

# QUICK FACTS:

## UNITED METHODISTS & ISRAEL/PALESTINE

The UMC has opposed Israel's illegal and brutal military occupation of Palestinian land, **since the 1980's.**

"The United Methodist Church opposes continued military occupation of the West Bank, Gaza, and East Jerusalem, the confiscation of Palestinian land and water resources, the destruction of Palestinian homes, the continued building of illegal Jewish settlements, and any vision of a "Greater Israel" that includes the occupied territories and the whole of Jerusalem and its surroundings." #6111, UMC Book of Resolutions 2016

Scan this to see the KP Doc ↓

### BETHLEHEM, DEC. 2009

PALESTINIAN CHRISTIANS SEND AN URGENT CALL TO THE GLOBAL CHURCH FOR MEANINGFUL ACTIONS TO END THE ISRAELI OCCUPATION, NAMING BOYCOTT AND DIVESTMENT AS NONVIOLENT ACTIONS THAT WOULD HELP THEM.



*"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."*

**Kairos Palestine Document**

**MORE FACTS** →

**OCTOBER 2010,** **United Methodists for Kairos Response (UMKR) is founded.**



### GENERAL CONFERENCE 2012

UMKR CALLS FOR THE UMC TO PUT ITS WORDS INTO ACTION: *DIVEST FROM THE OCCUPATION.*



### JUNE 2014 *The New York Times*

***Methodist Church Pension Board Links Divestment to Firm's Role in Israeli Prisons***

THE WORLD HEARS THE UMC DIVESTED FROM THE INTERNATIONAL SECURITY FIRM, G4S – THE FIRST OF THE "MAINLINE" CHURCHES TO DIVEST FROM A COMPANY FOR VIOLATIONS OF PALESTINIANS' HUMAN RIGHTS.

# 16

Annual Conferences, as of 2015, have taken votes in support of United Methodist divestment from the Israeli occupation.

Baltimore-Washington, California-Nevada, California-Pacific, Desert Southwest, Detroit, Pacific Northwest, Oregon-Idaho, Minnesota, New England, New York, Northern Illinois, Susquehanna, Upper New York, Virginia, West Ohio, & Western Michigan

## MORE UM DIVESTMENT

The New York Times

THE HUFFINGTON POST

USNews & WORLD REPORT

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

The Washington Post

**JANUARY 2016:** GLOBAL HEADLINES ANNOUNCE LANDMARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ACTION: PENSION BOARD BARS INVESTMENT IN FIVE ISRAELI BANKS AND ISRAELI CONSTRUCTION COMPANY BECAUSE THEY VIOLATE PALESTINIAN HUMAN RIGHTS.

**2015:** RESPONDING TO THE MOST RECENT CALLS FROM CONFERENCES, THE UMC PENSION BOARD EXCLUDES COMPANIES THAT ADVOCATES HAVE FOCUSED ON (CATERPILLAR, HEWLETT PACKARD, & MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS) FROM THEIR NEW FUND:

**EQUITY SOCIAL  
VALUES PLUS**

## Protecting Free Speech

**JULY 2016:** Western Jurisdictional Conference, representing 8 annual conferences in the Western US, Hawaii and Alaska, *unanimously opposes any state or federal legislation that seeks to penalize those who boycott and divest in support of Palestinian rights.*

## UMC CALLS FOR GLOBAL BOYCOTT

Scan this to see Res. #6111



**MAY 2012:** "WE [the United Methodist Church] FURTHER CALL ON ALL NATIONS TO PROHIBIT...THE IMPORT OF PRODUCTS MADE BY COMPANIES IN ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS ON PALESTINIAN LAND."

#6111 Book of Resolutions 2016

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*An international grassroots peace movement with justice advocates in over 35 annual conferences, UMKR seeks – through nonviolent action and in partnership with our Palestinian sisters and brothers in Christ – freedom, justice and equality for all Palestinians and Israelis.*

**UMKR'S ACTION AREAS: DIVESTMENT, BOYCOTT, POLITICAL ADVOCACY, EDUCATION ON ISRAEL/PALESTINE & HOLY LAND TOURISM**

UMKR works with United Methodist agencies and church caucuses – GBCS, GBGM, Wespeth, UMC ethnic caucuses, MFSA – and beyond: Kairos Palestine, Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP), American Muslims for Palestine (AMP), US Campaign for Palestinian Rights, Friends of Sabeel North America (FOSNA), Kairos USA, AFSC, and many other partners in the US and around the world.