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UMKR Response to the Pension Board's Resolution

UMKR is not surprised by the Pension Board's (GBPHB) decision to oppose the broad grassroots movement in the church to align our investments with our resolutions on Israel/Palestine.ⁱ We know they prefer that their funds remain in current stocks. Yet when these investments undermine clearly established goals set by our denomination, it is time to address the contradiction.

Many important groups within our church agree: The General Board of Church and Society, General Board of Global Ministries, Black Methodists for Church Renewal, the Japanese American Clergy Caucus, the Hispanic/Latino Caucus of the United Methodist Church and the Methodist Church of Puerto Rico (MARCHA), the Western Jurisdiction Inter-Ethnic Coordinating Committee, the Western Jurisdiction Coordinating Committee on Asian American Ministries, seven annual conferences, and various conference committees and caucuses.ⁱⁱ We have also received an outpouring of support from people of other faiths, including many Jewish people and organizations.ⁱⁱⁱ

The Pension Board resolution contains many misstatements, none of which are footnoted. UMKR footnotes all its work. We have reviewed the resolution and provided a detailed response with this release and on our web site at www.kairosresponse.org/Response. It includes careful documentation of all our statements.

The question for General Conference delegates is simple: **Should our church profit from an occupation which it has repeatedly said it wants to end?** We are confident that the men and women of our denomination will speak clearly when they answer the call from Christians in the Holy Land to put actions behind our words for a just peace.

ⁱ Hodges, Sam, "Pension Board Says No to Divestment," *UM Portal*, March 9, 2012,
<http://www.umportal.org/article.asp?id=8673>

ⁱⁱ https://www.kairosresponse.org/Group_Endorsements.html

ⁱⁱⁱ https://www.kairosresponse.org/Group_Endorsements.html,
https://www.kairosresponse.org/Endorsement_Statements.htm,
<http://www.unitedmethodistdivestment.org/LetterSupportIsraelis.htm>,
<http://www.unitedmethodistdivestment.com/SupportFromJewishGroups.html>