

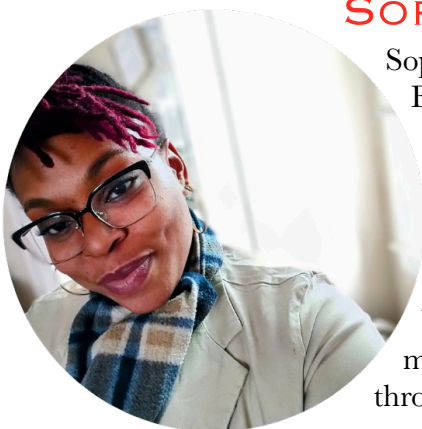


DISCIPLES PEACE FELLOWSHIP ~ SUMMER 2022

NEWSNOTES

Meet the 2022 DPF Peace Interns!

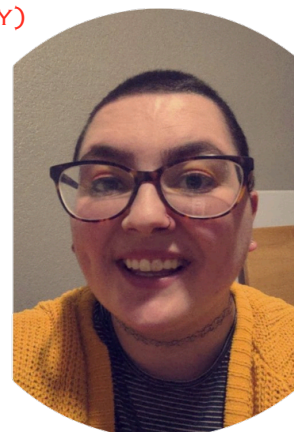
SOPHIA BARNETT (SHE/HER)



Sophia is part of the ministry team at Full Gospel Christian Church in Detroit. Born and raised in Detroit, Sophia is an avid traveler and entrepreneur with a passion for economic justice. In addition to her work at the church, Sophia is a Financial Counselor, Restaurateur, Author, Teacher, and Hair/Skin Care-Expert. Sophia writes, "I am interested in the DPF Peace Intern Program because I understand you have to be the change you wish to seek." Her areas of interest are Socio-Economic Injustice and Rebuilding Generational Wealth within the African-American Community. Sophia lives out that mission through her non-profit the Making A Child Change Foundation, and through her financial counseling firm Wisdom Financial Management.

ERIN GRESHAM (SHE/THEY)

Erin is currently studying at Phillips Theological Seminary in the Master of Social Justice program (MASJ). Erin was born and raised in Mackinaw, IL and is a lifelong member of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) calling Mackinaw Christian Church their home congregation. A former XPLOR Resident, Erin lived and served in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex while a part of that program. Erin has a great passion for social justice in many areas, but they are most passionate about Queer Rights as well as Eco-Justice. Erin writes, "Jesus fought for justice so there can be peace for all. Peace is a promise, a promise that the storms in our life have an end, a promise that we grow, a promise that we are loved."



ISAAC ACKERMAN (HE/HIM OR THEY/THEM)



Isaac Ackerman is the Head Resident at Disciples Divinity House at Vanderbilt Divinity School. Isaac is studying in the Master of Divinity (MDiv) program with a concentration in religion and economic justice. Isaac's Hometown is Morton, IL -- the Pumpkin Capital of the World! A graduate of Eureka College, they spent the year after university teaching English in Korea before returning to the states to be part of the XPLOR program in North East Ohio. In describing their hopes for the summer, Isaac writes, "I see camps and conferences as deeply prophetic spaces. I come alive when we set a time to dream and rest from our typical lives and let our imaginations begin to wonder what we could do differently in the world."

PEACE INTERN TRAINING WEEK

For the first time since 2019 Peace Intern Training Week happened in person this year! DPF would like to thank all of the leaders, activists, and partners who helped equip and prepare the Peace Interns for their summer experience serving as ambassadors for peace and justice.

*We thank General Minister and President **Rev. Terri Hord Owens**, NAPAD Executive Pastor **Rev. Chung Seung Kim**, Obra Hispana National Pastor **Rev. Lori Tapia**, National Convocation Interim Administrative Secretary **Rev. Yvonne Gilmore**, and DHM Interim President **Rev. Sheila Spencer**.*



*We also thank Anti-Racism, Pro-Reconciliation Trainers **Rev. Bentley Stewart** and **Rev. Yvonne Gilmore**, Healthy Boundaries Trainer **Rev. Dr. Jim Higginbotham**, Spiritual Disciplines and Self-Care Trainer **Rev. Randy Kuss**, Workshop Development Trainer **Rev. Sarah Zuniga**, Small Group Facilitation Trainer **Rev. Tiffany Curtis**, Peace Practices Trainer **Krista Johnson Weiksel**, and Justice Bible Study Leader **Rev. Stephen Yarbrough**.*



*Additionally we thank our ministry presenters: **Rev. Sarah Nave-Fisher** from AllianceQ, **Rev. Carol Devine** from Green Chalice, **Natalie Teague** the Disciples Immigration Legal Counsel, **Rev. Angelé Sanders Johnson** from Disciples Women's Ministries, **Rev. Cara Gilger** the Director of Communications at OGMP, **Bethany Guy** from Global Ministries, **Rev. Dr. Sharon Stanley Rea** from Disciples Refugee & Immigration Ministries, **Rev. Dr. Olivia Bryan Updegrove** from Ministries Across Generations, and **Rev. Dr. Laurie Pound Feille** from Disciples Public Presence.*

*Plus, a HUGE thank you to **Allisonville Christian Church** who opened up the Guest House for the Peace Interns and offered a Commissioning Prayer over them during worship on the first full day of Training Week. And another HUGE thank you to **Reverends Martin and Lori Tapia** and the members of **Casa del Alfarero** for including the Peace Interns at the church's Family Day Celebration at the end of Training Week.*

PEACE INTERN PEN PALS!

