

## 2020 Report to IMYM from Your Representative to Friends Peace Teams (FPT)

I am grateful for allowing me to represent you on the Friends Teams Council in this past year of service. This remarkable Friends organization nurtures me constantly in a myriad of ways:

- Its devotion to service work for peace in communities wracked by violence, racism and oppression around the world and in our country
- Its resolute adherence to and reliance upon Quaker process in all that we do
- Its constant seeking for the guidance of the Inward Teacher, no matter what
- Its witness to live into Friends testimonies
- Its discoveries of new tools of nonviolence
- Its constant search for the transforming power of God's love

I offer my personal thanks to all for your prayers and encouragement as FPT has taken on the support of Paula Palmer and her ministry, Toward a Right Relationship with Native Peoples (TRR). We have discovered that this is indeed the splendid opportunity that we have been seeking for more than a decade—an initiative operating in the US in the manner of Friends that encourages and enhances all our work for peace. Our international partners around the world are thrilled that the Americans of FPT are now, finally, engaged in working through their own country's problems generated by colonialism, systematic racism, and oppression. These have plagued nearly all cultures worldwide for centuries and led to generation upon generation of violence.

After seven wonderful years I have stepped back as Co-Clerk of FPT, and I have stepped forward as its Treasurer. Kindly hold me in the Light as I take on these new responsibilities.

Finally, I encourage you to enjoy our 2020 Epistle copied below.

Tom Martin

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All of us at Friends Peace Teams are grateful for your continuing support, financial and spiritual, and for allowing us to represent you and your meetings, churches, and organizations in our work for peace worldwide for more than 26 years. Thank you!

Our peace work empowers individuals and encourages communities to be their best in the face of nasty violence and intense oppression. From each of our initiatives here is an update that describes our peace activities that reflects the passion of our mission, the very heartbeat that empowers us and leads to peace and reconciliation every day (*see initiative updates on right*).

Here are suggested steps you can take on your spiritual path to seek a wider understanding of our peace work in the manner of Friends:

- **Reprint this Epistle** and bring copies to share at your meeting, church or organization.
- **Visit our website** [friendspeaceteams.org](http://friendspeaceteams.org) for specific information on all our peace work.
- **Add your name to our mailing list** on our website to stay in touch with us directly.
- **Volunteer to serve on the FPT Council**, with one of our working groups or committees. We provide the infrastructure that releases peace workers to concentrate on their dedicated service with our programs and workshops.
- **Join one of our Peace Teams** serving with our partner organizations in countries around the world. And that list now includes the US, too (TRR).
- **Bring your own work for peace** to our Peace Ministries Committee when you need support.
- **As you are able, send us a donation** to assure this work for peace continues to thrive. From the beginning in 1993, the generosity of our donors has empowered peace workers who have delivered remarkable results and new tools for peace.

You can continue to help the message and work for peace in the manner of Friends flourish. There is plenty of room for all of us at the table(s).

**Go in Peace,**

The Members of the FPT Council