



Cultivating Justice,  
Nonviolence & Well-being

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A nonprofit organization

## Store Hours

Monday-Thursday  
10 a.m.-5 p.m.  
closed Fridays  
Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

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January-February-March 2010

# PEACE CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER

## If You Want to Eradicate Poverty, Work For Peace

First of four columns for Peace Connections by Muriel T. Stackley

### The Foundation: Satyagraha (truth force)

I write this on the eve (Nov. 30) of President Obama's talk to the nation, at last revealing The Plan for Afghanistan. When you read this you will know what he said. We--"the increasingly skeptical American public" as described by Ted Koppel on "Talk of the Nation" this afternoon--will have heard President Obama's plan critiqued, analyzed, praised, reviled. We will be beginning to see the outcome of The Plan.

One thing is clear: our dollars will continue to go away. We will in these early days of 2010 continue to learn why it's necessary for our dollars to go away. What United States "interests" require this? Are we, by any chance, back to the subject of nuclear weapons? From what will we take dollars in order to finance this? What are we not paying for while we pay for war?

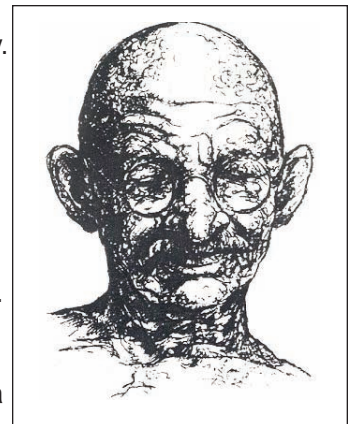
What is getting short-changed are basic human needs. This morning Kansas Governor Parkinson announced budget cuts to schools and highway maintenance. I know we're talking "apples and oranges," but there is a connection in what we're willing to pay for. We will not eradicate poverty if most of our dollars go to war.

The Twentieth Century witnessed the use of a new word: satyagraha, "truth force." Faced with vast poverty, Mohandas Gandhi, the "Mahatma," led India in a new way of waging war. "Satyagraha," says recognized mediator John Paul Lederach, "...is well worth turning to in our continued discernment, for nuclear issues remain at the top of our global challenges. Our neighbors are global no matter where we live, and the world continues to need prophetic and pastoral expressions of agape-love."\*

In my corner, "agape-love" means the distribution of basic human needs, in our country and in the global village. This is foundational. There are enough dollars. We could do this thing—eradicate poverty, but it requires working for peace. It is the force of truth.

\*See *Satyagraha and Nonresistance: A Comparative Study of Gandhian and Mennonite Nonviolence* by Weyburn Groff (Herald Press, 2009).

Muriel Stackley was director of the Newton Area Peace Center from 1992-1995.



Mohandas Gandhi

## Circles Update

On September 29, the Getting Ahead class graduated ten persons, eight of whom have become the first Circle Leaders. Community meetings with these Circle Leaders, those who had decided to be Allies, Circles staff, and other persons in supporting roles began in October. Meetings are being held at the First Methodist Church at 801 N. Main, Newton. Evenings consist of a shared simple meal together, followed by discussion and/or presentations, such as by Brian Donley, Bank of the West branch manager, who spoke to the group on "Getting Rid of Bad Debt." (Childcare is provided.) During the month of November matches were made between Circle Leaders and 2-3 Allies – meetings between these groups are taking place currently.

In November Circles was grateful to receive a grant from the Sunflower Foundation for consultation fees, travel, training, and honorariums for Getting Ahead facilitators. In addition, the Schowalter Foundation granted Circles funding for a poverty simulation kit and for a 15-week session of Getting Ahead. Conversation with the United Methodist Health Ministry Fund has been taking place regarding another grant for 2010 in support of the Initiative.

Another Getting Ahead class is planned to begin soon. We



September 2009 Getting Ahead Class Graduates & Facilitators

are currently taking applications and interviewing potential candidates.

