

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE (IDP) PLANNING COMMITTEE

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
(412) 849-3600

August, 2012

Dear

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Suzanne Bailey
Riffat Chughtai
Jimmy Cvetic
Sr Barbara Finch co-chair
George D'Angelo co-chair
Rev Glen Grayson
Jay Gilmer
Carol Gonzalez
Allen Goodman
Peta Harrigan Cole
Thanh Ho
Karen Hussaini
Kanak Iyer
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Maureen Kitner
Kevin May
Theresa Orlando
Leila Richards
Tom Slater
Fr Michael Stumpf
Sauntee Turner
Liz Wolfskill

The International
Day of Peace
21 September

May Peace Prevail
on Earth

Friday, September 21, 2012 will mark the 31st anniversary of the International Day of Peace (IDP). The UN General Assembly declared in 1981 that the Day shall be devoted to commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples.

We are writing to invite you and your congregation to an annual International Day of Peace event to be held this year at the East Liberty Presbyterian Church (ELPC), 116 South Highland Ave. This celebration is part of a worldwide effort to bring a day of Peace, Peaceful Dialogue and Ceasefire to the entire world.

We hope you can highlight Peace Day during your day of worship, prayer or meditation and plan a peace related activity on or near September 21st.

A Prayer Vigil will commence at 12:01 AM, September 21st and continue through midnight on the 21st at the ELPC Sanctuary and Chapel. We invite you and your community to join us sometime during this period. The ELPC labyrinth will also be available during this period.

Our Committee is also planning the following Peace Day activities:

- “Rally Against Violence” at the Allegheny County Courthouse Courtyard, 436 Grant Street, featuring readings of victims’ names and messages from anti-violence activists, Noon to 12:45 PM. Nate Harper, Chief-of-Police will make remarks along with Rev. Dave McFarland of Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church and Fr Demitrios Makoul of St George Orthodox Cathedral, Oakland.
- Evening Program at ELPC beginning at 7:00 through approximately 8:15 PM to include:
 - International Flag Ceremony at ELPC involving 195 flags – all are invited to participate by carrying a flag. Come early.
 - Blessing of the Peace Pole at ELPC.
 - Rev Heather Schoenewolf, Associate Pastor for ELPC, will give a short homily on the international theme for Peace Day 2012, “Sustainable Peace for a Sustainable Future”.
 - Intrafaith Peace Service: Participatory Ceremony.

We also invite you to organize your own celebration of peace with your friends, family and supportive organizations. Have a peace party; organize a dialogue, invite a speaker. Plant a peace pole. Have a peace workshop. Conduct a vigil. Observe a minute of silence at noon on Peace Day. We will assist you and help promote your event in any way possible.

In Peace,
The IDP Planning Committee

Mark Your Calendar: September 21, 2012