



Lutheran Peace Fellowship

Budget Priorities Activity: **Leaders Guide** and Participant Handouts

An engaging, interactive computer activity for youth and adult groups.
(available on our CD with the activity, and online as a pdf)

CONTENTS

A. Read Me First: an outline of how to use this package

B. Overview of the 2014 Budget Priorities activity

C. Activities for Discussion and Action

1. Responding as Citizens Handout #1: Taking action for what we believe
2. Increases year-to-year Handout #2: U.S. Security Spending, 2008-14 (see also Handout 7)
3. A troubling picture Handout #3: Top ten reasons to be worried
4. Additional activities Handout #4: Groups that can help

D. Inspiration for the Task Handout #5: Path of Hope (60 heroes and movements, 2 pages,
(or use the full list of 150 stories, 6 pages: *Appendix 2*) .

E. Digging Deeper, Budget Data and Resources

1. US Documents, Sources of Data
2. Articles offering further insight
3. For Research, more info Handout #6: Digging deeper... (annotated research guide)
Abridged spending table Handout #7: (For less experienced groups, or if there is less time)

Appendix 1: Help us strengthen this activity. Please share your comments: print, fill out
and mail back this brief **evaluation**... or email us a note at: lpf@ecunet.org .

Appendix 2: The **Path of Hope** - full list (150 movements and heroes throughout history)

A. Read me first:

To download the activity click on "[Budget-Priorities-2013.exe](#)" and save to your computer or flash drive Open the activity by double-clicking on: [Budget-Priorities-2013.exe](#) (Windows only), or on the CD.

How this activity is set up: This activity is designed to be interactive. In our experience, participants are more engaged and learn more if we help them explore the issues and questions for themselves.

Instructions for moving around in the activity are on the pop-up of the activity's opening screen:
The space bar moves to the **next** screen (or click the mouse anywhere on the right 9/10ths of the screen).
Click on "B" to move **back** to the previous screen (or click anywhere on the left 1/10th of the screen).
On several screens, you are directed to click on a small button that is provided.

The role of the leader: Because the activity is participatory, the role of the leader is not so much to direct the group as to help participants explore issues and questions for themselves. The leader is thus not a teacher of information but a facilitator of the process of discovery. This includes several tasks:

1. Making sure everyone can see the screen and read the brief captions and text. Some leaders invite their group members to take turns reading the onscreen text of the activity.
2. Giving everyone a chance to share their thoughts.
3. Keeping the activity moving along while ensuring everyone is able to absorb each screen. If time is limited (under 45 min.) you'll want to move along briskly to have ample time for the Discussion.

We would appreciate hearing your comments and suggestions. General comments are welcome, or print and mail the brief evaluation form online or on the CD (*Appendix 2*). You can refer to any frame in the activity by noting the small black number in the upper right hand corner of the frame. Your feedback is appreciated.

The Budget Priorities activity, Leaders Guide, etc. are available online and on a CD from LPF, lpf@ecunet.org

B. Overview of the Budget Priorities activity

The Budget Priorities Activity has five sections. Here is an outline of what they contain along with the amounts of time most groups spend with each. .

- I. **Options** (4-8 min.) – brief intro to the federal budget and the ways it funds security from external threats
- II. **Deciding** (10-15 min.) – group activity (if you have less time, you may wish to move a few beans and then ask participants to share their opinion on how many beans should be on each plate for each of the questions.)
- III. **Questions** for discussion (8-15 min.) – questions to help a group explore key budget priorities issues
- IV. **Complications** (4-8 min.) – two dimensions that help expand the group’s perceptions of the issues
and **Next Steps** (10-20 min.) – for most leaders this section is key to encouraging responsible citizen activity

If you have 45 minutes or less, you may wish to move fairly briskly through parts I, II, and IV to ensure you will be able to give enough time to the discussion **Questions** (III) and **Next Steps**

C. Activities for Discussion and Action

Go through the **Discussion Questions** and **Next Steps** in the Budget Priorities Activity itself. You may use any of the following activities and handouts to explore them in greater detail.

An example in the activity: In a democracy, it’s up to us. There are countless instances of people changing budget priorities. In this example, citizen groups urged Pres. Bush to increase development assistance over recent years. He proposed the Millennium Challenge Account and the HIV/AIDS initiative. Four times in recent years, Congressional leaders cut funding from development programs; each time we lobbied it back in. Now we’re working to hold onto and expand the biggest increase in poverty-based aid in 20 years. So let’s join with others, learn together, and do what we can: share this budget activity, contact our representatives in Congress, talk with our friends, write letters to the editor, encourage community groups to present this activity and work for a new way of building real security. A good place to start is to make use of **sample letters to elected officials** in **Handout 1: “Taking action for what we believe”** as a way to discuss and act on participants responses to this activity.

C1. Responding as Citizens

Taking action for what we believe

Contacting an elected official: Many people don’t write or e-mail their elected officials because they find it intimidating, or wonder if it makes any difference. Yet, if we don’t do so, our point of view is undercounted. *The solution:* A simple 4-6 sentence note, written in 5 or 10 minutes. Begin by asking yourself what approach might work best for your particular member of Congress. Early in your letter state what you want your elected official to do. Add several sentences offering your reasons and perhaps a statistic. In your last sentence restate what you want and ask for a response. If you get inspired and write more, fine. If you want to make the most of your letter, send it to a local newspaper, too! See **Handout 1: “Taking action for what we believe”** which has sample letters on budget priorities.

C-2. Increases Year to Year

In some cases, it makes sense to spend time reviewing the numbers from the computer activity. One can either use the brief overview of the numbers below. Or one can examine budget priorities trends over the past few years in **Handout 2: “U.S. Security Expenditures, 2008-14”** (or a simplified version below and in Handout 7).

