoke English better. The driver had called him to ask him to say that he had found a bag of oranges on the back seat. So, of course, Marian told hm that his driver friend should keep it. It was a friendly gift for a friendly action by the driver.

Bill W runs an organization which provides care services for homeless kids who have aged out of the fostercare system, a great many of them LGBTQ. They run the risk of being detained by law enforcement officers. But funds are short, making the work difficult..

Tragedy

While we were chatting and eating our potluck lunch on that November 5, a man from New Braunfels was massacring people in a Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs. Coincidentally, Ken quoted, after that meeting, calls of a British festival, "Remember, remember, the Fifth of November." We shall remember it.

It is perhaps impossible for us to imagine the depth of the killer's rage. It must have extended from perhaps one or two there to the rest of the congregation, "all equally guilty," for supporting the prime members. Even if they knew nothing of the problem and even if they were children.

We must hold in the light all those involved, the victims, adults and children dead and injured, their surviving friends and families, the man who shot the assailant, everyone in the town, and even the assailant himself, who finally killed himself. All have God within them, though sometimes hard to find..

Business Meeting

Meeting for Business commenced with an advice of Ron Mock, FRIENDS PEACE WITNESS in a TIME OF CRISIS, 2005:

"We cannot coerce our way to the Peaceable Kingdom. We can only convince our way there. People will come freely, or they won't come at all. Or worst, if we try to force-march them there, we will only be setting up a new evil empire to replace the old ones."

The Treasurer reported that the balance had improved significantly due to improvements in investments and that income was tracking expenditure, though he hopes for the normal

increase at the end of the year.. Etter Tree Care services had cost \$1,400 and electricity costs had been high.

Ministry and Oversight regretted Doug's resignation for health reasons and hold him in the Light. The Monthly query will now be read twice a month. A forum on the topic "Working with Queries" will be held. It will hold a once-a-month (third Sunday) "Quaker Questions" discussion at 9 am before Meeting for Worship. This would be a time for people to ask questions, share insights, etc. – a non-didactic orientation. The committee feels that it is time for the Long-Term Planning Committee to become active and proposed a minute appointing an ad hoc Design Committee to design signs at the various points of access to the property. Meeting approved the minute. Discussion is beginning on changing our website host to Quaker Cloud, with several advantages.

Meeting approved joining Ann Arbor Meeting in a minute on Expanding the Friends Fiduciary Corporation Investment Screen to Exclude Investments in Companies that Profit from the Israeli/Palestinian Conflict.

Property Committee asked Meeting to decide who should consider installation and cost of a self-monitored video with two-way audio to reduce vandalism, which it felt might not be effective. Concern was expressed for the Committee having to deal with unpleasantness when their mission is to preserve the beauty of the property. Some remedies were proposed, but it was suggested that the whole question belonged more to the Long Range Planning committee. The report was accepted. Nominating Committee will present proposed names of members of this committee next month.

The clerk will nominate membership of a Signage Committee from people expressing interest.

Meeting closed in silence.

Sanctuary Everywhere

AFSC supports the Sanctuary movement: "Sanctuary Everywhere is about creating a sense of safety, refuge and belonging for communities in neighborhoods, cities, and states within the United States. Our vision is that Sanctuary is extended beyond our congregations or schools into the streets and our communities more broadly. Using grassroots based strategies, we strive to interrupt state violence and violence arising from racism, Islamophobia, and xenophobia at a time when there are regular instances of such violence on the streets, in public spaces."

On November 16 AFSC conducted a "webinar" on bystander intervention. "Learning how to intervene in public instances of racist, anti-Black, anti-Muslim, anti-Trans, and other forms of oppressive interpersonal violence and harassment. This is a time to be brave and ready to act in the face of repression and emboldened expressions and acts of fear."

November Forum

Mary Grace Ketner and Sara Ramey joined us to describe some of the efforts currently underway to assist refugees.

