

From Rev. Justin's column in the October 19, 2023 Lifelines.

I'm copying information and links from this week's ECMN newsletter:

In the wake of ongoing violence in Israel and Palestine, please find these resources below:

- Find a list of [prayers and resources](#)
- Follow [Episcopal News Service coverage](#)
- Read and share "[A Litany for the Holy Land](#)" by the Rev. Leyla Kamalick King, a Palestinian-American Episcopal priest

Please also contact your representatives in government and urge the following:

- Urge the creation of a humanitarian corridor. **Gazans need water, food, and fuel.** Of the 2.2. million inhabitants of Gaza, 50% are 19 years old or under. Children are not to blame for Hamas' brutality.
- **Oppose dehumanization** and dehumanizing language. Affirm the sanctity of all life! There has been dangerous rhetoric that dehumanizes entire populations.
- **Condemn all war crimes**, whoever commits them, Hamas' targeting of civilians is a war crime. Collective punishment, including starving populations, cutting off water for days, and bombing civilian centers, are also war crimes. In the days and weeks ahead, we fear this may get worse.
- De-escalation is in Israel's interest; **Israelis want the hostages to come home.**
- The current conflict runs the risk of broadening into **a regional conflict or war**. We need to be aware of potential for regional or broader international involvement that would be very dangerous.

Find more resources here:

- [Human Rights Watch Explainer](#)
- [Foundation for Middle East Peace Resources](#)
- [Gisha: an Israeli NGO focused on human rights](#)

Finally, Archbishop Hosam Naoum of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East asks that all faith communities find ways to support the [American Friends of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem](#) appeal. As he says, this crisis will continue long after it ceases to be headline news.