A brief overview of the numbers

U.S. Security Spending, 2008-14

A few weeks after 9-11, in a speech at the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, Pres. Bush asserted there were 3 pillars to US security: Defense, Diplomacy, and Development. Here are figures for US expenditures in those three areas since 2008, and as estimated for 2014.

figures are in billions of \$	DEFENSE	2008	2010	2012	2014
		<i>actual</i>	<i>actual</i>	<i>actual</i>	<i>estimate</i>
1a. Military		796.5	907	971	965
1b. Military Aid **		10	11	13	14
	Defense Totals	806.0	917.9	983.8	979 billion \$
in billions of \$	DIPLOMACY				
2a. State Department **		10	14	16	16
2b. Peacekeeping **		2	2	2	2
	Diplomacy Totals	12.8	16.2	18.1	18.8 billion \$
in billions of \$	DEVELOPMENT				
3a. Development Aid **		14	20	20	20
3b. Peace Corps **		.3	.3	.4	.4
	Development Totals	14.4	21	21	20 billion \$
		2008	2010	2012	2014
	I. Total security spending	832.9	954.9	1022.7	1018.6 billion \$
	II. 25 beans on five plates	<u>in each year from 2008 to 2014:</u>			
	Defense	24 beans			
	Diplomacy	1/2 of a bean			
	Development	1/2 of a bean			

These figures appear in greater detail on **Handout 2: U.S. Security Expenditures, 2008-14**

C3. A Troubling Picture See ten ways of expressing how seriously U.S. budget priorities are out of balance in **Handout 3: "Top Ten Reasons"...**

C4. Additional discussion questions and activities

Here are a few additional questions that with a little preparation ahead of time, you can use to add to what your group is able to explore, or for arranging follow-up sessions. Links to websites of groups that can help with each are included below, and are compiled with additional groups and web links on **Handout #4: Groups that can help**. Additional activities and links:

a. **Compare US spending** for the military with spending on housing, health, education. For help see: www.nationalpriorities.org, www.sensiblepriorities.org/budget_analysis.htm, www.warresisters.org/piechart.htm These sources also help us examine alternative priorities.

b. Find out how much of the **tax dollars in your state** go to housing, health, education, etc. compared with how much goes to the military: locate your state at: www.nationalpriorities.org

c. Share success stories of conflict resolution (www.cnvc.org), the peace corps (www.peacecorps.gov), development assistance (www.bread.org and www.lwr.org), or the use of nonviolence to intervene in conflicts (www.nonviolentpeaceforce.org, www.cpt.org)

d. Explore ethical principles regarding security: see “We are called to be peacemakers” (update) or “The Invisible Option: Alternatives to War” (article on Iraq) or “Just War?” (group activity) or “*Shalom! The potential of deeper, distinctly Christian approach to Conflict and Violence*” (discussion essay) or “It’s Time to Talk...” (Iraq activity) at <http://www.LutheranPeace.org>

e. Citizen groups active on budget priorities can enrich your discussion. For an annotated list: **Handout #4: Groups that can help** For a more detailed research guide, see: **Handout #6: Digging deeper...**

In each case, discuss ways we can **express our opinion**: talk with friends, share or present this Budget Priorities Activity, contact our elected officials, write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper, encourage a community group, library, or class in a school to host a discussion on budget priorities. (We could help them present this activity)...

C5.Groups That Can Help: Many citizen groups and advocacy organizations offer a variety of ways for people to act on their beliefs about budget priorities. For an annotated list of a couple dozen especially useful groups; most of whom offer additional links and resource, see:

Handout 4: Groups that can help

lists education and advocacy groups in these categories:

Getting Started, Religious Groups

Getting Started, Peace Groups

Domestic Priorities

Foreign and Military Policy

Human Rights, Military Aid, Training

Hunger and Development

Political Organizing

Hunger and Development

Veterans and Victims Families

General information / networking sites

many of these sites offer links to further sources

This is the education and advocacy list. **Handout #6: “Digging deeper”** is the one geared for research.

D. Inspiration for the Task

In our experience, there are 2 main reasons why people don’t talk and take action about budget priorities. First, they know something is wrong, but they don’t know how badly our priorities are distorted. This activity seeks to correct that. Second, they don’t remember or connect with all the examples of ordinary people taking action for what they believe in recent years and throughout history. We encounter these two problems over and over: a lack of information and a lack of hope. These seem to be the major reasons why so many people are so passive and feel so powerless about the issues raised in this activity.

That is why many groups have found it helpful to spend some time exploring examples of ordinary people taking action for peace and justice. In fact, we have heard enthusiastic comments from groups that have scheduled a full follow-up session on the topic after going through the main Budget Priorities activity.

Indeed, the wonderful truth of the matter is this: Nonviolent efforts to bring about peace and justice are far more numerous than most people realize. The Path of Hope list and exhibit honors such movements and heroes and seeks to encourage peace and justice efforts today. Over 600 events, schools, and colleges around the U.S. have displayed the Path or used its activities (see resources below).

Groups choose either to discuss such stories for 8 or 10 minutes after going through the main activity. Or they schedule a full session on the Path of Hope. Groups can use the two page **Handout #5: “Path of Hope”** summarizing 60 heroes and movements (2 pages). Some groups choose to make use of the “**full version**” of the Path which covers 150 events (**Appendix 2**, 6 pages). Over and over we hear comments like this: “I am familiar with quite a few of these stories, but I had never put them together and realized how many there were and what a difference it makes to my sense of hope for change.”

