

MOVING STORIES

Commitment
for **Life**

Life-giving Faith | Defiant Hope | Generous Love

Committed to supporting | our global partners | in Palestine & Israel

Prayer Time

Jesus, you declared a New Jubilee at the very start of your ministry, a promise to cancel all debt demanded by the rich. And then you overturned the tables of unjust economic structures. Praise be to God! Help us, Jesus, to follow in your footsteps. Give us the wisdom, tools, and courage to subvert the deeply unjust economic structures of empire in our day, and in so doing, to usher in the kin-dom of God. In your name we pray. Amen.

Service for Central America

Commitment for Life has worked alongside Christian Aid in Central America for over a decade. We have helped countless poor communities with everything from women's empowerment to drought resistant coffee beans. But things change. Christian Aid is steadily winding down its presence in the region, and it's time to say a fond farewell to our presence in the region as we consolidate and engage with our three remaining regions; Zimbabwe, Bangladesh, and Palestine and Israel. Join us on Zoom for a fond farewell service of celebration with the wonderful Susan Durber (see poster.)



Pilgrimage to the Holy Land?

In 2021 The United Reformed Church General Assembly agreed to ten resolutions on Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory (IOPT). One of those resolutions deals with how we organise our pilgrimages, and why our choice of tour operator is critical.

Local estimates suggest that less than 5% of tours to the Holy Land consciously and actively engage with the concerns of Palestinian Christians, or what Amnesty International now calls Israeli 'apartheid.' Most tours are organised the lines of what some suggest is a glorified Holy Land Disney experience. Pilgrims get to walk in Jesus' steps, but seldom engage with the political, economic, and religious issues that Jesus faced. There are parallels in the things poor people faced in Jesus' times and today. These include things like occupation, exploitation, hunger, the loss of income, and the expropriation of land.

An authentic pilgrimage would not shy away from these issues. There are tour companies that actively seek to engage with these issues. We at Commitment for Life think that choosing a Palestinian tour company and booking Palestinian hotels (for some for the time at least) would be both kind and helpful, benefitting both pilgrims and struggling Palestinian businesses.