

Open a File of Consciousness with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

To open a File of Consciousness with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), please complete the form below.

- I would like to open a File of Consciousness with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), with the intent of creating a record of my ongoing personal beliefs about how war, peace, justice and conscious thought relate to my Christian values.
- I would like to add or update the following information to an already existing file

Full, legal name:

Other names that I use or have used in the past (including nick names, married or maiden names):

Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone : _____

E-mail: _____

- Please add me to the Disciples Home Missions mailing list
- Please add me to the Disciples Peace Fellowship mailing list

Name of Congregation you currently call home:

Location of this home congregation :

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Are you a member of this congregation?

- Yes
- No

Have you legally registered as a consciences objector with the US Government at any point in time? If so, please tell us more _____

Are you now, or have you ever been, a member of the military in the United States or another country? If so, please tell us more _____

Basics

My Christian belief system compels me to (check all that apply):

- object to participating in ALL war or armed conflict as a combatant
- object to participate in *particular* aspects of wars or armed conflicts that are unjust by the standards of my faith tradition or personal faith understanding.
- object to paying for war or armed conflict OF ANY KIND
- object to paying for *particular* aspects of wars or armed conflicts that are unjust by the standards of my faith tradition or personal faith understanding.
- object to the use of nuclear power for the purpose of military advancement, war or political influence
- insist that non-violent social justice be the highest priority in all political actions that claim to represent me (including those made by governments, churches and organizational structures)
- create a home environment that encourages my children or other family members to also have these values, beliefs and standards
- encourage my community of faith to hold these values, beliefs and standards

The church recognizes all of these actions and decisions as legitimate expressions of faith. It is important to recognize that US Law only recognizes a very few of these as legally documentable expressions of religious commitment. If you need more information about the distinction between the church's support and US legal obligations for a claim of religious commitment, please contact Disciples Peace Fellowship at <http://dpfweb.org/contact-us/>.

Involvement

Please list your involvement with peace organizations, anti-war issues or social justice causes. Please be as specific as possible, including dates, locations and names of organizations.

Fill in all blanks that are relevant (and please use additional paper as needed):

Name of organization

Name of specific event

Dates

Location

Briefly describe your involvement

Briefly describe your motivation for participating

Briefly reflect on how participating further developed your faith understanding

Statements of faith and belief

Describe your understanding of the relationship between your Christian faith and violence. What do you believe are the core teachings of Jesus on this subject? How do your personal life and these teachings intersect?

Describe your understanding of which takes precedent when the expectations of your Christian faith and the expectations of government contradict each other. By what criteria would you make decisions to resolve those contradictions?

Describe how significant events, people or experiences have shaped your understanding of peace and justice. Do you have peacemakers or conscientious objectors in your family? Did a

pastor or member of the church help you develop a sense of justice? Did a real-life experience significantly change your world view of violence, peace or justice?

Describe how your understanding of Christian values as they relate to peace, justice, war and violence affect the way you live and/or the kind of work you do.

Verification

- I certify that I am the above mentioned person, and that no other person is filling this information out on my behalf
- I understand that this information is a private file, viewable only by Disciples Home Missions staff and Disciples Peace Fellowship. It will only be used upon my request or with my expressed consent during my lifetime. Upon my death, this information will become part of the historical record of the church, through the national historic society, general offices of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) or the Disciples Peace Fellowship.
- I understand that this file may be used, upon my request, as a supplement to a claim of conscientious objection or civil disobedience, but is not a legal or military file of conscientious objector status under US law.
- I acknowledge that the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) supports a wide variety of behavior and choices that are rooted in an individual's personal relationship with God and Jesus Christ, including acts of conscious that may, at times when all other options have been exhausted, contradict the legal standards of governing agents (ie: civil disobedience). The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) supports those choices only in as much as the participant takes those actions in accord with a well thought out relationship to their faith, and are willing to suffer the prescribed consequences afforded those actions by law.

Next steps (check all that apply)

- Please have a minister from Disciples Home Missions with the Disciples Home Mission contact me about how I may further strengthen this file .
- Please have a minister from Disciples Peace Fellowship contact me about how I may become more involved in peace and justice issues in the life of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).