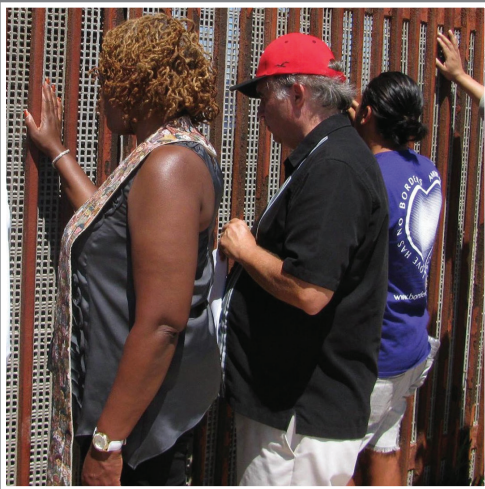


BPFNA Bautistas por la Paz

Witnessing to God's peace rooted in justice - working together until it comes.

Testificando sobre la paz de Dios enraizada en justicia - Trabajando hasta que llegue.



BPFNA ANNUAL REPORT

2014

30TH ANNIVERSARY



1984-2014

2014 marked the 30th Anniversary for the BPFNA. That's three decades of working with you for peace rooted in justice! Throughout the year we looked back into history and shared various articles, cartoons, letters, photos, and more gems from BPFNA's past. And while 2014 may be over, it's not too late to participate in the celebration! Go to www.bpfna.org/thirtieth to learn more about the BPFNA (or to relive some of your favorite moments).



Above: Summer Conference 2006/Atlanta, GA/Photo by Richard Myers
 Below: Summer Conference 2008/St-Anne-de-Bellevue, QB/Photo by Julie Rieswig



Above: Summer Conference 1990/Ottawa, ON/Archive Photo



30TH ANNIVERSARY

“I’m sure you hear this all the time, but the work that your organization is doing is really fantastic. By following your posts regularly, my eyes are constantly being opened to new causes to read about and develop passions for.”

“I count myself among the Presbyterians these days but there are still many reasons I consider myself a ‘baptist’ in theology, polity, and practice. When I see the amazing work of the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America, I am reminded that there are still wonderful people in this tradition. Thank you BPFNA for your witness.”

“According to Professor Robert Garland of Colgate University all societies have, at least to some degree, embraced warring madness, systems of slavery/ domination and gender bias. I see the BPFNA as a worthy attempt by our family to address all three.”

“You’ve touched a human life deeply. Since finding an anchor in the Fellowship, my life is much richer. Thank you.”



Above: Friendship Tour 2008/Nicaragua



Above: Friendship Tour 2012/Burma



Above: Friendship Tour 1985/Soviet Union

SUMMER CONFERENCE

UNA SOLA CREACIÓN/UNE SEULE CRÉATION/ONE CREATION

In 2014 we gathered at Brock University in St. Catharines, ON for a Summer Conference centered around the theme of Environmental Justice.



“I was thinking about Peace Camp all summer because I learn so much from there. I wish everyone all over the world can go and learn from Peace Camp.”

“I am so glad I was able to make it to Peace Camp this year. I returned [home] refreshed, renewed and energized. This gathering is truly transformative.”

“I have not stopped talking about Peace Camp. I am so much more aware of the role I can play in peacemaking. I made some new friends that I am sure will be part of my life forever.”

SUMMER CONFERENCE



“Thank you for all that you did to make this an inspiring experience that I will never forget.”

“What a phenomenal job you all did. It was, again, a life-changing conference for me. Thank you.”

From Cuba: “I’ve seen everyone from the peace camp trip except Santiago, and they all have rave reviews about their experience. Bien hecho! (well done!)” -Stan Dotson (on behalf of Coralía, Maykel, René & Javier)

Left: Eh Kaw Paw leading communion in Karen during the Young Adult service/Photo by Dick Myers; Below: Santiago & Lee at AWAB’s Prom for All/Photo by Dick Myers

LOOKING AHEAD...

