

Friday, April 26:

9:00a-10:30a: Welcome & Panel discussion

Panel: Intersections of Injustice: African American & Palestinian Experiences

Moderator: Michael-Ray Mathews

Panelists: Alaa Hammouda & Jacqui Lewis



Alaa Hammouda is an Advocacy Media Officer at the Gaza Community Mental Health Programme in the Gaza Strip, Palestine, where she advocates for issues of mental health, violence against women and

children, and human rights. Alaa has also worked with National Democratic Institute-West Bank as a translator and coordinator, and she has a breadth of experience in many fields, including humanitarian work, journalism, teaching, and translation. Currently, Alaa is a Fellow at the National Democratic Institute in Washington, D.C. where she is preparing a leadership program for women to be implemented in Gaza. As a Palestinian woman with young children and a lifelong resident of the Gaza Strip, Alaa has lived through multiple wars and extremely limited access to basic resources. Despite these challenges, she has strived to move forward with hope and aspiration for democracy and human rights.



Jacqui Lewis is Senior Minister at Middle Collegiate Church, a 1000-member multiracial,

welcoming, and inclusive congregation in New York City. She is an activist, preacher, and fierce advocate for racial equality, economic justice, and LGBTQ equality. Middle Church and Jacqui's activism for these issues has been featured in media such as *The Today Show*, *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Post*, *The New Yorker*, *Essence* and *The Huffington Post*. Jacqui is a frequent contributor to MSNBC. Rev. Dr. Lewis earned her Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary and earned a M.Phil. and a Ph.D. in Psychology and Religion from Drew University. She has been adjunct professor at seminaries across the country, including Princeton Theological Seminary, Union Theological Seminary, and the Graduate Theological Union.