PIN Bulletin For Local Organizers Volume 28, October 2021

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



What is PIN's Message to General Convention July 2022 in Baltimore?

To answer that question, the PIN Steering Committee and EPF/PIN staff will gather in Baltimore on Nov. 5 -8 for a Planning Retreat. The Goal of the Retreat is to sharpen and clarify our message to General Convention, developing a strategy for successful communication in order to raise awareness of the deepening crisis for Palestinian human rights and to impact church policy.



Wini Wolff is the facilitator for the Retreat. PIN worked with Wini prior to our successful 2018 General Convention and appreciates the opportunity to once again benefit from her skills and experience.

To prepare for the Retreat, Steering Committee engaged in several productive Zooms in June

with members of PIN Working Groups (Education, Local Organizing and Communications with Friends & Allies) and with our Advisory Council (experienced G.C. legislators/leaders). Working Groups created initial timelines for organizational tasks leading up to and at Convention. At the Retreat in Baltimore, this preparatory work will provide input for discussion and decision-making.

We're gathering in Baltimore at a time of increasing Israeli restriction on Palestinian civil liberties. On Oct. 19, the Israeli Defense Ministry issued an order designating six Palestinian civil society organizations in the Occupied Territories as "terrorist" groups, outlawing their activities and allowing Israeli authorities to close their offices, seize assets and arrest and jail staff members. It criminalizes funding or expressing public support for their activities.

Earlier in the month, Israeli authorities responded to rising violence and murder rates in Israeli Arab communities by granting authority to the IDF (military) and Shin Bet (security service, comparable to the CIA) to employ advanced technology to track illegal weapon possession. The Justice Ministry is rolling out additional tools, such as minimum sentencing for possession or sales of illegal firearms. In addition, a bill in the Knesset seeks to expand police powers by enabling them to search private homes without the need for a warrant. Warrantless searches and overt Shin Bet monitoring extend the policies of the Occupation to Arab communities in Israel.

In this context, "Wake up, Church!" will be a key element of PIN's message. Look for a follow-up report on the Retreat in Nov. *Bulletin.*



"Doing Justice: Israel/Palestine" A Full-Day Seminar

Presented by the Bishop's Committee for Justice and Peace in the Holy Land, Diocese of Olympia

Saturday, November 13 Bloedel Hall, St. Mark's Cathedral, Seattle Beginning at 9:30 a.m. P.T.

As promised in the Sept. Bulletin here

is the Eventbrite link:

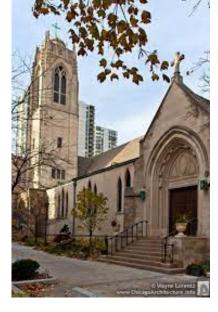
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/doing-justice-israelpalestine-tickets-189991849737

> In-person attendance (includes lunch): \$20 Students: \$10 Online attendance: \$10

For questions contact: bishopscommittee@gmail.com

Seeking Truth and Justice in Palestine/Israel

A Reminder:



Don't miss the last two events in this series of talks in-person and livestreamed hosted by St. Chrysostom's Episcopal Church 1424 N. Dearborn Pkwy., Chicago 60610. (Street and garage parking in vicinity)

Thursday evenings, Oct. 28 & Nov 4, 7:00 to 8:30 pm CT

Register HERE

October 28: A Jewish Perspective on Palestine/Israel and Zionism with Rabbi Brant Rosen (participating virtually).

November 4: *How Christians Can Contribute to the Search for Peace with Justice,* with Canon Naim Ateek (participating virtually).

Registration is required at <u>https://bit.ly/palestineevent</u> to attend these sessions in person or via livestream. Those attending virtually will receive the livestream links prior to each session. Information about speakers appears on registration site.

Video recordings of the first two talks are available at these links: Sept. 30 Current Conditions in Gaza, the West Bank, and East Jerusalem <u>https://youtu.be/nyYB7QA8KQM</u> Oct. 14 A Brief History of Palestine/Israel

https://youtu.be/Cm8MC4cETrg



Netflix launches new Palestinian Film Collection!

Many of the films and documentaries are centered around stories of ordinary Palestinians under Israeli occupation. This is an excellent resource for education in your parish or diocese!

Here are some of the available titles:

- Salt of this Sea, by Annemarie Jacir
- The Present, by Farah Nabulsi
- When I Saw You, by Annemarie Jacir
- Ghost Hunting, by Raed Andoni
- Ave Maria, by Basil Khalil
- Frontiers of Dreams and Fears, by Mai Masri

- Children of Shatila, by Mai Masri
- 3000 Nights, by Mai Masri
- A Man Returned, by Mahdi Fleifel
- A Drowning Man, by Mahdi Fleifel
- 3 Logical Exits, by Mahdi Fleifel
- A World Not Ours, by Mahdi Fleifel
- Xenox, by Mahdi Fleifel
- Divine Intervention, by Elia Suleiman
- Paradise Now, by Elia Suleiman
- Chronicle of a Disappearance, by Elia Suleiman
- In Vitro, by Linda Sarsour
- Maradona's Legs, by Firas Khoury

Check it out and select a film for viewing today!



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