

METHODISTS UNITED FOR PEACE WITH JUSTICE

421 Seward Square, SE

Washington, DC 20003

(202) 546-5551

To: General Conference Liaison Persons

Thank you for agreeing to help us in making contact with delegates to the United Methodist General Conference.

Objectives. Our purpose is to mobilize support for:

- (1) General Conference endorsement of the Council of Bishops' Pastoral Letter and For Crisis and a Just Peace. The bishops adopted this courageous and prophetic statement in 1986 after two years of prayer and study. We believe that General Conference, as the central policy maker for the United Methodist Church, should adopt this document as official policy.
- (2) Establishment of Peace with Justice as the missional priority of the United Methodist Church for the 1989-92 Quadrennium. This would be

a timely action for two reasons. First, now is an opportune moment to improve US/Soviet relations and move toward nuclear disarmament. Second, it is also a time to achieve a Social Re-Awakening to deal with crucial justice issues, such as poverty, human rights, nurture of those in need, and environmental stewardship. A Peace with Justice missional priority would bring the United Methodist Church into the forefront of leadership on these issues. It would focus the work of all United Methodist national program agencies on key peace and justice issues, and also activities of annual conferences and local churches. There could be carefully targeted, supplemental financial resources appropriated for this purpose.

Background. Nine annual conferences have petitioned General Conference to make Peace with Justice the quadrennial missional priority, and one has called for endorsement of the Foundation Document, In Defense of Creation. Methodists United for Peace with Justice (MUPJ), an association of laity and clergy formed last year in response to the bishops' call for United Methodists to work for just peace, has developed the enclosed petition which encompasses these two issues. We circulated a draft in January and found considerable support beyond those ten annual conferences. After adopting the final version in February, we sent it to all General Conference delegates and are getting favorable feedback.

About the General Conference. The General Conference is the official governing body of the United Methodist Church. Consisting of clergy and lay delegates elected

by annual conferences, it meets every four years. The official policies adopted by General Conference are then published in the Book of Discipline and the Book of Resolutions. The upcoming session of General Conference will have 996 delegates who will meet in St. Louis from Tuesday, April 26 through Friday, May 6.

At General Conference issues are first considered by standing legislative committees and then brought to the floor for consideration. The substance of our petition will go to two of these committees. Committee 1, Church and Society, will consider making In Defense of Creation the official policy of the United Methodist Church. Committee 6, General Administration, will consider whether to recommend a quadrennial missional priority and, if so, what the subject will be.

Mobilizing support. We are now working to build support for these two matters. We have sent a copy of the petition to all delegates and provided a return card, letting them indicate whether they (a) favor Peace with Justice as the quadrennial missional priority, (b) have not made up their mind, or (c) are against the idea. Those in favor were asked to indicate whether they would help us mobilize support. We are starting to receive favorable responses from all regions of the country.

Our next step is to enlist a member of each of the 74 annual conference delegations to be our contact person within that delegation and to promote support for the petition. This is where you can help us by serving as our principal liaison with one or more annual conference.

There are at least four ways for finding a "peace with justice" delegate coordinator for an annual conference. We are looking for persons who are committed to having General Conference endorse In Defense of Creation and establishing Peace with Justice as the missional priority, are knowledgeable about the issue and about General Conference, and are respected by other members of their delegations.

- (1) One of us may know somebody in the annual conference -- a delegate or some right person to be the peace with justice delegate coordinator.
- (2) We may be able to find a member of MUPJ who will carry out this assignment.
- (3) The postcards we are receiving identify some delegates who say that the
- (4) If we have no other contact, we can initiate calls to delegates and find some General Administration. Or we could start with the leading clergy and lay person in the delegation. We have information on who those

It may be that a combination of these approaches would be valid.

Telephone contacts. As you make contact with prospective allies within an annual conference, there are a number of points you may want to make.

About MUPJ. If the person does not know about Methodists United for

About petition. We have mailed the petition to all General Conference
received the petition, offer to send a copy. If not a delegate,

delegat

describ

(1) Background: From Despair to Hope. Emphasize that we are
ready for a Social Re-Awakening and that the United
Methodist Church could help lead the way.

(2) Biblical Basis for Response. This is derived from the
bishops' document, In Defense of Creation.

(3) Building the Foundation. Action for Peace with Justice
should be built upon a foundation of prayer, worship,
biblical and theological study, and Christian education.

(4) Goals and Strategies. This section lays out five issue
areas for peace with justice activities:

Peace among nations

Economic opportunity

Nurturing communities

Human rights

Environmental stewardship

Ethnic minority local churches. The missional priority of the last eight years be certain that the previous one is properly incorporated in the church structure.

You can point out that this thought is encompassed in our petition (p. 6) as part of a broader Peace with Justice priority.

Related petitions. As noted, a number of annual conferences have offered their General Conference will draw on the best ideas of all these petitions.

Other issues before General Conference. This year's General Conference will be considering numerous other issues, many of them dealing with internal matters of the United Methodist Church. Some of they are quite controversial, including aspects be ordained as ministers. MUPJ has not taken a position on any of these issues. We are concentrating our attention on assuring that the

United Methodist Church responds to the bishops call for all of us to work together for a just peace.

Reporting back. Please report your results to the person from the MUPJ Steering Committee whom contacted you, or to Howard Hallman {(301) 762-4164}, who is coordinating this effort. Let us know:

Key contact or delegate coordinator (could be more than one in a large delegation).

Name

Telephone

Address

Previous General Conference experience

Other relevant background information

Attitude of delegation on --

- (1) Endorsing In Defense of Creation
- (2) Establishing Peace with Justice as missional priority

Any other relevant information you have obtained

Breakfast at General Conference. Lastly as you talk to delegates, and especially delegate coordinators, indicate that Methodists United for Peace and Justice is sponsoring a Peace with Justice Breakfast at General Conference. It will be held on Wednesday, April 27 from 7:00 to 8:15 a.m. at the Radisson Hotel. The purpose will be to discuss the two issues: endorsing In Defense of Creation and establishing Peace with Justice as a quadrennial missional priority. We will consider strategies for gaining acceptance by General Conference. More details will be available later, but ask them to put the breakfast on their calendar and plan to attend.

March 29, 1988

Contacts for Annual Conference Delegates
to United Methodist General Conference

As of:4-5-88

JURISDICTION &
Annual Conference
Delegate

(# of delegates)
Coordinator

Annual Conference
Contact or
MUPJ Liaison

NORTHEASTERN

Maine (2)

New Hampshire (2)

Southern New England (10)

Cheryl Howard

Rev. Shirley Hoover (6)

Joyce Robinson (1)

New York (16)

Howard Hallman

Rev. Randy Day

Troy (8)

Howard Hallman

North Central New York (10) Howard Hallman

Western New York (8) Howard Hallman

Northern New Jersey (6) Kenneth Fell
(Howard)

Southern New Jersey (10) Kenneth Fell
(Howard)

Eastern Pennsylvania (16) Reggie Cuffie
(Ed)

Puerto Rico (2)

Central Pennsylvania (18) Bob Griffin

Wyoming (6) [in Pa.& NY]

Western Pennsylvania (22) Cheryl Howard
Rev. Peter D. Weaver (6)
Rev. J. Howard Wright (1)

Pennisula (8) Sherman Harris

Baltimore (22) Sherman Harris

West Virginia (16)

SOUTHEASTERN

Virginia (32) Sid & Janus Jones
(Ed)

North Carolina (20) Cheryl Howard Pending

Western North Carolina (28) Cheryl Howard

South Carolina (22)

North Georgia (22) Lou Rigdon
(Ed)

South Georgia (14) Lou Rigdon
(Ed)

Florida (28) Ann Gehman

(Ed)

Alabama-West Florida (14) Ed Helm

North Alabama (18)

Mississippi (10)

North Mississippi ((8)

Memphis (10)

Tennessee (10)

Holston (18) [E. Tenn.]

Red Bird Missionary (2)

Kentucky (8)

Louisville (10)

NORTH CENTRAL

East Ohio (24)	Warren Trouf (Ed)	
West Ohio (32)	John Warne (Ed)	
Detroit (16)	Diane Stanton-Rich	Joyce B. Stanton
West Michigan (10)	Diane Stanton-Rich	
North Indiana (16)	Charles Rhoads	
South Indiana (16)	Charles Rhoads	
Northern Illinois (16)	Gareth Porter (Ed)	
Central Illinois (16)	Chip Craver	
Southern Illinois (6)	Chip Craver	
Wisconsin (14)	Sherman Harris	Mary-Council Austin - ?

Minnesota (12)

Iowa (24)

Bob Griffin

North Dakota (2)

South Dakota (2)

SOUTH CENTRAL

Nebraska (12)

Kansas East (8)

Sid & Janis Jones - ?

Jane Palmer, Mary Carter - ?

Glenda Condon - ?

Kansas West (10)

ditto

Missouri East (10)

Diane Stanton-Rich

Rev. Jean B. Scott (6) -?

Missouri West (10)

North Arkansas (8)

Pat Baker

Little Rock (8)

Pat Baker

Louisiana (12)

Oklahoma (20)

Bob Griffin

Oklahoma Indian Missionary (2)

North Texas (12)

John Matthews

Central Texas (12)

Texas (22)

Ed Helm

Southwest Texas (12)

Ed Helm

Rev. Jack D. Heacock

Rio Grande (2)

Northwest Texas (8)

New Mexico (6)

WESTERN

Rocky Mountain (10) Glenda Condon
(Ed)

Yellowstone (2)

Desert Southwest (4)

California-Pacific (18) Howard Hallman

California-Nevada (14) Howard Hallman

Oregon-Idaho (8)

Pacific Northwest (10)

Alaska Missionary (2)

MUPJ.02

Programs to Implement Peace with Justice Missional Priority

I. Peace among Nations

A. General Board of Church and Society

1. Add three issue advocates to Washington staff with focus on
 - a. Disarmament and US/Soviet relations, especially to implement policies and strategies contained in In Defense of Creation
 - b. Middle East, now the most volatile and, after Europe, the most heavily armed region in the world
 - c. Third World: Latin America, Africa, Southern Asia
2. Organize a network of district-level peace-with-justice action committees (to work on both peace and justice issues)
 - a. Have one organizer per jurisdiction to promote and assist the network of district committees
 - b. Have a seed-money fund to help get district committees underway
3. Upgrade and modify "Word from Washington", changing it to a weekly report in two forms:
 - a. Computer-based telecommunication, connected if possible to every annual conference and district and to other interested parties
 - b. First class mail to every district action committee and other subscribers

(This communication network would be used for all issues handled by

the General Board of Church and Society.)

B. General Board of Discipleship

1. Link local peace advocates with district peace-with-justice action committees

2. Prepare Christian education material related to:

1989 - In Defense of Creation

1990 - Third World issues

1991 - International organizations

1992 - Global environmental stewardship

C. General Board of Higher Education

1. Facilitate the organization of peace with justice units on college campuses for two purposes:

a. Advocacy and educational outreach (beyond the campus)

b. Volunteer activities (see United Methodist Volunteer Corps, below)

II. Economic Opportunity

A. General Board of Church and Society

1. Add two issue advocates with focus on:

a. Employment

b. Community economic development (urban and rural)

2. Make "combatting poverty and open economic opportunity" a major focus of present staff, giving particular attention to welfare

reform

B. General Board of Global Ministries

1. Expand community economic development loan fund to \$_____/year
2. Create a new grant program, modeled after the Roman Catholic's Campaign for Human Development, to assist local groups engaged in community organizing in low- and moderate-income areas (urban and rural), particularly working through ethnic minority local churches and other churches based in such areas
3. Minimize staff overhead in dispensing these funds

C. Council of Bishops

1. Provide adequate resources to undertake a two-year study and development of a pastoral letter and foundation document on economic justice

III. Nurturing Communities

A. General Board of Church and Society

1. Make "nurturing communities" a major theme to pull together activities on human welfare
2. Add two issue advocates with focus on:
 - a. Housing and homelessness
 - b. Hunger at home and abroad

B. General Board of Global Ministries

1. Augment and modify present efforts on voluntary service by establishing a United Methodist Volunteer Corps, carried out through:

- a. Local churches (where much is already underway)
 - i. Outreach in a church's own community for all kinds of service
 - ii. Linkage to communities of special need; as far as possible, have receiving community request and direct the work of the volunteers (such as an inner city church bringing in suburbanvolunteers to tutor children and youth, to undertake housing rehabilitation)
- b. Local units of the Volunteer Corps, organized on a city, county, or metropolitan basis to draw in full- and part-time volunteers for specific projects (including high school youth for weekend and summer activities)
- c. Summer volunteer projects for college students

C. General Board of Higher Education

- 1. Encourage the formation of units of United Methodist Volunteer Corps on college campuses.

IV. Human Rights

A. General Board of Church and Society

- 1. Conduct educational efforts among United Methodists on racism and other human rights issues
- 2. Give particular attention to issues related to the earliest immi-

- grants to this continent ("native" Americans), the forced immigrants (blacks), and the most recent (Hispanic, Asian)
3. Continue to focus on equal rights for women and racial/ethnic minorities

V. Environmental Stewardship

A. General Board of Church and Society

1. During the first two years of the quadrennium, conduct a study of global environmental issues

B. Council of Bishops

1. During the second two years of the quadrennium, develop a pastoral letter and foundation document on environmental issues ("In Defense of Creation -- Part II")

Hallman

4-5-88

MUPJ.03

DEFENDING CREATION THROUGH PEACE AND JUSTICE

Proposals to General Conference by
Methodists United for Peace with Justice

Introduction

At the 1988 General Conference, Methodists United for Peace with Justice is seeking achievement of two objectives:

- (1) General Conference endorsement of the Council of Bishops' Pastoral Letter and Foundation Document, In Defense of Creation: The Nuclear Crisis and a Just Peace.

The bishops adopted this courageous and prophetic statement in 1986 after two years of prayer and study. We believe that the General Conference, as the central policy maker for the United Methodist Church, should adopt this document as official policy.

- (2) A strong commitment to make Peace with Justice a major focus of the United Methodist Church during the 1989-92 Quadrennium. This might be done as a missional priority or a special emphasis. But whatever the form General Conference should (a) call upon annual conferences,

districts, local churches, and individual members to work vigorously for peace with justice, (b) instruct general boards and agencies to channel their work in this direction, and (c) provide financial resources to make this possible.

A focus on Peace and Justice simultaneously is timely for two reasons:

First, now is an open moment in history, offering an opportunity for dramatically improved relationships between the US and USSR.

Second, it is also an opportune moment to achieve a Social Re-Awakening to deal with crucial social justice issues, such as poverty, human rights, nurture of those in need, and environmental stewardship.

A strong Peace with Justice commitment by General Conference would bring the United Methodist Church into the forefront of leadership on these issues.

I. In Defense of Creation

In 1986 the United Methodist Council of Bishops addressed a Pastoral Letter to all United Methodists, calling upon us to join with them in a new covenant of peacemaking. They also provide us with a Foundation Document, entitled In Defense of Creation: The Nuclear Crisis and a Just Peace. In it they set forth a theology of peace with justice in our time and offered a set of "Policies for a Just Peace" (pp. 74-81 of the Foundation Document).

We believe that the General Conference should endorse the Pastoral Letter and the Foundation Document. This would place the United Methodist Church squarely on record in support of the policies which our bishops have said are necessary for dealing with the nuclear crisis and achieving a just peace. The bishops stated:

The necessity of reconstructing USA-USSR relations is the crux of the nuclear crisis and a imperative of justice to all earth's peoples.

That reconstruction involves developing a regular and systematic pattern of consultation, perhaps including an annual summit conference, between the highest political and military leaders of both countries. It requires a recommitment to substantial scientific, educational, and cultural exchanges.

We believe the churches should be prepared to support any one or combination of the following four measures, whichever gives greatest promise of ending the new cold war and reversing the arms race:

1. Comprehensive test ban to inaugurate a nuclear freeze.

We support the completion at long last of a treaty banning all nuclear weapons testing.

2. Consolidation of existing treaties and phased reductions.

We support the earliest possible negotiation of phased but rapid reduction of nuclear arsenals, while calling upon all other nuclear-weapons states to agree to parallel arms reductions, to the eventual goal of a mutual and verifiable dismantling of all nuclear armaments.

3. Bans on space weapons.

We support agreements banning both offensive and defensive weapons, which now threaten the increasing militarization of space.

4. No-first-use agreement.

While we oppose any use of nuclear weapons, we support, as a transitional measure, a no-first-use policy by the United States and urge its reinforcement in an agreement with other nuclear-weapon states.

In laying out "Policies for a Just Peace," the Council of Bishops spoke of other

necessary measures including (a) opposition to major offensive counterforce weapons, (b) support for independent US or Soviet initiatives, such as a moratorium on nuclear tests, (c) the need for building institutional foundations for common security, and (d) manifestation of peace connected to justice through substantial disarmament funds for development. The latter would be available as "disarmament dividends" from reductions in military spending.

As our bishops pointed out in the Foundation Document, these kinds of policies are a continuation of a long Methodist heritage, going back to John Wesley and demonstrated in numerous actions of the last 50 years. Therefore, it is quite appropriate for the General Conference to give a vigorous, ringing endorsement of In Defense of Creation: The Nuclear Crisis and a Just Peace.

II. A Commitment to Peace and Justice

In their Pastoral Letter our bishops stated (p. 93):

Peacemaking is ultimately a spiritual issue. It is a sacred calling of Jesus. All dimensions of church life offer openings for peacemaking: family life, Christian education, the ministry of the laity, pastoral ministry in every respect, political witness, and the great fact of the church as a worldwide company of disciples that transcends all nations, governments, races, and ideologies.

In building a biblical foundation for peacemaking, our bishops drew upon the testimony of shalom, "that marvelous Hebrew word that means peace." As they explained in the Foundation Document (p. 24):

Shalom is positive peace: harmony, wholeness, health, and well-being in all human relationships. It is the natural state of humanity as birthed by God. It is harmony between humanity and all of God's good creation. All of creation is interrelated. Every creature, every element, every force of nature participates in the whole of creation. If any person is denied shalom, all are thereby diminished.

In the covenant of shalom, they pointed out, peace and justice are intertwined. As an illustration, the bishops drew upon the prophesy of Isaiah (32:16-17):

Then justice will dwell in the wilderness,
and righteousness abide in the fruitful field.
And the effect of righteousness will be peace,
and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever.

If we are to open all dimensions of church life to peacemaking, as the Council of Bishops recommend, and if peacemaking seeks the positive peace of shalom, the 1988

General Conference should make a strong commitment to the interrelated concerns of peace and justice. If this is to happen, two sets of questions arise: (1) what form should this commitment take? how should it be structured? and (2) what specific policies and programs should be pursued? what level of funding is necessary? what funding sources?

Missional Priority or Special Emphasis?

In making a firm commitment to peace with justice, the General Conference has several options. The framework is set by The Book of Discipline, which provides these definitions (para. 803):

A missional priority is a response to a critical need in God's world which calls for the United Methodist Church's massive and sustained effort through primary attention and ordering or reordering of program and budget at every level of the Church.

A special program is a quadrennial emphasis approved by the General Conference and assigned to a general agency, designed in response to a distinct opportunity or need in God's world.

In our discussion with delegates we have noticed that some people use the term special emphasis to describe a focus involving a number of general agencies and other levels of the United Methodist Church, but without the elaborate machinery of

coordinating committees that has come to be associated with missional priority.

Although Methodists United for Peace with Justice has petitioned General Conference to make Peace with Justice a missional priority, we are concerned primarily with achieving a strong commitment of purpose and resources and less concerned about the technical title of this focus. Therefore, we offer some suggestions on policies and programs to pursue and how to fund these initiatives.

Establish an "In Defense of Creation Fund"

We recommend that General Conference establish an "In Defense of Creation Fund."

Purpose. The purpose of this fund would be to finance activities necessary to achieve the "Policies for a Just Peace," as contained in the Foundation Document and other peace with justice activities in fulfillment of the vision of shalom. This would be above and beyond current activities of the general boards and agencies, annual conferences, and local churches. Later we offer some suggestions for such activities.

Source. Money for the "In Defense of Creation" Fund should be raised as an apportionment whereby each local United Methodist Church would pay one dollar for each member during the quadrennium, payable in four annual payments at a rate of 25 cents per member per year. Funds would be divided in a manner directed by General Conference.

Programs. Great care should be taken to give a sharp focus to the kinds of programs and activities that would be funded under the "In Defense of Creation Fund". In our petition to General Conference, Methodists United for Peace with Justice suggested five broad categories:

I. Peace among nations

II. Economic opportunity

III. Nurturing communities

IV. Human rights

V. Environmental stewardship

Money from the "In Defense of Creation Fund" could be used for new initiatives in all of these peace-with-justice concerns, but it should be carefully targeted to matters of greatest urgency. In this way, the United Methodist Church would be helping to defend God's creation on Earth from nuclear holocaust, devastation of conventional wars, and environmental destruction caused by human greed and misuse of technology. And we would be helping to defend God's peoples from social, economic, and political injustices that shatter the harmony and wholeness of shalom.

