

Peace Not Walls

Northeastern Minnesota Synod
Young Adults Justice Pilgrimage to the Holy Land
July 7-17th, 2016*
Cost \$1375 + Airfare (book on your own)



*We ask that participants arrive at Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv by 7:00pm (local time) on Thursday, July 7th, 2016. Departures will begin after 2:00pm (local time) on Sunday, July 17th, 2016

Who can participate?

This trip is open to young adults, ages 18-30, from or connected to the Northeast Minnesota synod (via college, camp, family member, etc). All participants must have completed high school. Space is limited to 16 participants. After February 15th, registration for the trip will be opened to young adults nationwide.

What is the purpose of this pilgrimage?

- Our hope is that participants will find spiritual meaning through this pilgrimage as we experience the places where Jesus lived and taught.
- Through this pilgrimage we will focus on building relationships and practicing accompaniment with our brothers and sisters who live in the Holy Land
- We will strengthen relations with our companion church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land through visits to Lutheran churches and conversations with fellow young adults.
- This trip is intended to raise awareness about the complex social, religious, and political situation in Palestine and Israel.
- Participants will be invited into a space of discernment of how our lives as people of faith intersect with the never-ending pursuit of justice.
- We hope this trip will encourage a new understanding of what it means to advocate for peace and justice for all people of the Holy Land, Palestinians and Israelis alike.

We will explore Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and the surrounding area and much of our time will be spent talking with Palestinians and Israelis who are working on behalf of peace and justice. We will have the opportunity to worship, visit holy sites, and enjoy the delicious & distinctive Palestinian cuisine.

Expectations

Participants will be expected to participate in three pre-trip group meetings and one gathering following our trip. All participants should be prepared to walk at least three miles a day over uneven surfaces. Additionally, we will ask group members to be willing to lead or co-lead evening reflections and devotions concerning our daily experiences. Most importantly, we expect all participants to come with open minds and be prepared to engage with both Palestinians and Israelis.

Trip Leaders

Bjørn & Laura (Mills) Anderson are a pair of young adults who have extensive experience living in and loving the Holy Land and its people, through Laura's year-long service with Young Adults in Global Mission and their leadership training through the ELCA Peace Not Walls Campaign and ELCA Young Adult Ministry.

Questions?

Interested parties and questions may be directed to immills0819@gmail.com or ande9318@d.umn.edu. Applications are available via Google Doc following an initial inquiry. We hope you will join us!