



DISCIPLES PEACE FELLOWSHIP ~ FALL 2020

NEWSNOTES

CELEBRATING THE 2020 DPF PEACE INTERNS!

This was a summer unlike any other. That was particularly true for the [2020 Peace Interns](#). In a typical year DPF sends three young adults to church camps all over the United States and Canada to serve as ambassadors for peace and justice. With the COVID-19 Pandemic, that simply wasn't possible this year.

Instead, 2020 DPF Peace Interns **Raphael Guillen, Jennifer Williams, and Wendy Davidson**

spent the summer working remotely, partnering with Disciples Justice Ministry groups, and connecting with online camps and conferences in the name of peace. They did AMAZING work this summer, and we are SO PROUD of them!



The #LegendaryPeaceInternsOf2020: Raphael Guillen, Jennifer Williams & Wendy Davidson

Below are excerpts from [a longer conversation about their experiences](#). Here are their responses to the prompt: ***What projects have you worked and what was it like to be a part of online church camps?***

Jennifer: I had the opportunity to make [an interactive, video keynote speech for the Ohio Region with Wendy](#), and then be a part of the online camp experiences in the Florida Region plus the Northern California/Nevada Region. It was a humbling experience to do this and be part of someone's world...because they don't have to let you in! Yet those camps treated me like family. I got that sense even in these virtual spaces. All in all, doing these online camps has inspired within me a passion for teaching, and that was a really big calling for me this summer.

Wendy: Living in Texas immigration is an issue that is important to me. I've had the chance to work with Refugee & Immigration Ministries this summer. [We developed the #40for40 Campaign](#) — sharing forty stories over forty days of congregations that have engaged in resettlement ministries. One of the other groups I've been working with this summer is Green Chalice. That culminated in [an online, intergenerational eco-camp](#). I had the opportunity to craft [a video keynote on making shalom in small spaces](#). I've been in apartments and dorms for the last seven years of my life, so figuring out how to grow things and care for creation can be a challenge but it is worth it!

Raphael: We've all been [writing stories for the Disciples News Service for the #DOCjustsummer Campaign](#). I'm also working with AllianceQ on educational resources for transgender and gender diverse folks. Plus, [Wendy and I led our PRIDE! Workshop](#) for CAMPDD in Virginia. It was very fun! They had all of these camp games that really worked online! There was one where you picked a card with a word on it and then you had to sing a song that included that word. It was totally amazing! Camp can happen on Zoom. The youth still have it in them and it can work out beautifully.

Make sure to check out the full interview with the 2020 Peace Interns on the DPF Peace Intern Blog at:

disciplespeace.org/follow-the-interns

THE PEACEMAKING LEGACY OF ADELLE & ROBERT LEMON

BY MARY JACOBS

Adelle and Robert Lemon infused their lives with a goal of holy shalom where peacemaking and justice embraced to bring equity, hope and well-being to the lives of those around them and in the global community. Theirs are some of the broad shoulders upon which we stand as part of Disciples Peace Fellowship.



I met Adelle and Robert in the 1970's as a first-year seminarian at Pacific School of Religion, Robert's alma mater as well. Working alongside them in the Christian Church in Northern California-Nevada, it became clear to me that their passion for the gospel imperative of peace with justice was a part of their spiritual DNA.

They had moved their family to Berkeley, California in the 1960's for Robert's doctoral studies at PSR, and found themselves shaped by gospel peace and justice demands in new ways. They were inspired by figures like Oscar Romero and others who preached a gospel of liberation, the Berrigan brothers and Martin Luther King Jr. (for whom they helped sponsor an aide).

