

The 2018 Gaza Freedom Flotilla Speaker: Col. Ann Wright

with performance by Margo Lee Sherman

Co-sponsors / Endorsers: All Souls Unitarian Universalists for Justice in the Middle East; All Souls Peace and Justice Task Force; Vets for Peace, Chapter 34 NY, NY; Granny Peace Brigade, New York; Pax Christi, Metro New York; Peace Action of New York; Brooklyn for Peace; and Jews Say No!

Col. Ann Wright, retired US Army colonel, diplomat who resigned from the US government in 2003 in opposition to the war in Iraq, and author of *DISSENT, VOICES OF CONSCIENCE*. Co-founder in 2010 of the Freedom Flotilla Coalition, she has sailed numerous times and her presentation will focus on the deteriorating conditions in Gaza caused by the illegal blockade and on the ongoing international efforts to challenge Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

Margo Lee Sherman, New York based actress who creates solo dramas with a political focus and formative member of the Bread and Puppet Theater. Her work includes *WHAT DO I KNOW ABOUT WAR?* a solo drama based on first-hand accounts of American soldiers in Iraq which she has performed through the USA and at festivals in the Middle East, Europe and South America. She will perform *The Slope*, a dramatization of a story by the famed Palestinian writer Ghassan Kanafani, from his book, *PALESTINE'S CHILDREN*.



The Freedom Flotilla Coalition is currently seeking support for its next trip. All donations at this event will go to support the Gaza Flotilla.

Chapel Unitarian Church of All Souls

1157 Lexington Avenue

New York, NY

(between 79th and 80th Streets)

CONDITIONS IN GAZA:

"The Gaza Strip is one of the most densely populated areas in the world, with over 2 million people living in an area 25 miles long and 5 miles wide (360 square km). According to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), 70 percent of its inhabitants are refugees living in eight camps." Freedom Flotilla Coalition's news, at <https://sgf.freedomflotilla.org/news/ffc-sail-again-for-decent-future> "...the blockade of Gaza imposed by Israel (with the support of Egypt), which is part of Israel's now 50-year-old military rule over Palestinians in the occupied territories, has decimated the economy of Gaza and allowed for the near complete destruction of critical infrastructure.... In 2012, the UN determined that if trends continued, Gaza wouldn't be liveable in 2020. Today, the effects of the blockade, recurring violence, and now the electricity crisis have led the UN to conclude that Gaza is basically already unlivable." UNRWA Executive Director Amy Smardon's October 2017 article in *Mondoweiss*: <http://mondoweiss.net/2017/10/sixth-visit-devastated/>

Saturday, April 7, 2018

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.