

## ANNUAL REPORT - 2025

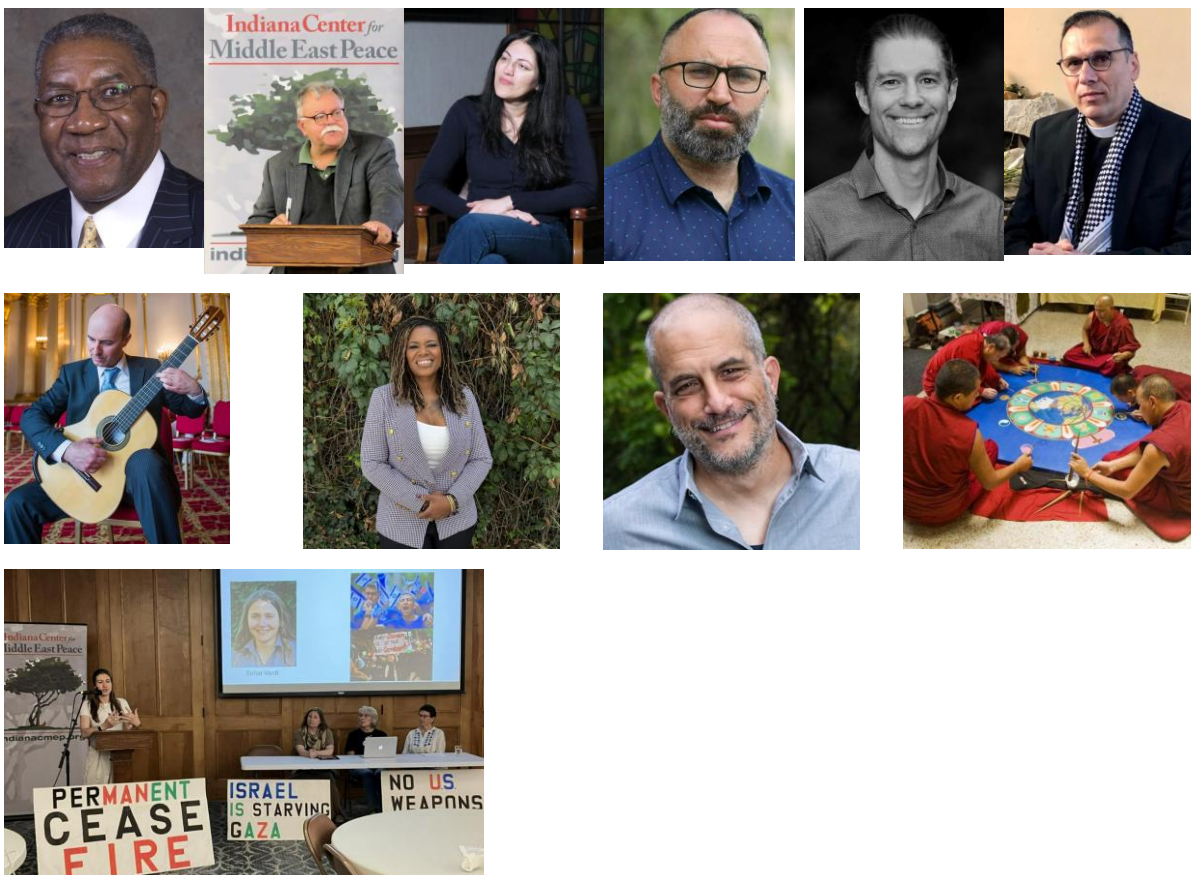
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In these dire days in Palestine and in our country,  
our voices are needed now more than ever.  
You make a difference through your generous support of our work.

Please remember ICMEP tomorrow on Giving Tuesday!  
Donate [HERE](#)

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## MONTHLY PROGRAMS



**Wendell Griffen** – *The Black Church & Palestine*

**Michael Spath** – *“New American Israel”: The Place of Israel in American Civil Religion*

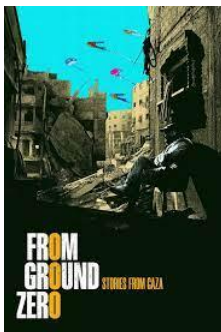
**Wafa Ghnaim** – *Tatreez: Palestinian Embroidery, Storytelling, and Resistance*

**Issa Amro** – Nobel Peace Prize nominee, *Palestinian Resistance in Hebron*

Josh Vis – *The Law & the Prophets*  
Rev. Munther Isaac – *Christ Under the Rubble*  
Ayman Jarjour - *A Benefit Concert for Magenta Mind*  
Hon. Cori Bush - *Champion of Justice Award, Gala 2025*  
Adam Shapiro - *Joan Coslow Beacon of Hope Award, Gala 2025*  
Tashi Kyil Tibetan Monks - *Universal Human Rights Commemoration*  
Morgan Sauer, Sara Ofner-Seals, Kathy Masri, Pam Etheridge – *Our trip to Palestine*

