

PEACE WITH JUSTICE

What does the Bible say?

For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. **(Ephesians 2:14)**

They [nations] shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. **(Isaiah 2:4b)**

How I wish today that you of all people would understand the way to peace. But now it is too late, and peace is hidden from your eyes. **(Luke 19:42)**

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. **(John 14:27)**

Let us then pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding. **(Romans 14:19)**



What does the United Methodist Church say?

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 call all Methodist and Ecumenical partners to embark on prayerful advocacy, working for the formal end of the Korean War, urging the international community to expedite negotiations for such a peace agreement, and pursuing other steps...through advocacy efforts such as emails, calls, petitions, and other efforts. **(2020/2024 Book of Resolutions, #4112, “Korea: Peace, Justice, and Reunification)**

In support of the Korean people and in cooperation with partner Christian groups, it is recommended that The United Methodist Church, its members, local churches, annual conferences, and agencies engage in prayer of penitence and petition with the Korean people and with Christians in the North and South, scarred and pained by the division of their nation and yearning for reunion... It is recommended that The United Methodist Church, its members, local churches, annual conferences, and agencies also work for...policy shifts through intercession, education, public advocacy, and support of programs furthering justice, peace, and reconciliation. **(2020/2024 Book of Resolutions, #4112, “Korea: Peace, Justice, and Reunification)**



PEACE ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA



CHURCH & SOCIETY

The United Methodist Church

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

PEACE ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA

What do the facts say?

- Since the signing of the armistice agreement in July 1953, millions of families have been separated by the world's most militarized border.¹ Churches, ecumenical bodies and civil society groups have called for the replacement of the armistice agreement with a peace agreement.
- During the 2018–2019 period, South Korean President Moon Jae-in and North Korean Supreme Leader Kim Jong-un were in direct contact with each other in ways never seen before. The direct engagement of President Donald Trump of the United States with Supreme Leader Kim as well proved the importance of diplomatic engagement and person-to-person dialogue in addressing difficult peace and security concerns between and among countries.
- North Korean missile tests, the deployment of the U.S. Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) missile defense system, and ongoing joint U.S.-South Korean military exercises contribute to tensions on the Korean Peninsula and northeast Asia region.²



¹ *Journal of Korean Studies*, ² *Korea Peace Now*

What do you say?

Take **ACTION** for justice...

- **Advocate** with your government for policies that prioritize diplomacy, engagement, and peacebuilding on the Korean Peninsula. Advocate for a peace agreement to finally end the Korean War.
- **Educate** your local church about the situation on the Korean Peninsula. See resources at nckkoreapeace.com and womencrossdmz.org.
- **Pray** with North and South Korean Christians, using their August 15, 2022 joint prayer for peace and reconciliation: <https://pcusa.org/sites/default/files/2025-01/Joint-North-South-Prayer-2019-8-15-ENG.pdf>
- **Sign up** for email alerts on Korea peace, including action alerts on legislation and participating in Korea Peace Advocacy Week, at <https://www.umcjustice.org/>.
- **Invite** members of the Peace Committee of the Association of Korean Churches in the United Methodist Church and the inter-agency United Methodist Korea Peace Table to speak at your events. Contact Rev. We Hyun Chang at chochangfamily@gmail.com.



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