



Satya
thoughtfulness in
thought, speech, and action

Yes! We Can Peace Builders Newsletter - May 2022

"We have given corporations dominion over the sustaining of our lives. They shape our thoughts and our language. They create images and metaphors of our time, which our children use to define their world and their lives. In other words, what corporations do well, what corporations are designed to do, is the problem."

--Richard Grossman

Yes We Can Peacebuilders is dedicated to promoting and teaching nonviolence, inspiring and engaging people to create a nonviolent community, nation and world.

With Youth We Will Thrive



After six years working directly in community on the Nonviolent Cities Project with adults, city officials, school officials, and church members, Peacebuilders finds themselves venturing into a new and exciting direction, working with young people. The future belongs to the youth of this world and it is to everyone's benefit that we in the older generation do all we can to guide and encourage those who will follow us towards peace and nonviolence.

With that in mind, Peacebuilders offered nonviolence education programs to three area youth groups and we are excited to tell you that beginning in the new school year we will have a youth arts center group in Paso Robles creating an art project based on the theme, "We Are All One."

We will also have an art project going for a Morro Bay city youth group and hopefully one with our local library, dealing with the issue of climate change and keeping our ocean, bay and estuary waters in good condition so that they will continue to produce food for marine life and humans and contribute to peace in our world. These art projects will coincide with the yearly observance of the United Nations International Peace Day on September 21, 2022.

This year's International Peace Day theme from the United Nations is " End Racism - Build Peace - Shaping Peace Together." We hope as we give these young people ages five to 18 an opportunity to express themselves through art that they will take to heart the principles of nonviolence and how important it is to be accepting and inclusive of everyone and to slow climate change by keeping our environment in good condition.

These issues aren't just issues for people on the Central Coast of California, but are issues in your communities wherever you are receiving this newsletter. We hope you will join us in these efforts with young people in your community too. It is up to us to empower youth towards a nonviolent life and a peaceful world.



Positive Peacebuilding

We may find it difficult lately to be positive about anything, certainly not the war in Ukraine or the upswing of gun violence, suicides, and dicey decisions from the Supreme Court.

War is the ultimate disaster and watching the destruction of cities and towns in Ukraine is painful. Nonviolence teaches us that war or violence is never necessary; that there is always a better way to solve problems. However, once a conflict escalates to the extremes that are occurring in Ukraine it is unlikely for the attacked not to retaliate in kind. We pray for the people of Ukraine. We pray that the leaders in both countries will somehow come to compromise and end the slaughter. We reject the violence and evil, but remember that we love everyone, even Vladimir Putin, as difficult as that may sound. We pray he will stop this war. And we desire an end to all war.

Peace Tea



Peacebuilders looks forward to their second gathering for Talk Around the Table with the Peace Tea Group. Once again we will enjoy some soothing tea and goodies and enter into discussions of what nonviolence is and we will make a Mind Map with our own descriptions after reviewing

some quotes from famous people. Then we will explore the words "Free" and "Equal" as we look at the first of the 30 basic human rights as set down by the United Nations. Anyone in the vicinity of Morro Bay, Ca is invited to join us on Thursday, May 26th, at 2 PM at the Estero Bay Methodist Church Hall, 3000 Hemlock Avenue, Morro Bay, CA.

It's Time to Vote



In California we are heading to our primary election on June 7th. Here on the Central Coast many of us are in a new district and have the opportunity to change what political party will be prominent in federal, state and local seats. In Morro Bay we are looking at filling a seat made vacant by the death of a city council member and our county is looking to fill the state Assembly seat with someone new. Peacebuilders hope all the candidates on the ballot will conduct themselves towards each other with respect and may the best woman win! Please VOTE!



Links to Good Stuff

In this section we offer you links to articles, blogs, and podcasts that you may find interesting and informative.

Waging Nonviolence article by Eric Stoner, "Yes, Protest Can Influence the Supreme Court" that addresses the recent leak of a decision by Supreme Court about abortion.

<https://wagingnonviolence.org/2022/05/yes-protest-can-influence-the-supreme-court/>

Podcast of discussion by Ruth Ann Angus and Woman of the Year Reverend Caroline Hall, Pastor of Saint Benedict's Episcopal church in Los Osos, CA.

Caroline Hall was awarded as Woman of the Year by Congressman Salud Carbajal for her work in the homeless and LGBTQ communities. Hall has worked as a founding member of Court Appointed Special Advocates for San Luis Obispo, CA., Los Osos Cares, and Central Coast Clergy and Laity for Justice. On this podcast they talk about homelessness and the difficulties for communities to solve this problem, as well as poverty issues, LGBTQ, gun violence and the question of responsibility on the part of government, churches, and civic organizations.

<https://soundcloud.com/ruth-ann-angus/caroline-hall-podcast-may-2022>.

You can also reach this podcast at www.losososcares.com.

We are Blogging!

Read our blogs -- stories of people who have endured hardships in their lives but have overcome them.

"One Man's Story - A Homeless Odyssey"

<https://www.losososcares.com/post/one-man-s-story-a-homeless-odyssey>

"Undocumented - Mariana's Story"

<https://www.losososcares.com/post/undocumented-mariana-s-story>

New Thought Musicians Showcase

It's upbeat and positive peaceful music brought to you via You Tube by Jane Thornton's "New Thought Musicians Showcase."

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXxT-ABkS0GufUFLfp4YXw>

"Nonviolence means avoiding injury to anything on earth in thought, word or deed." -- Mohandas Gandhi

On September 11, 2018, Yes We Can Peacebuilders accepted a proclamation of peace and nonviolence from the mayor and city council of Morro Bay, California establishing Morro Bay as a Nonviolent City.

The Nonviolent City Project is a grassroots movement that organizes strategy for activists to work for the transformation of their community into a peaceful, nonviolent city. This is a shift in consciousness to work holistically with every sector of the city to establish a culture of peace.

Yes We Can Peacebuilders offers workshops and training for adults and youth on ways nonviolence is fostered, defining nonviolence to aid in the development or nonviolent communication and strategies for change within ourselves and our community. You can learn more at: www.yeswecanpeacebuilders.org or email us at yeswecanpeacebuilders1@gmail.com.



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