

1944 Statement on War and Peace
in The Methodist Social Creed
Adopted by the 1944 General Conference of the Methodist Church

15. We stand for these propositions:

- Christianity cannot be nationalistic; it must be universal in its outlook and appeal. War makes its appeal to force and hate, Christianity to reason and love. The influence of the Church must therefore always be on the side of every effort seeking to remove animosities and prejudices which are contrary to the spirit and teaching of Christ.
- It does not satisfy the Christian conscience to be told that war is inevitable. It staggers the imagination to contemplate another war with its unspeakable horrors in which modern science will make possible the destruction of whole populations.
- The methods of Jesus and the methods of war belong to different worlds. War is a crude and primitive force. It arouses passions which in the beginning may be unselfish and generous, but in the end war betrays those who trust in it. It offers no security that its decisions will be just and righteous. It leaves arrogance in the heart of the victor and resentment in the heart of the vanquished. When the teachings of Jesus are fully accepted, war as a means of settling international disputes will die, and dying will set the world free from a cruel tyrant.
- We have looked to international diplomacy to prevent war, and it has failed. We have trusted in international law to reduce the horrors and eliminate in a measure the cruelties of war, but war grows only more hideous and destructive. The time is at hand when the Church must rise in its might and demand an international organization which will make another war impossible.

Note: This statement came from the Episcopal Address and was added to the Social Creed by a vote of General Conference delegates.

(reformatted)

Meeting of Board of Directors
Methodists United for Peace with Justice
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Friday, October 17, 2003
Foundry United Methodist Church, Washington, D.C.

AGENDA

Gathering

Self-introductions

Worship

MUPWJ business

Minutes of last meeting

Treasurer's report

Peace Leaf

Membership, fundraising

National Advisory Committee members

Annual election of directors and officers

Activities within Methodism

United Methodist Church

 2004 General Conference

 General Board of Church and Society

Pan-Methodism

Interfaith activities for nuclear disarmament

Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament

Global initiative

Advocacy Days 2004

Other

Closing worship

April 7, 2004

Mary A. Baldrige
716 Mattawa Court
Millersville, MD 21108

Dear Mary,

I greatly appreciate your coming to Bethesda United Methodist Church the other night to talk with our scientists about stem cell research. You were well prepared. It seems that the language that Celia Kozlowski and Bob Crevling developed should be useful to the delegates at General Conference.

For my issue -- nuclear disarmament -- I have developed the enclosed outline of related petitions. They deal with two existing resolutions: R315 "Saying No to Nuclear Deterrence" and R318 "The United Methodist Church and Peace".

I will be at General Conference. I usually hang around the legislative subcommittee which handles this issue. I will have available the U.S. government documents referenced in our petition in case any of the committee members want to look at them.

See you in Pittsburgh.

Shalom,

Howard W. Hallman
Chair

October 7, 2004

Bishop Felton May
P.O. Box 24838
Little Rock, AR 72223

Dear Bishop May:

Greetings! I hope that you are enjoying your retirement. I would like your advice as a member of the National Advisory Committee of Methodists United for Peace with Justice. Rev. Schuyler Rhodes, a pastor in San Francisco and one of our board members, and I have developed the attached proposal for a United Methodist conversation on war in the 21st century.

The process would start with Internet dialogue during 2005 to engage in theological reflection of where the church stands on war. The base would be dialogue groups within local congregations plus interested individuals. We would encourage groups to begin by using the study guide "In Search of Security", produced by the UM Council of Bishops. Additional material will be available on our website through open-ended contributions of dialogue participants. We would hope to draw in United Methodists from around the globe.

The process would culminate in a conference in the early months of 2006. It will feature prayer and dialogue along the lines of the Wesleyan Quadrilateral: scripture, reason, tradition, and experience. It will not be a legislative event with resolutions and pronouncements. Rather it will function under the guidance of the Holy Spirit with outcome to be determined by prayerful dialogue.

We ask you to read the attached prospectus, which describes this project in greater detail. We would appreciate your comments and suggestions you may have on how to improve the project and avoid pitfalls. We would particularly like your suggestions on how we can achieve participation of United Methodists in Africa. You can reply by mail, e-mail at hhallman@mupwj.org. or call me at 301 896-0013.

Shalom,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

October 7, 2004

Bishop Joseph Sprague
2583 West Choctaw Drive
London, OH 43140

Dear Joe;

Greetings! I hope that you are enjoying your retirement. I would like your advice as a member of the National Advisory Committee of Methodists United for Peace with Justice. Rev. Schuyler Rhodes, a pastor in San Francisco and one of our board members, and I have developed the attached proposal for a United Methodist conversation on war in the 21st century.

The process would start with Internet dialogue during 2005 to engage in theological reflection of where the church stands on war. The base would be dialogue groups within local congregations plus interested individuals. We would encourage groups to begin by using the study guide "In Search of Security", produced by the UM Council of Bishops. Additional material will be available on our website through open-ended contributions of dialogue participants. We would hope to draw in United Methodists from around the globe.

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We ask you to read the attached prospectus, which describes this project in greater detail. We would appreciate your comments and suggestions you may have on how to improve the project and avoid pitfalls. You can reply by mail, e-mail at hhallman@mupwj.org, or call me at 301 896-0013.

Shalom,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Minutes October 18, 2002
Methodists United for Peace with Justice

The meeting was opened at 9:25 A.M. at Foundry United Methodist Church in Washington, D.C. by Howard Hallman, Chair.

Present: Howard Hallman, Phil Miller (Treasurer), Jim Hudson, Philip Wilson, Sherman Harris, Camille Anders, Jim Hipkins, and Charlotte Hipkins (Secretary).

Following opening introductions Jim Hipkins presented a short period of meditation based on the teaching of Jesus--"You are the light of the world and the salt of the earth" (Matthew 5:13, 14). Each person's contribution and viewpoint is unique and this contributes to the richness of creation.

The minutes of the March 23, 2001 meeting were distributed. Jim Hudson moved approval, Camille Anders seconded. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: Marie Keyser is assisting Howard in developing a web site. Grants have been received from the United Methodist General Board of Church and Society -\$5000 and the Rockefeller Foundation -\$2000. Copies of the Treasurer's Report were provided by Philip Miller and are attached. The balances as of October 15, 2002 --General Fund \$2558.30
Education Fund- 918.96

This report was approved .

Howard introduced Janet Harmon from the General Board of Church and Society who said new materials would be coming out on conscientious objection. A short discussion of the Peace with Justice Breakfast at the Pittsburgh, Pa. General Conference ensued. Methodists United for Peace with Justice will be a cosponsor with the General Board. Remember the early deadline for resolutions to come to General Conference is October 2003.

The Rev. Dean Snyder was introduced as the new pastor of Foundry United Methodist Church. He conducted the group on an interesting tour of the church.

After a short break, the meeting resumed with a discussion of the Institute for Religion and Democracy and its attack on the General Board of Church and Society. Packets on this subject are available from the General Board.

Howard reported on his involvement in the interfaith activities, including campaigns for ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention in the 1997 and for the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTGT) in 1998-99. He is now chair of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament. The new web site is: <http://www.zero-nukes.org>. Howard is moderator of this web site.

- MUPJ decided to:
1. lobby the UM Publishing House to reprint "In Defense of Creation"
 2. endorse "An Urgent Call to End the Nuclear Danger" campaign.-- visit www.nrdi.org for more information.
 3. do more on justice issues including global matters; in recent years our emphasis has been on federal budget priorities. It was noted the youth (who we need to attract) are especially interested in the environment and economic issues.
 4. renew efforts to build membership and financial support by asking our three peace with justice coordinators to write their counterparts in UM conferences to seek their support. We will also contact local churches with strong peace ministries
 5. Camille agreed to help with updating the membership brochure.
The Board decided that the minimum membership contribution is \$25.
students and fixed-income persons-\$15; a minimum of \$50 for organizations.
 6. renew efforts to secure youth, college and seminary students on the Board.
 7. renew efforts to get representatives from AME, AMEZ, and CME on our Board.

We discussed other prospective members for the Board and Advisory Committee.

Sherman suggested that we need to consider developing another event like the 1993 Gathering of the Methodist Family which involved persons of six denominations in the Wesleyan tradition.

The following officers were elected: Howard Hallman-Chair
Philip Wilson - Vice-chair
Charlotte Hipkins- Secretary
Philip Miller- Treasurer

Members expressed appreciation to Bruce Edwards who has served as Vice-chair for a number of years. They also expressed thanks to Jim Hipkins for his work on the Peace Leaf. Jim welcomes articles from Board members (250 to 500 words). We will offer multiple copies to conference committees and local churches who contribute to MUPJ. There are presently 641 on the mailing list.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M. Camille closed with a quote from Micah.

Respectfully submitted by,

Charlotte E. Hipkins
Secretary

Methodists United for Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036
Phone/fax: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupj@igc.org

January 6, 2004

To: Board of Directors

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

As we begin a new calendar year, I want to report on activities since our October board meeting.

As we agreed then, we submitted a proposal to the United Methodist General Conference to amend the resolution on "Saying No to Nuclear Deterrence" by adding language to express concern with present U.S. nuclear weapons policy. It is attached.

At General Conference we will again be a cosponsor of the Peace with Justice Breakfast. The UM General Board of Church and Society is taking the lead in making arrangements. I will attend General Conference to lobby for our legislation. Sherman Harris is attending as a monitor for the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women. Is anyone else attending?

In early November I attended the meeting of the UM Council of Bishops in Arlington, VA. This gave me an opportunity to talk informally with a number of bishops and to get signers for a new appeal for nuclear disarmament (see below).

Also in November I attended the meeting of the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union in Baltimore. I had an opportunity to present a proposal, developed by Sherman Harris and myself, for a Wednesday-in-Washington for Pan-Methodists in Maryland and Virginia to lobby on children's issues (attached). The Commission endorsed our proposal. We are now talking with UM Bishop Felton May about getting AME, AMEZ, and CME bishops in this area involved in this effort.

On December 3 I chaired an all-day Interfaith Consultation on Nuclear Disarmament that brought together approximately 50 persons from denominational offices, peace fellowships, and state ecumenical coalitions to plan our strategy for 2004. We are now poised to follow-through with invigorated efforts. This will occur through the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, which I chair.

During the past six months I have been leading the way in development of "A Moral Appeal for a Safer World without Nuclear Weapons." The Appeal states that nuclear weapons are inherently immoral and advocates no use and total elimination. In this effort I have worked with persons from Pax Christi International, National Council of Churches (USA), World Conference of Religions for Peace, and others. Our intent is to get the Appeal signed by religious leaders from around the globe and also scientists, physicians, and Nobel peace laureates. The Appeal and initial signers are posted at <http://www.zero-nukes.org/moralappeal.html>.

