

Suggested title: Darfur/Sudan Awareness Building

Resolution: NEW

Financial Implications: Yes

Sponsoring Agency: Global Young People's Convocation and Legislative Assembly/General Board of Discipleship

*A petition* to the 2008 General Conference:

**As United Methodists we are uniquely called by our Social Creed to “dedicate ourselves to peace throughout the world, to the rule of justice and law among nations and to individual freedom for all people...” (Social Principles, ¶ 161). We live in a world that knows little peace and so much injustice. To establish justice in the world we must call to end suffering, but especially in Darfur/Sudan. In the past three years 400,000 men, women, and children have been killed, while 2.5 million have been forced to leave their homes; and thousands more people have been raped and tortured. In an effort to effect change in Darfur/Sudan and to cease these cries against humanity, The United Methodist Church must take initiative to become more aware of this continually worsening situation. Awareness at all levels of the church will be accomplished through the following actions:**

- 1) encouraging local churches to designate a Darfur/Sudan Awareness Sunday within their calendar year;**
- 2) creating informative research materials on Darfur/Sudan to assist in Sunday school classes or Bible studies in order to encourage open dialogue and discussion in our churches about Darfur/Sudan;**
- 3) making available research materials and worship aids connected and able to upload through The United Methodist Church websites, including links for further research and suggestions for assistance to Darfur/Sudan communities.**

**We suggest that the funding for these actions come from the budgetary monies of  
The United Methodist Publishing House, the General Board of Church and Society,  
and the General Board of Global Ministries.**

*For additional text of this petition go to: [www.GBOD.org/gc2008](http://www.GBOD.org/gc2008)*