

## **Creating A Culture of Peace, Nonviolence Training for Personal and Social Change – 3-hour intensive workshop**

Jesus told us to love our enemies and do good to them. What if he really meant it? And how do we do it? In this workshop on active non-violence, participants will learn to recognize their own power for making personal and social changes without violence and will improve their ability to respectfully engage with opponents instead of confronting them in ways that polarize and demonize. Deacons and others who care about social issues will learn how to advocate powerfully for those issues while continuing to love and do good to those who disagree.

This workshop will offer an opportunity to experience Creating A Culture of Peace, a program committed to the spirituality and practice of active nonviolence.

**Presenter: The Rev. Deacon Steven Shanks, and members of Episcopal Peace Fellowship**



Deacon Shanks lives near Birmingham, Alabama, is an architectural and structural consultant, and a deacon assigned to St. Andrew's in Montevallo and Trinity Church in Clanton. Has engaged in leadership, training and advocacy the last 30+ years including SANE Freeze, HIV/AIDS, and the School of the Americas Watch. Convener and co-founder of the Episcopal Peace Fellowship (EPF) Alabama chapter, as well as a nonviolence facilitator serving on the Steering Committee for Creating a Culture of Peace. Provides nonviolent direct action training for the School of Americas rally and vigil, as well as others. Also, currently serves as the Jubilee officer for the Diocese of Alabama. Associate of the Order of the Holy Cross, based in Benedictine spirituality. Works to transform nonviolence consciousness into empowerment. Hopes to contribute to this nonviolent movement within the Episcopal Church by providing leadership, while standing in solidarity with the people of the church who are working for issues related to justice, peace, nonviolence and reconciliation.