

# Goulburn Valley Spirituality in the Pub 'Palestine-Israel' an eye-witness account

Monday 29th February 2016  
Terminus Hotel, Shepparton  
7.30 – 9.00

Counter meals available from 6.00 pm (optional)

**Speaker: Rev Joan Fisher**



Joan is a retired Uniting Church Minister, now living in Shepparton. Her many years of ministry included 7 1/2 in Mooroopna and 5 in Albury-Wodonga. Joan has, for many years, been interested in international justice issues.

In 2013, Joan travelled to Israel, visiting many of the places of Jesus' ministry and hearing from local Jewish, Muslim & Christian people. In Bethlehem, a Palestinian pastor who could trace Palestinian Christians' history back to Pentecost shared their story of 'Al Nakba' [*The Disaster*] as Palestinians describe the creation of the State of Israel. He expressed great concern that thousands of Christian pilgrims come to see the Holy Land's ancient stones, but show no interest in hearing about how Palestinian Christians, the 'living stones', suffer under military occupation.

Joan had previously heard of the **Ecumenical Accompaniment Program in Palestine & Israel** coordinated by the World Council of Churches which brings international volunteers to the West Bank to witness life under occupation, to engage with local Palestinians & Israelis pursuing a just peace, to change the international community's involvement in the conflict, urging them to act against injustice in the region. On retirement, she took up this challenge.

In 2015, Joan spent 3 months in the West Bank as an Ecumenical Accompanier.

Joan will present her experience then you get a chance  
to share *your thoughts & questions* in an **Open Forum**

Bookings not required – just come along to the pub

Further Information: Kerry 0408 579904; Frank 58214362; Fran 58290301