There continue to be ways to be involved: Provide a simple meal for 45 people on a Tuesday night, provide childcare on Tuesday nights, become an Ally (training upcoming), and make a contribution towards expenses. Please contact us if you are interested in providing assistance or learning more about becoming more involved.

"Ally training" (Allies offer friendship and support to Circle Leaders) will again be offered in the spring--tentative dates are: February 27, March 20 & April 24.

## Poverty Simulation

On Saturday, October 17, the Circles™ Initiative sponsored a community poverty simulation in connection with the International Eradication of Poverty Day. The simulation was designed to help people experience what life is like for low-income families seeking basic needs on a limited budget. Following the simulation, participants were invited to reflect & discuss the experience and ways to move towards "making poverty history." Approximately 35 people were in attendance, along with another 15+ volunteers. Throughout the week following, a number of people commented on how "eye-opening" and interesting the simulation had been for those attending.

Comments from Barbara Bunting, USD 373 school board member, and participant, follow:

I kept hearing about poverty-simulation exercises through USD #373 and wanted to experience it myself but the day was dismal, my daughter was visiting, and I had a headache. Still, I trudged to the "hard to hear" NRC gym and participated in the exercise. It's important to emphasize my negative attitude because, while I didn't realize it, I began my role-play before entering the building. Given the role of a child, I was not in control and was glad that I didn't have to pay attention like my parents. Yet, when I went to "school" I was "bored." Later I learned that even a frazzled "teacher" was better than "parents" who worried about things (like bills) and less about people....more importantly, me. It wasn't that my "parents" wouldn't care, they couldn't care because they were overwhelmed. When my "brother" and I ended up in jail, we got the food, shelter, and attention that the positive institutions in our life were unable to provide. Even our "parents" expressed relief that "at least we were being taken care of...even if it was in juvie detention." Yet it was at

the sharing time that I benefited the most from the 2+ hours. I realized that this education was not about Barbara Bunting but about the children we serve in our schools. A board of education member could read the statistics or tour the schools or hear a teacher's struggles with the poverty of her/his students, but until I became the "child," I could not fully empathize with the teacher, the parent, and the child!

***If you missed out on the chance to take part in the simulation in October, another is scheduled on Sat., Feb. 6 – see calendar for details!***

### Did You Know--

Food Assistance (Federal \$\$) in Harvey County increased this year from \$200,621 in January of 2009 to \$303,202 in November of 2009.

# Peace Connections Annual Meeting

Join us for an evening meal of soup, bread, and dessert along with some food for thought from nationally known author Dr. John Valusek!

He will be featured at Peace Connection's Annual Meeting on Feb. 25, speaking on the "Relationships Between Poverty and Violence". Dr. Valusek, has appeared three times on NBC's Today Show, the Phil Donahue Show and lectured at national conferences throughout the nation. "America Without Violence", "Religion, Ethics and Non-Violence", "People Are Not For Hitting" (also the title of one of his books), "Talking To Your Brain" are a few of the variety of his lecture and workshop topics.



John E. Valusek was born in Mount Clemens, Michigan, on May 14, 1930. He was the youngest of four children of Steve and Anna Valusek. His parents were immigrants from Czechoslovakia who came to the United States in their teen years. As a child, John lived in poverty and for a time his family found it necessary to go on government welfare rolls.

John's career has seen him in the role of special education teacher and counselor of mentally retarded children, psychologist in private practice and national lecturer on a wide variety of topics related to the enhancement of human well-being.

John is best known for his views on the nature and reduction of human violence.

During the past twenty years he has shared his non-hitting philosophy throughout the United States and Canada. He believes most human violence is essentially learned behavior and is heavily dependent upon exposure to various forms of hitting, i.e., spanking, slapping, pinching, striking or beating with the hand or hand-held objects. His main argument is simple and straight forward. Because most forms of interpersonal violence make use of some form of hitting, a significant reduction should occur by simply teaching everyone to stop hitting! If the homes, schools, churches, and society in general become committed to his proposed new national ethic (People are not for hitting and children are people, too), the implications for violence reduction are clear and far-reaching. If you eliminate all hitting you will necessarily reduce human violence.

