

## Appendix A -- Promoting the Course

### *Sunday bulletin notices and announcements*

We placed a short notice (limited to 125 words) in the church service bulletin on three consecutive Sundays, starting on October 31. At each service, we also made a brief oral announcement about the course, inviting anyone who might have a question to see us after the service. Making an appearance like this is particularly helpful for newcomers to the congregation or others who may not be familiar with the teaching team for a given class.

For the first two Sundays, the notice read as follows:

**Israel/Palestine – Is There a Samaritan on the Road?** As followers of Jesus, do we have any responsibility for seeking peace, justice and security for Israelis and Palestinians? Are we immobilized by our perception of “facts” on the ground and in people’s hearts? Do we yearn for peace, but fear getting involved? This class will be a safe space for exploring issues and considering personal responses. Readings, film clips, and guest presenters will help us hear the voices of those involved, understand the memories and forces that affect them, and learn about peacemakers. Four Mondays, Nov. 22-Dec. 13, 7:30-9:30 pm, in the Adams Room. Leaders: Karen Getman, Tom Getman, Peter Hawley. Cost: \$50 (includes materials; see bulletin board for details). Questions? Contact \_\_\_\_ (e-mail address).

Due to interest in the class, more than half of the 30 spaces that we figured the room could accommodate were taken after two weeks. For that reason, we altered the notice for the third Sunday, emphasizing all that participants would get for their \$50 fee:

**Israel/Palestine Class – It’s Filling up Fast.** Could it be the special guests? They include a former Ambassador (and Episcopalian), an expert on trauma, and Israeli and Palestinian peacemakers. Or could it be the DVDs and booklets participants will get to keep? Most likely, it’s the pledge to make the class a safe space in which we can explore both people’s suffering, their current desires for peace, and the connections to our own faith tradition. So join us for *Israel/Palestine: Is There a Samaritan on the Road?* Four Mondays, Nov. 22-Dec. 13, 7:30-9:30 pm, in the Adams Room. Leaders: Karen Getman, Tom Getman, Peter Hawley. Cost: \$50. To see if there is space left, see the bulletin board or contact \_\_\_\_ (e-mail).

### *E-mail promotion*

We used e-mail in three ways to promote the course:

- Personal invitations -- Each of the course facilitators drew up a list of parishioners to whom we felt comfortable sending a personal message, encouraging them to join us for the course. Approximately 60-70 individuals were reached this way.
- Appeal to our Mid-East “interest group” -- At events held during 2010, we had invited interested members of the parish to sign up for occasional e-mail notices on relevant events being sponsored by the Working Group itself or being offered elsewhere in the metropolitan area. By the fall of that year, this “interest group” included approximately 80 members of the congregation. We sent those not receiving a personal invitation a more detailed description of the course than space constraints allowed in the Sunday bulletin.
- St. Mark’s Yahoo e-group -- Many parishioners subscribe to this list-serv in order to receive either individual messages or a “daily digest” compilation. We posted two notices to the list-serv, primarily

to reach those members of the congregation who travel frequently or who, for other reasons, do not attend church each Sunday. The first of these messages is shown below:

Subject heading: *The upcoming Israel/Palestine class – Why should I care?*

No one can deny that the Israeli and Palestinian people have suffered terribly for decades. It's easy to feel hopeless (even cynical) in the face of continued conflict, stalled negotiations, and hardened extremists. Yet polls show that majorities on both sides want peace. There are also people working hard for peace in all three faith groups.

So what does this have to do with any of us at St. Mark's? As followers of Jesus, do we have any responsibility for seeking peace, justice and security for Israelis and Palestinians? Are we immobilized by our perception of "facts" on the ground and in people's hearts? Or do we yearn for peace, but fear getting involved?

The upcoming class on "Israel/Palestine: Is There a Samaritan on the Road?" will be a safe space for exploring these issues. No proselytizing. No arm-twisting. Through narratives and film clips, we will hear the voices of those involved, understand the memories and forces that affect them, and learn what peacemakers there and in the U.S. are doing. Four guest presenters will help us plumb the heartache and the hope: Ambassador Philip Wilcox, Episcopalian and former U.S. Consul General in Jerusalem, an internationally recognized expert on psychological trauma, and an Israeli and a Palestinian working with peace groups.

Individually, we will consider whether or not the Samaritan story resonates for us in this context.

So please join Tom & Karen Getman and me for this class. It will meet on four Monday evenings (Nov. 22-Dec. 13) from 7:30-9:30 pm, in the Adams Room. For the \$50 you will get two DVDs, two booklets, and other take-home materials. Please sign up by Nov. 14 so we can provide you with a short leaflet prior to the first session. Questions? Contact \_\_\_\_ e-mail)  
– Posted by Peter Hawley

### ***Bulletin board poster & sign-up***

Each adult Christian Education course places a poster on the program's bulletin board. The posters describe the course objectives, list the facilitators/teachers and their supervisor, explain the fee and any requirements (such as a retreat weekend), and include a sign up sheet. On the following pages are the photo, text, and sign-up sheet we used for our poster.



## **Israel/Palestine: Is There a Samaritan on the Road?**

In the seemingly insolvable conflict between Israelis and Palestinians, there has been untold suffering by people on both sides. The suffering ranges from the physical, emotional, and psychological, to distortions of history and deep-seated distrust of each other's intentions.

In this climate, is it possible for a Samaritan to heal the suffering along the road from Jerusalem to Jericho? Along the route of the Separation Barrier Wall? Is it possible for people of faith anywhere to act as Samaritans on the pathways into countless, wounded hearts, minds, and souls?

This four-week course will be a journey of exploration into these questions. Along the way, we will learn about the background to the conflict, hear from individuals on both sides, in their own voices, examine the forces that shape "facts on the ground" as well as Americans' perceptions of them, and consider the roles played by peace-makers in faith-based and non-sectarian groups.

We will create a safe space in which to explore our own feelings about these issues and ponder whether we are called to act as Samaritans in any way.

**WHEN:** Four Monday evenings, 7:30-9:30 pm, Nov. 22, 29, Dec. 6 & 13

**WHERE:** In the Adams Room

**WHO:** Leaders: Karen Getman, Tom Getman, and Peter Hawley  
Supervisor: Kitty Donnelly

In addition, invited guests will share their insights with us, including the former

U.S. Consul General in Jerusalem, an Israeli and a Palestinian-American working with peace groups, and an internationally-recognized expert on psychological trauma.

WHAT: Class participants will receive two DVDs, two booklets, and other materials.

HOW MUCH: \$50 for all participants

DEADLINE: Please sign up no later than Sunday, Nov. 14, as we will need to distribute an introductory reading prior to the first class meeting.

**PLEASE JOIN US ON THIS JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY!**

**SIGN-UP**

(Class size limited to 30 participants)

<b>Name</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>E-mail</b>
1)	_____	_____
2)	_____	_____
3)	_____	_____
4)	_____	_____
5)	_____	_____
6)	_____	_____
7)	_____	_____
8)	_____	_____
9)	_____	_____
10)	_____	_____