Phil Miller, our treasurer, reports that we ended 2003 with a balance of \$345.34 in our general fund and \$137.69 in our education fund. Since then we received a \$1,000 grant that I obtain

from the Baltimore/Washington UM Conference and \$50 from membership dues. So our finances are slightly better but still shaky. In addition to this grant from my annual conference, my local church contributes \$500/year. I challenge other board members to raise funds from their annual conference, their own and other local churches and to recruit individual members. Also, annual dues of \$25 (or more) are now payable for 2004. I urge all of you to make your payment soon, even those who make in-kind contributions through time spend (I pay \$50/year even though I put in hundreds of hours a year).

At the October 2003 board meeting Jim Hipkins invited board members to write articles for Peace Leaf. Phil Miller tells me that he is submitting one. I urge others to do likewise.

During the past two years we have held our annual board of directors meeting on the third Friday in October. I suggest that we do likewise this year and meet on Friday, October 15, 2004 in Washington, D.C. Does anyone have a problem with that date? If there is no negative feedback, I will finalize the date by the end of January.

I hope that all of you have a healthy, productive, and enjoyable 2004.

Shalom,

Methodists United for Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036
Phone: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupj@igc.org

October 6, 2004

To: Board of Directors

From: Howard W. Hallman, Chair

During the past month Schuyler Rhodes and I have been in a dialogue about his proposal for a conference dealing with the United Methodist Church and war in the 21st century. The product is the attached proposal for a United Methodist conversation on this matter. I am seeking your approval of this project. It has two elements.

(1) We are proposing a conference for early 2006 to engage in theological reflection on where the church stands on war. It will feature prayer and dialogue along the lines of the Wesleyan Quadrilateral: scripture, reason, tradition, and experience. It will not be a legislative event with resolutions and pronouncements. Rather it will function under the guidance of the Holy Spirit with outcome to be determined by prayerful dialogue.

(2) Preceding the conference we will have a year of open, Internet conversation, conducted on our website. As a base we will seek 100 (at least) United Methodist churches in the United States and abroad to form dialogue groups within their congregation to discuss the topic and share their thoughts with others through the Internet. Individuals will be welcome to join this conversation. We will ask participating congregations to contribute \$100 (or more) to pay the costs of running the Internet dialogue and conference arrangements.

Schuyler is willing to take the lead in conference planning. It will be a no frills event with most participants staying in private homes or sleeping on church floors, though hotel rooms will be available for those who prefer that option. San Francisco is a strong possibility for host city, but we will be open to other options.

I will handle the Internet aspects. Church contributions will strengthen our financial base. As we begin to line up participating churches, we may seek a congregation to pick up responsibility as webmaster and another to take over our newsletter, Peace Leaf.

I ask your approval of this endeavor as a major project of Methodists United for Peace with Justice. We will continue our interest in nuclear disarmament, but it will no longer be our primary focus. (I have retired as chair of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament but will continue to participate as a representative of MUPWJ).

If you approve, we will begin to line up some initial partner congregations between now and the end of the year. We will launch the project full scale in early 2005.

If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Shalom,

November 8, 2003

To: Peace with Justice Task Force
Board of Christian Presence in God's World
Baltimore-Washington United Methodist Conference

Re: Report of activities under conference peace with justice grant

This past year has been a challenging one for organizations like ours working for peace with justice. Particularly troublesome has been the rush to war against Iraq by the United States without giving international inspections sufficient time to determine whether Iraq was producing weapons of mass destruction. We joined the leadership of the United Methodist Church, as expressed by the Council of Bishops and General Boards for Church and Society and Global Ministries, in opposing this action. On a website that we operate, www.zero-nukes.org, we created a section on Disarming Iraq without War and provide linkage to numerous websites within the faith community that spoke out on this issue.

The year was also challenging because of the regressive policies of the United States related to nuclear weapons. Instead of working to reduce the role of nuclear weapons, the current Administration has started developing new ones and has envisioned new roles. Through my service as chair of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament we have worked with other religious organizations to oppose funding research for "mini-nukes" and "bunker-busters". We are rallying the faith community by organizing an Interfaith Consultation on Nuclear Disarmament to develop strategies for 2004 (see enclosure). We are also instrumental in creating a nuclear disarmament track in Ecumenical Advocacy Days 2004 (see enclosure).

This year we renewed our interest in Pan-Methodist cooperation for peace with justice by proposing joint advocacy on children's issues. Sherman Harris and I were invited to join Pan-Methodist bishops in a Wednesday-in-Washington, organized with the Children's Defense Fund. We have developed a plan for a Wednesday-in-Washington for Pan-Methodist clergy and laity in Maryland and Virginia. A prospectus for this event is included with our application for a new peace with justice grant. In this in other ways we are combining our work nationally and within the Baltimore-Washington Conference.

Respectfully submitted,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

November 8, 2003

Sandy Ferguson
Baltimore-Washington UM Conference
7178 Columbia Gateway Drive
Columbia, MD 21046-2132

Dear Sandy:

We would like to apply for a peace with justice grant of \$1,000 with two components, as described in the enclosed application. First, we are seeking support for continuation of our work on nuclear disarmament within the Baltimore-Washington Conference and nationally. Second, we seek assistance on an initiative to promote Pan-Methodist cooperation for advocacy on children's issues (see enclosure). Also enclosed are a report on activities of the past year and a proposed General Conference resolution on nuclear issues. More information about Methodists United for Peace with Justice is provided on our new website, www.mupwj.org

With the retrogressive policies of the U.S. government on nuclear weapons our work on this issue is more needed than ever. In keeping with United Methodist policy, we oppose development of new nuclear weapons, preparation for resumption of testing, and new doctrines that envision new uses for nuclear weapons, including pre-emptive use. We favor steps leading to nuclear abolition. We provide information on these issues through *Peace Leaf*, our quarterly newsletter, and action alerts and educational material sent via the Internet. As chair of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, I provide inter-denominational leadership on this matter.

When we organized in 1987 we called ourselves "Methodists United" with the intent of working with the Methodist family in the United States. This led to a 1993 Gathering on "What Does Justice Require?" that brought together representatives of six denomination in the Wesleyan tradition. This year we have renewed this effort by proposed that laity and clergy of AME, AMEZ, CME, and UM churches in Maryland and Virginia join together in a Wednesday-in-Washington for public policy advocacy on children's issues, under the guidance of the Children's Defense Fund.

A peace with justice grant from the Baltimore-Washington Conference will help support these two components of our work.

Shalom,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

**WHERE DOES THE GOSPEL
CALL UNITED METHODISTS TO STAND
WHEN IT COMES TO WAR?**

A Proposal for a United Methodist Conversation

I. A National Conference

Proposed by Rev. Schuyler Rhodes, Pastor
Temple United Methodist Church, San Francisco, CA

One of the more valid critiques of our United Methodist community is that we do not take the time to “do theology.” We are great at legislation. We issue resolutions that could pave a new freeway across the land. But we do not sit down, as a people, and take the time to prayerfully consider where we are being called by God to stand, move and have our being. We do not take advantage of our wonderful quadrilateral formula of Scripture, Reason, Tradition and Experience. Such intentional reflection and thinking need to be restored to our communal life.

And to begin this process with an examination of violence and warfare is both timely and appropriate.

Today as we experience introduction of permanent warfare into our national life, it is incumbent upon us to engage in theological reflection. This is not a proposal for those with hardened positions to come together for further debate and argument. Instead, it is a call for a Wesleyan dialogue, rooted in scripture and in prayer. What are we doing? Where are we going? How does our faith, our tradition, our Gospel speak to us about war in the 21st century? We have had a few recent pronouncements by our bishops. Legislation at the 2000 General Conference moved our denomination closer to an Augustinian position regarding war. But there has been no serious theological discourse on this topic since the days of the Southeast Asian War.

This proposal suggests that such a conversation be held.

It is proposed that sometime in January of 2006 (flexible of course...summer might be better), a conference be convened in the Wesleyan tradition of *holy conferencing*. This is not to be a legislative event. No resolutions, no pronouncements, but instead, prayerful dialogue under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The event would last four days and could be held at a church in a major hub city (NYC, Chicago, DC, San Francisco?). Hotel space could be made available for those needing it. But it is proposed that the majority of folks will stay in private homes and on church floors. The point would be to have a no frills event. Even speakers would be called upon to offer their services as a gift to this process.

The event would be organized along the lines of the Wesleyan Quadrilateral. Speakers, workshops, open forums would be organized each day along the lines of “Scripture,” “Reason,” “Tradition” and “Experience.” Each early morning and evening there would be worship with guest preachers. Some key persons would be invited to be present.

A serious effort would be made to document this event. The results, if done properly could be very publishable, and even used as a teaching tool for a set period of time into the future.

A suggested schedule might look like this.

DAY ONE: SCRIPTURE

8:00 am - Breakfast in Community

9:00 am - Morning Worship and Holy Communion (Preacher)

10:30 am - Keynote

11:00 am - Small Groups (note, the small groups would stay together through the conference, mimicking Wesleyan class groups)

Noon - Lunch

1:30 pm - Forums on Several Subject Areas

(e.g. Panel Discussion on History of Methodist Movement and its theology regarding war; Jesus on War and Peace; etc)

3:00 pm - Break

4:30 pm - Bible Study

6:00 pm - Dinner

7:00 pm - Small Group Check-in and Prayer

7:30 pm - Worship (guest preacher)

9:00 pm - Optional Late Night Rap Session

Each day would be similarly scheduled, focusing progressively on each element of the Quadrilateral.

On the closing day there would a summation and a discussion of next steps. Dialogues, texts of talks and other items would then be pulled together and edited for publication.

It is possible that such an effort may lead to something more. But we will leave that to the event itself.

II. Pre-conference Dialogue

Proposed by Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Methodists United for Peace with Justice, Washington, D.C.

To prepare for this conference there could be a year of Internet conversation. This could be take place on the www.mupwj.org, the website of Methodists United for Peace with Justice, or on an auxiliary website.

To provide a foundation for this conversation 100 (at least) United Methodist churches throughout the United States and elsewhere (Africa, the Philippines, Europe) could be invited to form dialogue groups within their congregations. They would discuss the issues raised in Schuyler Rhodes' proposal and post their conclusions on the website. They would subsequently respond to the ideas of others. To help pay for the cost of running the Internet dialogue and

conference arrangements they would be asked to contribute \$100 (or \$200, \$300, \$500) to Methodists United for Peace with Justice.

