

Perry Saito Award

- Two recipients – one layperson and one clergyperson
- Sponsored by the Methodist Federation for Social Action (MFSA)

The Perry Saito Award is given by the Wisconsin Methodist Federation for Social Action (MFSA) to individuals who demonstrate their loyalty to Christ through faith and work to further justice and peace through the UMC.

Rev. Perry Saito lived and taught non-violence and respect for all of life. Saito's Christian faith and commitment to peace and justice was shaped by experiences in Japanese internment camps in California during World War II. The international peace group called Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) sponsored Perry to get out of the relocation/internment camp in 1943 and hired him as a race relations secretary. He was a leading figure in justice and reconciliation ministries regarding peace, poverty, and people's rights. Perry worked for the Methodist church as an MYF camp counselor during this time as well. He entered the Methodist ministry and served at Chicago: St. Paul's and Christian Fellowship (Japanese). After transferring to Wisconsin, he served at Beloit: First, Stevens Point: St. Paul's-Director of Wesley Foundation, Eau Claire: Lake Street, Supt. NC District, Wauwatosa: Wauwatosa Avenue, and Neenah: First.

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