

## Voices for a World Free of Nuclear Weapons

Our Earth is vulnerable. Our world politics are extremely vulnerable. Earth and world problems call us to pray urgently for peaceful resolutions to fierce conflicts that threaten to explode into a global nuclear holocaust. Click [HERE](#) to download "A Nuclear Prayer". You are invited to view the unfolding of this prayer recited by Founding Members of Voices for a World Free of Nuclear Weapons. It is part of the United Religions Initiative (founded by William Swing, former Episcopal Bishop of California), an international nonprofit that brings together people of all faiths and traditions to solve the problems facing our world as a whole. Bishop Swing explained, "First, I knew that I had to do something about the nuclear threat to all life on this planet. Remaining silent was not morally justifiable for me. Second, with deep concern for 'the Earth and all living beings,' we must say something, do something about the proliferation of ever more powerful nuclear weapons among an ever-greater number of countries." [voices-uri.org](http://voices-uri.org)



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Along the way, we began each of our monthly meetings (180 meetings so far) with a prayer. The same prayer ([www.voices-uri.org/nuclear-prayers](http://www.voices-uri.org/nuclear-prayers))! This particular prayer began to have a life of its own. Various groups of the United Nations began to use this prayer, and later it was said in countries around the world. This gave us courage to move further.

Three years ago, we decided that we would launch a worldwide campaign inviting all concerned to say a prayer, their own prayer, on August 6, "Nuclear Prayer Day," the day that the first atom bomb was used in a war. If not a prayer, then a meditation or moment of silence or profound reflection! The point is to get the people of this Earth to move beyond silence and fearful dread. To go to the soulful roots of each individual and each spiritual tradition to get in touch with the life force to reverse the apocalypse that the nuclear-armed nations are planning for us and "all living beings."

After two years, Nuclear Prayer Day has become a tradition in countries around the world and among hundreds of thousands of people. This year, we are specifically reaching out to various religious groups and disarmament organizations.

Now, I am reaching out to you. I invite you individually, your cooperation circle, and your congregation to pause for a moment around August 6 or the surrounding days to let the fire of the Spirit of life come to flame in your hearts. Say your

prayer, say our prayer, say something! When you do something, please let me know personally. We are building a global voice and need yours in solidarity.

~ Bishop William E. Swing