SUGGESTIONS FOR NATIONAL PEACE-WITH-JUSTICE PROGRAMS TO BE FINANCED FROM AN "IN DEFENSE OF CREATION FUND"

Offered by Howard W. Hallman, Issues Chairperson
Methodists United for Peace with Justice

In our petition to General Conference we in Methodists United for Peace with Justice outlined five broad policy and program areas for peace with justice activities. Here are some suggestions for some specific national program activities that could be carried out with financing from the "In Defense of Creation Fund".

I. Peace among Nations

A. US/Soviet relations, nuclear disarmament

1. Strengthen the staff capability of the General Board of Church and Society to act as a public policy advocate in Washington, D.C. for measures that improve US/Soviet relations and move toward nuclear disarmament.
2. Organize a strong network of peace with justice task forces at the annual conference and district levels.
3. Rally local churches and individual members to undertake specific actions for peace with justice.
4. Set up a system of weekly communication from Washington on key issues, using (i) computer-based telecommunication, (ii) U.S. mail, and (iii) on special occasion, telephone mobilization.
5. Strengthen the capability of the General Board of Discipleship to develop Christian education material related to biblical, theological, and public policy issues raised by In Defense of Creation.

B. Other peace issues

1. Strengthen the staff capability of the General Board of Church and Society to act as a public policy advocate on issues related to the East and the Third World.
2. Tie this work to conference and district peace with justice task forces.

Middle

II. Economic Opportunity

A. Background

1. In a recent study entitled How the Poor Would Remedy Poverty, a of poor people in the United States expressed their desire for a living family wage, economic development to produce jobs for all who are able to work, education and training, basic health care, and adequate public assistance for those not working in the paid labor force (See summary in Appendix B).

2. We should listen to what the poor have to say by making economic opportunity a major focus of United Methodist social justice efforts.

B. General Board of Church and Society

1. Strengthen the Board's staff capability to act as a public policy advocate on the needs for jobs and economic development in lower-income communities, both urban and rural.
2. Relate this advocacy to conference and district level activities.

C. General Board of Global Ministries

1. Expand the existing community economic development loan fund.
2. Establish a new "United Methodist Fund for Social Justice," patterned after the Roman Catholic Campaign for Human Development, to assist local groups engaged in community organizing in low- and moderate-income areas (urban and rural), particularly working through ethnic minority local churches and other churches based in such areas (see Appendix A for more details).

D. Council of Bishops

1. Provide adequate resources to undertake a two-year effort to produce a pastoral letter and foundation document on economic justice.

E. Joint Actions

1. As recommended in the "Economic Justice" resolution to General Conference from the General Boards of Church and Society and Global Ministries, carry out studies of global economic justice issues by the general boards, annual conferences, and local congregations.

III. Nurturing Communities

A. General Board of Church and Society

1. Strengthen the Board's capability to act as a public policy advocate on matters of housing, homelessness, and hunger at home and abroad.

B. General Board of Global Ministries

1. Augment present efforts on voluntary service by establishing a United Methodist Volunteer Corps, carried out through:
 - a. Local churches
 - b. District and metropolitan area units
 - c. Special summer volunteer projects for teenagers and college students

IV. Human Rights

A. General Board of Church and Society

1. Strengthen public policy advocacy on issues of human rights

B. General Board of Discipleship

1. Develop and put into use Christian education material dealing with racism and other human rights issues

V. Environmental Stewardship

A. General Board of Church and Society

1. During the first two years of the quadrennium, conduct a study of global environmental issues

B. Council of Bishops

1. During the second two years of the quadrennium, develop a pastoral letter and foundation document on environmental issues ("In Defense of Creation -- Part II")

Appendix A. A New "United Methodist Fund for Social Justice"

One possible program of a major "In Defense of Creation Fund" would be to establish, as a pilot program during this quadrennium, a new "United Methodist Fund for Social Justice". Its primary focus would be to give financial support to local efforts that empower people in lower-income communities to act on their own behalf in seeking social justice. In purpose this would be patterned after the Campaign for Human Development, through which the Roman Catholic Church in the United States channels funds to local organizations. For the United Methodist Church, this fund would be administered by the General Board of Global Ministries.

The United Methodist Church, indeed no religious denomination, has the resources to meet all the social justice needs in the United States. What we should do is to focus on gaps and to find ways to leverage our resources. One of the best ways to do this is to help mobilize one of the greatest untapped resources: the people of lower-income communities working in their own behalf. The United Methodist Church is well-represented in such communities, both urban and rural, through local churches, many of them ethnic minority in character (though not exclusively).

These communities need financial assistance for basic organizing and for direct action projects dealing with jobs, education, economic development, housing, health, hunger, and other needs. Grants of \$20,000 to \$40,000 (which is typical for the Campaign for Human Development) can act as a catalyst for community organizing and for social action in order to mobilize people and enable them to seek ongoing funding from other sources for specific programs.

The Roman Catholics' Campaign for Human Development is funded by taking a portion of the Sunday collection in every local church on a Sunday in November. This yields over \$8 million a year. At this juncture a similar method of funding for the United Methodist Fund for Social Justice is not suggested, for there are already quite a number of special offerings. Instead, Methodists United for Peace with Justice proposes that this new fund function as a pilot program during the next quadrennium under the umbrella of the broader

"In Defense of Creation Fund", which we have proposed be funded as an apportionment of 25 cents per member per year, or one dollar per member during the quadrennium.

SOME IDEAS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF AN
"IN DEFENSE OF CREATION FUND"

Offered by Edward Helm
Co-Chairperson, Steering Committee
Methodists United for Peace with Justice

Actions for Individuals

The commitment to peace with justice for the 1989-92 quadrennium should involve every area of church life. This includes both the inner journey and the outer journey. This requires faithfulness, witness, and expansion of local congregational activities.

As our Lord started with individuals and sought to invite them to make inward changes and then later outward changes through healing and preaching, so also a successful peace with justice program must start within local congregations and with individuals.

A model set of goals for individuals might be:

1. Praying at least once a week for peace in our time, in our lives, in our communities and the world. (And working on their prayer life to equip themselves with an expanding prayer life.)
2. Reading scripture at least once a month in connection with Bible study on peacemaking and social justice issues.
3. Covenanting with a Wesley-type society at some time during the Quadrennium to work as a group to support and nurture peace with justice ministries.
4. Attending one Christian education class each year on Peace with Justice.
5. Making an outer journey at least once a year to fulfill our Lord's call for us to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, help the widow, visit the prisoner, feed the sick.
6. Covenanting to be sure that every person eligible to vote in one's family is registered to vote.
7. Helping to register to vote at least one person a year outside his or her family.
8. Committing to vote in each election in the next four years where candidates are running which can affect program and issues which the bishops have identified as critical to a more peaceful and just world.
9. Covenanting to communicate (letter, telephone call, etc.) with a person's two U.S. senators and member of the House of Representatives at least once each year for the next four years.

10. Personally communicating (i.e., visiting in Washington or at the state or district office, going to a meeting where a member of Congress will be present and asking a question or privately speaking to the person) for at least one member of Congress once in the four years.

Actions for Local Churches, Districts, and Annual Conferences

Individual United Methodists can often be most effective when they work together through their local church, district, and annual conference.

1. Each local church should develop a study and action program designed to deepen peace with justice ministries of each member of the congregation while developing and expanding the number of members involved in peace-with-justice missions. Each local church should commit to personally delivering to each of its members a "Bishops' Voting Test" once a year to show how the members' U.S. senators and representatives voted on policy issues specified in In Defense of Creation and on other peace-with-justice matters. This voting test would be developed by the General Board of Church and Society in consultation with the Council of Bishops.

2. Each district should assist in implementing the bishops' call to become peacemakers by designing its own peace with justice initiatives. Each year one district in every annual conference should be designated as a model district to receive special attention and resources so that it can augment its peace with justice program and draw more churches and individuals into active participation in local church peace with justice ministries. Model districts would be rotated annually so that four of them in each annual conference would have the benefit of special resources during the quadrennium.

3. Each annual conference should assist in implementing the bishops' call by planning its own initiatives and reporting the activities occurring in the model district. Conference publications could be used to disseminate this and other information on peace with justice issues to local churches, clergy, and lay leadership.

Other Actions

Other levels of church life should be brought into the quest for peace with justice.

1. Each United Methodist school of theology and each United Methodist college and university should increase its efforts to give students a sound biblical, theological, and ethical basis for peace with justice. These institutions should explore ways within current educational life as well as undertake experiments outside current educational life (such as one week or one month peace with justice work/study). They should develop internships for seminary and other United Methodist students with United Methodist members of Congress so that the interns can learn more about the political process.

2. Each agency of the United Methodist Church should examine its investments to make sure that the resources of the church are being used to reinforce the bishops' call and to withdraw

these resources from war-related, militaristic, and oppressive enterprises.

3. A religious summit between U.S. and Soviet religious leaders (and perhaps also some from other nations) should convene to permit them to jointly call upon their governments to take steps away from confrontation and military action. The religious leaders could also call upon both Soviet and United State governments to initiate a "peace with justice" tithe, derived from a mutual ten percent reduction in military expenditures. Funds would be used for United Nations and bilateral efforts to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit the oppressed, educate the ignorant, house the homeless, heal the sick, and otherwise respond to Christ's call to minister to "the least of these."

Actions by 1988 General Conference of the United Methodist Church
on Issues Raised by Methodists United for Peace with Justice

Endorsement of "In Defense of Creation"

The Standing Legislative Committee on Church and Society voted almost unanimously to recommend the following action:

Amend "Christian Faith and Disarmament" in The Book of Resolutions by adding the following on p. 287, 1984 edition, at the end of the first "dotted" paragraph:

- o We especially affirm and support the statements of the Council of Bishops in their 1986 pastoral letter, "In Defense of Creation," and the accompanying foundation document. We urge our bishops to keep this concern before the church. We request that the General Board of Discipleship produce new and updated educational materials for children, youth and adults to study the issues of peace and justice and the effects of the nuclear crisis.

Commitment of Peace with Justice

The Standing Legislative Committee on General Administration voted to have no missional priority during the 1989-92 quadrennium. They then amended the MUPJ petition with that request to establish peace with justice as a special program. The Committee unanimously adopted the following language:

Program Activities

The Peace with Justice special program shall be assigned to the General Board of Church and Society. During the 1989-92 Quadrennium it may include two major objectives:

- (1) implementing "Policies for a Just Peace" as specified in the Council of Bishop's Foundation Document, and
- (2) working for social justice policies and programs that seek the wholeness of shalom, including provision of greater economic opportunity, affordable housing, adequate food, and proper health care for poor people, displaced industrial workers, displaced farmers, and other persons faced with economic insecurity.

To achieve these objectives, the General Board of Church and Society

may:

- (a) Assist annual conferences, districts, and local churches to organize and carry out peace with justice activities,
- (b) Provide a regular flow of information on public issues to local churches, districts, and annual conferences, and
- (c) Strengthen its staff capability to act as a public policy advocate for measures that improve US-Soviet relations and move toward nuclear disarmament and measures that provide jobs, housing, food, health care, and income support for poor families and individuals.

Funding

For the purpose of financing activities (a) to achieve the "Policies for a Just Peace" contained in the Council of Bishops' Foundation Document In Defense of Creation and (b) to pursue other justice and peace objectives contained within the vision of shalom in this same document, revenue shall come from the Peace with Justice offering and other possible sources in accordance with paragraph 1112.2 and World Service Special Gifts.

Suggestions for Program Activities
of United Methodist General Board of Church and Society
for Special Program on Peace with Justice
during 1989-92 Quadrennium

Offered by Steering Committee,
Methodists United for Peace with Justice

Objectives

The 1988 General Conference established two major objectives for the Special Program on Peace with Justice:

- "(1) implementing 'Policies for a Justice Peace' as specified in the Council of Bishop's Foundation document, and
- "(2) working for social justice policies and programs that seek the wholeness of shalom, including provision of greater economic opportunity, affordable housing, adequate food, and proper health care for poor people, displaced industrial workers, displaced farmers, and other persons faced with economic security."

Activities of the Special Program on Peace with Justice should therefore be directed primarily toward this pair of objectives.

Activities

To achieve these objectives, General Conference specified three kinds of activities for the General Board of Church and Society to carry out. Methodists United for Peace with Justice suggests the following possibilities for each of them.

- "(a) Assist annual conferences, districts, and local churches to organize and carry out peace with justice activities"
 - i. Continue the activities of the present Peace with Justice project in getting annual conference peace with justice coordinators appointed, organizing annual conference peace with justice task forces, and conducting workshops around the country.
 - ii. Encourage the organization of a peace with justice task force in every district of United Methodism.
 - iii. Each year concentrate on one district in each annual conference to receive special attention and resources.
 - iv. Working with and through conference and district task forces,

encourage every local church to develop study and action programs designed to deepen peace with justice ministries.

- v. Working through local churches, encourage every United Methodist member to make a commitment to specific peace with justice activities.

"(b) Provide a regular flow of information on public issues to local churches, districts, and annual conferences."

- i. Upgrade and modify "Word from Washington," changing it to a weekly report in two forms:

- Computer-based telecommunications, connected if possible to every annual conference and district and to other interested parties.

- First-class mail to the leaders of all conference and district peace with justice task forces and to other subscribers.

- ii. Establish a telephone alert network to blanket the nation.

"(c) Strengthen its staff capability to act as a public policy advocate for measures that improve US-Soviet relations and move toward nuclear disarmament and measures that provide jobs, housing, food, health care, and income support for poor families and individuals"

- i. Make peace with justice a major theme for the work of all the Board's issue development and advocacy staff.

- ii. Supplement that staff by adding experts on:

- Nuclear disarmament

- US/Soviet relations

- Job creation

- Housing

- Welfare reform

- Health care

- Food programs

Funding

General Conference indicated that revenues for the Special Program on Peace with Justice "shall come from the Peace with Justice offering and other possible sources in accordance with paragraph 1112.2 and World Service Special Gifts." In another measure General Conference set the second Sunday of Pentecost as the day for the special offering.

- i. Strengthen the promotion of the Peace with Justice special offering.

- ii. Under the authority of paragraph 1112.2 of The Discipline,
establish an "In Defense of Creation Fund". For revenue, look to:
 - World Service Special Gifts
 - Special giving from local churches, districts, and
annual conferences
 - Bequests
 - Other special sources

May 16, 1988

MUPJ.08

July 18, 1988

ris, Bob Griffin, Diane Stanton-Rich

From: Howard Hallman

Re: Ideas about the future of Methodists United for Peace with Justice

My proposal for a membership campaign outlines the mechanics of how to go about recruiting and involving members in Methodists United for Peace with Justice (referred to here most often as Methodists United for a reason explained later). What is also needed is a carefully developed approach to program substance and organization that would attract members. This is the purpose of this memo: to stimulate your thinking, get your feedback, then to bring in other members of the MUPJ Steering Committee, and incorporate adopted substantive matters into membership appeals.

We should ask two questions: (1) who are we trying to attract to membership? (2) why would they want to join?

Who?

Basically we should be interested in attracting Methodists who are oriented toward social and political action, initially from the United Methodist Church but eventually from other Methodist traditions. This should include people who are involved in different arenas of action, including:

- (a) Local: clergy; laity, including peace advocates, chairpersons of church and society boards (peace missions, etc.), other members of these groups, leadership of United Methodist Women (UMW), youth leaders at colleges and universities.
- (b) District: district superintendents, peace with justice coordinators, members of district peace with justice task forces and church and society committees, district UMW leaders.
- (c) Conference: conference staff, peace with justice coordinators, members of conference peace with justice task forces and church and society committees, conference UMW leaders, bishops.
- (d) National: members of general boards (church and society, global ministries, discipleship), delegates to 1988 General Conference and jurisdictional conferences.

Why would they join?

With the United Methodist Church already well organized, indeed almost overorganized, why would any of these persons want to join another organization? What would

appeal to them?

- (a) Cutting edge: an opportunity to affiliate with an organization doing something important that is not being done by any official UMC board or agency or by any other United Methodist fellowship or association, and perhaps by no other religious organization; or if being done by any of these, only a minor emphasis or not vigorous enough advocacy.
- (b) Action: Methodists United serving first and foremost as an action organization.
 - (i) aimed particularly at influencing public policy, but
 - (ii) secondarily supportive of UM boards, though with friendly advocacy and pressure.
- (c) Educational: a source of useful information and ideas -- timely and regular.
- (d) Network connections: ties with other action-oriented Methodists and other persons and organizations working on peace and justice issues.

In sum, we need a strong action focus that does not duplicate what the General Board of Church and Society is doing, and we must go about our task and reach a broader (though perhaps somewhat overlapping) constituency than the Methodist Federation for Social Action and the Methodist Peace Fellowship. At the same time we should not appear to be competitive with these other organizations.

Proposed 1988-89 Program for Methodists United

This analysis points to the necessity for Methodists United to focus on at most three or four major issues in the coming year and to recruit and mobilize membership around these issues. Criteria for selecting such issues are as follows:

- o Deals mainly with U.S. policy (though could have a Soviet connection) so that members can use their access to policy makers.
- o Action can start in September 1988.
- o Possible electoral focus (asking candidates their position).
- o A matter both Congress and the president deal with.
- o Some hope of success but far enough beyond current governmental policies, and even beyond the current advocacy position of mainline peace and justice organizations, to be a challenge and to establish Methodists United as a creative, forward-looking organization.
- o Relates to In Defense of Creation.

On the peace side of the peace-with-justice equation, our focus should concentrate on nuclear disarmament (and related issues of conventional disarmament and US/Soviet relations). My recommendations for specific issues are as follows:

- (1) Stop Star Wars. We should mobilize support for the substance of an amendment sponsored by Congressman Dellums to cut Star Wars funding to a level not to exceed \$1 to 1.2 billion, to be used only for scientific research on physical principles, related mainly to detection and not to destructive devices, and nothing for developing, testing, and producing space weapons. In contrast, Congress in recent issues has sought to limit Star Wars expenditures to \$3.5 billion or so, including substantial funds for practical development and testing, well beyond scientific exploration. The majority of the peace movement has concentrated on establishing the \$3.5 billion level and has not supported the Dellums amendment because it is considered "impractical". But especially with the departure of President Reagan, the most powerful support of Star Wars, Methodists United should lead the movement toward the more far-reaching effort to stop Star Wars entirely. We should do this by pressuring Congress to cut off all funding beyond strictly scientific research (that is, the Dellums amendment). We should also urge the Soviet Union to suspend its own practical research, development, and testing of Star Wars systems (to show that we are balanced in our approach).

This would be an excellent issue for us because the United Methodist Council of Bishops spoke out strongly against Star Wars. The General Board of Church and Society is doing nothing on this matter, so we would not be duplicative and indeed would be mobilizing untapped United Methodist support for stopping Star Wars.

We should recognize that Star Wars funds have been spread around the country so that most congressional districts are receiving some. We should be prepared to counter contractors and hometown pressures by mobilizing local people to say that they are willing to forego these kind of jobs because peace is more important, but that they will support economic conversion measures to get away from jobs created by the war system.

There is lots of good information available on Star Wars that we can draw upon. In fact, we should be able to get numerous guest articles on this subject for Peace Leaf.

- (2) US/Soviet arms reduction. We should mobilize support for arms reduction mobilization, both nuclear and conventional (particularly in Europe where one-half the world's military expenditures are focused). But we should realize that action is mainly a task for negotiators from the Executive Branch and that Congress has a fairly limited role until treaty ratification occurs. Therefore, it is more difficult to mobilize action involving many people, doing many different things

over an extended period of time.

(3) Halt nuclear weapons testing. This is an issue that is half congressional (funding cutoff) and half executive (treaty negotiation). It is a long-standing issue of the peace movement and worthy of pursuit, but it now lacks the emotional appeal needed for mobilization.

(4) End the Cold War. Underlying the issue of nuclear disarmament is the Cold War and the necessity to bring this era to an end. However, this is fairly abstract and not one to mobilize around. Nevertheless, Methodists United should include consideration of ending the Cold War as part of its educational program.

On the justice side, I suggest that we develop a focus on "Children and Youth". We can do this as part of the overall theme of Defending Creation. After all, children and youth are the most precious part of God's creation. They need defending not only against nuclear war but also numerous social and economic injustices now afflicting them. The outline of a Methodists United focus on children needs further development, but the main elements might include the following:

- (1) Economic security for families.
- (2) Child health and nutrition.
- (3) Preschool education and child care.
- (4) Education for the disadvantaged: elementary & secondary.
- (5) Youth employment.
- (6) Teenage pregnancy prevention.

There are many sources of information on this topic, especially the Children's Defense Fund. Therefore, we would not need a lot of expertise but rather could draw on these resources.

As a mobilizing issue, children and youth would draw in a somewhat different constituency for Methodists United, thereby broadening our base. Because child health problems and poverty are closely related, and also youth employment and minority communities, it would enable us to have an issue that could attract support from Methodism's ethnic minorities.

These two sets of issues -- nuclear disarmament (emphasizing the end of Star Wars) and children and youth -- should have a public policy focus, particularly the national government but for children and youth, encouraging our membership also to focus on state and local policy-making bodies.

