

RESOLVED BY UNANIMOUS CONGREGATIONAL VOTE

At a special meeting on Sunday, October 23, 2016, the congregation of First Congregational Church of Lebanon, NH, voted unanimously to approve the following resolution:

“The Diaconate and Church Council recommend that the church vote to offer an alternative witness locally, regionally, and nationally to the resolutions of the 30th General Synod of the United Church of Christ (UCC) and the New Hampshire Conference (NHC) to ‘boycott and divest’ from companies doing business in the West Bank, and to the process that led to these resolutions.

- We affirm that First Congregational Church of Lebanon does not support the UCC’s partisan resolutions in favor of boycott and divestment, which can make peace harder to achieve.
- We call upon the UCC instead to take an active role as true peacemakers, working to develop ties with and encourage **both sides**, acknowledging that the best future for **all** residents of the Middle East is a peaceful future.
- We ask that future UCC actions on the Middle East reflect these peacemaking principles; refrain from positions favoring one side over another; acknowledge the rights of all peoples to live with peace, justice, freedom, and dignity; and incorporate diverse perspectives and robust, open, and inclusive debate in its decision processes.”