John is currently serving as the Clinical Psychologist on the Psychiatric and Cranial Spinal Rehabilitation Units of HCA Wesley Medical Center in Wichita, Kansas. When not working, he enjoys walking, hiking, biking, tennis and bird-watching with his wife Carol.



He has combined his two special interests in education and psychology serving as a professor, consultant, lecturer, workshop presenter and counselor with a psychotherapy practice during the last 40 years. The Valusek inspired saying, "People are not for hitting" can still be seen on area bumper stickers.

A soup supper will be served at 6 pm, followed by an update on Peace Connections programs and Dr. Valusek's presentation at 7 pm, at First Presbyterian Church, 900 Columbus, Newton, and is open to all.

## Just for Fun

As a fun way to promote the Circles™ Initiative, it was decided to have a Circles entry in the yearly downtown Newton Parade of Lights held in early December. A bright green truck, belonging to Aaron Krehbiel, was decked out with wreaths, 200 green lights, and signs which read "You'd Better Not Pout, Instead Help Out – Be a Lifesaver" and "Circles Initiative." Myrna Krehbiel, along with Randy Krehbiel, Guiding Coalition member and Circles graduates, Elmo Newman, Candie Coutts, and Eric & CiCi Wyant worked to get everything ready for the parade. To keep with the Circles theme, lifesavers were handed out to parade participants by Dan & Linda Schroeder and Cynthia Wyss, Circle Allies.



# StoryCorps

Peace Connections was recently invited to be a part of StoryCorps. StoryCorps is a non-profit organization whose mission is to collect and preserve the oral histories of everyday people. A StoryCorps interview is a 40-minute conversation, conducted in any language, between two people who know each other. At the end of the interview, the participants receive a CD copy of the conversation and with their permission, a copy is archived at the Library of Congress for future generations.

People are invited to participate in StoryCorps through community organizations like Peace Connections. Their mission is to archive a diverse range of voices who truly represent the American landscape – at each stop on their tour they work hard to schedule interviews with organizations who know and work in many different facets of their community. With the consent of the participants, some of the interviews recorded will be edited and broadcast on KMWU and NPR.

Since StoryCorps began five years ago, they have recorded and archived over 25,000 interviews. For the past three years, StoryCorps has toured the country in two Airstream trailers outfitted as recording booths, stopping at various cities to record and archive local folklore. StoryCorps recorded stories in Wichita from October 22 - November 15, 2009. (You can listen to some StoryCorps interviews at [www.storycorps.org](http://www.storycorps.org))



While StoryCorps was in Wichita, several persons with ties to Peace Connections and involved with the Circles Initiative participated: Anita Haury interviewed Steve Richards; Randy Krehbiel interviewed Kate McPheeters, and Wanda Pumphrey interviewed Jerica Henshaw.

Comments from one of the participants follow:



Arnita Haury:

*Back on November 1, I had the privilege of interviewing with Steve Richards for Story Corps. I asked questions; Steve did most of the talking. I know Steve because we served together on the Peace Connections board for more than six years. So it was fun to hear him tell stories about other aspects of his life – things not learned through board discussions. It takes listening to one another in different ways.*

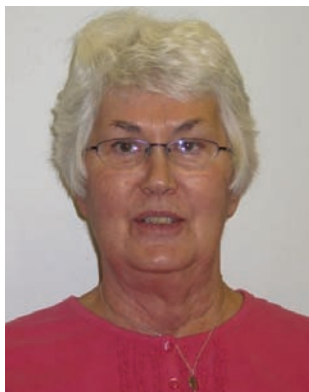
*I appreciate the mission of Story Corps. As our hostess at the recording session said to us, so much of what we hear and read in the media is from and about politicians and celebrities. Their objective is to make stories from real Americans available to us all. The richness of our country comes through to us in stories.*

**Non-violence is the greatest force at the disposal of mankind. It is mightier than the mightiest weapon of destruction devised by the ingenuity of man.**

— Gandhi

# Thank You, Volunteers!

*We are especially grateful to our dedicated volunteers that help Peace Connections regularly with ongoing gifts of time and talent:*



**Marilyn Helburg**

Marilyn has been keeping the books for the store and paying the bills for the organization for 4 years. She has recently joined the board and has taken on the treasurer role in addition. We appreciate her careful records and weekly time!



