Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice

STATE of the NETWORK – 2026.

Christine Olson, co-chair of WNPJ , presented the State of the Network address to the WNPJ membership at our Fall Assembly meeting, Nov 7, 2026.

We are the umbrella organization for 97 member groups in WI, up from 92 last year

We've had quite a year at WNPJ - growing and adding member groups. Our 97th group joined this week - Fox Valley for Palestine - from Appleton. There is so much energy going on with our member groups - WISDOM offering leadership trainings - and Rights of Nature resolutions being adopted by our cities. Palestine vigils are being held all across our state, supported by member groups and more.

We've held two WNPJ Assemblies this year...-

At last Fall's Assembly, we gathered for a program called SHAKING the ROOTS! our 34th FALL ASSEMBLY, where we honored Mary Kay Baum for her lifetime of peace and justice work

And this last April we gathered for the Spring Steering Committee called:

All Living Beings: How we carry on! At that steering committee meeting members and allies of the Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice gathered together to share 'reports from the field'. A special tribute was given to Al Gedicks, by Zoltan Grossman.

In our day-to-day and week-by-week tasks, we provide our members with a chance to spread the news of their events and action alerts. This was done through

- 48 weekly e-bulletins going out to 1,162 contacts - filled with events from our member groups across the state and ACTION alerts
- about 1000 postings on Facebook, postings of events from our member groups across the state - and ACTION alerts
- we have a NEW website, thanks to volunteer Vicki Berenson
- and we even started an instagram account

We've been out tabling and speaking at in-person events, too, at various events like the Annual Peace event in Appleton and the Lanterns for Peace annual event in Madison. We have provided a tabling site a the Dane County Farmers Market for our member groups to provide flyers and Gaza shoe displays. The Madison Mennonites with have a Gaza shoe display at the King St corner of the Capitol Square next Saturday morning. Stop by there if you're near Madison.

We've initiated a few monthly Widening the Circle zoom calls - connecting various groups - and have plans for more of these.

We've published 3 paper newsletters called Network News already this year, with a 4th one to come out in December.

Being on the Board is a challenge - for all of us with our very busy lives. We are currently an all-volunteer organization - and our task ahead is to find a way for our Board to be most productive in supporting the work you're doing out in your part of Wisconsin. This may involve by-law changes! Watch for news of that coming your way.

We encourage you al to visit the **WNPJ website (www.wnpj.org)** to learn more about our work, explore membership opportunities, and discover ways to get involved.

We are going forward, together!

Thanks to you all for all you do....