

PEACEBUILDING

What does the Bible say?

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. **(Matthew 5:9)**

But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven. **(Matthew 5:44-45a)**

And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. **(Matthew 6:12, 14-15)**

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. (Romans 12:21)
So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation. **(2 Corinthians 5:17-18)**



What does the United Methodist Church say?

We urge the church to care and work for systemic justice for all people affected by war, and to advocate for peacemaking and nonviolent conflict transformation in global and local conflicts. **(Social Principles, ¶ 163.F)**

The church deplores war and all other forms of violent conflict and urges the peaceful settlement of all disputes. We yearn for the day when there will be no more war and people will live together in peace and justice. **(Social Principles, ¶ 163.F)**

We must advocate for the reallocation of national military budgets for purposes that are humanitarian and sustainable, and promote civilian peacebuilding and conflict transformation. **(2020/2024 Book of Resolutions, #4111, “The United Methodist Church and Peace”)**



CHURCH & SOCIETY

The United Methodist Church

Living **FAITH** Seeking **JUSTICE** Pursuing **PEACE**

PEACEBUILDING

What do the facts say?

Conflict theorists often use three terms: peacekeeping, peacemaking, and peacebuilding.¹



- **PEACEKEEPING** means keeping people from attacking each other by placing neutral soldiers – peacekeepers – from the UN or a group of neutral nations. The soldiers do nothing to settle the conflict.
- **PEACEMAKING** is the process of forging a settlement between the disputing parties.
- **PEACEBUILDING** is a process that facilitates the establishment of durable peace to prevent the recurrence of violence by addressing root causes and effects of conflict reconciliation, institution building, and political as well as economic transformation.

¹ Conflict Research Consortium, University of Colorado

What do you say?

Take **ACTION** for justice...



- **Support** and **promote** Peace with Justice Sunday, one of the six special Sundays that provides funding for peace with justice programs in your Annual Conference and the Church and Society Peace with Justice Program.
- **Get in touch** with your Peace With Justice coordinator to learn about the priorities in your Annual Conference around peacebuilding.
- If you reside in the U.S., **urge your Senators and Representative** to support robust funding levels for critical accounts within the federal budget that work to prevent violent conflict and atrocities as well help to protect civilians at risk around the world.

For more information contact:
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