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Churches Unite to Say: "Let Children Live"

New campaign calls Christians worldwide to pray for and protect Palestinian children

October 8, 2025, Washington D.C.- A new campaign led by Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP) is gaining momentum across the U.S. and beyond, as churches, denominations, and faith-based organizations unite under a shared conviction: Palestinian children deserve to live, to thrive, and to dream again.

The *Let Children Live* campaign invites congregations to see Palestinian children not as statistics in a conflict zone, but as God sees them—beloved sons and daughters, full of dignity and hope. More than two million children in Gaza and the West Bank are growing up under daily oppression, their futures threatened by violence and instability. Through this initiative, Churches and other Christian groups commit to receiving the names of living Palestinian children and lifting them up in prayer and advocacy.

"Every child is a gift of God," said Rev. Dr. Mae Elise Cannon, Executive Director of CMEP. "When churches pray for these Palestinian children by name, they affirm that their lives matter—that their futures are not disposable, but they are precious in God's sight."

Since its launch, *Let Children Live* has quickly drawn support. Already, 205 churches and individuals have registered to participate, with new sign-ups every week. The campaign also attracted 20 organizational sponsors so far, including major denominational bodies and ecumenical networks. Endorsers include the National Council of Churches, Presbyterian Church (USA), Mennonite Central

Committee, Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, and the United Methodist Church's General Board of Church and Society.

This Christian-led initiative runs parallel to and in support of the global *Let Children Live* campaign by Amnesty International and Save the Children—together amplifying the urgent call to protect the lives and dignity of Palestinian children.

The growing coalition highlights the campaign's unique ability to unite Christians across theological, denominational, and geographic lines.

But the work ahead is urgent. The campaign's immediate goal is to grow from a few hundred participants to 10,000 churches and individuals by the end of the year. "To reach this milestone," said Ben Norquist, Director of Marketing at CMEP, "we are urging partners to actively promote the campaign: Share resources in Sunday services, include it in newsletters, amplify it on social media, and invite others to sign up."

"Imagine thousands of congregations lifting up the names of Palestinian children in prayer," said Destiny Magnett, Programs and Outreach Manager. "That chorus of prayer and advocacy would send a clear signal: the global church is paying attention and will not be silent."

How to Participate

Individuals can learn more and sign up at www.cmep.org/let-children-live. Churches and other Christian organizations interested in sponsoring the campaign can email: ben@cmep.org.

About Churches for Middle East Peace

Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP) is a coalition of more than 30 national church communions working to encourage U.S. policies that actively promote a just, lasting, and comprehensive resolution of conflicts in the Middle East with a focus on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Learn more at www.cmep.org.

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Formed in 1984, Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP) is a coalition of more than 30 national church communions and organizations, including Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant, and Evangelical traditions that works to encourage US policies that actively promote a comprehensive resolution to conflicts in the Middle East with a focus on the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict. CMEP works to mobilize US Christians to embrace a holistic perspective and to be advocates of equality, human rights, security, and justice for Israelis, Palestinians, and all people of the Middle East.

Recent CMEP Statements and Press Releases:

[Oct 3, 2025: CMEP Condemns the Attacks Against the Sumud Gaza Flotilla](#)

The Global Sumud Flotilla, nearly 50 ships carrying humanitarian aid for Gaza, has been violently attacked by Israeli forces in international waters, with hundreds of peaceful activists arrested. Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP) condemns these illegal assaults, calls for the immediate release of all detainees and aid, and urges an end to the siege and ongoing massacres in Gaza.

[Sep 30, 2025: CMEP Echoes Patriarchs and Heads of Churches in Jerusalem on Armenian Patriarchate Foreclosure Threat](#)

Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP) affirms the call of Jerusalem's church leaders and stands in solidarity with the Armenian Patriarchate. The renewed foreclosure threat is a direct challenge to the centuries-old Status Quo that safeguards Christian communities in the Holy Land and risks undermining Jerusalem's religious diversity and heritage.

[Sep 18, 2025: CMEP Statement on the Freezing of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem's Bank Accounts](#)

On August 6, 2025, the Jerusalem Municipality froze the bank accounts of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem. This action is deeply troubling, both in its immediate impact and in its broader implications. It constitutes a direct violation of the historic Status Quo that has governed Jerusalem for centuries and threatens the ability of the Churches to provide vital spiritual, educational, charitable, and social services to their communities.

[Sep 15, 2025: CMEP Condemns the Jerusalem attack by Hamas and the Israeli attack on Qatar as further escalations in the ongoing Israel/Hamas War](#)

Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP) is appalled by the alarming escalation of violence across the Middle East over the past week in the ongoing battle between Israel and Hamas. Civilians pay the highest price. The violence must stop, and the ongoing killing must be brought to an end. The cycle of brutality continues to devastate lives, fueling greater insecurity and suffering for all.

[Sep 12, 2025: Joint Statement: "A Death Sentence" – Aid Agencies Warn of Israel's Assault on Gaza City](#)

45 Humanitarian and civil society organizations warn that Israel's assault on Gaza City amounts to a death sentence. Intensified Israeli military attacks on Gaza City and forced displacement orders for the entire city are leaving families with an impossible dilemma: flee and risk death on the road and in overcrowded displacement areas, or stay and face relentless bombardment in their shelters.

See all of our [public statements](#) and [press releases](#).

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