Mary Grace is on the leadership team of the Interfaith Welcome Coalition which was formed in 2014 in response to an influx of unaccompanied minors crossing the border and being held in detention. Currently the IWC is reaching out to other local organizations that serve refugees. The goal is to broaden awareness and facilitate communication among the organizations. IWC continues to welcome women and children who have been released from detention. IWC volunteers meet the families at the bus station and airport to help with ticketing problems, answer questions, and provide backpacks filled with travel supplies. Friends can mail donations for the backpack program to IWC in care of University Presbyterian, 300 Bushnell, San Antonio, TX 78212.

Mary Grace is also involved in the Sanctuary Network, a group of local faith communities interested in offering sanctuary to families at risk of deportation. Currently there is no need to house families in churches, so the network has focused on support through accompaniment. The group has recently trained volunteers who will accompany immigrants to their official hearings. Upcoming training will address the use of media to shine a light on unfair or inhumane treatment of refugees.

Sara Ramey is the founder of the Migrant Center for Human Rights, a nonprofit organization providing free and low-cost legal services to adults held at the Pearsall immigration detention facility. Sara volunteered with AFSC in 2009-2010 teaching high school students about human rights. She continues to focus on human rights in her legal career. She has five years experience as an immigration attorney. The Migrant Center for Human Rights works to expand immigrants' access to legal representation and education about their rights, prepare for asylum interviews and court appearances, and educate the public. A monthly newsletter is available online at www.migrantcenter.org.

Global Warming

The increase by human activity of Global warming is denied by the US administration. But states and corporations within states are adopting their own policies to defy it. What is Friends' policy? Groups clamored to Governor Jerry Brown of California, saying, "We [are] demanding more aggressive emissions reductions and a just transition from an extractive to a regenerative economy that respects all life for generations to come." Has there been any demand in Texas?

Five years ago at the FGC Gathering, Hollister Knowlton asked the Meeting to consider a minute proposed by the Environmental Working Group on global warming. The Meeting approved the minute as follows:

"Protecting the world as God's creation is of fundamental religious concern to the Society of Friends. The link between human activity, the dramatic rise in atmospheric CO₂, and the indications that the average global temperature has begun to rise is proving to be of overriding importance from the standpoints of ecology, social and economic justice, and international diplomacy. Climate change will affect everyone and everything: food, water, air quality, biodiversity, forests, public health, social order, and world peace.

Because the US uses by far the largest amount of energy per capita, our nation's commitment to agreements and policies to curtail the emissions of greenhouse gases will be crucial. We have long set the example for the world with our high levels of consumption; it is critical that we now set an example by being willing to take responsibility for our behavior. Because of the ethical and moral nature of our dilemma, involvement by religious communities, in education and advocacy, will be needed if policies to address global warming are to succeed in politics or in practice in the US.

We unite in urging individual Friends, monthly meetings, and other Friends institutions to seek Divine Guidance in reducing our use of energy and helping our society convert to renewable energy technologies. These are essential steps to protect life on Earth as God created it."

This year, "We're All in This Together", a climate-change film festival has been co-sponsored by the Medford Meeting at the PPA headquarters, in morning and afternoon sessions.

Accounts of the films can be found at <https://www.fgcquaker.org/cloud/medford-friends-meeting/events/climate-change-film-schedule-and-movie-list>. For instance, in **Beasts of the Southern Wild** - nominated for four Academy awards, called by A.O. Scott of the NYTimes a "blast of sheer improbable joy" this fantasy is rated on some lists as one of the five best

environmental films ever. *Beasts* centers on a young girl's determination in defending her home from the encroaching sea but can be seen from many different perspectives as it "blends realism and fantasy, allegory and observation."

And *Friends Journal* said, "It also argues that we can work with our neighbors and engage in effective and strategic action—in this case, to limit catastrophic climate change and transition to a just and climate-safe world."

Austin Tan Cerca de la Frontera

"This is your personal invitation to join us for a FREE weekend festival of community, crafts, music, and food at our 14th Annual Women & Fair Trade Festival!"

