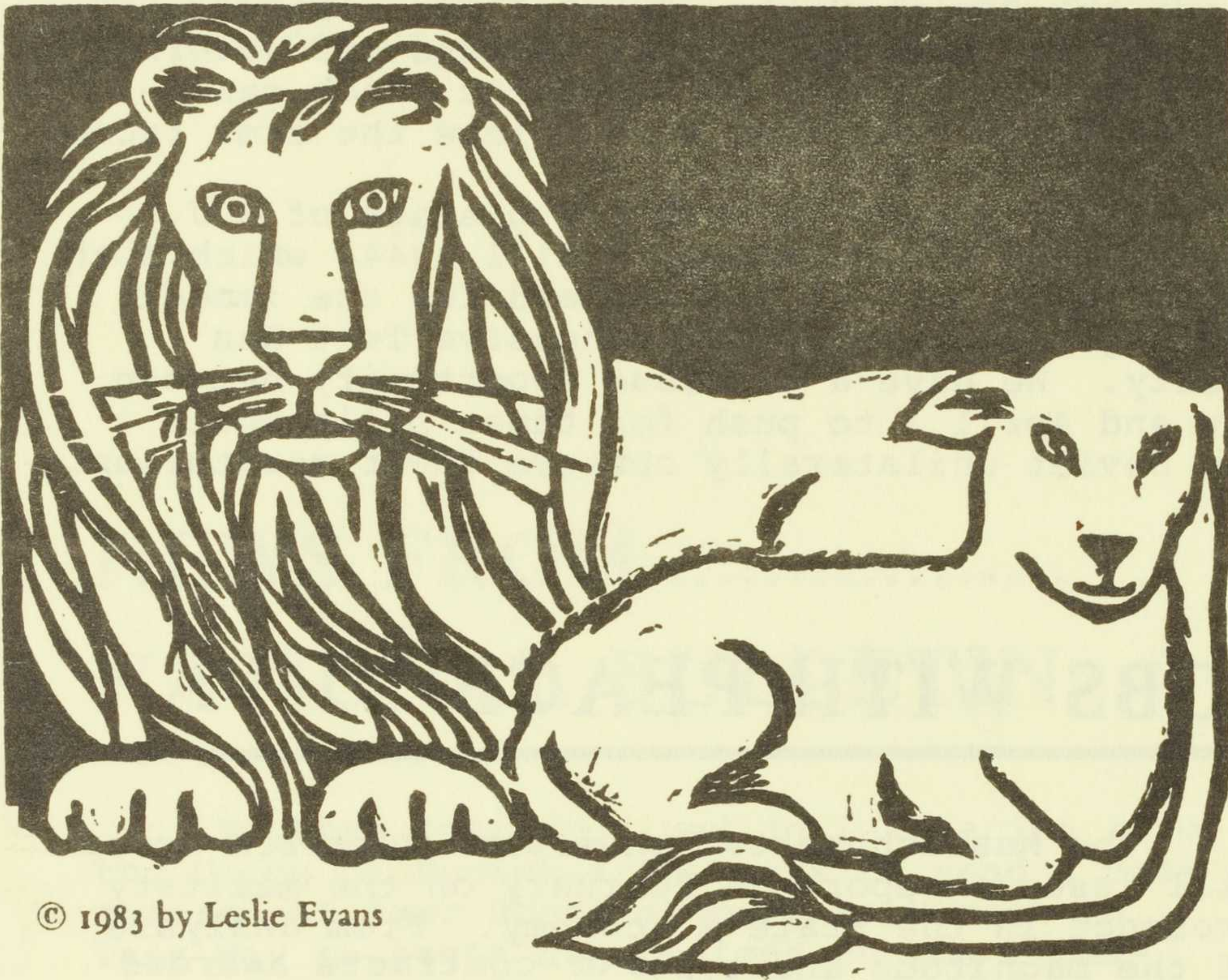


PLANNING AND DESIGNING *for Peace*

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BEYOND WAR

"The unleashed power of the atom has changed everything save our modes of thinking and we thus drift toward unparalleled catastrophe."

Albert Einstein's chilling words open each introductory presentation of the Beyond War movement, and the force of those words remains with each participant throughout the discussion groups that are called "An Orientation to a World Beyond War." In the Fall, I participated in a series of these meetings and I was impressed by the grassroots commitment of the group to changing our fundamental attitudes toward war and nuclear war.

The basic tenet of the Beyond War movement, which began in 1982, is that war, which has long been the ultimate arbiter of differences between nations, is now obsolete. This is because a nuclear war will lead to the destruction of all humankind - there will be no winners. Drawing from Einstein's statement, the objective of the movement is to change our way of thinking, just as we have changed our ways of thinking about slavery, human sacrifice, human rights, etc.

Workshops are conducted in individual homes in small groups of 4-10 people. Group leaders raise a well thought out set of issues and lead exercises which allow participants to relate the underlying causes of violence, disagreement and mistrust in our everyday life to the broader, less tangible idea of nuclear war. Participants are encouraged to express their own personal everyday experiences with anger and emotion and also their fears about a nuclear holocaust and global issues of discontent.

The Beyond War program is actively in place in several states as well as in six foreign countries. Leaders of the program have taken it to Moscow, Helsinki, Budapest and West Germany. The group presented an award to the Five Continent Peace Initiative, the presentation of which was shared with the people of several countries through a global spacebridge link in mid-December. In addition, the group sponsored a meeting at the U.N. in January 1985 at which Carl Sagan and a Soviet doctor addressed 82 ambassadors.

Beyond War does not require membership dues or attendance at regularly scheduled formal meetings. It does require a commitment to changing our attitudes about dealing with conflict both in our everyday lives and in our dealings with other governments. It means a commitment to maintaining a spirit of goodwill, a life without violence, and working with others to build a world Beyond War.

If anyone is interested in coming to an introductory evening house meeting, or learning more about the Beyond War concept, call Susan Jones at 497-6271, or Peter Smith at C.B.T. or 969-5243.

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