

## Make a mark for peace: Quaker peaceworkers appeal 2008–09

### All-age activities

# Make your mark for peace

#### Purpose

Based on the 'hands' logo of the Make a mark for peace appeal, this exercise provides an opportunity for participants to think about peace in a wider sense, and to share insights with one another as a meeting.

#### Resources

You will need a large area of paper – or even a spare wall – onto which participants can create paint handprints. If you use paint, you'll need plenty of sheets to keep the surrounding area clean, and some water close at hand for washing off paint. For a less adventurous (and less messy) version, participants could draw around their hands on pieces of paper using brightly coloured pens, and blu-tac these to the wall.

#### Exercise

It's hard to argue that peace isn't a good thing. Quakers have worked for peace ever since the Society was founded. But if you asked ten people "what is peace?", how many answers do you think you'd get? What about a hundred people, or a thousand?

Peace means different things to different people. Every insight is valid; everybody's viewpoint is slightly different and every one is important. As a meeting, you can create a 'peace tree' as a way of exploring each other's feelings about what peace means.

Draw the outline of a tree trunk as the basis for your 'tree of hands'. Participants should create a handprint and add it to the tree so that the end result is a tree with lots of brightly-coloured hand-shaped 'leaves'!

When they add their handprint, invite them also to write on the branches of the tree something that they would like to say about peace. It can be anything they like – a personal experience of peace; a prayer for an end to violence or war; they might like to add their name. The aim is to create a project for the whole meeting to contribute to and to learn about each other's insights into the meaning of peace.

#### Message

The information in your activity packs will hopefully give you an idea of the sheer diversity of work that goes on in the peace movement. Thousands of people are involved all over the world, and every one of them has different ideas and aspirations, and unique insights into peace. In 2009, as in previous years, Quaker peaceworkers are working in all corners of the peace movement, supporting that variety and helping to make a mark for peace.

Find out more about Quaker peaceworkers – visit  
[www.quaker.org.uk/appeal](http://www.quaker.org.uk/appeal)

