

The **PRINCIPLES** of  
**PEACEMAKING**

The **PRACTICES** of  
**PEACEMAKING**

PRO/PRO/PRO PEACEMAKING

**GROWTH**

Change is always possible



**LISTEN**

to understand

**EQUITY**

True equality is actively won



**HOLD**

competing truths in tension

**JUSTICE**

Peace and justice are intertwined



**OWN**

our agency and responsibility

**RELATIONSHIP**

Authentic relationships across lines of difference fuel transformation



**CENTER**

the leadership of the marginalized

**NONVIOLENCE**

"Nonviolence is a way of life for courageous people"—Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

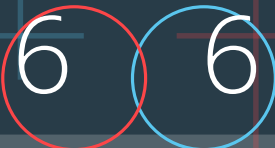


**SELF-INTERROGATE**

and  
**ADVOCATE**

**MUTUAL FLOURISHING**

The end goal, or telos, is mutual flourishing



**STRIVE**

for the "Beloved Community"



*The Telos definition of*

# PEACEMAKING

Peacemaking is collaboration across lines of difference for the **common good**.

Peacemaking presumes that while conflict and discord are inevitable, disagreement and difference can help guide us to a world in which **we can all flourish**.

Peacemaking is a courageous, countercultural way of engaging each other and our world. It is a **radical commitment** to put our deepest values into **lived practice**. It is deeply rooted in the world's great faith traditions, as well as basic principles of what it means to be a good human.

As peacemakers we choose to live into a story greater than ourselves or our community alone. We believe we cannot deny our neighbor what we would want for ourselves. So we work to maximize **human agency, dignity, and freedom**.

We do this by committing to a deeply personal, **transformative journey**—one that can help us co-create a different, and better, reality for all.

We also recognize that we all have a role: from teachers to diplomats, artists to politicians, stay-at-home parents to entrepreneurs, students to police officers, liberals to conservatives, activists to faith leaders—**anyone and everyone** who believes in the possibility of a greater good and who is willing to risk for it.

These principles and practices articulate the conceptual and moral foundations of **just peacemaking**. When properly applied, they can help us address **seemingly intractable** interpersonal and international conflict, guiding us to a better place on issues as varied as war, human and civil rights, entrenched oppression, the environment, local and global security, governance, human migration, and inequality.

# MISSION

We form communities of peacemakers across lines of difference, and equip them to help reconcile seemingly intractable conflict at home and abroad.

## The **TELOS**

Our vision is a world in which leaders and their communities claim the requisite drive, expertise and relationships to effectively and relentlessly wage peace.

# VISION

# 1. GROWTH

Change is always possible

Human hearts, as well as cultures and systems of power, can change. Each of us impacts our reality—for ourselves and for others. It's not a question of whether we change our world, but how. So we practice hope: We strive for positive change, in ourselves and for others, especially when it seems impossible. *"Hope is what you do."* —Rev. Mitri Raheb

# 2. EQUITY

True equality is actively won

All humans are created equal. Yet realizing true equality requires making opportunity and ownership accessible to all. Peacemakers honor the inherent dignity of all by actively building more equitable communities and societies. We reject social hierarchies, caste systems and false either/or binaries. There is no "us v. them," only "us, together." *"We belong to each other"*—Mother Teresa

# 3. JUSTICE

Peace and justice are intertwined

*"True peace is not the absence of tension: it is the presence of justice."* —Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Working for peace without justice is unserious, empty and dangerous. Working for justice without concern for healing and reconciliation can degenerate into violence and revenge.

# 4. RELATIONSHIP

Authentic relationships across lines of difference fuel transformation

Right relationship is the core of peacemaking. Intentionally cultivating relationships across lines of difference provides space for individual transformation, nurtures empathy and humility, and emphasizes the humanity of those different from us. Diverse relationships ground our ideologies, theologies and politics in the humanity and lived experience of others. They open the possibility for communal, societal and systemic change.

# 5. NONVIOLENCE

*"Nonviolence is a way of life for courageous people"* —Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Active nonviolence promotes freedom and justice and is grounded in a spirit of love and hope. Creative and clear resistance against all forms of violence—direct, structural, and cultural—heals our world and paves the path to reconciliation. Radical peacemaking is a courageous, countercultural and purpose-driven way of life.

# 6. MUTUAL FLOURISHING

The end goal, or telos, is mutual flourishing

Peacemaking is the dangerous, difficult, and joyous practice of channeling righteous anger and demands for justice into the inclusive work of healing, mutual flourishing, and reconciliation.

# 1. LISTEN

to understand

Before we can hope to heal our world, we must first learn to see it as it actually is. *"Love's first act is to listen."* —Paul Tillich. We listen to understand before seeking to be understood. We meet the other, and ourselves, where we are.

# 2. HOLD

competing truths in tension

Peacemaking recognizes that *my* story is not the *only* story. Engaging the truths and experiences of others, even when they do not reconcile with our own, doesn't undermine our legitimacy; it instead opens possibilities for a better future for all. *"The opposite of a fact is falsehood, but the opposite of one profound truth may very well be another profound truth."* —Niels Bohr

# 3. OWN

our agency and responsibility

We own our duty to leave this world better than we entered it. We embrace discomfort and uncertainty, which often signify and catalyze growth. Yet we act with humility, recognizing that peacemaking isn't primarily about outcomes or egos. We're not here to be heroes, but servants. *"Seek peace and pursue it."* Psalm 34:14

# 4. CENTER

the leadership of the marginalized

Being near—or proximate—to those most vulnerable and listening to community-based leaders are two essential foundations of effective, ethical movements. Those closest to a problem often hold the most significant insight. Similarly, those who pay the greatest price of unjust systems often develop unique perspectives on how to transform those systems. We honor their resilience and expertise by amplifying platforms for their voices and by following their leadership, not imposing our own. Yet we do not abdicate our own responsibility and unique ability to lead within our communities, institutions and among our peers.

# 5. SELF-INTERROGATE

and ADVOCATE

Peacemaking is an internal and an external practice. We allow our hearts to expand as we cross lines of difference to commune with others in a spirit of shared humanity. We identify our biases, question our assumptions, challenge our own community and leverage our privilege. Where we have access, we amplify the voices of our companions, even while we raise our own. We do this to expose and challenge external systemic injustice alongside internal bias. We organize, mobilize and advocate to ensure our shared resources are used in ways that diminish conflict and promote just peace.

PRO/PRO/PRO PEACEMAKING

# 6. STRIVE

for "Beloved Community"

Our telos is not the defeat of "enemies," but the personal and systemic transformation that allows for mutual flourishing, reconciliation and the creation of the "Beloved Community." We form communities that in composition and practice model the world we strive towards. Joyous, intentional, reflective, action-oriented communities replace unjust systems with just peace.