They found themselves marching for farmworkers' rights with César Chávez and in anti-war protests. They spent at least one night in jail after a protest at the Livermore Lab where nuclear weaponry was designed. The Disciples church in Richmond, California where Robert was pastor hosted the Black Panthers' local breakfast program. Two of their children, David and Nancy reflected, "we spent some time as obviously white bodies sitting on the front steps to protect those inside from the KKK and those who sympathized with the KKK." **Robert and Adelle did their best to represent the gospel call for peace and justice to family, church and community.**

This commitment blended their good humor with a refusal to compromise gospel values. Robert sometimes donned the dress of nineteenth century Disciples leader Alexander Campbell, giving voice to Campbell's writings about Jesus and peacemaking. Together they advocated for the LGBTQI+ community by being a part of GLAD (now Alliance Q+) and standing with the community to provide justice support within and beyond the church.

In Berkeley, Adelle applied her social work skills to programs of the Red Cross, giving her a platform for her compassionate spirit. She developed a "Friendly Visitor" program where she trained volunteers to visit elders and provide social contact. This led to the program for which she's best known, the Creative Living Center, where psychiatric halfway house clients could come, socialize, and get supportive guidance as they worked to navigate the outside world. The City of Berkeley and the California State Assembly each recognized Adelle for her tireless work to make things better. Son David wrote "I keep thinking that she reflected Jesus' dictum 'as you do for the least of these, you do for me'".

Death did not have the last word for them as peacemakers. Prior to Robert's death, October 15, 2007, Robert and Adelle established an endowment fund at Christian Church Foundation to express their deep love for peace and justice. When Adelle finished her life this year on March 7 just before COVID-19 thrust us into a new season of social distancing, an additional \$87,000 was added to this endowment bringing the fund value to nearly \$115,000, a continuing peace legacy that supports the ministry of Disciples Peace Fellowship into the future.

Seeing their named endowment for DPF in financial reports is such a gift. It calls to mind each of them: Robert who preached and lived a peacemaking, justice-seeking vision of God in the world and Adelle who touched people's lives through her unique blend of deep caring for each person and her seemingly inexhaustible well of appreciation for life. **Such a legacy they are to us all! Thank you, Adelle and Robert!**

WHAT WILL YOUR PEACE AND JUSTICE LEGACY BE?

Have you considered including DPF in your will or beginning a named fund to which you contribute now?

For more information you may contact **India Bobadilla** of Christian Church Foundation at **ibobadilla@ccf.disciples.org** or by calling **(800) 668-8016**.

Or if you prefer to speak to a DPF Executive Committee Member, you may contact **Mary Jacobs** at **revmaryjacobs@gmail.com** or by calling **(602) 478-9273**.

“PASSING THE PEACE!” EVENT AVAILABLE ONLINE

“Passing the Peace!” was a capstone project for the 2020 DPF Peace Interns. After a summer of working directly with Disciples Justice Ministry partners and staffing online camps, the 2020 DPF Peace Interns led this Multi-Day, Interactive, Online, Intergenerational Peacemakers Training...and it is PHENOMENAL! All five sessions are available on [DPF's YouTube Channel](#) and are embedded on DPF's webpage at:

disciplespeace.org/passingthepeace



Session 1: Meet the Interns Hear firsthand from Raphael, Wendy, and Jennifer what it was like to be a Peace Intern during the pandemic.

Session 2: Intersectionality Jennifer teaches how to use “I Am” Poems, The Connection Game, and Praying In Color to introduce/explain the concepts of intersectional justice as a peace practice.

Session 3: PRIDE! Wendy and Raphael lead participants in a re-contextualized scripture reflection of Jesus and the moneychangers, a Fishbowl Game on LGBTQIA+ vocabulary, and an interactive history of Pride that emphasizes on the significance of the Stonewall Riot.

Session 4: Eco-Justice In this Environmental Justice workshop Wendy and Jennifer take participants on a Virtual Labyrinth Walk, lead a simulation game from Just Health Action, and share practical resources on creation care that you can use to make a difference.

