



Merrimack Valley

People For Peace

Serving the communities of the Merrimack Valley

Merrimack Valley People for Peace, Inc. works for a sustainable future for all life on our planet. Our members commit themselves to the interrelated activities of education for peace and justice, the prevention of war, an end to arms sales, the abolition of nuclear weapons, and protection of the environment.

July 2022 – July 2024

GOOD NEWS

For the last year it has been not just difficult but almost impossible to find items for the traditional opening of the MVPP Newsletter. Good News? What good news? Is that some mockery in pretty bad taste or what? Every day brings heartbreaking reports about the ruthless genocide in Gaza actively supported by our government. The war in Ukraine grinds on and on, destroying lives and large portions of some of the most fertile soil in Europe. Sudan... disasters due to climate change... polio... mpox... and so on and so on.

Still, we cannot endlessly wallow in doom and gloom only, and it is possible to see if not achievements, at least positive trends.

Protests against the genocide in Gaza and actions in support of Palestine are going on strong. Despite the arrests, despite the brutal crackdowns on student encampments at least 140 of which emerged nationwide, despite the widely spun narratives accusing protesters of antisemitism, despite the suspension of students at several universities, despite the proverbial short attention span of Americans, the solidarity with Palestine movement is not slowing down. It has succeeded in forcing some institutions to divest from companies profiting from the destruction of Gaza, or at least to start the process of voting on divestment. Ceasefire resolutions, even if symbolic, have been passed in more than 350 cities across the country.

Here in our corner of the world, we have been joined in the two weekly vigils – at Raytheon and at Shawsheen Square – by enthusiastic young members of the organization Merrimack Valley for Palestine, as well by people coming all the way from Newton or Somerville and occasionally even by a passerby.

Jewish Voice for Peace and IfNotNow have been in the frontline of the actions in support of Gaza from day one. Along with organizing and being part of dozens of protests, for the last 10 months JVP has been doing Monday through Friday the online webinar *Power half-hour for Gaza: Channel grief and outrage into action to stop genocide*. Along with having a space in which to be together, to get news and exchange comments on them, the participants are being connected daily to the phones of their respective representatives and senators, as well as given guidelines for writing Letters to the Editor. The webinar is being visited by hundreds every day.

Not Another Bomb” protests in the US and across the globe. On the eve of the DNC, protesters marched in dozens of cities across the US to demand US arms embargo on Israel. The cities included New York, Washington, D.C., Atlanta, Boston, Albuquerque, Chicago, Los Angeles and Oakland, CA among others. Demonstrations also took place in many cities across the globe.

<http://www.merrimackvalleypeopleforpeace.org/>

You can view newsletters on line (where most links work) at <http://www.merrimackvalleypeopleforpeace.org/oldmins.hym>

Printed on recycled paper

Protests in Chicago held outside and inside the Convention. Thousands marched in Chicago every day of the DNC, organized by the Coalition to March on the DNC, demanding a ceasefire in Gaza and embargo on US arms. Inside the convention, at least 36 official delegates representing the “uncommitted” movement have been advocating an antiwar agenda to push for an end to U.S. arms sales to Israel. During President Biden’s speech on the first night of the DNC, three delegates - Muslim, Immigrant and Jewish - briefly unfurled a banner that read “Stop Arming Israel” before it was snatched away by convention staff. Delegates from the Uncommitted National Movement and allies launched a sit-in protest Wednesday night outside the convention hall in Chicago after the DNC refused to honor their request to let a Palestinian American speak onstage. Climate activists disrupted a side event at the DNC which was sponsored by Exxon Mobil.

Rep. Ilhan Omar defeats Primary challenge. Minnesota Congresswoman Ilhan Omar has fended off a primary election challenge after pro-Israel groups raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for her opponent’s campaign. She captured 56% of the votes in the Democratic primary. Ilhan Omar has been a fierce critic of the war on Gaza and for months has led calls for a ceasefire.

University of Chicago drops cases against Gaza Solidarity student protesters and delivers their diplomas. Five University of Chicago graduates who participated in Palestinian rights protests finally received their diplomas more than two months after graduation. They were also notified that the disciplinary cases against them have been dropped. They were never told why they were the subject of disciplinary cases.

