

Press Release



Informal Panel Discussion on March 30th

3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Clarendon Hill Presbyterian Church

155 Powderhouse Blvd, Somerville, MA



“Water for Justice, Empowerment and Peace” A Learn to Talk “Community Conversation”

Water, the lifeblood of our planet, holds immense power. It sustains life, shapes communities, and influences global stability. Comprising 70% of our bodies and covering the majority of the Earth's surface, it is a force that can both unite and divide. It can nurture thriving communities yet also devastate entire nations. It can serve as a vehicle for peace, or tragically, become a weapon of war.

Join us for an insightful dialogue as we delve into these complex issues at the Water Justice, Empowerment, and Peace Panel, taking place on **March 30th** at the **Clarendon Hill Presbyterian Church**. This compelling event will feature a distinguished panel of experts, each bringing unique perspectives and experiences to the discussion:

Annette Huber-Lee: From the *Stockholm Environment Institute*, Ms. Huber-Lee will share her extensive experience working with Palestinians, Israelis, and Jordanians on the crucial issue of shared water resources in the Middle East. She will discuss her lifelong journey since 1995 and her powerful vision of water as a vehicle for peace.

Pauline Egan: From FACE Africa, Ms. Egan will focus on the profound impact of water justice in Africa, showcasing how access to clean water and sanitation transforms lives and communities not only through improvement of health and life-expectancy, but also through creating more opportunities for youth and women's leadership, and through resolving generational conflicts within the rural community context.

Nancy Murray: From the Alliance for Water Justice in Palestine. will address the urgent issue of water injustice in Palestine. Her presentation will examine the inequitable distribution of water resources and how water is used as a tool to disempower Palestinian communities.

Olga Dernova: Representing the Tufts University Chapter of Engineers Without Borders, Olga, Environmental Engineering student, will share about a real-life project in Nicaragua, and discuss the tangible impact of engineering solutions on the lives of those they serve.

The panel's Moderator, **Ayman Halaseh**, is a Water Resources Engineer at CDM Smith. Mr. Halaseh has worked on diverse water projects both domestically and internationally and is active in the water justice movement.

Learn to Talk Social Justice Series – 2025

Pete Seeger – “It’s a very important thing to learn to talk to people you disagree with.”

This panel discussion is the culmination of the *2025 Learn to Talk Social Justice Series* held at Clarendon Hill Presbyterian Church in collaboration with the Nave Gallery. The current exhibit at the gallery is “Water Marks”, showcasing art that reflects the impacts, impressions and realities relating to water and the human experience.” The show was curated by *Amor Diaz-Campos*. The gallery will be open during this event.

Please contact Clarendon Hill Presbyterian Church for more information about this event:

Ayman Halaseh, Moderator of the Panel, at halaseha@gmail.com

Rev. Dr. Allen N. Fairfax, Pastor of Clarendon Hill Church; pastor@clarendonhillchurch.org

617-625-4823 (Church office)

Parking is available on surrounding streets and in the parking lot on Raymond Street (behind the West Somerville Neighborhood School). We are located at the corner of Powderhouse Blvd and Curtis Street in W.Somerville.