In addition, Methodists United during the coming year should seek to influence the General Board of Church and Society, especially to get the Peace with Justice Special Program

drawn up, adopted, funded, and carried out. This is a very important task for us, but it is not a good focus for membership recruitment. It is the public issues that we should emphasize in our membership campaign.

Organization

We have agreed that we should have two corporations: one functioning under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code to receive tax exempt contributions but limiting its legislative activities; the other functioning under Section 501(c)(4) and more directly involved in public policy advocacy. However, the (c)(3) organization could lobby boards and agencies of the United Methodist Church because they are nongovernmental.

In outline, the main characteristics of these two organizations could be as follows:

501(c)(3) organization

Fairly small board, self-selected
Especially committed to fundraising
Seek tax-exempt donations, foundation grants, bequests
Sponsor and pay for all activities related to the United Methodist Church
Lobbying United Methodist boards and agencies
Generic organizing of local, district, and conference UMC groups
Educational work among Methodists
General education on public issues (not directly connected with lobbying)
A quarterly or bimonthly newsletter or magazine: Peace Leaf
Analyze public issues, give background information, but do not request specific action

501(c)(4) organization

Larger board of directors: official policy-making body, chosen democratically by grassroots members
Executive committee (to take place of present MUPJ Steering Committee) to oversee the work of the organization between board meetings
National advisory committee: honorary, name recognition, offer advice as individuals but does not meet as a body (present National Committee)
Action oriented
Lobby Congress, Executive Branch (emphasizing grassroots lobbying)
Possibility of demonstrations on occasion
Action bulletin issued ten times each year (skip August, December)
Draws on background articles of Peace Leaf and suggests specific actions members should take, including lobbying, political activities
Might be called Defending Creation: An Action Bulletin
Operations paid for primarily through membership dues, supplemented by non-exempt donations

Names

We should consider changing our present name of Methodists United for Peace with Justice for two reasons. First, it is confusing to many United Methodists because "Peace with Justice" is also the name of the special project the General Board of Church and Society. If the special program for Peace with Justice, adopted by General Conference at our urging, blossoms, the confusion will increase. Second, some staff and board members of the General Board of Church and Society resent our use of the term "peace with justice," which they feel belongs to them. Although we can insist that the term is in the public domain (and is used by others), we should do what we can to ease their apprehensions about us.

Therefore, I recommend that we change the name of our present 501(c)(4) corporation. We should keep the first two words, "Methodists United", because it is a catchy reversal of "United Methodist", offers the possibility of bringing in other branches of the Methodist tradition, and suggests that Methodists -- liberals and conservatives, the various branches -- are united for some specific purposes. Retaining "Methodists United" would help us maintain continuity with the name recognition that we have already earned.

My suggested name for the (c)(4) organization is Methodists United to Defend Creation. This draws upon the widespread respect that the bishops' pastoral and foundation document has gained and truly reflects the focus of our origin. I suggest "...to Defend Creation" rather than "...in Defense of Creation" to use the verbal form, indicating an action orientation. Earlier I indicated how the concept is applicable to other causes beyond nuclear disarmament, such as defending children and youth.

For our (c)(3) organization, I propose the name Methodists United Shalom Fund. "Shalom" is a key concept in the Foundation Document. It forms the basis for the justice emphasis. It is a term not now used by any other Methodist organization, as far as I know.

The common term for these two organizations would be "Methodists United." The rest of the titles would highlight the differences between the two units: "...Shalom Fund" as a fundraising foundation (but with some educational functions) and "...to Defend Creation" as an action organization.

Conclusion

In sum, I believe that our membership campaign must be based upon a program that will attract a lot of interest and therefore many members. Our two corporations should have names that relate but also distinctly show the nature of the two organizations.

I will be interested in your reaction to my ideas.

METHODISTS UNITED FOR PEACE WITH JUSTICE

421 Seward Square, SE

Washington, DC 20003

ORGANIZATION AND PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Origin

In May 1986 the United Methodist Council of Bishops adopted and issued the pastoral letter and foundation document, *In Defense of Creation: The Nuclear Crisis and a Just Peace*. In doing so, the bishops stated:

We call the United Methodist Church to more faithful witness and action in the face of this worsening nuclear crisis. It is a crisis that threatens to assault not only the whole human family but planet earth itself, even while the arms race itself cruelly destroys millions of lives in conventional wars, repressive violence, and massive poverty.

Numerous United Methodists took this call seriously and began studying the biblical foundation, the challenge to faith, and policies for a just peace, as presented in In

Defense of Creation. At Foundry United Methodist Church in downtown Washington, D.C., members of the Peace Mission concluded that an effort should be undertaken to unite Methodists all around the country in support of the bishops' call. As a beginning, they made contact with persons from other United Methodist churches in the Washington area. Out of initial conversations, a new organization came into being: Methodists United for Peace with Justice. Foundry Methodist was joined by Asbury United Methodist, also in downtown Washington, in providing seed money. Capitol Hill United Methodist Church, located within six blocks of the nation's Capitol, offered rent-free office space. A volunteer Steering Committee formed to guide initial organizing, and a National Committee was established to provide counsel and support for this initiative.

Accomplishments

In the 18-month period since its beginning, Methodists United for Peace with Justice has achieved a solid record of accomplishments in several areas of endeavor.

Citizen diplomacy. Recognizing the importance of achieving better relationships between the United States and the Soviet Union, Methodists United has focused particularly upon citizen-to-citizen contacts.

- o Two co-chairs of our Steering Committee, Adrien and Edward Helm, accompanied with their four children, participated in the six-week,

Leningrad-to-Moscow International Peace Walk in June-July 1987. The

third co-chair, Sherman Harris, journeyed to Moscow for the final stage of the walk. Since then, they have shared their experience with congregations in the District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, and Florida.

- o Methodists United participated in events surrounding the summit meeting between President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev in Washington in December 1987 by organizing a prayer service prior to a citizen peace rally and by arranging for churches in Washington and elsewhere to ring their bells at the moment the two leaders signed the treaty to eliminate intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF).

- o We were represented in a US/USSR Citizens Summit, held in Alexandria, Virginia in February 1988, and we helped provided transportation for Soviet visitors. On the Sunday preceding the Citizens Summit, we sponsored a potluck luncheon at Asbury United Methodist Church attended by __ Soviet visitors and __ United Methodists, and we arranged for Soviet speakers to appear at __ churches in the Washington metropolitan area.

Nuclear disarmament. Following the lead of the United Methodist bishops, we have made nuclear disarmament our primary issue for public policy advocacy.

- o During Lent in 1987 and 1988 we joined other religious groups in a Friday vigil at the U.S. Department of Energy to urge the end of nuclear weapons testing.

- o In October 1987 we participated in a Candlelight Walk at the White House to show our support for President Reagan in his efforts to negotiate nuclear arms reduction with the Soviet Union.

- o Methodists United rallied support for the INF Treaty. At our urging the Council of Bishops passed a resolution in November 1987 pushing for completion of the treaty and calling upon United Methodists to make the Sunday before the Reagan-Gorbachev summit a day of prayer. Subsequently we encouraged grassroots support for Senate ratification of the treaty. In June 1988 we circulated petitions at a number of annual conferences thanking senators who voted for ratification.

Work within United Methodist Church. Methodists United for Peace with Justice is strongly committed to working cooperatively with and fully supporting United Methodist boards and agencies. This year we gave particular attention to the General Conference, which met in St. Louis in April-May 1988.

- o We sponsored a Peace with Justice Breakfast on the second day of General Conference to rally support for several key issues. Eloise

Folkers Nennon from the Virginia conference presided, and speakers included Bishops Leontine Kelly and Bishop C.P. Minnick.

- o We mobilized committee and delegate support for a resolution passed by the General Conference to affirm and support the bishops' pastoral letter and foundation document, In Defense of Creation.

- o In response to a petition we submitted, General Conference established Peace with Justice as a special program of the United Methodist Church for the 1989-92 Quadrennium. Howard Hallman, chairperson of our Issues Committee, led this effort. As follow-up, we intend to work closely with the General Board of Church and Society, which is responsible for implementation.

Communications. We recognize that communications is an essential part of building a network of people from across the nation who share common values and who want to work together.

- o We have started a newsletter, Peace Leaf, as a means to provide information on current peace and justice issues, offer action ideas, and tell about our own activities. Among other resources, we have been able to draw on material developed by Diane Stanton-Rich, secretary of the Steering Committee and director of Going to the Source, a peace and justice resource center.

- o We have produced an action guide, Witnessing for Peace and Justice in the United Methodist Church, which we are distributing to our members.

- o Our finance chairperson, Chip Craver, has worked with Betty Bumpers, founder and president of Peace Links and a prominent United Methodist layperson, to send out a letter telling about our goals and our intentions.

ARTICLE IV
Board of Directors

1. The affairs of Methodists United shall be managed by a Board of Directors. The Board shall meet at least twice a year. All members shall be members in good standing of Methodists United for Peace with Justice.

2. The initial Board of Directors specified in the Articles of Incorporation, as duly modified by resignations and additions, shall serve as an interim Board of Directors until September 1989. Particular attention shall be given to adding members to the interim Board who come from various regions of the United States and from religious denominations within the Methodist tradition in addition to United Methodists.

3. In September 1989 a Board of Directors consisting of both elected and appointed directors shall take office to replace the interim Board. A majority of directors shall be elected by members of Methodists United. The interim Board shall determine the manner of election and appointment of this initial Board. Thereafter, the Board of Directors shall be responsible for determining the process for elections and appointments. In making appointments to the Board, attention shall be given to broadening the board membership to encompass persons having relevant perspectives beyond those of elected directors, such as persons from Methodist denominations beyond the United Methodist Church and those representing constituencies with urgent social justice needs.

4. Commencing in September 1989, members of the Board of Directors shall serve three year terms, staggered so that approximately one-third of the terms expire each year. At the first meeting of the new Board of Directors in the fall of 1989, members shall be assigned by lot to groups serving three, two, and one year terms. Thereafter, there shall be an election and appointment process to fill positions of persons whose term is expiring. The Board shall fill the unexpired term of any director leaving the Board prior to the expiration of his/her term. No person shall serve more than two consecutive three-year terms. However, an initial term of less than three years due to appointment to fill a vacancy or creation of staggered terms shall be permitted in addition to two consecutive three-year terms.

5. [As indicated on page 3 of 9/88 draft.]

Etc.

HOWARD W. HALLMAN

6508 Wilmett Road

Bethesda, MD 20817

(301) 897-3668

August 11, 1989

Committee Methodists United for Peace with Justice

Re: Progress Report on My Assignment

The MUPJ Steering Committee will meet next at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 7, 1988 at the Capitol Hill United Methodist Church. This report will be considered as part of the agenda.

At its July 6, 1988 meeting Steering Committee asked me to develop and carry out a membership campaign on the basis of an earlier proposal and to work with the Steering Committee to create a 501(c)(3) organization. Compensation for this work would be on a commission basis, specifically a one-third share of revenues derived from the membership campaign. A committee composed of Sherman Harris, Bob Griffin, and Diane Stanton-Rich was appointed to provide oversight for my work. I have met with them twice and now want to share my

ideas with you in order to receive your comments prior to the September 7 meeting.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Two Corporations with Different Purposes

As we prepare for a membership campaign, we need to make some basic decisions about our organizational structure. From the beginning we have had a consensus that we should have two closely related organizations, each set up under a different provision of the Internal Revenue Code. One would be a 501(c)(4) organization that could lobby Congress and the Executive Branch, directly and through grassroots mobilization. It would be a membership organization, and membership dues and non-tax-exempt donations would be the principal sources of revenue. Methodists United for Peace with Justice was established as such an organization.

The second organization would be set up under section 501(c)(3) so that it could receive tax-exempt contributions. To be eligible it would be a research and educational organization which would not engage in lobby activities related to governmental agencies. However, it could seek to influence church boards and agencies. We have not yet

established a C-3 corporation, but part of my assignment is to help create such an organization.

Relationship between the Two Corporations

A crucial issue in setting up a C-3 organization is its relationship to the C-4 organization. There is a solid body of experience to indicate that this relationship should be as close as legally possible. Otherwise, there is a possibility that the two organization will move in contradictory directions or will overlap or duplicate one another's activities. For example, in recent years the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) has publicly disputed with the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, an organization which the NAACP originally created but which has a separate board and separate funding sources.

I am gathering information on how other organizations handle this matter and can offer several illustrations. Bread for the World (c-4) and BFW Educational Fund (c-3) have identical board membership, but one board formally adjourns before the other board convenes. The League of Women Voters of the United States (c-4) and the League of Women Voters Education Fund (c-3) have a similar pattern. For the Friends Committee on National Legislation (c-4) and FCNL Educational Fund (c-3), the C-4 corporation has a General Committee with 230

members and an Executive Committee with 15 members, and this Executive Committee serves as the board of directors of the C-3 corporation. The two corporations have the same officers except separate treasurers. Bread for the World and the League of Women Voters have identical officers for their two corporations.

Each pair of organizations has the same executive director. Some staff work for both organizations, and they keep very careful records of staff time spent working on C-4 and C-3 matters. The respective corporations are billed accordingly. An employee may receive a single paycheck from one corporation, which is reimbursed by the other corporation for time spent on its endeavors.

Two Boards for Methodists United

If Methodists United has both C-4 and C-3 corporations, we will need two boards of directors. They should be closely related but not necessarily wholly identical.

Our C-4 organization needs a large, strong membership base to carry out its mission of grassroots lobbying. Its operating funds will come primarily from the membership pool. Therefore, we need a C-4 board of directors consisting of activists who are representative of the membership from around the country. In contrast, the C-3 corporation

will be seeking funds from major donors and foundations, and this requires a different kind of board -- probably smaller and composed of persons who have connections for and interest in fundraising.

C-4 board. I suggest that our C-4 corporation have a board that grows over the next two years to be fairly large in size. It might meet twice a year and have an Executive Committee that could meet oftener, and also confer regularly via telephone and computer-based teleconferencing. This board should be composed mainly of persons elected by the members from stated geographic areas (such as jurisdictions or annual conference areas of the United Methodist Church) plus provision for members at large. At large membership should bring in persons who are wanted but who do not emerge through the membership-based election process, such as persons from other Methodist communions, minority group representation, and persons with special talents, such as fundraising. However, those elected directly should be in the majority.

C-3 board. The board of directors for the C-3 corporation should be considerably smaller with emphasis upon persons attuned to fundraising. To establish a close connection with the C-4 operation, the C-4 board should appoint some of its members to the C-3 board. This means that the kind of persons desired for the C-3 board would have to be members

of the C-4 board, either elected by members from stated districts or selected at large. Being part of the C-4 board and accountable to it, they would not be likely to drift apart on policy issues, but being on a separate board, they would have sufficient independence to concentrate on fundraising and to provide oversight for educational activities carried out under C-3 auspices. This board could meet monthly or quarterly as appropriate.

Transition. For transition, the present Steering Committee should serve as the C-4 board of directors until a regular board can be elected. It can select additional members so as to include persons who will be appointed as the initial board of directors for the C-3 corporation. In January 1989, having completed an initial membership drive to expand our base, we should initiate a nomination process for a regular board, have a mail-ballot election in February, and convene the new board in April or May (perhaps in connection with a lobbying event in Washington). This board might consist of three to five persons from each of the five United Methodist jurisdictions (totaling from 15 to 25) plus others selected at large, including the C-3 board members. This board would serve through August 1990, at which time it would be expanded to include broader representation (such as a person from each United Methodist annual conference) along with members selected at large.

Existing Committees

Founding Committee of 5000. In our initial membership flyer we invited people to become a member of a "Founding Committee of 5000". We stated: "After two years, this committee will vote on its priorities, formal organization and programs." In actual practice we have not followed through on this statement. With fewer than 200 paid members we have no realistic expectation of reaching 5,000 members by the summer of 1989. We have no provision for the "Founding Committee" to function as indicated. Rather our ad hoc Steering Committee is taking responsibility for determining priorities, programs, and organization until a regular board of directors can be set up. I suggest that we simply drop the idea of a "Founding Committee of 5000."

National Committee. We have established a National Committee of well-known United Methodists. This has been useful because it has provided us acceptance and legitimacy. Some of the members have been helpful as individuals in carrying out specific tasks and providing us advice. For example, Betty Bumpers helped developed and signed a membership appeal letter. Dr. Edward Bauman, as organizing chair, signed a letter transmitting our General Conference petition to individual delegates. Eloise Nennon presided at our Peace with Justice Breakfast at General Conference. However, this group has not functioned as a

whole, and it is not likely to do so, given the difficulty of finding a time when these very busy people would be able to come together and lacking sufficient travel funds to assist them in attending. If we move to the governing structure recommended above -- with a board of directors elected by the membership, I suggest that we rename this group as the National Advisory Committee, that we periodically circulate issue papers and other documents to them for their advice (individually), and that we not expect them to convene as a body. This is a common practice of national organizations: to draw on the talent and name recognition of national and regional leaders even though these persons lack the time to serve on the organization's working board of directors.

Name

Particularly in our General Conference work we have gained recognition among United Methodists as a useful organization. At the same time our name is confusing for some because "Peace with Justice" is the name of a current special project of the United Methodist General Board of Church and Society and will be the name of the special program which the 1988 General Conference authorized at our urging. Because of this confusion I suggest that we consider modifying our name.

We should retain the phrase "Methodists United" because it is a catchy reversal of

"United Methodist", it offers the possibility of bringing in other branches of the Methodist tradition, and it suggests that Methodists -- liberals and conservatives, the various branches -- are united for a specific purpose. Retaining "Methodists United" would help us maintain continuity with the name recognition we have already earned.

For our C-4 corporation I suggest that we reverse the other two terms, thereby becoming Methodists United for Justice and Peace. This would be somewhat unique, for "peace with justice" or "peace and justice" is widely used in organizational names but not the other way around. By placing justice first, it suggests that we must have justice if we want peace (Isaiah said this in the 32nd chapter, quoted by our bishops in In Defense of Creation). And this might help us draw in more ethnic minority persons who tend to be more interested in justice issues.

I suggest that we call our C-3 corporation Methodists United Fund for Justice and Peace. This retains the two pairs of terms while "fund" emphasizes the fundraising aspects of a C-3 corporation. A number of C-4 organizations call their C-3 corporation "Educational Fund", as we have noted. Ours could be Methodists United Educational Fund, but that would lose "Justice and Peace". It could be Methodists United Justice and Peace Educational Fund, but that seems too cumbersome.

Publications

I suggest that each of our two corporations have its own publication.

Peace Leaf could be the publication of the C-3 organization on a bimonthly or quarterly basis. It would feature articles of an educational nature and ideas about organizing within the United Methodist Church but nothing that can be construed as grassroots lobbying. It would go to all members of Methodists United plus others whom we would select, such as all bishops, all district superintendents, etc. whether they are members are not. Part of the cost would be paid by donations and grants, but the C-4 corporation could transfer funds to the C-3 organization for this purpose if necessary. Peace Leaf could be mailed at a nonprofit bulk rate for economy.

The C-4 organization should have a separate publication, consciously aimed at lobbying activities. Its name might be called Justice and Peace Action Bulletin or Action for Justice and Peace. It could be published monthly or ten times a year (skipping August and December), sent to all Methodists United members (and not the wider distribution of Peace Leaf), and should go first class bulk rate because prompt delivery will be important.

ISSUES

Although how we are organized may be a factor in membership recruitment, the more important matter is the issues we are working on

and how we will go about providing a vital role for our members. This will influence whether potential members will decide that we are an organization worth affiliating with.

Why would they join?

With the United Methodist Church already well organized, indeed almost overorganized, why would any of these persons want to join another organization? What would appeal to them?

(a) Cutting edge: an opportunity to affiliate with an organization doing

something important that is not being done by any official UMC board

or agency or by any other United Methodist fellowship or association, and perhaps by no other religious organization; or if being done by any of these, only a minor emphasis or not vigorous enough advocacy.

(b) Action: Methodists United serving first and foremost as an action organization.

(i) aimed particularly at influencing public policy, but

(ii) secondarily supportive of UM boards, though with friendly

advocacy and pressure.

(c) Educational: a source of useful information and ideas -- timely and regular.

(d) Network connections: ties with other action-oriented Methodists and other persons and organizations working on peace and justice issues.

In sum, we need a strong action focus that does not duplicate what the General Board of Church and Society is doing. As we go about our task we should try to reach a broader (though perhaps somewhat overlapping) constituency than the Methodist Federation for Social Action and the Methodist Peace Fellowship. At the same time we should not appear to be competitive with these other organizations.

Proposed 1988-89 Program for Methodists United

This analysis points to the necessity for Methodists United to focus on at most three or four major issues in the coming year and to recruit and mobilize membership around these issues. Criteria for selecting such issues are as follows:

- o Deals mainly with U.S. policy (though could have a Soviet connection)

so that members can use their access to policy makers.

- o Action can start in September 1988.

- o Possible electoral focus (asking candidates their position).

- o A matter both Congress and the president deal with.

- o Some hope of success but far enough beyond current governmental

policies, and even beyond the current advocacy position of mainline

peace and justice organizations, to be a challenge and to establish

Methodists United as a creative, forward-looking organization.

