

Signs of Peace Through Action

July-August 2022

What's Currently Giving Me Hope for Peace

Peace Through Action USA has just concluded a hiring process, for our first programs director. (We will be announcing the position holder in September). One can learn a lot when hiring. In this [blog post](#), CEO Bob Reeg shares his observations about the position applicants' motivations to work for Peace Through Action and his resulting hope for peace in the United States.

Meet our Mission Leadership Team



Peace Through Action USA elected new and continuing members to our [board of directors](#) at its 2022 winter and spring meetings. We felt the occasions provided a good moment to introduce our supporters to the people who comprise Peace Through Action's mission leadership team. Please meet:

[Pamela Zeutenhorst](#), chair, of Litchfield, Maine. Pam offers us more than 20 years of experience as a project manager, volunteer administrator, and trainer.

[Tracy Doyle](#), treasurer and director, of Long Beach, California. Tracy brings us a special combination of public sector leadership, theology scholarship, and faith-motivated service experience.

[Bob Reeg](#), chief executive officer and secretary, of Washington, District of Columbia. Bob is an accomplished servant leader, nonprofit organization program director, certified nonprofit professional and certified volunteer administrator, and active community volunteer.

[Jessica DeStefano](#), director, of Annapolis, Maryland. Jessica brings us her legal skills as a government and public interest attorney.

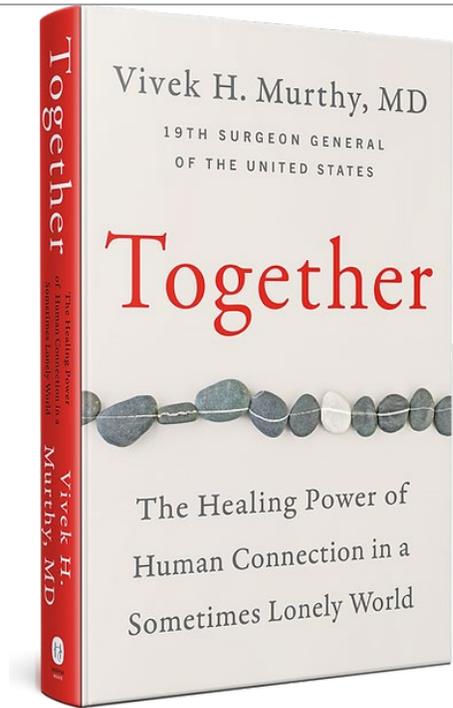
[Danielle Haack](#), director, of Tulsa, Oklahoma. Danielle offers us her experience in strategic planning, project management, and fundraising.

[Nitin Kumar](#), director, of Herndon, Virginia. Nitin brings us a growth mindset as well as experience running high performing teams and digital marketing campaigns.

[Michael Olaiya](#), director, of Atlanta, Georgia. Michael brings us a robust set of leadership experiences ranging from corporate management, healthcare administration, and business.

We desire to add a few more directors to our mission leadership team to increase diversity in experience and insight within our board of directors. Please consider applying for a director position. Additional information and instructions are available [here](#).

Peaceful Readers Book Club | *Together: The Healing Power of Human Connection in a Sometimes Lonely World* | Mon. Sept. 19 and Mon. Oct. 17, 2022, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm EDT Virtual Meeting | Register [Here](#)



Peace Through Action’s Peaceful Readers Book Club will hold discussions on [Together: The Healing Power of Human Connection in a Sometimes Lonely World](#) by Vivek Murthy, MD on Monday Sept. 19 and Mon. Oct. 17, 7:00 pm EDT. Please join us. We welcome new members to the book club any time! Register [Here](#).

In this groundbreaking book, Vivek Murthy (the current Surgeon General of the United States) argues that loneliness is the underpinning to the current crisis in mental wellness. The good news is that social connection is innate and a cure for loneliness. In *Together*, Murthy addresses the importance of community and connection and offers viable and actionable solutions to this overlooked epidemic.

Choose Compassion | Step 7—How Little We Know

Choose Compassion | Step 8—How Should We Speak to One Another?



Our Peaceful Readers book club completed their discussion of Karen Armstrong’s [Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life](#) this past January. Armstrong sets out a twelve-step program that can lead each of us toward a more compassionate life.

We aim to present a very abbreviated step each month through December 2022. We encourage you to take the actions Armstrong suggests. You can rely on our briefest of “Cliff’s Notes,” or

you might want to obtain a copy of *Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life* through loan from your public library or through a bookstore.

Step 7—How Little We Know. Armstrong invites us to recognize the unknown, become sensitive to overconfident assertions of certainty, and make ourselves aware of the mystery of each human being. Suggestions for doing so include 1) reading chapter 7 of the book; 2) thinking about those experiences that touch you deeply and lift you momentarily beyond yourself so that you seem to inhabit your humanity more fully than usual; 3) standing back and listening to the aggressive certainty that characterizes so much of our discourse these days; and 4) spending some time trying to define exactly what distinguishes you from everybody else.

Step 8—How Should We Speak to One Another? Armstrong invites us to make ourselves mindful of the way we speak to others. Suggestions for doing so include 1) reading chapter 8 of the book; 2) conducting personal after-action reviews after contentious discussions in which you participated and asking yourself how you could have handled them better.

Next Month ... Concern for Everybody.

Do Something Right Away to Increase Peace

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