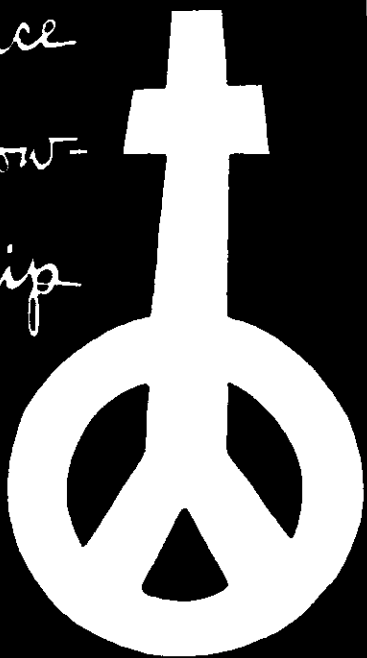


the
episcopal
peace
fellow-
ship



The Episcopal Peace Fellowship, now in the fourth decade of work, is a voluntary association within the Episcopal Church.

We follow Christ and owe our first loyalty to the One who continually breaks down walls between people.

We are part of the international movement to discern and practice the ways of peace wherever we find ourselves in the world.

WHAT IS EPF?

We began in 1939 as the Episcopal Pacifist Fellowship, a small band of people who championed the rights of conscientious objectors and their families during World War II.

Some twenty-five years later, we became the Episcopal Peace Fellowship, thus signifying our desire to work with all Episcopalians struggling with the great problems of institutional and individual violence in our society, whether or not they considered themselves pacifists.

Our major concerns have been with war and militarism. But we are increasingly seeing the need to bear witness against the racial, economic and sexual oppression which carries the seeds of war.

The Fellowship endeavors to create within the Church an effective body of Christians committed to abolishing the causes of war. We believe that through the use of nonviolent means such change can take place humanly and in the spirit of the Gospel.

Since 1965, the Fellowship has had a full-time office and staff in New York City. The staff co-ordinates local and national activities, publishes a quarterly newsletter and a bi-monthly peace news digest, and serves as a clearinghouse for educational materials. The staff also relates EPF activities to national organizations working for amnesty, peace in Indo-China, and other peace concerns.



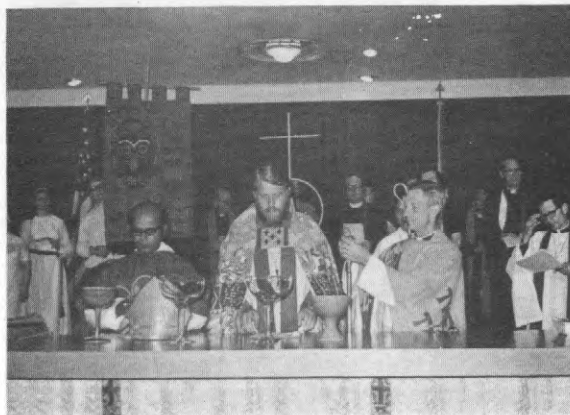
Graphics by Joan Bonney



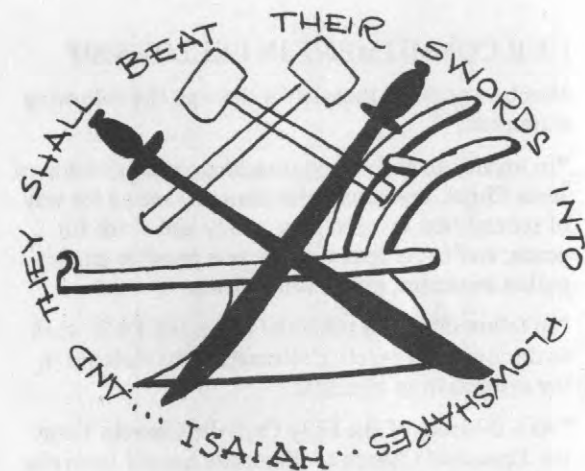
EPF Booth, General Convention, Louisville, 1973. (Photo: Dana Grubb).

The Fellowship has always supported and participated in the major actions of the anti-war movement, including the mass demonstrations of the 1960's.

During the height of the Vietnam War, EPF on several occasions attempted to celebrate the Eucharist on the public concourse of the Pentagon, resulting in the arrest of several hundred people over the course of 18 months. In April of 1972 the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit unanimously reversed the convictions of all the EPF defendants, citing the constitutional protection of freedom of assembly, and freedom of religion.



Mass at the Pentagon, 1972. (Photo: Dana Grubb).