Emmy Awards stands firm on nominating Palestinian Reporter. The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences has rejected an attempt by pro-Israel groups and Hollywood celebrities to rescind an Emmy nomination for the Palestinian journalist Bisan Owda. Owda has been reporting from the ground in Gaza since October. She was nominated for her Al Jazeera Plus report “It’s Bisan from Gaza and I’m Still Alive.”

Julian Assange returns to Australia a free man. Two months ago, WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange finally was released from Belmarsh prison in London and returned home after a more than 12-year legal ordeal after he published classified documents detailing U.S. war crimes in

Iraq and Afghanistan. If extradited to the U.S., he faced a trial and a conviction of 175 years in prison on espionage charges. Due to the enormous efforts of his family and lawyers and of an international grassroots campaign, Assange is free today, but the fact remains that his case is a chilling attack on journalism and on the public’s right to know.

Colombia has banned coal exports to Israel.

Colombia had been the largest supplier of coal to Israel. President Gustavo Petro explained the ban in a post on X: “Colombian coal is used to make bombs to kill Palestinian children.”

Russian antiwar protester released in prisoner swap.

We heard a lot about the American journalists who came home in the largest prisoner swap between Russia and the US in post-soviet times, but little or almost nothing about the Russian political prisoners who were released as a part of it. Among them is the artist Alexandra Skochilenko who was sentenced to seven years in prison for posting five stickers critical of the war in Ukraine in a grocery store.

The Bread and Roses Hall of Fame award honors individuals or institutions that have significantly contributed to preserving the legacy of the 1912 strike. This year’s awardee is [MVPP member] Louis (Lou) Bernieri, recognized for his dedication to education and social justice.

Events

6/22

We celebrated 12 more countries having ratified the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), total now 66,(70 in 2024)

7/22

Our table at the Lowell folk festival could not have a roof (rules), but we survived, and met many interesting people.

8/22

Our traditional vigil to commemorate the victims of nuclear bombs at Hiroshima and Nagasaki took place on Tuesday, August 9th, the anniversary of the Nagasaki bombing. We had a sufficient presence, many signs and a table with printed materials in front of the Old Town Hall in Andover. The event got very good coverage on the front page and page 4 of the Andover Townsman, with an article and

multiple photos. Thanks to Kathie Robinson for setting this up with the reporter and photographer, and being interviewed for the article.

9/22

The Bread and Roses festival was pushed indoors by heavy rain. We saw more from other tables than from passers by.

10/22

We learned the state had placed refugees in Methuen, without warning the town. We looked into helping and donated some toys for the kids. We later decided to donate to the International Institute to help the refugees settle in.

11/22

We met live at Masoods's house for the Stone Soup Supper, and greatly enjoyed each other's company and food.

2023

2/23

Masood was part of a protest at Rep. Seth Moulton's Salem, MA office, demanding to meet with the representative. Local media supported it.

3/23

Masood was one of twelve, led by Sunny Robinson, who met with Rep. Moulton. They discussed Ukraine, nuclear weapons, Yemen, and Palestine, but were disappointed by Moulton's responses.

After another mass shooting, we sent a letter to government leaders, and the Eagle Tribune.

4/23

Phil started using a big banner that said "Nuclear Weapons are Illegal."

5/23

Masood Sheikh attended the Nakba Rally held in front of the Cambridge Town Hall on May 15, 2023. (Nakba was the date Palestinians were first pushed from their homes. It continues.)

MVPP observed the 75th anniversary of Nakba during the peace vigil on Sunday May 14, 2023.

6/23

Phil's banner joined Mass Peace Action (MAPA), welcoming the Veterans for Peace boat, the Golden

Rule, campaigning to stop nuclear testing and weapons.

Catholic Worker, Claire Schaeffer-Duffy spoke at our Annual Meeting (details in Meeting Notes).

7/23

Long time MVPP and social justice activist, Arthur Brien died at 93.

MVPP had our table at the Lowell Folk Festival and talked to many passers by as they browsed and donated for pins, stickers, and literature. We survived the new rule of no tent, even when it rained.