Page 4: Maung Maung Yin & Kle Thu Po/ photo by Dick Myers; Cuban representatives from FIBAC/Photo by Dick Myers; Youth performing at the Youth-led worship/ Photo by Buddy Gill

Join us for Summer Conference 2015!
No Longer Strangers: Crossing Borders for Peacemaking
 July 6–11, 2015
 Eastern Mennonite University
 Harrisonburg, VA USA
 Go to www.bpfna.org/gather/summer-conference to find out more!



Above: Alison, Frances & Caroline leading prayer at the Young Adult service/Photo by Dick Myers; Right: George, Beth & Deborah at the opening night worship service/Photo by Dick Myers

SUMMER CONFERENCE

COMPANIONING PROGRAM

In 2014 we continued our popular Companioning Program that pairs young adults with more experienced peacemakers.



Some of the young adults in the Companioning Program/Photo by Dick Myers



Dick & Gretchen/Photographer Unknown

“The companioning program has been invaluable in helping me to discern how my ministry will take shape in these next few years with regards to issues of justice and peace.”

“I have enjoyed the conversations with my younger colleague. She helps me to remember where I was when I started out in ministry where the urge to flee is so strong. What we all need are people who believe in us, ask the right questions and drive us deeper to build a long-term commitment to ministry. I have found myself renewed by holding up the mirror and reflecting on this ministry we share.”

“The Companioning Program has truly changed my life; my companion is a colleague, mentor, friend, and co-conspirator. For me, this intentional relationship is unique in its equality, co-accountability, and rich meaning-making opportunities.”

“As a senior member of this group, my relationship to my seminarian companion has been invigorating for me, keeping me in touch with what’s going on--especially being together for a week at Peace Camp.”

“The Companioning program has been for me a refreshing connection to someone I would not have had the opportunity to know and to experience the passion for peacemaking through her experience.”

“The Companioning program introduced me to an advocate and friend . . . it is an opportunity to walk through life’s joys and pains with good, good folk.”

PARTNERSHIPS

PARTNER CONGREGATIONS

In 2014 we shared stories of our Partner Congregations in *Model Ministries*, created a monthly update to keep them informed, and shared resources for the annual celebration of Peace Sunday. We also worked formally and informally to support Partner Congregations looking to fill staff positions and pastors looking for their churches, and we shared materials for congregations to celebrate/recognize: Gun Violence Prevention Sabbath, Earth Day, Torture Awareness Month, the People’s Climate March – as well as materials related to specific issues and seasons of the church year.



LeDayne McLeese Polaski (middle) with some vendors at the Park Road Baptist Alternative Holiday Market in Charlotte, NC. Park Road is a BPFNA Partner Congregation. Photographer Unknown.

NEW PARTNER CONGREGATIONS

Below: Members of BPFNA Partner Congregations attended the People’s Climate March in New York City/Photographer Unknown

We welcomed 5 new Partner Congregations in 2014!

- Burien Community Church, *Burien, WA*
- Circle of Hope ALIVE, *Davenport, FL*
- First Baptist Church, *Chico, CA*
- Kingdom Come Community Church, *Buena Park, CA*
- Royal Lane Baptist Church, *Dallas, TX*

“Thanks for always sending this [reminder about Eco-Palms] out. I forwarded it to our church administrator several years ago. He has ordered eco-palms every year since then!”

“[A pastor] commented to me that you have such an effective pastoral outreach to clergy. It was quite a statement of affirmation of the ministry you do.”



Right: Comfort (left) and Karen (right), members of the Baptist Peacemakers of Rhode Island; and Rachel McGuire, pastor of Immanuel Baptist in Rochester, NY. Both are BPFNA Partner Congregations. Photo by Dick Myers.



PARTNERSHIPS

SEMINARIES

Hispanic Summer Program

Along with the Alliance of Baptists and Pullen Memorial Baptist Church, we sponsored Rev. Dr. Doris J. García in teaching a course titled *Interculturality in the Old Testament: Challenge and Opportunity for Peace and Reconciliation* as part of the annual Hispanic Summer Program for master's level Latino/a seminarians and graduate students.

