

PEACE WITH JUSTICE

What does the Bible say?

Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy. **(Proverbs 31:8–9)**

Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. **(Matthew 5:44)**



What does the United Methodist Church say?

Our involvement in political systems is rooted in the Gospel imperative to love our neighbors, to do justice, and to care for the vulnerable. As United Methodists, we acknowledge that love requires responsible political action and engagement aimed at the betterment of society and the promotion of the common good. **(Social Principles ¶ 163)**



The economic embargo has for over fifty-five years created unnecessary suffering and many hardships on the people of Cuba while preventing U.S. citizens from traveling freely to Cuba in the exercise of their constitutional rights and curtailing the ability of churches to provide missional support freely to its sisters and brothers on the island. **(2020/2024 Book of Resolutions, #4105, “Lift the U.S. Embargo of Cuba”)**

LIFT THE EMBARGO OF CUBA



CHURCH & SOCIETY

The United Methodist Church

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

LIFT THE EMBARGO OF CUBA

What do the facts say?

- In 2023, the United Nations estimated that the United States' economic embargo of Cuba has caused "trillions of dollars" in total economic damage to the Cuban economy since inception in 1962.¹
- Cuba is facing a major economic and humanitarian crisis, with shortages of food, fuel and electricity, due in part to the U.S. embargo.²
- The U.S. embargo has adverse consequences for Cubans, affecting the health and welfare of women, children, and people living with cancer and HIV/AIDS. Complex licensing requirements prevent food, medicine, and medical equipment from reaching Cubans.³
- Easing U.S. restrictions on trade and business with Cuba could increase U.S. exports by \$1.4 billion annually over five years, with even bigger gains possible.⁴



¹ United Nations, ² Amnesty International, ³ Washington Office on Latin America, ⁴ The International Trade Commission

What do you say?

Take **ACTION** for justice...

- **Engage** in prayer, reflection, and action calling for justice and peace for our Cuban siblings.
- **Advocate** for policies that call to end the U.S. blockade of Cuba and foster a more equitable world, including removing Cuba from the State Sponsors of Terrorism list, returning Guantánamo to our Cuban siblings, removing sanctions, and reestablishing diplomatic relations between Cuba and the United States.
- **Sign up** for email alerts on Cuba at <https://www.umcjustice.org/>.



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