

### 3. Report of On Earth Peace

Beloved Leaders & Communities Working for Justice & Peace

2021 Theme: “The Beloved Community is the framework for the future”

2nd Principle of Kingian Nonviolence Conflict Reconciliation

The teachings of Kingian Nonviolence Conflict Reconciliation hold a central role in the work and direction of On Earth Peace. In 2021, we lift up the “beloved community” vision embodied in Jesus’ life and ministry (in calling disciples and organizing the church and invoking the ‘kin-dom’ of heaven) and adopt the 2nd Principle of Kingian Nonviolence as our theme for the year.

*Principle #2 “The Beloved Community is the framework for the future”* on its surface may feel like the most inspiring and inviting of the Six Principles of Kingian Nonviolence. And, it definitely is a call of welcome. But, it also is a blueprint for growth and a challenge for change.

This is not a mere “kumbaya” sentiment, but a call to genuine relationship, which requires work, vulnerability, honesty, commitment, and risk. It is about raising the level of relationships among people to a height where justice prevails and people attain their full human potential.

*“So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God.” – Ephesians 2:19*

We know as a church body that this is no walk in the park. It is work in the field—hard, strenuous, backbreaking, sweaty work—that tests our spiritual muscles and will. This is the same work Jesus showed us with his followers, whose views constantly differed from each other’s and his own.

When we see people building beloved community working for justice and peace, we see Jesus—and see that he is with us all the time. This report shares some of the ways we saw this in our community in 2020. Where did you see this? Send us a note at [OEP@OnEarthPeace.org](mailto:OEP@OnEarthPeace.org).

#### 2020 HIGHLIGHTS: A YEAR, LIKE NO OTHER YEAR

Yes, it was a very strange year! And, it looks like we have more trials to come. Through it all, the people of OEP bonded together, sheltered together, and rose together, to meet these steady streams of new and engaging challenges and opportunities. Always, working together to build a Beloved Community of justice and peace.

We doubled the size of our paid internship program to 20+ young adult leaders, continuing to support their work with our full-time staff of 4 experienced professionals. This was so important both to these young leaders as they experienced the disruption of their work and education by the pandemic, and to the

1 OEP community as these interns took the lead in helping to expand our work  
2 and outreach throughout the year during the lockdowns and sheltering-in-place.

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4 We held dozens of online events with the OEP community and partners, includ-  
5 ing topical meetups, skills training webinars, book group conversations, church  
6 and community organizing projects, and more. Along with two in-depth series  
7 on Kingian Nonviolence—one working toward an update of the core curricu-  
8 lum, and another to certify a new group of trainers.

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10 OEP also produced more than 50 videos of peace and justice children’s book  
11 readings by people of all ages—seniors, young adults, parents, and even by chil-  
12 dren themselves. And, we launched a new community engagement grant pro-  
13 gram for youth-led peace and justice projects, which also includes mentorship  
14 and hands-on training from OEP interns and staff.

15  
16 In addition to all this growth in program work, our interns helped lead the way  
17 in developing an exciting new outreach campaign sharing the stories and witness  
18 of intergenerational leaders for justice and peace in the OEP community, which  
19 launched with the new year. All while keeping up with a rapid pace of commu-  
20 nications through social media, e-newsletters, and beyond.

21  
22 Other interns helped with the continued widening and deepening of the many  
23 tech capabilities required to sustain and manage such growth, and help people  
24 in the OEP community stay in meaningful contact with each other, including  
25 an interactive website and other key tools.

26  
27 We even started a new “JustPeace Outfitters” online store (<http://JPOutfitters.org>),  
28 where you can get beautiful stickers and other items with engaging messages of  
29 justice and peace. Send us a picture of where you display your stickers, so we  
30 can share this with your OEP friends.

## 31 **BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT OEP**

### 32 **On Earth Peace Values**

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35 Our shared values are what bring us together as the On Earth Peace commu-  
36 nity. These values guide all our work, and direct our “values-based consensus  
37 decision-making” process.

### 38 **Jesus-Centered Spirituality**

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40 We follow Jesus into the work of justice and peace. We share in spiritual practices  
41 and develop faith resources to help undergird our programs.

### 42 **Positive Peace**

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44 We learn, teach and practice dynamic forms of peacemaking which see conflict as  
45 an important tool to meet needs, address injustice, correct imbalances of power,  
46 and seek healing and reconciliation.