E-1. Key US Budget Documents; Sources of Data

Our budget analyses and spending totals come mostly from the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB), esp. the “Budget” and “Historical Tables” (www.whitehouse.gov/omb). Dept. of State documents offered help with International Affairs figures. The OMB’s “Analytical Perspectives” and “Appendices” and documents from the Dept. of Defense and Congressional Budget Office helped fill in other gaps. We are grateful for analysis and help from a dozen think tanks and watchdog groups which added crucial insights (see sections D2 and D3). **Handout #6: “Digging Deeper”** offers detailed breakdowns, budget lines and sources of figures in the six areas of spending (the 6 half-plates) of this activity:

E-2. Articles offering further insight

"Right-Sizing Defense Budget Cuts" by Michael O'Hanlon, Brookings Institution (Jan. 17, 2013)
www.brookings.edu/research/papers/2013/01/right-sizing-defense-budget-cuts

"Talking About Military Spending and the Pentagon Budget – Fiscal Year 2013 (And Beyond)" by the Project on Defense Alternatives and the National Priorities Project
<http://nationalpriorities.org/en/analysis/2012/talking-about-military-spending-and-the-pentagon-budget/>

"How Much Does Washington Spend on 'Defense'?" by Chris Hellman and Mattea Kramer (May 22, 2012) www.tomdispatch.com/blog/175545/

"Debt, Deficits, and Defense: A Way Forward" report of the Sustainable Defense Task Force (11 June 2010) www.keywiki.org/index.php/The_Sustainable_Defense_Task_Force

Alternative military budget, www.fpif.org/protected/securitybudget.html offers a detailed analysis.

Explore ethical principles regarding security with the NCC discussion handout, “[Ten Election Year Principles](#),” or LPF’s “[What is Christian Peacemaking](#)”

For a longer academic paper on what's left out of most military spending figures, see: [archive of: www.aug.edu/~sbajmb/paper-Brunswick.pdf](http://www.aug.edu/~sbajmb/paper-Brunswick.pdf)

E-3. For Further Information, Digging Deeper

Each year, hundreds of think tanks, citizen groups, and trade organizations produce analyses of the budget and budget priorities. Those included here are among the most useful; most offer additional links. Indeed, it is hard for the average citizen to get much of a perspective on the budget without help from groups like these. Take a look. **Handout #6: Digging deeper... For Further Information** (a Research Guide). This handout offers detailed breakdowns, budget lines, and sources of figures in the six areas of spending (the 6 half-plates) of this activity. It then lists sources for further research and analysis in these categories:

Budget Analysis	Government Sources	Religious Perspectives
Development Aid	Military Aid, Training	Veterans & Victims Families
Domestic Priorities	Military Policy	General information and
Foreign Policy	Peace Group Perspectives	networking sites

This is the research list, see **Handout 4: Groups that can help** for a list of education and advocacy sites.

Taking action for what we believe

Contacting an elected official: Many people don't write or e-mail their elected officials because they find it intimidating, or wonder if it makes any difference. Yet, if we don't do so, our point of view will be undercounted. *The solution:* A simple 4-6 sentence note, written in 5 or 10 minutes. Begin by asking yourself what approach might be helpful to your particular member of Congress (e.g. thanking them for past leadership). Center your note on what you want your elected official to do. Add several sentences with your reasons and perhaps a statistic. State clearly what you want and ask for a response. If you get inspired and write more, fine. Here are two examples of such brief notes to an elected official.

Sample cards or emails on U.S. priorities

Dear Representative Jones,

The continued fighting in Afghanistan and the Middle East remind us that military options have grave limits in solving conflicts. Thus, I was dismayed to see Congress considering tens of billions in new funding to the military, but either cuts or very little new money for International Affairs programs that offer nonviolent solutions to conflict or that address extreme poverty and hunger, key underlying causes of violence.

I hope that you will work to contain military spending and expand poverty-focused development aid and nonviolent responses to conflict in the world. Thank you for listening. I'd appreciate a reply on what you're doing about these concerns.

Your constituent,
Mary Q. Public

Dear Senator Smith,

Members of our church are discussing this year's federal budget proposal. I was disturbed to find that Congress is again proposing to spend 50 times as much on military means for addressing problems and conflicts as on all the various programs that address hunger and extreme poverty – root causes of much violence. At the same time, very little support goes to programs that use nonviolent approaches to resolving conflict, despite their extensive success around the world.

I would like to see you work to cut military spending in areas that don't really add to our security. Please work to increase funding for nonviolent responses to conflict, as well as for programs that address hunger and extreme poverty.

I look forward to hearing about your efforts in these areas.

Sincerely yours,
John Q. Citizen

Make the most of your letter: Send it to a local newspaper, too! Newspapers publish letters in part by how many they receive on a particular issue. Even if your letter isn't chosen it can help another one from the same point of view get printed – encouraging readers to learn more and take action. LPF would also be happy to see what you come up with: lpf@ecunet.org 1710 11th Ave., Seattle, WA 98122-2420. For further information, see: www.LutheranPeace.org <http://www.lutheranpeace.blogspot.com> 9-14 lpf

U.S. Security Spending, 2008-14

A few weeks after 9-11, in a speech at the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, billed by the White House as a major policy address, Pres. Bush asserted that there were 3 pillars to US security: Defense, Diplomacy, and Development. Here are figures for US expenditures in those three areas since 2008, and in the 2014 budget proposal.

