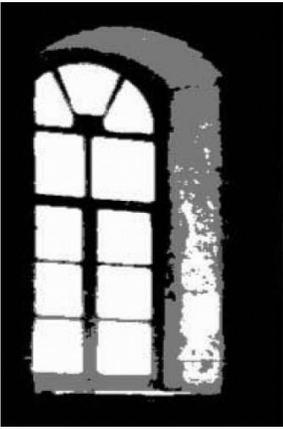


Ramallah Friends Meeting (Quakers)



Epistle to Friends Worldwide

Summer 2016

To Friends Everywhere,

We greet you with joy in our hearts, giving gratitude for the enduring friendships which Ramallah Friends Meeting has experienced with many of you over the years. We thank you for your visits, for your words of encouragement, your prayers, and for your work in service for a wider measure of justice in the Middle East and throughout the world. Your friendship gives us hope.

We greet you in love, knowing that we are one in the Spirit and drawing upon our unity as a source of strength. We thank you for your commitment to nonviolence, for joining hands with those experiencing the injustice of systemic violence –wherever that may be. Your courage gives us hope.

Our Meeting, along with the wider Palestinian community, has endured much hardship. Systems of violence press down on us and physically separate our meeting members. The pressures are enormous; the weight we carry is seemingly unrelenting. The uncertainty of it all is, at times, bewildering.

Yet, we know the Truth. And we experience that Truth, in relationship with you, and with the sure knowledge that God continues to accompany us –even in our deepest moments of despair. That although we may be isolated, we are never alone.

“We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair, persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.”

II Corinthians 4:8-9

Surely, you, too, wrestle with the same questions. The Spirit brings to all of us, in different ways and in different lands, the challenge of witnessing to that Oneness.

With a very warm welcome we invite you to join us in person, or in spirit, for Meeting for Worship, where we meet God and one another. Celebrate with us newly revived ministries such as mid-week Meeting for Worship and our ongoing dialogue with international groups who are eager to learn from the witness we bear to an oppressive occupation through the daily living of a theology of nonviolence.



In peace,
Jean Zaru, Presiding Clerk

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