**Marlene Smucker**

Marlene is completing her 6th year as store manager. Marlene works with ordering products and arranging lovely displays. We are grateful for her weekly time in keeping the store decorated, up to date, and full of peaceful gifts!

**Rachel Poling**

Rachel began volunteering on a weekly basis in January 2009. She has helped throughout the past year with a variety of necessary tasks for the organization and assisted customers in the store. We have especially appreciated her help with calls regarding address/email updates and with writing thank you notes!



**George Dyck**

George has volunteered to keep the Peace Connections accounts and payroll for the past three years. George attends board meetings and gives us monthly budget reports. We appreciate his time and energy involved in this! George also has helped us out on several occasions when we were short a volunteer when staff was gone.



*Volunteers don't get paid, not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless.  
-- Sherry Anderson*

## Additional Volunteer Opportunities

*Share your time & talents with Peace Connections in 2010!*

**Peace Connections**

- ◆ Board member
- ◆ Light house cleaning
- ◆ Marketing PC vision & mission
- ◆ Marketing PC store
- ◆ "On-call" to come to answer the phone & care for store customers
- ◆ Volunteer 1 Saturday a month, 10 am-2 pm
- ◆ Seek financial support for PC

**Circles Initiative**

- ◆ Meals for Tuesday evening meetings -individuals, churches, organizations
- ◆ Childcare for Tuesday evenings, 6:30-8 pm
- ◆ Be an Ally
- ◆ Recruit Circle Leaders and Allies
- ◆ Seek financial support for Circles
- ◆ Vehicle or appliance repair

# BOOK & GIFT SHOP

All **2010 Calendars** and date books are 50% off beginning January 31 – Cat Lover's Against the Bomb, The Peace Calendar, and the Ministry of the Arts "Pathways to Peace" calendar.

**Martin's Big Words** This picture book biography of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. brings his life and the profound nature of his message to young children through his own words.



Author Doreen Rappaport uses quotes from some of his most beloved speeches to tell the story of his life and his work in a simple, direct way. Bryan Collier's stunning collage art combines remarkable watercolor paintings with vibrant patterns and textures. A timeline and a list of additional books and

web sites help make this a standout biography of Dr. King. **\$15.99**

**Valentine's Day Special – buy one Comfort Heart, get one ½ off!** Red heart shaped pillows filled with flax seed which you can warm or chill to bring relief for sore muscles, warm you up, etc.



**Johan Leather bags** Handmade of organic leather (tanned organically, no chemicals) from Tajikistan in Central Asia. **Small, cell phone bags \$6.95; medium bags with cell phone pocket inside \$14.95.**



**January Only!! \$5 OFF – All In stock "Advice from Nature" sweatshirts!**

## Board Notes

**A**rnita Haury ended her board term in December 2009. She has served as chair of the board several times, including this past year. Arnita has given wonderful leadership to the organization for many years and in many areas, but especially over the past year with board development and the Circles Initiative. Arnita also works at Peace Connections weekly on Mondays and will continue to do so. We appreciate the gifts of time and energy she shares!

We are pleased to welcome Virginia Cumley to the Peace Connections board. Her thoughts on joining follow:

*I have always been interested in Justice, having graduated from Eastern Kentucky University from the College of Criminal Justice with a Corrections major and an A.A. Degree. I also obtained a BA in Criminal Justice from the Sociology Department of the Central State University in Edmond, OK.*

*I have had a life-long interest in social work, rehabilitation, and juvenile corrections, with much course work and internships spread out between them.*

*The motto on the Peace Connections correspondence, "cultivating justice, nonviolence, and well-being" really echoes my main interests. I also want to be useful in helping the poor get back on their feet and any lobbying for our causes that I might be asked to be involved in. I have interest in teaching wellness and any other natural health practice, including nutrition – as I run a business centered on Nutrition, Herbs, and Homeopathy (including Bach Flowers).*



## Ending the Death Penalty

**F**amily members of murder victims gave moving testimony in the Kansas legislative hearing to abolish the death penalty. For them the executions were disappointing and did not bring the healing hoped for in with dealing with bitterness, revenge and their own fallibility.