* Figures are from official government sources, mainly OMB, State Dept., and DHS.

all figures in billions of \$		DEFENSE	2008	2010	2012	2014
1a. Military *			<i>actual</i>	<i>actual</i>	<i>actual</i>	<i>estimate</i>
051, Dept. of Defense			594.6	666.7	688.3	672.9
053, Dept. of Energy (nucl. weap.)			17.1	19.3	19.8	20.7
054, 'Other Defense'			4.3	7.6	8.3	8.2
(subtotals)			616.1	693.6	716.3	701.8
701-705, Veterans Admin.			84.7	108.4	129.6	140.1
Civilian defense wkr hth, pensions			50	55	60	63
Dept. for Homeland Security			40.7	44.5	60.4	55.3
250, Military in NASA			5	5	5	5
Totals			796.5	906.5	971.3	965.2
(Contribution of military spending to Interest on the debt adds tens of billions \$ to these #.)						
1b. Military Aid **						
IMET, FMF, ESF, ACI, ATA			9.5	11.4	12.5	14.1
Defense Totals			806	917.9	983.8	979.3
in billions of \$		DIPLOMACY	2008	2010	2012	2014
2a. State Department **						
conflict resolution, diplomacy						
nonproliferation, USIP, etc.			10.4	13.6	15.8	16.5
2b. Peacekeeping **			2.36	2.55	2.21	2.35
Diplomacy Totals			12.8	16.2	18.1	18.8
in billions of \$		DEVELOPMENT	2008	2010	2012	2014
3a. Development Aid **						
Refugee, Disaster, Development Assistance, HIV/AIDS, MCC...			14.1	20.4	20.3	19.7
3b. Peace Corps **			0.33	0.33	0.37	0.37
Development Totals			14.4	20.7	20.7	20.1
I.	Total Security Spending		832.9	954.9	1022.7	1018.6
II.	as percentages of total security spending:		<u>2008</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2014</u>
		defense	96.77%	96.14%	96.21%	96.19%
		diplomacy	1.50%	1.69%	1.77%	1.84%
		development	1.73%	2.17%	2.02%	1.97%

* Military figures are from Office of Management & Budget historical tables which can be found at www.whitehouse.org/omb ** Most other data is from State Dept. tables at www.state.gov/budget

Top ten reasons to be worried (*check your wallet edition*)

10. At \$50 billion, this year's proposed spending on the fighting in Afghanistan is larger than the military budgets of China and Russia combined. Total U.S. military spending for FY2012 is almost ten times the second largest military budget in the world, China's.
9. The FY 2014 military budget is 120 times higher than the roughly \$8 billion per year the U.S. government currently spends on combatting global warming.
8. Military spending is more than the combined totals of spending on education, environmental protection, administration of justice, housing assistance, transportation, job training, agriculture, energy, and economic development. FY 2014 military spending represents 58 cents out of every dollar spent by our government on discretionary programs – the items Congress votes up or down on each year.
7. U.S. military spending is larger than the combined gross domestic products (GDP) of all 47 countries in sub-Saharan Africa.
6. As the poverty rate continues to climb, the FY 2014 House budget proposed cuts from the Community Development Block Grant program; Head Start; the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program; Special Education; and the Child Care and Development Block Grant.
5. Both Pres. Bush and Pres. Obama have emphasized America's role in fighting global diseases and poverty in developing nations. Yet funding requests for child and maternal health, disaster assistance, and refugee assistance were all reduced in the 2014 House budget proposal; each is crucial if we are to address the causes and results of both poverty and conflict.
4. Tens of billions of dollars in current military budget proposals are for systems that are useless in conflicts like Iraq or Afghanistan: the F-22 fighter (\$4.6 billion), the CVN-21 aircraft carrier (\$3.1 billion), the SSN-774 Virginia attack submarine (\$2.7 billion), Trident D-5 Submarine-Launched Ballistic Missile (\$1.2 billion), and Ballistic Missile Defense (\$10.8 billion). These are just a few examples of weapons that are unnecessary, unworkable, or both.
3. Despite lots of attention by the media and politicians, the federal deficit will rise this year. Yet the House budget proposal cuts programs serving working people and the most vulnerable in our society, while leaving untouched the largest single budget category, military spending. If it were able to address even just the waste and abuse in Pentagon funding it wouldn't have to touch programs serving low income and poor folks in our society. Moreover, none of the Congressional budget proposals offer much hope for reigning in waste and abuse, and the few already inadequate oversight mechanisms remain opaque and unimpressive.
2. The FY 2014 military budget proposal in the House is 50 times higher than all spending on nonviolent methods of conflict resolution combined – peacekeeping, State Dept. negotiation, diplomacy. U.S. military spending will also again be 50 times larger than all federal funding for development aid, the peace corps and other methods of addressing root causes.
1. Estimated U.S. military spending for FY 2014 is larger than military spending by all of the other nations in the world combined.

Sources: Budget Priorities Activity www.lutheranpeace.org; Bill Hartung www.worldpolicy.org/atrc; Chris Hellman www.armscontrolcenter.org; Paul Isenberg www.independent.org; Jim Lobe www.antiwar.com; Sharon Parrott and Matt Fielder, www.cbpp.org; Winslow Wheeler www.cdi.org; Samuel Worthington, www.interaction.org; www.nationalpriorities.org. Compiled by Glen Gersmehl, Lutheran Peace Fellowship, 1710 11th Ave, Seattle, WA 98122.2420, 206.349-2501, lpf@ecunet.org www.LutheranPeace.org

Groups that can help

Many citizen groups and advocacy organizations offer a wide variety of ways to learn more and to act on one's beliefs regarding budget priorities. Here is an annotated list of a couple dozen groups we have found to be especially helpful; most offer links to further resources:

Getting Started, Religious Groups

ELCA Advocacy, www.elca.org/advocacy – offers advocacy assistance, updates, and resources on such issues as budget priorities, poverty, nuclear policy, the Middle East, etc. for Lutherans (formerly “LOGA”)

Lutheran Peace Fellowship, www.LutheranPeace.org – offers a range of resources and support for action

Friends Committee on National Legislation, www.fcnl.org –unusually well-developed, reliable budget project

Sojourners, www.sojo.net – helpful weekly e-newsletter, monthly magazine, study guides, web site...