- o Relates to In Defense of Creation.

Peace issues. On the peace side of the peace and justice equation, our focus should concentrate on nuclear disarmament (and related issues

of conventional disarmament and US/Soviet relations). My recommendations for specific issues are as follows:

(1) Stop Star Wars. We should place our primary attention on efforts to

eliminate the Star Wars program. This can have a twofold focus:

seeking to influence the incoming president (Dukakis or Bush) and

trying to influence Congress, starting with candidates in this fall's election campaign. We should also call upon the Soviet Union to

suspend its own research and development of space-based weapons systems.

This would be an excellent issue for us because the United Methodist Council of Bishops spoke out strongly against Star Wars. The General

Board of Church and Society is doing nothing on this matter, so we would not be duplicative and indeed would be mobilizing untapped United Methodist support for stopping Star Wars.

We should recognize that Star Wars funds have been spread around

the country so that most congressional districts are receiving some.

We should be prepared to counter contractors and hometown pressures

by mobilizing local people to say that they are willing to forego these kind of jobs because peace is more important, but that they will support economic conversion measures to get away from jobs created by the war system.

There is lots of good information available on Star Wars that we can

draw upon. With the consent of my advisory committee, I have already

requested several guest articles on this subject for the next issue of Peace Leaf.

(2) Other disarmament issues. We should also give attention to other

issues of nuclear disarmament and related conventional disarmament

matters. This includes support for US/Soviet arms reduction agreements, halt to nuclear weapons testing, and efforts of conventional disarmament in Europe. We should keep our members informed about what is happening on these issues and let them know what they can do, but ending Star Wars should be our major campaign.

(3) Citizen diplomacy. Through the efforts of Adrien and Ed Helm and Sherman Harris, Methodists United has had a visible presence in people-to-people relationships with Soviet citizens. We should continue to take advantage of such opportunities for citizen diplomacy and urge our membership to be so involved.

(4) Third World. Although I believe that we should focus mostly on nuclear disarmament so that we can be effective through concentra-

tion, we need to begin examining Third World issues to explore where

we might give some attention. Some of the present Steering Committee

have this interest, and so do some our members. By next spring after

our "End Star Wars" campaign is well underway, we should begin to

give increased attention to Third World matters.

Justice. On the justice side, I suggest that we develop a focus on Children and Youth. The theological basis for this focus is the concept of shalom as expounded by the United Methodist bishops in In Defense of Creation. Shalom is peace, wholeness, harmony. If society is to be whole, it must have a concern for its weakest members. In our present society children and youth are among the most neglected segments. For instance, programs beneficial to children have experienced far greater federal budgetary cuts during the past eight years than programs for the aged. Children and youth are the most precious part of God's creation. They need defending not only against nuclear war but also numerous social and economic injustices now afflicting them.

The details of a Methodists United focus on children would need to be worked out, but the main elements might include the following:

- (1) Economic security for families.
- (2) Child health and nutrition.
- (3) Preschool education and child care.
- (4) Education for the disadvantaged: elementary & secondary.
- (5) Youth employment.
- (6) Teenage pregnancy prevention.

There are many sources of information on this topic, especially the Children's Defense Fund. Therefore, we would not need a lot of expertise but rather could draw on these resources. We could use the issue of Peace Leaf following the one on Star Wars to present some initial ideas about children and youth.

As a mobilizing issue, children and youth would draw in a somewhat different constituency for Methodists United, thereby broadening our base. Because child health problems and poverty are closely related,

and also youth employment and minority communities, it would enable us to have an issue that could attract support from Methodism's ethnic minorities.

Programs of the United Methodist Church. These two sets of issues -- nuclear disarmament (emphasizing the end of Star Wars) and children and youth -- would have a public policy focus, directed particularly toward the national government, though for children and youth we could also encourage our membership to focus on state and local policy-making bodies.

In addition, Methodists United during the coming year should seek to influence the General Board of Church and Society, especially to get the Peace with Justice Special Program drawn up, adopted, funded, and carried out. This is a very important task for us, but it is not a good focus for membership recruitment. It is the public issues that we should emphasize in our membership campaign.

MUPJ.13

METHODISTS UNITED JUSTICE AND PEACE FUND
[A 501(c)(3) corporation]

Bylaws

Name

The name of this corporation shall be the Methodists United for Justice and Peace Fund, referred to herein as the Fund.

Board of Directors

1. There shall be a board of directors of not less than nine and not more than twenty-one members.
2. Members of the Fund's board of directors shall be appointed by the chairperson of the board of directors of Methodists United for Justice and Peace (MUJP) from among MUJP board members, with the consent of MUJP's board of directors. Any vacancy that creates unexpired term shall be filled in the same manner.
3. Members shall serve for three year, staggered terms, running from September to August and grouped so that the terms of approximately one-third of the directors expires each year. In the initial board selection or at a time of board expansion, new board members may be designated for an initial term of one, two, or three years in order to achieve equal groupings.
4. No person shall serve more than two consecutive three-year terms. However, an initial term of less than three years due to appointment to fill a vacancy or creation of staggered terms shall be permitted in addition to two consecutive three-year terms.

Questionnaire to Members of National Committee
Methodists United for Peace with Justice

Please return no later than September 15, 1988

To: Sherman Harris, Steering Committee Co-Chair
Methodists United for Peace with Justice
421 Seward Square, SE
Washington, DC 20003

From:

Date:

As a member of the MUPJ National Committee, here are my views on the questions you raise.

Issue Focus for 1988-89

Peace issues. (a) Should Star Wars be the top priority of peace issues?

yes no Comment:

Should there be a secondary focus on some or all of the following?

(b) Other nuclear disarmament issues (such as arms reduction negotiations, test ban, conventional disarmament in Europe)?

yes no Comment:

(c) People-to-people contacts with Soviet citizens?

yes no Comment:

(d) Begin studying Third World issues, looking toward becoming more active next year?

yes no Comment:

Or what alternatives do you suggest?

Justice issues. Should the needs of children and youth be the primary justice issue for the coming year?

yes no Comment:

Or what alternatives would you suggest?

Organization

1. We are now functioning as a 501(c)(4) corporation. Do you favor our organizing an associated 501(c)(3) corporation, which could receive tax exempt contributions and engage in nonpartisan educational activities?

yes no Comment:

2. What do you think of having the board of our present 501(c)(4) corporation (which can engage in public advocacy) be elected by the membership?

3. What do you think of having the 501(c)(3) board be appointed by the C-4 board?

4. (a) What are your views on the proposal to rename the present National Committee as the National Advisory Committee and to define its role more clearly?

(b) Would you be willing to continue to serve as a member with the understanding that you would regularly receive opportunities to offer your advice as an individual but that the National Advisory Committee would not have regular meetings? (Your name would also help us gain recognition and legitimacy.)

yes no Comment:

Name

1. Do you favor changing the name of our present C-4 corporation to Methodists United for Justice and Peace?

yes no Comment:

2. Do you favor calling the new C-3 corporation Methodists United Fund for Justice and Peace?

yes no Alternative name:

Other Comments (use the back of this page or another sheet if necessary):

Suggestions for Program Activities
of United Methodist General Board of Church and Society
for Special Program on Peace with Justice
during 1989-92 Quadrennium

Offered by Steering Committee,
Methodists United for Peace with Justice

The 1988 General Conference of the United Methodist Church adopted a Special Program on Peace with Justice and assigned responsibility to the General Board of Church and Society. In a separate resolution General Conference stated:

We especially affirm and support the statements of the Council of Bishops in their 1986 pastoral letter, "In Defense of Creation," and the accompanying foundation document.

General Conference indicated that implementing policies of In Defense of Creation should be a major part of the Peace with Justice Special Program.

Methodists United for Peace with Justice, an association of laity and clergy, would like to offer some suggestions to the Board on specific activities related to the policies of In Defense of Creation and other aspects of the Special Program on Peace with Justice. And we present our ideas on how such activities might be financed.

Objectives

In adopting the Special Program on Peace with Justice, the 1988 General Conference established two major objectives:

- (1) implementing "Policies for a Just Peace" as specified in the Council of Bishop's Foundation Document, and
- (2) working for social justice policies and programs that seek the wholeness of shalom, including provision of greater economic opportunity, affordable housing, adequate food, and proper health care for poor people, displaced industrial workers, displaced farmers, and other persons faced with economic security.

Activities of the Special Program on Peace with Justice should therefore be directed primarily toward this pair of objectives.

Organization

The Book of Discipline describes a Special Program as "a quadrennial emphasis approved by the General Conference and assigned to a general agency, designed in response to a

distinct opportunity or need in God's world" (para. 803.9). It is up to the assigned agency to determine how best to administer such a Special Program.

Given the importance placed on the theme of Peace with Justice by the General Conference, we believe that this Special Program should be a major emphasis of the entire General Board of Church and Society for the 1989-92 Quadrennium. Development of plans for implementation should be a major agenda item for the Board when it meets in October 1988. Overall responsibility for implementation should be assigned to the General Secretary. Responsibility for carrying out specific activities should be delegated to various staff units, operating under the direction of the General Secretary.

We believe this organizational mode is essential. However, in this memorandum we do not go into great detail on which staff units should carry out the various activities we suggest.

Activities

To achieve the stated objectives of the Special Program on Peace with Justice, General Conference specified three kinds of activities for the General Board of Church and Society to carry out. Methodists United for Peace with Justice offers a series of suggestions for each of them.

(a) Assist annual conferences, districts, and local churches to organize and carry out peace with justice activities.

We believe that promotion of peace with justice activities by local churches, districts, and annual conferences must be at the heart of the Special Program. We suggest the following specific activities as possibilities.

- (i) Continue the activities of the Peace with Justice project that has operated during the current quadrennium, including efforts to
 - establish peace with justice coordinators in every annual conference,
 - organize annual conference peace with justice task forces,
 - provide information to these coordinators and task forces, and
 - conduct workshops around the country.
- (ii) Extend present efforts by encouraging the organization of a peace with justice task force in every district of United Methodism.
- (iii) In several annual conferences, create model districts which would be be equipped to work intensively for implementation of philosophy and policies of In Defense of Creation. The model district might recruit a retired clergyperson or an experienced layperson to work with laity and young people to develop peace with justice units within local churches. The cost for this part-time position might be \$5,000, including \$1,000 for expenses. Half could come from the General Board of Church and Society and half from the annual conference.

In addition, a model district could have two voluntary coordinators, one for education and one for political action, including voter registration. Each could be funded for \$1,000 in expenses --

again split, half from national and half from the district itself.

One of these could be designated from the United Methodist Women (UMW) unit in the district. One or two US-2s, or a similar program, could be budgeted to assist the model district do its work. National could provide up to \$2,500 per US-2, provided that conference and district matching funds were available.

(iv) Working with and through annual conference and district peace with justice task forces, encourage every local church to develop study and action programs designed to deepen peace with justice ministries.

(v) Working through local churches, encourage every United Methodist member to make a commitment to specific peace with justice activities. This can include praying for peace, educating oneself and others, writing one's congressperson on key legislation, and other activities. A brochure listing ten steps for peacemaking growth could be produced and distributed to United Methodists (see attached draft). If done in large quantities, the cost might run \$.05 each.

(vi) Help organize interactions between United Methodist members and members of Congress through programs such as the following:

- seminars for clergy and laity in Washington, D.C. to meet with United Methodist members of Congress, focusing particularly on Washington political institutions and issues related to the bishops' pastoral letter and foundation document,
- internships for UM clergy, seminary students, and college students to work with UM members of Congress (from several days to several months).

(b) Provide a regular flow of information on public issues to local churches, districts, and annual conferences.

To be successful, peace and justice activists within local churches, districts, and annual conferences need up-to-date information on national issues, including matters pending in Congress and within the Executive Branch. Through the reformatted Social Action the General Board of Church and Society has an excellent vehicle for providing background information on current issues. Efforts should be made to increase the subscription list. In addition, more attention should be given to rapid communication where immediate action on legislative and executive issues is required. Other means of getting out information should be used. We offer the following suggestions.

(i) Upgrade and modify "Word from Washington" and publish it more frequently (weekly or semimonthly), using two forms:

-- a written report sent via first class mail to all conference and district peace with justice coordinators and to paid subscribers, and
-- computer-based telecommunications, connected to every annual conference and district office and to other interested parties.

(ii) Set up a telephone alert network to blanket the nation.

(iii) Establish an "800" number as a legislative hotline on votes coming up in Congress on issues related to In Defense of Creation and other peace and justice matters. Several Washington-based organizations now operate such hotlines and could provide information on costs and operating procedures.

(iv) Develop a "Defense of Creation Voting Test" to indicate how members of Congress have voted on issues related to the bishops' foundation document. Each year local United Methodist churches would be given a record of how the representatives and senators serving their area voted on particular legislative matters closely related to policy recommendations contained in In Defense of Creation and related peace and justice issues. Estimated cost of such a voting record is \$.04 a copy.

(v) Create regular "Peace with Justice" columns in various United Methodist publications, such as those of all general boards, The Reporter, and annual conference magazines and newsletters. Focus would be on progress in implementing In Defense of Creation and the Special Program on Peace with Justice. This could be done by staff of the General Board of Church and Society and by regular columnists on retainer.

(c) Strengthen its staff capability to act as a public policy advocate for measures that improve US-Soviet relations and move toward nuclear disarmament and measures that provide jobs, housing, food, health care, and income support for poor families and individuals.

The third set of Peace with Justice activities specified by General Conference deals with the role of the General Board of Church and Society as the primary public policy advocate for the United Methodist Church. With its base in Washington, supplemented by an office in New York near United Nations headquarters, the Board is well located to perform this role. However, the Board now lacks sufficient staff capability on some crucial issues raised by the bishops in In Defense of Creation, including nuclear disarmament and the application of shalom to domestic justice issues.

On what the domestic justice focus should be, we note the findings of a study entitled How the Poor Would Remedy Poverty, based upon interviews with a sample of poor people conducted by the Coalition on Human Needs. This study concluded (p.5):

If the views of poor people are to be taken seriously, policy-makers at all levels would devote their attention to the following goals:

- o A living family wage, at least basic health care and a chance to advance for those occupying the lowest level jobs in society.
- o Economic development, targeted on under-developed communities, sufficient to give them a sound base from which to employ all who are able to work.
- o Education and training sufficient to equip the poor to compete on an equal footing with others for the "better" jobs in the economy.
- o Public assistance programs(s) that adequately meet the needs of those not working in the paid labor force and that minimize bureaucratic procedures and discriminatory treatment.

With this outline as the justice focus and "Policies for a Just Peace" found in In Defense of Creation as the peace focus, we offer the following recommendations:

- (i) Make Peace with Justice a major theme for the work of all the Board's present issue development and advocacy staff and focus their work on the issues stated above.
- (ii) Supplement that staff by adding experts on:
 - nuclear disarmament
 - US/Soviet relations
 - job creation
 - housing
 - welfare reform
 - health care
 - food programs
- (iii) Work together with Methodists United for Peace with Justice to seek an end to Star Wars (this will be a major peace focus for us during the coming year).
- (iv) Increase United Methodist participation in national coalitions that focus on key peace and justice issues, including:
 - Monday Lobby (of peace groups)
 - Coalition on Human Needs
 - National Housing Coalition
 - Committee on Full Employment

- (v) Initiate efforts to bring together world religious leaders to promote improved East-West relations. Specifically help to organize a Religious Summit between U.S. and Soviet religious leaders. In preparation there could be a two-year study to consider issues dealing with the nuclear arms race, East-West relations, militarism, Third World intervention, and fulfilling human needs in less-developed countries. This could culminate in the Religious Summit where religious leaders would call upon the nations to implement peace-seeking policies.

Funding

On the matter of the funding of the Special Program on Peace with Justice, the 1988 General Conference specified:

For the purpose of financing activities (a) to achieve the "Policies for a Just Peace" contained in the Council of Bishops' Foundation Document In Defense of Creation and (b) to pursue other justice and peace objectives contained within the vision of shalom in this same document, revenue shall come from the Peace with Justice offering and other possible sources in accordance with paragraph 1112.2 and World Service Special Gifts.

And in another measure General Conference set the second Sunday of Pentecost as the day for the special offering.

The dynamics of the 1988 General Conference found a strong feeling that there should be no Missional Priority for the 1989-92 Quadrennium but that Peace with Justice deserved particular emphasis as a Special Program. Therefore, General Board of Church and Society was instructed to seek ways beyond the regular budget to finance peace with justice activities.

Here are our ideas on how necessary revenues can be raised to carry out an effective Special Program on Peace with Justice.

- (1) Strengthen the promotion of the Peace with Justice special offering.
For example, churches could use video ads around the time of the special offering. This could first be done in the model districts to test whether this increases visibility for the offering and for peacemaking activities in general.
- (ii) Paragraph 1112.2 of The Discipline states:
Either on behalf of its total work or on behalf of one of its programs, the board may solicit and create special funds, receive gifts and bequests, hold properties and security in trust, and administer all its financial affairs in accordance with its own

rules and provision of the Discipline.

Under this authority , the Board should establish a "Peace with Justice Fund".
Revenue can come from:

- the annual Peace with Justice special offering
- World Service Special Gifts
- special giving from local churches, districts, and annual conferences
- donations from major givers
- bequests
- foundation grants

- (iii) To be eligible for World Service Special Gifts, the General Board of Church and Society should
 - follow the procedures of the Book of Discipline and the General Council on Ministries (GCOM),
 - at its October 1988 meeting adopt Peace with Justice as a program eligible for World Service Special Gifts, and
 - submit a plan for using this source of funds to GCOM for its approval at its November 1988 meeting.
- (iv) Encourage annual conferences to suggest to local churches that they budget \$.10 per member and send this through World Service Special Gifts to the Board's "Peace with Justice Fund."
- (v) Urge churches to set up a special account to which people can contribute during Lent, such as by giving up a cup of coffee or similar sacrifice to finance local church peace with justice ministries as well as district and national efforts.
- (vi) Publicize an alternative Christmas catalogue which sets out various peace and justice projects and enables church members to contribute to them.
- (vii) Undertake special fundraising from foundations and find other major contributors for identifiable projects, such as the Religious Summit.

Appendix A.

Ten Steps for Peacemaking Growth

Each United Methodist member would be asked to accept the Lordship of Jesus Christ and to become Christ's peacemaker and commit to take the following ten steps:

1. Pray at least once a week for peace in our time, in our lives, in our communities and world.

2. Read scripture at least once a month in connection with Bible study on peacemaking and social justice issues.

3. Covenant with a Wesley-type society at some time during the Quadrennium to work as a group to support and nurture the peace with justice ministries of each of its members.

4. Attend one Christian education class once a year on Peace with Justice.

5. Make an outer journey at least once a year to fulfill our Lord's call for us to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, help the widow, visit the prisoner, heal the sick.

6. Covenant to be sure that every person eligible to vote in one's family is registered to vote.

7. Help to register to vote at least one person a year outside his or her family.

8. Commit to vote in each election in the next four years where candidates are running who can affect programs and issues which the bishops have identified as critical to a more peaceful and just world.

9. Covenant to communicate by letter or telephone with one's U.S. representative and two senators at least once each year.

10. Make direct contact with a member of Congress at least once during the next four years, such as by visiting in Washington or at a state or district office, going to a meeting where the member is present and ask a question, speaking privately to the member after the meeting.

[This is first page of letter to National Committee. Judge Seals had a copy of this file. The others are on MUPJNC.88. The whole letter is on MUPJ.15.]

August 30, 1988

Bishop Felton May
900 S. Arlington Avenue
Harrisburg, PA 17109

Dear Felton:

Methodists United for Peace with Justice (MUPJ) has functioned for about 18 months. Our accomplishments include:

Citizen diplomacy: representation on an international peace march in the Soviet Union and hosting Soviet visitors to the United States.

Nuclear disarmament: support for the INF treaty and pushing for other nuclear arms agreement.

Within United Methodist Church: mobilizing delegate support to get the 1988 General Conference to affirm In Defense of Creation and to adopt Peace with Justice as a special program for the 1989-92 quadrennium.

Communications: starting the publication of Peace Leaf and publishing a guide for local peace action.

To broaden our outreach we have retained Howard Hallman on a commission basis to organize and carry out a membership campaign. Another part of his assignment is to help us create a 501(c)(3) corporation which will relate closely to our present 501(c)(4) corporation. This has led us to assess how we are organized, how we function, and where we should be headed.

Therefore, we would like your advice on several matters. Would you please read the following exposition and then fill in the enclosed questionnaire to offer your views.

Issues

We believe that we need to focus sharply on a few issues and mobilize our membership on these particular issues. Such issues should be on the cutting edge of public policy and should relate to In Defense of Creation. Our work on these issues should not duplicate what other United Methodist official agencies and unofficial fellowships are doing, but we should work cooperatively on mutual interests.

