



## **Annual Conference Successes in 2017**

Find the full text of most of these resolutions in "Resources" at [www.kairosresponse.org](http://www.kairosresponse.org)

### **LISTED BY RESOLUTION**

#### **Holy Land Travel**

Adopted by 4 annual conferences and endorsed by bishop in 2 annual conferences in 2017  
*Promotes responsible tourism in the Holy Land: travel to West Bank, overnight stay in Bethlehem, meeting with Palestinians, worship with Palestinian Christians, connecting with UMC missionaries, etc.*

California-Pacific

Desert Southwest

Missouri (resolution withdrawn, endorsed by bishop, funding promised for trip for conference leaders)

Northern Illinois

Virginia

West Ohio (resolution withdrawn, strong public endorsement by bishop)

#### **Advocating for the Rights of Children Living Under Israeli Military Occupation**

Adopted by 2 annual conferences in 2017

*Opposes "widespread, systematic, and institutionalized" abuse of Palestinian children while in detention, and in military courts and prisons; call on US to apply laws regarding use of foreign aid and to ratify the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child; calls on UMs to contact officials; encourages more education & advocacy with partners.*

California-Nevada

Northern Illinois

#### **Investing in ESVPF (Equities Social Values Plus Fund)**

Adopted by 5 annual conferences in 2017

*Encourages use of UMC investment fund that excludes HP, Caterpillar and Motorola Solutions and is close to occupation-free; can be used by UM investment managers and pastors and lay employees with church pensions.*

California-Pacific

New England

Northern Illinois

Susquehanna

Upper New York

#### **Protecting the Right to Peacefully Address Injustice through Boycotts, Divestment and Sanctions**

Adopted by 7 annual conferences in 2017; adopted by one annual conference and one jurisdictional conference in 2016

*Opposes the wave of anti-BDS legislation that threatens to stigmatize and penalize individuals, companies and other entities that support or engage in boycott and divestment actions for Palestinian human rights.*

California-Nevada (in 2016)

Desert Southwest

Florida

Great Plains

Minnesota

New England

Oregon-Idaho

Upper New York

Western Jurisdictional Conference (in 2016) - This jurisdiction includes 8 annual conferences: Alaska, Pacific Northwest, Yellowstone, Oregon-Idaho, Rocky Mountain, California-Nevada, California-Pacific, and Desert Southwest.

### **HP Boycott: Avoid Hewlett Packard Purchases**

Adopted by 3 Annual Conferences in 2017

*Recommends boycott of HP products due to corporate complicity in many facets of the Israeli occupation: technology for checkpoints, IT services & equipment for Israeli Navy blockading Gaza, services for illegal settlements and more.*

Baltimore-Washington

California- Nevada (mandated a study of HP's role in Israel/Palestine)

Upper New York

### **Promoting Human Rights of Palestinians**

Adopted by one annual conference in 2017.

*Setting up a conference task force to study divestment from the Israeli occupation.*

East Ohio

### **Holding Israel Accountable for its Actions in Palestine**

Adopted by one annual conference in 2017

*Calls for respecting the "equality and dignity of all the region's people."*

Wisconsin

## **THE SAME RESOLUTIONS, LISTED BY REGIONAL BODIES**

### **NORTHEASTERN JURISDICTION**

**Baltimore-Washington** passed the HP Boycott resolution. A divestment resolution did not pass, but advocates found common ground with their conference foundation (which invests funds for the conference) and will be in dialogue with them this year.

**New England** passed three resolutions: the HP Boycott, Investing in ESVPF and Protecting the Right to Peacefully Address Injustice.

**Susquehanna** passed Investing in ESVPF.

**Upper NY** passed resolutions for the HP Boycott, Investing in ESVPF, and Protecting the Right to Peacefully Address Injustice.

## **SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTION**

**Virginia** passed Holy Land Travel.

**Florida** passed Protecting the Right to Peacefully Address Injustice.

## **NORTH CENTRAL JURISDICTION**

**East Ohio** passed the resolution Promoting Human Rights of Palestinians, setting up a task force to study the option of divestment from the Israeli occupation.

**Northern Illinois** passed three resolutions: Holy Land Travel, Investing in ESVPF, and Advocating for the Rights of Children Living Under Israeli Military Occupation.

**Minnesota** passed our Protecting the Right to Peacefully Address Injustice.

**West Ohio** withdrew the Holy Land Travel resolution on the condition that their bishop would make a strong public endorsement of responsible Holy Land travel, which he did.

**Wisconsin** passed the resolution Holding Israel Accountable for Its Actions in Palestine. It called for respecting the "equality and dignity of all the region's people."

## **SOUTH CENTRAL JURISDICTION**

**Great Plains** passed Protecting the Right to Peacefully Address Injustice.

**Missouri** withdrew their resolution "O Little Town of Bethlehem" - asking for conference-funded travel for conference leaders on a recommended tour to the Holy Land - on the condition that it would be publicly endorsed by the bishop, which it was; funding has been promised for a trip for conference leaders.

## **WESTERN JURISDICTION**

**California-Nevada** passed Advocating for the Rights of Children Living Under Israeli Military Occupation and a modified version of the HP Boycott resolution that asks the conference to

study HP involvement in the Israeli occupation, and also study the international BDS movement.

**California-Pacific** passed two resolutions, Investing in ESVPF and Holy Land Tours.

**Desert Southwest** also passed two resolutions, Holy Land Travel and Protecting the Right to Peacefully Address Injustice.

**Oregon-Idaho** passed Protecting the Right to Peacefully Address Injustice.

**Pacific Northwest** referred a resolution entitled Education on Kairos to their conference Board of Church and Society.