THE ISAIAH CIRCLE

A GBCS
UNITED NATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
ADVOCACY NETWORK

A Presentation by
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CHURCH & SOCIETY
The United Methodist Church

Living FAITH Seeking JUSTICE Pursuing PEACE

The Isaiah Circle

- All politics is local; foreign policy is merely domestic politics projected onto the global stage.

- Welcome to the introduction to the Isaiah Circle where such idea above are explored, and more.

The Isaiah Circle

- A global community of formation, conversation, collaboration, and action
- Convened by the GBCS United Nations and International Affairs Ministry
- Bringing together advocates of faith, justice, peace, and human dignity
- Working in a world where local and global realities are interconnected
- Nurturing faith in the affairs of the world

Isaiah 2: The Vision

- "They shall beat their swords into plowshares"
- Nations learning peace rather than war
- Violence transformed into instruments of life
- God's vision for a just and peaceful world
- The prophetic horizon of the Isaiah Circle

Isaiah 59: The Vocation to Intervene

- Truth has fallen in the public square
- Justice is driven back and righteousness stands at a distance
- God is appalled that no one intervenes
- Faithful witness requires public engagement
- Advocacy becomes a spiritual responsibility

Luke 19:42:
The Call to Know and Make for Peace

- "Would that you knew the things that make for peace"
- Peace must be learned, discerned, and practiced
- To know peace is to make and do peace
- Peace includes justice, reconciliation, and participation
- Peace is both a gift and a vocation

The Method:
Formation • Action • Reflection

- Formation shapes understanding and character
- Action translates conviction into public witness
- Reflection deepens learning and accountability
- Together they nurture faithful advocacy
- The Circle's method for growth and engagement

Fruits of the Method: Being • Becoming • Belonging

- Being: rooted in identity and faith
- Becoming: growing as advocates and witnesses
- Belonging: participating in a community of practice
- A lifelong journey of discipleship and engagement
- The fruit of formation, action, and reflection

Competencies and Commitments: Ethical Multilateralism

- Cooperation guided by moral responsibility
- Human dignity and human rights at the center
- Justice, solidarity, and sustainability as shared commitments
- Beyond national interest and political expediency
- Building a more accountable global community

Competencies and Commitments: Public Discipleship

- Faith expressed through public witness
- Advocacy as an expression of Christian vocation
- Civic engagement as discipleship in action
- Bringing moral conviction into public life
- Serving the common good

Competencies and Commitments: Theology and the Praxis of the Glocal

- Local and global realities are inseparable
- Simultaneous, contemporaneous, and mutually shaping
- Faithful witness requires glocal awareness
- Acting locally while engaging global structures
- Connecting communities, institutions, and peoples

The Glocal Public Square

- A civic, moral, and political space
- Where public values and policies are contested
- Where truth, dignity, and justice must be defended
- A field of witness, accountability, and advocacy
- A place where faith engages the affairs of the world

Premises • Promises • Processes

- Access to the United Nations and multilateral institutions
- Understanding how decisions are made
- Engaging global agendas that affect local communities
- Connecting grassroots concerns with global processes
- Participating responsibly in public life

Faith in the Affairs of the World

- Inspired by Isaiah's vision of peace
- Committed to intervening when justice is denied
- Learning and doing the things that make for peace
- Forming practitioners for faithful public engagement
- Cultivating justice, peace, and joy for the common good

The Isaiah Circle

FOR MORE INFORMATION, INCLUDING HOW TO JOIN THE ISAIAH CIRCLE, EMAIL ME

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