



NEWS RELEASE

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Mennonite Church USA names awardees for the 2022 #BringThePeace award

Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) has named John Stoner and Clara Weybright as this year's #BringThePeace awardees. Stoner received the Legacy Peacemaker award, and Weybright received the Young Peacemaker award. The awards are sponsored by MC USA's Church Peace Tax Fund.

"The #BringThePeace award is a way to recognize the work of denominational peacemakers who are walking the talk in their peacebuilding journey through their active engagement in promoting peace in their congregations and communities and, often, beyond," said Lorraine Stutzman Amstutz, the MC USA denominational minister for peace & justice.

Legacy Peacemaker: John Stoner

John Stoner, of Akron, Pennsylvania, is a war tax resistor. He practices peace through a mix of symbolic war tax resistance; direct action, through participation in public rallies and demonstrations; education, through both his own continual learning and by encouraging others and helping them network; and writing letters to his local newspaper. Stoner is involved in several local peacemaking groups, including [\\$10.40 for Peace](#), an organization that helps individuals express conscientious objection to war tax conscription.

Stoner was the executive secretary of [Mennonite Central Committee's](#) (MCC) Peace Section for 12 years. In this position, he supported conscientious objectors and draft non-registrants, and oversaw women's concerns and the Mennonite Conciliation Service. He also helped found the [Community Peacemaker Teams](#) (CPT, formerly Christian Peacemaker Teams).

"The world is dying for lack of justice and peace, and I can find no excuse for not doing my part. I find it personally satisfying to live a life of compassion, forgiveness, risk and hope," Stoner said. "Jesus knew what he was talking about, and he said those who hunger and thirst to see justice prevail are blessed. And he said blessed are the peacemakers."

Young Peacemaker: Clara Weybright

Clara Weybright is a graduate of [Eastern Mennonite University](#), in Harrisonburg, Virginia, where she studied environmental science. She is currently a Juris Doctor candidate at Temple Law School, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

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