



**PETITION TO THE GENERAL BOARD  
OF PENSION AND HEALTH BENEFITS, UMC**  
FOR UNITED METHODISTS WHO PARTICIPATE  
IN GBPHB PLANS AND SERVICES

*Please note: the first two lines of information are required. We expect to publish our list on our website in the future: [www.kairosresponse.org](http://www.kairosresponse.org). Your email address will never be shared with others.*

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To the United Methodist Church General Board of Pension and Health Benefits:

We, the undersigned General Board of Pension and Health Benefits participants, ask that the Board disinvest from companies sustaining the illegal Israeli occupation and screen future investments for companies which a) have a physical presence on occupied land; b) build or equip the infrastructure of the occupation; or c) supply the Israeli military with arms, materials or equipment used in the occupation of Palestinian land or attacks on civilians. United Methodist principles and policies, as well as GBPHB's own commitment to socially responsible investing, support divesting from the occupation. The Book of Discipline discourages investment in companies "that directly or indirectly support the violation of human rights." We know that human rights are violated every day in the Palestinian territories through illegal settlements, checkpoints, segregated roads, the separation wall, home demolitions, and military incursions. United Methodist researchers have identified 11 companies in GBPHB's portfolio that profit from the occupation. Three of these – Caterpillar, Motorola, and Hewlett-Packard – have been repeatedly engaged by United Methodists, but have continued their involvement.

For more than 40 years, United Methodist resolutions have called for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, including an end to the confiscation of Palestinian land and the construction of settlements. In addition, Palestinian Christians have asked the global church to take action – including divestment – to end the occupation that is devastating their communities. We believe the time has come to make United Methodist pensions and health benefits occupation-free. We hopefully and prayerfully request that GBPHB take this important step.

Sincerely,  
The Undersigned

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