

## Session Seven

### 7<sup>th</sup> Principle:

Respect for the Interdependent Web of Existence, of Which We Are All a Part

### Intersections:

#### Solidarity and Hope

- Connecting the dots to reach beyond ourselves and have an impact
- Taxes – we are paying for the occupation – how much?
- Dialogue efforts
- What groups are having an impact?
- What is BDS?
- Solidarity efforts of faith and other groups

### Pre-readings:

“Letter from a UU Young Adult Interfaith Peacebuilders Delegate,” by Elissa Goss  
The interconnectedness of American tax dollars, military aid to Israel and U.S. state budgets, see End the Occupation’s calculation, <http://www.endtheoccupation.org/article.php?id=3014>  
Video, *The BDS Movement Explained*, Omar Barghouti, co-founder of the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement, presenting at Evergreen College in March 2015, <https://youtu.be/BkqdrVFjw-Y>, 62 minutes

### Activities

Opening Reading and Discussion

Video, *Solidarity Choices – Groups Creating an Impact*, by UUJME, at <https://vimeo.com/129338922>

Solidarity Choice Spotlight: Witnessing: video by Interfaith Peacebuilders, with Bereaved Families, a UU, and others, at <http://www.ifpb.org/multimedia/video/lookingforward.html>

Planning an Action Project

Closing discussion on the study program

## Principle 7: Respect for the Interdependent Web of all Existence of Which We Are a Part

Session Seven explores our direct connections to events in Palestine-Israel, and the many possibilities for being in solidarity with those seeking peace with justice there that can give us hope and a sense of empowerment to help, calling UUs into further action. Part of understanding our connections requires an investigation into money collected from U.S. taxpayer and the amount of this that is given to Israel as aid, and the impact of that money not being invested here in a time of a widening gap between the wealthy and the rest.

Rev. James Luther Adams wrote about “The Five Smooth Stones of Liberal Religion.” The five stones represent concepts that are tools by which to guide a life of liberal religious values. One tool is hope. We have abundant resources to give us hope in our quest to bend the arc of the universe toward justice. The video about those working for peace with justice shows the many individuals and organizations working toward peace with justice. Add these to your list of options to reflect on which actions you would like to adopt.



## Pre-reading

UU and Interfaith Peacebuilders Delegate, Fall 2012

*Elissa Goss, May 2015*

*Note: Demolition of Palestinian homes is often conducted by the Israeli military. In many cases, a home is demolished as collective punishment of the family for an alleged or actual offense by one member. This is illegal under international law. International solidarity activists have performed acts of nonviolent resistance and solidarity by attempting to block demolitions.*

I first heard of Rachel Corrie my freshman year at The Evergreen State College in Olympia, WA. Two of my professors had also been hers in 2004, right before she left for Gaza. She understood that her body, marked as American, marked as white, embodied a privilege that she could leverage to protect Palestinian homes from being bulldozed by the Israeli army. With the International Solidarity Movement, she lived with families in Gaza, and when one of their houses would be threatened for destruction, she and other international activist would calmly, deliberately, and strategically, place their bodies in front of these homes. Most of the time they were successful, the bulldozers, built by Caterpillar exclusively for the Israeli Defense Forces for the demolishing of homes, would retreat with full knowledge that the death of an American would bring more international ire than the death of a Palestinian.

Their understanding that an American life is deemed more valuable than a Palestinian proved true. I remember watching the video footage pulled from the Israeli security tower that showed the bulldozer plow over her, slowly and deliberately. What resulted from her death was an international outcry, a building campaign to halt the illegal demolition of Palestinian homes that continues to this day (current number since 2004) and the creation of the Rachel Corrie Foundation which travels around the country and the world, to educate communities on the realities of the occupation, and non-violent strategies for ending the occupation and pathway towards justice and peace.

Her death carved a question in my mind that has stayed with me ever since: would I die for my principles? If not, what does solidarity look like for me?

Almost every culture around the world has some form of deep honoring for those who die for what are deemed “worthy causes”. We as Unitarian Universalists honor James Reeb who died for Civil Rights, along with countless other individuals and communities who teach us through the oppression they seek to eradicate. We mourn for the Earth, for our national and foreign policy, and many of us are active in our own local politics. Our faith community has been at the forefront for LGBT rights and environmental activism. Our churches and congregations are often havens for seekers looking for a safe space to practice spirituality and find a sense of community, as we try and make sense and do what we can to fix our broken world.

But when the question of Israel and Palestine comes up, more often than not, we are afraid. Afraid to over step, afraid to assume, afraid to tip the balance. When I first began learning about the issue, I kept looking for truth in both narratives, hoping that I would find a thread that would magically cause light to shine down with a clear goal and answer in place with which to work towards. I was so focused on not upsetting people, so focused on finding the solution for peace, that I mistook neutrality as solidarity.

We cannot ignore our privileges as American and as UUs by valuing neutrality more than justice. By interpreting our interdependence as a call for peace, we ignore the power structures that make a just peace impossible. Essentially, we “mask” or “cover up” our privileges. By masking our privileges, we are covering up the connection of our tax dollars to pay for the demolishing of Palestinian homes and wars abroad. By masking our privileges, we are fighting for immigrant rights while allowing our military to overthrow democratically elected governments in Latin America causing chaos. By masking our privileges, we talk of diversity in our congregations but fail to do the work of supporting the struggles of communities and leaders of color.