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## SPECIAL PROGRAMS



"Way of the Cross" - with Plymouth Congregational Church UCC  
"From Ground Zero" - with Fort Wayne Cinema Center (panel: Ahmed Abdelmageed, Tareq Abuhallima, Dr. Thayer Ahmed)  
**Commemoration of Two Years of Genocide against Palestine**

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## INTERVIEWS / WEBINARS





Nobel Peace Prize nominee, **Mazin Qumsiyeh**

Nobel Peace Prize nominees, **Jeff Halper & Issa Amro**

Friends of Tent of Nations with **Daoud Nassar**

CMEP Carter Center Conference – **Marietta Macy, David Wildman, Philip Farah**

Anti-Normalization, Part One – **Jeff Halper & Sam Bahour**

Anti-Normalization, Part Two – **Dalia Ismail**

**Rev. Loren McGrail** – Gaza Art & Poetry in a Time of Genocide

**Rev. Sara Ofner-Seals & Susan Birndorf** - "A Christian & a Jew Walk Into Palestine"

**Rifat Kassis, Allison Tanner, David Wildman** - Kairos Palestine 2025: "A Moment of Truth: Faith In a Time of Genocide"

## 20 -20 - 20

Our 2025 goal was to raise \$20,000 for each of the following:

- + HEAL Palestine - bring a young person from Gaza to Fort Wayne for pro-bono surgery  
We reached our financial goal; but US State Department complications - see below
- + provide scholarships for NextGen leaders (see below) for Palestine Solidarity Tours  
We have raised \$8500 toward the scholarships
- + provide additional financial support for Palestine Partners
- + Palestine Partners Support - ***still looking for contributions for our partners***
  - Wi'am Conflict Resolution Center**, Bethlehem (Zoughbi Zoughbi)
  - Tent of Nations Farm**, Bethlehem region (Daoud Nassar)
  - Al-Rowwad Cultural Arts Center**, Aida Refugee Camp, Bethlehem (Abdelfattah Abusrour)
  - Multipurpose Community Resource Center**, Old City Nablus (Ayman Shaka'a, Aroub Jamleh)
  - Playgrounds for Palestine** - olive oil

## **HEAL PALESTINE**

We have raised the necessary \$20,000 to bring a young person from Gaza to Fort Wayne for pro bono surgery.

We are working with Steve Sosebee, HEAL Palestine, to bring a youth from Gaza for surgery.

In August, the US State Department suspended visas for people from Gaza to enter the country, even for humanitarian and medical reasons.

ICMEP had selected a 15-year-old male surgical patient who would have been part of the next group of Gazans to leave.

All of the structure is in place in Fort Wayne:

Our local committee: Dr. Ron Caldwell, Linda Kerr, Dr. Jerry Cooper, Dr. Tony GiaQuinta, Terry Dougherty, Michael Spath,

Fort Wayne Orthopedics – Dr. Jerry Cooper

The Orthopedic Hospital @ Lutheran – Amy Hochstettler

Pediatrician – Dr. Tony GiaQuinta

Community support – Linda Kerr, Terry Dougherty

Local Prosthetist – Chris George

We met with Senator Todd Young's rep asking that he intervene with the State Department to overturn the visa decision

We continue to lobby, petition writing on behalf of HEAL Palestine

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## **NEXT GEN LEADERS**

A number of young people have emerged to take leadership positions on our board and with various programs.

They now lead our bi-weekly Tuesday demonstrations at the Allen County Courthouse

They hold monthly discussion groups

ICMEP sponsored their attendance at the Palestinian Youth Movement's "Peoples Conference for Palestine" in Detroit

Paco Michelson (board co-chair), Kerry Korpela (assistant treasurer), Kate Weimer, Hee Eun Park, Reena Ramos, Morgan Sauer, Zach Heimach, Jeff Loveless

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## **MICHAEL**

+ Led two trips in 2025

(1) 18th Solidarity Tour, with 18 clergy and other activists from 5 states

(2) "In the Footsteps of Desmond Tutu & Nelson Mandela" South Africa tour – focused on South Africa leading the world in support for Palestine

+ Hosted programs, interviews, webinars (see above)

+ Consulted with:

(1) Michiana Voices for Middle East Peace

(2) Kairos West Michigan

(3) Episcopal Bishop's Committee on Peace & Justice in Middle East – Diocese of Olympia