8/23

Arthur Brien's memorial service was attended by a few MVPP members. Some members had to cancel plans to attend due to flash flood and tornado warnings.

Ten of us held our Nagasaki vigil on Sunday, Aug. 6, at the Old Andover Town Hall.

Some MVPP members attended MAPA's online webinar with Richard Krushnic of Raytheon Nuclear Weapons Campaign.

9/23

Our table at the Bread and Roses festival was in a new location, in the shade, and we still saw many people.

10/23

Keep Space for Peace vigil at Raytheon

After the October 7 Hamas attack and Israeli responses we had signs seeking peace in Israel and Palestine.

Some of us attended hearings in North Andover about flying a Palestinian flag in the town common, after an Israeli flag had been flown. We were observers, not being from North Andover, except for Masood. The high school auditorium was full and passions were expressed, but there were some creative and useful presentations, and the community stayed together. The board decided that night to allow the Palestinian flag.

11/23

On Nov. 11, 2023, Rolling Ridge Retreat Center held a memorial service to honor Rev. Jim Todd's legacy at the Ridge. The Niantic Room will be re-named Todd

Hall. Mary Todd and family were joined by MVPP's Kathie Robinson and Boryana Tacconi. The whole group walked to the lake where a new bench was decorated with a plaque in memory of Jim Todd.

Masood participated in one of the first big demonstrations in support of Gaza in Washington, D.C.

We held our annual Stone Soup Supper at Kathie's house

12/23
No meeting in December. Vigils continued.

2024

1/24
Vigils focused on preventing a massacre in Gaza.

2/24
Masood joined Palestinian and MAPA demonstrations locally, and in Washington, DC.

3/24
Palestinians from Lowell joined the Raytheon vigil occasionally.

4/24
Phil had a banner printed, derived from Picasso's Guernica. It brought positive and negative responses from cars passing at Raytheon.



Numerous local and national rallies were being held to continue to urge the Biden administration to end its support of the ongoing genocide of Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, and to seek immediate ceasefire. Many protest have been held in front of Representative Seth Moulton's office in Salem. Also, a noon-time stand out has been held at Union Square in Lawrence on first and third Sunday of every month.

5/24
Phil and Brian participated in the Veterans for Peace Memorial Day commemoration.

More of us began attending the "standout for Palestine" in Lawrence, at Union and Canal Streets 1st and 3rd Sundays.

6/24
Masood reported on protests against Benjamin Netanyahu's Washington DC visit, there and in Boston. A march in Washington August 24 is planned.

We held our annual meeting at Kathie's house.

7/24
Meeting Notes

6/28/22 At our annual meeting, our guest speaker was, Caroline Rowe, Lowell Managing Director of International Institute of New England. It is a non-profit organization serving immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers, and other vulnerable populations in the Boston area with branches in Lowell, Massachusetts, and Manchester, New Hampshire. The Institute has helped resettle about 16,000 persons since the 1980s. The institute's activities are mainly funded by Federal and State governments, and charitable donations and volunteers are welcome. MVPP members can send donation checks to the following address:

International Institute of New England
ATTN: Development Office
2 Boylston St, 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116

7/26/22 We planned for the Lowell Folk Festival, Hiroshima Day, Bread and Roses, and Andover Day. Some progress had already been made on registering for these events, but Janice had found the final answer, that we could not use our canopy at Lowell.

8/23/22 We were registered for the Bread and Roses festival, and had people to staff the table.

Our Raytheon vigil will join Mass Peace Action's anti-nuclear campaign.

9/27/22 We decided to continue meeting on Zoom, with occasional live meetings.

We would dedicate the October 6 vigil at Raytheon to “Keep Space for Peace.”

We remembered deceased member, Richard McCarthy.

10/25/22 We planned for the upcoming traditional Stone Soup event, to be held in person for the first time in 3 years. We would not have a speaker, but catch up with each other.

We talked about the next week’s midterm elections.

