

# Experience the Holy Land

The United Methodist Way

The Holy Land holds profound significance for United Methodists, as it does for all Christians, Jews and Muslims. We “walk where Jesus walked” and feel a connection perhaps never before experienced. We also encounter the real people living and working in this region, all children of one God.

We urge you to use the UMC General Conference resolutions on Israel/Palestine to live our values in this most holy of places.

Tell your tour organizer it is important to you that your tour comply with these important aspects.

The organizers included in this package will help you experience the Holy Land the United Methodist way.



## Questions to Ask Tour Organizers

Whether you are leading a tour or going on one organized earlier, please ask the following questions to help discern whether the tour follows UMC General Conference resolutions regarding the Holy Land.

- Will we have opportunities to visit and worship with Palestinian Christians?
- Can you assure us that none of the hotels or restaurants we will use are located in the settlements, or on Israeli occupied land in East Jerusalem?
- Will we spend at least one night in Bethlehem with opportunities to meet local people beyond tourist sites and shopping?
- Will we visit at least two UMC Advance Special Missions?

Walk with the people of our faith  
In the place where it all began.



We invite you to experience the Holy Land of the past and the present by breaking bread and worshipping with the descendants of the original disciples of Christ who kept our faith alive through the ages.

For decades, millions of Christians have come to the Holy Land only as spectators, touring holy sites as they would museums, not knowing that these are living places of worship and never realizing that their pilgrimage was missing something very important: meaningful interaction with those who share our faith.

The tours included in this packet range from intensive Biblical studies to studies of the current realities affecting all the people of Israel/Palestine. They all provide significant opportunities to know the Christians of the Holy Land.

## United Methodist Advance Special Missions

- Methodist Liaison Office – Jerusalem
- United Methodist Missionaries
- Wi'am Community Empowerment & Conflict Transformation
- Wadi Foquin Community Development Project
- Shepherd Society
- Sabeel Youth
- Palestine Nationals in Mission
- Mar Elias Peace Study Center
- Jerusalem Princess Basma Center for Disabled Children
- Jerusalem Church Renovation
- Hope Secondary School
- Four Homes of Mercy-Home for the Disabled
- Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees – Middle East Council of Churches
- Bethlehem Bible College, Vision 20-20
- Augmenting Food Production & Income in Times of Siege: Urban Gardens

## Clergy Continuing Education Credits

We recommend that you submit your itinerary to your conference Office of Continuing Education which will evaluate it for CEUs. All the recommended tours in this packet are provided by highly regarded tour organizers with many years of experience.

## Methodist Liaison Office

The Liaison Office can help you design your tour and would like to speak to your group while you are there. Contact the office at:

admin@methodist-jer.org  
or encounter@methodist-jer.org

## Additional tour opportunities

More tour providers can be found on the UMKR website: [KairosResponse.org](http://KairosResponse.org). Click on "Tours." These tours also follow UM resolutions and offer excellent opportunities to experience the Holy Land the United Methodist way.

