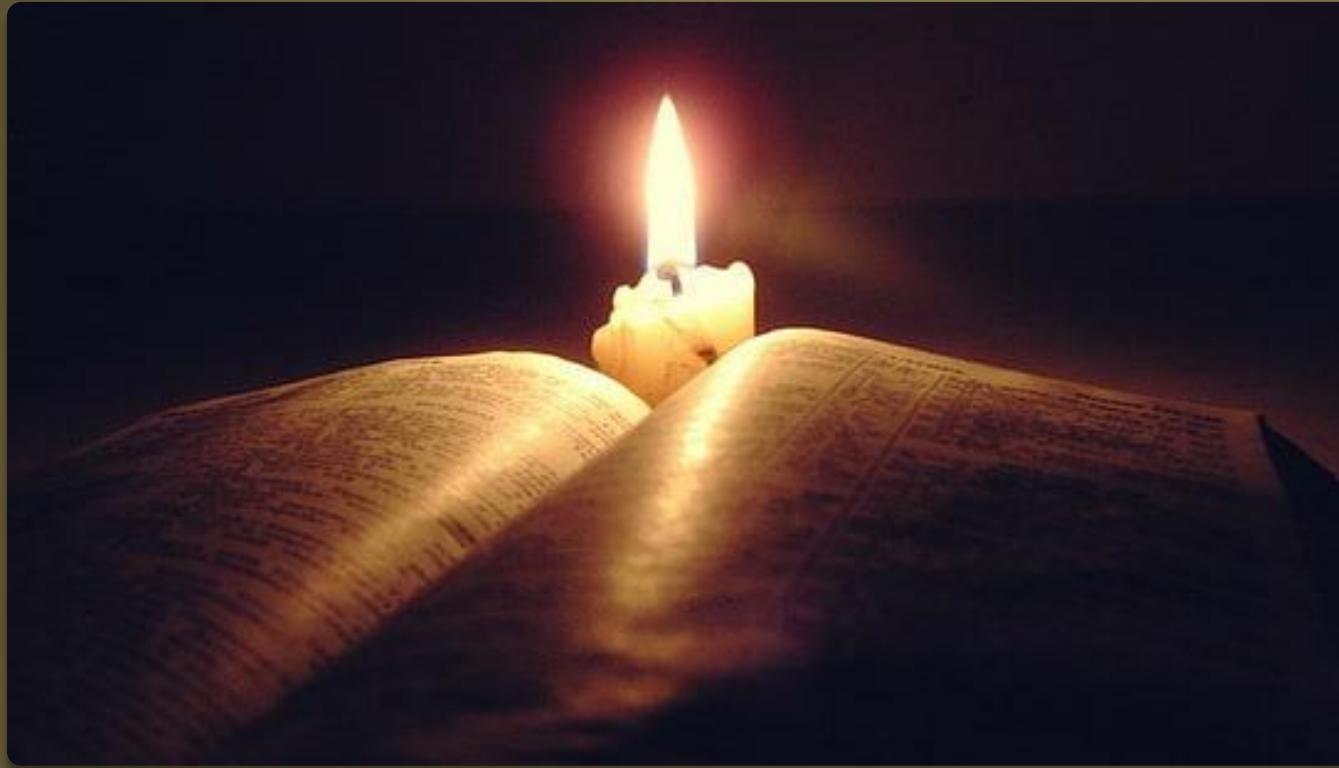




NAVIGATING THE CURRENT IMMIGRATION LANDSCAPE

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS --UPDATED
MONALISA S.TU'ITAH, ATTORNEY

NOV. 3, 6:30 PM



A WORD...

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. John 1:5

Agenda Items

- ▶ Overview of Political Landscape
- ▶ Know Your Rights
- ▶ What can my Church Do
- ▶ Q&A
- ▶ Closing Prayer

About This Presentation

We are providing general information,
not legal advise.

The information we share today may
change.

This is shared work with many partners.

Political Landscape: Mass Deportation

- ▶ The Supreme Court Clears the Way for ICE Agents to Treat Race as Grounds for Immigration Stop, [NPR, https://www.npr.org/2025/09/13/nx-s1-5507125/the-supreme-court-clears-the-way-for-ice-agents-to-treat-race-as-grounds-for-immigration-stops](https://www.npr.org/2025/09/13/nx-s1-5507125/the-supreme-court-clears-the-way-for-ice-agents-to-treat-race-as-grounds-for-immigration-stops)
- ▶ Trump Administration Sets Lowest-Ever Cap on Refugee Admission to US, <https://www.npr.org/2025/10/30/g-s1-95823/trump-administration-sets-lowest-ever-cap-on-refugee-admissions> Community Loss of workers across industries
- ▶ Advocates warn immigrants could lose jobs as DHS stops automatically extending work permits, <https://www.tucsonsentinel.com/local/report/103025 employment renewals end/advocates-warn-immigrants-could-lose-jobs-as-dhs-stops-automatically-extending-work-permits/>

