

## PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

### Annual Report 2022

Peace and Social Concerns Committee brought forth three new working groups under its care this year, each of which has actively and thoughtfully pursued its vision to ways in which Friends can move forward consistent with the Spirit to address its purview. Below are statements from each working group. Interested Friends are invited to join any of these working groups by contacting the respective clerk/convener.

The working group on U.S. Militarism and War, clerked by Jean Athey, was formed in September and has been active all year in exploring pathways to peace. This summer, two additional working groups are in the process of forming under PSC care in response to recent Supreme Court decisions—Kathy Rogers is convening the working group on Reproductive Justice and Barbara Bezdek is convening the group on Friends and Firearms.

In addition to the three new working groups, an ongoing End of Life WG clerked by Patti Nesbitt has had a very full year, although it functioned independently of PSC and is now requesting to be under the care of Ministry and Pastoral Care.

Two final working groups officially under the care of PSC have not met this past year. They are Refugees, Immigrants, and Sanctuary and Civil and Human Rights of Transgender and Non-Binary People. A decision should be made regarding the future of these working groups and whether there is interest in participating.

Other PSC actions have been

- co-sponsoring in fall 2021 with Annapolis Friends Meeting two conscientious objector training workshops for young Friends from around Yearly Meeting. (For materials to share with others who might like to replicate this, contact Phil Caroom.)

- co-sponsoring on 2/20/22 with Annapolis Friends Meeting, Peace Action, and our BYM PSC working group on U.S. Militarism a Zoom webinar with the author of "Humane: how the U.S. abandoned peace and reinvented war."

- obtaining endorsement from Interim Meeting for the Poor People's Campaign and their Moral March on Washington on June 18. Numerous Friends participated in this national event.

Respectfully submitted by

Darcy Lane and Annette Breiling, co-clerks

Other PSC committee members: Jean Athey, Barbara Bezdek, Richard Capron, Phil Caroom, Tamina Chowdhury, Andy Conlon, Jamie DeMarco, Suzanne O'Hatnick, Bob Rhudy, Beth Tauser.

Liaisons to PSC : Erika Janiker, for Prisoner Visitation and Support, Donna Kolaetis, for Quaker House – Fayetteville, NC, and Suzanne O'Hatnick, for Interfaith Alliance for Human Rights.