Meet and connect with 8 women-led fair trade cooperatives from around the world whose very existence under global capitalism and colonialism is an act of resistance and rebellion. Learn from their communities, cultures, and their political struggles for dignity, justice, and autonomy in 2017. Vendors include cooperatives from Guatemala, Austin & San Antonio, Texas, Coahuila & Chiapas, Mexico, Palestine, Ecuador, and more!

On Friday, December 1st at 6:00-9:00pm, Saturday, December 2nd at 9:00am to 7:00pm, St. James' Episcopal Church, 1941 Webberville Rd, Austin, TX 78721, enjoy free music, delicious food made by a local immigrant-led cooperative, and a speak out about resistance movements from Texas & Chiapas to Palestine & the U.S.-Mexico border. For more information go to <http://womenandfairtrade.weebly.com> / and for updates follow us on Facebook. Want to volunteer at the festival? Email robert@atcf.org. Want to be a sponsor? Email bianca@atcf.org. In Solidarity, <http://www.atcf.org/>

Miscellany

A John Smith wrote, 6 months ago on Youtube, in relation to Friends' position on Israel and Palestine, "Ugh, Quakers still exist? That's terrifying. WE really need to get rid of them."

This is a viewpoint which is probably primarily concerned about Hamas attacks, bombs smuggled onto Israeli buses, rocket fired from Palestine into Israel, and a Palestinian threat to overthrow Israel. Understandable. But, surely, when Israeli and Palestinian lives are compared it is clear who is suffering the most and which side holds the power.

Friend oppose violence from whichever source.

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"In this season of giving, we invite you to reflect on what Pendle Hill means to you—and how our community serves visitors, the Religious Society of Friends, and the world. For the past seven years (and counting!), we have enjoyed 100% staff participation in the Annual Fund, which is a testament to the staff's commitment to our work.

There are three reasons why I give to Pendle Hill: the bench, the bell and the beech. The bench symbolizes our tradition of faith through daily worship since 1930. The ringing bell represents our call to community through the breaking of bread together, and the 300-year-old beech represents the "welcoming committee" of trees that hold our sacred ground for all to come and do their important work" - Lloyd Guindon, Grounds Manager for over 30 years and Pendle Hill resident

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Kim Ghattas, in *Foreign Policy*, has pointed out that decades ago women were free to wear short skirts in Kabul, and men and women were free in Saudi Arabia to go bathing together on the beach. He points out that these were narrowly enjoyed freedoms in cities, with traditional norms elsewhere. But those freedoms themselves are now lost. What is the possibility that our freedoms may be lost, and how would it happen? Friends must be alert. Our forerunners faced prohibitions

on meeting.

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*Active Hope* is about finding, and offering, our best response to the crisis of sustainability unfolding in our world. It offers tools that help us face our troubles, as well as find and play our role in the collective transition, or Great Turning, to a life-sustaining society.

*Active Hope* is by Joanna Macy and Chris Johnstone: "How to face the mess we're in without going crazy."

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Thousands of Rohingya families were trapped when the Burmese military began a massive ethnic cleansing assault on them. So over 47,000 US donors paid for relief and a rescue mission, with boats working around the clock to bring them to safety in Bangladesh.

Donations do help. US donors helped relieve Rohingya in Asia without getting out of their seats.

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North Korea – what a desperate problem. But AFSC worked there after the Korean War. In the 1980s it conducted exchanges (of what?) In the 1990s famine it offered humanitarian aid and stayed on to offer agricultural assistance, trying to lay the groundwork for peace. Longstanding partnerships between them and Americans are possible and productive. And in a report this year AFSC suggests ways in which this can be raised to governmental levels.

This is the opposite of cutting off all trade and aid to North Korea, to starve it. We speak below of Marshall Aid after WWII, producing a friendly relationship with the country with which we had been at war. AFSC is doing the same in North Korea.

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Did you know?: Santa has a team of nine reindeer to pull his sleigh: Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, Blitzen and, finally, Rudolph, who leads them all with his bright, red nose

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Gretchen was in the news! The *E-N* said ". . . history earned Gretchen a place on Seguin's Smokey Joe Tribute." Another, surnamed Gretchen, in Seguin's baseball history.

