

MAY 2025 CALL TO ACTION

PEACEBUILDING

- There are currently 56 armed conflicts in the world, the most since World War II.
- Some of the most prominent conflicts include the war in Ukraine, the conflict in Gaza, the conflict in Sudan, and ongoing conflicts in Myanmar, the Sahel region, and other parts of the world.
- The rise in conflict and violence has led to a greater need for international humanitarian assistance.

Here is some helpful information and resources on peacebuilding.

Act Now

- The Prevention and Protection Working Group (PPWG) <https://www.allianceforpeacebuilding.org/prevention-and-protection-working-group>
A coalition of human rights, religious, humanitarian, anti-genocide, and peacebuilding organizations dedicated to improving U.S. Government policies and civilian capacities to prevent violent conflict, avert mass atrocities, and protect civilians threatened by such crises.
- American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) <https://afsc.org/> works with communities worldwide to challenge injustice and build conditions for lasting peace. They are steadfast in their commitment to nonviolence and their belief in the transformative power of love to overcome conflict and oppression.
- Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) On Foreign Aid Cuts (April 2025) <https://www.fcnl.org/resources/speak-out-against-foreign-aid-cuts>
Peacebuilding and conflict prevention programs reduce violent conflict and human suffering while saving taxpayer dollars. Yet, U.S. support for this work has been persistently underfunded.
- Tell Lawmakers to Support Foreign Aid <https://fcnl.quorum.us/campaign/108117/>
Take a minute to ask your senators and representative to speak up for continued investment in U.S. foreign assistance.

Some Books on Building Peace

- *You Can't Be Neutral on a Moving Train: A Personal History* (1994) | by Howard Zinn
- *The Moral Imagination: The Art and Soul of Building Peace* (1997) | by John Paul Lederach
- *How to Change the World* (2013) | by John Paul Flintoff at School of Life
- *Creating True Peace: Ending Violence in Yourself, Your Family, Your Community, and the World* (2004) | by Thich Nhat Hanh
- *Peace by Peaceful Means: Peace and Conflict, Development and Civilization* (1996) | by Johan Galtung
- *Can You Say Peace?* | by [Karen Katz](#) (for young friends)

APRIL 2025 CALL TO ACTION

IMMIGRATION CONTROL

Updates

As predicted in WiW's January Call to Action, there has been a renewed effort by the new administration to detain and deport immigrants. Here are some news reports of recent illegal actions and planned mass deportations:

- 137 Venezuelan migrants, allegedly gang members, were sent to a prison in El Salvador in defiance of a federal court order to stop the flight.
- Emine and Celal Emanet, Mahmoud Khalil, and Rumeysa Ozturk were abruptly detained/deported by ICE and now Kilmar Abrego Garcia. (Google names for updates.)
- Thousands of undocumented immigrants will be detained at military bases including the McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Base in New Jersey. Visit [npr.org](https://www.npr.org) for the full story.

Why so controversial?

Visit, the ACLU's website, [aclu.org](https://www.aclu.org), to learn about immigrant rights.

What Can We Do to Help?

- Stay positive/learn more
 - Visit New Jersey's Immigrant Trust Directive <https://www.njoag.gov/trust/>.
 - Go to [aclu.org](https://www.aclu.org) for updates on American Civil Liberties Union's Actions on behalf of immigrants.
 - Read SUNY sociologist Joanna Dreby's March 18th [address to Connecticut's legislators](#) and look for her new book, *Surviving the ICE Age*.
- Take Action
 - Write a minute in support of the lawsuit by PYM against ICE's threatened aggression into houses of worship.
 - Urge the NJ legislature to support the 24-25 Trust Act njleg.state.nj.us
 - Visit the ACLU's website, click on [Act Now](#).
 - Help your neighbors and protect families through suggestions on the National Immigration Justice Center website, immigrantjustice.org.
 - Visit American Friends Service Committee's website, afsc.org, to learn how to Stop deportations now!
 - Visit the Friends Committee on National Legislation's Action Center, fcnl.quorum.us to Tell Congress: Mass Deportation is Not the Answer.
- Work with other Friends Meetings
 - Medford Meeting prepares welcome bags for migrants through the Migrant Health Collaborative of South Jersey. To volunteer, email Sue Dietz: SueDietz@AOL.com.
 - Trenton Friends Meeting supports Latin American Legal Defense and Education Fund (LALDEF). To learn more about LALDEF, email Nikki Mosgrove: nmosgrove@pym.org.

