January 2026

A SPECIAL INVITATION FROM UCCMPS:

Dear Friend,

The United Church of Christ Movement for Palestinian Solidarity (UCCMPS) is organizing a UCC Delegation to the Palestine in August 2026 and we are hoping that you'll consider joining us.

Our intention is to travel with at least 15, and as many as 30 leaders, and to meet Palestinian Christians face to face, hear their first-hand testimonies and wrestle with the implications of their call for solidarity, resistance and friendship in a moment of excruciating violence and immense need. Working with our partners at Sabeel (the Ecumenical Liberation Theology Centre in Jerusalem), we are designing an experience that will deepen relationships, expand our capacity for "costly" solidarity, and inspire us individually for the work ahead. Attached you'll find a one-page description of that experience.

In their recent statement, "A Moment of Truth: Faith in a Time of Genocide," Palestinian Christians have renewed their urgent call for solidarity and action in the wider Christian community:

> *We live now in a time of genocide, ethnic cleansing and forced displacement unfolding before the eyes of the world. This moment demands from us a new stand, one unlike any before it. It is both a decisive moment and a moment of truth. Today, we renew our stand for truth and our commitment to fundamental religious, theological and moral principles. We look at our reality and take a renewed stand, responding to the voice of the Holy Spirit deep within us, listening to the call of faith in this time of genocide. We renew our message of faith, hope, and love — o@ering a faith-inspired vision for the time after genocide (The Kairos Palestine Initiative, 2025).*

As we recruit for this 2026 delegation, we're especially mindful of the connections between Palestinian e[orts to dismantle Zionism and racism in their context and our e[orts to dismantle white supremacy and Christian nationalism in the U.S. We believe this delegation is timely and critical for both communities, as we move forward united

and courageous and inspired by the faith we share. Indeed, “this moment demands from us a new stand, one unlike any before it.” What will this mean for us? What will it mean for the United Church? How will we take that “new stand” together?

An On-Line Registration Page is available here:
Sabeel's Registration Form UCC Delegation 5-14 August 2026

Our 8- or 9-day stay will include visits with Palestinian clergy and theologians, Kairos Palestine organizers, West Bank human rights defenders and more. We’ll visit villages besieged by settler violence and resisting through loving nonviolence, through indigenous wisdom and practice. We’ll meet Palestinian and Israeli activists committed to the Boycott/Divestment/Sanctions campaign, and imagining new forms of justice, accountability and peace together.

Are you interested? Will you join us on this delegation? Your participation will add so much to the experience we’ll have together…and will be a source of encouragement to our Palestinian friends and partners. I hope you’ll use the link within this invitation to indicate to the Sabeel team your interest. And, as always, we are eager to talk and invite any questions you may have about the process, the experience and our purpose in going together.

With gratitude, and in solidarity,

Rev. Linda Noonan and Rev. Sara Ofner-Seals
UCC MPS Steering Committee Co-Chairs

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Addendum: On-Line Registration Page:
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