Janice Sifferlen reported that about 150 people from Venezuela, Colombia and Haiti were recently dropped off by the state at the Days Inn in Methuen without any warning to the town management. All those people are documented, waiting for further legalizing of their status.

Brian would contact the Merrimack Valley Project to see what the Faith community is doing about the new arrivals and if we can be of any help.

11/22/22 Stone Soup Supper. No business meeting.

12/22 No meeting in December.

2023

1/25/23 Masood Sheikh briefed the attendees about the dire economic, political and social situation in Pakistan. There has been no alleviation in the desperate situation of victims of last year’s floods because the corrupt ruling class has not allowed any aid or relief to reach them.

Masood mentioned that Sunny Robinson had invited people to join a protest against Representative Seth Moulton’s support of the war in Ukraine. The protest would be held in front his office (21 Front Street, Salem) at noon on Thursday, January 26, 2023.

2/28/23 Masood Sheikh briefed the attendees about the protest held in front of Congressman Seth Moulton’s office in Salem on January 26. The protest was led by Sunny Robinson and Art McDonald, and received good coverage by local newspapers. The Congressman finally agreed to meet the peace activists in person on March 14, 2023.

Kathie Robinson announced her plan to wed her boyfriend of 28 years, Mark.

3/28/23 We considered speakers for our annual meeting and discussed gun violence.

Masood reported about the meeting with Rep. Moulton. Sunny Robinson led the agenda and presented the delegation’s views:

- Urge the Congressman to work for ceasefire and negotiations to end the war in Ukraine,
- Stop spending on new nuclear weapons and ban first use of nukes,
- End US role in Saudi Arabia’s war against Yemen, and
- Stop Israel’s escalating violence against the Palestinians in Israeli occupied territories.

4/25/23 Lacking a quorum, we did not meet.

5/23/23 We planned for the Annual Meeting.

We approved joining Mass Peace Action’s (MAPA) Raytheon Campaign.

Masood informed the attendees that Nakba was not just a one-time event in 1948 when more than 750,000 Palestinians were evicted or had to flee their homeland at the creation of Israel. For most of the Palestinians, the Nakba has continued. Masood recommended that the attendees watch Netflix’s “*Farha*” to have some idea of the terror perpetrated by Zionist terrorist gangs and Israeli army to accomplish ethnic cleansing of Palestine. The short movie is based on a true story of a 14 year old Palestinian girl who observed the massacre in her village while locked up in her home’s pantry.

6/23/2023 Annual Meeting

Claire Schaeffer-Duffy of the Saints Francis and Therese Catholic Workers House in Worcester spoke about: “A Peaceful Way to Protect the Nuclear Reactor at Zaporizhzhia in Ukraine.” She had recently returned from a trip to Ukraine as part of Zaporizhzhia Protection Project, where obvious foreign visitors’ presence prevents violence. The Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant is the largest nuclear plant in Europe and has about 50 tons of plutonium waste stored at the site. This amount can generate 50,000 times the radioactive contamination produced by the atomic bomb the US dropped over Nagasaki. The speaker entertained many questions from the audience and was warmly thanked for her elucidations.

7/25/23 We planned for the Lowell Folk Festival, Hiroshima commemoration, and Bread and Roses festival.

8/23/23 Discussion on Russia-Ukraine war exposed a variety of opinions among the attendees. However, all agreed about need to promote peace and prevent continuing bloodshed. All also agreed on displaying the following two banners at MVPP vigils: NEGOTIATE, NOT ANNIHILATE and NO NUKES

9/26/23 Not a quorum, so no decisions. We remembered that Keep Space for Peace would be October 12. We discussed the Stone Soup gathering, general plans for following year, and then the Bread and Roses festival.

10/24/23 Allan spoke about the Raytheon Nuclear Weapons Campaign and the vigil in Harvard Square planned for November 1. Raytheon weapons were being used in Ukraine and Gaza; The famous Iron Dome system in Israel was designed by Raytheon.

We discussed the rising protests worldwide over Israel's harsh response to the October 7 raid, and making non-inflammatory signs

11/18/24 At our Stone Soup Supper at Kathie's house we socialized, but did not hold a business meeting.

We don't meet in December.