MARCH 2025 CALL TO ACTION

Stewardship of the Earth

Sustainable stewardship of the Earth is a Quaker testimony. According to *Faith and Practice*, “The well-being of the earth is a fundamental spiritual concern... How we treat the earth and its creatures is a basic part of our relationship with God. Our planet as a whole requires our responsible attention.”

What can we do to be better stewards of our beautiful planet?

Learn More – [Check out these books](#) on our Meeting Library to learn more about climate change or if you prefer your learning online find reliable information from the following source.

- Climate change is a complicated concept and understanding it can be challenging. [Project Drawdown](#) can help. Their international team of scientists have evaluated 93 technologies and practices that can dramatically reduce greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and their research is clearly explained on the website.

Take Action

Join Allies and Friends – There is inspiration and strength in numbers. The following organizations offer information and opportunities to network.

- Philadelphia Yearly Meeting’s [EcoJustice Collaborative](#), a home for Friends acting on their leading in the intersection of racial, economic, and climate justice.
- [350.org](#) is a movement of ordinary people working to build a world powered by clean, accessible and affordable renewable energy.

Lobby for Change with elected officials

- [QAMAR](#) (Quaker Action for the Mid-Atlantic region) offers Friendly advocacy on state and local policy concerns.
- [FCNL](#) (Friends Committee on National Legislation) advocates at the national level.

Become an Informed Voter

- The [New Jersey League of Conservation Voters](#) offers the information you need to choose the best candidates and policies on election day.

Join us at our Loving our Earth fair on Saturday, April 12 from 1 to 3 pm

Learn about composting, buy some native plants, discover easy alternatives to plastic, and enjoy kid-friendly environmental activities. Find out how to turn your backyard into a National Wildlife Federation certified wildlife habitat. Meet Friends from Rancocas Nature Center and PYM’s EcoJustice Collaborative.

FEBRUARY 2025 CALL TO ACTION

JANUARY 2025 CALL TO ACTION:

Migrants in the United States: How can we help

2025 brings with it a new presidential administration which has promised a much harsher climate for migrants in our country. It is time for us to take action to welcome and protect migrants in the United States.

Get Informed

- Resist the temptation to avoid the news. Find current and reliable information sources. If we are to be effective advocates for migrants, we need to know what's going on.
- The American Civil Liberties Union has been protecting our rights since 1920. Read [here](#) to see what they have to say about asylum seekers, deportation and due process, immigrant rights and detention, and ICE and border patrol abuses.
- What's happening in New Jersey? Find out about possible plans for increasing detention centers in our state [here](#).

Take Action

- The [National Immigration Law Center](#) offers opportunities for action including a day one response team and a way to sign up for updates to keep current on this issue.
- Become an effective resource for the people who are most at risk. Check out the [National Immigration Justice Center](#) to learn "5 things you can do now to protect yourself and your loved ones," then share what you learned with the people who need to know it.
- Accept the invitation from Friends Committee on National Legislation to ["tell Congress to invest in human migration solutions."](#)
- Manasquan Quaker Meeting recently sponsored a Community Refugee Sponsorship Workshop. Learn more about refugee sponsorship opportunities at <https://welcomecorps.org>.
- Check out the American Friends Service Committee to ["act now for welcoming, dignified, and just immigration."](#)

Many dedicated people are already working hard to support the migrants in our country. Let's join them in this important work.