Getting Started, Peace Groups

Fellowship of Reconciliation, www.forusa.org – grounded in nonviolence the FOR is the world's largest peace group; for links to Religious Peace Fellowships active in most faith communities: www.forusa.org/rpf

Peace Action, www.peace-action.org – the largest US peace group offering a range of projects and resources

Domestic Priorities

Children's Defense Fund, www.childrensdefense.org – fine advocacy group on behalf of children & families

National Priorities Project, www.nationalpriorities.org -- specializes in state-by-state organizing on priorities

Hunger and Development

Bread for the World, www.bread.org – respected faith based organization offering excellent education and advocacy resources for individuals, groups, and congregations

Food First, www.foodfirst.org – education and advocacy group on food, hunger, and development issues

Human Rights, Military Aid, Training

Amnesty International, www.amnestyusa.org – documents and campaigns for prisoners of conscience

School of Americas Watch, www.soawatch.org – educates and organizes vigils, protests, civil disobedience

Foreign and Military Policy

Foreign Policy in Focus, www.fpif.org – think tank without walls, they've often offered an alternative budget

Global Exchange, www.globalexchange.org – fine popularly-written materials, e.g. on globalization issues

One World, www.oneworld.net – offers news, analysis and features from a wide-range of sources

Political Organizing

Council for a Livable World, www.clw.org www.armscontrolcenter.org -- the largest group encouraging support for candidates committed to peace with justice

MoveOn, www.moveon.org – large advocacy group noted for its particularly effective use of the internet

Veterans and Victims Families

Sept. 11th Families for Peace Tomorrows, www.PeacefulTomorrows.org – among the most active 911 groups

Veterans for Peace, www.veteransforpeace.org – one of the best progressive veterans groups

General informational and networking web sites

www.commondreams.org www.readersupportednews.org www.salon.com www.truthout.org

The Path of Hope

Nonviolent efforts to bring about peace and justice are far more numerous than most people realize. The Path (or Wall) of Hope list (and exhibit) honors such movements and heroes and seeks to encourage peace and justice efforts today. Over 600 events, groups, schools and colleges around the U.S. have displayed the Path or used its activities (see box below). Here are about sixty Path highlights:

1350 B.C.E. **Hebrew midwives**, in the first recorded act of civil disobedience, refuse to obey Pharaoh's order to kill male Hebrew babies. After years of slavery in Egypt the Hebrew people leave in the **Exodus**, an epic of liberation central to both Jewish and Christian understandings of God acting in history.

600-520 As a teenager, **Jeremiah** is called to be a prophet, and like **Isaiah** and **Micah**, criticizes injustice and pleads for love and justice to become central in the lives of the faithful.

33 **Jesus** lives a life of nonviolence and compassion toward all without regard to age, social status, race, or gender.

40-80 **Paul** and the **apostles** preach the gospel of justice and nonviolence: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed... Live in harmony with one another. Do not repay evil for evil. If your enemies are hungry, feed them." (Romans 12)

c. 340 **Martin of Tours**, a Roman army officer, renounces violence when he becomes a "soldier of Christ." Martin Luther and Martin Luther King, Jr. are named after him.

1200 **St. Francis of Assisi** turns his back on wealth as a youth to live a life of nonviolence and concern for others and for all creation. Some churches bless animals on his birthday.

1520s In contrast to the meaningless religious practice of his day, **Martin Luther** emphasizes that God is revealed in the cross and in love. In his final decades, Luther gives increasing emphasis to the importance of responding to the needs of the poor by the Christian.

1644 **Eleven black servants** in New Amsterdam file a petition for freedom, the first legal protest in the "New World."

1681 **William Penn** writes letter and treaties that keep the peace between whites and Indians for two generations.

1765-75 **American colonists** conduct nonviolent campaigns against British rule, resulting in a condition of independence by 1775.

1780 **Quakers** organize an antislavery society in the U.S.

1840s The **Underground Railroad** helps slaves escape to the northern U.S. or Canada led by "conductors" such as **Harriet Tubman** who led 19 groups to safety, despite her epilepsy.

1846 **Henry David Thoreau** is jailed for refusing to pay taxes to support the Mexican-American War. He writes "On the Duty of Civil Disobedience," which influences Tolstoy, Gandhi, and many others.

1848 **Lucretia Mott**, along with **Elizabeth Cady Stanton**, organize the first women's rights convention.

1871 **1000 women in Paris** stand in front of cannons and between Prussian and Parisian troops, **preventing** war.

1873 Women celebrate the first "**Mother's Day**," a peace holiday proposed by **Julia Ward Howe**.

1898-1902 Thousands protest the brutal Spanish-American War; leaders include **Mark Twain**, author of *The War Prayer*, *Connecticut Yankee...*, and other works on the folly of war.

1914 The **Fellowship of Reconciliation** is founded as World War I begins by a German Lutheran pastor and an English Quaker, pledging "to keep the bonds of Christian love unbroken across the frontier."

1919-47 **Mohandas Gandhi** leads the struggle for Indian independence from British rule through nonviolent means such as the 1930 **Salt March** across India to the ocean where protesters gather salt in violation of British law and taxes.

Badshah Khan, a leader of the Pathans, organizes a "nonviolent army" numbering as many as 100,000 people to oppose British rule. He counters the myths that nonviolence is only for the gentle; that it can't work against ruthless repression; that it has no place in Islam.

1920 The U.S. **women's suffrage movement** achieves a constitutional amendment guaranteeing women the right to vote; it took 75 years of education and organizing.

1933 The **Catholic Worker**, founded by **Dorothy Day**, emphasizing hospitality to the poor, pacifism, and voluntary poverty. Dozens of Catholic Worker houses are set up in the U.S. and elsewhere.

