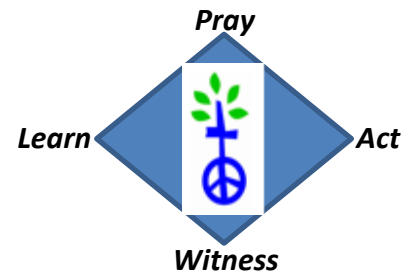


Help End Torture Forever

A Program for Congregations

Episcopal Peace Fellowship – Western NY

November 2011



Many people of faith want to relate their faith to public life, but do not know how. This program gives congregations, corporately, and their individual members a chance to make the connection on a central issue of our day. It allows customization to fit each congregation, and provides resources.

All necessary resources are provided, and the actual period of activity is only 2 weeks.

A participating congregation will:

Pray for torturers, their victims, policy-makers, and for an end to torture, and confess our own complicity as citizens in the evil our government has done in our name.

Resource: a worship materials booklet, with a variety of prayers, litanies, hymn suggestions, etc.

Witness publicly against torture, by displaying a banner for two weeks so that those who drive or walk by will see the congregation's stance.

Resource: banners that can be borrowed, or advice if a congregation wishes to write its own text and purchase its own banner.



Trinity Episcopal Church, Buffalo NY

Learn about the issue by holding an adult forum and/or hosting an information table during coffee hour.

Resources: excellent, 10-minute videos from the National Religious Campaign Against Torture; chapter members who can help conduct a study session and/or run an informational table.

Act on it, through congregation members who feel so inclined asking the Federal government to establish a Commission of Inquiry, close Guantanamo, or take other actions that would reduce U.S.-sponsored torture.

Resources: postcards to send to Congress; help in locating members' Congressional districts.

Please ask your congregation to do this program. Contact Steve Hart, sahartny@gmail.com or 716.218.0820.