By masking our privilege by a belief that supporting interdependence means calling for peace without working for justice, we sit back and add more value to discussion than to action. We shy away from heartbreak; we cloak ourselves in a false hope for peace before we ever understand what justice would look like. We ignore power structures.

Over the past few years, as I have delved deeper into understanding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, my faith has also deepened. As I learned more about the institutionalization of Israel’s occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, I looked to

our 7 Principles for guidance for when there wasn't a clear sense of "good" or "bad", "right" or "wrong". I turned to our 7 Principles to navigate the gray.

As I have contemplated my earlier question of how far I would go in pursuit of solidarity, our 2<sup>nd</sup> Principle landed deep in my heart: Justice, Equity and Compassion in all human relations.

Justice. Equity. Compassion. These words suddenly took on new life as I applied them to what I had seen during my time in Israel and the West Bank and everything I had learned.

Justice: Our principles clearly states "justice" and not "neutrality". "Neutrality, equity and compassion" looks different acted out in the world than "Justice, Equity and Compassion." For me, this means that we "cannot be neutral on a moving train" as Chomsky so wisely wrote. In the case of Israel-Palestine, what is the moving train? I believe it to be the the train of militarization and the systematic refusal for Palestinian basic human rights of freedom of movement, food, education and shelter.

By over-valuing neutrality, I am not working towards peace. I began to understand that there cannot be peace without justice. I realized I had to dive into the complexity, accept what "I did not know, I didn't know" and pay attention to power structures and patterns of oppression.

Equity: It struck me suddenly how we use the word "equity" and not "equality". Equality brings to mind the truth of the inherent worth and dignity of every human being, but equity reminds us that the world is structured in such a way that denies humanity to specific groups of people. So what is our role in practicing "equity" in human relations, over "equality" in human relations?

I believe that we practice equity when we look at how institutional oppression controls the narratives we are taught to believe. For me, practicing equity looks like valuing Palestinian experiences, realities, and lives just as much as anyone else and recognizing that our media and policies do not. So I must be vigilante. I must take notice when over 2,000 Palestinian deaths are not deemed as important for investigation as 2 Israeli teenagers. What narrative of value and I being taught here? What true value am I honoring by lumping 2,000 deaths as somehow "justifiable", as our media does?

Equity means recognizing that a homemade rocket does not have the same political capital as an international funded army dropping 2-ton bombs on houses with families in them.

Compassion: Compassion in the pathway for empathy. I confused feeling empathy for both Israeli and Palestinian stories as the best practice for neutrality. However, empathy plays a very serious role in the quest for justice. Empathy allows us to respect individual stories, connect with people on an interpersonal level, and still work towards policy shifts and movement building.

It was the practice of cultivating empathy that brought me to support the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement. I recognize that I am not the kind of activist who can stand in front of homes using my body as shield for peace. I am not the kind of activist that rally in the streets for a long time. I am just not that kind of activist, but I respect those strategies, and I recognize the power of non-violent strategies.

I am drawn to the support the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement because of its commitment to non-violence and my ability as an individual to "address conflict as individual and group". The BDS movement got its start with the vote of over 160 Palestinian civil-society organizations agreeing to work together with international partners and partners in Israel, to end the occupation.

Boycotts, divestment and sanctions have a long history in non-violent movement building from Civil Rights, South African apartheid, and our choice as UUs to divest from fossil fuels. As UUs we have already shown a commitment and practice of non-violent engagement in the pressing social issues of our time.

My hope is that we can continue to engage and learn about the US's role and complicity in the occupation of Palestinians and support an end of the occupation so that a peace process that affirms justice, can begin. Without justice, there cannot be peace. The BDS movement is a strategy of engaging with our communities and our wrestle with our own understanding of the daily realities of living under occupation.

I encourage you to look at examples of BDS actions and to reflect on how they could fit into your vision for action.

So my question to all of us is this: how will we live out our principles? What strategies call to you? The movement for justice is growing, how will you join us?

## How American Tax Dollars Are Connected

The interconnectedness of American tax dollars, military aid to Israel and U.S. state budgets is important to understand. See End the Occupation's calculation at <http://www.endtheoccupation.org/article.php?id=3014>.

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**Understanding BDS—Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions.** To deepen your understanding of the call for BDS, view the video by Palestinian nonviolent activist Omar Barghouti, co-founder of the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement, at <https://youtu.be/BkqdrWFjw-Y>.

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## Opening Reading: Elaboration on the 7<sup>th</sup> Principle

“Our seventh Principle, respect for the interdependent web of all existence, is a glorious statement. Yet we make a profound mistake when we limit it to merely an environmental idea. It is so much more. It is our response to the great dangers of both individualism and oppression. It is our solution to the seeming conflict between the individual and the group.

“Our seventh Principle may be our Unitarian Universalist way of coming to fully embrace something greater than ourselves. The interdependent web—expressed as the spirit of life, the ground of all being, the oneness of all existence, the community-forming power, the process of life, the creative force, even God—can help us develop that social understanding of ourselves that we and our culture so desperately need. It is a source of meaning to which we can dedicate our lives.”

