

*Sabeel* is an important movement among mainstream Christians and their denominations seeking justice and peace in the Holy Land. As former presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church in the United States I helped to establish Friends of Sabeel—North America for the purpose of encouraging our churches in their relationships with the indigenous Christians of Palestine. Friends of Sabeel has been a leading influence in building those relationships and in correcting historic misunderstandings about the Palestinian/Israeli conflict and the churches' role in peacemaking. I highly commend Sabeel's founder, The Rev. Dr. Naim Ateek, a Palestinian Anglican priest and key leader in peacemaking among Palestinian Christians, whose vision of a just peace insists on a theological foundation of nonviolence. Rev. Ateek speaks consistently of established international law and the determined resolutions of the international community through the United Nations, as the basis of a just and lasting peace in the region. Rev. Ateek has written extensively and has traveled the world in pursuit of this dream of Palestinians and Israelis living side-by-side as free and independent nations.

As American Christians try to understand the churches' role in Middle East history and a U.S. foreign policy that has contributed to the tragic realities of the Middle East, Sabeel is at their disposal. Sabeel offers regional and international educational conferences and guided pilgrimage and witness trips to the Holy Land. Sabeel brings Americans, Palestinians and Israelis together through shared experience and a common vision of justice and peace. This is the worldwide vanguard of Christian peacemakers leading us toward the peaceful transformation of our world.

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