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A global Marshall Plan! The Marshall Plan was advocated after WWII by George Marshall, Secretary of State, to support and revivify the economies of Europe, including Germany though not the Communist countries of Eastern Europe, which followed a different economic route. It had remarkable healing power, unlike the Treaty of Versailles after WWI, which required German reparations and eventually led to the rise of Hitler and the tragedies of WWII. The Marshall Plan was first started by one, but its spirit was followed by Kofi Annan, Mikhail Gorbachev, and Nelson Mandela. What could it have achieved, postwar, if it had included everyone? And what if one were applied, globally, now?

Waging Nonviolence

Jonathan Lerner has regretted his experience in the Weather Underground in 1969, violently protesting the Vietnam war. (Waging Nonviolence, 11.1.17) At that time the grad students in Ken's department booked City Hall to explain their views at a time of tension between town and gown. Ken spoke and cited research which suggested revolution and alienation of academics were related. A man rose and protested angrily, "Are you saying a revolution is imminent?"

He was a man who had previously told Ken that he had guns in his downtown store, ready for student demonstrators. He got up and left soon after. Ken ran to the door to explain. But he was gone.

The next day Ken had a grad statistics course to teach. Getting to the department office he found a bowl of flowers. Curious, he looked at the card, It was from the store-owner and expressed gratitude for the grad students' effort to reach out to the town. Ken took the flowers to class with him and placed them on his desk facing the class, reading the card.

Ken also visited another store, initially explaining that he taught a course on civil violence. The owner replied, "I knew somebody was telling them how to do it!" and turned and left.

Empire

Have the days of empire gone? We hope so. In a Political Science theory, up-and-coming nations were seen as liable to go to war with the topmost. In two World Wars, Germany may have demonstrated this, challenging Britain, if not America. And now, in a different world, Germany has become the leader in Europe relying only on its industrial prowess, Britain having relinquished its perch at head of empire and its once-leadership in industry, which had overcome its small size.

Being probably too small to challenge the US, or then China, for eminence, Germany is unlikely to try war again. The US does not control an empire. We must hope that Germany's example since WWII will make it unnecessary for China to conquer an empire, or challenge the US to war, relying only on its industrial prowess and size. . . .

AFSC's Queries

Here is what AFSC is asking:

How do we practice the world we are trying to create as we work for justice in an increasingly repressive political context?

How do we stoke the power of faith-based activism so that our people will take deeper risks for racial justice?

How do we not only bring more folks into the room, but equip them to take powerful action for change?

How do we support change across issue areas? How do we organize effectively for racial justice?

Abuse of Women and Youngsters

The NY Times has justifiably focused on the current outcry against the sexual abuse of women, accentuating the public silence in the past..

And on November 7 AFSC said:

"Last night, the Trump administration announced that it is terminating Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Nicaragua and is refusing to make a determination for Honduras—another cruel attack on immigrants in the U.S. that will tear apart our families and hurt our communities. The decision rips legal status from almost 3,000 Nicaraguans and leaves almost 60,000 Hondurans living with uncertainty as they can apply for a six month extension, but with no indication as to what will happen after those six months."

Meanwhile, in the UN, the administration is trying to limit the scope of UN anti-violence resolutions that aim to bolster protections for women and children. This legalistic fight is going on in confidential UN negotiations, meant to defend US "states' rights" defending the right of parents and schools to physically discipline children.

But this omits consideration of national laws elsewhere which free people to commit violent acts on children defined as "discipline."