Individuals would also be invited to join the dialogue by posting their views on the website and responding to the ideas of others.

An effort would be made to relate this process to church study groups that are discussing "In Search of Security", a study guide published by the United Methodist Council of Bishops. Among other features this study guide has a broad selection of biblical texts that deal with security issues.

September 30, 2004

WHERE DOES THE GOSPEL CALL UNITED METHODISTS TO STAND WHEN IT COMES TO WAR?

A Proposal for a United Methodist Conversation

One of the more valid critiques of our United Methodist community is that we do not take the time to “do theology.” We are great at legislation. We issue resolutions that could pave a new freeway across the land. But we do not sit down, as a people, and prayerfully consider where we are being called by God to stand, move, and have our being.

Today as we experience introduction of permanent warfare into our national life, it is incumbent upon us to engage in theological reflection on where the United Methodist Church stands on war. We propose a two-part process of conversation along these lines. This is not a proposal for those with hardened positions to come together for further debate and argument. Instead, it is a call for a Wesleyan dialogue, rooted in scripture and in prayer. What are we doing? Where are we going?

Dialogue via World Wide Web

The process will start with dialogue via the World Wide Web during 2005 to engage in theological reflection of where the church stands on war. The base will be dialogue groups within United Methodist congregations in the United States and also in Africa, the Philippines, Europe, and elsewhere. We will encourage groups to begin by using the study guide "In Search of Security", produced by the United Methodist Council of Bishops. Additional material will be available on the website of Methodists United for Peace with Justice. We will encourage groups to post their own conclusions on the website and respond to the views of others. Individuals will be welcome to join this "www" dialogue.

Conference

In early 2006 representatives of local study groups and other interested persons will come together in a conference, convened in the Wesleyan tradition of holy conferencing. It will not be a legislative event. No resolutions, no pronouncements, but instead, prayerful dialogue under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The event might last four days. It will be held at a church in a major hub city (such as New York, Washington, Chicago, Houston, San Francisco). It will be a no frills event. The majority of folks will stay in private homes and on church floors, but hotel space will be available for those needing it. Even featured speakers will be called upon to offer their services as a gift to this process.

The event will be organized along the lines of the Wesleyan Quadrilateral. Speakers, workshops, open forums will occur each day to exam “Scripture”, “Reason”, “Tradition”, and “Experience.” Early morning and evening there will be worship with guest preachers. Some key persons will be invited to serve as presenters.

A serious effort will be made to document this event. The results, if done properly could be very publishable, and even used as a teaching tool for a set period of time into the future.

This proposal was developed by Rev. Schuyler Rhodes, Pastor, Temple United Methodist Church, San Francisco, CA and Howard W. Hallman, Chair, Methodists United for Peace with Justice, Washington, D.C.

October 13, 2004

dates of Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday for years of current interest are:

Year	Ash Wednesday	Easter Sunday
2004	Feb 25	Apr 11
2005	Feb 9	Mar 27
2006	Mar 1	Apr 16
2007	Feb 21	Apr 8
2008	Feb 6	Mar 23

November 17, 2004

Ms. Sandy Ferguson
Baltimore/Washington UM Conference
7178 Columbia Gateway Drive
Columbia, MD 21046-2132

Dear Sandy:

We would like to apply for a peace with justice grant of \$1,000 with two components, as described in the enclosed application. First, we are seeking support for continuation of our work on nuclear disarmament within the Baltimore/Washington conference and nationally. Second, we seek support for a new project on "The Theology of War and Peace".

Because retrogressive U.S. policies on nuclear weapons issues continue, our work on this matter remains highly important. In this project we will provide information to local churches and activists in the Baltimore/Washington, and we will continue our work with religious and civic-sector organizations for national mobilization. We will oppose funding for new nuclear weapons, support increased funds for global nonproliferation programs, and oppose the new doctrine of preemptive war, including use of nuclear weapons. We will promote application of the UM General Conference Resolution #315 on "Saying No to Nuclear Deterrence", which we helped get updated in 2004.

We are embarking on "The Theology of War and Peace" project out of a concern that United Methodists need to be better grounded on this topic, particularly in face of new military doctrines, the rise of terrorism, and technical developments in weaponry and their uses. The project will be built upon study groups within local congregations throughout United Methodism. Already we have started inviting some in the Baltimore/Conference to join us, and we will invite more. We will use our website, www.mupwj.org, to provide background information (see outline) and to enable local groups to post their views via web-based dialogue. After a year of study and dialogue we will hold a national conference in 2006 at a place to be determined.

Along with our current application for a peace with justice grant, I am enclosing a report on last year's activity under a previous grant. If you need further information, please let me know.

Shalom,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Petition to the General Conference, 2004, The United Methodist Church

Title: Saying No to Nuclear Deterrence

Concerns Resolution #315

No financial implications.

PETITION TEXT

(1) In Resolution 315, "Saying No to Nuclear Deterrence" (Book of Resolutions 2000) in the section entitled "Our Commitment", add new second and third paragraphs as follows:

"In contrast to the goal of total nuclear disarmament, policy of the United States government has moved in the opposite direction in recent years. A series of policy documents -- "Nuclear Posture Review" (January 2002), "National Security Strategy" (September 2002), "National Security Presidential Directive 17" (September 2002), and "National Strategy to Combat Weapons of Mass Destruction" (December 2002) -- have called for the development of new nuclear weapons, preparation for renewal of nuclear testing, targeting non-nuclear states with nuclear weapons, and using nuclear weapons in response to biological and chemical weapons. Policy statements have asserted the right to take unilateral, pre-emptive action, including the use of nuclear weapons, against emerging threats by states and terrorist groups before they are fully formed.

We deplore these dangerous and retrogressive policies. By claiming legitimacy for nuclear weapons and offering new roles, they encourage other nations and terrorist organizations to acquire their own nuclear weapons. This undermines the intent of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and increases the risk that nuclear weapons will actually be used.

(2) The present second paragraph of "Our Commitment" will now become paragraph four.

RATIONALE

Since the 2000 General Conference adjourned, policies of the U.S. government have moved away from fifty years of efforts to contain nuclear weapons and to seek their elimination. With one modest exception (the Moscow Treaty of 2002 for reduction of U.S. and Russian strategic weapons), the present Administration has not taken any of the actions recommended by Resolution 315, "Saying No to Nuclear Deterrence." Instead the Administration has issued a series of policy documents that envision development of new nuclear weapons and new uses for these hideous weapons of mass destruction, including unilateral, pre-emptive use. Because this regression is contrary to United Methodist policy, as expressed in the Council of Bishops' "In Defense of Creation" and a series of General Conference resolutions, it is important for the 2004 General Conference to identify this negative trend and to speak against it.

Submitted by Methodists United for Peace with Justice

Minutes -October 17, 2003
Methodists United for Peace with Justice

The meeting was convened at 9:20 A.M. at Foundry United Methodist Church, Washinton D.C. by Howard Hallman, Chair.

Present: Howard Hallman, (Chair), Phil Miller (Treasurer) Jim Hudson, Joyce Georgieff, Phil Wilson (V. Chair), James R. Hipkins, Camille Anders, Sherman Harris, Dan Anders (Pianist), Charlotte Hipkins (Secretary). Joining the group at lunch were Rev. J. D. Hanson, (formerly with the General Board of Church and Society), and Mark Harrison from the General Board of Church and Society.

Camille Anders led a brief opening worship assisted by Dan Anders who accompanied the group singing. After each person introduced themselves, minutes of the October 18, 2002 meeting were distributed and approved as corrected.

Treasurer's Report by Phil Miller:

General Fund Balance \$608.47

Education Fund Balance 764.77

These amounts came from a \$5000 grant from Peace with Justice Gen. Board of Church and Society and \$2000 from the Rockefeller Foundation. The report was approved.

Peace Leaf

Phil Wilson requested copies of the Peace Leaf.

There will be a General Conference issue. Mention of Methodism at Risk should be made ,

Fundraising and membership

Camille Anders volunteered to assist with fundraising in 2004. Several sites for funds were suggested: Wine and Roses

National Advisory Committee

Sherman and Howard have talked with persons on the Pan Methodism Commission.

The purpose is to get some of these folks on our Board.

A Proposal for a Maryland and Virginia Pan-Methodist Wednesday in Washington on Children's Issues has been developed by a joint planning committee.

Annual Election of Officers and Directors

Jim Hudson moved the Board of Directors as listed be elected. Seconded by Phil Wilson. Passed.

Jim Hudson to be Assistant Secretary. Moved by Phil Wilson, seconded by Jim Hipkins. Passed. (please correct Phil Wilson's phone number to (412) 322-4244.) (See attached sheet"Board of Directors-Terms of Office)

Activities within Methodism

2004 General Conference will be held in Pittsburgh, PA. Peace with Justice Coordinators will arrive on April 4 and meet the morning of April 5. The Peace with Justice Breakfast will be on Wednesday, April 3, 2004. Bishop Onema of the Congo is to be the speaker, as will Bob Edgar, General Secretary of the National Council of Churches.

We are urged to do the following: Lobby Gen. Conf. delegates to advocate for Church and Society ministry; encourage the bishops in their roles-be supportive letter writers; submit own names for Finance Committee.

Interfaith activities for nuclear disarmament

Howard has drafted "A Moral Appeal for the Global Elimination of Nuclear Weapons" and sent this to Britain and Ireland and other groups. Jim Hipkins moved that this be sent to General Conference. Jim Hudson seconded. Passed.

Phil Miller urged updating the 'Book of Resolutions' to include the Moral Appeal.

Phil Wilson moved dropping line 21 "the New Triad"; (CAL-PAC Resolution to Petition Gen. Conf.) Jim Hudson seconded. Passed.

Hipkins moved, Hudson seconded forwarding this to General Conference. Passed.

Closing Devotions

Adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

Charlotte E. Hipkins, Secretary

September 22, 2004

Mrs. John Mecartney
801 West Middle Street
Apt. OH 175
Chelsea, MI 48118

Dear Mrs. Mecartney,

I want to express my condolence to you and your family over the death of your husband, John Mecartney. He was a great person. I know that you will all miss him.

While I was saddened to hear of John's passing, at the same time I rejoiced in the life he lead and in my opportunity to know him. He served on the Board of Methodists United for Peace with Justice for 15 years. On several occasions he stayed at our house when we had board meetings in Washington, D.C. I became acquainted with his long history of Christian activism for peace and justice.

