

Statement on Gaza, Israel, and the West Bank by Wellesley Friends (Quaker) Meeting
Eleventh Month 19, 2023

“There is a Spirit that delights to do no evil, nor to revenge any wrong. Its hope is to outlive all wrath and contention, and to weary out all exaltation and cruelty.” James Nayler, 17th century Quaker

Wellesley Friends are deeply grieved by the ongoing tragedy in Gaza, Israel, and the West Bank. We bear witness to the suffering, and urgently call for a ceasefire, ending the siege of Gaza, and the release of all people held as hostages.

As an historic peace church we envision a world where our emphasis is on a God of Love who instructs us to love one another, including those who do us ill. We know that violence begets more violence. We reject as false the mythology of “redemptive violence”, that “good violence” will somehow end “bad violence”.

We urge our nation to find a policy that promotes the well-being of all.