Mayan Intercultural Seminary (SIM)

BPFNA Board President Amaury Tañón-Santos taught a course called *Christian Ethics and Peace: A Latin American Perspective* at the Mayan Intercultural Seminary (SIM) in San Cristóbal de Las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico.



Above: Rev. Dr. Doris J. García/Photographer Unknown

LOOKING AHEAD...



Above: Fair Trade coffee from Equal Exchange sold through the Baptist Fair Trade Project/ Photo by Allison Paksoy

In 2014 we received a \$21,000 E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation grant through the Foundation's program in graduate theological education. The grant will support a gathering of Baptist seminarians from Canada, the US, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Cuba as part of BPFNA's 2015 Summer Conference. The students will come together for a week of intensive and experiential education with the purpose of equipping and mobilizing them to return to their schools/communities inspired and able to serve as progressive religious leaders and agents of social change.

“What a wonderful choice it was to have Doris García as the 2014 BPFNA Professor!... She greatly contributed to all the work of the HSP and fully participated in all facets of the program. Thanks to all of you who made this teaching opportunity possible.”—Rev. Daisy L. Machado, Director, Hispanic Summer Program

“The ones of us who are closely involved in theological education know how important these training opportunities are. Muchas Gracias! on behalf of the students who will benefit from this training.”

NORTH AMERICAN PARTNERSHIPS

Throughout 2014, we partnered with a variety of groups and causes within North America.

- We worked with the **GI Rights Network (GIRN)** to create a national (US) conference for people who staff the GI Rights Hotline.
- We worked with the **Soul Repair Center** to create local/state groups to equip & empower churches to work with returning soldiers struggling to overcome moral injury.
- We financially supported and participated in the **Conferencia Inaugural de la Indo-Afro-Latino América-Caribe de Iglesias Por la Paz.**
- We celebrated the news of a 13 percent increase of sales of fair-traded items through the **Baptist Fair Trade Project** and awarded a scholarship to a young person participating in a trip through the funds received from that project.

PARTNERSHIPS

North American Partnerships continued...

- We financially supported the inaugural **Conferencia Bautista Latinoamericana por la Paz** (Latin American Baptist Conference for Peace).
- We were one of 62 peace, security, and faith groups in the U.S. to sign the **Friends Committee on National Legislation's letter** against Senate legislation to impose new sanctions on Iran (S. 1881). The bill failed to find the 70 sponsors necessary to override the promised Presidential veto.
- We supported & coordinated participation in the **People's Climate March**.
- We were present at the annual **SOA Watch** at Fort Benning, GA.
- We signed the **Interfaith Statement of Conscience Concerning Nuclear Weapons**, signed a **Friends of Sabeel Open Letter to Pope Francis** asking him to speak up on behalf of Palestinian child prisoners, and served as a co-convenor for the **2014 Religious Leaders Letter for Tobacco Farm Worker Justice**.

"The conference was wonderful. The folks involved in the GIRN are all so dedicated, most of them living on near poverty level in order to do what they do. Thank you so much for your wonderful help in organizing things! It's so fantastic to partner with the BPFNA; together we are stronger!"



Above: Participants on a trip to Tijuana, Mexico. Because of funds received through our partnership with Equal Exchange and the Baptist Fair Trade Project, we were able to award a scholarship so that a young adult could attend this trip. Photo by Nathan Watts.

PARTNERSHIPS

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

The following partnerships were made possible through the BPFNA's Gavel Memorial World Peace Fund.

