



*It's time to cut United Methodist ties
to the occupation of Palestinian land*



Who Supports Divestment?



A 'cloud of witnesses.' See who and why »

Please support petition 21071: *Aligning UM Investments with Resolutions on Israel/Palestine* at General Conference 2012. Visit www.kairosresponse.org for more information about the petition and the issues discussed in this publication.

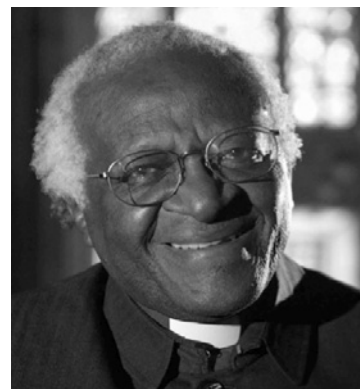


“GBGM joins with GBCS in one voice to endorse the “Aligning” resolution as we respond to the cries of our sisters and brothers in Israel/Palestine-- and as we seek to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.”

ARCHBISHOP DESMOND TUTU

Nobel Prize Recipient

“I have been to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and I have witnessed the racially segregated roads and housing that reminded me so much of the conditions we experienced in South Africa under the racist system of Apartheid... In South Africa, we could not have achieved our freedom and just peace without the help of people around the world, who through the use of non-violent means, such as boycotts and divestment, encouraged their governments and other corporate actors to reverse decades-long support for the Apartheid regime.”



HEDY EPSTEIN, Holocaust Survivor: “The Palestinians I met, who extended hospitality to me unlike any I have received anywhere, agreed with me that ‘we are not enemies’ Many of them asked me to tell Americans what I have seen and experienced, a commitment I made and try to honor whenever, wherever I can. I am encouraged to continue doing this in the knowledge and support of the work of United Methodists, and join them in their efforts re: divestment.”



HAJO MEYER, Holocaust Survivor: “I am fully behind the attempt of the United Methodist Church to divest from companies that support Israel’s occupation. Allowing Israel to behave towards the Palestinians as if they were not normal human beings just like us eventually will lead to an ever progressing dehumanisation of mankind.”

RABBI MICHAEL LERNER

Named by Newsweek one of America’s most influential rabbis

“[Selective divestment] seeks to provide a way for those who oppose the Occupation to take actions in their own personal lives that reflect their ethical outrage at Israeli policies....It does not target Israel as a society; it targets only the Occupation itself.”





BISHOP MARY ANN SWENSON

California-Pacific Conference, UMC

Following her November 2011 visit to the Holy Land: "I came home from this pilgrimage firmly believing that United Methodists must stand in solidarity with our Christian brethren in Palestine....Please do not neglect this God-given opportunity for our church to show that we truly mean what we have said in past resolutions, and that we will not knowingly support the injustice of the occupation with our investment funds."

"We urge you to vote in favor of the resolution "Aligning United Methodist Investments with Resolutions on Israel/Palestine....to follow the path of peacemakers by following Micah's prophetic call to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God.



"We believe that doing justice requires you to take a look at the investment that your church may have in companies that profit from the Israeli occupation and are obstacles to a just peace in Israel and Palestine. Divesting from these companies is not about divesting from Israel. It is about divesting from war and injustice while pressuring companies to conduct their own businesses ethically.



TINA WHITEHEAD

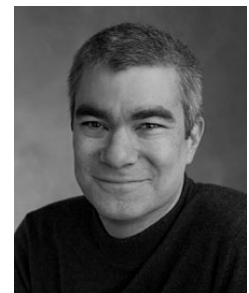
UM Missionary in Jerusalem and Delegate to General Conference 2012

"The United Methodist Church has already taken a stand against the oppression that is taking place here. It also has resolutions that speak against the financial support of any organization or body that profits from the suffering of others. All we are asking is that we put in action what we have already said in words."

Rabbi Brant Rosen

Co-founder of Ta'anit Tzedek, Jewish Fast for Gaza

"When will we find the wherewithal to say out loud that this policy of home demolitions, checkpoints, evictions, increased Jewish settlements, and land expropriations is inhumane and indefensible? At the very least, will we be ready to put our money where our moral conscience is?"



Today we ask the same questions of the United Methodist Church.

CHRISTIANS OF THE HOLY LAND

More than 2500 Christians of Palestine have signed the Kairos Palestine Document. They are speaking to us:

"Our question to our brothers and sisters in the Churches today is: 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?"



Speaking of divestment, they have said: "These advocacy campaigns must be carried out with courage, openly and sincerely proclaiming that their object is not revenge but rather to put an end to the existing evil, liberating both the perpetrators and the victims of injustice.... In this spirit and with this dedication we will eventually reach the longed-for resolution to our problems, as indeed happened in South Africa and with many other liberation movements in the world."

Christians support Economic Action to end the Occupation



NATIONAL COALITION OF AMERICAN NUNS

Jewish Support in Israel and around the world

- Jewish Voice for Peace (USA) • European Jews for a Just Peace (18 Jewish organizations in 9 countries)
- Women's International League for Peace & Freedom (Israel) • Jews Against the Occupation (USA) • International Jewish Anti-Zionist Network • American Jews for a Just Peace (USA)
- Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions (Israel) • Jews for Boycotting Israeli Goods • Independent Jewish Voices (Canada)
- Australian Jewish Democratic Society (Australia) • New Profile (Israel) • Rete-ECO (Italy) • Union Juive Française Pour la Paix (France) • Coalition of Women for Peace (Israel) • Jews for Justice for Palestinians (UK) • Boycott from Within (Israel)
- Alternative Information Center (Israel) • Gush Shalom (Israel) • Jewish Voice for a Just Peace in the Near East (Austria) • Critical Jewish Voice (Austria) • Not In Our Name (Argentina) • Union des Progressistes Juifs de Belgique (Belgium)
- European Jews for a Just Peace (Denmark) • Jewish Voice for a Just Peace in Middle East (Germany) • A Different Jewish Voice (Netherlands) • Jews for Israeli-Palestinian Peace (Sweden)