

'We are one': Palestinian Christians and Muslims

Unite against Trump's Jerusalem call

Maayan Lubell, 12/12/2017, reuters.com

Less than an hour after U.S. President Donald Trump recognized Jerusalem as Israel's capital, Palestinians protested by turning off the lights on the Christmas tree outside Bethlehem's Church of the Nativity, the traditional birthplace of Jesus.

Coming out of the Sunday service in his Assyrian Catholic church in Jerusalem, Fredrick Hazo accused Trump of "dragging all the world into trouble", and called on the U.S. leader to reverse his decision.

"We are united - Christians, Muslims, we are one," said the 59-year-old Palestinian musician, standing in an alley in the heart of the Old City, surrounded by shops selling religious trinkets.

But Trump's decision found strong backing from another corner of the Christian community - many among his own country's politically powerful evangelicals who see God's hand in the modern-day return of Jews to a biblical homeland.

Trump convened a circle of evangelical advisers during his presidential bid, and he was the overwhelming favorite of white evangelical voters in last year's U.S. election.

"We are all bible-believers and we believe that this is the bible-land and that Jerusalem is the ancient capital of Israel back to the days of King David," said Dallas-based Mike Evans, part of an evangelical group that met Trump on Monday.

Editor CEC responds; [Who are these "powerful evangelicals"](#) who wish war on the people of Palestine because of their distorted view that war serves their god? Some call themselves Christian Zionists, and Mike Evans is one of these.