1940-45 **Finland** saves all but six of its Jewish citizens from Nazi death camps through nonmilitary means. 6,500 of 7000 **Danish Jews** escape to Sweden, most of the rest are hidden, aided by the people and tips from within the German military.

Public resistance in **Romania**, **Bulgaria** and **Norway** under-mines Nazi plans; for example, teachers in Norway refuse to teach Nazi propaganda. After the war, German generals admit their inability to cope with such nonviolent strategies.

1941 **Lutheran Peace Fellowship** is founded to provide support for fellowship, workshops, advocacy and worship resources, etc..

1942 German students form the **White Rose** resistance movement and distribute thousands of leaflets on the Nazis and their treatment of Jews. The Nazis hang several leaders.

1943 Lutheran pastor and theologian **Dietrich Bonhoeffer** is jailed for his efforts to help German Jews. Refusing safety in the US he led an underground seminary. He is hanged by the Nazis in 1945.

1945 The **United Nations** is founded to resolve disputes and prevent war. The UN develops programs for refugees, children, women, human rights, hunger, peacekeeping, etc.

1955 **Rosa Parks** is arrested for not moving to the back of the bus where blacks had to ride. The **Montgomery bus boycott** led by **Martin Luther King** succeeds after a year's hardships.

1957 Despite threats and insults, **Elizabeth Eckford** and eight other students become the first blacks to attend the previously all-white Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas.

1960 **Four black students** "sit in" at a Woolworth lunch counter to protest the rule that only whites can eat there. The nonviolent tactic of "sit-ins" encourages efforts to desegregate restrooms, movie theaters, restaurants, and libraries.

1961 **Amnesty International** is founded to protest torture and the death penalty with many chapters in schools and colleges.

1963 The **March on Washington**, the largest demonstration to date, brings more than 250,000 people to Washington, DC; **Martin Luther King, Jr.** delivers his "I Have a Dream" speech.

For descriptions of group discussion activities, the full text of the Path, photos, sources, and other materials, see: www.lutheranpeace.org or contact **Lutheran Peace Fellowship**.

1964 700 young **Freedom Summer** volunteers help register voters in Mississippi. Three volunteers disappear (later found killed) as training begins, most volunteers continue their work.

1964-73 **Resistance to the U.S. war in Vietnam** grows as millions join in demonstrations, draft counseling, street theater, tax resistance, civil disobedience, and other protest.

1964 **A half million pupils** stay home from school in New York City to protest racial segregation.

1965 The **United Farm Workers** union launches a grape boycott led by **Cesar Chavez** and **Dolores Huerta** to allow farmworkers to organize for decent pay and conditions. Thousands of schools and churches support the boycott.

1969 **Greenpeace** dramatizes its call to protect the environment adopts with creative nonviolent direct action tactics like sailing boats into nuclear testing and whaling areas.

1970s The **Liberation Theology** movement in Latin America stresses justice for the poor and oppressed; leaders include **Dom Helder Camara**, **Gustavo Gutierrez**, and **Elsa Tamez**.

1970 The killing of four students by the National Guard at **Kent State University** and two black students at **Jackson State College** sparks strikes and protests at thousands of colleges. A million people join Vietnam War protests for the first time.

1970 The first **Earth Day** is held in cities around the United States to focus public attention on environment issues.

1971 At the age of 90, **Jeanette Rankin** leads 8000 woman to the Pentagon to protest the Vietnam War. **1000 veterans** also protest; many throw their medals onto the Capitol steps.

1973 **Bread for the World** is founded by Lutheran pastor Art Simon to educate, organize, and lobby on hunger issues.

1977 "**Mothers of the Plaza**" in Argentina buy a newspaper ad to publish the pictures of 230 "disappeared" –that is, people kidnapped, tortured, and/or killed by the military.

1977 The **Nestle boycott** leads to a World Health restriction on selling infant formula in poor countries: it is less healthy and more costly option, especially with a lack of clean water.

1979 A **Gay Rights March** draws 100,000 demonstrators to Washington, DC to protest discrimination against homosexuals.

1980 Archbishop **Oscar Romero** of El Salvador murdered while celebrating mass. He had come to identify with the poor, and to urge soldiers not to participate in violence.

1980s **Witness for Peace** sends thousands of Americans to Nicaragua in a 'shield of love' to help stop violence by U.S. backed 'contra' guerrillas; 300 churches offer **Sanctuary** to protect refugees.

1982 750,000 people gather in New York City for the largest **disarmament protest** in U.S. history.

1982 **Sister Helen Prejean** becomes a pen pal to a prisoner on death row. She later writes *Dead Man Walking* on her experience which is later made into an award-winning movie.

1986 The nonviolent **People Power** movement brings down the oppressive, ruthless Marcos dictatorship in the Philippines, inspiring movements in Eastern Europe, South Africa, Asia....

1986 The Palestinian **Intifada** or "resistance" begins, using mostly nonviolent means to protest Israeli military occupation.

1989 **Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, and East Germany** win freedom from Soviet control by nonviolent means.

Nonviolent independence movements flourish in **Armenia, Estonia, Georgia, Latvia, Lithuania, Molodavia, and the Ukraine**.

1989 The Chinese government crushes a nonviolent student protest at **Tiananmen Square**. Images are televised around the world of an unarmed youth stopping a column of tanks.

1989 **Student protests** lead 20% of U.S. universities to fully withdraw investments from corporations with ties to South Africa; 60% of colleges respond to the divestment campaign.

1990 **Disabled demonstrators** at the U.S. Capitol demand passage of a bill guaranteeing their civil rights; 60 protesters crawl out of their wheelchairs and up the Capitol steps.

