

Deidre Druk and I had the honor of attending the summer conference of the Baptist Peace Fellowship~Bautistas Por La Paz. We joined 217 peacemakers from 11 countries in what many are calling a Kairos (critical; opportune) moment.

The conference was held entirely in Spanish (with great translations via headsets for those of us not conversant with the language). We sought to break down the barriers of class and culture and find ways to partner in the global work of peace. Some of us mused that we practiced a kind of crossing the figurative border wall. Sadly, many of our new friends will likely not be able to cross the US border to attend next summer's conference in New York State. We were so glad to meet so many people who were so committed to peace and justice.



While we were out of town, the horrific shooting happened in South Minneapolis—another person killed by police. I heard about it from friends in Mexico who were connected to the Internet. Will this get more attention because the victim was white, middle class, an immigrant from a more seemingly friendly country? I'm sorry that it takes multiple victims to get to the soul-searching that begins the process of changing a culture of violence.

