

Oregon-Idaho Chapter
Methodist Federation for Social Action

Please enter my MFSA membership gift for the calendar year _____ as indicated below.

- ___ \$500+ Stellar
(\$450 for national/\$50 for chapter)
- ___ \$200 Spirited
(\$160 for national/\$40 for chapter)
- ___ \$150 Supporting
(\$120 for national/\$30 for chapter)
- ___ \$100 Sustaining
(\$80 for national/\$20 for chapter)
- ___ \$60 Subscribing
(\$48 for national/\$12 for chapter)
- ___ \$ ___ Other (set your own amount)
(80% for national/20% for chapter)

I am ___ a New member or ___Renewing member
___ I also wish to contribute an additional gift toward the work of the chapter, in the amount of \$_____.
___ I do not wish to join, but would like to receive *Witness*, the chapter news letter. I enclose \$10 to cover costs.

Total amount enclosed is \$ _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

E-mail _____

Congregation _____

Make checks payable to OR-ID MFSA

**Mail to Janet Farrell, Membership Sec
594 Conifer Court; Madras, OR 97741**

National membership amounts will be sent to the National MFSA Office in Washington, D.C.

(No one is denied membership for lack of funds. Contact Dave Bean at revdaveb@hotmail.com or call 503-635-0173 if you have questions.)

MFSA National Priorities

PEACE

Nonviolence: Sponsoring nonviolence training.

Palestine and Israel: Promoting a just and lasting settlement through nonviolent action.

POVERTY

Workers' Rights: supporting the rights of workers to make a living wage.

Budget Priorities: Advocating for adequate funding for housing, healthcare, and education.

PEOPLE'S RIGHTS:

Full Inclusion: Working for a church and society that are fully inclusive of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender persons.

Dismantling Racism: Working with the General Commission on Religion and Race and other progressive groups.

PROGRESSIVE INITIATIVES:

Coalition Building: organizing and strengthening a progressive movement of United Methodists.

Monitoring Conservative Renewal Groups: raising awareness around conservative movements within the UMC.

OR-ID Chapter Priorities

Heighten awareness of the issue of abolishing the death penalty and work with the Bishop's Task Force to promote education and action.

Promote just and comprehensive immigration reform.

Promote a more just and universal healthcare system.

Promote reduction of Defense spending in favor of domestic uses.

Grow the membership of our OR-ID Chapter of MFSA.

BECOME PART OF THIS
EXCITING MOVEMENT
AT THE HEART OF
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Oregon-Idaho Chapter
**Methodist Federation
for Social Action**

PO Box 134
Salem, Oregon 97308
www.oimfsa.org

*National MFSA Office
212 East Capital Street, NE
Washington, DC 20003*

202-546-8806
mfsa@mfsaweb.org
www.mfsaweb.org

HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED *making a difference*

MFSA is an independent movement of progressive United Methodists taking action on issues of

Justice, Peace and Liberation

The Methodist Federation for Social Action calls upon the United Methodist Church to expand its understanding and embodiment of the **radical call of the Gospel** to be the inclusive, justice-seeking, risk-taking **Body of Christ**. We support and augment **peace and justice ministries** through and beyond the United Methodist Church.

Through MFSA, we **live out our belief** that to be faithful witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ is to be involved in the transformation of the social order.

Nationally, MFSA is **accountable** to a Board of Directors, representing the diversity of the membership. We are also connected by a Program Council composed of representatives from all chapters. Supported entirely by annual memberships and contributions, MFSA is not an official United Methodist body.

In our Oregon-Idaho Conference Chapter, local activities are guided by an Executive Committee of 12 or more officers and representatives elected by chapter members at an annual meeting.

OUR OREGON-IDAHO CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

As a member of the Oregon-Idaho Chapter of the Methodist Federation for Social Action I agree to:

- **Pray** regularly for the prophetic work of MFSA both in the wider United Methodist Church and in the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference.
- **Challenge** the members of my local church to take Jesus seriously, to seek first God's Realm and to speak and act for God's justice in the world.
- **Know** and tell the story of MFSA (see next column) to at least one other person in my local church, and invite that person to become a member of MFSA.
- **Connect** with others in the Chapter network in **at least** one of the following ways:
 - Attend MFSA Spring Event in Portland, OR.
 - Attend MFSA meal at Annual Conference
 - Attend a gathering of MFSA members and friends in my local area
 - Sit in on a meeting of the Chapter MFSA Executive Committee (held every other month in Portland or Salem)
 - Submit an article for publication in The Witness, our chapter newsletter.
 - Serve on the Executive Committee for three year term.

Over 100 Years of Witnessing for Justice and Peace

The Methodist Federation for Social Service, later called 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 classes. 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.

In the 1930's, the Federation focused on the rights laborers and workers for a just and living wage and advocated for a society without class or group discrimination and privilege.

MFSA attained the height of its growth just following World War II. With the coming of the anti-communist hysteria of the McCarthy period, however, relations with The Methodist Church became very strained and the Federation came under sharp attack.

In the wake of these events, MFSA experienced a serious decline. A dedicated remnant of MFSA leaders saw the importance of an independent advocate of social action in the church, however, and kept the Federation alive.

From its inception in 1907, MFSA has been a consistent witness for justice, peace, and the transformation of the social order. MFSA has experienced a broad revival and has re-established itself as a force within United Methodism. The Federation's accomplishments include: support for striking workers, issuing documented studies of the Far Right presence in the denomination and rallying forces to stem its influence, and leading the struggle for UM support of divestment from South Africa. The Federation makes a major impact every four years at the denomination's General Conference and Jurisdictional Conferences.

The Methodist Federation for Social Action continues to unite United Methodists to promote action on peace and justice issues of our day.