Political Landscape: Mass Deportation

- ▶ Trump plans to install Border Patrol officials to lead a more aggressive migrant crackdown...The White House has approved a list of ICE leaders to be replaced by Border Patrol officials in coming days amid disappointment with arrest numbers. <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/immigration/trump-plans-install-border-patrol-officials-lead-aggressive-migrant-cr-rcna240102>
- ▶ Trump says he is committed to ongoing ICE raids: ['They haven't gone far enough,https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/donald-trump/trump-says-committed-ongoing-ice-raids-havent-gone-far-enough-rcna241383](https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/donald-trump/trump-says-committed-ongoing-ice-raids-havent-gone-far-enough-rcna241383)
- ▶ ICE Plans Cash Rewards for Private Bounty Hunters to Locate and Track Immigrants, https://theintercept.com/2025/10/31/ice-plans-cash-rewards-for-private-bounty-hunters-to-locate-and-track-immigrants/?utm_content=buffer4d1f8&utm_medium=buffer&utm_source=twitter&utm_campaign=theintercept

Political Landscape: Mass Deportation

- ▶ ICE amps up its Surveillance Power Targeting Immigrants,
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2025/10/17/ice-surveillance-immigrants-antifa/>
- ▶ ICE notices intent to sole-source iris scanning app and data base: August 6, 2025--Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) announced its intent to award a sole-source contract to Bi2 Technologies for licenses for its Inmate Identification and Recognition System [IRIS] and the Mobile Offender Recognition & Information (MORIS). Together, these software systems will allow immigration officers to scan an individual's iris from 10 to 15 inches away using a smartphone and check it against a database that includes information from a variety of sources, including over 5 million criminal booking records and scrapped from social media profiles.

Political Landscape: Mass Deportation

- ▶ Don't Want ICE To Scan Your Face? Too Bad, You Might Not Have A Choice-- With Mobile Fortify, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers can photograph anyone they encounter and run the image through Department of Homeland Security (DHS) databases, including Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) Traveler Verification Service, which stores photos of people entering the United States. Mobile Fortify performs an instant match and returns identifying details—such as name, nationality, and any deportation orders—while the photo remains in government files for 15 years, even for U.S. citizens.
- ▶ ICE has powerful facial recognition app Illinois cops are barred from using — with little apparent oversight, --ICE secured a \$9 million contract with Clearview AI, a company barred from selling to Illinois Law Enforcement agencies due to collection of data without proper consent

Political Landscape: Funding Anti-Immigrant

The One Big Beautiful Act slashes health care, nutrition, and tax benefits while expanding detention and enforcement.

- ▶ \$45 billion to detain immigrants through Sep. 30, 2029. This is 3 times ICE's current annual detention budget.
- ▶ \$32 billion for immigration agents and operations related to enforcement and deportation.
- ▶ \$75 billion in enforcement and surveillance funding for border communities (includes \$47 billion for construction of the border wall).
- ▶ \$13.5 billion for state/local enforcement of immigration law.
- ▶ \$1 billion for military resources toward enforcement.
- ▶ 3.3 billion to the Department of Justice, to prosecute



Mass Deportations

- ▶ Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) is now raiding and detaining immigrants across the country.
- ▶ ICE is targeting immigrants who have final orders of removal or criminal convictions, but the raids are often carried out as collateral arrests meaning anyone in the vicinity who is presumed undocumented is then targeted and detained in the encounter.
- ▶ Anyone who is “removable” under the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA)- the federal immigration laws- can fall victim to a raid. This includes: Undocumented people - both (1) individuals who entered unlawfully over a border or on a boat and do not have lawful status & (2) individuals who entered lawfully on a visa and overstayed the time the border official allowed them to stay in the US or violated the terms of their visa in another way. Documented non-citizens (including lawful permanent residents or “green card holders”) who have committed certain crimes or certain types of fraud, and/or violated the terms of their status. Student visa holders have been greatly targeted by immigration enforcement.
- ▶ Citizens theoretically CANNOT be deported, but some citizens have been swept up in raids, and there have recently been deportations of citizen babies. If the government finds that someone obtained citizenship through fraud, they can try to take away their United States citizenship.

Sensitive Location

- ▶ Immigration enforcement can & will enter “sensitive locations” An Executive Order rescinds the Sensitive Locations Memo which discouraged ICE from entering places of worship, schools, hospitals, etc. This sort of protection is essential to ensuring all community members can access basic services and support without fear. Now ICE is entering these locations or waiting in their parking lots to pursue immigrants of interest to them. The Fourth Amendment can protect a facility from a “warrantless search,” and staff at these facilities can deny ICE entry unless they present a judicial warrant (see our infographics on pages 4&5). Private spaces (offices) in a facility are more greatly protected than public spaces (sanctuaries, kitchens, waiting rooms, etc.). There is active litigation challenging the rescission of the memo, but there is not an injunction, which means ICE is currently free to enter sensitive locations.