Substituting imprisonment without parole for the death penalty was considered in the Kansas legislature in 2009 and is being introduced again in January 2010. Although many religious groups (UCC, United Methodist, Episcopal, Jewish, American Baptist, Mennonite, Christian Church, Church of the Brethren, Evangelical Lutheran, Presbyterian, a variety of Roman Catholic orders and councils, and many others) oppose the death penalty as immoral, the reason Kansas legislators considered it is economics. A 2003 Post Audit estimated the median cost for death penalty cases through execution was \$1.26 million. \$740,000 was the cost for non-death penalty cases.

An effort is being made to call persons to contact Kansas legislators to end the death penalty in Kansas. Additional reasons that can be mentioned are: 1) A life sentence without parole protects society just as well as a death penalty. 2) There is no credible evidence that the death penalty acts as a deterrent to crime. 3) Our justice system is not perfect and innocent victims have been executed. 4) The death penalty has been applied disproportionately to the poor and minorities. 5) The US is alone among most modern industrialized nations in still using capital punishment.

Can we join the religious groups above and contact legislators to abolish the death penalty in Kansas? The reference desk at the public library can help us know who our various area legislators are.

--Stan Bohn

# WINTER CALENDAR

## JANUARY

**Circles community meetings** are being held on **Tuesdays**, 6:30 -8 pm at the First United Methodist Church. The first Tuesday of each month features an educational topic, and the fourth Tuesday is the Big View meeting, which explores and works on barriers that keep people right here in Harvey County from having enough resources. (The second Tuesday is reserved for Ally and Circle Leader meetings and the third Tuesday is reserved for the Guiding Coalition meeting.)

**Peace Connections Board meeting** will be **Jan. 7**, 7 pm. Meetings are open to the public.

**Heartland Peace Tax group** will meet Jan. 22, 1:30 pm, at Peace Connections. Local peace and justice issues are on the agenda, and anyone is welcome.

The next 15-week session of the **Getting Ahead Class** is scheduled to begin in late January.

A SEASON FOR  
NONVIOLENCE



carry the vision

**Season for Nonviolence begins January 30 and runs through April 4.**

This is a national 64-day grassroots campaign "dedicated to demonstrating that nonviolence is a powerful way to heal, transform, and empower our lives and our communities." Inspired by memorial anniversaries of Mahatma

Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., this international event honors their vision for an empowered, nonviolent world. We invite you to think about how you could use this in your home, school, workplace, etc. Stop by Peace Connections for materials (practice guides, posters, t-shirts) that you can use and watch the Kansan for daily suggestions of how to practice nonviolence! For more information on the Season for Nonviolence visit [www.64-days.org](http://www.64-days.org)

## FEBRUARY

**Circles community meetings** will be held on **Tuesdays**, 6:30-8 pm at the First United Methodist Church. See info. under Jan.

**Peace Connections Board meeting** will be **Feb. 4**, 7 pm. Meetings are open to the public.

**Poverty Simulation Feb. 6**, 9:15-noon, at St. Mary's gymnasium. Experience what life is like for low-income families seeking basic needs on a limited budget. Then reflect & discuss the experience and ways to move towards "making poverty history" following the simulation. *We are seeking 6-8 volunteers to be trained to administer the Poverty Simulation for various groups (set-up, take-down, coaching volunteers on their roles.).*

**Peace Connections Annual Meeting, Thurs., Feb. 25, 6 pm** at First Presbyterian Church, Newton. Dr. John Valusek, clinical psychologist, lecturer, and author of *People are Not for Hitting and Children are People Too*, will speak on the connection between poverty and violence. You are invited for:

- ◆ soup supper at **6 pm**
- ◆ update on Peace Connections programs and financial needs
- ◆ presentation at **7 pm** (see p. 3 for additional info.)

