

Ronald J. Young, Executive Director

U.S. Interreligious Committee for

Peace in the Middle East

16020 94th Avenue, NW Stanwood, WA 98292

Tel/Fax: (360) 652-4285

E-Mail: USICPME@aol.com

Biographical Information

1987 - Founder and Director of the U.S. Interreligious Committee for Peace in the Middle East. The Committee is a national organization of 2,500 American Jews, Christians and Muslims, including prominent leaders of all three communities, working together for peace in the Middle East based on the deepest values in the three traditions. The Committee carries on programs across the United States of dialogue, education and advocacy in support of active U.S. policies to encourage comprehensive and lasting peace between Israel, the Palestinians and the Arab states.

Ron Young has spoken and written widely on the Middle East and interfaith cooperation; taught a course on the Arab-Israeli-Palestinian conflict at Haverford College; arranged Interfaith Convocations for Peace and Interfaith Prayer Services; produced resources on religion in the search for peace; arranged high level meetings with U.S. officials and with Israeli and Arab delegations to the Peace Talks; and organized and led annual Interreligious Leadership Trips to the Middle East. He and other leaders of the U.S. Interreligious Committee were invited by the White House to witness the signing of the historic Israel-PLO Declaration of Principles in 1993. Working with a nationwide network, Ron provides action alerts to generate interreligious support for ongoing U.S. efforts to help the parties complete the Peace Process, including a mutually acceptable solution for Jerusalem. Ron was invited twice to lecture at the Chautauqua Institution on the Middle East and interfaith cooperation.

1987 Authored Missed Opportunities for Peace: U.S. Middle East Policy, 1981-86, a book praised by Jewish and Palestinian American leaders, and by prominent U.S. policy analysts.

1982 - 1985 Middle East Representative for American Friend Service Committee. Ron visited Israel, the West Bank and Gaza, Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon to explore Arab and Israeli views about possibilities for peace and what the United States could do to help.

1972 - 1982 National Peace Education Secretary, American Friends Service Committee. Ron coordinated peace education work nationwide on a range of international issues.

1965 - 1972 Youth Secretary for the Fellowship of Reconciliation and National Coordinator of the March on Washington for Peace in Vietnam November 15, 1969.

1960 - 1965 Student at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut and participant in the Student Interracial Ministry as Assistant to the Reverend J.M. Lawson, Jr. in Memphis, Tennessee.

"I can unreservedly recommend Ronald Young as a speaker. He is knowledgeable in a sophisticated way about the issues; he knows the Middle East intimately, including key Arab and Israeli leaders; he is fair but does not talk around the hard problems; he is positive but hard-nosed and realistic; and he is wonderfully articulate. I have seen him address all kinds of audiences - Jewish, Muslim and Christian, separately and mixed - with great effectiveness. Ron provides a fresh persona to present and a refreshing perspective from which to discuss the Middle East. This is no small matter."

National Hillel Directors Association