—Rev. Forrest Gilmore, Executive Director of Shalom Community Center, Bloomington, IN (read more from Forrest in *The Seven Principles in Word and Worship*, ed. Ellen Brandenburg).

## Grounding Questions and Discussion

Some believe Unitarian Universalism is a faith tradition uniquely suited to the global 21<sup>st</sup> century, in part because our Seventh Principle values the interdependence and interconnectedness of all things — material and spiritual.

Some also believe, however, that Unitarian Universalism suffers from an excess of individualism, a luxury that the 21<sup>st</sup> century world can ill afford.

1. How does the seventh principle help us address this “seeming conflict between the individual and the group”?
2. What in UU history best exemplifies our success at overcoming individual limitations and embracing “something greater than ourselves?”  
UU involvement in something far greater than themselves is well documented during the Holocaust in the movie *Two Who Dared* (Trailer: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W3RKsKlI\\_mY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W3RKsKlI_mY)), about Martha and Rev. Waitstill Sharp, and in the article about two UUs who died in Selma at <http://www.uuworld.org/life/articles/2356.shtml>.
3. What divestment efforts have UUs supported over the past decades? The UUA General Assembly voted in 2014 to divest from fossil fuels. What are the pros and cons of divestment, either the fossil fuel stand or others, in your opinion?

## Activities

**Discuss the Pre-reading.**

**Discuss Solidarity Choices**

What does the term “solidarity” mean to you?

How have you acted in solidarity with oppressed persons in your life?

How might you show solidarity with Israelis and Palestinians?

**View the Solidarity and Hope video.** This presentation was created for Session Seven about groups making an impact on peace with justice for Israelis and Palestinians. See <https://vimeo.com/129338922>.

**Witnessing.** View the video: Interfaith Peacebuilders trip, with Bereaved Families, a UU, and others, at <http://www.ifpb.org/multimedia/video/lookingforward.html>.

**Understanding BDS—Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions.** Discuss reactions to the idea of BDS based on a pre-viewing of the video by Palestinian nonviolent activist Omar Barghouti, co-founder of the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement, at <https://youtu.be/BkqdrWFjw-Y>.

BDS is a non-violent, global initiative from more than 170 Palestinian civil society organizations such as trade unions, cultural organizations and academic institutions that was issued in 2005 asking the world to boycott, divest from, and issue sanctions against Israel and companies that profit from occupation and other activities that are in violation of international law. BDS is a form of non-violent justice-seeking. It offers a wide range of choices, individually and collectively, that UUs can exercise to show their solidarity, and to recognize our connection with and ability to impact causes of injustice. Boycotting involves some degree of refraining from the purchase of products that enable oppression of Palestinians and Israeli human rights activists, and could entail boycotting goods made in illegal Israeli settlements, or could involve boycotting any goods made in the state of Israel. Some artists refrain from giving concerts or exhibits in Israel. Academicians campaign against activities by cultural, academic and other institutions that “white wash,” defend, or mislead regarding Israel’s oppression of Palestinians. Divestment involves pressuring investment funds to not invest in companies that profit from occupation and other violations of international law. Sanctions are an avenue that can be applied to military links, economic links, and diplomatic links to curtail trade and other activities.

A group of Christian Palestinian leaders put out a similar call in their document *Kairos Palestine*. BDS is a non-violent set of strategies that has been effective in other justice struggles around the world. Several other faith groups have taken positions within the BDS spectrum: Jewish Voice for Peace, Presbyterian Church (USA), Methodist Church, several Episcopal regional organizations, and soon the United Church of Christ. The UUA has yet to take such a step, although a significant first step was taken by the UUA Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) Committee in May 2015 regarding human rights and labor rights of Palestinians. The UUA Common Endowment Fund (CEF), following the recommendation of the UUA SRI Committee, joined other faith-based and secular SRI groups in signing letters to major US corporations that operate in Israel, affirming corporate responsibility for Palestinian human rights and labor rights.

UUJME’s board voted to support boycott of products made in illegal settlements in the occupied territories and we are in agreement with divesting from all companies that enable the oppressive systems of separation, control, and collective punishment that are imposed on occupied Palestinians. The American Friends Service Committee has a new online site that lets people investigate what companies are profiting from occupation, Investigate, at <http://investigate.afsc.org/>. The BDS movement website at <http://www.bdsmovement.net/bdsintro> has more information, as well as Who Profits at <http://whoprofits.org/>. Many college campuses have chapters of Students for Justice in Palestine and many of these are involved in campaigns to have their institution divest from occupation industries. You may consider supporting student organizations with whom you agree.

The UUJME Board has voted to support divestment from companies that enable illegal occupation and blockade of Palestinian territories. We are collecting signature on a petition to ask TIAA-CREF to divest from companies maintaining the occupation, as our UUA staff retirement fund is with TIAA-CREF, and some of their investments are in companies that profit from occupation. They removed Caterpillar from their portfolio last year, and there is pressure to drop additional entities.