**Make your Valentine cards** at Peace Connections! Valentine stamps and materials will be out & available **Mon., Feb. 8 – Sat., Feb. 13.** (closed Fri.)

**Ally Training February 27.** Contact Peace Connections for more information if you are interested in becoming an Ally.

## MARCH

**Circles community meetings** will be held on **Tuesdays**, 6:30-8 pm at the First United Methodist Church. See info. under Jan.

Soloist **Tony Brown** will be performing at a benefit concert along with other musicians in **March** at Hesston Mennonite Church. The concert will benefit Mennonite Central Committee and the Circles Initiative of Harvey County. Check with Peace Connections for the date and time.

**Ally Training March 20.** Contact Peace Connections for more information if you are interested in becoming an Ally.

*Be the change you want to see in the world.*

--Ghandi

## We are grateful to the following people for their gift of time during Oct., Nov., and Dec. 2009:

- ◆ Marlene Smucker & Leann Toews for help with Fall Fest
- ◆ Marlene Smucker, Corinne Kehrberg, Leann Toews, Ruby Moore, Nancy Graber, Carol Hill, Bev Baumgartner and Henry Ewy for help on Saturdays
- ◆ Rachel Pohling, Ann Showalter, Donna Fuedner, and Cay Siebert for help while Myrna was at the Best Practices conference
- ◆ Rachel Epp Buller, Justina Neufeld, Carol Kirshmer, Stan Bohn, Vicki Adame, Marilyn Helburg, Virginia Cumley, Jeanette Stucky, Cay Siebert, Don Kehrberg, Bev Baumgartner and Henry Ewy for help with special holiday staffing and refreshments
- ◆ Maryiln Helburg, Larry Regier, Kent Dick, George Dyck and their work regarding accounting
- ◆ Don Kehrberg and George Dyck for help with the RSVP Volunteer Expo
- ◆ Those who attended the community poverty simulation
- ◆ Burrton Mennonite Church for inviting Peace Connections to share information and for receiving \$500 offering for Peace Connections
- ◆ Halstead Mennonite Church for contributing half of their Mission Supper offering (\$2,000) to the Circles™ Initiative of Harvey County
- ◆ Pandeia Smith and Pam Schrag of the Leaf Tea Lounge for catering our Donor Appreciation Dinner



Mission Supper at Halstead Mennonite Church

## Some Thoughts about Peace Connections

It seems to me that across the entire globe, the masses of people are very tired of war, and the most thoughtful among us are beginning to see that war and the implements of death are really threatening the actual survival of civilization and conceivably even of the human race. Through the years many people and many movements have seen the problem and many efforts have been launched by both individuals and groups, yet war continues. Here one thinks of Jesus and his followers in the New Testament and subsequent groups and individuals such as our forebears, the Anabaptists, and especially persons like Gandhi in India, Mandela in South Africa, Martin Luther King in the U.S. and of course many, many others. Internationally there have been the League of Nations and more recently the United Nations. Yet, wars continue, and the cost is ever rising. Is there any hope?

Recently someone suggested that the 21st century may well be the century when the world community will finally outlaw war much as happened to legalized slavery in the 19th century when the United States freed its African slaves, and Russia freed its serfs. It can happen only when a certain idea or cause reaches what is called a "critical mass", or as someone has called it the "hundredth monkey syndrome" when enough energy in a cause has reached the tipping point so that the necessary action can follow. And this is the point of this long tirade, I think Peace Connections is evidence that we may be getting closer and closer to that critical mass when the majority of the people of a country or even the world will almost spontaneously say, "enough is enough, and we must find a better way to solve conflicts that to try to destroy each other over our disagreements." And if that finally happens on a large enough scale, then all kinds of other related problems will also be attacked. It is possible that Peace Connections will become an inspiration to other communities who will establish similar groups. You may be part of a movement that will finally solve one of mankind's greatest problem.

