

# ANSWERING THE CALL



AN INDEPENDENT MOVEMENT FOR PALESTINIAN RIGHTS, GROWING IN THE GRASSROOTS OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## It began in Bethlehem...

They called to us from the city of Christ's birth, in the Christmas season of 2009. Palestinian Christians sent their fellow believers around the world a heartfelt message of faith, hope and love...**and an urgent call to action: "Kairos Palestine: A Moment of Truth."**

Less than a year later, **United Methodists for Kairos Response (UMKR)** was born. From a small band of 25 disciples in October 2010, UMKR has grown into a multi-faceted, diverse movement of laity and clergy in dozens of annual conferences on four continents.

**For decades, the Palestinian people have endured horrific crimes against humanity under a brutal,** never-ending military occupation: rampant ethnic cleansing and state-sanctioned terror; massive destruction of homes, businesses, and farmland; thousands of children arrested and abused; the illegal Separation Wall, hundreds of checkpoints, and the devastating blockade of Gaza turn their communities into prisons.



Palestinian Christians at the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem

*“Are you able to help us get  
our freedom back?”*

*For this is the only way you can  
help the two peoples attain  
justice, peace, security and love.*

The Kairos Palestine Document: A Moment of Truth

**The time has come  
for Christians to answer the Palestinians'  
call and help to end their suffering,  
by offering MORE than words of support.**

See how United Methodists are doing that



# Join us in answering their call!

History has shown us that, working together and with God's help, we are powerful! UMKR works locally and globally in the UMC and with ecumenical, interfaith, and secular partners, using effective, nonviolent advocacy tools. *We invite you to join us as we put our faith into action, for the transformation of the world.* **Here are some ways we can take UNITED ACTION to bring equality, justice, and freedom to all the people of this land we call "holy."**



## BOYCOTT

"Kairos Palestine" tells us that boycotting and divesting from the occupation can help achieve a just peace in the Holy Land. Since 2012, our church has called for a global boycott of products from the illegal Israeli settlements. **JOIN** the current boycott campaigns - see UMKR's campaigns at our website.

## DIVESTMENT

From years of advocacy in the church, the UMC has been a divestment leader: G4S in June 2014, major Israeli banks in Dec. 2015, and the first church to vote for divesting of Israeli government bonds in April 2024, all these due to violations of Palestinians' human rights. **SUPPORT** our ongoing divestment advocacy.

Rabbi Brant Rosen of the Rabbinical Council of Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP) speaks at a UMKR event in Florida.



## POLITICAL ACTION

To achieve a just peace, the U.S. must change its unconditional funding and support for Israeli oppression of the indigenous people of Palestine. **SUBSCRIBE** to our News & Action to **JOIN** with thousands of justice advocates making an impact in the halls of power.

## EDUCATION

Peacemaking begins with understanding the issues: *it's not hard to **LEARN** about recent history in Palestine/Israel, and the current situation.* We can help you with resources for individuals, study groups and special events, worship materials, and recommended speakers. See our website & contact us!

## ETHICAL TOURISM

For a once-in-a-lifetime experience, *answer the Palestinians' urgent invitation to **"COME and SEE."*** Find recommended tours on our website: many include visiting biblical sites; all include learning about today's reality from the Holy Land's "living stones" – the wonderful people of Palestine/Israel.

**Get involved in this vital justice work:** VISIT US: [www.KairosResponse.org](http://www.KairosResponse.org)  
SUBSCRIBE to UMKR news & action! USE our resources to LEARN & SHARE CONTACT US:  
[info@kairosresponse.org](mailto:info@kairosresponse.org) FOLLOW US: [facebook.com/UMKairosResponse](https://facebook.com/UMKairosResponse) @UMKairosResp