For the last several years DPF has organized folks to send notes and care packages to our Peace Interns during the summer. The response has been AMAZING! Your words of encouragement, care, and support mean more to the Peace Interns than you will ever know.

To sign up, fill out a quick form on the DPF website:

disciplespeace.org/penpals

You'll get an email response with your specific assignment plus the addresses, dates, and all the details you'll need.



Thanks for supporting the 2022 DPF Peace Interns with your letters and care packages!



Keep up with the 2022 DPF Peace Interns All Summer Long at:
disciplespeace.org/follow-the-interns



PEACE INTERN SUMMER



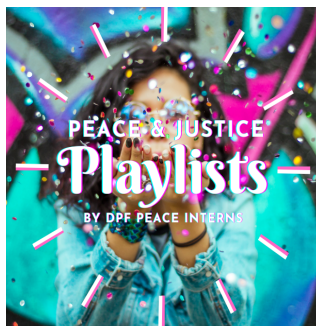
This summer DPF has built a **Hybrid Model** for the Peace Interns. Isaac, Erin and Sophia will attend in-person Church Camps all over the country *and* have specific weeks back home working remotely with ministry partners.

Peace Interns will be attending Camps in the following Regions: Kansas, Kentucky, Florida, Ohio, N. California/Nevada, Indiana, Virginia, the Southwest, North Carolina, and the Northern Lights!

They will also be working on specific projects with Disciples Refugee and Immigration Ministries, the Poor People's Campaign, the Disciples Center for Public Witness, and the Blue Theology Mission Station locations in Pacific Grove, CA and Texas City, TX!

BRAND NEW PLAYLISTS!

Playlists are a helpful way of meaningfully engaging with an idea or topic. It isn't a music thing, but rather an online engagement tool created by Christian Educators.



Playlists are also a way for the 2022 Peace Interns to share parts of their workshops and interest groups with you and with the wider world.

So far Peace Interns have created Playlists on topics such as: **Climate Change, Disability Justice, Pronouns, Anti-Racism**, and more.

Check 'em out and give 'em a try!

disciplespeace.org/playlists

CONGRATULATIONS!

DPF celebrates the ordination of the **Rev. Sarah Zuniga** on March 27, 2022 at Eureka Christian Church.



Sarah was a Peace Intern in 2018 and is a member of the DPF Executive Committee. They serve as Program Support Specialist at Crossroads Antiracism Organizing & Training. Blessings to you and your ministry!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

DPF would like to lift up a special word of thanks to **Nelia Beth Scovill** and **Joel Him**, the official Travel Agents of the Peace Intern Program!

Nelia Beth and Joel put in countless hours tracking down flights, coordinating travel schedules, and booking the arrangements that allow our Peace Interns to serve as ambassadors for peace and justice at camps and events throughout the summer. Thank you for everything that you do for DPF!



KEEP UP WITH DPF!



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A Word from a Friend

Greetings Friends!

The majority of this Summer Edition of the DPF NewsNotes has been filled with pieces about our amazing 2022 DPF Peace Interns. And with good reason: We are so proud of Sophia, Erin, and Isaac! Plus, the Peace Intern Program is the flagship program of Disciples Peace Fellowship, and as you know your financial gifts make it all possible.



So, I wanted to use this space to share some of the other work that DPF is doing right now in the name of peace and justice. Because your gifts make all of that work possible as well!

For instance, in response to the ongoing war in Ukraine, Disciples Peace Fellowship joined more than 20 peace organizations to send a letter to President Biden and members of Congress urging the support and amplification of nonviolent resistance actions rather than the escalation of war. You can find that letter (and any future statements from DPF) at disciplespeace.org/rapid-response-statements. We have also been working with our sibling organizations at the Fellowship of Reconciliation to support real on the ground peace efforts. Our friends at Orthodox Peace Fellowship have been doing tremendous work supporting peacemakers and activists in Ukraine and Russia. You can keep up with that work at their website incommunion.org. (I know: How is it that Disciples don't have that URL, right?). Disciples Peace Fellowship continues to pray for the people of Ukraine, for an end to this war, and for an end to all war.

Further, Leanne Stump, Krista Johnson Weicksel and I represented DPF at an International, Ecumenical, Online Peace Conference with partners from South Korea, Japan, Canada, and throughout the United States who are working together on the Korea Peace Appeal. In the coming weeks months you'll be hearing a lot more about this project which seeks to formally end the Korean War. You'll find out about how you can add your voice to the effort, and the important role that DPF and the Peace Intern Program will be playing in the work. For now, you can learn more by visiting en.endthekoreanwar.net/about.

Additionally, DPF continues to be active in the denuclearization movement. DPF Executive Committee Members have been a part of interfaith efforts lobbying the Biden Administration ahead of the President's Nuclear Posture Review. And DPF is an endorser of "*The Statement on the Existential Threat of Nuclear Weapons and on the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons*." Learn more at nuclearbantreaty.org.

DPF is present in all of these places, in all of these ways because of your financial gifts and offerings. I am forever grateful that as DPF's staff member you give me the opportunity to show up as an activist for peace and an advocate for justice. In addition to underwriting the Peace Intern Program (the summer stipends, travel expenses, and Training Week experiences), your gifts also support creative acts of nonviolent resistance, advocacy for the prohibition of nuclear weapons, and partnerships with peacemakers the world over. Thank you for your gifts. Thank you all for your generosity!

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



disciplespeace.org/give