2024

1/23/24 We planned our annual donations to other peace groups (Usually done in November).

We discussed a proposal from a MAPA member to have a civil disobedience event at the Raytheon vigil, but decided against it for now.

We talked about the situation in Gaza: Ruth said that the Secretary-General of UN, António Guterres, now openly speaks about genocide. Kathie, observed that war is important for Netanyahu so that he can stay in power. Allan noted that more journalists have been killed in the Gaza fighting, than during WWII world-wide

2024

2/27/24 Masood described the Biden administration's military and political support of Israel, and its three vetoes of ceasefire resolutions at the UN Security Council. Numerous local and national rallies have been held to urge the Biden administration to end its support of the ongoing genocide of Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and seek

immediate ceasefire. Rallies have been held in front of Representative Seth Moulton's office in Salem. Other representatives have been approached by the local groups and urged to seek a ceasefire.

Pat Scanlon briefed the attendees about the annual Peace Walk from Augusta, Maine to Washington, DC in April. The Peace Walk is organized by Veterans for Peace and is supported by many other Peace groups. Pat was coordinating the walk from Ogunquit, ME to Franklin, MA, and was soliciting support for publicity, participation, food and shelter for the participants. (There were later disagreements about the walk's management, and aims. MVPP did not participate.)

4/23/24 The attendees discussed the recently approved \$95 Billion of US tax-payers' money in additional aid for Ukraine and Israel. It was noted that the aid will only prolong the war in Ukraine and will enable Israel to continue its genocidal war in Gaza. Masood noted that President Biden's policy has alienated most of the American Muslims and Arabs and may not bode well for his re-election.

The attendees noted the recent student protests at major colleges and universities, and how these protest are spreading nationwide. Masood pointed out the article titled "Protesting against slaughter – as students in the US are doing – isn't antisemitism" by Robert Reich in the 4/23/24 edition of the *Guardian*.

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2024/apr/23/israel-gaza-campus-protests>.

Michael notified us that Veterans for Peace said Israel's illegal nuclear weapons and testing program makes it ineligible for any military aid or assistance from the US (The legislation passed soon after this anyway).

Ruth exposed to us how Social Security Supplemental Income Security (SSI), uses out of date criteria to cut off those it is supposed to support.

5/28/24 We committed to our summer activities: Lowell Folk Festival, Hiroshima remembrance, and Bread and Roses. We scheduled our annual meeting for June 22, at Kathie's house.

Some members expressed their desire to initiate a forum/dialogue between Palestinian and Israeli peace activists. They will actively search for suitable participants.

Our annual meeting was at Kathie's house, June 22. We

kept the same officers and heard the annual report. Mostly, we enjoyed each other's company and shared food.

7/23/24 We prepared for the Lowell Folk Festival and Hiroshima commemoration.

Letter from MVPP

To congressmen, senators, and The Lawrence Eagle Tribune.

In Tennessee we have again been reminded of the dangers of fire arms. We need to regulate them better.

Guns are more powerful than they were 232 years ago when the Second Amendment was passed. They are also easier to obtain now, thanks t the internet and 3D printing. Legislators have been bogged down arguing about specifics.

In 1791, when most Americans lived in rural areas guns were needed for hunting and protection from dangerous animals. Law enforcement was geographically too far away to be called on, so weapons were also used against other people (including native Americans whose land they were stealing rapidly). City people don't need guns for hunting or protection from animals. Guns were dangerous to people, so many cities regulated them. (Guns were manufactured in cities.) Rural and urban areas often oppose each other, but look at specific differences.

The National Rifle Association was organized in 1871, to train people to use guns safely, and it supported regulation. In the 1970s, new leadership working with politicians used the Second Amendment to divide urban and rural voters. They campaigned against gun regulation. Arguments on both sides of the regulation question grew increasingly extreme, and regulation fluctuated.

Merrimack Valley People for Peace focuses on preventing the violence of war and inside our country. It is past time to reduce the tensions around gun regulation. We regulate other dangerous technologies such as automobiles and fuels, why not weapons? Second Amendment arguments are not settled. Citizens can be better protected from government by protecting voting than by allowing people to use weapons.

