



The St. Augustine's Episcopal Peace Fellowship (EPF) evolved from a Whidbey interfaith witness for peace which resulted in an annual Interfaith Peace Vigil (2004-2017) hosted by St. Augustine's. On November 21, 2004, the St. Augustine's Episcopal Peace Fellowship chapter was formally established. Episcopal Peace Fellowship members make the following commitment.

**“In loyalty to the person, teaching, and Lordship of Jesus Christ,
my conscience commits me to God’s way of redemptive love:
to pray, study and work for peace and justice, and to renounce, so far as
possible, participation in war, militarism, and all other forms of violence.”**

The EPF commitment combined with the Baptismal vow “to strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being” form the core of St. Augustine's Episcopal Peace Fellowship vision of a Beloved Community. The Episcopal Peace Fellowship seeks to fulfill this pledge through prayer, study and action.

Each year the St. Augustine EPF sponsors a Martin Luther King, “Blessed Are the Peacemakers” community event which relates the 1960s Black Freedom Movement with current issues of racial injustice. Given South Whidbey's demographics, the recent MLK event themes have called for a racial reckoning regarding systemic racism.

St. Augustine's EPF actions, directed toward the vision of a Beloved Community, include advocacy. Currently, peace and justice advocacy has been directed toward gun violence prevention. The peace and justice issues may vary from year to year, but St. Augustine's EPF will continue to have, in addition to prayer and study, an action or advocacy role.

Dick Hall
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