

HOW CAN WE BE IN SOLIDARITY WITH PALESTINIAN CHILDREN?

The Tree of Life Educational Fund will be exploring this topic in its annual fall educational series. The Cape Cod program will be held on **Sunday afternoon, October 27th, 2:00-5:00 pm at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Harwich.** The afternoon will include speakers, entertainment by Palestinian musicians, refreshments, and a bazaar featuring Palestinian olive oil and crafts for purchase. A donation of \$15 is suggested.

Too often Palestinian children are yanked out of their beds in the middle of the night, blindfolded, thrown into the back of a jeep, and held under military detention with no clear explanation of the reason. Children in Gaza languish in the darkness, trying to do their homework by candlelight or flashlight. Children in Hebron need to be escorted to school by international volunteers because of harassment by Israeli settlers.

In our program we will hear directly from Palestinian youth, including a 14-year-old from Gaza, who despite the harsh realities of living in an open-air prison where water is in dangerously short supply, sees hope in the goodness of the international community. Student "Ambassadors" of Bethlehem University will speak to the high priority Palestinian families place on education, even though the occupation/colonization of their land makes employment very difficult. A law school student will share the legal challenges that Palestinians face. A young couple who rely upon music as a way to sustain and nurture the Palestinian spirit will bring with them their 3 year-old son and share their music with us.

We will also hear from Americans who exemplify what it means to be in solidarity with these young Palestinians. The parents of Rachel Corrie, a young American activist who was run over and killed by a bulldozer as she tried to stop the demolition of a Palestinian home in Gaza, will share their advocacy work. Rabbi Meryl Crean, a member of the Rabbinic Council of Jewish Voice for Peace, who is passionate about human rights in the U.S. and Israel/Palestine, will offer a Jewish perspective on being in solidarity with the Palestinian people. She will also be participating in 10:00 am worship that morning at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Barnstable.

Come and learn how you can provide the solidarity needed so much by the children of Palestine!

For further information or questions, please see the Tree of Life website www.tolef.org or contact Cape Cod coordinator Elaine Brouillard, elaine@tolef.org.