Meeting of Steering Committee
Methodists United for Peace with Justice
Wednesday, September 7, 1988

AGENDA

1. Minutes
2. Treasurer's report
3. Steering Committee reorganization
 - a. Election of officers
 - b. Bank signatures
 - c. Adding new members
4. "Witnessing for Peace and Justice" handbook: progress report
5. Proposed issues focus
 - a. Peace issues: Star Wars
Other
 - b. Justice issues: Children and youth
Other
6. Organizational issues for present (c)(4) corporation
 - a. Board of Directors
Steering Committee as interim board
Setting up a national Board of Directors
 - b. Status of:
"Founding Committee of 5000"
National Committee
 - c. Name of organization
 - d. Membership dues: amount
7. Organizational issues for a (c)(3) corporation
 - a. Incorporation
Name
Relationship to (c)(4) corporation
Setting up Board of Directors
Composition
Process for organizing
 - b. Initiating a fundraising campaign
8. Membership campaign
 - a. Getting names, addresses for target appeals

- b. Membership mailing
 - Letter of invitation, Peace Leaf, return form & envelope
 - Advance funds
- c. Outreach to present members
 - Membership renewal
 - Activate for Star Wars campaign
- d. Follow-up contacts
 - On Star Wars
 - Ask members to recruit other members
- e. Need for volunteers

- 9. United Methodist General Board of Church and Society
 - a. Recommendations on Peace with Justice activities
 - b. Send to all board members
 - c. Meeting with national staff
 - d. Lobbying before and during October board meeting

Check # _____

Date paid _____

Methodists United for
Peace with Justice

Check Request Form

Please write a check in the amount of \$ _____

Payable to:

Purpose:

(Attach invoice or other justification)

Approved by:

Date approved:

Background statement and suggested questions for calling local churches

I am calling for Methodists United for Peace with Justice.

We are an association of laity and clergy who have organized to help implement the United Methodist bishops' pastoral letter, In Defense of Creation.

We hope that United Methodists in the Washington metropolitan area will want to join with us in this endeavor and to work with us.

Therefore, we would like to find out from you who are some of the key leaders in your congregation on peace and justice issues.

Specifically, we would like to obtain the name, address, telephone number (both daytime and evening, if possible) for the following persons:

Chairperson, Commission or Work Group on Church and Society

Chairperson, Peace with Justice Task Force

Chairperson of any similar group

Peace Advocate (if you have one)

Perhaps other key leaders on peace and justice issues

Also, when do these groups usually meet?

Tasks for local volunteers

Become a member of Methodists United for Peace with Justice by joining and making a contribution of \$15 or more.

Work with us in lobbying Congress.

Contact representatives and senators from your district and state.

Help MUPJ operate a national phone tree for grassroots lobbying.

Help us in our national membership campaign.

Make contacts with other annual conference (perhaps your church could adopt an annual conference and establishing a continuing relationship)

Help with mailings: address envelopes or labels (at our office, at home)stuff envelopes and sort for bulk mailing.

Get your church to make a financial contribution to support the work of MUPJ.

Office volunteers: answer phone

sort and answer mail

help with publicity, newsletter

assist in lobbying activities

Serve as host for Methodists who come to Washington to lobby.

Information on United Methodist churches in Washington metropolitan area

Name _____ of _____ church
Telephone _____

Address _____

Minister Telephone (h) _____

Chairperson, Church and Society

Name _____

Telephone (h) _____

(w) _____

Address _____

Chairperson, Peace with Justice

Name _____

Telephone (h) _____

(w) _____

Address _____

Peace Advocate

Name _____

Telephone (h) _____

(w) _____

Address _____

Other key leaders (identify role)

Name

Telephone (h)

(w)

Address

Name

Telephone (h)

(w)

Regular meeting time of:

Church and Society Commission or Work Group

Peace with Justice Task Force

Other key groups (specify name)

Comments:

Information obtained by _____ Date _____

I recommend the following persons for membership in Methodists United for Peace with Justice:

- | <u>Name</u> | <u>Address</u> |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1. | |
| 2. | |
| 3. | |
| 4. | |
| 5. | |

Enclosed is a further contribution to Methodists United for:

\$15 \$25 \$35 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other \$ _____

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address

Please return to Methodists United for Peace with Justice
421 Seward Square SE, Washington, DC 20003

I recommend the following persons for membership in Methodists United for Peace with Justice:

- | <u>Name</u> | <u>Address</u> |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1. | |
| 2. | |
| 3. | |
| 4. | |
| 5. | |

Enclosed is a further contribution to Methodists United for:

\$15 \$25 \$35 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other \$ _____

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address

Please return to Methodists United for Peace with Justice
421 Seward Square SE, Washington, DC 20003

I recommend the following persons for membership in Methodists United for Peace with Justice:

- | <u>Name</u> | <u>Address</u> |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1. | |
| 2. | |
| 3. | |
| 4. | |
| 5. | |

Enclosed is a further contribution to Methodists United for:

\$15 \$25 \$35 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other

\$ _____

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address

Please return to Methodists United for Peace with Justice
421 Seward Square SE, Washington, DC 20003

SD 9

October 31, 1988

II. Membership Campaign Expenses

	Photocopy, <u>printing</u>	<u>Mailing</u>	Supplies, <u>journals</u>
Expenses paid	\$194.62	\$118.06	
Expenses payable	<u>333.70</u>	<u>443.77</u>	<u>\$78.80</u>
	528.32	561.83	78.80
<u>Total:</u>	<u>\$1.168.95</u>		

Budget (Hallman proposal of 5-27-88)

Telephone (long distance)	\$600.00
Data base software	150.00

Printing, mailing

1,750.00

\$2,500.00

METHODISTS UNITED FOR PEACE WITH JUSTICE

Membership Rolls Prior to Current Membership Campaign

Northeast -- 78

PR -
 ME -
 NH -
 VT -
 MA 2
 RI -
 CT 1
 NY 4
 NJ 1
 PA 6 West -- 18
 DE 4
 MD 52
 DC 18

Southeast -- 56

VA 27
 WV 1
 NC 11
 SC 2
 GA 1
 FL 10
 AL 1
 MS -
 TN 3
 KY -

North Central -- 24

OH 4
 MI 5
 IN 5
 IL 4
 WI 1
 IA 2
 MN 2
 ND -
 SD 1

South Central -- 14

NE 1
 KS 2
 MO 1
 AR -
 LA 1
 OK -
 TX 9
 NM -

CO -
 WY -
 MT -
 ID -
 UT 1
 NV -
 AZ 2
 CA 13
 OR 2
 WA -
 AK -
 HI -

Total -- 190

November 22, 1988

Methodists United for Peace with Justice

421 Seward Square, SE

Washington, DC 20003

(202) 546-5551

PROPOSED RESOLUTION ON STAR WARS

Whereas, the United Methodist Council of Bishops in their 1986 pastoral letter and foundation document, In Defense of Creation, expressed their concern for development and deployment of space-based defense and explained:

- o We are impressed by the doubts of many eminent scientists.
- o We are concerned about the possible offensive implications.
- o We are worried about the consequences for arms reduction.
- o We are appalled at the probable costs.
- o And we remember once again how often the Scriptures warn us against false hopes for peace and security.

Whereas, President Reagan and President Bush have both advocated a vigorous research and development program for the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), the U.S. Congress has continued to appropriate more than \$4 billion a year for this purpose and the Defense Department is pressing for early deployment of space-based weapons.

Whereas, the skepticism of scientists about feasibility of effective space-based defense has grown, U.S. insistence on developing this system has adversely affected nuclear arms reduction negotiations because the Soviet Union fears the offensive implications, and the enormous cost of deploying such a system would adversely affect allocation of national resources for urgent human needs.

Therefore, we resolve to:

- o Call upon the Congress to enact legislation which would prohibit funds for the development, testing, production, and deployment of any space-based weapons, and for the testing of any antisatellite (ASAT) weapon whether based on land, sea, air or space -- as long as the Soviet Union does not test ASATs or develop space-based weapons.
- o Urge the President to negotiate with the Soviet Union to achieve a permanent, verifiable treaty banning all weapons in space and to begin discussions in the United Nations to extend this space weapons ban to all nations.
- o Call upon United Methodists in the [name] Conference to contact their U.S. senators and representatives to work for such legislation and to write to the President urging such actions.

September information contact Howard W. Hallman (301) 897-3668

Methodists United for Peace with Justice

421 Seward Square, SE

Washington, DC 20003

(202) 546-5551

PROPOSED RESOLUTION ON ARMS REDUCTION NEGOTIATIONS

Whereas, the United Methodist Council of Bishops in their 1986 pastoral letter and foundation document, *In Defense of Creation*, stated their support for:

- o An unequivocal reaffirmation of both the purposes and provisions of the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty of 1972.
- o The earliest possible negotiation by the United States and the Soviet Union of phased but rapid reduction of nuclear arsenals, accompanied by agreements for parallel nuclear arms reduction by all other nuclear-weapon states.
- o Negotiations to reduce conventional arms, including mutual force reductions in Europe and the arms trade in the Third World.
- o Treaties outlawing the production, possession, and use of chemical and biological weapons.

Whereas, since the United Bishops spoke (i) the United States and the Soviet Union have negotiated, ratified, and started to implement a treaty to eliminate intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF), (ii) the two superpowers have continued Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START), (iii) they have joined with their allies in NATO and the Warsaw Pact to commence negotiations aimed at reducing Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CAFE), (iv) the Soviet Union has announced a unilateral, ten percent reduction of its armed forces, and (v) international negotiations on banning chemical weapons are underway.

Therefore, we resolve to:

- o Call upon President George Bush to provide creative leadership for prompt and effective negotiations of treaties for both nuclear and conventional arms reduction, to adhere to a strict interpretation of the ABM Treaty of 1972, and to take imaginative but prudent initiatives to pull back U.S. forces from points of confrontation with the intent of encouraging reciprocal actions by the Soviet Union.
- o Call upon President Mikhail Gorbachev of the Soviet Union to

follow through on announced force reduction and withdrawal of forces from Eastern Europe and to cooperate in prompt and effective negotiations of nuclear and conventional arms reduction treaties.

- o Urge United Methodists in the [name] Conference to write to President Bush and President Gorbachev, encouraging them to provide the leadership necessary for ending military confrontation and moving toward complete nuclear disarmament and substantial reduction of conventional forces.

January 20, 1989

information contact Howard W. Hallman (301) 897-3668

Methodists United for Peace with Justice

421 Seward Square, SE

Washington, DC 20003

(202) 546-5551

February 9, 1989

The meeting of the Board of Directors of Methodists United for Peace with Justice at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 1, 1989 at Capitol Hill United Methodist Church, 421 Seward Square, SE in Washington, D.C.

The agenda for this meeting will include:

1. Election of additional members to the Interim Board.
2. Consideration of the enclosed bylaws for Methodists United for Peace with Justice, our existing 501(c)(4) corporation.
3. Consideration of the enclosed articles of incorporation for Methodists United Fund for Peace with Justice, which would become a 501(c)(3) corporation.
4. Progress report on membership campaign.
5. Discussion of action agenda for 101st Congress.
6. Other business.

Background. When we organized two years ago, we decided to set up two corporations, one under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, which could engage in

lobbying, and the other under Section (501)(c)(3), which could receive tax exempt contributions and undertake educational activities but no lobbying. Methodists United for Peace with Justice was incorporated as a (c)(4) corporation. The enclosed bylaws are intended to complete our initial organizing process.

The enclosed articles of incorporation represent the initial step in forming a (c)(3) corporation, proposed to be called the Methodists United Fund for Peace with Justice. Before we file for IRS approval, we will also need to adopt bylaws for this corporation.

These bylaws and articles of incorporation have been developed by a committee of three officers from our Steering Committee: Sherman Harris, Bob Griffin, and Howard Hallman.

If you cannot attend on March 1 but have comments on the proposed bylaws and articles of incorporation, please send them in writing.

Methodists United for Peace with Justice

421 Seward Square, SE

Washington, DC 20003

(202) 546-5551

February 9, 1989

of Interim Board of Directors

As the enclosed meeting notice indicates, we will meet on Wednesday evening, March 1, 1989 to consider Bylaws and other business. The official Board of Methodists United consists of twelve persons, including you, who were named as the Interim Board in the Articles of Incorporation. We propose to add several other persons who have been actively participating in the Steering Committee.

Some original members of the Interim Board are no longer active in Methodists United. Therefore, we ask all members of the Interim Board to indicate whether they want to remain as Board members or to resign. This is important because of the requirements for a quorum and a majority vote of all directors in office in order to adopt the Bylaws.

Would you please fill out and return the form at the bottom of this page. If you want to talk about your status on the Board, please call Sherman Harris at (301) 299-2984.

___ I want to remain a member of the Interim Board of Methodists United.

or

___ I hereby tender my resignation from the Interim Board of Methodists
United.

I will ___ will not ___ be present at the March 1, 1989 meeting of the Board of
Directors.

Signed

Date

BALLOT

Interim Board of Directors
Methodists United for Peace with Justice

Mark "x" for each of the following persons for whom you wish to vote as a member of the Interim Board of Directors, Methodists United for Peace with Justice. You may vote for all or fewer.

___ Ralph Clark

___ Robert Griffin

___ John Mathews

Please return in the unmarked enveloped labeled "ballot". All envelopes received will be mixed and opened at the next meeting of the Board of Directors -- April 5, 1989.

To: Methodists United for Peace with Justice
421 Seward Square, SE, Washington, DC 20003

___ Yes, at our annual conference we will seek signatures for the petition in support of a Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START).

___ Yes, we are willing to display or distribute the membership brochure for Methodists United for Peace with Justice at annual conference.

Please send us ___ copies.

___ We are submitting to annual conference resolutions on the following peace and justice topics:

Signed _____ Telephone _____

Send membership brochures to _____

To: Methodists United for Peace with Justice
421 Seward Square, SE, Washington, DC 20003

___ Yes, at our annual conference we will seek signatures for the petition in support of a Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START).

___ Yes, we are willing to display or distribute the membership brochure for Methodists United for Peace with Justice at annual conference.

Please send us ___ copies.

___ We are submitting to annual conference resolutions on the following peace and justice topics:

Signed _____ Telephone _____

Send membership brochures to _____

To: Methodists United for Peace with Justice
421 Seward Square, SE, Washington, DC 20003

___ Yes, at our annual conference we will seek signatures for the petition in support of a

Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START).

___ Yes, we are willing to display or distribute the membership brochure for Methodists
United for Peace with Justice at annual conference.

Please send us ___ copies.

___ We are submitting to annual conference resolutions on the following peace and justice
topics:

Signed _____ Telephone _____

Send membership brochures to _____

HOWARD W. HALLMAN

12220 Glen Mill Road

Potomac, MD 20854

(301) 762-4164

May 2, 1988

Dear Ed:

Following up my telephone report, I am sending you the text of the actions of the two legislative committees at General Conference. The first one, endorsing In Defense of Creation, is precisely what we were aiming for. The second one, to make Peace with Justice a special program, is about the best possible action in face of two factors: a strong desire to have no missional priority and a strong reluctance to request any additional funds, either as an apportionment or as a direct appropriation. There was very little support for asking the General Conference for any more money. But Bill Kirk and David Lundquist, general secretary of GCOM, were helpful in identifying ways in which the General Board of Church and Society could find additional revenue. These are incorporated into the committee's recommendation.

You asked, "who were the heroes?" Actually this was not an endeavor that required heroic action. If you would ask, "who was the leader in getting this accomplished?", I would identify myself. I used a leadership style that I have relied on many times over

the years and have taught to community organizers and local leaders. The most succinct description is contained in the Tao Teh Ching (or The Way of Life), attributed to Laotzu (6th century B.C.), as follows:

A leader is best
When people barely know he exists,
Not so good when people obey and acclaim him,
Worst when they despise him.
"Fail to honor people,
They fail to honor you;"
But of a good leader, who talks little,
When his work is done, his aim fulfilled,
They will all say, "We did this ourselves."

There are several people on the General Administration Legislative Committee who have one or more of their own words incorporated into the recommendation. Accordingly they identify with it and have become firm advocates. My role was catalytic to provide language that could be considered and adapted. It depended upon quiet, low-key contacts with these persons during the week.

Having done that, I could leave St. Louis feeling comfortable that these measures will be readily adopted by General Conference.

Now it's up to us to work with the General Board of Church and Society, its members and

staff to assure that follow-through action occurs.

With best regards,

HOWARD W. HALLMAN

12220 Glen Mill Road

Potomac, MD 20854

(301) 762-4164

May 9, 1998

r, Sherman Harris, Ed Helm, Diane Stanton-Rich

Re: Follow-up with General Conference contacts

I believe that we should quickly follow-up the contacts we made at General Conference, both to thank delegates for their support and to start building membership within various annual conferences. With that in mind I have drafted the enclosed letter to send to people within whom I worked on the two legislative committees that handled the two main actions we were seeking.

I would encourage others to adapt this letter to contacts they made at General Conference, beyond those on my list. And some who contacted delegates in advance but were not at General Conference could adapt the letter for the contacts they made.

In addition, I believe we should send three different form letters to General Conference delegates. One to all members of the Legislative Committee on General Administration

that we are not writing to personally, and a second to all other members of the Legislative Committee on Church and Society. The third letter should go to all other General Conference delegates. These letters would thank them for their support for our two initiatives and would invite them to join Methodists United for Peace with Justice. We might ask them to do something at their upcoming annual conference but not in as much detail as my personal letter.

What do you think of this? Please give me a call. If possible, I would like to get my personal letters out before the week is over. (And it will give me a chance to try the merge option on my new computer.)

HOWARD W. HALLMAN

12220 Glen Mill Road

Potomac, MD 20854

(301) 762-4164

May 17, 1988

To: MUPJ Steering Committee

Re: Ideas about our future

In preparation for our retreat, I would like to offer some ideas about where we should be heading and how we can get there. But first I want to present a brief review of our activities since we started a little over a year ago.

I. REVIEW OF PAST ACTIVITIES

In the past 15 months we have achieved a number of accomplishments. But at the same time we have fallen short of some of our initial objectives. Our experience, especially our work with General Conference, has taught us some valuable lessons.

Accomplishments

Since organizing in early 1987, MUPJ on its own or through closely related activities of Steering Committee members has achieved the following results:

1. Fostered better US/Soviet relations

- a. Participation by the Helms and Sherman Harris in the International Peace Walk in the Soviet Union
- b. Follow-up speaking engagements
- c. Activities related to the December 1987 Reagan-Gorbachev summit meeting in Washington: prayer service; participation in Jarvis MacMillan's event; bell ringing
- d. Participation in the February 1988 Citizens' Summit; the Sunday luncheon at Asbury United Methodist Church; and placement of Soviet speakers in local churches

2. Worked for nuclear disarmament

- a. MUPJ Steering Committee resolution on INF in November 1987
- b. Articles in Peace Leaf
- c. Promoted support for Senate approval of INF Treaty

3. Influenced the United Methodist Church

- a. Got Council of Bishops to adopt resolution in support of INF Treaty
- b. Got General Conference to (i) support and affirm "In Defense of

Creation" and (ii) establish Peace with Justice as a special program for the 1989-92 quadrennium

4. Initial organizing

- a. Incorporated MUPJ as a 501(c)(4) organization
- b. Formed an ad hoc Steering Committee with a dedicated core of volunteers
- c. Set up a national advisory committee

5. Membership

- a. Began recruiting members

6. Fundraising

- a. Initial efforts of direct-mail fundraising (Betty Bumpers letter)
- b. Special purpose (project) fundraising

These are worthy accomplishments for a young organization operating with limited resources.

Shortcomings

At the same time we have not achieved certain objectives, and experience has

revealed several weaknesses.

1. Membership

- a. With fewer than 150 paid members, we are a long ways from our two-year goal of 5,000 "founding members"
- b. No systematic membership campaign is underway

2. Fundraising

- a. Direct-mail fundraising has not yield anticipated results
- b. No productive alternative has been initiated

3. Organization

- a. No bylaws
- b. No 501(c)(3) organization
- c. National committee has never met
- d. A board of directors with national membership has not been formed
- e. Decline in number of people participating on Steering Committee and in other volunteer activities
- f. Lack of system for regular, written financial reports
- g. Lack of procedures for democratic decision making

4. Communications

- a. Only two issues of Peace Leaf published

- b. No other regular means of communication with United Methodist leadership
(national, conference, district, local)
- c. The promised booklet, "Witnessing for Peace in the United Methodist Church," not produced

5. Issues

- a. Beyond some work on INF Treaty, no full-fledged campaign for nuclear disarmament
- b. Discussion of a US/Soviet religious summit, but no systematic follow-through
- c. Lack of attention to other peace issues, especially in Third World
- d. Failure as an organization to define and articulate justice components

Some of these shortcomings have occurred because we cannot have expected to do everything in one year of operation. Some stem from organizational and procedural deficiencies. But rather than engage in faultfinding, we should use this list as a guidance in organizing our action agenda for the coming months.

Lessons of General Conference Experience

There were a number of elements that led to our success in getting General Conference to affirm "In Defense of Creation" and establish Peace with Justice as a Special Program.

