

## MISSION

The purpose of this group is to learn more about the Middle East, including the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, to explore interfaith issues – especially Judaism, Islam and Eastern (Christian) Orthodoxy – and to discover ways of serving our neighbors both in the Middle East and locally in the diversity of our own neighborhoods.

*“So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the benefit of all, starting with the people closest to us in the community of faith”*  
*Galatians 6:10*



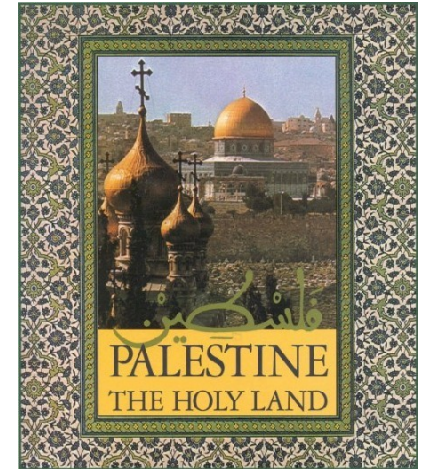
## Myth Busting

“The Arabs and Jews have *always* been fighting; there is *no use trying to change this because the Bible says it has to happen this way until Jesus returns!*” TRUE or FALSE? Perhaps you only know the “Holy Land”, Iraq and Middle East via TV, newspapers or other media. Want to put a human face on what you hear? To go deeper, beyond the news headlines?



## Activities of the group include:

- Monthly opportunities to learn about the Middle East via speakers, books, and audio-visual presentations about the current situation in Israel and Palestine, Iraq, and other countries of the Middle East.
- Discovering the Christians of the Arab world and the ELCA’s engagement in the Middle East through the **Peace Not Walls** campaign and other means of witness and service.
- Ecumenical and Interfaith sharing from the head and heart by Trinity members and guests – Christian, Muslim, Jewish and others.
- Small group conversations with our guests – questions welcomed!
- Co-sponsoring periodic Conferences and other special events in the Puget Sound area.
- Opportunities for trips to the Middle East – e.g. a Holy Land delegation led by John Berg, March 2010.
- MEPB serves as the channel for those who wish to financially support John Berg’s work of education, advocacy, recruiting, representing indigenous Arab ministries, leading delegations to the Middle East.



Convened by Trinity members Lenore Peterson, Liz Gimmestad, and John Berg, this Trinity *LifeGroup* normally meets in Trinity’s Room 203 at **7:00pm on the last Tuesday evening of each month**. We also host special events.



Send support to:  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
“MEPB”  
6215 196<sup>th</sup> St. SW  
Lynnwood, WA 98036

# MIDDLE EAST PEACE BUILDERS

*“To listen, learn,  
encourage, and support”*

## **An Overview Of Middle East Peace Builders**

**Mission** – With the goal of serving as reconcilers, MEPB enables Christian community and witness by building stronger relationships between the peoples of North America and the Middle East.

**Vision** – Jesus taught us to pray “Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.” The Bible makes it clear that it is God’s will that the biblical vision of Peace (Shalom/Salaam) be realized on earth through Jesus Christ. To that end we work with God’s help so that the North American, the Arab (both Christian and Muslim) and the Israeli can reconcile and work together for the common good of not just the Holy Land, but the whole world. This ‘dream’ inspires our prayers and guides our work.

**Strategy** – MEPB is engaged in domestic and international ministry via a variety of transformational ventures that bring together the people of North America and the Middle East. Through education, travel and service opportunities, we facilitate partnerships that bear witness to the Kingdom of God in the Middle East and the USA. Over the next decade, MEPB will use these means to help recruit and train members of the American Christian community to work as servants of the peoples of the Middle East and to encourage Arab Christians in peacebuilding witness within their own society.

# MIDDLE EAST PEACE BUILDERS

MAKING A DIFFERENCE  
IN THE LIVES OF  
MIDDLE EASTERN PEOPLE



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