
PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER

May 2023

Calendar Items

Saturday, May 6 - Palestinian Christian Alliance for Peace Webinar - noon - anniversary of the 75th Nakba, author Thomas Suarez' latest book, [Palestine Hijacked: How Zionism Forged an Apartheid State from River to Sea.](#)

Register for the webinar.

Monday, May 15 - Introduction to AMIS Volunteering - 7 pm on ZOOM - For new or potential volunteers with international students - join a short online introduction for all who want to learn more about volunteering with AMIS. Go to website amisatlanta.org

Thursday, May 18 - Corresponding Angles: The Story of a Liberator & a Holocaust Survivor, Temple Sinai, 7 - 8:15 PM - liberator Judge Aaron Cohn's Daughter, Gail, and Holocaust Survivor Itzik Slodowski's son, Reuben Sloan M.D., share their stories. Theirs is a remarkable account of how the two families learned that they shared a common history.

[Register Here](#)

A Message from the PC(USA) Office of Public Witness Regarding Gun Violence

In the end of March this year the **PC(USA) Office of Public Witness** issued an "action alert" and asked Presbyterians to urge members of Congress to act immediately to reduce gun violence in the United States. Specifics in that Action Alert included the following:

- Ban automatic weapons.
- Pass House legislation ([R. 8](#) and [H.R. 1446](#)) to close loopholes in background checks and urge its passage in the Senate.
- Repeal S.397, the [Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act](#), which prohibits civil liability lawsuits against manufacturers, distributors, dealers or importers of firearms or ammunition for damages, injunctive or other relief resulting from the misuse of their products by others.
- Promote the passage of [Red Flag](#) laws to confiscate guns from potentially dangerous individuals.
- Visit families in their district whose loved ones have died from gun violence to hear their pleas for action.

Special Issue from *Presbyterian Outlook*

The **June 2023 issue of *Presbyterian Outlook*** takes a hard look at the uniquely American problem of gun violence and what people from diverse perspectives have to say about it. With contributions from scholars, pastors, gun owners, members of the military, and peace activists, this issue will also feature a discussion guide for small groups. [Order extra copies of this special issue](#) for use in independent study, congregation-wide discussions, Sunday School classes or small groups. Extra copies are available for pre-order now for just \$4/copy.

PEC Conference 2023

Presbyterians for Earth Care (PEC) will hold their **2023 Conference** on September 20-23- **The Climate Crisis & Empowering Hope** at Massanetta Springs Conference Center in Harrisonburg, VA. There will also be virtual options. Some featured presenters include: Patricia Tull, Diane Moffett, Mark Eakin, Faith Harris (Virginia IP&L)

For more info, go to the website - presbyearthcare.org

Books Of Interest...

Protecting Human Rights in Occupied Palestine: Working Through the United Nations by Richard Falk, John Dugard and Michael Lynk - three top international legal experts. Available through claritypress.com

Fixer-Upper

By Jenny Schuetz

Financially well-off Americans can afford comfortable, stable homes in desirable communities. Millions of other Americans cannot.

"Fixer-Upper" assesses how the broad set of local, state, and national housing policies affect people and communities. It does more than describe how yesterday's policies led to today's problems. It proposes practical policy changes that can make stable, decent-quality housing more available and affordable.

[Learn more about the book](#)

27th Rosalynn Carter Georgia Mental Health

Forum - Thursday, May 18 - 8:30 am to 4:30 pm - a platform for addressing pertinent mental health policy issues in the state of Georgia. Service providers, policymakers, advocates, and consumers from all corners of Georgia are invited to partake in constructive conversations on a range of topics. [click here](#) to register. Registration closes on May 9.

Info About Camp Koinonia 2023

Camp Koinonia invites youth ages 11 to 14 for an exciting week exploring human rights, social justice, and peacemaking. While enjoying farm life in Americus, Georgia, with the Koinonia community, campers will learn about the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the rights we all have as human beings.

Learn more and register at [Learn More about Camp Koinonia](#)

Bread for the World Advocacy for Farm Bill

Work on the 2023 Farm Bill is heating up in Congress, and it is critical that we continue advocating for a farm bill that builds healthier, more equitable, and sustainable food systems.

Join your **Bread for the World** organizer and others in your region for our [quarterly online meetings](#) in May for updates on the farm bill and the Offering of Letters, stories of impact from your region, and next steps you and your congregation can take.

Interfaith Atlanta Planning Now for a September Event

Looking ahead to September 10 and **Interfaith Atlanta Festival 2023**. The annual Festival brings together 20+ faith-based organizations in the Greater Atlanta area. This year, in addition to an Interfaith Talent Showcase they are incorporating a Community Service project to meet their advocacy and action goal of fostering justice and the common good through hands-on engagement. Interfaith Atlanta is currently forming a team to plan and implement the event. Interested in being a part of this exciting event - Email ia_fall_fest@interfaithatlanta.org.

June is Torture Awareness Month

Add your name to NRCAT's [National Pledge: A Moral Call to End the Torture of Solitary Confinement](#). <http://www.nrcat.org/home-page/69-news-from-the-hill/1259-add-your-naame-to-the-national-pledge>