

# Peace News Notes



## Remembering World War I

May 15<sup>th</sup> is International Conscientious Objection Day, a time to remember all those who have opposed war because of their faith or moral and ethical convictions. Some of these individuals, who have tried to live in the spirit of Isaiah 2:4 and Luke 19:42, have paid for their convictions with their lives, their freedom, or their lively hoods.

In 1994 a stone commemorating conscientious objectors (COs) worldwide was unveiled in Tavistock Square in London. In 2017, the Hutterites placed stones in memory of COs near the entrance to the World War I Museum and Memorial in Kansas City, Missouri (it is this country's only World War I museum). If you were at the 2018 Annual Conference, you may have seen the exhibit on the history of witnessing for peace. It included the stories of some of the Hutterites who died for their convictions as COs during World War I.

Treatment of COs during World War I was harsh. Some suffered severe abuse in U.S. military camps and prisons. Some of these young people died as a result, including some Hutterites. This year on May 15<sup>th</sup> the Brethren will participate in an ecumenical ceremony to place engraved stones, in memory of World War I COs, outside the Kansas City World War I museum. The ceremony will be part of the Remembering Muted Voices Symposium ([www.theworldwar.org/learn/remembering-muted-voices](http://www.theworldwar.org/learn/remembering-muted-voices))

In the May 6 *Newsline* Paul Cesare wrote that we should join them to remember "in our present age the values we still hold dear as Christians, interwoven with the gospel message of nonviolence and reconciliation". For more about the May 15<sup>th</sup> event contact Paul.

Following is information about the event. A program is forthcoming with additional details. For questions, please contact Paul Cesare at [peacecoordinator@hotmail.com](mailto:peacecoordinator@hotmail.com) .

### **An Ecumenical Prayer for Peace and Recognition of All Who Served During World War I**

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

6-7 p.m.

The World War I Museum and Memorial

Paul Sunderland Bridge

2 Memorial Drive

Kansas City, MO 64108

Entrance to the ceremony is free and open to the public, we would prefer that you RSVP if you want to attend at <https://my.theworldwar.org/4216>. For directions go to [www.theworldwar.org/visit/plan-your-visit/getting-here](http://www.theworldwar.org/visit/plan-your-visit/getting-here).

-- Paul Cesare is peace coordinator at First Central Church of the Brethren in Kansas City, Mo.