

An Invitation to Participate in a Project on the Theology of Peace and War

Local United Methodist churches, campus organizations, youth groups, conference units, theological seminaries, and other entities of the global United Methodist Church are invited to join in study and dialogue on the theology of peace and war.

This project, organized by Methodists United for Peace with Justice, is intended to deepen understanding of the underlying theology that informs and guides our actions on issues of war and peace. The project is described at <http://www.mupwj.org/theologyofpeaceandwar.htm>. You can participate in three ways.

Form a Study Group

Local study groups will meet for in-depth exploration of the theology on peace and war. Within the framework of the *Wesleyan Quadrilateral*, we are offering articles and linkages on our website at <http://www.mupwj.org/quadrilateral.htm>. Each study group can proceed at its own pace and can expand, combine, or skip topics as it chooses. Topics include:

Scripture: Biblical Perspectives

Old Testament Approaches to War and Peace -- New Testament: Dealing with Adversaries; Reign of God -- Eschatological Writings of the Bible (concerning final events)

Tradition: Christian History

Emergence of Pacifism and Just War Theory -- Crusades -- Eastern Orthodox -- Reformation and Peace Churches -- Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren Traditions

Reason: Theological Perspectives

Pacifism -- Just War Theory -- Armageddon -- Liberation Theology -- Just Peacemaking

Experience: Alternatives to War

Nonviolent Action -- Diplomacy and International Law -- 20th Century Prophets and Theologians

Participate in a Web-based Forum

We invite study groups to become *study-and-dialogue partners* by (a) participating in a web-based forum with other study groups and (b) contributing financially to the project. To become a partner go to <http://www.mupwj.org/partner.htm>.

Attend a Conference

We are planning a second Conference on the Theology of Peace and War for representatives of study groups and other interested persons. Organized along the lines of the Quadrilateral, this gathering will convene in the Wesleyan tradition of holy conferencing.

For further information, contact Howard W. Hallman, Chair, Methodists United for Peace with Justice at [mupwj87 \[at\] mupwj.org](mailto:mupwj87@mupwj.org).