

Introduction to Peace Not Walls ***One Session Introduction for Women***

In one 90-minute session you can introduce the ELCA's *Peace Not Walls* campaign and the beauty, faithfulness and struggle of Lutheran women in the Holy Land. Suggested for a retreat or synodical women's assembly.



Plan to use a projector to show your group our web pages, or download handouts to share.

Step 1 Start at the ELCA's *Peace Not Walls* home page - <http://www.elca.org/peacenotwalls/>

View the "Introduction" section of the video, "Peace Not Walls: Making a Difference in the Holy Land at <http://www.elca.org/peacenotwalls/educate/2008video.html> (view all if time).

Step 2 - Go to <http://www.elca.org/Our-Faith-In-Action/Justice/Peace-Not-Walls/Resources/Videos.aspx> for the ELCA video, "Forbidden Family." Use the study guide provided to plan a second session based on issues raised in the video.

Step 3 - Click on **Our Companions** - <http://www.elca.org/Our-Faith-In-Action/Justice/Peace-Not-Walls/Our-Companions.aspx> - to find the link to **Women's Programs** of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL) - <http://www.elcjl.org/cong/women/>. The concerns of the women of the ELCJHL are much like our own, but they face complications most of us can barely imagine.

Housing is a major issue for Palestinian women and their families. Another link at **Our Companions** deals with plans to build homes for Palestinian Christians on the Mount of Olives - <http://www.mtfoliveshousing.org/>

Click the link for **Family Stories** - <http://mtfoliveshousing.org/family.html> - to find stories that illustrate the situation for Palestinian Christians. You can print these brief stories and photos to share with the group. A video outlining the project (three minutes long) is available at the Mount of Olives Housing Project home page - <http://www.elca.org/peacenotwalls/videos/MOHPvideo.html>. We can give to support the Mount of Olives housing project through the ELCA Good Gifts catalog - <https://www.elca.org/globalmission/support>.

Step 4. Participants may have many more questions and want to know what we can do to help our sisters in the Holy Land. A good place to go for answers is the *Peace Not Walls* **FAQs** listed at <http://www.elca.org/Our-Faith-In-Action/Justice/Peace-Not-Walls/What-We-Do/FAQs.aspx>. You can print these FAQs for everyone to take home - <http://www.elca.org/Our-Faith-In-Action/Justice/Peace-Not-Walls/Resources/Handouts.aspx>

Lutherans in the Holy Land seek our prayers. Resources for prayer and organizing a prayer vigil are at the *Peace Not Walls* web site. Go to **Resources**→**Worship** or click directly to - <http://www.elca.org/Our-Faith-In-Action/Justice/Peace-Not-Walls/Resources/Worship/Prayer.aspx>. Close with prayer.

