

Here are my notes:

Anti-apartheid presentation for Palestine/Israel

August 23, 2024

Witnessing Apartheid: AFSC's May 2023 Delegation to Palestine and Israel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Qn5-XJ38dc> is a video that she shared. Created by AFSC about the Apartheid state, the film was made in May 2023, before the October 7 2023 attack.

The Palestinians say that the next thing that will happen is either genocide or freedom.

Pledge history

Apartheid in Israel/Palestine has been certified by international groups and courts.

Palestinian Christians asked the Christian community for help.

The Logic of love is the base of this campaign. They have written a document (link below) describing the conditions in Palestine and Gaza. They created the Pledge as a way to take action.

Kairos Palestine Dossier on Israeli Apartheid –

<https://www.kairospalestine.ps/images/kp-a-dossier-on-israeli-apartheid-main.pdf>

In 2006 Jimmy Carter published his book “Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid”

Jewish and Muslim congregations have joined the Pledge. The South African experience and the USA Civil Rights work are the models they are using for action.

The Pledge is an aspirational document, not one and done.

Website is apartheid-free.org

This is only for communities, requiring communities to learn and address the issue together. Name the reality and then discern what your community shall do.

Name the situation as apartheid.

Commitment to take action - context specific.

Join the network which will help the community to take action. Play to your strengths.

Advocacy, AFSC has a plan there. There are campaigns. Boycotts exist and divestment is an option also.

385 communities have signed the Pledge. 159 are faith based, about half of those are congregations. 23 are Quaker. There is a map of them on the website.

There is a FAQ page which answers many common questions.

Hank gave praise and encouragement.

Wendy asked if the Mormons had been invited. They have been oppressed for their faith and have spoken out of that history.

Betsy asked people to send money to Ramallah Friends School because of the unemployment that has hit the West Bank. AFSC and Ramallah Friends have a close relationship.

Ruth Zalph has become a tax resister in response to visiting Palestine because she saw the USA stamp on the shells and discards in Palestine.

Hart - How is a baptist minister working for AFSC? Because there is no requirement at AFSC to be a Quaker. Still they have a clear vision of the work they are called to do.

? - Are any organizations excluded? Apparently not. However you name yourself is fine.

AFSC - Action Hour:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1R2n-SboWjpaHt1g89nB7_R2AOd21K7siJ6zUpXYf9Sc/e/dit

Friends Meetings that have signed the Pledge

List is from American Friends Service Committee

Live Oak Friends Meeting, TX

Multnomah Friends Meeting, OR

Quaker Palestine Israel Network

Floyd Friends Meeting, VA

South Central Yearly Meeting

Burlington Friends Meeting, VT

Friends Meeting of Washington Peace & Social Concerns Committee

North Meadow Circle of Friends, IN

Peace and Social Justice Committee, Fifteenth Street Friends Meeting, Religious Society of Friends

Northeast Kingdom Quakers, VT

Conejo Valley Worship Group, CA

Ames Friends Meeting, IA

Ann Arbor Friends Meeting, MI

Red Cedar Friends Meeting, MI

Westtown Monthly Meeting, PA

Urbana-Champaign Friends Meeting, IL

Northside Friends Meeting Committee for Ministry on Racism, IL

Bloomington-Normal Friends Meeting, IL

Downers Grove Friends Meeting, IL

Gila Friends Meeting, NM

Quakers of Orlando, FL

Brainerd Friends Meeting, MN

Episcopal Signers

Peace & Justice Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago

Episcopal Churches of the Big Bend

Episcopal Peace Fellowship Chapter of Northern Vermont

The complete list of signers is posted on the P&J board at Meeting.