

Chicago Diocese Peace and Justice Committee

We are comprised of individuals from across the spectrum of our Diocesan life: parish outreach coordinators, board members of diocesan institutions, members of the national Episcopal Peace Fellowship, rectors, assistants, deacons, lay leaders, retirees, women and men, native born and foreign born.

As a group, the Committee works on the root causes of oppression and violence seeking systemic change. The Committee currently meets bi-monthly at St. Andrews Episcopal Church on Chicago's Westside. We welcome representatives from all congregations as committee members or as part of our grass roots liaison network.

Our Goals

***Continue education and advocacy work** with a special focus on the, **Refugee Work, Gun Violence, Economic Justice, Middle East, Immigration Reform, Anti-Racism, Support for Standing Rock, and LGBTQ issues of oppression.** We work in collaboration with local, national and international organizations.

***Outreach to the Diocesan members outside of the Chicago/suburban reach.** The committee is available to conduct visioning sessions with members of parishes to help them determine their priority peace and justice issues.

*Our committee also serves as the **Episcopal Peace Fellowship Chapter** for the diocese, Epfnational.org. For more information contact Ellen Lindeen: elindeen@waubonsee.edu.

Issues:

***Refugee Resettlement, Immigration, Human Trafficking:** We will work to encourage parishes to welcome refugees and to partner with Refugee One to support refugees in our midst. Contact Tom Robb: bogomile2@yahoo.com;

***Gun Violence:** We work with the Council Against Handgun Violence to support legislation that will decrease gun violence in our state. Jackie Lynn: Jacqueline.lynn@ymail.com

***Anti-Racism:** Founding members of Interfaith Coalition Against Racism, Contact Jackie Lynn. We support the work of the Anti-racism Commission of the diocese Contact Newland Smith (farnssn@gmail.com). We promote visible outreach, support and education with Muslim Community, Contact Charles Stewart (stewartcharles99@yahoo.com).

***Worker's Rights:** The Committee works with ARISE Chicago on the issues of worker's rights and Fight for \$15. Contact Joy Rogers: joyerogers2014@gmail.com

***Israel/Palestine:** We work with the Palestine Israel Network of the Episcopal Peace Fellowship to promote the 'No Way to Treat a Child' campaign: demanding immediate protections for Palestinian children held in Israeli military detention where ill treatment and torture is widespread and systematic. Contact Anthony Vaccaro (revdocajv@gmail.com).

***Standing Rock Support:** We support the native peoples in their quest for clean water. Contact Robert Trask (rptrask3@gmail.com).