Talking with John was like gaining an oral history of the peace and justice movement since the late 1930s. He told about his association with Norman Thomas, how in the 1940s he was the only white person at an NAACP convention except for an FBI agent. In particular he spoke of the importance of non-violence, of which he was a forceful advocate. He got me on the board of the Civilian-Based Nonviolent Defense Association. At a 1993 gathering of clergy and laity from six denominations in the Wesley tradition he recruited a cast and presented "The Eleventh Mayor". I could go on and on.

For all his fervor for his causes John had a gentle spirit and a rich sense of humor. It was a privilege to be associated with him.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman
Chair

**Methodists United
For Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036**

**Board of Directors
Terms of Office**

Term ending January 2004

1. Camille Anders
2. James Hipkins
3. Schuyler Rhodes

Term ending January 2005

1. Bruce K. Edwards
2. Joyce Georgieff
3. Howard W. Hallman
4. James Hudson
5. John M. Mecartney
6. Phillip H. Miller
7. Donald C. Whitmore
8. Phil Wilson

Term ending January 2006

1. Joy Arthur
2. Sherman Harris
3. Charlotte Hipkins

October 2003

October 13, 2003

Rev. Joy Arthur
183 Spring Street
Midland, MI 38640

Dear Joy,

Since you will be unable to attend the Board of Directors' meeting, I want to share the agenda with you. If you receive this letter before Friday and have any recommendations to make, please call me at 301 896-0013.

I greatly appreciate the generous financial support that you provide to Methodists United for Peace with Justice. We continue to operate on a modest budget, so each contribution helps.

More than that, I thank you for the moral support that you offer for our work.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman
Chair

October 13, 2003

Rev. John M. Mecartney
801 West Middle Street
Apt. OH 175
Chelsea, MI 48118

Dear John,

Since you will be unable to attend the Board of Directors' meeting, I want to share the agenda with you. If you receive this letter before Friday and have any recommendations to make, please call me at 301 896-0013.

I greatly appreciate the strong support you have provided for Methodists United for Peace with Justice during the many years that you have served on the Board of Directors. You have provided a connection with civilian-based defense and other non-violent approaches to peacemaking. You have brought a heritage that goes back to the socialist movement and the emergence of non-violent approaches to civil rights.

Even more I am grateful for our friendship. We share many interests. Both of us are "long-distance runners" who have faced setbacks but never given up. Although there remains much to do, we and others we have worked with have solid achievements in our quest for peace and justice.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman
Chair

METHODISTS UNITED FOR PEACE WITH JUSTICE
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Rev. Phil Wilson
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Pittsburgh, PA 15212

(412) 332-4244
RevPhilWilson@webtv.net

October 2003

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Rev. Phil Wilson
8 Foster Square
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

(412) 332-4244

August 2003

Dear

I would like to seek your advice as a member of the National Advisory Committee of Methodists United for Peace with Justice. Rev. Schuyler Rhodes, a pastor in San Francisco and one of our board members, and I have developed the attached proposal for a United Methodist conversation on war in the 21st century.

The process would start with Internet dialogue during 2005 to engage in theological reflection of where the church stands on war. The base would be dialogue groups within local congregations plus interested individuals. We would encourage groups to begin by using the study guide "In Search of Security", produced by the UM Council of Bishops. Additional material will be available on our website through open-ended contributions of dialogue participants. We would hope to draw in United Methodists from around the globe.

The process would culminate in a conference in the early months of 2006. It will feature prayer and dialogue along the lines of the Wesleyan Quadrilateral: scripture, reason, tradition, and experience. It will not be a legislative event with resolutions and pronouncements. Rather it will function under the guidance of the Holy Spirit with outcome to be determined by prayerful dialogue.

We ask you to read the attached prospectus, which describes this project in greater detail. We would appreciate your comments and suggestions you may have on how to improve the project and avoid pitfalls. You can reply by e-mail or call me at 301 896-0013.

Shalom,
Howard

National Advisory Committee
Methodists United for Peace with Justice

Richard Deats, *Nyack, New York*
Rev. Dr. Robert Edgar, *New York, New York*
Dr. Alan Geyer, *Bethesda, Maryland*
Brenda Hardt, *Brenham, Texas*
Bishop Felton E. May, *Washington, D.C.*
Rev. Dean Snyder, *Washington, D.C.*
Bishop Joseph Sprague, *Chicago, Illinois*
Bishop Timothy W. Whitaker, *Lakeland, Florida*
Bishop C. Dale White, *Newport, Rhode Island*
Rev. Carol Windrum, *Omaha, Nebraska*
Rev. Dr. J. Philip Wogaman, *Washington, D.C.*

editor@forusa.org

ageyer@cathedral.org

cawindrum@yahoo.com

Methodists United for Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036
Phone: 301 896-0013 E-mail: mupwj@mupwj.org

Petitions to 2004 United Methodist General Conference on Nuclear Disarmament and Peace

Resolutions refer to The Book of Resolutions, 2004

Page numbers refer to Daily Christian Advocate, Advance Edition, Volume 2 ,Section 1

Related to Resolution 315 "Saying No to Nuclear Deterrence"

p. 230, Petition 41281-CS-R315 "Saying No to Nuclear Deterrence". This petition adds language referring to recent U.S. government policy that increases the role of nuclear weapons. MUPWJ will have the government documents available at General Conference for legislative committee members to examine.

p. 234-5, Petition 40085-CS-R9999 "Urgent Call to End the Nuclear Danger" This petition adds language to R315 to condemn the threat or use of preemptive nuclear strikes. Other parts of the petition are covered by Petition 41281-CS-R315 (above) or are already dealt with in the existing Resolution 315.

p. 283-4, Petition 40911-CS-R9999 "In Defense of Creation" This petition calls upon the United Methodist bishops to publish a new study guide. The language could be incorporated into "Implementation, ¶ 3" of the present Resolution 315.

Related to Resolution 318 "The United Methodist Church and Peace"

p. 232, Petition 40514-CS-R318 "The United Methodist Church and Peace" Adds language in support of National Peace Tax Fund.

p. 265, Petition 40529-CS-R9999 "Prohibition of Arms Sales" This language could be added to the "Disarmament" section of R318, such as after the sixth paragraph.

p. 300, Petition 41262-CS-R9999 "Opposing First Strike Attacks" This refers to both nuclear and conventional first strike attacks. Therefore, this language might go in R318 rather than R315, which deals only with nuclear. It could go in the "Disarmament" section of R318.

For further information, contact Howard W. Hallman, Chair, Methodists United for Peace with Justice at 301 896-0013 or hhallman@mupwj.org

April 7, 2004

Religious News Service
info@religionnews.com

United Methodist News Service
newsdesk@umcom.org

Associated Press
Rachel Zoll - Religion Writer
New York office
info@ap.org.

Newscope
umnewscope@umpublishing.org.

News Release from Methodists United for Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 5, 2005

Contact: Howard W. Hallman
301 896-0013 hhallman@mupwj.org

UNITED METHODISTS DEPLORE BUSH'S NUCLEAR POLICIES

While debating homosexuality and other controversial issues in the full glare of public attention, the United Methodist General Conference has quietly reconfirmed its commitment to total nuclear disarmament and has deplored dangerous and retrogressive nuclear weapons policies of the Bush Administration. This occurred on Wednesday, May 5 at the quadrennial meeting in Pittsburgh through near unanimous approval of a petition that amended a standing resolution on "Saying No to Nuclear Deterrence". Action by the whole body was preceded by a 68-0 favorable vote by the Church and Society Legislative Committee.

The newly adopted amendment observes that policy of the U.S. government in recent years has moved in the opposite direction from the goal of nuclear disarmament that the United Methodist Church favor. This is evident in such policy documents of the Bush Administration as the "Nuclear Posture Review" (January 2002) and "National Strategy to Combat Weapons of Mass Destruction" (December 2002). According to the United Methodist resolution, these documents have called for the development of new nuclear weapons, preparation for renewal of nuclear testing, targeting non-nuclear states with nuclear weapons, and using nuclear weapons in response to biological and chemical weapons. Bush policy statements have asserted the right to take unilateral, pre-emptive action, including the use of nuclear weapons, against emerging threats by states and terrorist groups before they are fully formed.

The United Methodists believe that these policies undermine the intent of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and increase the risk that nuclear weapons will actually be used. Therefore, the General Conference stated unequivocally: "We deplore these dangerous and retrogressive policies."

According to Howard W. Hallman, chair, Methodists United for Peace with Justice, which submitted the petition for consideration, action by the 2004 General Conference is consistent with a long commitment of the United Methodist Church to nuclear disarmament. In 1986 the United Methodist Council of Bishops adopted a pastoral letter, "In Defense of Creation", that said "a clear and unconditional No to nuclear war and any use of nuclear weapons. We conclude that nuclear deterrence is a position that cannot receive the church's blessing." The 1988 General Conference affirmed the bishops' statement.

The 1992 General Conference stated that "now is the time to exercise the zero option: to eliminate all nuclear weapons throughout the globe." The 1996 General Conference in the "Saying No to Nuclear Deterrence" resolution, which is still on the books, offered a series of recommended actions including adoption of no-use policies by all states possessing nuclear

weapons, taking all nuclear weapons off alert, systematically dismantling all nuclear warheads and delivery vehicles, ceasing all research and development for new nuclear weapons.

In addition to deploring the Bush nuclear weapons policies, the 2004 General Conference called upon the United Methodist General Board of Church and Society to prepare and distribute an annual "report card" on progress toward nuclear disarmament.

-30-

REFERENCES

2004 United Methodist General Conference action on nuclear disarmament

<http://www.umc.org/Calms/Petition.asp?mid=2886&Petition=41281>

"Saying No to Nuclear Deterrence" The Book of Resolutions, 2000, pp. 782-785

<http://www.zero-nukes.org/religiousstatements2.html#sayingno>

About Methodists United for Peace with Justice

<http://www.mupwj.org/>

Project Description

The **purpose** of this project is to assist United Methodists and other religious organizations respond to militarism as expressed in possession and threatened use of nuclear weapons. In particular we will engage in education and advocacy to implement policy recommendations of Resolution 315 "Saying No to Nuclear Deterrence" of the *United Methodist Book of Resolutions 2000* (pp.782-785),

The **applicant** is Methodists United for Peace with Justice, an affiliated caucus of the United Methodist Church. (See <http://www.mupwj.org>.) We organized in 1987 in response to a call for faithful witness and action on these issues, as expressed by the United Methodist Council of Bishops in *In Defense of Creation: The Nuclear Crisis and a Just Peace*. We are also engaged in efforts to promote Pan-Methodist cooperation, particularly on children's issues. The work for this project will be carried out by our chair, Howard W. Hallman (for his qualifications see <http://www.zero-nukes.org/howardhallman.htm>.)

