

# Why Become a Justice Seeking Congregation?

## BENEFITS

*Join together with other Justice Seeking Congregations engaging in calling for sacred change.*

- Claim boldly the hope of a New Creation
- Connect with other activist congregations
- Display a mounted MFSA plumb line
- Access tools for education and action
- Share liberation and justice liturgy

## COMMITMENT

- Adopt congregational Covenant
- Make annual membership gift (*suggested minimum: \$200*)
- Hold yearly MFSA Sunday with special offering
- Share news of justice work

## NEXT STEPS

Contact the National Office at:  
[www.mfsaweb.org](http://www.mfsaweb.org)

## What is MFSA?

Originally known as the Methodist Federation for Social Service, the Methodist Federation for Social Action (MFSA) was founded in 1907 by several Methodist Episcopal clergy to direct church attention to the enormous human suffering among the working class. Immediately the Federation became Methodism's unofficial rallying point for the Social Gospel and achieved in 1908 the adoption of the first denominational social creed.

**MFSA** METHODIST FEDERATION  
FOR SOCIAL ACTION

*Where Progressive United Methodists connect with one another and turn their faith into action.*

[www.mfsaweb.org](http://www.mfsaweb.org)

Check out our social media links below to connect with MFSA:



Becoming a  
**JUSTICE SEEKING  
CONGREGATION**



*"I am setting a plumb line  
in the midst of my people."  
- Amos 7:8*

**MISSION:** To mobilize, lead and sustain a progressive United Methodist movement, energizing people to be agents of God's justice, peace and reconciliation.

**JUSTICE SEEKING.  
PEOPLE OF FAITH.**



*MFSA mobilizes clergy and laity within The United Methodist Church to take action on issues of:*

- **Climate Justice**
- **Racial Justice**
- **Gender Justice**
- **Economic Justice**
- **Reproductive Justice**
- **Peace**

*As part of these six program priorities, we also focus on:*

- Disability Justice
- Sanctuary
- Justice in the UMC
- Theological Formation

**HOW WE ORGANIZE:** All experiences of marginalization and injustice are interconnected. Therefore, we integrate all our work through intersectional organizing principles.



## Covenant

As a Justice Seeking Congregation and justice seeking people of faith we call ourselves, our congregation and our church to expand its understanding of the call of the Gospel to be the inclusive, anti-racist/anti-oppressive, justice seeking, risk-taking Body of Christ. We will live out our belief that to be faithful witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ is to be involved in the transformation of the world.

We believe transformation is possible and hold these values as we seek sacred change in our congregations, communities, denomination and our world.

### Ground Action in Faith

We will ground all we do in the justice imperative of the Gospel in a way that inspires communities and activates members' spiritual desire to do justice in the world. Inspired by the advocacy of Jesus for the least, the last and the lost, we will participate in God's ongoing creation by engaging in justice seeking in our community, the church and in the world.

### Give Voice to Prophetic Christian Tradition

We will give voice to the prophetic message of a holistic Gospel that honors the dignity and value of every human life. We will deepen its understanding of the prophetic tradition by listening attentively and carefully to those on the margins of the church and of society. We will speak and act in ways that honor truth over fear and integrity over comfort.

### Offer Radical Welcome; Practice Inclusivity

We will strive for full inclusion in our own congregation and community. We will be agents of God's reconciliation and inclusion in our church and world.

### Address the Interconnectedness of Oppressions

We will work nonviolently to end economic injustice, institutional racism, sexism, homophobia, militarism, ableism, and the degradation of the environment. These commitments will guide our congregation's selection of issues and organizing strategies.

We understand that work against injustice in any one of these areas brings us closer to justice in every one of these areas. As such we will work at the intersections of oppression, refusing to pit oppressed persons and groups against one another. We understand all experiences of marginalization and injustice are interconnected because the struggle for justice is tied to concepts of power and privilege. We recognize that injustice works on multiple and simultaneous levels.

Because experiences of injustice do not happen in a vacuum, it is imperative we: develop the most effective strategies to create space for understanding privilege; organize in an intersectional framework led by marginalized communities; and build effective systems of resistance and cooperation to take action for justice. We will focus on collaboration and relationship building.

**JUSTICE SEEKING.  
PEOPLE OF FAITH.**