

Speakers for the Conference: *Christ at the Checkpoint*



Alex Awad is pastor of East Jerusalem Baptist Church. He and his wife, Brenda, have been missionaries with the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church since 1989. He is Dean of Students at Bethlehem Bible College, Director of the Shepherd Society, and a board member of the Council of Local Evangelical Churches in the Holy Land. His second book, 'Palestinian Memories: the Story of a Palestinian Mother and her People', was published in 2008.



Ben White is a freelance journalist, writer and blogger specialising in Palestine/Israel. He also writes on the broader Middle East, Islam and Christianity, and the 'war on terror'. His articles have appeared in the Guardian online's 'Comment is free', Electronic Intifada, the New Statesman, Christian Science Monitor, Al-Jazeera English online, Palestine Chronicle, Washington Report on Middle East Affairs, Middle East International, Al Aqsa Journal, Church Times, Church of England Newspaper, Third Way, The Muslim Weekly, and Palestine-Israel Journal. He lives in the UK and his book, 'Israeli Apartheid: A Beginner's Guide' is published by Pluto Press (2009). Ben He has been regularly visiting the Middle East since 2003 for periods of between two weeks and three months at a time. Ben is currently working as 'Campaign Coordinator' for A Just Peace for Palestine, an Amos Trust initiative.



Bob Roberts is the founder and Senior Pastor of NorthWood Church. Through his leadership, NorthWood has planted 130 churches in the US. Bob is an international speaker and thinker in transforming people, churches, communities and the world. He has led NorthWood and other churches to provide international development projects which include building schools, clinics and hospitals, micro-businesses, water systems and exchange student programs. He frequently teaches courses on church planting, church growth, church multiplication, community transformation and international development at seminaries and universities around the globe. He is a graduate of Baylor University (BA), Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (M.Div), and Fuller Seminary (D.Min).



Chris Seiple is President of the Institute for Global Engagement (IGE).

Before coming to IGE, Seiple was an Earhart Fellow at the Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy at Tufts University, where he received his Ph.D. in 2007. Seiple served as an infantry officer in the Marine Corps from 1990 to 1999. His last assignment was in the Pentagon, where he was assigned to the Strategic Initiatives Group, an internal “think tank” for the Commandant of the Marine Corps. His duties included developing a new construct for homeland and national security, speaking regularly on these issues, improving interagency liaison, and writing speeches and Congressional testimony for senior Marine leaders.

Seiple serves on the board of Wycliffe Bible Translators, USA. He is a member at the Council on Foreign Relations (New York), the International Institute for Strategic Studies (London), and is Founder of IGE’s Council on Faith & International Affairs. He is the author of *The U.S. Military/NGO Relationship in Humanitarian Interventions*.



Daniel Bourdanne is the General Secretary of IFES (International

Fellowship of Evangelical Students). He was born in Chad and is married to Halimatou, who comes originally from Niger. Daniel has been on staff with IFES in Francophone Africa for 16 years, first as a travelling secretary, then as Literature Secretary and, from 1995 to 2006 as Regional Secretary, responsible for overseeing IFES ministry across the region’s 20 countries. He has a PhD from the University of Abidjan in animal ecology and is a member of the International Centre of Myriapodologists



Evan Thomas has served for the past 14 years as the pastor of the

Messianic Congregation, “Beit Asaph” in the coastal city of Netanya, Israel. He and his wife, Maala emigrated from New Zealand in 1983. Evan is a Messianic Jew with a vision of salvation for his people Israel, both in the Land and throughout the world.

Apart from his pastoral work, Evan has been very involved in developing Jewish evangelism in Israel and abroad and in the development of reconciliation ministries. As such he has served for 12 years as the chairman of the Israeli National Evangelism Committee (NEC), promoting high-profile outreach throughout the cities of Israeli and sending teams abroad on short-term projects in the Diaspora. For 10 years Evan has served as active board member of the Reconciliation Ministry, “Musalaha.” This ministry is proactive in bringing members of the Israeli Messianic community and the Palestinian Christian community together in various reconciliation initiatives including; desert encounters, educational conferences and seminars, through literature, social projects, and humanitarian aid. In addition, Evan serves as a Board member of Israel College of the Bible, promoting theological education throughout the Israeli Messianic congregations.