<b>Anti-Racism/Anti-Oppression</b>	1
We commit to name and undo barriers to participation in our programs based on identity, and to work for full inclusion and equity for all who wish to join in our work. We commit to the long-term transformation of On Earth Peace, the church, and society.	2 3 4 5 6
<b>Intergenerational Leadership</b>	7
We nurture peacemakers and leaders, and honor the wisdom, skill, and experience of all generations.	8 9 10
<b>Beloved Community</b>	11
We commit to raising the levels of relationships until justice and peace prevail, and all people attain their full human potential.	12 13 14
<b>A VISION OF ON EARTH PEACE</b>	
<i>We see a world in Beloved Community, free from oppression, violence, and war.</i>	15 16 17 18
A present and future “kin-dom of heaven” — with on earth peace, good will to all.	19 20
<b>ON EARTH PEACE MISSION</b>	
<i>We develop and walk with leaders and communities who work for justice and peace.</i>	21 22 23 24
Beginning with our formation in 1974 with a focus on renewing the peace witness of Brethren youth, OEP has always looked toward supporting leadership for peace in each generation. The decades that followed helped us learn that justice and peace go hand in hand, and were central to the work of Jesus and his community -- in their time and place, as in ours.	25 26 27 28 29 30
<b>OEP STRATEGIC PRIORITIES</b>	
Our program work for the years 2020-2022 will focus on helping leaders and communities apply the spiritual and practical discipline of Kingian Nonviolence Conflict Reconciliation. We also have special priorities for our work within the Church of the Brethren, and our continued long-term journey toward becoming an Anti-Racism/Anti-Oppression organization and community.	31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38
1. <i>Develop individuals as leaders with spirituality and skills in Kingian Nonviolence, using groups such as cohorts and communities of learning and action.</i>	39 40 41
2. <i>Walk with leaders and their communities as they take action for justice and peace using the Kingian Nonviolence approach, including accountability, consultation, and organizing in solidarity with current movements.</i>	42 43 44 45 46

1 3. *Through our agency responsibilities and opportunities, embolden the Church*  
2 *of the Brethren to become a living peace and justice denomination.*

3  
4 4. *Institutionalize Anti-Racism/Anti-Oppression in On Earth Peace practices and*  
5 *structures, including staff and board composition, programs, budgets, policies,*  
6 *and accountability to AR/AO partners including Crossroads and the Supportive*  
7 *Communities Network.*

## 8 9 HOW WE WORK

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11 OEP members work together through mutual equipping and accompaniment  
12 in a shared core of peace and justice building practices. Our means are our ends,  
13 our tools are our work.

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15 While different people and organizations in the OEP community will have dif-  
16 ferent experiences and expertise, everyone is learning and teaching, leading and  
17 following, growing together.

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19 OEP also freely provides a shared infrastructure that consists of key frameworks  
20 and support platforms and services, to help our extended OEP community do  
21 this important work.

## 22 23 WHO WE WORK WITH

24  
25 OEP works with individuals, churches and community groups, and other or-  
26 ganizations who want to learn and use active nonviolence to respond to conflict,  
27 injustice, and violence. Our work also includes a special focus on connecting  
28 with youth and young adults and people of color.

### 29 30 *Individual Practitioners*

31 We use the “learning action community” (LAC) framework for working with in-  
32 dividuals. People scattered throughout the church or world who care about a  
33 particular peace or justice concern often can feel isolated and powerless, like a  
34 “lone voice in the wilderness.”

35  
36 The overarching purposes of an OEP learning action community are to:

- 37 • Help people come together to work on justice and peace concerns that  
38 deeply matter to them, to overcome a sense of helpless isolation and find  
39 new strength in community.
- 40 • Help these leaders and their communities develop their capacity and commit-  
41 ment to bring about positive changes in the world with respect to these concerns.
- 42 • Build OEP accountability to people and groups who are most affected by  
43 each of these respective concerns. We respond to Jesus in these leaders like  
44 John the Baptist did in his work when he said, *“He must increase, I must de-  
45 crease.”* - John 3:30

