

Prayer for Peacemakers who continue their witness even when they are older

Jesus,

We sometimes stereotype peacemaking – giving the impression that only young adults, and perhaps some middle-aged people, are the ones who are the real prophetic witnesses for peace.

And we are very deeply grateful for these younger people who speak and act for peace and justice with such courage and insight, but we also want to give our thanks for older folks who are strongly committed to the Christian way of nonviolence and love, and who demonstrate it in so many ways – through their involvement in Christian Peacemaker Team delegations, through their encouragement of actions for peace by the young and the old, through their testimonies in our churches and schools, through the writing of letters to political leaders and newspapers, through their occasional interviews with the media, and in numerous other ways.

Jesus, through your Spirit

Lead more elderly sisters and brothers to step forward to speak and act for peace.

Help them to see that they can make a difference.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

The above prayer was inspired by persons such as Siegfried Bartel in BC, who will be turning 90 shortly, and David Schroeder in Winnipeg, who just turned 80, who are continuing to be powerful witnesses for peace through their public presentations, interviews, writings and in other ways.