Peace Camp!

It is amazing that Peace Camp has been bringing children together for 26 years. It becomes easy to believe when those of us who have been involved for much of that time see those who attended as children coming back as adult helpers and leaders. Some now even have children of their own.

Once again, Peace Camp will be held on the large campus of First Presbyterian Church in Allentown. The grounds are well suited to helping young people play active non-competitive games, take nature walks and investigate wildlife.

Peace Camp is offered this year from July 18th through July 22nd, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, each day. Children are organized into age-similar groups named by color rather than grade. Young campers learn about men, women and children who have led lives of peace, or who have had experiences of peacemaking and active nonviolence. Peace Campers learn to converse in more peaceful ways, and explore ways to walk more lightly on the earth and in peace with other people and all the earth's creatures.

And of course, there is music. Chris Klump will lead the singing this year, and children will demand their favorites. Parents of campers report that these songs get sung all year round.

Please look around for children in your congregation, neighborhood or extended family who might enjoy an experience like Peace Camp, and pass along the flyer included in this newsletter, or call LEPOCO at 610-691-8730 for more information.

- Marcie Lightwood

Put On Your Marching Shoes

The Democratic National Convention is coming to Philadelphia, July 25-28, and with it a number of rallies and marches speaking out about various issues that are important to LEPOCO members and friends. The close location makes it an ideal time to find a bus, plan a carpool, and get down to Philly to take action. The following is information about some of the events. Call LEPOCO, 610-691-8730, for info. about carpools, etc.

Sunday, July 24, Noon
Philadelphia City Hall
March for a Clean Energy Revolution

Thousands will march for action to prevent climate catastrophe and present these demands directly to current and future policy makers: Ban fracking now; Keep fossil fuels in the ground; Stop dirty energy; Quickly and justly transition to 100% renewable energy. Convened by Pennsylvanians Against Fracking and Americans Against Fracking.

A bus will be leaving from Bethlehem. Email taramichelle75@gmail.com or call 267-428-1903. Text 'REVOLUTION' to 69866 for updates. For general information see www.cleanenergymarch.org.

July 25 - 28
Anti-War "Truth Displays"

The Brandywine Peace Community and others, are planning displays of mock drones with peace banners at strategic points throughout the city during the DNC. Tell the truth: Drone wars are the wars for which we are all responsible, especially the present government. Stop endless war. End the killing. Contact LEPOCO, 610-691-8730, to join a Lehigh Valley carpool.

Monday, July 25, 11 am
March on Democratic National Convention
Philadelphia City Hall

This march is organized by supporters of Bernie Sanders for president. From City Hall the march will make its way to the Wells Fargo Center using Broad Street. The demonstration will take place outside of Wells Fargo Center for the remainder of the day near FDR park. For more information, check out: https://www.facebook.com/groups/MarchOnTheDNC/

Monday, July 25, 3 pm
March for Our Lives
Philadelphia City Hall <southside>, marching south on Broad St.

Organized by the Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign, this march will be protesting the fact that the city will spend thousands of dollars to host the Democratic National Convention for millionaires and billionaires, yet the city fails to provide for its most vulnerable citizens. Join in demanding an end to unemployment, hunger and homelessness; money for education; affordable, accessible housing; living wages; and an end to the prison industrial complex. See www.march4ourlives2016.org for more info.