Session 5: A Parallel Journey The Peace Interns are joined by Reconciliation Minister April Johnson for the world premier of “*A Parallel Journey*” the Choose-Your-Own-Adventure, Anti-Oppression Bible Study tool that they developed this summer. Try the resource yourself at: bit.ly/APARALLELJOURNEY.

KEEP UP WITH DPF!

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-  linkedin: /disciples-peace-fellowship
-  website: disciplespeace.org
-  email: missiondirector@disciplespeace.org



DONATE ONLINE TO DPF

Our friends at DHM make it super easy to securely give online to Disciples Peace Fellowship! Simply click the “**Donate Now**” button on our website at:

disciplespeace.org/give

The link also allows you to sign up for monthly automatic giving, which really helps DPF by creating a consistent revenue stream all year long!

Disciples Peace Fellowship
Living Out
the Gospel Imperative
for Peace & Justice!

A Word from Our Friends



Dear Friends of Disciples Peace Fellowship,

For 45 summers in a row, DPF Peace Interns have served as ambassadors for peace and justice. We've never missed a single year! It is the financial support of our DPF members and friends that have made that possible and that continues to make the Peace Intern Program possible today!

This past summer as part of the [**#DOCjustsummer Campaign**](#) I put together a video featuring reflections from decades worth of previous Peace Interns. Their stories, their memories, and their testimonies are amazing! I'd like to share a few of them with you, along with the link to the full video, and an invitation to continue your support of Disciples Peace Fellowship and the Peace Intern Program.

"I loved traveling around the country, meeting new people, sharing perspectives, asking hard questions together, and trying to figure out where we could make a difference in the world. The experience helped me to grow in my faith and leadership, and helped me build skills that I would use over a lifetime of ministry." — Betty Brewer Calvert, 1982 Peace Intern

"One of my very favorite memories was the chance each week to meet a whole new host of friends — Disciples all around the country and in Canada — and to learn about who they are, what they care about, and how peace as a practice as a follower of Jesus is important to them!" — Doug Collins 2013 Peace Intern

"I remember just how exhilarating it was to be around youth that really care about the issues that are going on around the world and in America today. It reignited my spirit!" — Elsie Croasdale, 2019 Peace Intern

"It was one of those great times to experience people, to share our stories, and to be in relationship. It is an experience that, if you have the ability to do it, would be just an awesome experience to have." — Mike McColl 2000 Peace Intern

"I have such good memories of that summer. It was a really formative experience in my call to ministry and my life as a whole." — Lee Hull Moses, 1998 Peace Intern

"One of my favorite memories of my Peace Intern summer was being overwhelmed by folks' kindness and generosity at every camp I went to." — Sarah Zuniga, 2018 Peace Intern

"I was struck the most by just how open-minded and open-hearted people are!" — Tiffany Curtis, 2007 Peace Intern

"It is such an amazing way to really connect with our wider church, to really develop relationships, and to really learn part of this amazing legacy of resistance within our community." — Chrissy Stonebraker-Martinez, 2011 Peace Intern

"This is where I first heard my call to ministry." — Carol Devine, 1989 Peace Intern

"I know that I was changed by that summer. And my hope has always been that I was able to either plant seeds or help nurture seeds for a love and passion for peace and justice." — Sarah Reister, 1996 Peace Intern

To hear more from our previous Peace Interns watch the full video at [**www.disciplespeace.org/video**](http://www.disciplespeace.org/video).

The faithful support and financial generosity of DPF Members and Friends underwrites the Peace Intern Program! It has from the very beginning, and it continues to do so today. You can make a secure gift online by visiting [**disciplespeace.org/give**](http://disciplespeace.org/give) and making a donation. Or you can fill out the donation card in print edition of the NewsNotes and send it along with your check in the included envelope [mailing address: Disciples Peace Fellowship, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), PO Box 1986, Indianapolis, IN 46206]. Thank you for your generosity and support!

In Christ,
Rev. Brian Frederick-Gray, DPF Director of Mission Support & the Peace Intern Program