



ELMARIE & SCOTT PARKER

Scott Parker serves with the Middle East Council of Churches (MECC) as a writer in residence. He uses written storytelling to communicate the experiences and views of the Middle East Church and peoples with Presbyterian constituents in the United States and MECC partners in both Europe and the United States. In addition, Scott has been asked by the MECC to lead their efforts in responding to children traumatized by unrest and war in Iraq and Syria who now seek refuge in Lebanon. Out of this invitation has come “Strong Kids, Strong Emotions,” a play-based program that seeks to develop emotional and spiritual resiliency in Iraqi and Syrian children refugees in the Beirut area.

Elmarie Parker serves as regional liaison to Iraq, Syria and Lebanon. The heartbeat of her work is to help deepen and strengthen the relational ties between the church in her region and the church in the United States and to develop the practical ministries that are birthed from these relationships. More specifically, she facilitates Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) support for partner programs and activities and implements partnership strategy. Elmarie assists in strengthening healthy, effective and appropriate relationships among entities of the PC(USA) and those of partner denominations and organizations in the region. This often takes shape through PC(USA) group solidarity and learning visits to Syria, Lebanon and Iraq facilitated by Elmarie. Additionally, Elmarie supports other PC(USA) associates serving in this region through communications, information sharing, mentoring/guiding, encouraging and reflection