1990-91 Protests in scores of cities **protest U.S. military buildup** against Iraq; 2000 young soldiers seek conscientious objector status.

1992 In the **former Yugoslavia**, nonviolent demonstrations and cultural protests take place daily to protest the growing war.

1994 **Nelson Mandela** is elected the first black President of South Africa, just four years after he is released from jail.

1995 Human rights activist **Aung San Suu Kyi** (Nobel Peace Prize in 1991) is released from detention; her political party won the 1989 election in Burma but wasn't allowed to take office.

1996 **Stand for Children** march in Wash., DC organized by the Children's Defense Fund highlights unmet needs of children.

1998-99 Many groups, schools, and churches, endorse the **Nobel Appeal for Peace**. The UN designates 2001-10 as the "**Decade for a Culture of Peace and Nonviolence**." 75 million people sign a pledge of nonviolence, the largest number ever for any such effort.

1999 50,000 people join in protests at **World Trade Organization** meetings in Seattle, calling for justice in WTO policies.

2001 In just a decade, citizen lobbying leads to canceling of more than \$120 billion of debt in developing countries in the **Jubilee movement**. Since 1986 the 66 poorest countries paid \$230 billion in debt service, more than they received in aid in that time.

2002 **Rachel Corrie** is killed by an American made bulldozer as she nonviolently protests the destruction of Palestinian homes. The 23-year old U.S. activist becomes a symbol of resistance.

2003 In March alone, more than six million people around the world protest plans of the US government to launch a **war on Iraq** that violates morality and international law, and is based on lies.

2006 1,500,000 people take part in the largest **immigrant rights** protest in U.S. history. It sparks annual May Day rallies on immigration.

2009 More than four million Americans support the **ONE Campaign** to fight extreme poverty and preventable disease – especially in Africa – and other elements of the **Millennium Development Goals**.

2011 The **Arab Spring**, a wave of mostly nonviolent uprisings, leads to mass protest and regime change in Tunisia, Egypt and elsewhere.

2011 **Occupy Wall Street** protest raises questions of inequality and the role of money in politics; sparks activity in over 500 U.S. cities.

Major sources... for more information: Peter Ackerman and Jack DuVall, *A Force More Powerful*; Robert Cooney and Helen Michalowski, *The Power of the People: Active Nonviolence in the U.S.*; Pam McAllister, *You Can't Kill the Spirit*, and *This River of Courage*; Michael True, *Justice Seekers, Peace Makers*, and *To Construct Peace*; Walter Wink, *The Powers That Be*. See also the *Global Nonviolent Action Database* on 100s of campaigns at: <http://nvdatabase.swarthmore.edu/> For the full list of 150 stories in the Path of Hope and other Path activities and materials see: www.LutheranPeace.org A more secular version is at: www.pjrcbooks.org

For Further Information

I. Key US Budget Documents, Sources for this Activity

We used figures from the Office of Management and Budget (at: www.whitehouse.gov/omb) for FY '14. OMB Analytical Perspectives and agency documents (e.g. Dept. of Defense, State Dept., and Congressional Budget Office) helped. We are grateful for assistance from a dozen key think tanks and watchdog groups which added crucial insights (see D2 and D3). Here are the sources of the figures in the six categories of spending in this activity.

1. \$965.2 billion: Defense Dept. functions (budget function 051), \$672.9 billion; plus Energy Dept. nuclear weapons activity (function 053), \$20.7 billion; NASA military programs (250), \$5.0 billion; veterans benefits (701 to 705), \$140.1 billion; other military programs (054), \$8.2 billion; civilian defense worker health/retirement, \$63 billion; and the Department for Homeland Security, \$55.3 billion.
2. \$14.1 billion includes International Military Education & Training (IMET), in Defense (051). In Intn'l Affairs (150); it includes Foreign Military Financing (FMF), Economic Support Funds (ESF), two military-focused 150 drug war programs: Intn'l Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement (INCLE), the Andean Counterdrug Initiative (ACI), and the Anti Terrorism Assistance Program (ATA).
3. \$16.5 billion includes State Dept. programs and personnel active in conflict resolution, diplomacy, negotiation, and nonproliferation, and the entire US Institute for Peace budget (all in 150).
4. \$2.3 billion includes two programs in International Affairs, 150: International Peacekeeping Activities (UN peacekeeping), and multinational Peacekeeping Operations.
5. \$19.7 billion includes the international functions in 150 defined as development assistance by InterAction for the 160 major development groups. These include Development Assistance, \$2.52 billion; Disaster Assistance & Famine Fund, \$960 million; Global Health including PEPFAR, \$7.85 billion; Migration & Refugee Assist., \$1.62 billion, Food for Peace, \$1.40 billion; and the Millennium Challenge Account, \$898 million.
6. \$375 million is the Peace Corps line in international affairs (budget function 150).

II. Sources of further information

Each year, hundreds of think tanks, citizen groups, and trade organizations produce analyses on the budget and budget priorities. The following are among the most useful – indeed, it is hard for the average citizen to get much of a perspective on the budget without help from groups like these. Most offer additional links:

Budget Analysis

National Priorities Project, www.nationalpriorities.org – specializes in state-by-state resources on priorities
 Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments, www.csbaonline.org – a useful source for policy analyses
 Friends Committee on National Legislation, www.fcnl.org – well-researched, reliable budget analysis
 OMB Watch, www.ombwatch.org – offers critical perspectives on official budget analysis and policies

Development Aid

Bread for the World, www.bread.org – faith based hunger and development lobby offering excellent data and resources including congregational materials and the respected annual publication "Hunger Annual"
 Food First, www.foodfirst.org – education and advocacy group on food, hunger, and development issues
 Interaction, www.interaction.org – the coordinating group for 160 development and relief organizations, Interaction offers authoritative data and analysis on development issues