Project activities will include:

- 1) Carry out educational and advocacy activities on nuclear weapons issues **within the United Methodist Church**. We publish a quarterly newsletter, *Peace Leaf*, send out legislative alerts, and provide information and educational material on a website, www.zero-nukes.org. In cooperation with the General Board of Church and Society we serve as a resource for conference peace with justice coordinators through (a) participation in their list-serve to provide legislative alerts and background information on nuclear weapons issues and (b) attendance at their annual gatherings. We also join the General Board in sponsoring a Peace with Justice Breakfast at General Conference (an event we started in 1988).
- 2) Provide leadership for **interfaith advocacy** on nuclear weapons issues within the United States through the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, which Hallman chairs. This brings together denominational offices, religious peace fellowships, and state ecumenical agencies. (See <http://www.zero-nukes.org/religiousstatements3.html#interfaithcommittee>.) In the coming year the focus will be on (a) blocking the funding of research for new nuclear weapons, (b) opposing U.S. policies that expand the role of nuclear weapons in military and foreign policy, and (b) supporting such measures as de-alerting the nuclear arsenal, deep cuts in strategic nuclear weapons, and global nuclear non-proliferation. We operate a list-serve that serves as a vehicle for information exchange among more than 60 national offices and state ecumenical agencies. We also manage a website, www.zero-nukes.org, to provide basic information and promote dialogue on nuclear weapons issues.
- 3) Promote a **global initiative** to clarify that possession of nuclear weapons is a moral issue. Under Hallman's leadership we are circulating *A Moral Appeal for a Safer World without Nuclear Weapons*. The Appeal states that nuclear weapons are inherently immoral, calls for no use, and advocates their total elimination. Initial signers include the president and ecumenical officer of the United Methodist Council of Bishops, Catholic leaders, persons from other denominations and faiths, and representatives of ecumenical agencies. Prominent scientists, physicians, and Nobel peace laureates are being invited to sign. After its release *A Moral Appeal* will be used by religious coalitions in the United States and other countries to promote the elimination of nuclear weapons. (See <http://www.zero-nukes.org/moralappeal.html>.)

Program dates: May 2004 to April 2005

United Methodists Deplore Bush's Nuclear Weapons Policies

The United Methodist General Conference on May 5, 2004 adopted the following petition:

Petition 41281 as amended, adding two paragraphs to "Saying No to Nuclear Deterrence"

Amend Resolution 315 in the section entitled "Our Commitment"; add a new second paragraph as follows:

In contrast to the goal of total nuclear disarmament, policy of the United States government has moved in the opposite direction in recent years. A series of policy documents -- "Nuclear Posture Review" (January 2002), "National Security Strategy" (September 2002), "National Security Presidential Directive 17" (September 2002), and "National Strategy to Combat Weapons of Mass Destruction" (December 2002) -- have called for the development of new nuclear weapons, preparation for renewal of nuclear testing, targeting non-nuclear states with nuclear weapons, and using nuclear weapons in response to biological and chemical weapons. Policy statements have asserted the right to take unilateral, pre-emptive action, including the use of nuclear weapons, against emerging threats by states and terrorist groups before they are fully formed. These policies undermine the intent of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and increase the risk that nuclear weapons will actually be used. We deplore these dangerous and retrogressive policies.

Implementation: substitute for paragraph 4

(4) We request that the General Board of Church and Society prepare an annual "report card" to be included with Peace With Justice Sunday materials in relation to: a) countries that possess nuclear weapons and their compliance with the recommended actions in this resolution, and b) countries that do not possess nuclear weapons and their compliance with the recommended actions in this resolution.

The resolution "Saying No to Nuclear Deterrence" is available at <http://www.zero-nukes.org/religiousstatements2.html#sayingno>

**Petition to the General Conference, 2004,
The United Methodist Church**

In accordance with the instructions for preparation of petitions,
the following is submitted for action by the General Conference, 2004.

SUGGESTED TITLE/SUBJECT MATTER:

Saying No to Nuclear Deterrence

PETITION CONCERNS RESOLUTION #: 315

DOES THE PETITION CARRY FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS? YES _____ NO x
(refer to Instruction # 7)

PETITION TEXT:

(1) In Resolution 315, "Saying No to Nuclear Deterrence" (Book of Resolutions 2000) in the section entitled "Our Commitment", add new second and third paragraphs as follows:

In contrast to the goal of total nuclear disarmament, policy of the United States government has moved in the opposite direction in recent years. A series of policy documents --"Nuclear Posture Review" (January 2002), "National Security Strategy" (September 2002), "National Security Presidential Directive 17" (September 2002), and "National Strategy to Combat Weapons of Mass Destruction" (December 2002) -- have called for the development of new nuclear weapons, preparation for renewal of nuclear testing, targeting non-nuclear states with nuclear weapons, and using nuclear weapons in response to biological and chemical weapons. Policy statements have asserted the right to take unilateral, pre-emptive action, including the use of nuclear weapons, against emerging threats by states and terrorist groups before they are fully formed.

We deplore these dangerous and retrogressive policies. By claiming legitimacy for nuclear weapons and offering new roles, they encourage other nations and terrorist organizations to acquire their own nuclear weapons. This undermines the intent of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and increases the risk that nuclear weapons will actually be used.

Petition: Saying No to Nuclear Deterrence, p. 2

(2) The present second paragraph of "Our Commitment" will now become paragraph four.

RATIONALE:

Since the 2000 General Conference adjourned, policies of the U.S. government have moved away from fifty years of efforts to contain nuclear weapons and to seek their elimination. With one modest exception (the Moscow Treaty of 2002 for reduction of U.S. and Russian strategic weapons), the present Administration has not taken any of the actions recommended by Resolution 315, "Saying No to Nuclear Deterrence." Instead the Administration has issued a series of policy documents that envision development of new nuclear weapons and new uses for these hideous weapons of mass destruction, including unilateral, pre-emptive use. Because this regression is contrary to United Methodist policy, as expressed in the Council of Bishops' "In Defense of Creation" and a series of General Conference resolutions, it is important for the 2004 General Conference to identify this negative trend and to speak against it.

DATE: November 6, 2003 SUBMITTED BY Methodists United for Peace with Justice

PETITIONER IDENTIFICATION: An affiliated caucus of the United Methodists Church
(see p. 206, The 2003 United Methodist Directory)

(refer to Instruction # 3):

TELEPHONE: 301 896-0013

E-mail: mupwj@mupwj.org

Contact: Howard W. Hallman, Chair
Methodists United for Peace with Justice
1500 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036

Phone: 301 896-0013

E-mail: hhallman@mupwj.org

Project Budget

Personnel

Hallman (part time) 12 months @ \$3,000/mo.	\$36,000
Fringe benefits 15% of salary	<u>5,400</u>
	41,400

Communications (phone, internet, postage)	3,000
Printing, photocopy	2,400
Supplies	600
Travel	<u>2,600</u>

Total \$50,000

Peace with Justice Grant Request 5,000

Applications pending with foundations 45,000

Regular Budget of Methodists United for Peace with Justice

Personnel -- mostly voluntary

Chair	
Treasurer	
Editor, Peace Leaf	
Board members	
Web consultant for www.mupwj.org	\$1,200

Operations

Administration	1,200
Communications (phone, internet, postage)	1,800
Printing, photocopy	600
Supplies	1,200
Peace Leaf	3,200
Travel	<u>1,000</u>

Annual total \$10,200

January 29, 2004

January 29, 2004

Office of Peace with Justice
General Board of Church & Society
United Methodist Building, Room 230
100 Maryland Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20002

Dear Friends:

On behalf of Methodists United for Peace with Justice I am submitting an application for a Peace with Justice Grant of \$5,000 for the purpose of education and advocacy activities for nuclear disarmament. The project will entail work within the United Methodist Church, interfaith mobilization on this issue, and global outreach through *A Moral Appeal for a Safer World without Nuclear Weapons*.

As an affiliated caucus of the United Methodist Church, we are supportive of the public policy recommendations of "Saying No to Nuclear Deterrence", Resolution 315 of the *United Methodist Book of Resolutions 2000*. We will coordinate our activities with related work of the General Board of Church and Society and the network of conference peace with justice coordinators.

Although not part of this project, we are involved in a Pan-Methodist program for advocacy on children's issues. We will use this connection to seek closer ties with Pan-Methodist denominations on nuclear disarmament and other peace issues. Through my position as chair of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, we work closely with other denominations, religious peace fellowships, and state ecumenical agencies on nuclear disarmament issues.

If you need further information, please let me know. I am available by phone at 301 896-0013 or by e-mail at hhallman@mupwj.org.

Shalom,

Howard W. Hallman
Chair

Dear Colleagues,

More than 50 years ago church folks said to me, "Young man, don't speak out against war and militarism. You'll upset too many people. They won't listen to you on other matters." Now I am told, "Old man, don't speak out against war and militarism. It will prevent you from getting inside to talk about justice and other matters." Life has its ironies.

I still don't understand why the Peace with Justice Program brochure has to be more timid than the UM Social Principles.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS IN AFGHANISTAN AND IRAQ

We are told that we have executed two successful wars. In Afghanistan the leadership of the Taliban are still at large. The leader of al Qaeda is still free. The political task of creating a stable and democratic state in either country is proving much more difficult. In Afghanistan since January 2003 there have emerged some hopeful signs. Sections of President Hamid Karzai's government apparatus is becoming more functional. But the central government continues to be severely hampered in the absence of adequate funds, security structures, and infrastructure.

In April 2003 the United States Institute of Peace published a special report 105 which discusses the situation in Afghanistan. You can secure a copy by calling (202)457-1700.

I want to share with you some of the information they have found in their report. Much of it becomes suggestive for Iraq. Thereto, they have not been able to seize the leader Saddam Husien and many of his leadership. It is apparent that as in Afghanistan there appears to be little control of the country by any central authority. Whoever the opposition group is in Iraq they appear able to launch sporadic attacks daily. In fact, the attacks appear to becoming large and more devastating.

One of the major points made in the special report is that of legitimizing the central government and managing center-periphery relations, especially in dealing with the warlords; providing credible security and rule of law extending beyond Kabul; economic reconstruction; and maintaining ethnic harmony and achieving nation integration.

It appears to your editor that this suggests a major concern about what is happening in Iraq. In one sense

it offers little comfort in the United States ability to deal with this situation. They can look back to the end of World War II and the Marshall Plan in the impact it had in Europe. However, that is like comparing apples and coconuts. Different cultures, histories, and numerous other ethnic and cultural differences are crucial.