Quaker Words

Valerie Brown's Pendle Hill Pamphlet, *Coming to Light Cultivating Spiritual Discernment through the Quaker Clearness Committee*, is reviewed by Karie Firoozmand in the *FJ*. She says it is "user-friendly in several ways. Many readers are familiar with Quaker usage of ordinary English words to describe experiences in a way that is peculiar to our worship. "Waiting" and "watchfulness," for instance, mean something different in a Quaker context, and Brown offers definitions here. Brown does use the word "God" in her writing. She does this early on, and as a reader I found it helpful to know what she meant: 'For me as a Quaker and a Buddhist, God is a Spirit of Oneness; the Light or Seed Within All Things; the Energy of Compassion, Love, Understanding, and Peace.' Since this appears on page two, it helped me frame the rest of Brown's words."

Quaker Words and Deeds

FCNL says, "It's time for Congress to reclaim its authority by passing legislation to end U.S. involvement in Yemen. . . . A new Defense bill authorizes \$700 billion in military spending, fails to limit the president's authority to wage war around the world, and paves the way for the U.S. to develop a new banned missile. . . . The Senate Foreign Relations Committee held a hearing in which they discussed the restraints that are - or should be - in place to keep the president from using a nuclear weapon without authorization. . . . Thousands of Nicaraguan, Haitian, and Honduran immigrants face uncertainty (see above). . . . FCNL convened a press conference with dozens of faith leaders in Lynchburg, VA to call on Rep. Bob Goodlatte (VA) to reintroduce sentencing reform in the House. . . . FCNL was excited to host "the first public event at our brand new Quaker Welcome Center with a refreshing conversation about bipartisan action on climate change through the Climate Solutions Caucus."

It opposed the "House bill that passed this week [that] gives \$1.5 trillion in tax cut for millionaires and big corporations and leaves the rest of the country footing the bill."

AFSC provided "six tips to effectively counteract anti-Muslim rhetoric in your conversations." It helped Congress introduce the first-ever bill on human rights for Palestinian children. It pursued why we should defend Temporary Protected Status for immigrants. AFSC, having given humanitarian assistance in North Korea during the 1990s famine, continues to work there providing assistance to increase farm productivity.

The world is a very different place than it was this time last year. "As we try to make sense of the hateful actions and rhetoric that are now commonplace in the news, we've found ourselves in a moment of truth. We denounce this rising hate and are responding with even stronger love and understanding.

AFSC continues to provide solutions and innovative paths forward toward the positive change that we so desperately need right now."

Quaker words and actions!

We are With Others

Non-Quaker organizations are working for the same ends as Quakers. Below is a list of ten organizations that develop or practice nonviolent action as an alternative to war:

1. **Nonviolent Alternatives to War** says:

If not war, then what? What are nonviolent alternatives to war? . . . The United States has numerous military academies and war colleges and spends about \$600 billion each year for weapons development, military training, and maintenance of a massive war machine.

. . . In contrast, nonviolent alternatives to war are still in their infancy. Though practiced since time immemorial, the technology and techniques of nonviolent action have only

been systematically developed in the last century. . . There are now a number of groups developing the theory and practice of nonviolent action and several others that now nonviolently intervene in world conflicts. If these groups had resources comparable to those provided to the world's militaries, they would undoubtedly have a tremendous impact on the world.

2. Nonviolent Peaceforce

The organization was founded by David Ray Hartsough, a US Quaker and civil rights activist, and Mel Duncan, former US member of the Nicaragua coffee/cotton brigades during the Contra war of 1984. . . They are trying... “...to create a trained, international civilian nonviolent, peace force to be sent to conflict areas to prevent death and destruction and protect human rights, creating the space for local groups to struggle nonviolently, and seek peaceful resolution.

3. Peace Brigades International

They “...protect human rights and promote nonviolent transformation of conflicts.

When invited, we send teams of volunteers into areas of repression and conflict. The volunteers accompany human rights defenders, their organizations and others threatened by political violence. Perpetrators of human rights abuses usually do not want the world to witness their actions. In this way, we create space for local activists to work for social justice and human rights.”

4. Christian Peacemaking Teams

Based in four religious groups (Mennonites, Brethren, Friends (General Conference and United Meeting)), they often... “place themselves in harms way [to] offer an organized, nonviolent alternative to lethal inter-group conflict. CPT provides organizational support to persons committed to faith-based nonviolent alternatives.