We urge you to continue to support such legislation as ...
2022 the Gun Violence Prevention and Community Safety Act
Gun Violence Reduction Resources Act of 2023

Coming Events

Bread and Roses festival, Campagnone Common, 9/2, Mon.

September 17 or 19, Raytheon vigil focused on stopping nuclear weapons.

October 10 Raytheon vigil focused on keeping space for peace

See the vigils list. [Page 9 ??](#)

Mass Peace Action Events:

<http://masspeaceaction.org/events/>

In Memoriam:

Richard McCarthy Sept '22

Jim Todd April '23

Arthur Brien July '23



Richard McCarthy was at our vigils in the early 2000s, and was active in the Lawrence area for many years before that.

<https://www.dewhirstfuneral.com/obituary/Richard-McCarthy>



Jim Todd was active in our local, NYC, and DC vigils, and an active participant in meetings and events. His management of the Methodist retreat center, Rolling Ridge, was commemorated last year.

<https://www.bu.edu/sth/rev-james-g-todd-sth61/>



Arthur Brien Long time MVPP and social justice activist, Arthur Brien died at 93. Often arrested at peace demonstrations, he singlehandedly maintained the Raytheon vigil for many years. He donated his body to Science. Services were held in August at his church, Our Lady of Good Council, in Methuen.

<https://www.breenfuneralhome.com/obituaries/J-Brien#!/Obituary>

In June 2007, J. Arthur Brien received the 2007 Award for Excellence in Social Justice Actions from the New England Conference of the United Methodist Church in a heartwarming ceremony held at Gordon College. He had been recommended for the award by Jim Todd and Mary Kate Small. We are reprinting here his acceptance speech (it also appeared in the June-August 2007 issue of the MVPP newsletter) given on June 10 during the ceremony. The original was typed by Arthur on a real typewriter. The emphasis was in capital letters.

Bishop WEAVER, Rev. We Chang, Members of the New England Conference of the United Methodist Church, and Friends of Peace:

I am overwhelmed, Humbled and Very Privileged to be this Year's recipient of your Social Justice Award.

I especially find Great Joy in the ecumenical Spirit by which your choice of a recipient was made, since I am a Christian of the Roman Catholic Tradition, from Lawrence, MA!

I believe that many in this chapel could have been chosen for this honor, nevertheless... I do accept it, with the thought that it will be a reminder for me to better serve Christ in the future.

One thing for certain is that I could not accept this honor without acknowledging my wife Marguerite and our family for their STRONG SUPPORT. Thank You Marguerite and Family!!

I have also been very fortunate to have been brought up in a good Christian home and environment. I have lived in an ERA which produced many holy people... such as M.L.K., Gandhi, the Berrigan brothers, Mother Theresa, and Dorothy Day to mention just a few. These saintly people provided great examples for me to TRY TO EMULATE.

In the final analysis I have done nothing more than what is Required of any follower of Christ.

In HIS non-violent teaching of LOVE, Love of God, Love of Neighbor, LOVE OF Self, and also Love of Enemies (which is not easy to do) I find that there is NO more EFFECTIVE Way to respond to the evils of the world, and to respond to the evils of our Government and its leaders.

These Non-Violent teachings of Christ provide ME with the strength to witness for Christ in my daily life... whether it is by vigiling against the IMMORALITY of the unjust and illegal war in IRAQ... OR TRYING TO do a little to bring it to an end... or to bring the troops home safely as soon as possible. To approve the Warmakers would be to BETRAY Jesus. The LIGHT OF GOD'S TRUTH AGAINST THE HORRORS OF WAR MUST BE BROUGHT TO Light. If we sow violence it is impossible to reap non-violence. Or to sow War cannot bring about PEACE.

I also must be more Loving and Compassionate towards the rest of Humanity, since we are all Sisters and Brothers CREATED IN GOD'S Image!!

This command to LOVE all people brings on much responsibility. It requires that I, in my small way, work to alleviate hunger, help to eradicate poverty, work for better race relations, more affordable housing, to work to protect our environment among others.

