

# International Day of Peace

## *End Racism. Build Peace.*

### September 21, 2022

The United Nations General Assembly has declared September 21 as the International Day of Peace

The International Day of Peace has been devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, through observing 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire. But achieving true peace entails much more than laying down arms. It requires building societies where every person can live in safety and peace.

For over 50 years, Quaker House has been a manifestation of the Friends' Peace Testimony. Quaker House provides daily direct counseling and support to members of the military who are questioning their roles and suffering from the affects of their participation in the military. We also continually advocate for a more peaceful world for everyone, everywhere.

#### We encourage Friends to consider these Queries:

1. What does peace mean in a world plagued with racism and inequality? Can there be peace without equality for every person?
2. Many Friends have reconsidered their relationship with the Peace Testimony in light of recent events across the planet. Do conscious or unconscious racism affect reactions to violence in different parts of the world?
3. What one thing can I do in the next 24 hours to try to advance peace and end racism? What can we, as Quakers, do to spread the message of seeking Spirit in each other throughout the world?