TOUCHSTONES ON THE WAY

From our experience, the EPF has evolved a set of "touchstones" or guide lines to set our direction and evaluate our course of action.

Ending the Church's Complicity in War

The Church too seldom examines its own largely approving role in war and the preparations for war. The Fellowship, by insisting on the Gospel's proclamation of a new order, calls into question the daily accommodation of the Church to the old order.

Building and Supporting Communities of Resistance

We encourage individuals and congregations to resist the violence and injustice in our society. Fundamental change is never passive. Where conditions can be changed, they are changed by people in struggle.

Teaching and Practicing the Peace Imperative of the Gospel

We are empowered by the presence of Jesus as our Liberator and Peacemaker. We believe it imperative for all the Church to take far more seriously the actual teachings of Jesus on those "things that make for peace."

PROGRAM AND SERVICES

- A draft, military and veterans counseling program with a full time staff person who coordinates volunteer counseling, publishes articles, and conducts seminars for clergy and lay people. Since 1969, this program has been funded by a grant from the Episcopal Diocese of New York.
- A campaign for unconditional amnesty for all draft and military resisters. We believe a binding up of all wounds is explicit in our faith, and rejoice in the House of Bishops' call for a general amnesty (Fall, 1973). We also support increased efforts on behalf of Vietnam era veterans who continue to suffer unjustly as a result of this war.
- An alternative to the military chaplaincy. We find the present form of ministry to the Armed Services community questionable in doctrine and practice for the Church. In 1971, EPF vigorously opposed the consecration of a Bishop for the Armed Forces. Thereafter, the Fellowship initiated the formation of an interreligious "Coalition for a De-Militarized Chaplaincy" which actively advocates review and reform of the existing chaplaincy. At General Convention, 1973, the EPF co-sponsored a resolution which established a Study Commission on the military chaplaincy.
- Reconstruction in Indochina. The Church must lead in efforts to create a more humane attitude towards the peoples of Indochina. As a first step in healing the wounds of war, EPF encourages its own membership and the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief to contribute medical aid to all areas of Indochina.
- War Tax Resistance. We support tax resistance as a serious way of protesting the increasing domination of our society by the military-industrial complex.
- Meaningful funding at all levels of the Church's life for peace education and action programs. Beginnings, even small ones, are critically needed at this time. Our young people especially need to be affirmed and challenged in learning what His peace means in our world and lives.

OUR COMMITMENT IN FELLOWSHIP

Members commit themselves through the following statement:

"In loyalty to the person, teachings and Lordship of Jesus Christ, my conscience commits me to his way of redemption love; to pray, study and work for peace; and to renounce so far as is possible participation in racism, militarism and war.

"In fellowship with others of like mind I will work to discover and practice alternatives to violence in the resolution of conflicts.

"As a member of the Holy Catholic Church, I urge the Episcopal Church to dissociate herself from the military establishment and to wage peace across all boundaries, calling upon persons everywhere to repent, to forgive and to love."

STAFF

Jack Malinowski
Christine Payden-Travers

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Rev. John Nevin Sayre, Hon. Chairman
Theresa Gillett, Chairwoman
The Rev. Thomas Lee Hayes, Vice-Chairman
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The Rev. Thomas Pike
The Rev. James Porter
Dr. Ronald Santoni

National Office:

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Local Address:

"No violence is private. On the contrary, violence is so dynamic, variegated and pervasive, that violence is essentially political. Even apparently isolated or remote or unilateral violence inherently implicates every human, and every other creature. In His exposition of the law, Jesus points to this when he construes anger as murder. The violence which Jesus suffers on the Cross becomes the most notorious political event in history."

-William Stringfellow

BLESSED ARE THE
PEACEMAKERS FOR
THEY SHALL BE
CALLED THE
CHILDREN OF GOD.

"True peace is not merely the absence of tension, but it is the presence of justice and brotherhood."

-Martin Luther King



We invite you to break with war-making and into peace-making in the light of the Gospel message of love as the permanently revolutionary power in the world. Join us. If you are not an Episcopalian or a Christian, you are still most welcome to be on our mailing list.

- Please enroll me (us) in the Episcopal Peace Fellowship. I (we) accept the commitment outlined in this brochure.
- Though I cannot join the EPF now I wish to be placed on your mailing list. I enclose \$ _____ as a contribution.
- For new members: Please enroll me as a member of the Fellowship of Reconciliation.

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Members are asked to give a minimum of \$5 annually (\$2 for students).

I enclose _____

Parish (if any)

I pledge _____ per
 month quarter year

Please tear off and return to: Episcopal Peace Fellowship, 61 Gramercy Park N., New York, New York 10010
