Palestinian Liberation Theology: A Challenge to De-Colonize the Bible

Wednesday evenings, October 2 - 23 7:00 – 9:00 pm Historic Germantown Mennonite Meeting House 6121 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia [NOTE: Not the current Germantown Mennonite Church building]

One of the most profound challenges for North American Christians is to recognize how we have been taught to read the biblical texts from a conquering, colonizing perspective – and how much damage that perspective continues to wreak in our world today.

One glaring example of a colonial interpretation of Scripture is reading the stories of the people of Israel getting to the Promised Land from the point of view of the conquerors – an interpretation that continues to impact the struggle for justice and peace in the Middle East today.

In this four-week course, we will explore a different way to read Scripture, through the work of Palestinian liberation theologian Mitri Raheb. Dr. Raheb sheds light on how Palestinians read the scripture in the context of the current and past occupations. We will read Dr. Raheb's book, Faith in the Face of the Empire: The Bible Through Palestinian Eyes. We will also hear stories from current-day Palestine, and consider the real-world implications for reading the texts from a Palestinian perspective.

The course will be co-facilitated by Amy Yoder McGloughlin, pastor of Frazer Mennonite Church and seasoned leader of delegations to Palestine from Christian Peacemaker Teams.

You should plan to purchase Dr. Raheb's book and have the first three chapters read by session one. Books are available at Uncle Bobbie's (www.unclebobbies.com) a community bookstore in the Germantown section of Philadelphia.

The cost for the course (not including the text) will be \$30 (or whatever you can afford). Proceeds from the course will support the work of Christian Peacemaker Teams, particularly its work in Palestine.

To register, contact Will O'Brien at 215-842-1790 or willobrien59@gmail.com

For more information about the course, contact Amy Yoder-McGloughlin at 215-280-0835 or amy.yoder.mcgloughlin@gmail.