It is pointed out in the report that "warlordism" is deeply rooted in Afghanistan's cultural past. Historically the Afghan central government has been weak, with regionalist politics the norm. The manner in which the United States fought the Soviet Union by furnishing weapons and money to a variety of Afghan commanders rather than to a centralized political authority facilitated warlordism. Similarly U.S. military strategy between 9/11 and the establishment of the Karzai government emphasized support for those Afghan commanders capable of working with the United States in pursuing its military objective, thus contributing to the persistence of warlords.

It appears that we could make the same mistake in Iraq, unknowingly sowing the seeds for continued revolution and division within the country. It has not been the government of the United States that has been the moving force behind ethnic harmony or racial equality. These two issues have been brought to reality in our country because of the religious community in and its efforts across the years. The achievements were ratified by the government after the religious community had pressured, and visited the office in state capitals and in Washington. There were many issues of religious publications that promoted and daringly took prophetic stands for most of achievements that have been made in our land. Fortunately, some of the other social groups began to join with the church and synagogues to fight for brotherhood. Eventually we were

successful. Unfortunately the politicians stood on the sidelines and watched the spectacle. Either not understanding what was occurring or disinterested until it appeared votes were involved.

Can we expect Washington to have the wisdom of nation building? What has been their track record in nation building? Unfortunately the military are not trained to be nation builders. Most of their training is focused on other concerns.

What concerns this editor is the fact that we as a nation are now involved in two situations that appear to be beyond our control and our ability. Yet, we are reluctant to ask the United Nations to come in and contribute to the situation. Yes, we made a request for their help, but under our control. Why? Can we maintain order and development better than others? Is our understanding of Islam and Middle Eastern cultures really adequate for the task at hand?

The report points out that the lack of international security forces or an effective national army beyond Kabul leaves the provinces outside of international and central control, with warlords filling the vacuum. Regional actors question the governments capacity to provide basic public goods and undermine its authority by controlling alternative resources through a variety of mechanisms, including illegal transit fees, smuggling, and drug dealing.

The report states that the ethnic dynamics, while potentially volatile, continue to be reasonably well balanced. U.S. military action affected the political balance and tilted power away from the Pashtuns, who find this difficult to accept. But the Pashtun community also suffers internal division based on region, ideology, and leadership personality. U.S. intervention in Iraq may mobilize Pashtun sentiment against American involvement in Afghanistan and increase attacks against U.S. troops.

Afghanistan's future is going to be determined by how much priority the country will receive in short and long run on the international communities agenda. So far, international assistance has tended to be long on promises, short on deliveries. This undercuts U.S. credibility, since it is seen as Karzai's strongest ally. It

does appear that Iraq could well become a carbon copy of Afghanistan.

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A PROPOSAL TO MAKE OUR COUNTRY AND THE WORLD MORE SECURE

In the July/August issue of the Friends Committee on National Legislation newsletter, there is a proposal for lasting peace and human security. I want to share that with you for thoughtful study and discussion. Elements of this approach would include

- actively contributing to the prevention and mitigation of violent conflict through international institutions such as the UN and the International Criminal Court, and supporting the development of early warning systems, preventive diplomacy, and capacities for UN peace operations that can respond to emerging conflicts before violence erupts.

- ensuring adequate security, humanitarian assistance, and generous reconstruction aid for Afghanistan and Iraq, and turning the political transition and reconstruction process in Iraq over to more legitimate international authorities soon;
- vigorously pursuing comprehensive negotiations with North Korea that address legitimate North Korean fears of a U.S. preventive strike and that lead toward the verifiable dismantling of the North Korean nuclear weapons program and eventual normalization of diplomatic relations and trade;
- strengthening international law by upholding treaties for the advancement of human rights, arms control and disarmament, environmental protection, good government and fair trade; and
- addressing the root causes of war by supporting generous development assistance, ensuring more equitable distribution of resources, eradicating HIV/AIDS and other diseases, and meeting basic human needs worldwide.

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UNITED METHODISM AT RISK: a WAKE-UP CALL

The focus of *United Methodism @ Risk: A Wake-Up Call* is to alert the church of the organizations leading an ultra-conservative effort to control and reshape The United Methodist Church to fit their agenda.

The book is published by the Information Project for United

Methodists, co-chaired by Bishop C. Dale White, widely known for leadership on peace issues, and New York attorney and well-known lay leader Beth Capen. Leon Howell is the author.

Bishop White said in announcing the books release: "All United Methodists need to read this book to be fully informed on the tactics, ideological bias and theological restrictions evidenced in the life and work of the conservative renewal groups. "The direction they would take our church demeans clergy and laity," he said.

"It is insulting to the professional integrity of the clergy to dictate to them the precise theological language they must use in the pulpit and Bible studies," Bishop white said. "And it is insulting to the laity to assume they cannot be trusted to engage in theological reflection and define their faith according to their own perceptions and conscience."

The book may be ordered from:

The Genesis III Group
P.O. Box 336
Deerfield, NH 03037
Toll-free phone: 888-829-2947
Fax: 603-463-5621

e-mail: genthree@genesisthree.com
The book is \$12.50 (includes shipping/handling)

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THE BETTER WAY: A Civilized Defense Strategy for the U.S. and the World.

In the June 2003 issue of the Fourth Freedom Forum newsletter, David Cortwright the President of the Forum has a perceptive and informative article. He begins by reminding us of the new foreign policy focus of the Bush Administration since 9/11. He contends that the first-strike military doctrine is dangerous and costly. The commitment of more than one hundred thousand troops for the occupation of Iraq will pose ongoing risks to American forces. The economic costs of reconstructing Iraq, not to speak of the unfilled pledge to assist Afghanistan, will strain U.S. resources. U.S. military spending has jumped 34 percent in the last two years and will top \$460 billion in FY 2004.

He continues that the administration's first-strike policy has aroused growing animosity toward the U.S. abroad. As President Jimmy Carter observed, "Increasingly unilateral and domineering policies

have brought international trust in our country to its lowest level in memory." Antipathy toward U.S. policy is especially acute among traditional American allies in Europe and in the Arab world. The feelings of outrage and humiliation our policies have engendered increase the risk of terrorist attacks. The Bush doctrine makes the U.S. less, not more secure.

There is a better way, one that takes seriously the terrorism and proliferation threat, but that provides a safer, less costly, and ultimately more successful strategy for countering these dangers. through cooperation with other countries, multilateral disarmament, the use of international institutions, carrots and sticks diplomacy, and support for the rule of law, the United States can protect itself against terrorism and weapons of mass destruction and realize a safer, more secure future.

Viable diplomatic options are available, and have proven effective in recent efforts to prevent terrorism and counter weapons proliferation. In the wake of 9/11, the United States has worked with more than 150 governments through the UN Counter Terrorism Committee to coordinate criminal investigations and police actions, and to deny financing and a safe haven for al Qaeda and other terrorist networks. Considerable success has been achieved through these efforts in strengthening international restrictions on terrorists and those who support them. Dozens of senior al Qaeda operatives have been captured in Afghanistan, Pakistan and several European and Asian countries. The financial resources available to al Qaeda have been reduced. The operations of the terrorist network have been disrupted by these efforts.

Through the use of UN sanctions and U.S. diplomatic initiatives, Libya and Sudan reduced their support for international terrorism and provided assistance to the U.S.-led campaign against al Qaeda. Libyan terrorists agents destroyed American and French airliners in 1988 and 1989. In 1999, after seven years of targeted UN sanctions, Libya turned over terrorist suspects to an international tribunal. In Sudan UN sanctions and U.S. diplomatic pressure prompted the regime to expel Osama Bin Laden in 1996 and to cooperate with American counter-

terrorism efforts before and especially after, September 2001.

Much of the progress toward denuclearization in recent decades has been achieved through diplomatic means. The nuclear reductions of the U.S. and Russia, the decision by Ukraine and Kazakhstan to give up the nuclear weapons on their soil, South Africa's disavowal of the bomb, the nuclear restraint agreement of Argentina and Brazil-these and other disarmament successes came not from externally imposed military pressure but from negotiated agreements and incentive-based bargaining. Inducements and mutual conciliatory gestures were more important than coercive pressures in bringing about these decisions to denuclearize.

World Bank studies indicate that violent conflict is most often associated with joblessness and a lack of economic opportunity. Development aid, debt relief and other forms of economic assistance can create jobs and increase opportunity and thus reduce the likelihood of such conflict. Economic aid and trade incentives can also be important means of encouraging recipient nations to resolve conflict and to uphold norms of democracy,

tolerance, openness, and respect for human rights.

An alternative global security strategy emphasizes cooperation over unilateralism, prevention over preemption, and peaceful diplomatic means over military force as the primary tools of influencing policy. It is a strategy based on the force of law rather than the law of force, one that relies on the power of trade rather than military might and that employs peaceful diplomatic means for achieving a more just and secure future. (Fourth Freedom Forum, 803 N. Main St. Goshen, IN 46528-2632)

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PEACE LEAF
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Project Description

The **purpose** of this project is to assist United Methodists and other religious organizations respond to militarism as expressed in possession and threatened use of nuclear weapons. In particular we will engage in education and advocacy to implement policy recommendations of Resolution 315 "Saying No to Nuclear Deterrence" of the *United Methodist Book of Resolutions 2000* (pp.782-785),

The **applicant** is Methodists United for Peace with Justice, an affiliated caucus of the United Methodist Church. (See <http://www.mupwj.org>.) We organized in 1987 in response to a call for faithful witness and action on these issues, as expressed by the United Methodist Council of Bishops in *In Defense of Creation: The Nuclear Crisis and a Just Peace*. We are also engaged in efforts to promote Pan-Methodist cooperation, particularly on children's issues. The work for this project will be carried out by our chair, Howard W. Hallman (for his qualifications see <http://www.zero-nukes.org/howardhallman.htm>.)

Project activities will include:

1) Carry out educational and advocacy activities on nuclear weapons issues **within the United Methodist Church**. We publish a quarterly newsletter, *Peace Leaf*, send out legislative alerts, and provide information and educational material on a website, www.zero-nukes.org. In cooperation with the General Board of Church and Society we serve as a resource for conference peace with justice coordinators through (a) participation in their list-serve to provide legislative alerts and background information on nuclear weapons issues and (b) attendance at their annual gatherings. We also join the General Board in sponsoring a Peace with Justice Breakfast at General Conference (an event we started in 1988).

