

Peace Not Walls Challenge FAQs

What is the purpose of the PNW Challenge – for Seminary Engagement?

The PNW Challenge was created to motivate seminarians to engage in the [ELCA Peace Not Walls](#) initiative by encouraging them to develop projects for use in ministry contexts that support the foci of the program: accompaniment, advocacy and awareness raising. We hope that the final projects will be able to be shared as a resource for others across the ELCA to use in their own ministry contexts.

When and where are the proposals due?

Proposals are due to Karin Brown (Karin.Brown@elca.org) as email attachments by October 25, 2019.

What kinds of projects can be proposed?

Projects are intended to be practical and interactive, implemented in a ministry setting, and can be utilized by others. Projects should explicitly align with the outcomes of PNW: accompaniment, advocacy, and awareness raising. For example, a project might take the form of a bible study, devotions for Advent or Lent, a podcast, or an interactive youth event, etc. You might create a Bible study about accompaniment in the context of Israel and Palestine, or you could develop a project that invites people into an accompaniment relationship (through prayer), educates about a particular topic (child detention through a photo exhibit or film screening), and invites people to take action (using ELCA advocacy alert about the topic).

Who is the primary audience of the Project?

Any and all! Choose a primary audience that is appropriate to a ministry setting and keep that audience in mind when developing your project. Are you creating a Bible study for a group of people unfamiliar with the situation in Israel and Palestine or people that are well versed in the issues? What is the age group? Are you targeting a youth group, adults, young adults, or everybody?

What should be included in the proposal?

The proposal should include a description of the concept, intended outcomes of PNW, and implementation of the project (including audience, timeframe and context in which you envision the project to take place). Please also submit a brief budget if applicable. The goal is to come up with a practical project that can be implemented in your local ministry context and that might provide a resource for others across the ELCA interested in PNW.

What is the timeline in which the projects should be implemented?

Projects can commence as soon as a proposal is accepted in the Challenge. The Project should be completed in time to submit the report before the May 1, 2020 deadline.

What should be included in the final submission of the project by May 1, 2020?

When you have completed your project, you must submit to the PNW committee (by emailing Karin Brown: Karin.Brown@elca.org). You will be provided with a template that will ask you to provide a full description of the project, how the project addresses the PNW outcomes, and a short narrative, power point, or video of the project's implementation. You should also include a user friendly activity guide that could be used by others (for example, if it is a Bible Study: include the texts, guiding questions/answers, etc. or if it is an interactive activity: include a description of how to set up, lead and debrief the activity), that includes a bibliography or all resources consulted. It is important to keep in mind that you may be asked to present this at the PNW Annual meeting.

Are there resources that are already available to assist in preparing a new project?

Yes. A good place to start to learn more about PNW is the ELCA [Churchwide Strategy for Engagement in Israel and Palestine](#). Another helpful document is a [compilation of all the actions \(memorials\)](#) that have been taken at the Churchwide Assemblies over the years. At the very end of the document you will find the memorials from 2016. Here is an [FAQ about the 2016 actions](#). In addition, on the resources page of the [PNW site under the "Learn" tab](#) there are a series of documents about specific topics.

What happens after I submit my proposal?

Once all proposals are submitted, the PNW committee will begin their review. Students whose projects are accepted will be contacted by November 8, 2019 and an initial electronic meeting will take place to provide further guidance, offer suggestions, and answer questions about the projects. There will be at least an additional "check in" electronic meeting in the winter of 2020. A cash honorarium will be given to assist with the implementation of the project in the local ministry setting.

What happens after I submit my completed project?

Once all completed projects are submitted to the PNW committee, the student whose project is selected will be asked to attend the 2020 PNW Annual gathering on June 19-21, 2020 in Washington DC to present their project. Transportation, room and board will be provided.

What if I have further questions?

Contact Karin Brown (Karin.Brown@elca.org).