

Boycott Corporations that Benefit From Genocide

Rationale

Palestinian Christians name the genocide, colonization, and ethnic cleansing that they are experiencing. They name this from the heart of the assault on Gaza. While the world sees what is going on, the genocide, colonization and ethnic cleansing remain effectively unchallenged.

We deplore and condemn the horrific attacks by Hamas on October 7, 2023. Reports from the United Nations show that from that date until now, over 1,600 Israelis have been killed, including 33 children. Those same reports show that over 72,000 Palestinians have been killed, including over 18,000 children. Since the October 10, 2025 “ceasefire”, more than 600 Palestinians have been killed, and more than 1,600 Palestinians have been injured.

The assault on Palestinians and confiscation of their land in Gaza and the West Bank continues until now. Two-thirds of the population in Gaza (14 million people) have been forcibly displaced, many more than once. Israeli settlers attack villages and towns in the West Bank, setting fire to cars and homes, destroying Palestinian olive orchards, and restricting free and peaceful movement of the Palestinian people. These attacks often occur while Israeli security forces stand by and watch.

Palestinians have resided in the holy land since before the time of Christ. Since Jesus walked the earth, Palestinians have both preserved and protected Christian holy sites for nearly 2,000 years. From the midst of their suffering and the oppression they experience, Palestinian Christians speak words of faith, hope, and love to Christians around the world through the *Kairos Palestine – The Palestinian Christian Initiative, A Moment of Truth: Faith in a Time of Genocide*.

While Palestinian Christians have borne strong witness in the face of suffering, they feel unheard by Christians around the world, particularly in the West. They wonder how Christians can deny or remain silent in the face of genocide. They bear the cost of their witness and ask churches around the world to pressure governments to hold Israel accountable until it complies with international law and adheres to principles of justice and peace.

Advocacy efforts, while robust and still needed, have not brought about justice, equity, security, and peace for Palestinians and Israelis. While missiles fly over their heads, while their towns increasingly experience attacks by Israeli settlers, they call Christians around

the world to stand in solidarity with them. Their fear is there may come a day when there are few, if any, Christians left in the holy land. Their hope is that we might stand in solidarity with them in peaceful resistance. They encourage us to boycott corporations that profit from the occupation and the military oppression that they experience.

Boycott discussions and boycotts were useful tools in bringing an end to apartheid in South Africa. Boycotts encourage us how to consider how we use resources individually and as a church. Informed, we can consider how funds we expend can work for good, rather than harm to others.

Resolved that the 2026 Southeast Michigan Synod Assembly encourages individuals and congregations to read *Kairos Palestine – The Palestinian Christian Initiative – A Moment of Truth: Faith in the Time of Genocide*

www.kairospalestine.ps/images/KP_2_Final_English.pdf and to study that document using the *Kairos Palestine II: A Congregational Study Guide*

<https://thepjn.org/kp2studyguide>

Resolved that the 2026 Southeast Michigan Synod Assembly encourages individuals and congregations to study the “Boycott Planning Guide,” a resource developed by the US – Lutheran Palestine Israel Justice Network (US-LPIJN) <https://uslpijn.org/services/> and reviewed by the Synod’s Sumud working group; and

Resolved that the 2026 Southeast Michigan Synod Assembly encourages individuals and congregations to prayerfully consider boycotting corporations that profit from genocide as a way to stand with Palestinians, in peaceful resistance.

Submitted by,

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The committee recommends that this resolution be adopted by the assembly.