2) Provide leadership for **interfaith advocacy** on nuclear weapons issues within the United States through the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, which Hallman chairs. This brings together denominational offices, religious peace fellowships, and state ecumenical agencies. (See <http://www.zero-nukes.org/religiousstatements3.html#interfaithcommittee>.) In the coming year the focus will be on (a) blocking the funding of research for new nuclear weapons, (b) opposing U.S. policies that expand the role of nuclear weapons in military and foreign policy, and (b) supporting such measures as de-alerting the nuclear arsenal, deep cuts in strategic nuclear weapons, and global nuclear non-proliferation. We operate a list-serve that serves as a vehicle for information exchange among more than 60 national offices and state ecumenical agencies. We also manage a website, www.zero-nukes.org, to provide basic information and promote dialogue on nuclear weapons issues.

3) Promote a **global initiative** to clarify that possession of nuclear weapons is a moral issue. Under Hallman's leadership we are circulating *A Moral Appeal for a Safer World without Nuclear Weapons*. The Appeal states that nuclear weapons are inherently immoral, calls for no use, and advocates their total elimination. Initial signers include the president and ecumenical officer of the United Methodist Council of Bishops, Catholic leaders, persons from other denominations and faiths, and representatives of ecumenical agencies. Prominent scientists, physicians, and Nobel peace laureates are being invited to sign. After its release *A Moral Appeal* will be used by religious coalitions in the United States and other countries to promote the elimination of nuclear weapons. (See <http://www.zero-nukes.org/moralappeal.html>.)

Submitted to United Methodist General Board of Church and Society
January 29, 2004

Project Budget

Personnel

Hallman (part time) 12 months @ \$3,000/mo.	\$36,000
Fringe benefits 15% of salary	<u>5,400</u>
	41,400

Communications (phone, internet, postage)	3,000
Printing, photocopy	2,400
Supplies	600
Travel	<u>2,600</u>

Total \$50,000

Peace with Justice Grant Request 5,000

Applications pending with foundations 45,000

Regular Budget of Methodists United for Peace with Justice

Personnel -- mostly voluntary

Chair	
Treasurer	
Editor, Peace Leaf	
Board members	
Web consultant for www.mupwj.org	\$1,200

Operations

Administration	1,200
Communications (phone, internet, postage)	1,800
Printing, photocopy	600
Supplies	1,200
Peace Leaf	3,200
Travel	<u>1,000</u>

Annual total \$10,200

January 29, 2004

THINK-PIECE

WHERE DOES THE GOSPEL CALL UNITED METHODISTS TO STAND WHEN IT COMES TO WAR?

A Proposal for a United Methodist Conversation

One of the more valid critiques of our United Methodist community is that we do not take the time to “do theology.” We are great at legislation. We issue resolutions that could pave a new freeway across the land. But we do not sit down, as a people, and take the time to prayerfully consider where we are being called by God to stand, move and have our being. We do not take advantage of our wonderful quadrilateral formula of Scripture, Reason, Tradition and Experience. Such intentional reflection and thinking need to be restored to our communal life. And to begin this process with an examination of violence and warfare is both timely and appropriate.

Today as we experience introduction of permanent warfare into our national life, it is incumbent upon us to engage in theological reflection. This is not a proposal for those with hardened positions to come together for further debate and argument. Instead, it is a call for a Wesleyan dialogue, rooted in scripture and in prayer. What are we doing? Where are we going? How does our faith, our tradition, our Gospel speak to us about war in the 21st century? We have had a few recent pronouncements by our bishops, and the Geyer/Woggaman (sp?) sponsored legislation at the 2000 General Conference (which moved our denomination closer to an Augustinian position regarding war). But there has been no serious theological discourse on this topic since the days of the Southeast Asian War.

This proposal suggests that such a conversation be held.

It is proposed that sometime in January of 2006 (flexible of course...summer might be better), a conference be convened in the Wesleyan tradition of *holy conferencing*. This is not to be a legislative event. No resolutions, no pronouncements, but instead, prayerful dialogue under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The event would last four days and could be held at a church in a major hub city (NYC, Chicago, DC, San Francisco?). Hotel space could be made available for those needing it. But it is proposed that the majority of folks will stay in private homes and on church floors. The point would be to have a no frills event. Even speakers would be called upon to offer their services as a gift to this process.

The event would be organized along the lines of the Wesleyan Quadrilateral. Speakers, workshops, open forums would organized each day along the lines of “Scripture,” “Reason,” “Tradition” and “Experience.” Each early morning and evening there would be worship with guest preachers. Some key persons would be invited to present.

A serious effort would be made to document this event. The results, if done properly could be very publishable, and even used as a teaching tool for a set period of time into the future.

A suggested schedule might look like this.

DAY ONE: SCRIPTURE

- 8:00 am - Breakfast in Community
- 9:00 am - Morning Worship and Holy Communion (Preacher)
- 10:30 am - Keynote
- 11:00 am - Small Groups (note, the small groups would stay together through the conference, mimicking Welseyan class groups)
- Noon - Lunch
- 1:30 pm - Forums on Several Subject Areas
(eg. Panel Discussion on History of Methodist Movement and its theology regarding war; Jesus on War and Peace; etc)
- 3:00 pm - Break
- 4:30 pm - Bible Study
- 6:00 pm - Dinner
- 7:00 pm - Small Group Check-in and Prayer
- 7:30 pm - Worship (guest preacher)
- 9:00 pm - Optional Late Night Rap Session

Each day would be similarly scheduled, focusing progressively on each element of the Quadrilateral.

On the closing day there would be a summation and a discussion of next steps. Dialogues, texts of talks and other items would then be pulled together and edited for publication.

It is possible that such an effort may lead to something more. But we will leave that to the event itself.



This is just a rough draft, but I wanted to get it out to you.

Let me know what you think.

Schuyler Rhodes

Edited on Outlook Express

Dear Schuyler,

Here are my suggestions for things to talk about in our telephone conversation on Monday, September 20.

BREADTH OF INITIATIVE

Whether (i) to concentrate mainly on having a one-time conference, as you first proposed, or (ii) also to organize an extensive, Internet-based dialogue preceding the conference, as I have suggested. The latter would depend upon revitalizing and broadening the base of Methodists United for Peace with Justice (see below). In either case would you take the leadership for conference planning?

TIMING

I'm assuming that you are interested in influencing the 2008 UM General Conference. Working backwards, we find that annual conferences will adopt petitions in May-June 2007. Some conferences require resolutions to be submitted several months in advance (January-March 2007). This means that a national conference would need to be held no later than the fall of 2006. Because it would take at least a year to organize it and get it on people's calendar, the earliest would be the fall of 2005 or spring of 2006.

PLACE AND CONFERENCE MODEL

You suggest: (i) a retreat center or (ii) local church/motel/sleeping bags on the floor. You don't suggest a conference at a major hotel. I would agree not to go that route because of the extra expenses. I can see the possibility of several churches in a city serving as local host and arranging for a certain amount of in-home housing. A retreat center could work, too. It could also be a seminary. I don't have a preference.

SUBSTANTIVE FOCUS

In July you suggested "United Methodists and War in the 21st Century". That title is okay with me, but we can keep open until we define the topics we want to cover. Whatever the title we will need to address the Church's position on war between nations, civil war, war of liberation, terrorism, military imperialism short of war, and humanitarian intervention. We should frame discussion with a concern for justice.

We might deal mainly with the language of the Social Principles. A more ambitious approach would be to develop (a) a comprehensive policy statement for the 2008 General Conference and (b) an accompanying action program for the next quadrennium that would focus on promoting the end the war throughout the globe (that is, end war systems) and shifting to much greater concern for global social and economic justice. This would become a special emphasis for all the UM boards. The United Methodist Church could provide leadership to get other denominations involved.

Along those lines I want to recall that the 1944 Methodist General Conference, while giving support to World War II, added a strong anti-war statement to the Methodist Social Creed (attached) and embarked on a Crusade for a New World Order that fully engaged the Methodist Church from the bishops and boards to local congregations. (See pp. 70-73 and 81-87 in "A Will for Peace" by Herman Will.)

PRE-CONFERENCE DIALOGUE

I have suggested pre-conference, Internet dialogue for two reasons. First, it is natural these days and a very useful tool. Second, it provides a way for MUPWJ to make a continued contribution through the use of our website, www.mupwj.org. It would be relative simple to add an interactive section. This assumes that MUPWJ will still be around.

BISHOPS' STUDY GUIDE

We will want to work with the UM Council of Bishops, for they are our elected leaders. Therefore, we should make use of their study guide, "In Search of Security". But we need not limit ourselves. Their study guide offers a biblical perspective but doesn't get into theology, as you want to do. We can add that and other elements.

100 (or more) CHURCHES

I've had another conversation with Dean Snyder, pastor, Foundry UMC in downtown D.C., who first suggested getting 100 churches in dialogue on these kind of issues. He will commit Foundry (whose Peace Mission created MUPWJ in 1987 and still supports our work). He believes that getting at least 100 churches shouldn't be too difficult, for that's only an average of only 1½ per annual conference.

To provide a structural framework, I suggest that we could invite these churches to become organizational members of MUPWJ, pay at least \$100/year (or \$200, 300, 500), participate in dialogue that starts with the bishops' study guide and adds other matters, and send representatives to the national conference. This would give us a base in most annual conferences (some we might not reach, but who knows, maybe we will find at least one church in every one).

We could put out a request-for-proposals to these churches for hosting the conference.

MUPWJ

This would shore up the financial base of MUPWJ, but more is needed. We need somebody to perform the following tasks: membership recruitment and record keeping, treasurer, website, newsletter, action alerts, conference organizing. In the Internet age quite a bit of this can be decentralized by getting a few local church groups to take on specific tasks. I'm assuming that you take the lead on the conference with help that you will enlist. Membership records, the website, newsletter, and action alerts can be handled from anywhere. I'm hoping that our treasurer, who is a member of Foundry, will continue to serve, but if not, we would need to find someone else in Washington unless we shift the "home office" (a mailbox at Foundry) elsewhere. You've re-energized me enough to remain involved, though I don't necessarily need to remain as chair. But if I do, I'll need to delegate more as suggested above.

OTHERS TO INVOLVE

We want to be cooperative with official UM officials and boards but yet remain independent. The easiest to work with are the conference peace with justice coordinators (I am active in their network) and the Peace with Justice Program of the General Board of Church and Society.

We should try to get United Methodist Women and the Women's Division involved in some measure, and perhaps other units of Global Ministry.

