

PIN Bulletin For Local Organizers

Volume 24, June 2021

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?



**ONE YEAR TO
General Convention
in Baltimore
July 2022
Time to Organize!**

"Turning Toward General Convention"

The PIN Steering Committee Began Serious Organizing for General Convention 2022 with a DAY of ZOOMS on June 12.

The morning Zoom brought together the **Steering Committee** and the PIN **Advisory Council**. The Council is made up of experienced General Convention legislators, including Brian Grieves, Sarah Lawton, and Newland Smith. Three members, Leyla King, Rebecca Fadil and Philip Farah bring a Palestinian perspective to the Council. Ranjit Mathews, a PIN activist, joined the Zoom as a deputy who will

serve as Secretary to the Social Justice and International Affairs Legislative Committee in Baltimore next July.

This Zoom's purpose was team building and information sharing at the start of a year of collaboration. Advisory Council shared insights on the "sense of Convention 2022," noting that racism will be a defining issue, responding to our church's recently published Racial Audit. Energy and attention will also center on the election of a new President of the House of Deputies.

The discussion continued with thoughts on PIN strategy in that context and the importance of local organizing, with emphasis on building caucuses among bishops, especially new bishops, and deputies. A key message: organizing is relationships, beginning in parishes and dioceses. Another key: PIN must work to "hold the line" at General Convention 2022 on behalf of the universal human rights framework that informed PIN's successful resolutions in 2018. The resolutions that PIN submits for 2022 should expand and strengthen the human rights framework, which resonates in our current intersectional moment in the struggle for peace with justice.

What are some take-aways for Local Organizing?

- Organizing is relationships: PIN relies on local activists to engage with your bishops, educating and inviting them to be allies in the Palestinian struggle for human rights.
- Organizing is relationships: share PIN educational resources with the members of your diocesan deputation to Convention. Locate your deputies [here](#), listed by diocese.
- Organizing is relationships: the Bulletin will publish resolutions on Palestine/Israel that activists are sponsoring at diocesan conventions in Fall 2021; use them as models. For 2020 Pal/Is resolutions passed in dioceses, contact us [here](#).

The afternoon Zoom on June 12 brought together the Steering Committee and the PIN Work Groups -- 17 dedicated activists who volunteer their time and talent supported by PIN's staff person, Shannon Berndt. The leaders of the Work Groups make up the Steering Committee: Kathy Christison for Education, Tom Foster for Local Organizing and Randy Heyn-Lamb for Communication with Friends and Allies. Linda Gaither serves as convener, working closely with Harry Gunkel at the Communications Hub.

Work Groups had previously submitted Time-Lines of goals, actions and dead-lines for work leading up to and during General Convention. The purpose of the Zoom was to coordinate tasks, noting overlaps and omissions, in order to create a road map for cooperative action--an important step when we haven't seen each other face-to-face in over 3 years!

The Steering Committee and Work Groups will Zoom again during the **November Steering Comm. Retreat in Baltimore**, facilitated by Wini Wolff. Wini will help us finalize the PIN strategic road map

and messaging, for affirmation by the leadership.

In the coming months, the PIN Bulletin will feature periodic reports on the work underway.

What are some take-aways for Local Organizing?

- Are you a communicator in your parish or diocese? Help PIN by publishing PIN's message & plans during this year.
- Do you plan on attending G.C.? PIN needs your help in the Exhibition Hall, at the Information Distribution Points in the hallways of Convention, at the EPF Reception. Join us!

#NowIsTheTime A global call to President Biden

14 June, 2021

A global coalition of leaders – from civil society through academia, politics and Nobel laureates – have joined together in signing an open letter to call on President Biden to help bring an end to Israel's institutionalized domination and oppression of the Palestinian people and to protect their fundamental human rights. **The Episcopal Church** (US) is among the signatories. See the statement [here](#) with the full list of signatories.



Call or write your Representative:

Support H.R. Bill 2590 (the McCollum bill), which would condition US military

aid to Israel on the Jewish State's adherence to international human rights standards, especially with respect to Palestinian children living under military occupation. It is our church's stated policy!

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