- We supported the **4th Women's Interfaith Gathering** held in March 2014 in Abbottabad, Pakistan.
- With our help, **Lancelot Muteyo of the Pan African Peace Network (PAP-NET)** was present at the **Baptist Convention of Malawi Youth Easter Conference**. In the first part of the convention, he made a presentation introducing approximately 500 youth and their leaders to the techniques of **Conflict Transformation**. The second part was more intimate with a session in which he trained 30 youth in the skills of Conflict Transformation. Each of Malawi's seven provinces selected approximately five youth to participate in the training.
- We enabled the **Peacebuilding, Healing and Reconciliation Programme (PHARP)** to lead a four-day peace building training to build the capacity of pastors, teachers and community leaders to promote peace, forgiveness and reconciliation in Kenya.
- We sponsored on-going **Conflict Transformation trainings** by **Boaz Keibarak** among the Pokot and Turkana tribes in Kenya, areas in which there has been violence for many years and a series of recent killings.
- We made it possible for **Lancelot Muteyo** and **Boaz Keibarak** of PAP-NET to create a **Conflict Transformation training** for chiefs, sub chiefs, village heads, kraal heads, police chiefs, council heads, pastors and the general public in Masvingo, Zimbabwe. Thirty people were expected but 64 attended. The paramount chief of Ndanga Clan who is in charge of 254 villages extended his invitation for them to come back again and conduct Conflict Transformation Workshops for Members of Parliament and Councillors.
- With support from the **Gavel Memorial World Peace Fund**, **Archbishop Malkhaz Songulashvili** of the Evangelical Baptist Church of the Republic of Georgia visited interfaith religious leaders who fled from Syria to Lebanon during the fighting.



Above: Boaz Keibarak (left) & Lancelot Muteyo/Photographer Unknown

“Greetings in Christ! In spite of all challenges which confronted us, by the grace of God we overcame them and had a wonderful Interfaith gathering. We really have been blessed and would like to thank BPFNA for your wonderful support and love.”

“BPFNA has effectively impacted PHARP in terms of advice, encouragement and support. PHARP values your involvement in peace activities.”

“My gratitude goes to BPFNA for their quick support to fund my peace work. The Gavel Fund supported the programme that transformed the conflict on Pokot and Turkana into the peace that is being experienced now. Working with BPFNA... has given me a chance to widen my call and commitment not only in Kenya but across the globe and to create a new family. ‘Asante Sana’ (Thank you so much) to BPFNA’s members for being part of the transformation.”

PUBLICATIONS

Partnerships continued...

In addition to the work specifically mentioned throughout this report, we also partnered with:

- ABC-USA – Alliance of Baptists –
- AMOS – Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists – The Border Consortium – Christian Peace Circles – Coffee Connection/Project Empower – Cooperative Baptist Fellowship – Deborah’s House – Eco-Palms – The Gathering of Baptists – Jitokeze – Justice & Peacemaking Community of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship – Kairos – Interfaith Power and Light – National Farm Worker Ministry – National Religious Campaign Against Torture – Pan African Peace Network (PAP-NET) – Protestant Church of Morocco

BPFNA PUBLICATIONS

The BPFNA offerend a variety of peace and justice themed publications in 2014, both in print and electronic formats.

10 Great Things to Give

This publication helps guide people in gift-giving options that support peace rooted in justice.

Baptist Peacemaker

Baptist Peacemaker is our award-winning quarterly journal, which again won Associated Church Press awards in 2014! One for Bob Tiller’s *A Proposal to Christian Peacemakers about Guns* and another for Lee McKenna’s *Rosa Parks Goes to Tutti Island*.

Issue Monographs

In 2014 we published our latest Issue Monograph – *What Your Church Can Do About Human Trafficking*.

Model Ministries

Model Ministries is an e-newsletter for our Partner Congregations that covers the peace and justice work being done by churches in our network.