(4) Hoosiers for Peace & Justice in Middle East – Indianapolis

(5) Local UUJME chapter at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fort Wayne

- + Invited to Strategic Gathering at Carter Center hosted by CMEP
  - + Convener of CMEP Strategic Foresight Task Force
  - + Attended "People's Conference for Palestine"
  - + Periodic blog
  - + Regular meetings – Anti-normalization group; Christians for Ceasefire & Just Peace; Friends of Sabeel (FOSNA) chapter meetings
  - + Met and strategized with NextGen leaders
  - + Field trip – Arab Dearborn introducing MVMEP's Ana Diaz Loucks to Najah Bazy, Arab American National Museum, etc.
  - + Met with Malkah Bird (JVP-Indiana, JVP-National Board)
  - + ICAHD-USA board (Jeff Halper), Friends of Hebron board (Issa Amro), Global Kairos Coalition (Munther Isaac)
  - + Hosted lunch with Zoughbi and Elaine Zoughbi
  - + Hosted meals with local pastors and Munther Isaac exploring sister congregation relationship
  - + Invited by Bryce Greene, SJP-IU Bloomington, to speak at IU
  - + 2026 Program Planning
    - (1) Resistance Art Exhibit (Morgan Sauer, Kate Weimer, Andy & Whitney Barchus)
    - (2) Sahar Vardi, with Michiana Voices for Middle East Peace, Goshen, IN; JVP-Indiana; Kairos West Michigan; Chicago Justice Coalition; IU-Bloomington SJP
    - (3) Arab Dearborn
    - (4) Shane Claiborne – in partnership with Emmaus Road Mennonite Fellowship, Berne, IN, and Michiana Voices for Middle East Peace, Goshen, IN
    - (5) I-Witness Silwan, with Michiana Voices for Middle East Peace, Goshen, IN
    - (6) Palestine Solidarity Tour - June 6-18, with optional Jordan tour
    - (7) South Africa "In the Footsteps of Desmond Tutu & Nelson Mandela" - September 27-October 8
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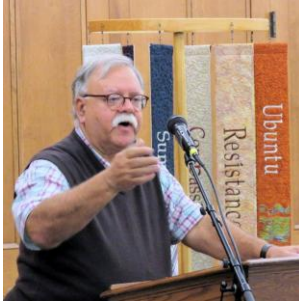
## **SIGNATORY TO 40+ PETITIONS & APPEALS**

Include: ending military aid to Israel; BDS; protest State Department suspending Gaza visas; support ICC and ICJ rulings; protest destruction of Gaza holy sites; protest weaponization of Gaza humanitarian food aid; support for UNRWA; protest Trump Gaza plan; support for Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR); and many, many more.

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## **OTHER**

- + Protest Tuesdays, since October 7, every Tuesday, 5-6pm, Allen County Courthouse, (now led by NextGen leaders)
- + ICMEmPower weekly newsletters (thank you to board chair, Pam Etheridge, editor)
- + Hired Zach Heimach as social media, communications staff
- + peacequilts meets weekly creating quilts for partners in Palestine (Emi Hurley, Roseann Bloomfield, Jean Phillips, Hee Eun Park, Audie Velagapudi, Mary Spath, Pam Etheridge)
- + All of our in person programs, webinars, and interviews on our ICMEP YouTube Channel (thank you to Loren Woody, Bill Lambert, Paco Michelson, and John Detraz)



### **A PERSONAL WORD**

For 21 years, your generous support has enabled us to do the above and more.

It's because your hearts have been (1) moved by the suffering of our Palestinian sisters and brothers, (2) you see the intersection of those who experience injustice in our country (immigrants, refugees, LGBTQ+ community, people of color, women, indigenous peoples, and more) with the Palestinian liberation struggle, and (3) you trust us with your resources.

And as you know, our resistance against the racist Christian nationalist and Zionist ideologies is needed now more than ever, in our country and in Palestine.

"Costly solidarity," as Munther Isaac puts it.

I continue to be grateful for the hard work of your ICMEP board, without which none of the above would happen:

**Pam Etheridge** (*chair*), **Paco Michelson** (*co-chair*), **Ahnee Conner** (*treasurer*), **Kerry Korpela** (*assistant treasurer*), **Patty Pendleton** (*secretary*), **Ron Caldwell**, **Terry Dougherty**, **Sam Jarjour**, **Linda Kerr**, **Bill Lambert**, **Amar Masri**, **Barbara O'Connor**, **Loren Woody**.

We continue to covet your support.

On behalf of the board, a heartfelt **THANK YOU!**

Michael