



**ACTION ALERT – AUGUST 2006**  
**GOOD SHEPHERD VOICES FOR JUSTICE**  
**Peace in the Middle East**

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**INTRODUCTION**

The first sentence of the revised Good Shepherd Destination Justice Focus Statement says much:

*“We believe that the celebration of the Eucharist  
is inseparable from a concern for and pursuit of justice.”*

Social justice is inherently part of who we are as Church, and pursuit of justice is at the innermost core of our collective being as the body of Christ. Therefore, we are suggesting this month that you take action advocating for peace in the Middle East.

**BACKGROUND**

Our prayers are with the people of Lebanon, Palestine, and Israel as they suffer through the violence and uncertainty of air strikes and rocket fire. We pray in a special way for the Palestinian victims whose long suffering has too often been ignored. Advocating for true peace for the people of Lebanon, Palestine and Israel, we urge the international community, through the proper authority of the United Nations, to negotiate an immediate cease-fire and to pressure all parties for a just and lasting resolution to the longstanding violence and injustice in the region. We call on the UN to hold Israel accountable for the purposeful destruction of necessary civilian infrastructure in Lebanon and Gaza, a clear violation of international law. We urge the international community to immediately ascertain the resources necessary to ensure that all civilians who have suffered from the recent attacks have access to food, water and medical supplies.



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For additional background information, visit:

[http://www.paxchristiusa.org/news\\_events\\_more.asp?id=1029](http://www.paxchristiusa.org/news_events_more.asp?id=1029)

## ACTION



1) Call today for an immediate cease-fire! Call Ambassador John Bolton at the U.S. Mission to the UN and demand that the U.S. stop blocking international efforts to achieve an immediate cease-fire: (212) 415-4050 or [usa@un.int](mailto:usa@un.int).

2) Contact UN Secretary General Kofi Annan and implore the United Nations to show leadership and demand an immediate ceasefire: [sg@un.org](mailto:sg@un.org) and/or fax: (212) 963-1921.

3) Click on one of the links below to join electronic advocacy campaigns calling for an immediate cease-fire:

Churches for Middle East Peace: [http://www.cmep.org/Alerts/2006July20\\_2.htm](http://www.cmep.org/Alerts/2006July20_2.htm)

Code Pink: <http://www.codepinkalert.org/article.php?id=1101>

End the Occupation: <http://www.endtheoccupation.org/article.php?id=1215>

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