



In 2008 an Armistice resolution was introduced by Bob Heberle, (center) at our National Convention. It was passed, calling for the National organization to promote the celebration of November 11 as **Armistice Day** nationwide. In 2012 we were asked to work with the national Veterans for Peace to make this happen, and there are now well over 60 cities commemorating this day of Peace, often asking churches to join in.



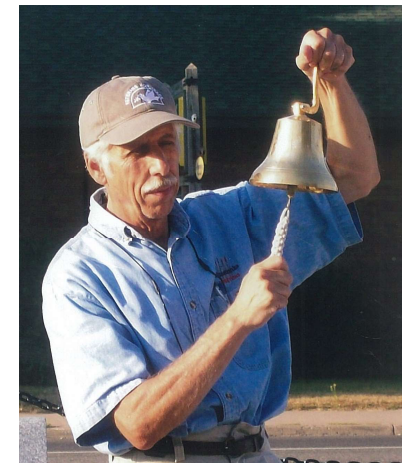
In 2013 Wayne Wittman asked that the 2018 VFP National Convention be held on Kellogg Blvd. in St. Paul, celebrating the 90th anniversary of the Kellogg-

Briand Pact, signed in Paris in 1928, making war illegal. This gathering will happen August 23-26, also honoring the 100th anniversary of the original Armistice.



2018 is the 100th anniversary of the 1918 Armistice, ending WWI. Bells, especially church bells, rang around the world, 11 times at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. The ringing of the bells, and the massive movement that followed called for **THE WAR TO END ALL WAR**
To be just that.

It is time to ring the bells again.



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In 1973 Kurt Vonnegut, a WWII veteran, wrote in *BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS* That “When I was a boy, November 11 was a sacred day. There are old men who were in battle at that 11th hour in 1918 when the Armistice was signed. They have told me of a silence that was **THE VOICE OF GOD**”

In 1991, Steve McKeown, one of the founders of Veterans for Peace Chapter 27, began leading members in once again ringing bells of peace at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, the day that had come to be called **Veterans Day** in the U.S.



In 2008 we began asking Places of Worship to join in, ringing tower or hand held bells, on or around that sacred time of 11 am on November 11. 200 Minnesota churches and Worship Centers have joined in, ringing bells to remember soldiers and civilians whose lives were taken by war, and to honor them by praying and working to end war worldwide.

November 11 falls on a Sunday in 2018
Please join with us that day, or the adjacent Saturday, when you worship.

WHEN YOU RING BELLS, PLEASE READ THIS STATEMENT AND PRINT IN BULLETIN:

*The Armistice of 1918 ended the horrendous slaughter of World War I, called **THE WAR TO END ALL WARS**. When the Armistice was signed, exuberant JOY broke out around the world. For many years bells rang 11 times at that 11th hour of the 11th day on the 11th month. Then it slowly faded away, especially in the U.S.*

Now we ring bells again, many bells, many places, 11 times, at that sacred moment. With a moment of silence, we remember the soldiers and civilians killed in warfare in every country, and we commit to work and pray for peace until this assault on the Will of the Creator of us all, is finally over.

NOVEMBER 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

This did not begin in November 1918. Most have heard the long hidden story of the 1914 Christmas Truce where British, Belgian, French, and German soldiers laid down their weapons, “loving their enemies”, in a spontaneous celebration of what their common faith traditions called the *Birth of the Prince of Peace*.

Yet, as far back as anyone knows, most, if not all major faith traditions, have taught variations of what is often called THE GOLDEN RULE, “Love God, and Your Neighbor as Yourself”.

Many early Christians were tortured, persecuted or executed for holding the belief that Jesus meant what he said. Yet the majority still believe that “love your enemies” has exceptions. Meanwhile, for thousands of years, far too many people been raped, “executed”, and tortured through forced participation in war.

LET NOT YOUR BELLS BE MELTED INTO WEAPONS. RING OUT MIGHTY, WORLDWIDE ADHERENCE TO "LOVE YOUR ENEMIES AS YOURSELVES"

