



Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Relations
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

February 11, 2009

Re: *How to Use This Resource*

Dear Friends,

This resource is meant for all viewers to familiarize themselves with the most recent Bishops' Academy 2009 trip to the Holy Land. Over 90 bishops, staff, and others traveled throughout Israel-Palestine and are returning with new information, increased focus in all of our synods, and renewed desire to build relationships of peace in their own communities and with those in the region.

We recommend you begin by reading [Bishop Hanson's Jan. 23 letter](#) that outlines four areas of interest in the ELCA: *Awareness, Accompaniment, Advocacy, and Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Relationships*. Each of these areas contains drop-down menus with resources for your further study and interest. You can learn what some bishops are saying in interviews, construct your own trip to the Holy Land, contact ELCA and Lutheran World Federation staff who have expertise in areas related to the trip, develop stronger inter-religious relationships in your community, and much more.

This resource will be periodically updated so we likewise welcome your suggestions. If we can be of any service to you then certainly let us know.

With best regards,

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