**UUs for Justice in the Middle East  
TIAA-CREF Divestment Campaign**

The worth and dignity of Palestinians is being violated by the 45-year occupation and illegal settlement of their land.



- Investment giant TIAA-CREF prides itself on socially responsible investment, yet invests heavily in companies that maintain and profit from the occupation.
- TIAA-CREF manages staff retirement accounts of most UU organizations and congregations.

*UUs for Justice in the Middle East therefore calls on fellow UUs to petition TIAA-CREF to divest from companies that maintain and profit from the occupation. Get more information about the petition campaign, learn how you can gather signatures, and join UJME at: [www.uujme.org](http://www.uujme.org)*

Join Us! Read and Sign the Petition at:  
<http://tinyurl.com/uujmetiaacref>

## Planning an Action Project

There are many actions that UUs can take: writing letters to elected officials, supporting creation of new study groups on the issue, planning movie forums, selling fair trade olive oil from Palestinian farmers, donating to reconciliation and human rights groups in Israel such as Bereaved Families and Zochrot, supporting ANERA which provides much-needed support to Palestinian refugees, supporting the TIAA-CREF petition, and learning more about the Boycott-Divestment-Sanctions call from Palestinian civil society organizations. Other options are to participate in and raise funds to send ministers, seminarians and other UU leaders on a human rights trip to Palestine with one of many groups conducting

such tours, including UJME or Interfaith Peacebuilders. You can donate to the UJME Young Adult Travel Scholarship Program which sends one or two young adults each year to Israel-Palestine. Yet another step that you can take is to work with others to encourage our faith as a body to reject investments in companies that profit from the occupation of Palestinian land and the oppression of the Palestinian people, but actively supporting the passage of a business resolution or Action of Immediate Witness at a future General Assembly, or a resolution in your congregation or region.

**Write letters.** Sign up for email alerts to contact your elected officials. Jewish Voice for Peace and the AFSC have sign-up lists and UJME also sends alerts.

**Create more study groups.** Volunteer to lead a study group in your congregation or elsewhere. Start with a movie showing of *Budrus* by Just Vision (see the Resource section).

**Distribute the UJME News.** Our dynamic newsletter is published three to four times a year. Order extra copies by mail and give them to other UUs, whether at your congregation, a regional event, or elsewhere. Use the content as an opening to dialogue on different aspects of the situation.

**Sell fair trade olive oil.** The UUSC promoted Palestinian fair trade olive oil several years ago. The oil is now available via Equal Exchange at <http://shop.equalexchange.coop/fair-foods/organic-olive-oil-extra-virgin.html>, and several congregations order and sell olive oil to support farmers. Literature can be made available on the table so that people can learn more about the situation.

**Travel to learn and witness or donate to groups that organize human rights trips.** There are many organizations that offer trips, and UJME also offers Young Adult Travel Scholarships annually. UJME organizes a human rights delegation in summers of odd-numbered years. Since UJME started conducting human rights trips about 10 years ago, more than 60 UUs have learned first-hand from Israelis and Palestinians about the situation. Read the “post cards” on the next page from UUs who enjoyed Palestinian homestays. The next trip will likely take place in the summer of 2017; see journal writings and photos from prior trips at <http://www.uujme.org/home/OurWork/TripstotheMiddleEast.aspx>. Young adult travel scholarship information is available at <http://www.uujme.org/home/OurWork/YoungAdultTravelScholarships.aspx>.

## **UUs in Palestinian Homestays, Summer 2013 UJME Trip**



**Beit Sahour, near Bethlehem, West Bank. Peter Lowber.** My host family lived in a village near Bethlehem; they had lived there for many generations and have over 2,000 family members living in the area. Ahmed, the father of the family, is a stonemason and works in Jerusalem. It was Saturday evening and he planned to go to work on Sunday. But going to Jerusalem from Bethlehem—a trip that should take minutes—can take hours. No Palestinian can drive out of the West Bank. Every Palestinian must walk through a checkpoint and then catch a bus to Jerusalem on the other side of the checkpoint. Jerusalem and Bethlehem are only several miles apart. For hundreds of years the road between the two towns was a major trade route.

But the restrictions imposed by the occupation have disrupted this historic trade route, greatly damaging the local economy in Bethlehem and making it very difficult for people in Bethlehem to get to work in Jerusalem. Ahmed woke up at 4AM on Sunday morning in order to beat the rush to the checkpoint. There was only one gate open and there were already about 1,000 people waiting when he arrived at the checkpoint at 4:30AM. When I woke up that morning, I was surprised to find Ahmed there. After waiting an hour at the checkpoint, he had decided to return home. He estimated that it would have taken him at least three hours to get through the checkpoint. This is a common happenstance among Palestinians, every aspect of whose lives are affected by the occupation. —Peter Lowber, Cambridge, Massachusetts