In 2020, OEP/LAC's helped people work together in following Jesus in many areas of concern:	1
	2
Racial justice; gender justice; lgbtq+ justice; environmental justice; prison justice; Palestine liberation; Peace Day organizing; interfaith peacemaking; preventing military recruitment of children; Kingian Nonviolence; and conflict transformation.	3
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Pastors, community organizers, and other practitioners participated in such activities as:	8
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• Basic and advanced training, seminars, and webinars in Kingian Nonviolence, including deep background studies and direct applications to their current lives and work.	10
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• Gathering online with families and others in our intergenerational annual Song & Story Fest, to share music, stories, crafts, outdoor activities, and social and spiritual renewal.	13
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• Joining and helping to organize a series of local, regional, and national events in the new "Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival," a renewal of the peace and justice movement begun by Martin Luther King, Jr. before his assassination.	16
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We welcome proposals for new LAC's from individuals, churches, and groups. Please contact us at <a href="mailto:OEP@OnEarthPeace.org">OEP@OnEarthPeace.org</a> to share your areas of concern where Jesus is calling you.	21
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<i>Churches and Groups</i>	25
OEP has always worked with the Church of the Brethren and its congregations, districts, other agencies, and auxiliaries. In 2020, while the pandemic response limited most of our in-person events in the church, we still continued this work in a wide range of ways, including:	26
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• Preparation of worship and educational resources for disciples and congregations.	30
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• Exploration with congregations using our congregational peace and justice health checkup diagnostic tools, as a path for church growth and revitalization.	32
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• Organizing a wide range of celebrations, observances, and community projects for the International Day of Peace (9/21), which OEP has supported for more than a decade.	34
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To invite our participation in a project or event for your church, district, community group, or other organization, please contact us at <a href="mailto:OEP@OnEarthPeace.org">OEP@OnEarthPeace.org</a> or (410) 635-8704.	37
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<i>Young People</i>	41
Also from our beginning, OEP has followed a special calling to work with youth and young adults to help build and support leadership for justice and peace in each generation. Some of the ways we currently offer opportunities to develop skills, spiritual grounding, and mentorship include:	42
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- 1 • Paid internships where young adults help advance our work and develop  
2 their skills and commitments for a lifetime of peacemaking, no matter what  
3 vocations they follow
- 4 • Continuing support of the “Dunker Punks” community and podcast, where  
5 young adults explore what it means to follow the teachings of the “Sermon  
6 on the Mount” today.
- 7 • Community engagement grants for youth groups to support a youth-initi-  
8 ated project for peace and justice in your local community. This program  
9 also provides learning webinars in nonviolence, leadership, and anti-  
10 racism/anti-oppression.
- 11 • Our #ReadAloud program to provide homeschooling videos, discussion  
12 guides, reading lists, and other resources related to justice and peace for  
13 young people.
- 14 • Sharing digital media messages in the “Stop Recruiting Kids Campaign,” a  
15 nationwide movement to protect children and schools from military mar-  
16 keting and recruitment, and to build public support for opportunities be-  
17 sides the military for young people.

18  
19 To engage your young people, please contact us at [OEP@OnEarthPeace.org](mailto:OEP@OnEarthPeace.org) or  
20 (410) 635-8704.

## 21 22 ANTI-RACISM/ANTI-OPPRESSION (AR/AO)

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24 On Earth Peace includes an Anti-Racism Transformation Team (ARTT) to help  
25 lead our journey toward the following 20-year vision and goal for our organiza-  
26 tion and community:

27 *“On Earth Peace board, staff, practitioners, and programs are unapologetically*  
28 *multiracial/ multicultural, driven by an anti-racist, anti-oppression lens toward*  
29 *the transformation of society.”* (This is a long-term goal, we are not there yet!)

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31 The ARTT focuses on seeing and changing how racism misshapes our ministries,  
32 both internally and in our program offerings. The ARTT has helped keep our  
33 commitment to sending every board and staff member to a 2-½-day basic train-  
34 ing in “Analyzing & Understanding Systemic Racism” provided by Crossroads  
35 Antiracism Organizing & Training, and does critical work with our staff and  
36 board to help build AR/AO into our institutional practices and culture.

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38 To learn more about the ARTT, please contact us at [OEP@OnEarthPeace.org](mailto:OEP@OnEarthPeace.org) or  
39 (410) 635-8704.

## 40 41 OEP STAFF

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In addition to our full-time staff, On Earth Peace typically has an average of a 13  
 dozen paid interns working as part-time contract staff on a wide range of im- 14  
 portant programs and projects. 15  
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**OEP FINANCES** 17

Financial Report for January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2020 (*unaudited*) 18  
*Our audited financial report is available on request* 19

Income:		20
Individuals	\$ 128,798	21
Churches	67,292	22
Fund Grants	8,500	23
Govt Grants	72,800	24
Programs	4,267	25
Endowments	19,921	26
Other	1,907	27
	<hr/>	28
Total	\$ 303,485	29
		30
Expenses:	\$ 465,338	31
Net Operating Loss:	(161,853)	32
Unrealized Gains:	\$ 255,897	33
Net Revenue:	\$ 94,044	34
		35

On Earth Peace gives thanks for your faithful support and abundant generosity. 36  
 Many individuals and churches continue to increase the portions of their giving 37  
 to OEP. Where we need your help now is to find more people and churches like 38  
 you, and to invite them into the work of OEP. 39  
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To learn more about our #DoveClub monthly donors program, the #RoundUp 41  
 app for donating your spare change in credit/debit card purchases, and our 42  
 #LegacySociety program for planned giving to help secure our work at OEP for 43  
 justice and peace in the coming years and for the next generations, please contact 44  
 us at OEP@OnEarthPeace.org or (410) 635-8704. 45  
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