

To whom shall we give in 2023 - 2024?

In this holiday season, when many of us decide where to make donations for the year, what does it mean to follow the words from Micah: “... to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God,” especially with the terrible war and horrendous humanitarian crisis in Gaza facing us?

Surely, we are called on not only to provide balm for the wounds of people suffering from injury and injustice but also to seek to change the conditions that create the injustices.

Writer and activist Alice Walker has written, “Activism is my rent for living on the planet.” What a simple, clear statement of a profound commitment! Most of us benefit richly from the resources of the planet. Let us be inspired by Walker’s stance to reciprocate by using our various capacities and talents to sustain the planet and advocate for an end to injustices and for the building of equity for all its people.



In this time of giving, the Edgewood United Church Justice and Peace Team suggests these organizations for your consideration to make donations that will support their work locally, nationally, and globally. Each year, the Team updates this list. This year, we have added organizations focused on Palestine – both those doing advocacy work in the United States and those providing humanitarian assistance on the ground in Gaza and the West Bank.

Advocacy on state and local racial and economic justice and peace issues

- [Justice League of Greater Lansing](http://www.justiceleagueglm.org) - Exists to repair the breach cause by slavery & its aftermath and to foster reparations to boost wealth equity for African Americans in the Lansing area. www.justiceleagueglm.org
- [Metro Lansing Poor Peoples Campaign](http://mippc.org) - Seeking a Moral Revival and building a Lansing community center for the movement in the former Otto Middle School. mippc.org
- [Peace Education Center](http://peacecenter.org) - Organizing and mobilizing in the Lansing area for global justice and peace. peacecenter.org
- [Michigan League for Public Policy](http://mlpp.org) - Lobbies for action on racial and economic inequities in Michigan. mlpp.org
- [Meta Peace Team \(MPT\)](http://metapeaceteam.org) - Mobilizing nonviolent peace-keeping action teams. metapeaceteam.org
- [Safe & Just Michigan](http://safeandjustmi.org) - Works to reduce the harm caused by both crime and unnecessary incarceration. safeandjustmi.org

Advocacy and Humanitarian Aid for Palestine

- [Palestine Red Crescent Society \(PRCS\)](http://www.palestinercs.org/en) - Linked to the International Red Cross, PRCS has borne the brunt of the aid work and put themselves in harm’s way even as Israel targeted ambulance convoys. www.palestinercs.org/en
- [UN Relief & Works Agency \(UNRWA\)](http://www.unrwa.org/countries/gaza) - The largest United Nations agency in Palestine providing emergency medical care, humanitarian assistance, food, and education for Palestinian refugees in the Middle East for 70 years. At least 108 UNRWA employees in Gaza have died in the conflict – the most UN employees lost in the UN’s history. www.unrwa.org/countries/gaza

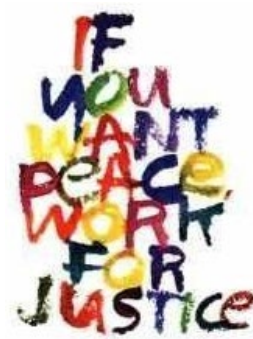
- [Islamic Relief USA](https://irusa.org/irusa/donate) (IRUSA) is commended to us by the East Lansing Islamic Center as a reputable, tax-deductible channel of humanitarian assistance to Palestinians. <https://irusa.org/irusa/donate>
- [United Church of Christ Special Appeal for Palestine](https://ucc.org) - [Middle East - United Church of Christ \(ucc.org\)](https://ucc.org)
- [US Campaign for Palestinian Rights](https://uscpr.org) - Provides resources and strategic support to the US-based Palestine solidarity movement. uscpr.org
- [FOSNA: Friends of Sabeel North America](https://fosna.org) - a North American group affiliated with the trans-denominational Christian organization Sabeel, founded by Christians in the Holy Land that is seeking justice and peace through education, advocacy, and nonviolent action. fosna.org

Advocacy on other national and global issues

- [Friends Committee on National Legislation \(FCNL\)](https://fcnl.org) - The most effective nationwide religious lobby nationally on war, nuclear, military arms and spending, disarmament, Native American and immigration issues, Palestine, and the environment, with 132 chapters nationwide. fcnl.org
- [Jubilee-USA Network](https://tinyurl.com/s3wb9tn3) - An interfaith, non-profit alliance of 75 religious, development, and advocacy organizations working for justice in international trade policies; tax, transparency, accountability, anti-corruption; and financing for the economies of the Global South. Won \$650 billion in IMF emergency funds to fight global coronavirus health and economic crises. Donate: tinyurl.com/s3wb9tn3
- [Sunrise Movement](https://sunrisemovement.org) - A U.S. youth movement for the environment. “Together, we will change this country and this world, sure as the sun rises each morning.” sunrisemovement.org
- [Evergreen Action](https://evergreenaction.com) - National mobilization to defeat the climate crisis and create millions of good-paying union jobs building a more just, sustainable, and inclusive clean energy economy. evergreenaction.com

Advocacy for international solutions for humanity’s crises and disasters

- [UN High Commission for Refugees](https://unhcr.org) - Lobbies governments to accept refugees and serves the 110+ million refugees and forcibly displaced persons in the world (2020). unhcr.org
- [UN Children’s Fund \(UNICEF\)](https://unicefusa.org/help/donate) - In addition to Gaza relief, annually Immunizes 1/3rd of world’s children; mobilizes governments to accept refugees, runs the UN & WHO global vaccine program, and protects children and youth in disasters with shelter, food, and education. unicefusa.org/help/donate
- [Polaris Project](https://polarisproject.org) - Mobilizes against and helps victims of human trafficking. polarisproject.org



Advocacy and charity for sustainable change in the developing world

- [Solar Circle](https://solar-circle.org) - Promotes access to solar power in Tanzania with solar lamps and a “green” school. solar-circle.org
- [Via Campesina](https://viacampesina.org/en) - Helps poor peasants to resist land grabs by foreign corporations and to lobby on climate change and peasants’ rights. viacampesina.org/en