**Connie Spearing and Allison Gottlieb.** Jamilah and Atalla warmly welcomed us into their intergenerational home, where two married sons and grandchildren had separate living quarters. We were immediately struck by the importance of education in this family: Jamilah spoke proudly of her children and grandchildren's academic and sports accomplishments. Atalla teaches Islamic studies and Arabic in a local high school. A daughter, fluent in Italian, works in Italy. The grandson, Atalla, 9, is learning English and German, and his sister, Dana, 8, is also learning two languages. The children are in private school, a financial strain for the family, but a priority. Despite their cosmopolitan outlook (they host many internationals, documented in a guest

book), we also heard how they suffer from the occupation. The grandchildren had never been to Jerusalem, only seven miles away, since West Bank families are not granted Jerusalem permits. West Bank job opportunities are very limited. To visit relatives in Ramallah, Jamilah has to drive a circuitous hour-plus route with several checkpoints, a trip that took only 25 minutes before the occupation. By offering hospitality, including serving the national specialty, Maqluba (“upside down” dish of fried vegetables, chicken and rice), the family conveyed to us their aspirations, pride, and “normalcy,” despite the daily indignities of the occupation. —Alison Gottlieb, Massachusetts, and Connie Spearing, California

**Organize movie or book groups.** There is a wealth of movies and books about Israel-Palestine. Organizations highlighted in this guide will have a list. UJME Massachusetts chapter has a suggested bundle of movies that are ideal for UU audiences. The UJME website has a growing list of books, and the UJME Massachusetts chapter website has a suggested list of movies at <http://ujme-ma.org/resourcelistfilmsandvideosv1.html>.

**Donate.** Investigate one or more of the human rights or reconciliation groups highlighted in this guide for possible financial support.

**Support the TIAA-CREF Petition.** UJME board members believe that it is wrong for staff retirement funds to be invested in companies that profit from the occupation of Palestinian territory and that enable Israel to engage in acts of disproportionate violence against the Palestinian population. Print and collect signatures on the petition. Use the petition at the end of this guide and print out additional copies at <http://www.ujme.org/home/OurWork/TIAACREFDivestmentCampaign/TIAACREFDivestmentCampaignStatement.aspx>

**Support Resolutions and Actions of Immediate Witness.** UUs can plan to introduce resolutions and AIWs at future General Assemblies to encourage our faith to support paths to peace and justice for Israelis and Palestinians.

**Start a UUJME Chapter.** Many UUs find great support and healing comfort in belonging to a local group of people who desire peace with justice for Israel-Palestine. Some chapters are within congregations, while others are across a metropolitan area or state. Contact us for assistance in getting started. Sign up for our newsletter to stay informed.

**Keep Talking.** UUs have a right and a responsibility to keep dialogue open in a respectful manner.

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## Study Group Wrap-Up

Share your experience and reactions to this study and action guide, “The 7 UU Principles and Palestine-Israel.” What have you learned? What do you still want to learn more about? What action do you feel ready to take to support peace with justice for Palestinians and Israelis? Does the group want to discuss planning some sort of action or project collectively? Send your input to [curriculum@uujme.org](mailto:curriculum@uujme.org).

**Closing Readings.** A different group member can read each piece. Pause for 10-15 seconds after each reading to reflect on its meaning and its application to studying the Palestine-Israel situation.

### “Be Ours a Religion”

"Be ours a religion which, like  
sunshine, goes everywhere;  
its temple, all space;  
its shrine, the good heart;  
its creed, all truth;  
its ritual, works of love;  
its profession of faith, divine living."

– Theodore Parker, Reading #683, *Singing the Living Tradition* (1993).

### “This Great Lesson”

We can never make the world safe by fighting.  
Every nation must learn that the people of all nations are children of God, and must share the wealth of the world.  
You may say this is impracticable, far away, can never be accomplished, but it is the work we are appointed to do.  
Sometime, somehow, somewhere, we must ever teach this great lesson.

– Olympia Brown, Reading #578, *Singing the Living Tradition* (1993).

### “The Central Task of the Religious Community”

The central task of the religious community is to unveil the bonds that bind each to all. There is a connectedness, a relationship discovered amid the particulars of our own lives and the lives of others. Once felt, it inspires us to act for justice.

It is the church that assures us that we are not struggling for justice on our own, but as members of a larger community. The religious community is essential, for alone our vision is too narrow to see all that must be seen, and our strength too limited to do all that must be done. Together, our vision widens and our strength is renewed.

– Mark Morrison-Reed (<http://www.uuworld.org/about/authors/markmorrison-reed.shtml>), Reading #580, *Singing the Living Tradition* (1993)

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## Resources

Listing does not necessarily constitute endorsement of the organization by UJME.