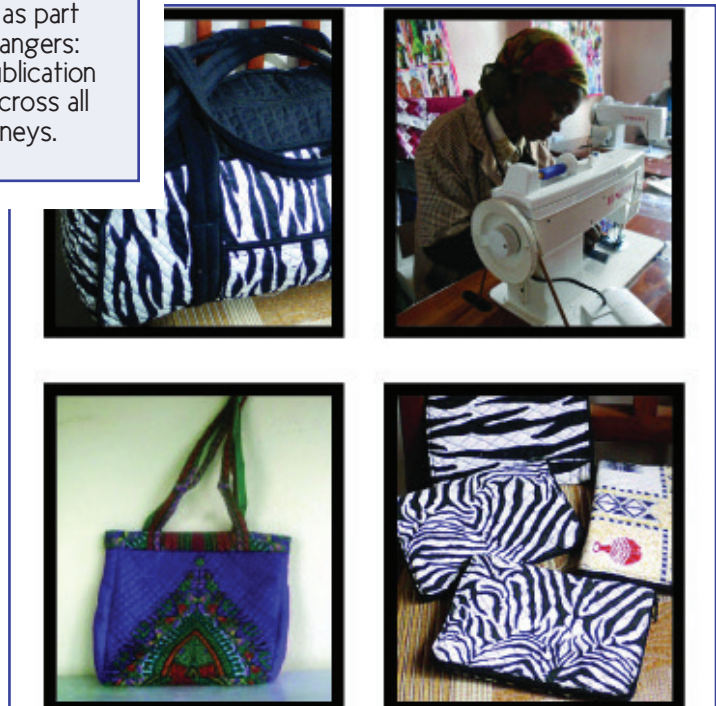
LOOKING AHEAD...

“I really welcome this kind of article

In 2015 we will publish *The Borders I Cross* as part of our new five-year theme ‘No Longer Strangers: Crossing Borders for Peacemaking.’ The publication will address how our members and friends cross all types of borders in their peacemaking journeys.

[What Your Church Can Do About Human Trafficking] for our churches – there is so much energy and opportunity within faith communities to address this problem. Our church is in the process of hopefully combining with other churches to do just that and this material you have put together will be so helpful. Thank you again.”

“THANK YOU so much for inviting [us] to be a part of [10 Great Things to Give]. It’s an honor to be featured alongside so many other incredible ministries doing good around the world!”



Products featured in the Jitokeze Wamama Wafrika catalog, one of the groups mentioned in 2014’s 10 Great Things to Give.

PUBLICATIONS

Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth

In 2014, we continued to promote the second edition of *Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth: A Resource for Congregations on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*.

Spanish Resources

We created *Dando a Luz a un Nuevo Mundo* – an annotated list of peace and justice resources written in Spanish.

Social Media

We opened up our social media resources to members and friends to share worship resources, news stories, congregational updates, and a wide variety of pieces on such topics as marriage equality, immigration, gun violence and racism.

Vocation of Peacemaking

Started in September 2014, *Vocation of Peacemaking* is an essay series that celebrates and inspires individuals in their efforts to live a life of peace.



Above: David Wesley was featured in our Vocation of Peacemaking series for his work as youth director at Zion Lutheran Church in Chicago.
Right: Ad for Dando a Luz a un Nuevo Mundo.

“Thank you for this edition of Model Ministries. I passed it on to our Ecology mission group and to Peacemakers at Central Baptist, Wayne, who are working together to challenge our congregation to get to Carbon Zero. The article from our friends at UBBC, State College, was really helpful - informative and inspirational. We may incorporate the idea from Seattle First Baptist, too, because transportation to and from church is our major carbon input.”

“[Dando a Luz a un Nuevo Mundo] is a very good compendium of materials for peace building in Spanish. I appreciate your effort. I am sharing these with my students right away!”

“Thanks for all the thoughtful posts from BPFNA on Facebook! I find them encouraging, inspiring, and hope filled.”

“I am deeply thankful for [Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth]. This is going to first of all change my life, and then change the state of affairs in this nation Uganda... Thank you for empowering my peace work even among the Ugandan LGBTQs. Many Blessings to BPFNA.”



BPFNA BOARD MEMBERS

In 2014 we welcomed two new board members to the BPFNA – Viola Mayol from Evanston, IL and Kadia Edwards (who serves as a youth and young adult representative) from Durham, NC.