Gary M. Burge (PhD, King's College, Aberdeen University) is a professor of New Testament in the Department of Biblical & Theological Studies at Wheaton College and Graduate School. He has authored a number of books, including 'Who Are God's People in the Middle East?'; 'What Christians Are Not Being Told About Israel and the Palestinians'; and the first two volumes in the 'Ancient Context, Ancient Faith' series: 'The Bible and the Land' and 'Jesus, the Middle Eastern Storyteller'. Gary specializes in the Middle East, its churches, and its history in the Hellenistic period.



Imad Shehadeh since 1991, serves as Founder, President, and Professor of Theology of Jordan Evangelical Theological Seminary (JETS). JETS targets the 22 Arabic-speaking countries of the Middle East, Arab Peninsula and North Africa. It was established in 1991 and registered by the Jordanian government in 1995. The mission of JETS is "to equip spiritual leaders for planting and strengthening churches in the Arab World." Dr. Imad has authored several articles, books and compendiums in English and Arabic that cover a wide range of need for theological education. This includes Old Testament Hebrew, New Testament Greek, Soteriology, Bibliology, Eschatology, Patrology, Pneumatology, Christology, Research Methods, and his favorite specialty, the Trinity. Dr. Imad has a heavy speaking schedule serving the JETS graduates within the Middle East and North Africa. He also speaks in colleges, seminaries, churches and conferences in many countries, especially across the United States.



Jack Sara is Vice President of Bethlehem Bible College and Pastor with the Evangelical Alliance Church in the Holy Land. Jack was born and raised in the Old City of Jerusalem. Jack studied at BBC after committing his life to Christ and his ministry and got involved more and more in the ministry of the Jerusalem Alliance Church. Jack went to the Philippines to study for an M.Div degree at the Alliance Biblical Seminary, then began ministering with his church and teaching part time at BBC. Jack is currently finishing his doctorate in Missions and Cross Cultural Communication at Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary, he is also in transition to become the president of the Bethlehem Bible College



Joel Hunter is the senior pastor of Northland, A Church Distributed, a congregation of 15,000 that worships at four sites in Central Florida and at more than 1,000 sites worldwide via interactive webcast, iPhone, and Facebook. He is the author of numerous books, including *A New Kind of Conservative* (Regal 2008), *Church Distributed* (Distributed Press 2008) and *Inner State 80: Your Journey on the High Way* (Higher Life 2009). A leading evangelical voice for compassion issues, Hunter prayed with Obama on the day of the 2008 presidential election and offered a blessing for President-elect Obama at the Pre-Inaugural Worship Service at St. John's Church. In 2009, he was appointed to the President's Advisory Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, which is purposed to advise Obama on substantive policy issues.



John Ortberg is an evangelical Christian author, speaker, and senior pastor of Menlo Park Presbyterian Church in Menlo Park, California, an evangelical church with more than 4,000 members. Ortberg has published many books including the 2008 ECPA Christian Book Award winner *When the Game is Over, It All Goes Back in the Box*, and the 2002 Christianity Today Book Award winner *If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat*. Another of his publications, *The Life You've Always Wanted*, sold more than 500,000 copies by 2008.



Ken Sande is president of Peacemaker Ministries and is author of *The Peacemaker*, which has been translated into 11 languages. He is passionate about bringing the life-changing power of God's peacemaking principles into the lives of Christians and their churches. Ken has used biblical peacemaking principles to minister to parties in hundreds of conflicts ranging from simple personal disputes to complex church, corporate, and legal conflicts. He has written books, articles, and other resources on biblical conflict resolution and is in frequent demand as a conference speaker. He also is an Editorial Advisor for Christianity Today International's Church Management Team.



Lynne Hybels and her husband, Bill, started Willow Creek Community Church in Illinois in 1975, with an interest in addressing the needs of "the whole person in the whole world". For years, she has been involved with Willow's ministry partnerships in under-resourced communities in Latin America and Africa. She is the author of 'Nice Girls Don't Change the World', and co-author of 'Rediscovering Church' and 'Fit to be Tied'. She has recently collaborated with the Willow Creek Association to produce 'Hope and Action', a DVD and participant guide that helps churches and small groups address the AIDS pandemic.



