

Rev. Andrew Larsen serving with the Evangelical Covenant Church/Serve Globally & Peace Catalyst International

What, How, Why and Where: Ministry engaging Muslims and Visual Peacemaking / Fall 2016

I serve as a consultant in peacemaking and reconciliation to local churches and also the leadership of the Evangelical Covenant denomination, seeking to respond to our Muslim neighbors locally but now also in new expanding role with the Covenant in the Middle East & North Africa. I address ways to build bridges of trust that enable Christians to engage Muslims locally and globally, bearing witness to the Prince of Peace, training in Christian peacemaking and building alliances for the common good. Additionally I serve churches as a consultant to the Israeli—Palestinian conflict, bringing a balanced, Christian response.

What I Do

- Build personal relationships with Muslims, with a specific focus on Muslim leaders [Imams] and Mosque communities
- Resource Christian communities to engage Muslim communities, focusing on Church—Mosque relationships, and train Christians to bear witness to Muslims with integrity and grace.
- Speak, teach and mentor with the goal to equip others on the following: Christian/Muslim relationships, Just peace in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, visual peacemaking (using photography as a tool to decrease the dynamic of “othering”) and build bridges of trust for the larger work of reconciliation. I also teach on photography as a spiritual discipline, fostering an intersection of the spiritual journey and photography.

Why I do what I do:

- We are commanded by scripture to be peacemakers and to engage those outside the church
- The Christian—Muslim divide is large and filled with conflict and tension. Over 57% of the world’s population is either Muslim or Christian. Many on either side are fueled by misunderstanding, sometimes hate, and many times anxiety, of the other community.
- God has called me, and confirmed my call through the affirmation of the church

Prayer Requests:

- For God’s anointing and leading in this important ministry
- For sustained financial and prayer support
- For fruit

Links: Video on my ministry: <http://vimeo.com/73943630>

Personal blog: www.worldlyholiness.com

Movie landing page: <http://worldlyholiness.com/blessed-are-the-peacemakers/>

Website for Peace Catalyst International: <http://www.peace-catalyst.net/>