--Jacob Goering

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***Man becomes great exactly in the degree in which he works for the welfare of his fellow-men.***

— Gandhi

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# Peace Connections is very grateful for the financial support and gifts of time given by so many during 2009

Dwayne & Ruth Abrahams	Barbara Friesen	John & Valerie Klaassen	Steve Goertzen & Rosi Reimer	David & Joan Wasser
Vicki Adame	Donna Friesen	John & Judy Kliever	Loren & Peggy Reusser	Connie Weber
Cliff & Lois Amstutz	Dorothy Nickel Friesen & Richard Friesen	Ellen Kling	Ernest & Glenda Reynolds	Doris Weber
Cathy Anderson	Duane & Elizabeth Friesen	Barb & Dick Koontz	Denise & Marc Rhoades	James & Jean Weber
Lora Andreasson	Gregg & Joanna Friesen	Bonnie & Dwight Krehbiel	Lorraine & Stephen Richards	Sarah Weber
Susan Balzer	Jacob T. & Lola Friesen	Myrna & Randolph Krehbiel	Esther Rinner	Helen Wehry
Anastacia & Robert Barnett	Joe & Lois Friesen	David & Heidi Regeir Kreider	Galen Rudiger	Esther Wenger
Gladwin & Lois Bartel	Carol & Walt Friesen	Lois & Robert Kreider	Laverne Rutschman	Grace Wenger
Harlan & Grace Bartel	John & Mary Gaedder	Lawrence & Terri Lever	Naomi & Orville Rutschman	Dan & Karen White
Harold & Louise Bartel	Lillian Galle	Sandy & Tim Lewis	Fred & Jan Sabb	Ruth White
Justina Neufeld & Floyd Bartel	Beth & Jake Goering	Marlin & Monica Lichti	Alvin & Wilma Schmidt	Cookie & David Wiebe
Dan & Loretta Baumgartner	Elizabeth & Victor Goering	Norman & Vicki Lichti	Christine Downey & Gordon Schmidt	Ken Wiebe
Gail & Jeff Baumgartner	Fern Goering	Ruth Linscheid	Hartzel & Ilene Schmidt	Margaret Wiebe
Kris Baymiller	Bev & Fred Goering	Larry & Nelda Litwiler	Jane & Mike Schmidt	Ed & Twila Wiens
Anita & Stan Bohn	Helen Goering	James & Lois Loflin	John David & Kay Schmidt	Florene Wiens
Jerre & Lucy Bontrager	Dorothy & Homer Goering	Wilma Loganbill	Matt & Amy Schmidt	Gail Lutsch & A. Wayne Wiens
Carl & Joan Boyer	Larry & Margaret Goering	James Lynch	Roland Schmidt	Katherine & Tim Wiens
Belle & Jim Boyts	Lloyd Goering	Connie & Gene Marsh	Ada & Wes Schmidt-Thieszen	Dolores Yoder
Ray & Rosie Brandt	Lorene Goering	Bill & Ruth Mason	Allen & Mary Schrag	James & Lonabelle Yoder
Dena & Ron Braun	Carol & Randall Goering	Yolanda Kauffman & Eric Massanari	Laura Ann Schrag	Jim & Doris Yoder
Joan Breit	Verna Goering	Moses & Sadie Mast	Pam Schrag	Jeannie & Marv Zehr
Roland & Sophie Brown	Linda & Milton Goertzen	Kristen & Mark Mayhue	Paul & Wendy Schrag	Bill & Joyce Zuercher
Tony Brown	Cynthia & Les Goerzen	Mary Anne & Scott McCloud	Frances & Robert Schrag	Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church
Rachel Epp Buller & Tim Buller	Chester & Irma Gonzalez	B. Aileen McCune	Elaine Schroeder	Bethel College Mennonite Church
Donald & Susan Cameron	Diana Stucky & Charles Graber	Bev & John McGee	Miner & Valetta Seymour	Book Reviews
Brenda & Robert Challans	Douglas & Nancy Graber	Gary & Ruby Moore	Linda Shelly	Burton Mennonite Church
Mike & Suzanne Chapek	Martha Graber	Carolyn & Jim Moore	Ann Showalter	Central Kansas Community Foundation