Manfred Kohl was born in Germany during the Second World War, and was educated in Germany, England, and the US. He earned Master's degrees in Divinity and Theology, and doctorates in Historical Theology and Ministry. After serving as a pastor in Massachusetts, he had various leadership positions at World Vision. Manfred is now VP of Programs & International Development with Overseas Council International (OCI), an organization that partners with more than 100 theological seminaries and Bible colleges in the non-Western world, equipping indigenous Christian leaders.



Paul Alexander (Ph.D. Baylor University) teaches at Palmer Theological Seminary. He oversees the public policy initiatives of the Seminary's Sider Center on Ministry and Public Policy. He taught four years at Azusa Pacific University's Graduate School of Theology and nine years at Southwestern Assemblies of God University. Paul has authored two books, edited another, and has four books under contract. His first book, *Peace to War: Shifting Allegiances in the Assemblies of God* (Cascadia/Herald Press, 2009), won the international Pneuma Book of the Year award and reflects in part his efforts to explore the history, demise, and possible reemergence of a Pentecostal peace witness and to encourage Pentecostals (and other Christians) to rediscover their early commitments to nonviolence and peace. Paul co-founded Pentecostals & Charismatics for Peace & Justice and is editor of the book series *Pentecostals, Peacemaking, and Social Justice* (Wipf & Stock) and the journal *Pax Pneuma: The Journal of Pentecostals & Charismatics for Peace & Justice*. His organizational memberships and academic presentations include the American Academy of Religion, the Society for Pentecostal Studies, and the Society of Christian Ethics.



Porter Speakman, Jr. is the Director / Producer of the documentary film "With God On Our Side" which looks at the theology of Christian Zionism in light of the realities on the ground in Israel and Palestine and offers an alternative theological and practical approach to the Israeli & Palestinian conflict, one centered on people. Porter currently lives in Colorado Springs, CO (USA) with his wife and son and travels to Israel & Palestine frequently. Porter is also serving as the Media Coordinator for the "Christ at the Checkpoint Conference" in 2012 and is producing several short films for the conference.



Richard Harvey is a Messianic Jew who has been involved in planting Messianic congregations and evangelism with Jews for Jesus and Church's Ministry among Jewish People. His writings include *But I'm Jewish* and *A Jewish Approach to the Trinity*. A revised version of his thesis is published by Paternoster Press/Authentic Media as "Mapping Messianic Jewish Theology: A Constructive Approach" (Carlisle: Paternoster, 2009). Richard is a member of the Lausanne Consultation on Jewish Evangelism; European Board Member, Jews for Jesus; Board of Reference, Caspari Centre, Jerusalem; Editorial Board, *Mishkan* (Academic Journal on Jewish Evangelism and Messianic Judaism) Jerusalem. He has his PhD from the University of Wales.



Ron Sider (Ph.D., Yale) is Professor of Theology, Holistic Ministry and Public Policy and Director of the Sider Center on Ministry and Public Policy at Palmer Theological Seminary and President of Evangelicals for Social Action. A widely known evangelical speaker and writer, Sider has spoken on six continents, published thirty-one books and scores of articles. In 1982, *The Christian Century* named him one of the twelve "most influential persons in the field of religion in the U.S." His *Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger* was recognized by *Christianity Today* as one of the one hundred most influential religious books of the twentieth century and named the seventh most influential book in the evangelical world in the last fifty years. His most recent books are *The Scandal of Evangelical Politics: Why Are Christians Missing the Chance to Really Change the World* and *I Am not a Social Activist*. Among his other publications are: *The Scandal of the Evangelical Conscience: Why Are Christians Living Just Like the Rest of the World*, *Just Generosity: A New Vision for Overcoming Poverty in America* and *Churches That Make a Difference: Reaching Your Community with Good News and Good Works* (with Phil Olson and Heidi Unruh). Sider is the publisher of *PRISM* magazine and a contributing editor of *Christianity Today* and *Sojourners*. He has lectured at scores of colleges and universities around the world, including Yale, Harvard, Princeton, and Oxford.



Salim Munayer is a member of faculty at Bethlehem Bible College. He is also the founder (1990) and director of Musalaha Reconciliation Ministries for Israel and Palestine. He is involved in leadership training for pastors in the Galilee and Jerusalem areas. He has edited several books, and written articles on the subjects of reconciliation, the Palestinian/Israeli conflict and Christian Palestinian identity.