Thus far, history has shown us that violence does NOT bring about Social Justice or true lasting PEACE.

WE really must get the Human family to try something different to solve our ills. I personally think that another REVOLUTION IS CALLED FOR. A revolution of LOVE.

This may sound as FOLLY to many people but if we call ourselves FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST, HIS FORMULA OF LOVE TO ACHIEVE TRUE JUSTICE AND PEACE should be given the opportunity to put into practice.

When all is said and done I KNOW that it is in God's Unconditional LOVE OF ALL that we will achieve our goals of Justice and Peace.

I THANK GOD FOR YOU AND ALL YOUR GOOD WORKS TO TRY TO GET THIS BEAUTIFUL FORMULA OF GOD TO SUCCEED. It will in God's own time.

May God bless us all!!!
Thank You.

Membership

**To continue to receive this newsletter...We Invite You to Join /Rejoin Us
(Unless 2016 appears on your label, your dues have expired. Please remember to renew.)**

\$20.00 Individual

\$10.00 Student/Senior

\$30.00 Family

Circle One

\$50.00 Supporting

\$75.00 Sustaining

\$100.00 Peacemaker

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North Andover, MA 01845

MVPP is registered with the IRS as a 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions to MVPP are tax deductible.

Check here if you prefer to receive your newsletter via e-mail.

Weekly Vigils

Andover: Sunday, noon-1 pm; Shawsheen Square, Junction of Routes 133 and 28; Lawrence Friends Meeting/ Shawsheen Peace Witness; Allan Sifferlen, 978-397-6432.

Andover: Thursday, 6:30-7:30 am; in front of Raytheon plant near Routes 133 and 93; Raytheon Peacemakers; Allan Sifferlen, 978-397-6432.

Lawrence 1st and 3rd Sundays at noon, Union and Common St. Free Palestine.

Reading: 2nd Saturday/each month, 11 am-noon; Reading Square; Reading People for Peace; Bob Connor, bobconnor1@yahoo.com.

Merrimack Valley People For Peace
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<http://www.merrimackvalleypeopleforpeace.org/>

PEACE IS
PATRIOTIC

The MVPP Newsletter is printed periodically and has a current distribution of 100. We are grateful for suggestions, comments, and help with publication

MVPP President: Brian Quirk. Vice President: Boryana Tacconi.

Newsletter contributors, Brian Quirk, and Boryana Tacconi., Arthur Brien

CALL AND WRITE YOUR REPRESENTATIVES & SENATORS TO MAKE YOUR VIEWS KNOWN

Every legislator knows one letter is worth a thousand votes.

President Joseph Biden (202) 456-1414 switchboard
The White House (202) 456-1111 comments
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500
Contact: www.whitehouse.gov/contact/

Senator Elizabeth Warren (202) 224-4543
317 Hart Senate Office Building Washington DC 20510
Form: www.warren.senate.gov/?p=email_senator

Senator Edward J. Markey (202) 224-2742
218 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510
Form: www.markey.senate.gov/contact

Representative Seth Moulton (District 6)
1408 Longworth
House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515 21 Front Street
(202) 225-8020 Salem, MA 01970
fax (202) 225-5915 (978) 531-1669 fax (978) 224-2270
Form: <https://moulton.house.gov/contact/>

Representative Lori Trahan (District 3)
1616 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC
20515 202-225-3411
15 Union St, Suite 401, Lawrence, MA 01840
978 459-0101

11 Kearney Square, 3rd floor
Lowell, MA 01852 978 459-0101 fax: 978-459-1907
Haverhill Citizens Center 10 Welcome Street
492 Main Street **Acton, MA 01720** (978) 263-1951
Contact: <https://trahan.house.gov/contact/>

A link to all in US legislature:
thomas.loc.gov/home/legbranch/legbranch.html

How Senators and Representatives voted:
Senate: www.senate.gov/reference/common/faq/how_to_votes.htm
House: clerk.house.gov/evs/2004/index.asp

State Voting Information: Find your representatives at:
<http://wheredoivotema.com/bal/MyElectionInfo.aspx>

State Bills
<http://www.mass.gov/legis/hbillsrch.htm>