Herb & Lucille Cies	David Habegger	J. Harold & Rosemary Moyer	Cay Siebert	Citizen's State Bank
John & Miriam Claassen	Chuck & Jan Hadley	Berneil & Ted Mueller	LuAnn Zook & Doug Siemens	Faith Mennonite Church, Newton
Milton Claassen	Ruth Harder	Dana & Kathleen Neff	Francis & Richard Siemens	First Bank
Virginia Claassen	Dorothy & Willis Harder	Donna & Harry Neufeld	Lois & Walter Silvernale	First Mennonite Church, Halstead
Walter C. Claassen	Edgar & Marge Harms	Kendra & Russ Neufeld	John & Molly Simmering	First Mennonite Church of Christian
Judy & Paul Classen	Beverly & Shafiq Hasan	Frieda & Walter Neufeld	Edwin & Mary Smith	First Mennonite Church, Newton
Brent & Michelle Coffman	Marnette & Ronald Hatchett	Fred & Ruth Obold	Pandea Smith	First Presbyterian Church
Daagya Dick & Juan Coy	Arnita Haurly	Lila Osborne	Barb Goering & Joe Smucker	First United Methodist Church
Virginia Cumley	Marilyn Helburg	Edna & John Otto	Marlene & Stan Smucker	Grace Hill Mennonite Church
Suzanne Daughton	H. Eugene & Mary Herr	Helen Pauls	Jack & Linda Stauffer	Hesston Mennonite Church
B.J. & Jonell Davies	Pat Cameron & Geneva Hershberger	Kaye & Virgil Penner	Clarene Stucky	Kansas Health Foundation
Darlene Dick	Nathan Smucker & Greta Hiebert	Kathryn & Lawrence Penner	LaVern & Marilyn Stucky	Kids FUNd grant
David & Mary Duerksen	Salome Holsinger	Ed & Evelyn Peters	Gail & Mark Stucky	Midland National Bank
Dennis & Norma Duerksen	Salome Holsinger	Jeanette & Leonard Peters	Marge Swartzendruber	New Creation Fellowship
Lynette & Marlo Duerksen	Gordon & Jeanne Houser	Carol & Ron Peters	Carol & Lawrence Temple	Schowalter Foundation
Edna & George Dyck	Joyce Huber	Rachel Poling	Barbara & John Thiesen	Shalom Mennonite Church
Mary Ediger	Gary & Jean Isaac	Norma Johnson & Vern Preheim	Donald & Stephanie Thompson	Sunflower Foundation
Donna Eigsti	Jon & Sue Ann Jantz	Evelyn Quiring	Jerry & Leann Toews	Tabor Mennonite Church
Elena Entz	Sylvia & Wallace Jantz	Boots & Merrill Raber	Erma & Joe Torricelli	UMC KS West Conference
Carol & Larry Entz	Elaine & Paul Jantzen	Lou Gomez & Elizabeth Raid	Lois & Paul Unruh	Whitestone Mennonite Church
Gerry & Ruth Epp	Miriam Nafsinger & James Juhnke	Kathy Randall	Radene Unruh	Women's Community Fund grant
Connie & Rex Esau	Mary & Michael Karst	James & Karen Ratzlaff	Erlene & Robert Unruh	Zion Mennonite Church
Beverly Baumgartner & Joel Ewy	Berni Kaufman	Roger Ratzlaff	Beth VanNatta	
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**Vision: Thriving communities sustained by social justice and compassion.**

As human beings, our greatness lies not so much in being able to remake the world--that is the myth of the atomic age--as in being able to remake ourselves.

--Ghandi

**Peace Connections partners with others to:**

- ▶ **build resources within families and communities**
- ▶ **teach and practice nonviolence**
- ▶ **nurture personal and spiritual well-being**

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The Board of Directors meets monthly at 612 N. Main, Newton, KS. Meetings are open to the public.