5. Witness for Peace

The world is a very different place than it was this time last year. “As we try to make sense of the hateful actions and rhetoric that are now commonplace in the news, we’ve found ourselves in a moment of truth. We denounce this rising hate and are responding with even stronger love and understanding.”

AFSC continues to provide solutions and innovative paths forward toward the positive change that we so desperately need right now. “As we give thanks today in the United States, we want you to know that without you our work would not be possible.”

6. Albert Einstein Institute

Based at Harvard University and directed by Gene Sharp, ...

“... Since 1983, the Albert Einstein Institution has been engaged in research, policy studies, education, and consulting on the nature and potential of nonviolent forms of struggle. Just as the study of military strategy has yielded a more refined understanding of warfare, the strategic study of nonviolent action can potentially yield deeper insights into its dynamics and requirements for success.”

Their work is the basis for the film “A Force More Powerful: A Century of Nonviolent Conflict.”

7. International Center on Nonviolent Conflict (ICNC) emphasizes that Civil resistance movements—featuring a wide range of nonviolent tactics such as strikes, boycotts, mass demonstrations, acts of noncooperation, civil disobedience, and other actions—are capturing the world's attention as never before.

ICNC focuses on how these movements struggle effectively and win. “Our mission is educational. We develop and share knowledge and educational resources related to nonviolent civil resistance with interested recipients throughout the world. This includes citizens and activists, scholars, educators, nongovernmental organizations, media professionals, and members of the policy community.

We are a private operating foundation that runs a wide range of programs and also provides limited grant funding.”

There is an excellent article from the International Center on Nonviolent Conflic(

(www.facebook.com/NonviolentConflict)t about how to use nonviolent action to topple a dictatorship. (from Randy Schutt)

8. SOA Watch

The SOA Watch is a protest group at the School of the Americas, where US security trains Latin American security officials, therefore becoming complicit in later acts of violence against their people by these officials.

“After gathering for 26 years at the main gates of Fort Benning, home of the SOA/WHINSEC, our SOA Watch movement, once again, went to the U.S./Mexico border on November 10-12.

People of all ages and backgrounds, from throughout the U.S. and Latin America, gathered in large numbers on both sides of a huge wall separating Nogales, Mexico and Nogales, Arizona.

This wall that separated us is a symbol of what the U.S. has done to the people of Latin America through its foreign policy for many years. And it is rooted in racism, militarism, and economic exploitation. They say:

“In our struggle as activists, we have learned that where there is injustice, silence is complicity. Today, the lives and future of so many of our Latin American sisters and brothers are at stake- including our 800,000 DACA recipients. . . .

Let us build bridges not walls! Hope not despair! Equality not discrimination!”

9. Jewish Voice for Peace, (JVP)

And JVP, says:

“We’re working in Congress, in statehouses, and even city councils to hold decision-makers accountable, and change the political calculus about standing up for Palestinian rights.

We’re building connections to allies across all sorts of justice movements who share our unshakeable core value: that all people deserve justice, freedom, and dignity.

We’re creating a political and spiritual home where all of us can express our commitment to justice and be seen, held, and challenged to be our best selves.”

10. **Witness for Peace** was founded in 1983 by people of faith and conscience, who, in response to the Contra War, traveled to Nicaragua to see firsthand the devastating human effects of the US-sponsored war. Over the course of the 1980s, thousands of concerned citizens traveled to Nicaragua with Witness for Peace. In the US, activists across the country certainly contributed greatly to the effort to cut off US military aid to the contras.”

Advice or Query

In this time of commercialism, how do you reflect the values of Simplicity?

Meeting for Worship is held on Sunday at 10 a.m., followed by refreshments and a Forum discussion at 11.30, usually lasting until about 12.45. Children are invited to join worship for the first fifteen minutes, after which they may go to join with the Young Friends program. Child care is available during Forum.

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Meeting telephone for meeting times or to ask for other information: (210) 945-8456