



Peace Alliance National Department of Peacebuilding Campaign

Third Wednesday Calls - All calls - 5pm PT/6pm MT/7pm CT/8pm ET

Join on November 18, 2026

Veterans: Who Better to Talk About War & Peace? with Josh Shurley and Ellen Barfield



Please join the conversation to learn more about the work of [Veterans For Peace \(VFP\)](#), and the role of veterans in creating a culture of peace, along with the actions we can all take to help usher in a new dawn of peace. VFP's Opening Statement begins with these words: **"We, as military veterans, do hereby affirm our greater responsibility to serve the cause of world peace."** Our notable presenters abide by this statement every day.

Joshua Shurley is a lifetime member of Veterans For Peace and is the lead organizer and co-founder of VFP Chapter 180 in Fresno, California. After his time in the US Army during the 1990s and early 2000s, Joshua pursued higher education, earning degrees in anthropology, security studies, and political science, culminating in a PhD in international relations from The University of Manchester in the United Kingdom—which included extensive field research in East and Central Africa, focusing on the impact of US special operations activities on local civilian populations. This research profoundly influenced his transition into peace activism. Within VFP, Joshua chairs several committees, and currently serves as the national vice president of Veterans For Peace.

Ellen Barfield is a U.S. Army veteran and currently serves on the national boards of Veterans For Peace, Military Families Speak Out, War Resisters League, and the Center on Conscience and War. She also coordinates VFP's Phil Berrigan Memorial Chapter 105 in Baltimore, Maryland, which she co-founded. Ellen serves as VFP's head representative at the United Nations. And, currently she works on the steering committee of VFP's Climate Crisis and Militarism Project. Ellen is a longtime member of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), and actively supports struggles for justice challenging racism, homophobia, misogyny, and other oppressions. She has participated in peace delegations to and solidarity work with Palestine, Iraq, and Nicaragua.

[CLICK HERE](#) to join the zoom call.

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Audio recordings for all Third Wednesday and other Peace Alliance calls can be found [here](#).