

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER

July 2021

Calendar Items

Friday, July 9 - Virtual Coffee hour from **Presbyterian Peace**

Fellowship - Social Justice and Somatics Coffee Hour - 1 pm (see article)

Exhibition - now through July 9 -

Forward to Freedom Quilt

Festival, Southwest Arts Center, 915 New Hope Road SW, South Fulton (see article)

Tuesday, July 27 - **Children of Bethlehem Webinar**, 8 pm (see article)

Saturday, August 14, Presbytery of Greater Atlanta Meeting, 9 a.m. on ZOOM

Saturday, August 21, Peace & Global Witness Partnership Meeting, 10 a.m., North Decatur Presbyterian Church, 611 Medlock Road, Decatur

Coming Up This Fall - The partnership will offer zoom programs with an **International Peacemaker from Madagascar**. More info in our August newsletter!

NRCAT Info on Ending Solitary Confinement

Recently, over 150 faith and secular organizations released an open letter to President Biden and Vice President Harris entitled [Ending the Practice of Solitary Confinement: Recommendations for Federal Reform](#). The letter urges them to take administrative action to end solitary confinement in all federal settings – Bureau of Prisons, U.S. Marshals Service, and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). In 2012 the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) voted by an overwhelming margin to accept a [resolution](#) recognizing that the use of solitary confinement can be a form of torture. For more info, go to National Religious Campaign Against Torture website - www.nrcat.org

A Podcast and a Webinar....

Podcast available from the **National Council of Churches: Faith & Fire 2.0**, (focused on Faith In the Public Square) was a discussion of the biblical/spiritual faith foundation for reparations, historical reparations initiatives, current HR40 legislation, objections and resistance, and our call to action. Panelists were Christian Brooks, Representative for Domestic Issues, PC(USA) Office of Public Witness; Rev. Jim Bear Jacobs, Director of Community Engagement and Racial Justice, Minnesota Council of Churches; Rev. Mark A. Thompson, Host of "Make It Plain"/member of NAARC and N'COBRA; and Victoria Strang, Policy Advocate with Faith Communities, Human Rights Watch. All episodes of the **Faith & Fire Conversations** can be found [here on the NCC website](#).

July 27 Children of Bethlehem Webinar - Through photographs and conversations, *Children of Bethlehem* expresses the daily life, emotions, fears and dreams of Bethlehem's youth at the pivotal ages of 12-13 years old and invites perspective on how their current reality is shaping them as the future influencers of the region.

In November of 2018 **Katie Archibald-Woodward** began creating *Children of Bethlehem* in partnership with Dar Al-Kalima School in Bethlehem and the Creative Visions foundation. Katie is an Atlanta-based spiritual director,



A Tee-shirt message for all after PRIDE week and JUNETEENTH

(Thanks to Partnership member Peggy Hendrix for always sharing her LOVE for justice and peace!)

Presbyterian Peace Fellowship Coffee Hour

Somatics is a holistic way of transformation that lets us live, choose, be and act differently. It lets us get better at loving and being loved so that we can generate safety and take bold purposeful action. Join this virtual coffee hour on July 9 at 1:00pm to explore somatics theory of change and experience a practice that will support our actions becoming better aligned with our visions and values. [Register here](#).

The Presbyterian Mental Health Network and the Presbyterian Mission Agency

announced a formal partnership to raise awareness about the network's activities and to provide a one-stop sign-up opportunity on the PMA Mental Health Ministry website.

[Learn more](#)

photographer, educator, and pilgrimage leader. The project was initiated in response to witnessing depression, anxiety, and other trauma among Palestinian youth primarily caused by being among four generations in Palestine-Israel who have only known life under military control and colonial power. [Register to receive a secure Zoom link to the webinar](#). Your welcomed donations will fund the mission of Pilgrims of Ibillin in fostering justice and peace in Israel and Palestine through education.

Quilt Art Reflects Justice and Freedom

The Atlanta Quilt Festival, Inc and the Sewjourners Quilt Guild invite you to their first annual Juneteenth quilt exhibit at the Southwest Arts Center in South Fulton. The quilts reflect artistically about the institution of slavery, the Underground Railroad, the joy of being free and the continuing struggles. Exhibition dates run through July 9 - 10 a.m - 5 p.m daily, free of charge - For more info and to register go to www.atlantaquiltfestival.com

Mission Co-Worker Updates

(from Mission Haven Newsletter)

Frank Dimmock, Africa Mission Specialist for the Outreach Foundation, has permission to travel back to East Africa. *I am very much looking forward to my upcoming trip to Kenya, Ethiopia and South Sudan. It will be a logistical challenge, with regular virus testing and counting extra days for cross-border travel regulations, but it will also be wonderful to, once again, visit and encourage one another face-to-face!*

Jim McGill will return to Niger for another term of service in water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH program).

The **Irby family** were grounded by the pandemic and are here in Atlanta for now. Taylor & Josh continue to serve with Cru (originally founded as Campus Crusade for Christ) as liaisons between the US and Eastern Europe, coaching and developing leaders; they look forward to traveling again when restrictions are lifted.

Dorothy & Gordon Gartrell have been frequent residents at Mission Haven since 1999. After 27 years of service in Brazil, Gordon has retired. Mission Haven served as the perfect venue during this significant transition from mission work to retired life. The first-time homeowners will move to Chattanooga in late June.