We also welcomed back Judson Day (Sacramento, CA), Ximena Ulloa Montemayor (Mexico City, Mexico), Dave Ogilvie (Port Williams, NS), and Amaury Tañón-Santos (Edison, NJ) who began their second 3-year terms.

Members who rotated off the board in 2014 include Cheryl Dudley (New York, NY), Jonathan Sledge (Durham, NC), Chakravarthy Zadda (Chicago, IL), Juan Gutiérrez (San Juan, PR), and Alan Sherouse (Greensboro, NC).



Above: Board member Kadia Edwards (left) gives communion at BPFNA's 2014 Summer Conference.

LOOKING AHEAD...

“The BPFNA truly is a Great Nonprofit. It deserves to become a favored household word for all who long for peace.”

“The BPFNA does great peace and justice work all around the world, working with similarly minded folks, both Baptists and non-Baptists. It’s a great support organization also for those on the front line of peace and justice work.”

“By attending Peace Camp many summers I have learned so much more about several more Peace & Justice issues that has impacted my thinking & actions.”

In 2014 we received a Palmer Grant through the American Baptist Foundation to hold a two-part border awareness excursion in 2015 that looks at justice issues along the US-Mexico border. The first part is a Friendship Tour to El Paso/Ciudad Juarez in February 2015. The participants of this trip will then lead workshops at Summer Conference in July of 2015 to educate others on the issues and how they can begin, improve, or deepen their own responses.

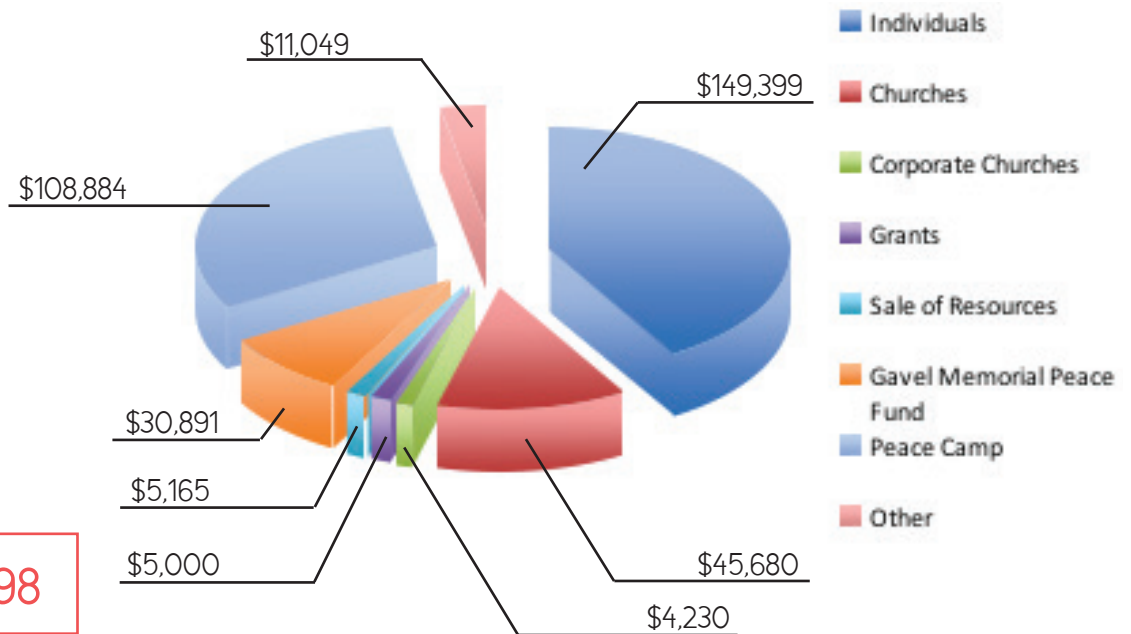
2014 TOP-RATED NONPROFIT

Thanks to our members and friends leaving us so many positive reviews, the BPFNA ranked as a top-Rated Nonprofit on GreatNonProfits.org for the second year in a row! Being a top-rated nonprofit helps to raise the visibility of the BPFNA and gives us more access to potential donors.