Sami Awad is the executive director of Holy Land Trust, a Palestinian non-profit organization which he founded in 1998 in Bethlehem. The Trust works with the Palestinian community at grassroots and leadership levels to develop non-violent approaches that aim to end the Israeli occupation and build a future on the principles of non-violence, equality, justice, and peaceful coexistence. He has established: (1) the Travel and Encounter Program, to provide tourists and pilgrims with unique religious and political experiences in Palestine; (2) the Palestine News Network, the first independent press agency in Palestine; and (3) Al-Kul Television.



Samuel Rodriguez is president of the National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference. The NHCLC serves 15 million Hispanic Christians and advocates for 40 million Hispanics in respect to family, political, spiritual and socio-economic empowerment. NEWSWEEK named him one of the Top 12 People to Look For in 2008. Rodriguez earned his Masters degree in Educational Leadership in Agile Organizations from Lehigh University. Currently he is pursuing a doctoral degree in Organizational Management and Behavior. His ministerial experience has ranged from functioning as a prominent youth leader, a worldwide evangelist, founding pastor of Third Day Worship Centers and leadership of NHCLC. Rodriguez has been featured by numerous media outlets and currently blogs for THE WASHINGTON POST's OnFaith feature as well as on Latino Issues at the NHCLC site. Rev. Rodriguez has written and spoken widely on the issue of Comprehensive Immigration Reform. He frequently meets and consults members of both parties in Congress and participates in White House meetings on social justice, Latino and values issues. CNN named Rev. Samuel Rodriguez, "The leader of the Hispanic Evangelical movement". The Wall St. Journal has identified him as one of America's 7 most influential Hispanic Leaders, and the only religious leader on the list. Meanwhile the San Francisco Chronicle described Samuel as one of the 6 Leaders of the New Evangelical Leadership.



Shane Claiborne graduated from Eastern University, and did graduate work at Princeton Seminary. His ministry experience is varied, from a 10-week stint working alongside Mother Teresa in Calcutta, to a year spent serving a wealthy mega-congregation at Willow Creek Community Church outside Chicago. During the recent war in Iraq, Shane spent three weeks in Baghdad with the Iraq Peace Team. Shane is also a founding partner of The Simple Way, a faith community in inner city Philadelphia that has helped to birth and connect radical faith communities around the world.

Shane writes and travels extensively speaking about peacemaking, social justice, and Jesus. He is featured in the DVD series “Another World Is Possible” and is the author of the several books including *The Irresistible Revolution*, *Jesus for President*, and *Becoming the Answer to Our Prayers*. Shane speaks over 100 times a year in a dozen or so countries and nearly every state in the US. Shane has given academic seminars at Vanderbilt University, Duke University Pepperdine University, Wheaton College, Princeton University, Goshen College and Harvard University. Shane’s work has been featured in everything from Fox News and the Wall Street Journal to CNN and National Public Radio.



Stephen Sizer (The Reverend Dr.) is the incumbent at Christ Church, Virginia Water, an Anglican parish in Surrey, England. In addition to his parish ministry, he has a number of external roles and is known internationally as an author and speaker, specializing in topics relating to the land of Israel. He has written numerous books and articles on this subject and is regularly invited to teach in churches, seminaries and universities in Europe, the Middle East and USA, as a theologian and evangelist.



Tony Campolo is professor emeritus at Eastern University, and the founder of the Evangelical Association for the Promotion of Education, an organization that develops schools and social programs in various Third World countries and in cities across North America. He is the author of 35 books, his latest three being, "Letters to a Young Evangelical," "The God of Intimacy and Action" and, most recently, "Red Letter Christians: A Citizen’s Guide to Faith and Politics."



Yohanna Katanacho is a Palestinian Evangelical. He has earned his M.A. from Wheaton College and his M.Div as well as his Ph.D. from Trinity International University. Katanacho has authored or co-authored five books, translated four others, and he has written dozens of articles related to Palestinian theology. He is also a co-author of the Palestinian Kairos document. Rev. Katanacho is now serving as the Academic Dean of Bethlehem Bible College and Galilee Bible College.