

2025 – 2026 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES THE PEACE WITH JUSTICE PORTFOLIO

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH GENERAL BOARD OF CHURCH AND SOCIETY

In a world plagued by war and terror, violence and destruction, the Peace With Justice portfolio seeks to disrupt the conditions and systems that perpetuate injustice. As these issues have been adopted by the General Conference of The United Methodist Church, the General Board of Church and Society upholds the mandate of the Social Principles and advocates in the United States, Europe, Africa, and Asia.

Peace on the Korean Peninsula

“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. We reject the use of war as an instrument of foreign policy and insist that every peaceful and diplomatic means of resolution be exhausted before the start of armed conflicts.” (The Political Community, Government Responsibilities, F. War and Military Service)

Human Rights in the Philippines

“We reject governmental use of threats, extortion, unlawful detentions, extrajudicial killings, and other forms of coercion to silence political opponents and those objecting to unlawful or immoral government policies and practices. In keeping with international laws and ordinances, we vehemently protest the use of torture, slavery, genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and crimes of aggression by any government and call for the strictest international sanctions to be imposed in such cases.” (The Political Community, Government Responsibilities, A. Church and Governments)

A Just Peace in Israel and Palestine

“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.” (The Political Community, Government Responsibilities, F. War and Military Service)

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CHURCH & SOCIETY

The United Methodist Church

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

Ending Violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

“We yearn for the day when there will be no more war and people will live together in peace and justice.” (The Political Community, Government Responsibilities, F. War and Military Service)

Gun Violence Prevention

“The church deplores war and all other forms of violent conflict and urges the peaceful settlement of all disputes.” (The Political Community, Government Responsibilities, F. War and Military Service)

Nuclear Abolition

“...We oppose the increasing reliance on preemptive strikes unless they can be clearly demonstrated to be proportionate in response, delimited in human casualties, and undertaken in response to clear and immediate threats to human lives. We grieve that in a world where so many live in poverty, governments continue to dedicate enormous resources to preparing for and conducting wars. We are especially distressed by the proliferation of nuclear weapons and call not only for an end to their production, but for their complete elimination.” (The Political Community, Government Responsibilities, F. War and Military Service)

International Conventional Disarmament

“We reject the use of war as an instrument of foreign policy and insist that every peaceful and diplomatic means of resolution be exhausted before the start of armed conflicts.” (The Political Community, Government Responsibilities, F. War and Military Service)

Defense Spending

“We grieve that in a world where so many live in poverty, governments continue to dedicate enormous resources to preparing for and conducting wars.” (The Political Community, Government Responsibilities, F. War and Military Service)

Lifting the Embargo of Cuba

“In recognition that developed nations now consume the vast majority of the world’s natural resources, we also support international policies and cooperative efforts aimed at producing economies that are more just and that promote human flourishing.” (The Economic Community, Economic Justice, A. Responsible Consumerism)

