

## **Because We Care**

Whereas Christians in the Holy Land have issued an urgent call to Christians, churches and ecumenical institutions “to engage in a process of study, reflection and confession concerning the historic and systemic deprivation of the rights of the Palestinian people, and the use of the Bible by many to justify and support this oppression.” (Cry for Hope: A Call to Decisive Action: [www.cryforhope.org](http://www.cryforhope.org)); and

Whereas we cannot serve God faithfully while remaining silent about the oppression of the Palestinian people; and

Whereas struggling for a future based on human rights, liberty, and justice for all people in the Holy Land is especially crucial now; and

Whereas the justice movement United Methodists for Kairos Response (UMKR) was established in 2010 to answer the call of Palestinian Christians and offers resources, speakers, and other assistance for individuals and congregations seeking to learn about the Holy Land and become advocates for justice and peace;

Therefore, be it resolved that each voting member of the conference bring this message to their home congregation; and

Be it further resolved that each church in the \_\_\_\_\_ Conference is strongly encouraged to:

- Engage in study and discussion of “Cry for Hope” and learn more about the Palestinian people and their struggle with UMKR educational materials at [www.kairosresponse.org](http://www.kairosresponse.org).
- Oppose the equating of criticism of the Israeli government’s unjust actions with antisemitism.
- Answer Palestinian Christians’ call to “come and see” the reality of their lives today in the Holy Land.
- Locate a knowledgeable and available speaker, in consultation with UMKR justice advocates, and arrange for that person to speak to the congregation on this subject.