1. Long-range planning and action

- a. Agreement in September 1987 to focus on General Conference, seven months away
- b. Analysis of procedures, deadlines, decision makers, and points of access
- c. Follow-through with sequential phases of activities

2. Petition drafting process used to build consensus and develop support

- a. First draft in December
- b. Reviewed by Steering Committee in early January, then revised
- c. Second draft circulated to members of General Board of Church and Society, Council of Bishops, and others
- d. Final adjustments in early February and submission to Secretary of General Conference

3. Outreach to delegates

- a. In March sent petition to all delegates
- b. Phone calls to contacts in annual conference delegations
- c. Invited them and all other members of two crucial legislative committees to April 27 breakfast
- d. Leaflets at convention center door inviting people to breakfast

4. Targeted fundraising to support work at General Conference

5. Peace with Justice Breakfast at General Conference on April 27

- a. In advance lined up several bishops and representatives of key organizations to speak
- b. At breakfast presented our case and created enthusiasm
- c. Because of large attendance, boosted morale and produced momentum
- d. Face-to-face contact with persons with whom we had talked over phone

6. Work with legislative committees

- a. Quiet, persistent, friendly presence
- b. Opportunity to speak to sub-sub committee, subcommittee, full committee
- c. Participated in tactical discussion with committee and subcommittee leadership
- d. Drafted legislative language, made adjustments at suggestion of delegates, and build support for amendments
- e. Continuous liaison with representatives of General Board of Church and Society and General Council of Ministries

7. Preparation for floor action

- a. Kept touching base with key bishops
- b. Kept in touch with committee leadership about timing and approach to consideration by whole General Conference

c. Rallied support among delegates

8. Throughout General Conference a sense of divine guidance for our efforts

9. Follow-up

a. Thank you letters to delegates

b. Opportunity to build on relationships established in many annual conferences for

i. Membership development

ii. Fundraising

iii. Education and action activities

c. Opportunity to work with General Board of Church and Society and General Council of Ministries for implementation

II. IDEAS FOR FUTURE ACTIVITIES

Looking ahead, we should decide where our primary focus should be, what we want to accomplish in the next three, six, and twelve months, and how we should go about achieving our objectives.

Program Categories

Our discussion of the past year has indicated that there is interest in working on

the following program categories (not all share an interest in every category, but someone is interested in every one of them).

Engage in citizen diplomacy

With Soviet Union

Later with Third World, Middle East

Influence U.S. policy on peace and justice issues

Disarmament (nuclear and conventional)

US/Soviet relations (beyond disarmament)

Third World policies (later)

Justice for poor people; for example, General Conference listing:

Economic opportunity: jobs, income support

Affordable housing

Adequate food

Proper health care

Conduct educational activities

Among MUPJ members

Within United Methodist Church

With broader public (secondary)

Influence United Methodist Church

Implementation of Special Program on Peace with Justice

Support for initiatives of Council of Bishops

Publications

To get the word out, build loyal support, and show that we are doing things, we need to strengthen our publishing program.

Get out Peace Leaf on a regular schedule

Produce and distribute the booklet on "Witnessing for Peace with Justice in the United Methodist Church"

Organizational

A lot of attention is needed during the next three months to shape up the basic organization and operating procedures of MUPJ.

MUPJ -- national operations as 501(c)(4) organization

Draw up and adopt bylaws

Organize a national board of directors and begin holding regular meetings

Use computer-based telecommunications as a means of decision making

between board meetings, especially for executive committee

Plan for a meeting of national advisory committee

MUPJ -- local

Organize a Washington metropolitan area chapter of MUPJ for:

Direct action activities in Washington

Volunteer support for MUPJ national office

Present Steering Committee

Until national board of directors is organized, function as governing body of MUPJ

Have working committees on:

Membership

Finance (including fundraising)

Communications

Steering Committee as a whole can deal with issues and programs

Some of current members become members of national board, others form nucleus for Washington metropolitan area chapter

Establish a 501(c)(3) organization

Incorporate

Establish a governing board

Adopt bylaws

Obtain IRS recognition

Membership

There is an urgent need to build up our membership, both as a source of funds and as a base for action.

Initiate a national membership campaign

Set achievable membership objectives, by quarterly periods

Work especially through annual conference networks

Start with contacts made at General Conference

Seek other contacts within annual conference areas

Rely primarily on such networks, using direct mail only as a supplement

(e.g., letters from annual conference leaders to others in annual conference area, but not a major direct mail campaign from Washington)

Fundraising

We will not be able to accomplish much until we build a strong financial foundation.

Look upon membership as a significant source of funds. For example:

An average of 25 members in each of the 73 annual conferences would total 1,975 members. If they averaged \$20 in annual dues, the yield would be \$36,500. 50 members/conference (3,650 nationally) would produce \$73,000/year. 10 members in each of the 700 districts would total 7,000 nationally and would yield \$140,000/year.

Get supporters within annual conferences to help with supplemental fundraising

Initiate direct fundraising from large donors (\$500 and more)

Seek foundation support

Selectively

This takes six months to a year to be productive.

Need for 501(c)(3) corporation as recipient of funds from certain sources.

Staffing

All of the above tasks cannot be carried out unless MUPJ has administrative support provided by paid staff.

For three month period from June to August, retain a consultant on at least a half-time basis to work with the Steering Committee and its working committees. Duties would be to:

Accomplish above organizational objectives

Provide regular financial reports to Steering Committee (in cooperation with treasurer)

Develop ideas on Special Program on Peace with Justice and present them to General Board of Church and Society

Assist in initiating a membership campaign and related fundraising activities

Assist in getting out two issues of Peace Leaf

In September hire a full-time executive director and office assistant (assuming that funds are available): to

Administer work of MUPJ and the 501(c)(3) corporation

Represent MUPJ with United Methodist boards and agencies and in Washington-based coalitions

Facilitate outreach to United Methodist annual conferences, districts, and local churches

Get newsletter out on schedule

Support the work of the newly organized national board of directors.

May 16, 1988

MUPJ.L05

HOWARD W. HALLMAN

12220 Glen Mill Road

Potomac. MD 20854

(301) 762-4164

May 25, 1988

4 Massachusetts Avenue, NE

Washington, DC 20002

Dear Ed:

As I promised, I have drafted a letter for Bishop Kelly to send to our main contacts among General Conference delegates: all members of committees 1 and 6, other persons who were at the breakfast, and additional contacts in various delegations.

I am also sending a copy of the letter I sent to 21 delegates with whom I had special contact (their names are listed). I don't see any harm in Bishop Kelly's letter going to them, too.

Sincerely yours,

Howard W. Hallman

cc: Sherman Harris

Diane Stanton-Rich

HOWARD W. HALLMAN

12220 Glen Mill Road

Potomac, MD 20854

(301) 762-4164

May 25, 1988

Membership Growth and Organizational Development*

Methodists United for Peace with Justice has reached a stage where urgent attention is needed for two important tasks: (1) membership growth and (2) creation of a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization. I propose that MUPJ retain me as a half-time consultant at the rate of \$1,500/month for June, July, and August to work on these tasks.

I. Membership Growth

Our biggest potential for membership growth is to work through existing networks within the 73 United Methodist annual conferences. This can be a much more productive source of members, and more cost effective, than a large-scale, direct mail campaign run exclusively from Washington. It has the added benefit of being an effective organizing tool for future action.

The key concept is **network**. Almost everyone is involved in networks of associations. This occurs mostly voluntarily, a matter of choice. Having made the choice freely, people are responsive to ideas and suggestions that they receive through network channels of communication. A lot of this peer-to-peer, rather than hierarchical, though people in networks also respond to leaders whom they recognize and may have had a hand in selecting. Although for some people the endorsement of prestigious figures may be influential, persons within the network who are closer at hand are usually in better position to motivate particular responses.

For a MUPJ membership campaign, the United Methodist annual conference offers an excellent framework. It has both a formal structure and less formal, though influential, network relationships. We need to work with both.

Here is how I propose to go about recruiting members to MUPJ through this framework.

* This proposal contains proprietary information. Therefore, all copies should be returned to Howard Hallman if the proposal is not accepted by the MUPJ Steering Committee.

1. Develop a contact list for each annual conference. This would consist of the following

persons, whose name, address, and telephone number would be put into a data base.

Bishop

District Superintendents

Director, Conference Council of Ministries

Peace with Justice Task Force

Coordinator (and/or staff assistant)

Chairperson

Task Force members

Board of Church and Society

Chairperson

Staff assistant

Board members

Other identified peace with justice leaders

To get this information, I would start by writing the conference council of ministries director in each annual conference, sending a fill-in form and a stamped, return envelope. I would also request to receive the conference journal when it is published, following annual conference.

As a supplement, those of us who have specific contacts within annual conferences should call or write them to find out who the key leaders are on peace with justice. They may or not be persons holding the above positions.

We should also add the names of General Conference delegates to the data base and members of the General Board of Church and Society after they are designated by the Jurisdictions.

2. Call key contacts to enlist their support. This task should involved Steering Committee members, other volunteers, and myself as consultant. I would help recruit and train volunteers for this task.

In our calls we would explain our membership campaign, ask their advice on how best to reach out to United Methodists in their conference, and ask their help. For instance, a peace with justice coordinator might be willing to write to all members of the Peace with Justice Task Force in our behalf. The chairperson of the Conference Board of Church and Society might be willing to communicate to all local church and society chairpersons about MUPJ. Of, if they prefer not to make direct contacts, they could supply us names and addresses of these local church leaders.

3. Prepare information material. We need a supplement to our basic information flyer to emphasize our work at General Conference and explain how we intend to follow through. This might also include some endorsements praising our work at General Conference, such as from Bishops Kelly and Minnick, and Revs. Walter Kimbrough, Sharon Glaser, and Jack Heacock. This could be one sheet front and back. I will draft this and offer it to Steering Committee officers for review.

We also should supply our conference contacts, who have agreed to send out a letter in our behalf, drafts of possible letters. In some cases they may want to get endorsements from others in their conference, perhaps the bishop. We will supply them our handouts to mail to their contacts. If they lack resources for printing their letter and postage, we should be willing to reimburse them (although we should encourage them to make this contribution).

4. Membership objectives. Our goal should be to carry out membership recruitment in every annual conference. But recognizing that we have better contacts in some than others and that a few annual conferences are dominated by people opposed to peace with justice (so that it will take longer to search our the best contacts), our objective should be to get out recruitment letters as follows:

June-August 35 annual conferences

September-December 38 annual conferences

Our membership objective for this campaign should be:

ConferenceMembers/conf.Members

June-August 1st 35	20	700
September-December 1st 35	20	700
2nd 38	20	<u>760</u>

2,160

If average membership contribution is \$20, this should produce the following revenue:

June-August \$14,000

September-December 29,200

\$43,200

5. Budget. The budget for June to August would be as follows:

Consultant \$4,500

Telephone (long distance) 600

Data base software 150

Printed material, postage (MUPJ costs) 1,750

100 letters x 35 conferences x \$.50 _____

\$7,000

Projected revenue \$14,000

(700 members @ \$20)

Net income \$7,000

Committed future expenses

"Witnessing" @ \$1/member	700
6 issues of Peace Leaf @ \$3.00	<u>2,100</u>
	\$2,800

Surplus \$4,200

6. Seed money. To carry this out, there would be need for \$3,000 in seed money to pay the consultant, telephone, and initial printing and postage until membership revenue begins coming in.

II. Creation of a 501(c)(3) Organization

In addition to carrying out this membership campaign, as a hired consultant I would work with the Steering Committee to create a 501(c)(3) organization. This would include drafting articles of incorporation and bylaws and preparing the submission to the Internal Revenue Service. As a related activity, I would also help the Steering Committee develop bylaws for the existing 501(c)(4) corporation because how the two organizations are governed and are interrelated should be coordinated.

METHODISTS UNITED FOR PEACE WITH JUSTICE

421 Seward Square, SE

Washington, DC 20003

(202) 546-5551

June 7, 1988

Shirley Hoover

11 Gracie Road

Lynn, MA 01904

Dear Shirley:

Thanks for your willingness to get the enclosed material in circulation at the Southern New England annual conference.

One item is a petition thanking the senators from Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut for supporting the INF treaty and urging them to push for other arms reduction measures in the future. If you will return the signed petitions to us, we will deliver them to the senators.

Also enclosed are copies of a flyer about Methodists United for Peace with Justice. Under separate cover we are sending you copies of another sheet containing updated information. We would like persons with interest in peace with justice issues to know about us, what we accomplished at General Conference, and what we plan to do in the

future. Then we hope that they will want to join us in this work.

If you have any questions, please call me at (301) 762-4164.

Sincerely yours,

Howard W. Hallman

[Similar letters set to Rev. Frank Dorsey, Prof. Ronald Bretsch, Rev. Terrell Voss, Mrs. Marybelle Hawke, and Prof. Robert Albertson. See vertical file.]

September 22, 1988

Conference Council Director:

Formed in February 1987, Methodists United for Peace with Justice (MUPJ) has spent the last 18 months working for "Policies for a Just Peace" and the vision of shalom as defined by the United Methodist Council of Bishops in the pastoral letter and foundation document, In Defense of Creation. We have engaged in citizen diplomacy to help build better US/Soviet relations. We have actively supported President Reagan in his efforts to negotiate nuclear arms reduction, especially the treaty to eliminate intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF). And we joined with other United Methodists to get the 1988 General Conference to affirm and support In Defense of Creation and to make Peace with Justice a special program for the 1989-92 Quadrennium.

We want to build on this beginning by campaigning for other aspects of "Policies for a Just Peace", as defined by our bishops. Of these, we believe that the time is ripe to push for the end of the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), or Star Wars, and the Soviet counterpart. This is a crucial issue because current efforts to move nuclear war into space are extremely dangerous and are also a grievous waste of economic resources and human talent. At the same time we intend to bring into sharper focus the practical meaning of shalom (peace, harmony, wholeness) as it applies to social justice issues.

To strengthen our efforts, we want to reach out to other United Methodists who share our concerns. Accordingly, we request you to provide us with the names, addresses, and telephone numbers (if readily available) of certain officers and committees from your annual conference, as listed on the attachment. We intend to send them a complimentary copy of our next newsletter, Peace Leaf, which will concentrate on Star Wars, and to invite them to join with us in our effort to terminate this dangerous and wasteful program.

We would also like to receive a copy of your 1988 conference journal as soon as it is available. If there is a charge, please bill us. If you have any questions, please call me at (301) 897-3668.

Sincerely yours,

Howard W. Hallman
Consultant

Information Requested by
Methodists United for Peace with Justice
421 Seward Square, SE
Washington, DC 20003

Name and address

Telephone

Conference staff
for Peace/Justice
or Church & Society

Chairperson,
Conference Board of
Church & Society*

Chair or Coordinator,
Peace with Justice
Task Force*

* If possible, please attach full membership (with mailing addresses) of
Board of Church and Society and Peace with Justice Task Force.

Conference

If there are district chairs or coordinators for these units, please
provide this information.

Name and address

Telephone

District Superintendents

HOWARD W. HALLMAN

6508 Wilmett Road

Bethesda, MD 20817

(301) 897-3668

September 1, 1988

f Steering Committee

Methodists United for Peace with Justice

I would like to share with you two other documents as background for our next meeting, scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 7, 1988 at Capitol Hill United Methodist Church.

One of them is a set of suggestions for us to make to the United Methodist General Board of Church and Society regarding activities and funding for the Special Program on Peace with Justice, which the 1988 General Conference established. The Board meets in October, and in advance we should send our suggestions to its members and the staff.

This draft is an extension of one developed by Sherman and Diane, who combined earlier drafts which Ed and I produced. It incorporates all of the ideas of their draft, includes some other activities, elaborates on funding sources, and adds "Ten Steps for Peacemaking Growth," which Ed wrote earlier.

The second document is a copy of a letter to our National Committee, which Sherman sent as co-chair of the Steering Committee, asking their opinion on the questions we are now considering on issue focus and organizational structure as we prepare for a membership campaign. I produced a first draft of this letter. Then it was reviewed and revised by the committee of Sherman, Bob, and Diane, who are supervising my work.

If you cannot attend the meeting and have any comments on these documents or the one I sent you earlier, please call me at 897-3668.

With best regards,

Dear Friend:

"Grace to you and peace in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

We greet you with the words of the United Methodist Council of Bishops, taken from their pastoral letter, *In Defense of Creation*. We do this because we -- Methodists United for Peace with Justice -- have organized in response to the bishops' call for personal and corporate witness to peace and justice. We invite you to join with us by becoming a member of Methodists United.

Since our inception in 1987, we have responded to the bishops' call by focusing on several issues

- o Nuclear disarmament. We have campaigned for the end of nuclear weapons testing and for nuclear arms reduction agreements between the United States and the Soviet Union. We actively supported ratification of the intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) treaty by the U.S. Senate.
- o Citizen diplomacy. As part of an effort to build stronger people-to-people relationships with the Soviet Union, we were represented on a Leningrad-to-Moscow international peace march. We have hosted Soviet visitors to the United States.
- o Within United Methodist Church. We mobilized support to get the 1988 General Conference to "affirm and support" the bishops' pastoral letter and foundation document, *In Defense of Creation*. And in response to our petition, the General Conference established a Special Program for Peace with Justice for the 1989-92 Quadrennium, to be administered by the General Board of Church and Society.
- o Communications. We have started a newsletter, *Peace Leaf*, as a source of information on current issues and ideas for peace and justice activities. The latest issue is enclosed. We are publishing a peacemaker's handbook, *Witness for Peace and Justice*.

In the coming year our primary peace focus will continue to be nuclear disarmament and US/Soviet relations. However, we intend to explore Third World issues to determine where we might make a contribution.

Methodists United for Peace with Justice intends to give particular attention to pushing for the end of the Strategic Defensive

Initiative (SDI), sometimes called Star Wars. As the United Methodist bishops pointed out,

this attempt to create a space-based defense is wrongful for several reasons. Prominent scientists insist that a leakproof defense against a barrage of nuclear missiles is scientifically and technically infeasible. Furthermore, the space weapons being designed have an offensive potential, which frightens our adversaries and thereby fuels the arms race as they seek countermeasures. U.S. insistence in pursuing space-based defense is a roadblock to US/Soviet agreement to cut in half the supply of long-range nuclear missiles, and then to make further deep cuts. And the program has enormous budgetary costs, thus taking funds away from efforts to achieve greater social justice. The enclosed Peace Leaf discusses these issues in greater detail.

On the justice side we intend to focus especially on issues related to children and youth. In the United States the number of children living in poor families is on the rise. Youth unemployment remains alarmingly high, especially in minority communities. Elsewhere in the world children are innocent victims of regional wars and civil strife. In the next several months Methodists United will be consulting with our members to determine which particular issues facing children and youth we should concentrate on.

Methodists United for Peace with Justice is a private association and is not formally affiliated with the United Methodist Church. However, we work closely with official United Methodist boards and agencies. We have been actively supporting the special offering for Peace with Justice, which provides resources to annual conferences and to the General Board of Church and Society for peace with justice activities. We support the peace advocates program of the General Board of Discipleship. In charting our own course, we are careful to avoid duplication with the work of these general boards.

To be effective, we need your support. We urge you to become a member of Methodists United for Peace with Justice. A membership form and return envelope are enclosed so that you may affiliate with Methodists United and send in your membership contribution. As a benefit you will receive a one year subscription to Peace Leaf and a copy of the peacemaker's handbook, Witness for Peace and Justice.

Because we are an action organization, we ask you to immediately join our campaign to end Star Wars. Study the issues as laid out in Peace Leaf. Then get in touch with candidates for Congress to find out their positions. Let them know what you think. After the November election, write to the president-elect, urging him to eliminate Star Wars funding from his budget request. In January be prepared to focus on congressional legislation that will put an end to Star Wars. We will keep you informed on how this will come into focus in the new Congress.

This can be a beginning. There are more ways that we can work together on peace with justice issues. We need your support. In exchange Methodists United for Peace with Justice offers you an opportunity to join with other United Methodists to seek shalom, the fullness of peace that requires justice as its foundation. Together we can make worthy progress toward this goal.

Yours in peace and justice,

Edward W. Bauman
Convener, National Committee

Dear General Conference Delegate:

It has been more than four months since the 1988 General Conference adjourned. Now most of us have plunged into the new program year which seems to begin just after Labor Day. As we do, I hope that the "spirit of St. Louis" is still prevailing within the United Methodist Church -- the spirit of love and reconciliation, seeking to work together to advance the Kingdom of God, even as we differ on certain issues.

You may recall that Methodists United for Peace with Justice petitioned the General Conference on two matters: to adopt the bishops' pastoral letter and foundation document, In Defense of Creation, as the policy of the United Methodist Church, and to make Peace with Justice a missional priority for the 1989-92 Quadrennium. We were pleased that you passed a resolution to "affirm and support" In Defense of Creation. Although you determined to have no missional priority for the quadrennium, you did decide to make Peace with Justice a special quadrennial program, assigned to the General Board of Church and Society. We greatly appreciate the action that you took.

For our part we intend to work closely with the General Board of Church and Society to support their efforts in carrying out the Special Program on Peace and Justice. We have offered them our ideas. We intend to help with promotion of the special offering on Peace with Justice, which the General Conference scheduled for the second Sunday of Pentecost. We also support of the Peace Advocate program, which is handled by the General Board of Discipleship. As an unofficial association of laity and clergy, we will carry out activities that complement and do not duplicate the work of these official boards.