<b>Films</b>	
Documentaries about the conflict	<a href="http://www.palestinedocs.net/">http://www.palestinedocs.net/</a> and <a href="http://www.justvision.org">http://www.justvision.org</a>
Documentary by Alice Rothchild & Sharon Mullally: Voices Across the Divide	<a href="http://voicesacrossthedivide.com/documentary/">http://voicesacrossthedivide.com/documentary/</a>
<b>Groups and Other Resources</b>	
Kairos USA – interfaith support for Palestinian Christians	<a href="http://kairosusa.org/">http://kairosusa.org/</a>
<b>U.S. Christian</b>	
American Friends Service Committee	<a href="http://afsc.org/">http://afsc.org/</a>
Churches for Middle East Peace	<a href="http://www.cmep.org/">http://www.cmep.org/</a>
Ecumenical Accompaniment Program – Episcopal Church	<a href="http://www.eappi-us.org/index.php?page=accompaniers">http://www.eappi-us.org/index.php?page=accompaniers</a>
Friends of Sabeel North America	<a href="http://www.fosna.org/">http://www.fosna.org/</a>
Israel-Palestine Mission Network – Presbyterian Church (USA)	<a href="http://www.israelpalestinemissionnetwork.org/main/">http://www.israelpalestinemissionnetwork.org/main/</a>
Mennonite Central Committee	<a href="http://mcc.org/">http://mcc.org/</a>
Pax Christi	<a href="http://paxchristiusa.org/category/israel-palestine/">http://paxchristiusa.org/category/israel-palestine/</a>
United Church of Christ Palestine Israel Network	<a href="http://www.uccpalestineisraelnetwork.org/">http://www.uccpalestineisraelnetwork.org/</a>
United Methodists’ Holy Land Task Force	<a href="https://www.umhltf.org/United_Methodist_Church.html">https://www.umhltf.org/United_Methodist_Church.html</a>
World Council of Churches	<a href="http://www.oikoumene.org/en/">http://www.oikoumene.org/en/</a>
<b>Jewish</b>	
J Street	<a href="http://jstreet.org/">http://jstreet.org/</a>
Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP)	<a href="http://jewishvoiceforpeace.org/">http://jewishvoiceforpeace.org/</a>
The Palestinian Talmud, JVP Rabbinical Council Blog	<a href="http://palestinianalmud.com/">http://palestinianalmud.com/</a>
Rabbis for Human Rights in Israel	<a href="http://rhr.org.il/eng/">http://rhr.org.il/eng/</a>
Women in Black	<a href="http://womeninblack.org/vigils-around-the-world/europa/israel/">http://womeninblack.org/vigils-around-the-world/europa/israel/</a>
<b>Muslim</b>	
American Muslims for Palestine	<a href="http://www.ampalestine.org/">http://www.ampalestine.org/</a>
<b>Unitarian Universalist</b>	
Abigail Clauhs, UU seminary student, blog posts on 2015 human rights delegation to Israel/OPT	Part I: <a href="http://www.stateofformation.org/2015/08/disrupting-the-narrative-israel-and-palestine-part-i/">http://www.stateofformation.org/2015/08/disrupting-the-narrative-israel-and-palestine-part-i/</a> Part II: <a href="http://www.stateofformation.org/2015/08/disrupting-the-narrative-israel-and-palestine-part-ii/">http://www.stateofformation.org/2015/08/disrupting-the-narrative-israel-and-palestine-part-ii/</a>
#Black Lives Matter UU Worship Readings	<a href="http://www.uua.org/worship/collections/black-lives-matter">http://www.uua.org/worship/collections/black-lives-matter</a>
Black Lives of UU Facebook Page	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/BlackLivesUU">https://www.facebook.com/BlackLivesUU</a>
Covenant of UU Pagans	<a href="http://www.cuups.org/">http://www.cuups.org/</a>
DRUUM	<a href="http://www.druumm.onefireplace.org/">http://www.druumm.onefireplace.org/</a>
EQUUAL ACCESS	<a href="http://www.equalaccess.org/">http://www.equalaccess.org/</a>
International Convocation of UU Women	<a href="http://www.intlwomensconvo.org/">http://www.intlwomensconvo.org/</a>
Interweave Continental: UUs for Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian and Transgender Concerns	<a href="http://interweavecontinental.ning.com/">http://interweavecontinental.ning.com/</a>
Rev. Kate Lore’s blog posts, including several on 2015 UJME human rights delegation to Israel/OPT	<a href="http://firstunitarianportland.org/our-programs/the-ministry/rev-lore-blog">http://firstunitarianportland.org/our-programs/the-ministry/rev-lore-blog</a>
Martha and Waitstill Sharp children’s curriculum lesson	<a href="http://www.uua.org/re/tapestry/children/toolbox/session14/sessionplan/stories/109895.shtml">http://www.uua.org/re/tapestry/children/toolbox/session14/sessionplan/stories/109895.shtml</a>
Standing on the Side of Love	<a href="http://www.standingonthesideoflove.org/">http://www.standingonthesideoflove.org/</a>
Unitarian Universalist Association resolutions	<a href="http://www.uua.org/statements">http://www.uua.org/statements</a>
Unitarian Universalists for Justice in the Middle East (UJME)	<a href="http://www.uujme.org/home/">http://www.uujme.org/home/</a>
UJME Young Adult Travel Blog 2015	<a href="http://uujme.org/home/YoungAdultTravelBlog">http://uujme.org/home/YoungAdultTravelBlog</a>
UJME’s UU Sermons on the Middle East	<a href="http://www.uujme.org/home/Home/UnitarianUniversalistSermonsandOtherWritings.aspx">http://www.uujme.org/home/Home/UnitarianUniversalistSermonsandOtherWritings.aspx</a>
UJME Newsletters	<a href="http://www.uujme.org/home/OurWork/Newsletter.aspx">http://www.uujme.org/home/OurWork/Newsletter.aspx</a>
UU Peacemakers-UU Peace Ministry Network Facebook Page	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/UUPeacemakers-Unitarian-Universalist-Peace-Ministry-Network-286104830255/timeline/">https://www.facebook.com/UUPeacemakers-Unitarian-Universalist-Peace-Ministry-Network-286104830255/timeline/</a>
Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)	<a href="http://www.uusc.org/">http://www.uusc.org/</a>

