

## INVITATION

### **"THE STONES CRY OUT" SOLIDARITY DELEGATION**

**February 27-March 7, 2024**

#### **Sponsors**

*Kairos Palestine*

*Kairos USA*

*Episcopal Bishop's Committee for Justice & Peace in the Holy Land – Diocese of Olympia*

*Indiana Center for Middle East Peace*

*\* Sponsors include nationwide Black church organizations, pending approval next week \**

Dear friends and partners,

In these dire days, our Palestinian sisters and brothers in Christ and all Palestinians are crying out to us, urging us to be present with them in solidarity in Palestine and to bear witness to the world that they are not alone in their struggle for justice. And so we respond boldly, with courage, and in faith.

**"The Stones Cry Out" Solidarity Delegation** has three actions:

#### **ONE. DELEGATION TO PALESTINE – Tuesday-Sunday, February 27-March 3**

**The Palestinians are urging us to come and stand with them.**

A Delegation comprised of US church leaders, lay leaders, representatives from local, national, and denominational organizations devoted to Palestine will meet with Palestinian religious, political, and NGO leaders in Bethlehem from February 27 through March 3. Visits and meetings will be planned by Kairos Palestine and the Global Kairos for Justice Coalition in Bethlehem in coordination with the Delegation organizers. An integral part of the delegation's program will be to worship with Palestinian churches on Sunday, March 3. In addition, on Saturday or Sunday, our plan is to offer a worship experience that can be shared with congregations back home.

Our base will be at the Christmas Lutheran Church Guesthouse in Bethlehem. We are working with Kairos Palestine to arrange our meetings, in-country transportation, meals, etc. Those costs will be forthcoming.

Delegation participants are requested to make their own travel arrangements, to be in Bethlehem on Tuesday, February 27.

#### **TWO. MEETINGS AND ACTIONS IN WASHINGTON DC – Tuesday-Wednesday, March 5-6**

**We must speak directly to the US government, not only complicit but actively funding Israel's genocide.**

On Monday, March 4, we fly back to Washington DC, where on Tuesday, March 5, we meet with allies from area organizations preparing for our meetings and actions, Wednesday, March 6. Drawing on the power of our having just returned from meeting with the Palestinian community on the ground, our delegation will hold a Meeting/Action with political and other leaders, garnering wide-spread media attention. Those who aren't able to make the trip with us to Palestine are welcome to join us in DC for the meeting.

#### **THREE. SOLIDARITY PROGRAMS AROUND THE US – Wednesday, March 6**

**It is important that we publicly demonstrate nationwide support for the urgency of a cease to the present carnage, immediate relief for the people of Gaza, and a process for bringing a solution ensuring justice for the Palestinian people.**

We are inviting denominational Palestine-Israel mission committees (PINs), churches, justice organizations, and individuals all around the US to plan actions, including demonstration, prayer or worship events, and educational and informational events, for Wednesday, March 6, in coordination with our meeting in Washington DC.

We realize that time is short. But the urgency of the times, as well as the pleading of our Palestinian friends and partners to stand with them, demands that we answer their call.

**To reserve a spot on the Delegation, contact Michael Spath, [Lmichaelspath@gmail.com](mailto:Lmichaelspath@gmail.com).**

On behalf of the Sponsors, the Planning Committee, and especially on behalf of our Palestinian partners,  
Michael Spath

Planning Committee – *Mark Braverman, Doug Thorpe, Don Wagner, Wendell Griffen, Michael Spath*