We should be in touch with the Council of Bishops but not beholden to them. If we use the bishops' study guide, we should make clear that this an important resource but not the only one. Bishop Whitaker, chair of the panel, favors a grassroots approach with congregations giving feedback to their bishops. We can tell him that we are providing congregations an opportunity to communicate with one another across conference and jurisdiction lines on the study guide and related issues. If the bishops want to convene a national conference on the study guide (I doubt that they will), we shouldn't compete with them. Thus, our theme should be broader even though their study guide is an important resource.

We can communicate through the MFSA network and their conference chapters but not necessarily have MFSA as a cosponsor. They concentrate primarily on internal UMC issues and recognize MUPWJ as a specialist on nuclear disarmament and peace issues.

We should be in touch with UM seminaries. Maybe even one of them would like to host the conference.

NEXT STEPS

If you and I agree on what we want to do, I would like to present our plan to our Board of Directors for approval and National Advisory Committee for advice. The latter includes several bishops and a range of views from Richard Deats to Alan Geyer and Phil Wogaman.

This gets back to my desire to bring together as many as possible in an anti-war crusade, for neither pacifists nor just war theorists favor war in the 21st century. In the pluralistic United Methodist Church there is room for both. We each may offer alternative language for the Social Principles, but we should be able to agree on prophetic efforts to end the war system.

After we receive board approval (by e-mail and regular mail), we can move ahead to implement the agreed-on plan.

Sorry, the agenda (and this message) is so long, but there is much to talk about. Thanks for stimulating the conversation. I'll be calling you.

Shalom,
Howard

October 16, 2003

Ms. Beth Jones, Program Officer
Town Creek Foundation
121 N. West Street
Easton, MD 21601

Dear Ms. Jones:

As you review our application for funding, I would like to update you on three aspects of our proposal.

The December 3 Interfaith Consultation on Nuclear Disarmament is shaping up very well. The program is enclosed. David Culp, Rich Killmer, and others in the faith community are major partners in planning this endeavor. But it couldn't have been put together without the catalytic leadership that I provide as chair of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament. We are hoping that the Town Creek Foundation will recognize the value of this essential role and provide support for follow-up activities coming out of the Consultation.

The global, interfaith initiative is moving along. On October 6 we had a meeting in New York involving Canadian Senator Doug Roche. Middle Powers Initiative; Jonathan Granoff, Global Security Institute (GSI); Arun Elhance, World Conference of Religions for Peace (WCRP); Michael Hovey, Pax Christi International; Vernon Nichols, NGO Committee on Disarmament; Tony Kireopoulos, National Council of Churches (on speakerphone); and myself. We decided to shorten the appeal, retain the call for unconditional renunciation of all uses of nuclear weapons, change the title to "A Moral Appeal for Global Elimination of Nuclear Weapons", include signers of global renown from the civic sector (such as Nobel Peace prize laureates) along with religious leaders from around the globe.

Granoff and I are responsible for the next draft. (My initial re-draft is enclosed.) The Pax Christi International executive committee has improved this initiative and will continue to seek support from the Holy See. It will be on the agenda of the November meeting of the General Assembly, National Council of Churches. I will take responsibility for finalizing the support of the World Council of Churches and some other ecumenical bodies. Granoff through WCRP will reach out to religious leaders beyond the Christian community and through GSI to civic sector leaders. At the rate we are going

Ms. Beth Jones
October 16, 2003
Page two.

we will be garnering signatures in November and December and be ready for public release in January 2004. We will then move into follow-up activities aimed at influencing policies of states possessing nuclear weapons. Town Creek Foundation support for this endeavor would be very helpful.

As to our fundraising, we were turned down by the Ploughshares Fund. I am now preparing grant requests in the \$5,000 to \$10,000 range for two United Methodist agencies, the General Board of Church and Society and the General Board of Global Ministries, for consideration in the early months of 2004. A Town Creek grant would help us get going as we seek other support.

Not knowing your preference, I have also sent this same message via e-mail. If you need further information, please let me know.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman, Chair

Bishops Release Study on “In Search of Security”

A task force of the United Methodist Council of Bishops has released a study and discussion guide on the Christian response to concerns about safety and security. [“In Search of Security”](#) provides an invitation to United Methodists throughout our connection to consider thoughtfully and prayerfully a faithful understanding of security in a post-September 11 world. The document is not an official document of the Council but is approved by the Council for use by local congregations to stimulate conversation and reflection. It sets a foundation to deepen our Christian conversation about what security means within our faith and asks United Methodists to consider how inadequate fear-based ethics are in personal and political decision-making and to wrestle with the myth of human invulnerability.

Bishop Walter Klaiber of Germany drafted the document and bishops will hold discussions about it among United Methodists in their areas and report back to the council. In creating the committee to develop the paper, bishops expressed the hope the document will become a study guide used by United Methodists throughout the world. A similar study guide, “In Defense of Creation,” became an important Cold War congregational resource during the 1980s. The Bishops expressed a hope that “In Search of Security” would:

- Cultivate a common call and vision for United Methodist people that sustains and witnesses to authentic security;
- Provide a model for continued dialogue for local churches, districts, and annual conferences.
- Bring feedback from local churches to the Council of Bishops on the issues addressed by this study for further reflection or action.

A short study guide has been added to the Bishop’s document to guide local church small groups that want to study the document, ideally in a four week series. In addition, participants should be at least somewhat familiar with two important, recent United States government documents:

The National Security Strategy of the United States and The National Strategy for Homeland Security. Copies are available at www.whitehouse.gov/nsc/nss.html and at www.whitehouse.gov/homeland/book.

Members of the Task Force who crafted the study are Bishops Walter F. Klaiber, William Boyd Grove, Alfred Johnson, Jose Quipungo, Dale White and Timothy W. Whitaker (Chair).

Copies of the 32-page study are available to download in PDF format from the Resources section of www.umc-gbcs.org or copies can be ordered from the GBCS Service Department at 1-800-967-0880. Copies also are available from each active Bishop.

November 24, 2003

Mr. Wade Greene
Room 5600
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, NY 10012

Dear Mr. Greene:

In May and June I wrote to you about two initiatives that I have undertaken. One of them, an Interfaith Consultation on Nuclear Disarmament, will take place on December 3, 2003. The program and list of attendees are attached. This Consultation was organization under my leadership as chair, Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament. Follow through will have the same auspices.

The second initiative, a global appeal for nuclear disarmament, has turned out to be more complicated and time consuming than I anticipated. It is now coming into fruition. I am wondering, therefore, whether a member of the Rockefeller Family would be interested in making a \$15,000 grant in support of this activity as it moves to the action stage.

What has emerged is "A Moral Appeal for a Safer World without Nuclear Weapons". It is attached along with the beginning of an initial list of signers. The essence of the Appeal is a statement that nuclear weapons are inherently immoral and a call upon possessors not to use them and to take steps for their total elimination. The Appeal is also displayed at www.zero-nukes.org/moralappeal.htm on a web page that is a work in process.

As partners in this endeavor I have engaged Pax Christi International, National Council of Churches (USA), World Conference of Religions for Peace, and Global Security Institute. We are near to gaining cooperation from the World Council of Churches. Initial signers include leaders from my own denomination, the United Methodist Church, which is a global institution.

In December we will start circulating A Moral Appeal widely to obtain signers from religious leaders of many faiths and denominations and from well-known persons in the civic sector, including Nobel peace laureates. I will work with staff of the National Council of Churches (USA) and World Council of Churches to get the appeal to leaders of their member denominations, to other national and regional ecumenical bodies, and to global federations of

Mr. Wade Greene
November 24, 2003
Page two.

denominations, such as the World Methodist Council and Lutheran World Federation. Paul Lansu of Pax Christi International will seek signers from Catholic leaders from all continents. He is in touch with the Pontifical Office for Justice and Peace. Jonathan Granoff as president of the Global Security Institute and a consultant to the World Conference of Religions for Peace (WCRP) will seek signers from global civic-sector leaders and through WCRP with leaders of religious faiths beyond the Christian community.

This process will continue into January 2004. Towards the end of January or in February we will release the Appeal publicly, perhaps simultaneously in Europe and the United States.

Then we will promote activities that press states possessing nuclear weapons to take steps recommended by the Appeal. Among other methods we will build on the experience of religious leaders opposing war against Iraq who formed delegations that called upon heads of states. In the United States the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, which I chair, will play a major role in this endeavor (see www.zero-nukes.org). Organizations such as Pax Christi International, the Conference of European Churches, Churches Together in Britain and Ireland will press the case in Europe.

The requested grant would go to the Methodists United Peace/Justice Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) entity. I can provide you copies of IRS letters upon request. More about Methodists United for Peace with Justice is available on our website at www.mupwj.org.

If you need further information, please let me know.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman
Chair

Dear Mr. Wildman:

Last fall I had a telephone conversation with you about whether the General Board of Global Ministry would consider making a grant to Methodists United for Peace with Justice in support of our education and advocacy efforts on nuclear weapons issues. You indicated that you would be willing to look at a proposal in 2004.

Who we are is indicated on our website, www.mupwj.org. We organized in 1987 in response to the United Methodist bishops' pastoral letter and foundation document, In Defense of Creation. Since then nuclear disarmament has been our primary focus. However, in keeping with our name "Methodists United" we are also working to encourage Pan-Methodist cooperation on children's advocacy. (See the attached proposal that we are carrying out with the endorsement of the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation and Union.)

The easiest way to summarize our work on nuclear disarmament is to attach the "Project Description" from an application to the General Board of Church and Society for a peace with justice grant. Our work involves activities within the United Methodist Church, interfaith advocacy for which we provide leadership, and a global initiative in the form of "A Moral Appeal for a Safer World without Nuclear Weapons" (attached; also found at <http://www.zerounukes.org/moralappeal.html>).

We perceive that nuclear disarmament is not only a matter of peace and security but also an issue of human rights and racial justice because presently the most likely victims of the U.S. aggressive stance on nuclear weapons would be North Koreans and people from the Middle East.

We are currently seeking to raise \$50,000 for our work on nuclear disarmament, including our global initiative. The budget is attached. We have requested a \$5,000 peace with justice grant from the General Board of Church and Society. We would like to apply for a similar amount from the General Board of Global Ministries. We also have proposals pending with foundations.

As chair of Methodists United for Peace with Justice, I function as chief operating officer for our work on nuclear disarmament. My qualifications are shown at <http://www.zerounukes.org/howardhallman.htm>. This is a website that I manage as part of my responsibilities as chair of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament. Among other activities, this group is sponsoring a Nuclear Disarmament Track at upcoming Ecumenical Advocacy Days (see <http://www.advocacydays.org/nucleardisarm.html>).

If there is a possibility that Global Ministries would consider making a grant to Methodists United for Peace with Justice, please provide me with appropriate information on how to apply.

With best regards,