



PEACE PARTY

ALTERNATIVE TO a "TRADITIONAL" PRAYER SERVICE

This "**Peace Party**" was written up in an edition of Spirituality and Health several years ago and thought I would share the basic essence of it with you as an option for an Associate Gathering.

INVITATION: Send to members in an e-mail

"In these times, when so much of life can be out of our control, we will come together and envision a kinder, more compassionate world. Let us join together for a gathering of poetry, stories, songs and prayers for peace. Bring something short to share about peace; a meaningful quote, a poem, personal story, piece of art, song, symbol, or idea. We also want to eat, laugh, drink and have fun together. So please bring an appetizer/snack and or drink to share." (or you can be more specific in the invitation of something to share!)

SUGGESTED format for the gathering:

SONG: A Song of Peace – YouTube

If I could write a magic song
That everyone could sing
I would write of love,
Of hope and joy
And things that peace could bring.
And when we sang
My magic song,
All hate and war would cease.

If I could write a magic song
I'd write a song of peace.

CHORUS:

One song
For all of us.
One song
Could bring us peace.
One song
Could make a miracle
For all of us
A song of peace

With just one song
One magic song
That everyone could sing
We could sing of love
Of hope and joy
And things that peace could bring.
And when we sang
Our magic song
All hate and war would cease
With just one song
One magic song
The world could find peace. (**CHORUS**)

BEGIN the gathering with conversation by asking each person, **“What makes you feel peaceful?”**

HEART OF GATHERING: While sharing your food and drink.....also **share your peace offerings.** What feelings were created in you by ideas/things brought to the gathering?

CLOSING: two suggested alternatives

- 1.) Each participant expresses a “metta” (or several) which is a prayer of loving kindness. It begins with the self and embraces the world.

EXAMPLE – “May I be happy.”and the group responds, “May all beings be happy.”or.....”May I be loving.”with a response, “May all beings be loving.”, etc.

2.) **PRAY** - Credo For Peace

We believe in God:

A communion of three persons

A communion of life

A communion of love

A communion of peace.

We believe in Jesus:

God and human

Prince of peace

We believe in his gospel

The good news,

God’s message of peace.

We believe Jesus died, rose,

And sent us the Holy Spirit

So we could live in peace.

We believe in baptism

That makes us one family in Jesus

Crucified and risen from the dead

To lead us to eternal peace.

He is our hope

Through him, we pray for peace;

With him, we work for peace.

In him, we live for peace;
The peace of God's children
To the glory of God. Amen

REPEAT SONG – A Song of Peace

ALTERNATE SONG – Let There Be Peace On Earth

Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth
The peace that was meant to be.
With God as our father
Family all are we.
Let me walk with each other
In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me
Let this be the moment now.
With every step I take
Let this be my solemn vow.
To take each moment
And live each moment
With peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth,
And let it begin with me.