

R#2024-6, "A Call for Peace with Justice in the Middle East"

The Michigan United Methodist Conference urges United Methodists to call on Congress and the President to support steps for establishing a peace based on justice for all peoples in Israel and Palestine. We urge United Methodists to take steps in their own communities to build peaceful relationships with and deeper understanding of their Jewish and Muslim neighbors. To that end, we encourage United Methodists to:

1. Condemn violence in all its forms, whether perpetrated by Hamas and other terrorist groups, or the IDF (Israel Defense Forces).
2. Call for a ceasefire by all parties so that innocent Palestinian and Israeli citizens can rebuild their lives and work toward establishing a just peace.
3. Communicate directly and regularly with our elected representatives to support policies that lead to a peaceful and just resolution for all people in the Middle East, such as policies supported by the General Board of Church and Society's recommendations for legislation.
4. Work toward eliminating Antisemitism and Islamophobia.
5. Include Palestinian and Israeli histories and issues into ABAR (Anti-Bias, Anti-Racist) training.

Finally, we resolve that until lasting efforts toward peace are made, the Michigan Conference of The United Methodist Church will not advertise, encourage, or support Holy Land excursions including those promoted by and offered through Educational Opportunities Tours.

*This resolution was passed by the 2024 Michigan Annual Conference.