

CONSENT CALENDAR CCSRD07

2015 OREGON-IDAHO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

1 **TITLE: REFLECTING ON PRAYERS & THOUGHTS OF PEACE & FAITH, HERE & WORLDWIDE**

2 **SPONSORING GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL: Methodist Federation for Social Action**

3 **SPOKESPERSON: LoErna Simpson**

4 **SPOKESPERSON'S ADDRESS: 1863 NW Estaview Dr, Corvallis, OR**

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7 **This petition is a new Standing Resolution**

8
9 **LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY RECOMMENDATION: YES 0, NO 24, ABSTAIN 0**

11
12 **Text of the Standing Resolution as it would appear in the Conference Journal:**

13
14 **Reflecting on Prayers & Insights on Peace & Faith, Here & Worldwide**

15 **As a responsible way of living out our Christian discipleship in this first quarter of the 21st century,**
16 **let us read and reflect on these inspirational words from many peoples and faiths-- prayers,**
17 **meditations and insights on peacemaking, goodness and love.**

18
19 The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and
20 self-control. *– Galatians 5:22*

21
22 Peace is a daily, a weekly, a monthly process, gradually changing opinions, slowly eroding old
23 barriers, quietly building new structures. *– John F. Kennedy (1917- 1963), American president*

24
25 The more I think about peace, I think peace starts and ends in connection. When we connect, we
26 learn about “the other.” It’s not tolerance but understanding, acceptance. In the connection,
27 everything starts to happen. *– Isabel Allende, (1942-), Chilean American author.*

28
29 God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; the courage to change the things I
30 can; and the wisdom to know the difference. *– Reinhold Niebuhr*

31
32 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give as the world gives. Do not let your hearts
33 be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. *– John: 14:27*

34
35 If there is to be peace in the world, there must be peace in the nations.

36 If there is to be peace in the nations, there must be peace in the cities.

37 If there is to be peace in the cities, there must be peace between neighbors.

38 If there is to be peace between neighbors, there must be peace in the home.

39 If there is to be peace in the home, there must be peace in the heart. *-Lao-Tse, Chinese philosopher,*
40 *6th century*

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1 Nonviolence is a power which can be wielded equally by all—children, young men and women, or
2 grown-up people--provided they have a living faith in the God of Love and have, therefore, equal love
3 for all mankind. *Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948), Indian spiritual & political leader*

4

5 O believers, be steadfast witnesses for God with justice. Do not let the hatred of the people make
6 you act unjustly. Be just, for justice is next to piety. *– The Qur’an, verse 5:8*

7

8 Deep peace of the running wave to you,
9 Deep peace of the flowing air to you,
10 Deep peace of the quiet earth to you,
11 Deep peace of the shining stars to you,
12 Deep peace of the infinite peace to you. *- Adapted from ancient Gaelic Runes*

13

14 O God, as Muslims, Jews and Christians, We acknowledge that thou hast made of one blood all the
15 nations of the earth. Thou dost love all of us as if all were but one, and dost care for each as if thou
16 hadst naught else to care for. Remembering such love, may we not weary in our efforts to fashion
17 out of our failures today, some great good for all thy people tomorrow. And not unto us O God, not
18 to us, but unto Thy name be the glory. *Written together by a Muslim, Jew & Christian.*

19

20 Peace is the absence of war, but beyond that, peace is a commodity unlike any other. Peace is
21 security. Peace is a mindset. Peace is a way of living. Peace is the capacity to transcend past hurts—
22 to break cycles of violence and forge new pathways that say, “I would like to make sure we live as a
23 community where there is justice, security, and development for all members.” At the end of the
24 day, peace is an investment; it is something you create, by investing in a way of life.
25 *Noeleen Heyzer, (1948-) Singaporean Exec. Dir. of UN Development Fund for Women*

26

27 Goodness is stronger than evil;
28 Love is stronger than hate;
29 Light is stronger than darkness;
30 Victory is ours through him who loves us. *– Archbishop Desmond Tutu*

31

32 Oh, Great Spirit, whose voice I hear in the winds and whose breath gives life to all the world, I am
33 small and weak. I need your strength and wisdom.

34 Let me walk in beauty and make my eyes ever behold the red and purple sunset. Make my hands
35 respect the things you have made and ears sharp to hear your voice. Make me wise so that I may
36 understand the things you have taught my people. Let me learn the lessons you have hidden in every
37 leaf and rock.

38 I seek strength, not to be superior to my brother, but to fight my greatest enemy—myself. Make me
39 always ready to come to you with clean hands and straight eyes, so when life fades, as the fading
40 sunset, my spirit will come to you without shame. *Chief Yellow Lark (Lakota American Indian)*

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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

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1 **What will this action accomplish?**

2 United Methodists will be able to reflect on and enjoy various insights of peace through the lens of
3 many faiths and persons from many countries and cultures.

4

5 **Why is it important?**

6 As United Methodists, we have a vision of peacemaking and sharing with other faiths. As we focus on
7 peace, we will become more peaceful. Many people and countries, however, are engaged in fighting
8 and wars. The path we choose can either strengthen more peaceful outcomes or continue discord.

9 Let us focus on the pathway to peace.

10

11 **How will it be carried out? By whom?**

12 Printed copies of the 'Prayers & Insights on Peace & Faith' can be handled out to UM individuals for
13 personal reflection, or people may request an email copy.

14

15 **How much will it cost? Where will the money come from?**

16 Cost for printing pages in the journal; and for printing some handout pages at group UMC meetings.

17 We will solicit funds from Peace & Justice conference leader for printing handouts.

18 There will be some cost for the secretary emailing the document when requested.

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