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UU College of Social Justice	<a href="http://uucsj.org/">http://uucsj.org/</a>
UU Legislative and Action Ministries	<a href="http://www.uustatenetworks.org/">http://www.uustatenetworks.org/</a>
UURISE	<a href="http://uurise.org/">http://uurise.org/</a>
UU Women's Federation	<a href="http://www.uuwf.org/">http://www.uuwf.org/</a>
UU Women and Religion	<a href="http://uuwr.org/">http://uuwr.org/</a>
UU Buddhist Fellowship Sangha	<a href="http://uubf.org/wp/">http://uubf.org/wp/</a>
UU Christian Fellowship	<a href="http://uuchristian.org/R_Welcome.html">http://uuchristian.org/R_Welcome.html</a>
UUs for Jewish Awareness	<a href="http://uuja.org/">http://uuja.org/</a>
UU-UNO	<a href="http://www.uua.org/international/un">http://www.uua.org/international/un</a>
Young Adult UUs	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/HubYAUU/app_206541889369118">https://www.facebook.com/HubYAUU/app_206541889369118</a>
<b>U.S. Racial Justice Groups</b>	
#Black Lives Matter	<a href="http://blacklivesmatter.com/">http://blacklivesmatter.com/</a>
Dream Defenders	<a href="http://www.dreamdefenders.org/">http://www.dreamdefenders.org/</a>
<b>Immigration Justice</b>	
Puente	<a href="http://puenteaz.org/">http://puenteaz.org/</a>
<b>Coalitions</b>	
Amnesty International	<a href="https://www.amnesty.org/en/">https://www.amnesty.org/en/</a>
End the Occupation	<a href="http://www.endtheoccupation.org/">http://www.endtheoccupation.org/</a>
Human Rights Watch	<a href="http://www.hrw.org/">http://www.hrw.org/</a>
If Americans Knew	<a href="http://www.ifamericansknew.org/">http://www.ifamericansknew.org/</a>
Interfaith Peacebuilders	<a href="http://www.ifpb.org/">http://www.ifpb.org/</a>
Middle East Research and Information Project	<a href="http://www.merip.org/">http://www.merip.org/</a>
We Divest	<a href="https://wedivest.org/">https://wedivest.org/</a>
<b>NGOs</b>	
American Near East Refugee Aid - ANERA	<a href="http://www.anera.org/">http://www.anera.org/</a>
United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East	<a href="https://www.unrwausa.org/">https://www.unrwausa.org/</a>
<b>College Student Groups</b>	
Students for Justice in Palestine	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/SJP.National">https://www.facebook.com/SJP.National</a>
Open Hillel	<a href="http://www.openhillel.org/">http://www.openhillel.org/</a>
<b>Israeli Groups</b>	
Association for Civil Rights in Israel	<a href="http://www.acri.org.il/en/">http://www.acri.org.il/en/</a>
B'Tselem	<a href="http://www.btselem.org/">http://www.btselem.org/</a>
Breaking the Silence (former Israeli soldiers)	<a href="http://www.breakingthesilence.org.il/">http://www.breakingthesilence.org.il/</a>
Combatants for Peace	<a href="http://cfpeace.org/">http://cfpeace.org/</a>
Coalition of Women for Peace	<a href="http://www.coalitionofwomen.org/?lang=en">http://www.coalitionofwomen.org/?lang=en</a>
Gush Shalom/Peace Now	<a href="http://zope.gush-shalom.org/index_en.html">http://zope.gush-shalom.org/index_en.html</a>
Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions	<a href="http://www.icahd.org/">http://www.icahd.org/</a>
Mochsam Watch	<a href="http://www.machsomwatch.org/en">http://www.machsomwatch.org/en</a>
Mossawa Center for rights of Arab Citizens of Israel	<a href="http://www.mossawacenter.org/en/index.asp">http://www.mossawacenter.org/en/index.asp</a>
New Profile	<a href="http://www.newprofile.org/english/">http://www.newprofile.org/english/</a>
The Parents Circle/Bereaved Families Forum	<a href="http://www.theparentscircle.com/">http://www.theparentscircle.com/</a>
Who Profits	<a href="http://www.whoprofits.org/">http://www.whoprofits.org/</a>
Zochrot/Remembering	<a href="http://www.zochrot.org/">http://www.zochrot.org/</a>
+972	<a href="http://972mag.com/">http://972mag.com/</a>
<b>Palestinian Groups</b>	
Adalah	<a href="http://adalah.org/eng/">http://adalah.org/eng/</a>
Al-Haq	<a href="http://www.alhaq.org/">http://www.alhaq.org/</a>
Al Mezan Center for Human Rights	<a href="http://www.mezan.org/en/">http://www.mezan.org/en/</a>
Badil – Palestinian Resource Center for Residency and Refugee Rights	<a href="http://www.badil.org/">http://www.badil.org/</a>
Gaza Community Mental Health Programme	<a href="http://www.gazamentalhealth.org/">http://www.gazamentalhealth.org/</a>
Kairos Palestine (organization of Christian Palestinians)	<a href="http://www.kairospalestine.ps/">http://www.kairospalestine.ps/</a>
Kamandjati (musical center for children)	<a href="http://www.alkamandjati.com/en/home/">http://www.alkamandjati.com/en/home/</a>
The Parents Circle/Bereaved Families Forum	<a href="http://www.theparentscircle.com/">http://www.theparentscircle.com/</a>
Sabeel (Christian liberation theology group)	<a href="http://sabeel.org/">http://sabeel.org/</a>

