

TEN SUGGESTIONS FOR WORKING WITH CONGREGATIONS

1. Tie this concern to the Biblical notion of peace and peacemaking. Emphasize that peacemaking is a central concern for most religions.
2. Try to find a member of the congregation to advise you in how to proceed in the congregation. Normally, don't start with the clergy, though you may be told that he or she is the best person with whom to start.
3. Suggest that they start with a 30-minute film (see the list of five films on the website www.interfaithdronenetwork.org) and described in the packet to be shown in the hour-long adult education class with discussion.
4. Find ways to integrate the concerned about drone warfare into the life of the congregation e.g. minute for mission, or discussion by women's group.
5. Choose a strategy that fits in with where the congregation is in terms of the level of understanding or commitment. Use a 1 to 10 scale. A strategy like letter writing might either make sense or it might be seen as inappropriate.
6. Worship can be difficult to access, but it can be very helpful if you can do it.
7. Public policy emphasis is appropriate because we want a solution that will help limit or ban drone warfare. But unless that is where the congregation is, don't start there.
8. Activities should be both congregational and individual.
9. Check out if the national denominational body has worked on the issue or has approved a statement. Go to the Interfaith Network on Drone Warfare's page (<http://bit.ly/dronestatements>) which has statements by ten denominations. Inform the congregation of what the national denomination is doing.
10. Let someone in the congregation suggest that the youth should study drone warfare, not you. It might be a controversial suggestion.