

Suggested reading for the Holy Land Trip:

The Task Force recommended that all participants in the January 2006 Holy Land "Advocacy" Trip read Elias Chacour's *Blood Brothers* and one or two of the other titles; most are available through the public library or by purchase from Amazon or Cokesbury.

Elias Chacour was out of the country while we were in Palestine/Israel, but as a Palestine Christian priest, his account touches us in a personal way.

Alex Awad, who has spent time in the NCNY Conference of the UMC and serves under our missionary board as a Baptist pastor in East Jerusalem and on the staff of Bethlehem Bible College, is also a Palestinian Christian. He and his wife Brenda served as guides during most of our time in the Bethlehem and Jerusalem areas.

Mitri Raheb is a Palestinian Christian who serves as pastor of the Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem. His book, *Bethlehem Besieged*, is a source of hope in times of discouragement.

CPT's book, *Getting in the Way*, includes a section by our own Dianne Roe, a Hebron CPTer from Corning, NY.

Jerry Levin was a guide and an inspiration for those of our team who had the opportunity to visit the CPT apartment in Hebron and to walk through the Shuhada Street market and checkpoint with him.

These are the recommended books:

- Ateek, Naim: *Justice and Only Justice* - a Palestinian Theology of Liberation
 - Awad, Alex: *Through the Eyes of the Victim*
 - Brown, Tricia Gates (ed.): *Getting in the Way: Stories from Christian Peacemaker Teams*
 - Chacour, Elias: *Blood Brothers We Belong to the Land*
 - Gish, Art: *Hebron Journal*
 - Levin, Jerry: *West Bank Diary - Middle East Violence as Reported by a Former American Hostage*
 - Raheb, Mitri: *Bethlehem Besieged - Stories of Hope in Times of Trouble*
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We also recommend the two videos/DVDs which General Board of Global Ministries made available to us. Two copies of each (VHS) are in the Conference Resource Room at Cicero. VHS or DVDs of these may be ordered from David Wildman as well at: WILDMAN@GBGM-UMC.ORG. These were produced by the Mennonite Committee:

The Dividing Wall, a 23 - minute VHS video for Grade 9 to adult - This video explores the humanitarian, social & political impact of the Israeli-built "security fence." (It separates many Palestinians from their land, water, jobs, medical care, families, and friends.)

Children of the Nakba, a 26 - minute VHS - closed captions for hearing impaired. - Between 1947 and 1949, about 85% of the Palestinian population, were expelled from their lands. Learn about the Palestinians who call these events the "Nakba", an Arabic word meaning "catastrophe". Both Palestinians and Israelis are children of the Nakba, heirs to a story of dispossession. (Trip participants and Task Force members also have copies available for borrowing.)

Finally, in the packet for Trip Participants for the January Holy Land Trip, found in the Resource Room at the Cicero Conference Center, there is also a sheet entitled "Resources for Further Study". This lists 13 international Christian

statements, six Jewish statements, and five Palestinian statements, pertaining to investment, divestment, sanctions, and boycott information. Copies could be faxed to anyone interested. Trip participants have copies of these as well.

Two more websites appear after the listing of these statements. They are as follows:

- 1) For a complete list of products manufactured in illegal Israeli settlements: <http://zope.gush-shalom.org/home/en>
- 2) For additional information on the struggle against the occupation: [US Campaign to End the Israeli](#)

Occupation: Index

Other important information

- Christian Peacemaker Teams – Chicago Office –email peacemakers@cpt.org
- (Advance Special supported by our Annual Conf. -includes Dianne Roe, Corning, NY)
CPT Hebron – email CPT@jgc.org - website www.cpt.org
- Churches for Middle East Peace (UMC General Board of Church & Society & Women's Division are members) email info@cmep.org- website [CMEP -- Staff and Board Contact Sheet](#)
- Israeli Committee Against Home Demolitions(Israeli Jewish Peace group) – lucia@icahd.org
- If Americans Knew - email list@ifamericansknew.org – website - www.IfAmericansKnew.org
- Open Bethlehem – website - www.OpenBethlehem.org (works with If Americans Knew - "O Little Town of Bethlehem" post cards available for ordering.
- Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center- email media@sabeel.org (Director, Naim Ateek, Palestinian theologian & author of Justice & Only Justice - a Palestinian Theology of Liberation)
- General Board of Global Ministries, The United Methodist Church, David Wildman, Executive Secretary, Human Rights & Racial Justice – Mission Contexts & Relationships: e-mail DWILDMAN@GBGM-UMC.ORG - website: www.GBGM-UMC.ORG

The above are organizations from which we on the Task Force have received e-mails. In addition, here is a list given to us by GBGM before our trip:

Some key Palestinian and Israeli websites:

Environment/Land

- [Applied Reserach Institute-Jerusalem- Home](#) (ARIJ)
- [Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions- Home](#) (ICAHD)
- [Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committees- Home](#) (PARC)
- [PENGON - The Palestinian Environmental NGOs Network- Home](#)

Human Rights

- [BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugees' Rights- Home](#) (Our Trip Group heard from representatives from the above group)
- [B'Tselem - The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories- Home](#)
- [Jerusalem Center for Women- Home](#)
- [Palestinian Centre for Human Rights- Home](#) (PCHR)

Medical/Social Concerns

- [UPMRC - The Union of Palestinian Medical Relief Committees- Home](#)

Religious/Multi-faith Issues

- [International Center of Bethlehem - Home](#) (This is the center in Bethlehem where many of the lectures, programs, and conferencing took place during our January Trip to the Holy Land - attached to Christmas Lutheran Church - the Deputy General Director, Rana Houry, put me in touch with the English teacher who directs the "Our Diaries Through the Wall" group)
- Rabbis for Human Rights- [Rabbis For Human Rights- Home](#)(A member of this group was on a panel which our group heard at Tantur Ecumenical Institute in Jerusalem. Also, Arik Ascherman, from this group visited and spoke in Syracuse a couple of years ago).

- Sabeel Ecumenical Palestinian Liberation Theology Center- [Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center - Sabeel-Home](#). (Some of our group visited this center. One of our college students on the trip wished she could attend the youth seminar which would be held here in summer of '06). One of our UMC missionaries, Janet Lahr Lewis, who acted as one of our guides, works here.

Multiple Issues

- [Haaretz Daily Newspaper Israel, Israeli News Source](#) (daily Israeli paper in English)
- Palestine Report (a weekly subscription email magazine) www.palestinereport.org
- [PASSIA - Palestinian Academic Society for the Study of International Affairs- Home](#) (PASSIA)
- [The Palestinian Centre for Rapprochement PCR- Home](#)
- Palestinian Conflict Resolution Center (Wi'am)- <http://www.planet.edu/~alastah/> (Some of our Trip Group visited this center, where Mission Intern Ashley Wilkinson, also one of our guides, works. This is another Advance Special)
- Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue & Democracy- [MIFTAH- Home](#)

Humanitarian & Relief Organizations

- ReliefWeb - www.reliefweb.int
- The Humanitarian Information Center: <http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/opt/>

Donors

- Al Asalah e-Magazine by the US Agency for International Development <http://www.usaid.gov/wbg/asalah.htm>

This list is included with the information sheets in a folder at the Conference Resource Center labeled as the info packet for the January 17 - 26, '06 Holy Land Trip.