We at Methodists United for Peace with Justice intend to give particular attention to pushing for the end of the Strategic Defensive Initiative (SDI), sometimes called Star Wars. As the United Methodist bishops pointed out, this attempt to create a space-based defense is wrongful for several reasons. Prominent scientists insist that a leakproof defense against a barrage of nuclear missiles is scientifically and technically infeasible. Furthermore, the space weapons being designed have an offensive potential, which frightens our adversaries and thereby fuels the arms race as they seek countermeasures. U.S. insistence in pursuing space-based defense is a roadblock to US/Soviet agreement to cut in half the supply of long-range nuclear missiles, and then to make further deep cuts. And the program has enormous budgetary costs, thus taking funds away from efforts to achieve greater social justice. Enclosed is a copy of the latest issue of our newsletter, Peace Leaf, which discusses these matters in greater detail.

On the justice side we intend to focus especially on issues related to children and youth. In the United States the number of children living in poor families is on the rise. Youth unemployment remains alarmingly high, especially in minority communities. Elsewhere in the world children are innocent victims of regional wars and civil strife. In the next several months Methodists United will be consulting with our members to determine which particular issues facing children and youth we should concentrate on.

To be effective in these endeavors, we need your support. We invite you to become a

member of Methodists United for Peace with Justice. A membership form and return envelope are enclosed so that you may affiliate with Methodists United and send in your membership contribution. As a benefit you will receive a one year subscription to Peace Leaf and a copy of our peacemaker's handbook, Witness for Peace and Justice. We will be in touch with you regularly to suggest ways you can be active on peace and justice issues in your local church and your home community and how you can have timely on public policy makers.

We look forward to hearing from you and working together on some important objectives that were defined by the 1988 General Conference.

Grace and Peace,

Edward W. Bauman
Convener, National

Committee

Dear Member:

In a practical sense for many of us a new program year begins the day after Labor Day. People have completed their summer vacations. Children are back in school. The weather is starting to cool. A new round of activities begins.

This is certainly the case with Methodists United for Peace with Justice. We are beginning a new program year. We have a new set of officers for the Steering Committee. We are embarking upon a fresh course to seek implementation of the United Methodist bishops' pastoral letter and foundation document, In Defense of Creation. We note that the United Methodist boards are reorganizing with new members and new officers, so there are opportunities for initiatives which we can propose and support. Therefore, I want to report our plans to you and to enlist your active support.

In the coming year our primary peace focus will continue to be nuclear disarmament and US/Soviet relations. However, we intend to explore Third World issues to determine where we might make a contribution.

Methodists United for Peace with Justice intends to give particular attention to pushing for the end of the Strategic Defensive Initiative (SDI), sometimes called Star Wars. As the United Methodist bishops pointed out, this attempt to create a space-based defense is wrongful for several reasons. Prominent scientists insist that a leakproof defense against a barrage of nuclear missiles is scientifically and technically infeasible. Furthermore, the space weapons being designed have an offensive potential, which frightens our adversaries and thereby fuels the arms race as they seek countermeasures. U.S. insistence in pursuing space-based defense is a roadblock to US/Soviet agreement to cut in half the supply of long-range nuclear missiles, and then to make further deep cuts. And the program has enormous budgetary costs, thus taking funds away from efforts to achieve greater social justice. The enclosed Peace Leaf discusses these issues in greater detail.

We ask you, as a member of Methodists United, to join our campaign to end Star Wars. Study the issues as laid out in Peace Leaf. Then get in touch with candidates for Congress to find out their positions. Let them know what you think. After the November election, write to the president-elect, urging him to eliminate Star

Wars funding from his budget request. In January be prepared to focus on congressional legislation that will put an end to Star Wars. We will keep you informed on how this will come into focus in the new Congress.

On the justice side we intend to focus especially on issues related to children and youth. In the United States the number of children living in poor families is on the rise. Youth unemployment remains alarmingly high, especially in minority communities. Elsewhere in the world children are innocent victims of regional wars and civil strife. In the next several months Methodists United will be consulting with you to determine which particular issues facing children and youth we should concentrate on.

Within the United Methodist Church we will continue to support the work of official

agencies on peace and justice issues. We have offered a set of ideas to the General Board of Church and Society on how they can implement the Special Program on Peace with Justice, which the 1988 General Conference adopted in response to our petition. We are actively supporting the special offering for Peace with Justice, which provides resources to annual conferences and to the General Board. We support the Peace Advocate program of the General Board of Discipleship. In charting our own course, we are careful to avoid duplication with work of these general boards.

Having operated during the past year with a Steering Committee composed mostly of persons living in the Washington, D.C. area, we have made a commitment to have a national Board of Directors chosen early in 1989 and start functioning by springtime. We will be in touch with you in January about the nomination process. In the meantime we are mounting a membership campaign to broaden our outreach around the country. And we have new officers for the interim Steering Committee: Sherman Harris, chair; Robert Griffin, vice chair; Diane Stanton-Rich, secretary; and Howard Hallman, treasurer.

To be effective, we need your continued support. If it has been a year or more since you first joined Methodists United, it is time to renew your membership. If you are a more recent member, you may want to make a special contribution at this time, especially to help us advance our campaign for ending Star Wars. A membership/contribution form and a return enveloped are enclosed for your convenience.

We also ask that you supply us with names and addresses of other persons in your area who may want to join Methodists United. Or better yet, perhaps you would get in touch with them yourself. If so, let us know and we will supply you with copies of Peace Leaf and membership information.

We look forward to hearing from you and to continue our work together to seek shalom, the fullness of peace that requires justice as its foundation.

Grace and Peace,

Edward W. Bauman
Convener, National

Committee

HOWARD W. HALLMAN

6508 Wilmett Road

Bethesda, MD 20817

(301) 897-3668

September 14, 1988

Ed Bauman

Foundry United Methodist Church

1500 16th Street, NW

Washington, DC 20036

Dear Ed:

With the departure of the Helms to Florida we have elected a new set of officers for Methodists United for Peace with Justice. They are Sherman Harris, chair; Bob Griffin, vice chair; Diane Stanton-Rich, secretary; and myself as treasurer. I am taking the lead for a new membership campaign. We have communicated with you and other members of the National Committee about some ideas we want to implement.

We want to build our membership campaign around our desire to focus on ending Star Wars as our primary peace initiative. With that in mind we have prepared a special issue of Peace Leaf on Star Wars and what church peace groups can do about it. We

will use this as part of our membership appeal.

For the latter we have drafted three letters which we ask you to sign, as convener of the National Committee. Copies are enclosed. They are (1) a letter addressed to local United Methodist peace and justice activists (persons on conference and district committees), (2) a letter to General Conference delegates, and (3) one to persons who have previously contributed to Methodists United. These drafts can be modified to reflect your suggestions.

Sherman Harris and I would like an appointment to talk to you in the near future about these draft letters and some related matters of Methodists United. I'll check with your office early in the week of September 19 to determine when you might be available.

We feel that after a year of exploratory efforts and some significant success with the 1988 General Conference we are now ready for a more public campaign. We greatly appreciate the support you have given in the past and hope that you will continue to be supportive of Methodists United for Peace with Justice.

Sincerely yours,

Howard W. Hallman

HOWARD W. HALLMAN

6508 Wilmett Road

Bethesda, MD 20817

(301) 897-3668

SEPTEMBER 16, 1988

Bishop Joseph Yeakel
United Methodist Church
9226 Colesville Road
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Joe:

Yesterday Sherman Harris talked to Ruby Knock, requesting an appointment so that he and I can talk to you about our ideas how the General Board of Church and Society might implement the Special Program on Peace with Justice, as adopted by the 1988 General Conference.

Enclosed is our draft of suggestions along these lines. We would like to get your reaction to our ideas and to get your advice on the best way to approach the Board. For instance, should we distribute this list of suggestion to the entire board membership? Or to selected persons? If so, to whom? And if we are going to do this, do you have

any suggestions for changes in our draft?

We look forward to talking to you about these matters.

Sincerely yours,

Howard W. Hallman

HOWARD W. HALLMAN

6508 Wilmett Road

Bethesda, MD 20817

(301) 897-3668

September 20, 1988

Sherman Harris, Bob Griffin, Diane Stanton-Rich

Re: Articles of incorporation of (c)(3) corporation
Bylaws of (c)(3) and (c)(4) corporations

I started to develop proposed amendments to the set of bylaws for Methodists United for Peace with Justice which Ed Helms has proposed. But upon close examination I found numerous shortcomings in his draft. Therefore, I decided it was better to write a new set, though incorporating some of his ideas and language. As models I used the bylaws of three other nonprofit corporations in the District of Columbia with which I have been associated.

I have also drafted articles of incorporation for a Methodists United Fund for Peace with Justice, a 501(c)(3) corporation. For guidance I used the D.C. Nonprofit Corporation Act and the regulations of the Internal Revenue Service. The first

indicates what must be included, and the second offers some model language. I also used the MUPJ articles of incorporation.

And then I have drafted proposed bylaws for the (c)(3) corporation.

I would like for the three of you to review these drafts in the next few days, and then let me know of any suggested changes. Then I will send them to members of our Steering Committee, which is the interim Board of Directors of Methodists United. I proposed that the Steering Committee review these drafts at our next meeting -- Wednesday, October 5 -- but that we put a time limit on the discussion at that meeting (and can take them up again at a subsequent meeting if we still have work on them). After this review I would like to find a local lawyer who is experienced in 501(c)(3) matters to review all three documents, particularly with an eye on issues related to getting IRS approval of a 501(c)(3) corporation. After we receive the lawyer's comments, we can take final action -- perhaps by November or December.

In reviewing our legal status, I note that the MUPJ articles of incorporation created an interim board consisting of Forrest Craver, Howard Hallman, Sherman Harris, Adrien Helm, Edward Helm, Cheryl Howard, Jayne Mardock, Phillip Miller, Eloise Nennon, Charles Rhoads, Diane Stanton-Rich, and Steven Tracy. Of these, Jayne has moved away, and Chip and Steve have indicated that they do not wish to remain as active participants of the Steering Committee. I suggest that we consider that they have resigned (we can confirm that officially if necessary) and that we formally elect Bob

Griffin and Ralph Clark to the Board because they have been active participants in the Steering Committee. This revised interim Board can then act officially to adopt Methodists United bylaws, can add additional board members if we want to expand, and can also serve as the interim Board of the Methodists United Fund (the c-3 corporation). What do you think?

HOWARD W. HALLMAN

6508 Wilmett Road

Bethesda, MD 20817

(301) 897-3668

September 30, 1988

Committee Methodists United for Peace with Justice

Re: Articles of incorporation and bylaws

Along with organizing the membership campaign, a second part of my assignment with Methodists United is to "work with the Steering Committee to create a 501(c)(3) corporation." Accordingly, I have drafted the enclosed documents for your consideration at our next meeting, scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 5.

MUPJ articles of incorporation. In case you do not have a copy of the existing articles of incorporation for Methodists United for Peace with Justice, a copy is enclosed. MUPJ is a 501(c)(4) corporation, which means that it can lobby but cannot receive tax exempt contributions.

MUPJ bylaws. Ed Helm provided us a draft of bylaws for MUPJ at our July meeting, and we started to review them in September. I have studied this draft

carefully and compared it with the bylaws of four other nonprofit organizations incorporated in the District of Columbia. Doing so, I found some additional items that should be included. Furthermore, I have an alternative proposal on how to select the Board of Directors and some alternative ideas on certain other provisions. So rather than offer a series of amendments to Ed's draft, I have taken a fresh start, though including some of his ideas and language.

Articles of incorporation for a 501(c)(3) corporation. The enclosed draft for a 501(c)(3) corporation, called Methodists United Fund for Peace with Justice, is derived from the MUPJ bylaws, a review of the D.C. Nonprofit Corporation Action, and study of the regulations of the Internal Revenue Service, including IRS model language. This organization would be able to receive tax exempt contributions but could not lobby.

Bylaws for a 501(c)(3) corporation. The draft bylaws of the 501(c)(3) corporation are written to interface with the (c)(4) organization, especially in the selection of the Board of Directors. A number of people experienced in operating a pair of organization -- a (c)3) and a (c)(4) -- have advised me that a very close linkage is essential. Indeed, several of them have identical boards, which adjourn from one board meeting and immediately reconvene as the other board. They have the same executive director and some other staff who work for both corporations, keeping careful time records.

At our meeting on October 5, I suggest that we discuss these drafts, along with Ed's,

but put a time limit on the discussion so that we can also attend to other business. We can take them up at subsequent meetings.

Dear District Superintendent:

"Grace to you and peace in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

I greet you with the words of the United Methodist Council of Bishops, taken from their pastoral letter, In Defense of Creation. I do this because I want to tell you about Methodists United for Peace with Justice, an association of clergy and laity which has organized in response to the bishops' call for personal and corporate witness to peace and justice. I write to you as a former district superintendent and as co-chair of the National Committee of Methodists United for Peace with Justice.

Since our inception in 1987, we have responded to the bishops' call by focusing on several issues:

- o Nuclear disarmament. We have campaigned for the end of nuclear weapons testing and for nuclear arms reduction agreements between the United States and the Soviet Union. We actively supported ratification of the intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) treaty by the U.S. Senate.
- o Citizen diplomacy. As part of an effort to build stronger people-to-people relationships with the Soviet Union, we were represented on a Leningrad-to-Moscow international peace march. We have hosted Soviet visitors to the United States.
- o Within United Methodist Church. We mobilized support to get the 1988 General Conference to "affirm and support" the bishops' pastoral letter and foundation document, In Defense of Creation. And in response to our petition, the General Conference established a Special Program for Peace with Justice for the 1989-92 Quadrennium, to be administered by the General Board of Church and Society.
- o Communications. We have started a newsletter, Peace Leaf, as a source of information on current issues and ideas for peace and justice activities. The latest issue is enclosed. We are publishing a peacemaker's handbook, Witness for

Peace and Justice.

In the coming year our primary peace focus will continue to be nuclear disarmament and US/Soviet relations. However, we intend to explore Third World issues to determine where we might make a contribution.

Methodists United for Peace with Justice intends to give particular attention to pushing for the end of the Strategic Defensive

[October 25, 1988]

Initiative (SDI), sometimes called Star Wars. As the United Methodist bishops pointed out, this attempt to create a space-based defense is wrongful for several reasons. Prominent scientists insist that a leakproof defense against a barrage of nuclear missiles is scientifically and technically infeasible. Furthermore, the space weapons being designed have an offensive potential, which frightens our adversaries and thereby fuels the arms race as they seek countermeasures. U.S. insistence in pursuing space-based defense is a roadblock to US/Soviet agreement to cut in half the supply of long-range nuclear missiles, and then to make further deep cuts. And the program has enormous budgetary costs, thus taking funds away from efforts to achieve greater social justice. The enclosed Peace Leaf discusses these issues in greater detail.

On the justice side we intend to focus especially on issues related to children and youth. In the United States the number of children living in poor families is on the rise. Youth unemployment remains alarmingly high, especially in minority communities. Elsewhere in the world children are innocent victims of regional wars and civil strife. In the next several months Methodists United will be consulting with our members to determine which particular issues facing children and youth we should concentrate on.

Methodists United for Peace with Justice is a private association and is not formally affiliated with the United Methodist Church. However, we work closely with official United Methodist boards and agencies. We have been actively supporting the special offering for Peace with Justice, which provides resources to annual conferences and to the General Board of Church and Society for peace with justice activities. We support the peace advocates program of the General Board of Discipleship. In charting our own course, we are careful to avoid duplication with the work of these general boards.

To be effective, we need your support. Therefore, we invite you to become a member of Methodists United for Peace with Justice. A membership form and return envelope are enclosed. As a benefit you will receive a one year subscription to Peace Leaf and a copy of the peacemaker's handbook, Witness for Peace and Justice. We also ask you to tell clergy and laity in your district about Methodists United so that they, too, can affiliate with us.

Because we are an action organization, we ask you to immediately join our campaign to end Star Wars. Study the issues as laid out in Peace Leaf. Then get in touch with candidates for Congress to find out their positions. Let them know what you think. After the November election, write to the president-elect, urging him to eliminate Star Wars funding from his budget request. In January be prepared to focus on congressional legislation that will put an end to Star Wars. We will keep you informed on how this will come into focus in the new Congress.

This can be a beginning. There are more ways that we can work together on peace with justice issues. We need your support. In exchange Methodists United for Peace with Justice offers you an opportunity to join with other United Methodists to seek shalom, the fullness of peace that requires justice as its foundation. Together we can make worthy progress toward this goal.

Yours in peace and justice,

Joshua Hutchins
Co-Chair, National Committee

METHODISTS UNITED FOR PEACE WITH JUSTICE

421 Seward Square, SE

Washington, DC 20003

(202) 546-5551

October 21, 1988

Melvin

19 Park Street

Camden, ME 04843

Dear Mr. Melvin:

Thank you for communication in which laid out the biblical basis for peace.

In turn I would like to share with you a letter written by the co-chair of our National Committee, Dr. Edward Bauman, and the latest copy of our newsletter, Peace Leaf, which focuses on Star Wars. We invite you to become a contributing member of Methodists United for Peace with Justice. If you do, you will receive Peace Leaf regularly, and we will be able to work together on mutual concerns.

Sincerely yours,

Howard W. Hallman

Methodists United
for Peace with Justice
421 Seward Square, SE
Washington, DC 20003
(202) 546-5551

November 11, 1988

r your membership contribution to Methodists United for Peace with Justice. Our peacemaker's handbook, *Witnessing for Peace and Justice*, is now ready for printing, and we will send you a copy as soon as it is off the press. You will also receive regularly our newsletter, *Peace Leaf*. The next issue, focusing on needs of children and youth, will come out in a few weeks.

Now that the presidential election is behind us, it is time to prepare for the new administration and the new Congress. We hope you will join with us in our campaign to end Star Wars. Specifically, we suggest that you write to the President-elect George Bush (c/o The White House, Washington, DC 20500) to express your views. During the campaign he seemed to indicate that he wanted to continue much of the current research and development work on the Strategic Defense Initiative, but that he would defer a decision about future deployment. During the transition period before his inauguration as president in January, he and his staff will be making specific decisions as they prepare their ideas on the new federal budget. So now is a

crucially time to offer your ideas to the president elect.

We also urge you to get in touch with your two U.S. senators and your representative to find out where they stand on the various options regarding the future of the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI). Some major options are summarized in the issue of Peace Leaf which we sent you. When you hear from these members of Congress, let us know their replies. And if you need more information on Star Wars or other issues related to the policy recommendations of the United Methodist bishops in In Defense of Creation, please get in touch with us.

Finally we hope that you will help us expand our membership. Let us know if you would like some flyers and extra copies of Peace Leaf so that you can recruit members directly. Or please supply us with names of persons in your church, district, and annual conference to whom we can write and invite to join Methodists United.

We look forward to working closely with you in the coming months.

With best regards,

Sherman W. Harris

Chairperson, Steering Committee

November 15, 1988

Dear Conference Council Director:

Since we wrote to you and other United Methodist conference council directors in September, we have received information from two-thirds of the annual conferences on membership of their church and society boards and peace with justice committees. However, we have not heard from you. In case our letter went astray, we are repeating our request for information.

We request you to provide us with the names, addresses, and telephone numbers (if readily available) of the officers and members of your conference board of church and society and the conference peace with justice task force (or whatever name they go by). For your convenience, a form and a return envelop are enclosed.

We want to write to these persons, send them a copy of our newsletter, Peace Leaf, and invite them to join with us in seeking the implementation policy recommendations of our bishops' pastoral letter and foundation document, In Defense of Creation.

We would also like to receive a copy of our 1988 conference journal. If there is a charge, please bill us. Thanks for your assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Howard W. Hallman
Membership Coordinator

Information Requested by
Methodists United for Peace with Justice
421 Seward Square, SE
Washington, DC 20003

Name and address Telephone
Conference staff
for Peace/Justice
or Church & Society

Chairperson,
Conference Board of
Church & Society*

Chair or Coordinator,
Peace with Justice
Task Force*

* If possible, please attach full membership (with mailing addresses) of Conference Board of Church and Society and Peace with Justice Task Force.
If there are district chairs or coordinators for these units, please provide this information.

Methodists United
for Peace with Justice
421 Seward Square, SE
Washington, DC 20003
(202) 546-5551

November 11, 1988

en

2501 Church Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46809

Dear John:

Thank you for your willingness to bring before your Conference Board of Church and Society the issue of Star Wars. We are giving the matter special attention, as presented in the enclosed copies of Peace Leaf. We particularly want to promote some citizen action during the transitional period before George Bush becomes president and before the new Congress convenes.

We will soon be getting out a communication asking people in various states and congressional districts to contact their senators and representatives, urging them to become sponsors of the "Outer Space Protection Action", a bill to ban all weapons in

space. It was introduced into the last Congress by Senators Harkin and Hatfield and by Representative AuCoin. Among its features the bill would prohibit funds for development, testing, production or deployment of weapons to be based or used in space but would revoke the funding cutoff if the Soviets test anti-satellite weapons or develop space-based weapons. We will follow this up by other legislative action during the next session of Congress.