Domestic Priorities

Brookings Institution, www.brookings.org – one of the largest and most respected think tanks on public policy
 Center for Budget and Policy Priorities, www.cbpp.org – offers trusted analyses throughout the budget process
 Children's Defense Fund, www.childrensdefense.org – fine advocacy group on behalf of children and families

Foreign Policy

Foreign Policy in Focus, www.fpif.org – think tank without walls, they've often offered an alternative budget
Global Exchange www.globalexchange.org – excellent popularly-written materials, e.g. on globalization issues
One World, www.oneworld.net – offers news, analysis and features from a wide-range of sources

Government Sources

Office of Management and Budget (OMB) www.whitehouse.gov/OMB – responsible for producing the President's budget each year; their web site and government bookstores offer "The Budget in Brief" and the more detailed "Historical Tables" and "Analytical Perspectives." Other useful government sources include:
Congressional Budget Office, www.cbo.gov – historically a nonpartisan source of policy analysis for Congress; in addition, Republican and Democrat staffs of the budget, appropriation, and other committees produce reports
Dept. of Defense (DoD), e.g. [archive of: http://comptroller.defense.gov/defbudget/fy2005/fy2005_greenbook.pdf](http://archive.of:http://comptroller.defense.gov/defbudget/fy2005/fy2005_greenbook.pdf)
US State Department, <http://www.state.gov/s/d/rm/c6112.htm> – more detail on State Dept. programs than OMB tables

Military Aid, Training

Arms Sales Monitoring Project, Federation of American Scientists, www.fas.org/projects/ssp/asmp/index.html – a very useful and reliable source on a wide range of arms trade and military issues
Human Rights Watch, www.hrw.org – a leading organization documenting and protesting human rights violations and working to hold abusers accountable; does significant work on arms trade and training
School of Americas Watch, www.soawatch.org – respected organization protesting US training of soldiers from third world countries, a disturbing number of whom have been implicated in human rights abuses

Military Policy

Arms Control Association, www.armscontrol.org – the best mainstream arms control group
Center for Defense Information, www.cdi.org – respected think tank staffed mainly by retired military officers offering alternative perspectives
Council for a Livable World, www.clw.org , www.armscontrolcenter.org – the largest group encouraging support for candidates committed to peace also produces a variety of analyses

Peace Group Perspectives

Fellowship of Reconciliation, www.forusa.org – grounded in nonviolence and offering a wide variety of resources and action projects, the FOR is the largest peace group worldwide
Peace Action, www.peaceaction.org – the largest US peace group offering a range of projects and resources
War Resisters League, <http://www.warresisters.org/> – publishes an annual "pie chart" of government spending

Religious Perspectives

ELCA Advocacy, www.elca.org/advocacy – offers advocacy assistance, updates, and resources on such issues as budget priorities, poverty, nuclear policy, the Middle East, etc. for Lutherans (formerly LOGA)
Religious Peace Fellowships are active in most religious denominations, for links, see www.forusa.org/rpf – many have grown into significant education and advocacy forces within their denomination
Sojourners, www.sojo.net – excellent e-mail "Sojo weekly news," monthly magazine, study guides, events...

Veterans and Victims Families

Sept. 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows, www.PeacefulTomorrows.org – among the most active 911 groups
Veterans for Peace, www.VeteransforPeace – outstanding progressive veterans group with a good website

General informational and networking web sites

www.commondreams.org www.readersupportednews.org www.salon.com www.truthout.org www.zmag.org

Ethical perspectives on policy priorities

Explore ethical principles regarding security: See the NCC discussion guide, "Ten Election Year Principles," at www.nccusa.org/electionyearprinciplesguide.pdf
Lutheran Peace Fellowship, www.lutheranpeace.org – offers a variety of materials including "*Shalom!*" a widely used discussion essay on a broader, more effective vision of peacemaking; "What is Christian Peacemaking?" (2 pp. or 8 pp. version) a biblical exploration of that vision; "Just War?," examines this view and an alternative: 'Just Peace'; as well as [PeacePoints activity guides](http://www.LutheranPeace.org) for discussion leaders; advocacy updates; a [Peace Deck](http://www.LutheranPeace.org) for inspiration, and "It's Time to Talk..." at <http://www.LutheranPeace.org>

U.S. Security Spending, 2008-14

A few weeks after 9-11, in a speech at the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, billed by the White House as a major policy address, Pres. Bush asserted that there were 3 pillars to US security: Defense, Diplomacy, and Development. Here are figures for US expenditures in those three areas since 2008, and as estimated for 2014.

Figures are in billions of \$	DEFENSE	2008	2010	2012	2014
*		<i>actual</i>	<i>actual</i>	<i>actual</i>	<i>estimate</i>
1a. Military		796.5	906.5	971.3	965.2
1b. Military Aid **		<u>9.5</u>	<u>11.4</u>	<u>12.5</u>	<u>14.1</u>
Defense Totals		806	917.9	983.8	979.3
<hr/>					
in billions of \$	DIPLOMACY				
2a. State Department **		9.5	11.4	12.5	14.1
2b. Peacekeeping **		2.36	2.55	2.21	2.35
Diplomacy Totals		12.8	16.2	18.1	18.8
<hr/>					
in billions of \$	DEVELOPMENT				
3a. Development Aid **		14.1	20.4	20.3	19.7
3b. Peace Corps **		0.33	0.33	0.37	0.37
Development Totals		14.4	20.7	20.7	20.1
<hr/>					
I. Total Security Spending		832.9	954.9	1022.7	1018.6
<hr/>					
II. Out of a	defense	For each year the beans on each plate are:			
total of	diplomacy	24 beans			
25 beans:	development	1/2 of a bean			
		1/2 of a bean			