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Tent of Nations	<a href="http://www.tentofnations.org/">http://www.tentofnations.org/</a>
Union of Palestinian Women Committees	<a href="http://www.upwc.org.ps/">http://www.upwc.org.ps/</a>
Visualizing Palestine	<a href="http://visualizingpalestine.org/">http://visualizingpalestine.org/</a>
Youth Against Settlements	<a href="http://www.youthagainstsettlements.org/">http://www.youthagainstsettlements.org/</a>
Stop the Wall	<a href="http://stopthewall.org/">http://stopthewall.org/</a>
<b>Themes</b>	
<b>Biblical Claims</b>	
Edward Said on Israel's biblical claim to Palestine	<a href="http://safeshare.tv/w/qQXkqkCxBr">http://safeshare.tv/w/qQXkqkCxBr</a>
<b>Environment</b>	
Israel, Palestine, and the Environment	<a href="http://www.palestinecampaign.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/environment-factsheet.pdf">http://www.palestinecampaign.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/environment-factsheet.pdf</a>
Palestine Environmental Group <b>PENGO</b>	<a href="http://tinyurl.com/opnkhs">http://tinyurl.com/opnkhs</a>
<b>Gaza</b>	
Quiz on Gaza, recommended by Jewish Voice for Peace,	<a href="http://newpol.org/content/gaza-quiz">http://newpol.org/content/gaza-quiz</a>
Video from Gisha, Legal Freedom of Movement group, 2.5 min.	<a href="http://gisha.org/">http://gisha.org/</a> and <a href="https://youtu.be/XMu3MNasH7I">https://youtu.be/XMu3MNasH7I</a>
<b>Nonviolent Resistance</b>	
American Friends Service Committee <b>Investigate</b> tool	<a href="http://investigate.afsc.org/">http://investigate.afsc.org/</a>
BDS Movement	<a href="http://www.bdsmovement.net/">http://www.bdsmovement.net/</a>
<i>Budrus</i> documentary and discussion guide	<a href="http://www.justvision.org/budrus/watch">http://www.justvision.org/budrus/watch</a> <a href="http://tinyurl.com/UU-Budrus-Guide">http://tinyurl.com/UU-Budrus-Guide</a>
Just Vision – videos on nonviolent protest and resistance	<a href="http://www.justvision.org/">http://www.justvision.org/</a>
Documentary, Oscar-nominated: <i>Five Broken Cameras</i>	<a href="http://www.pbs.org/pov/5brokencameras/">http://www.pbs.org/pov/5brokencameras/</a>
Palestinian Gandhi Project blog	<a href="http://palestinian-gandhi.tumblr.com/">http://palestinian-gandhi.tumblr.com/</a>
<b>Prisoners: Administrative Detention/Child Detention</b>	
ACRI, Association for Civil Rights in Israel	<a href="http://www.acri.org.il/en/">http://www.acri.org.il/en/</a>
Addameer, prisoner rights organization	<a href="http://www.addameer.org/">http://www.addameer.org/</a>
Amnesty International	<a href="https://www.amnesty.org/en/">https://www.amnesty.org/en/</a>
Defence for Children-Palestine	<a href="http://www.nowaytotreatachild.org/">http://www.nowaytotreatachild.org/</a>
No Way to Treat a Child	<a href="http://www.nowaytotreatachild.org/">http://www.nowaytotreatachild.org/</a>
<b>Reconciliation</b>	
Parents Circle, Palestinian and Israeli Bereaved Families for Peace	<a href="http://theparentscircle.com/">http://theparentscircle.com/</a>
Seeds of Peace	<a href="http://www.seedspeace.org/">http://www.seedspeace.org/</a>
<b>Timeline/History</b>	
Map of Unitarian and Universalist Roots and Influences, created by UUJME curriculum team coordinator	<a href="http://bit.ly/ZQ4SMJ">http://bit.ly/ZQ4SMJ</a>
MERIP Primer	<a href="http://pov-tc.pbs.org/pov/pdf/promiese/promises-timeline.pdf">http://pov-tc.pbs.org/pov/pdf/promiese/promises-timeline.pdf</a>
PBS Timeline	<a href="http://pov-tc.pbs.org/pov/pdf/promiese/promises-timeline.pdf">http://pov-tc.pbs.org/pov/pdf/promiese/promises-timeline.pdf</a>
<i>Understanding the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict: A Primer</i> , Phyllis Bennis	<a href="http://www.endtheoccupation.org/article.php?list=type&amp;type=52">http://www.endtheoccupation.org/article.php?list=type&amp;type=52</a>