We will also be joining with other peace organizations to urge President-elect Bush to support prompt negotiation of a comprehensive test ban treaty. Such a treaty is one of the recommendations of the United Methodist bishops in In Defense of Creation. Local support for this also important.

Accordingly, we hope that you and other members of the North Indiana Board of Church and Society will affiliate with Methodists United so that we can work together to pursue mutual objectives. I hasten to add that what we are doing will be complementary, and not competitive, with the work of the General Board of Church and Society.

If you have any questions, please call me at (301) 897-3668.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman

November 23, 1988

Another election. A new president. A new Congress (though composed mostly of incumbents). In this setting, Methodists United for Peace with Justice is gearing up to support measures that implement the policies for a just peace contained in the United Methodist bishops' pastoral letter and foundation document, In Defense of Creation. Although we are a national organization, we operate through a corps of volunteers living in the greater Washington, D.C. area. We now want to expand our base of support with area churches so that we can more effectively impact the new administration and Congress.

Therefore, we invite you and one or more lay persons from your congregation to a meeting at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 7, 1988 at Capitol Hill United Methodist Church, located at 5th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, Southeast in Washington, D.C. At this meeting we will review our plans to seek an end to Star Wars and to support other measures of nuclear disarmament.

We want to lay out to local churches and local volunteers various ways they can work to implement the bishops' pastoral letter. Among the possibilities are these: Work with us in lobbying Congress, (a) directly through contact with Members from Washington, Maryland, and Virginia and (b) indirectly by helping organize a grassroots network around the country. Help us in our national membership campaign by making contacts with people in other annual conferences. Serve as office volunteers to answer phone, sort and answer mail, maintain mailing lists, help with our newsletter and publicity, assist in getting out mailings (some of this might be done at home or at a local church). Serve as hosts for Methodists who come to Washington to lobby. Become a member and financial contributor to Methodists United.

We are optimistic that we can influence national policy decisions that will lead to nuclear disarmament. We hope that you and members of your congregation can join with us in this important endeavor.

Sincerely yours,

Sherman W. Harris
Chairperson, Steering Committee

November 17, 1988

r:

Another election. A new president. A new Congress (though composed mostly of incumbents). In this setting, Methodists United for Peace with Justice is gearing up to support measures that implement the policies for a just peace contained in the United Methodist bishops' pastoral letter and foundation document, In Defense of Creation. Although we are a national organization, we operate through a corps of volunteers living in the greater Washington, D.C. area. We now want to expand our base of support with area churches so that we can more effectively impact the new administration and Congress

Therefore, we invite you to a meeting at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 7, 1988 at Capitol Hill United Methodist Church, located at 5th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, Southeast in Washington, D.C. At this meeting we will review our plans to seek an end to Star Wars and to support other measures of nuclear disarmament. And we have invited representatives of the General Board of Church and Society to come and discuss matters of mutual interest.

We want to lay out to local churches and local volunteers various ways they can work with Methodists United. Among the possibilities are these: Work with us in lobbying Congress, (a) directly through contact with Members from Washington, Maryland, and

Virginia and (b) indirectly by helping organize a grassroots network around the country. Help us in our national membership campaign by making contacts with people in other annual conferences. Serve as office volunteers to answer phone, sort and answer mail, maintain mailing lists, help with our newsletter and publicity, assist in getting out mailings (some of this might be done at home or at a local church). Serve as hosts for Methodists who come to Washington to lobby. Become a member and financial contributor to Methodists United.

We hope that you can join us on December 7 and become involved in this important endeavor. If you cannot come but would like to be an active volunteer in the future, please contact us at the above address and phone number.

Sincerely yours,

Sherman W.Harris

Chairperson, Steering

Committee

Methodists United
for Peace with Justice
421 Seward Square, SE
Washington, DC 20003
(202) 546-5551

November 17, 1988
1355 Camino Robles Way
San Jose, CA 95120

Dear Ms. York

You asked a legitimate question, "why another group?" We asked the same question when we formed Methodists United for Peace with Justice in 1987.

We moved in this direction because there was no national organization of Methodists pressing for legislative and executive branch implementation of the policies for a just peace, as recommended by the United Methodist bishops in In Defense of Creation. The Peace and World Order Division of the General Board of Church and Society has made a definite decision not to work on nuclear disarmament, feeling that they have enough to do in their focus on the United Nations and issues of developing nations. The Board's Peace with Justice program is doing important educational work through seminars within annual conferences and with quarterly mailings of written material, but this

program does no appreciable lobbying on disarmament issues. The same holds true for the Peace Advocate program of the General Board of Discipleship, the Methodist Federation on Social Action, and the Methodist Peace Fellowship. They each carry out worthy tasks but none of them has a lobbying presence in Washington, D.C., where so many public policy decisions are made. Thus, we are filling a void.

Nevertheless, in our work we cooperate closely with these other organizations. For instance, in our summer issue of Peace Leaf (enclosed), we publicized the Peace with Justice program. In our next issue, which will be on Children and Youth (as we seek to define justice issues within the meaning of shalom), we are including an article about the Campaign for Children of the Women's Division and United Methodist Women. At the 1988 General Conference we played a useful role as a catalyst in getting support for enactment of a resolution to affirm and support the policies of In Defense of Creation, and we were principal advocate of an adopted measure to make Peace with Justice a special program for the 1989-92 Quadrennium.

Thus, we feel that we have a special role to play in mobilizing Methodists to be an effective force on nuclear disarmament and related peace and justice issues. We hope that you and your congregation will decide to join us in this endeavor.

Sincerely yours,

Howard W. Hallman

Membership Coordinator

Methodists United
for Peace with Justice
421 Seward Square, SE
Washington, DC 20003
(202) 546-5551

November 17, 1988

Rish
303 Fourth Avenue
P.O. Box 39
Port St. Joe, FL 32456

Dear Mr. Rish:

Thank you for sharing your views with us. We tend to hear only from those who agree with us, but we welcome letters from people who think differently. There is certainly room for all of us in the United Methodist Church.

On the matter of the proposal of the early 1980s for a nuclear weapons freeze, there was a lot of misinformation generated in the recent election campaign. Freeze advocates insisted that this should be bilateral, that it should apply to the Soviet Union as well as the United States. If this idea had been accepted, there would now be 3,300 fewer Soviet

long-range, strategic missiles aimed at the United States, for this is the number of additional long-range missiles the Soviet Union has deployed in the last seven years. I am pleased that the intermediate-range forces in Europe are being dismantled, but I am disturbed by the vast increase in the number of Soviet missiles that can strike our homeland, an increase a bilateral freeze would have prevented. This would have then set the stage for actual reduction in the number of these dangerous weapons, an action that the Reagan administration unfortunately has not been able to negotiate.

As to our source of funds, Methodists United for Peace with Justice is supported by contributions from individuals and by a few local churches. We receive no money from the general membership of the United Methodist Church.

Sincerely yours,

Howard W. Hallman

Membership Coordinator

HOWARD W. HALLMAN

6508 Wilmett Road

Bethesda, MD 20817

(301) 897-3668

November 22, 1988

Sherman Harris, Bob Griffin, Diane Stanton-Rich, Ralph Clark

Re: Suggested next steps with membership activation

Progress of Membership Campaign

The first mailing of our membership campaign went to the post office on October 18. At that time we had 190 members on our rolls, distributed among the states as shown on the attachment. Through November 18 we have gained 27 new members and received contributions from 7 old members, a total of 34 responses so far.

The 27 new members have come from the following annual conferences: Southern New England, New York, Northern New Jersey, Eastern Pennsylvania, Baltimore (2), West Virginia, Virginia (2), North Carolina, Western North Carolina, South Carolina (2), North Georgia, Mississippi, Detroit, Western Michigan, Northern Illinois (2), Southern Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Texas (2), Rocky Mountain, and California-Nevada (2). The 7

renewals have come from Eastern Pennsylvania, Baltimore (4), Florida, and California-Pacific.

We sent out 2,526 pieces of mail. So the response so far amounts to 1.35%. Perhaps we will reach 3.0%, which these days is considered satisfactory for direct mail, but not as high as I had hoped with this targeted mailing.

We have obtained lists of church and society boards from 44 annual conferences. Recently I have written a second letter to the conference council directors from whom we have not heard. I am inclined to send out our mail appeal with the Bauman letter to this other batch when we receive them, which may total 300 to 400 names. But otherwise, I believe we have taken this approach about as far as it can go.

UMW Officers

Our next issue of Peace Leaf will be on Children and Youth. One article will tell about the Campaign for Children which the United Methodist Women (UMW) and the Women's Division, Board of Global Missions launched in January 1988. The Women's Division has agreed to send this issue to a list of 600 annual conference and district UMW presidents as part of their monthly mailing, this one scheduled for December 22. They will not provide us their mailing list directly, but I will ask them if they would include a membership invitation letter from Eloise Nennon.

Reaching into Annual Conferences

To get a better feel of how we are being received and how we can reach out more effectively, I have called several new members. These contacts lead me to conclude that we need to show more clearly how we are different from other Methodist agencies and unofficial associations and to demonstrate that we have an action program that people would like to be a part of.

I have also had conversations with Sandy Thomas and Bob Edgar about how to impact Congress on Star Wars and other issues and with several lobbyists from peace organizations. I talked to a woman in Massachusetts who is a founder of 20/20 Vision, an effort now operating in 20 congressional districts in which people pledge \$20 a year and 20 minutes a month to write to members of Congress and others. Each local 20/20 group has a process for determining the issue of the month. Edgar is on their national advisory committee and told me more about it. For us the best lesson is the request for a monthly action that doesn't take a lot of time.

We ourselves have had discussions about how best to approach annual conferences and districts. For instance, Ed Helm has developed ideas on how to organize district task forces and model districts.

At this stage in our development we lack the capacity to take on directly the task of organizing district task forces, but we can tie into the existing network of district contacts. For a majority of annual conferences we know the names of conference staff,

chairs of church and society, and peace with justice coordinators, and I hope to have a complete list by mid-December. For some conferences we know the names of district coordinators and district chairpersons. Through some phone calls we could obtain such names for other conferences.

A Monthly Action Bulletin

I propose that we tie into this growing list of conference and district contacts by starting a monthly action bulletin. I have pondered over a name and have come up with a tentative title of "ACT NOW for Peace/Justice." In the process I thought about and excluded "Action", which the General Board of Church and Society uses in its monthly magazine, Social Action, and which is the title of one of IMPACT's bulletin. I have also exclude variations of "Advocate" or "Advocacy", which the General Board of Discipleship uses with the Peace Advocates network. But I am open to alternatives.

"ACT NOW" would be mailed monthly on or just before the first of the month via first class mail. The mailing list should include, at a minimum, all members of Methodists United (now around 220 but growing), all active United Methodist bishops (50), a conference staff person in every annual conference (73), the conference chair of church and society and the peace with justice coordinator (perhaps 120), and in every United Methodist district a contact who has a network relationship to other United Methodists, that is, who can help spread the word (we might be able to start with around 200 of the 540 districts). This reaches a total of about 700. If we could afford it, we could add the 540 district superintendents. (Cost estimates are provided later.)

We should send "ACT NOW" to this list of people even if they are not now members. Each month we would be asking them to undertake one specific action. We would also ask them to get others to act. With the first issue we would include form letters addressed to several categories of recipients: members, bishops, conference council directors, conference and district chairs of church and society or peace with justice. We would invite nonmembers to join. So this would serve as a follow-up to our recent membership appeal, which included the July-September issue of Peace Leaf on Star Wars. We would also urge recipients to share our action proposal with others and to help us expand our network.

A sample first issue is attached. It focus on Star Wars, specifically on getting cosponsors for the Outer Space Protection Act (as initiated by Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa). Among others, David Cohen, chief lobbyist for the Professional Coalition and former president of Common Cause, has advised me that this is the best vehicle at the present time for seeking curtailment of Star Wars. (Later will come fights over authorization and appropriations.)

I suggest that the need for a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty be the focus for a January issue of "ACT NOW". It would seek to produce letters directed toward President-elect Bush. There is a major national campaign underway along these lines that will culminate in signature newspaper ads all around the country on January 19 and 20, that is, at the time of Bush's inauguration as president. So we would be tying into a broader, national effort.

There will easily be other identifiable issues each month.

Producing and distributing "ACT NOW" will show that Methodists United is an action organization. It fills a void, for the United Methodist Board of Church and Society has no comparable effort: Social Action, a good little magazine, is primarily educational; and Word from Washington is ill-focused, poorly produced, and doesn't reach a very large audience. Neither the Methodist Federation for Social Action nor the Methodist Peace Fellowship is sharply focused on legislative and executive issues in Washington. So when people wonder about the need for another Methodist organization (and I have heard that in contacts around the country), we have clear evidence that we are relevant.

"ACT NOW", however, would not replace Peace Leaf, which would remain as a quarterly (or bimonthly) newsletter that is more educational in content. Eventually Peace Leaf could be the publication of our 501(c)(3) corporation while "ACT NOW" would be the lobbying vehicle of the 501(c)(4) organization.

An immediate question is: can we afford it? A mailing of 700 first class letters would cost \$175 in postage (or \$147 bulk rate first class, plus a \$60 annual fee) and about \$50 for printing and envelopes, a total of \$225, or \$.32 apiece. Enclosed form letters would be an extra, but without an extra letter, "ACT NOW" could be a self-mailer, thus saving cost of envelopes and stuffing labor. In comparison the 2,500 direct mail membership appeal has cost \$.40 apiece (counting the cost of upgrading Peace Leaf).

Our current membership drive is generating sufficient cash flow to pay for a December issue of "ACT NOW" (though we will be tight to get out the

October-December issue of Peace Leaf). My feeling is that we are going to get more members and more contributions from existing members by engaging in more direct action than through more general appeals. Therefore, I believe that "ACT NOW" (or whatever name an action bulletin would be called) is the next logical step, both for membership growth and as a way to becoming more relevant.

November 22, 1988

r:

I am writing to you as a former member of Foundry United Methodist Church who was associated with the Foundry Peace Mission before my wife became an ordained United Methodist minister and took me off to her churches. I want to share with you a letter which Dr. Edward Bauman has sent to United Methodists around the country, urging them to join Methodists United for Peace with Justice. This invitation is open to you, too. We hope that you will consider making a financial contribution to the work of Methodists United. We also invite you to participate as a volunteer to carry out specific tasks in the operations of this national organization.

With the departure of Ed and Adrien Helm to Florida and the loss of their energetic presence, we have restructured Methodists United. Sherman Harris, a leading layperson from Asbury United Methodist Church, is now the sole chairperson. Bob Griffin is vice chairperson, Diane Stanton-Rich is secretary, and I am serving as treasurer. Phil Miller and Charles Rhoads continue as active board members.

We have decided to make the curtailment of Star Wars a focus of our work in the coming months. The enclosed issue of Peace Leaf lays out the case against Star Wars. The next issue will deal with needs of Children and Youth as we seek to define justice concerns. We are now actively seeking new members across the country so that we can have a broad base to lobby for specific actions in the new Congress and to try to influence executive decisions and actions of the Bush administration. We are also trying to broaden our volunteer base of people living in the National Capital area. We have defined a number of tasks where we can use some assistance, ranging from the mundane but essential job of getting out mailings to such things as making telephone contacts with persons in United Methodist annual conferences and districts around the country and serving as host for Methodist visitors who come to Washington to lobby. Perhaps you can help with one of these tasks.

Because Methodists United for Peace with Justice flowed out of the Foundry Peace Mission we feel a special tie with those of you who are continuing this important mission.

With best regards,

Howard W. Hallman

December 6, 1988

ry Methodists United for Peace with Justice will begin publishing a monthly Peace/Justice Alert to suggest specific actions that Methodists can take related to public policy decisions being made in Washington, D.C. Some of these actions will be directed toward Congress. Others will be addressed to the president and to other persons in the Executive Branch.

A preview copy of the first Peace/Justice Alert is enclosed. It focuses on the need to gain congressional co-sponsors for the proposed Outer Space Protection Act, a piece of legislation that can block testing and deployment of space-based weapons. Subsequent issues will deal with other peace and justice concerns.

We want to get Peace/Justice Alert to people active in local churches and districts who will reach out to a wider network of peace and justice activists, who in turn will carry out the suggested actions. Therefore, we want to identify a person in every United Methodist district in the United States who can play this networking role. We also want to get in touch with persons who are active in specific local churches who would make use of the information we provide.

We would like your assistance in identifying people in the (Name) Conference to whom we could send the first three issues of Peace/Justice Alert. This trial run would help us to find those persons who will follow through on information provided and who want to

become contributing members of Methodists United so that they may continue to receive Peace/Justice Alert and our regular newsletter, Peace Leaf.

Accordingly, we would like to get from you a listing of district contacts and also contact persons in local churches which have a strong peace and justice commitment. We will then put them on our mailing list for a trial run of Peace/Alert and a sample copy of Peace Leaf. Please send us these names at the above address.

Sincerely yours,

January 4, 1989

Dear Peacemaker:

We are sending you the first issue of **Peace/Justice Alert**. Other issues will follow. The purpose is to suggest specific actions that Methodists can take to influence public policy decisions being made in Washington, D.C.

This first **Peace/Justice Alert** relates to our commitment to seek an end to Star Wars, which was one of the policy recommendations of the United Methodist Council of Bishops in In Defense of Creation. We are asking your to contact your U.S. senators and representative and ask them to become cosponsors of the proposed Outer Space Protection Act. This is legislation designed to block testing and deployment of space-based weapons. Subsequent **Peace/Justice Alerts** will deal with other peace and justice concerns.

In addition to your individual action to contact members of Congress, we ask your help in broadening the grassroots network of Methodists United for Peace with Justice. We want to get our **Peace/Justice Alert** to people active in local churches and districts who will take action themselves and also reach out to others to get them to act. Therefore, we are seeking the names and addresses of district peace and justice leaders, local churches which are known to be strongly committed to peace with justice ministry, and individual clergy and laity with this commitment.

And if you are not yet a member of Methodists United for Peace with Justice, we invite you to join. Members will receive **Peace/Justice Alert** and our regular newsletter, **Peace Leaf**. Your membership will help strengthen our efforts to achieve important peace and justice objectives.

____ I want to join Methodists United for Peace with Justice. Enclosed is my membership contribution of:

____ \$15 ____ \$25 ____ \$35 ____ \$50 ____ \$100 ____ \$250 ____ \$500 ____ other \$ ____

Name

____ Telephone _____

Address

____ street

city

state

zip code

Local Church _____ Annual Conference

_____ Congressional Representative or District

____ Attached are names of persons and local churches which might want to be part of the action network of Methodists United.

Please return to Methodists United for Peace with Justice
421 Seward Square, SE, Washington, DC 20003

Methodists United
for Peace with Justice
421 Seward Square, SE
Washington, DC 20003
(202) 546-5551

December 29, 1988

Steering Committee

The Steering Committee will meet on Wednesday, January 4, 1989. The business meeting will start at 7:00 p.m., but if you can make it early, we will be working on the mailing of the first Peace/Justice Alert from 5:00 to 7:00.

For this "mailing party" bring your own sandwich if you want to eat. We will have hot drinks.

The agenda for the business meeting will include a report on membership the campaign, our relationship with the United Methodist General Board of Church and Society, and further consideration of bylaws.

Methodists United
for Peace with Justice
421 Seward Square, SE
Washington, DC 20003
(202) 546-5551

January 6, 1989

Bishop George W. Bashore
United Methodist Pittsburgh Area
1204 Freedom Road
Mars, PA 16046

Dear Bishop Bashore:

I want to share with you the communication we are sending to United Methodist peacemakers along with the first issue of Peace/Justice Alert. Other Alerts will be forthcoming at approximately monthly intervals to help local, district, and conference peace and justice activists focus on crucial decisions being made in Washington.

I understand that you are chairing the Issues Committee (or some such name) of the United Methodist Council of Bishops. As we at Methodists United for Peace with Justice organized to work for implementation of policy recommendations in In Defense of

Creation, so also we want to be supportive of current efforts of the Council of Bishops as you offer creative leadership on current and emerging issues.

Accordingly, we are interested in finding out the particular issues you are focusing on and how we can support what you are doing. In the near future I will phone you with the hope that I can discuss this matter with you directly.

Sincerely yours,

Howard W. Hallman

Issues Chair

Methodists United
for Peace with Justice
421 Seward Square, SE
Washington, DC 20003
(202) 546-5551

January 12, 1989

Powell
1914 Cherokee Drive
Jackson, MS 39211

Dear Ms. Powell:

Belatedly I am responding to your request for two more copies of Peace Leaf on Star Wars. In the meantime we have sent you and others our first Peace/Justice Alert indicating a concrete action people can undertake for bringing Star Wars to an end.

We would like to reach out to others in the Mississippi United Methodist Conference. Therefore, could you supply us a mailing list of members of the Conference Board of Church and Society. If some of them have responsibility for district outreach, we would like to know that. In addition, could you identify churches in your conference who have

a strong interest in peace and justice issues and names of key contacts in them. We want to broaden our base of support as widely as possible.

Thanks for your assistance. We look forward to work with you.

Sincerely yours,

Howard W. Hallman