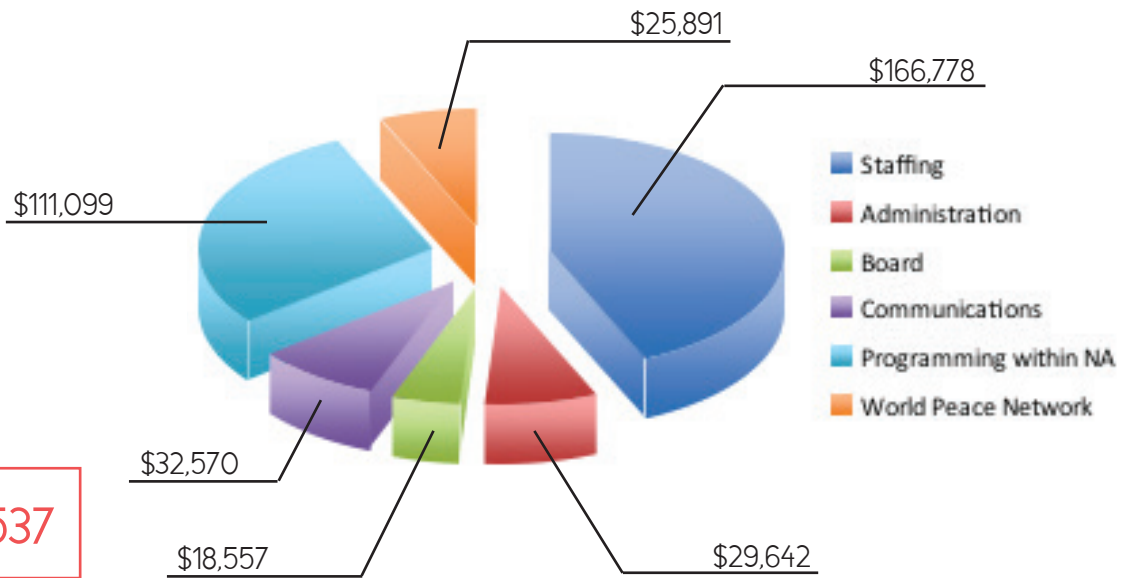
FINANCES

INCOME



TOTAL: 360,298

EXPENSES



TOTAL: \$384,537

A note on our finances: Thanks to the generosity of our members, contributing congregations and other donors, we were able to accomplish all the work you see in these pages. Our goal each year is to not only raise the funds that we spend, but to increase support so we can grow your and our peace influence throughout North America and around the world. To that end, we've made some significant shifts to improve the bottom line including reducing expenses; restructuring staff to allow for greater attention to fundraising; and entering a two-year contract with Hope Manifest, a deeply affordable non-profit consulting group which is training our staff and board to be sustainable in fundraising and organizational development. We also have great news for 2015, a matching grant that could bring in an additional \$80,000.

Doubling your gifts for peace: We have a **\$40,000 matching grant for 2015** through which new gifts and increased gifts will be automatically doubled. You can help us meet this match by increasing your gift and by inviting new people to join!

LOOKING AHEAD

NO LONGER STRANGERS: CROSSING BORDERS FOR PEACEMAKING

2015 looks to be a full and fruitful year! With our new five-year theme *No Longer Strangers: Crossing Borders for Peacemaking*, we'll be equipping ourselves and each other to cross borders of all types including language, culture, race, religion, nationality, generation, class, and sexual orientation.

Highlights will include:

- A “Justice at the Border” Friendship Tour to El Paso/Juarez.
- Workshops and an issue monograph to encourage/equip local congregations to address injustices at the US/Mexico border.
- Substantial expansion of our Spanish language resources.
- An International Seminarians' Conference for students from Canada, the US, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Cuba.
- Summer Conference/Peace Camp with the theme “Crossing Borders.”
- A new publication series called *The Borders I Cross*.
- A Training of Conflict Transformation Trainers.

And much more!



Photo by Dick Myers

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