



I am open and I am willing, For to be hopeless would seem so strange. It dishonors those who go before us; So lift me up to the light of change. Holly Near



The past year has been a difficult time for Christian Peacemaker Teams and our partners, but we continue to step forward in the name of hope. In this, your unwavering support has been crucial. We have held you in a spirit of gratitude as you read our partners' stories and passed them on, to be sure that their voices are heard. We have been with you as you hosted CPTers in your homes, churches, and communities. We have been nourished by your contributions of time, funds, and prayers. Thank you for helping to keep us strong.

Across all of our projects, the challenges have been great. The year ended in **Palestine** with rising violence from the occupying force, as our partner communities were shaken by the USA's decision to acknowledge Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. In **Colombia**, we stood with our partners in El Guayabo as they were forcibly displaced from their land. We were there as **Iraqi Kurdistan** voted in a referendum for independence, and as the Iraqi government responded with force. The **Indigenous Peoples Solidarity** Team lent their voices to our partners' demand to recognize the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) in Canada, and in the call for justice for missing and murdered Indigenous women.

And yet, we hold hope that the world can yet change. Our partners continue to work toward a future of peace and fair treatment, and we are proud to stand with them. Thank you for joining with us in this peacemaking work. In continuing to share our stories and nourish our projects with your contributions, you are helping to keep that hope alive. All of these struggles are still alive and hurting as we enter 2018, and we hope that you will continue to move forward with us.