Know Your Rights --US Citizen

- ▶ U.S. citizens have a constitutionally protected right to protest peacefully, including against ICE detention, under the First Amendment. This right includes freedom of speech and assembly, and you can record officers in public as long as you are not interfering with their duties. It is important to know your rights during a protest, such as the right to remain silent if stopped by law enforcement and to refuse a search without a warrant.
- ▶ Record with caution: You have the right to record in public spaces as long as you do not interfere with the officers' duties and maintain a safe distance.
- ▶ Be prepared: Consider turning off facial and fingerprint recognition on your phone and using encrypted messaging apps when communicating.
- ▶ Do not interfere: Avoid blocking streets or building entrances, as this can be considered unlawful conduct.

Know Your Rights --US Citizen

Limits on Speech Protections--Is all speech protected?

- ▶ The First Amendment protects your right to express your opinion, even if it's unpopular. You may criticize the President, Congress, or the chief of police without fear of retaliation. But this right doesn't extend to libel, slander, obscenity, "true threats," or speech that incites imminent violence or law- breaking. If you grab a megaphone during a riot and yell "shoot the cop" or "loot the shop," you may reasonably expect trouble.

Know Your Rights --Rights at Airports and Ports of Entry

Can border officers ask questions about my immigration status?

- ▶ U.S. Citizens: You only have to answer questions establishing your identity and citizenship (in addition to customs-related questions). Refusal to answer other questions may cause delay, but officials may not deny you entry into the U.S. if you have established your identity and citizenship.
- ▶ Lawful Permanent Residents (green card holders or LPRs): You only have to answer questions establishing your identity and permanent residency (in addition to customs-related questions). Refusal to answer other questions will likely cause delay, but officials may not deny you entry into the U.S. for failure to answer other questions. LPR status may be revoked only by an immigration judge. Do not give up your green card voluntarily!
- ▶ Non-citizen visa holders and visitors: Refusing to answer questions asked by airport or border officials could cause delay and might also lead to officers denying your entry into the country. Officers may not select you for questioning based on your religion, race, national origin, gender, ethnicity, or political beliefs.

Know Your Rights --Rights at Airports and Ports of Entry

Do I have to enter a password to unlock my device?

Customs officers have asked travelers to provide their laptop passwords or unlock their mobile phones when they are entering or leaving the United States.

- ▶ CBP claims the authority to search and confiscate laptops, mobile phones, digital cameras, and other electronic devices upon entry to the United States, without any suspicion of wrongdoing. The agency also claims the right to make a copy of information found on electronic devices. U.S. Citizens: You only have to answer questions establishing your identity and citizenship (in addition to customs-related questions). Refusal to answer other questions may cause delay, but officials may not deny you entry into the U.S. if you have established your identity and citizenship.
- ▶ Lawful Permanent Residents (green card holders: You only have to answer questions establishing your identity and permanent residency (in addition to customs-related questions). Refusal to answer other questions will likely cause delay, but officials may not deny you entry into the U.S. for failure to answer other questions. LPR status may be revoked only by an immigration judge. Do not give up your green card voluntarily!
- ▶ Non-citizen visa holders and visitors: Refusing to answer questions asked by airport or border officials could cause delay denial of your entry into the country.

Know Your Rights --Rights at Airports and Ports of Entry

Lawful Permanent Status:

Can lawful permanent residents be denied a right of reentry to the U.S.?

Yes, the immigration laws provide a limited set of circumstances under which green card holders could be denied the automatic right to reenter the U.S. and may be deemed to be "seeking admission." See 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(13)(C).

These circumstances include if you have been absent from the U.S. for a continuous period of more than 180 days, if you have engaged in illegal activity after having departed the U.S., or if you have been convicted of — or admitted to committing — a crime involving moral turpitude or a violation related to a controlled substance.

Know Your Rights --Immigrants at Court

- ▶ You have the right to oppose case dismissal.
- ▶ You have the right to appeal a dismissal.
- ▶ You have the right to express fear of returning to your home country to the judge.
- ▶ You have the right to express fear of returning to your home country to ICE if you're arrested.
- ▶ You have the right to seek legal counsel.
- ▶ You have the right to bring family members to court, but this may carry risks.

Know Your Rights --Immigrants at Hospital or Clinics

Are health centers required to enforce immigration laws?

- ▶ No. Health centers and health care staff are not required and cannot be forced to enforce immigration laws.

Can ICE conduct a raid at a health center?

- ▶ In general, health centers must allow ICE agents in any areas where they would allow general members of the public. ICE agents may be excluded from private areas that are clearly posted and enforced for patients and family.

What are considered public spaces in health centers and how does this impact immigration enforcement?

- ▶ Public areas include lobbies, waiting areas, and any other places open to the public.
- ▶ Non-public areas of a health center include treatment rooms, inpatient units, offices, etc., essentially anything not open to the public.

Know Your Rights --Immigrants at Hospital or Clinics

Can an immigration agent access a non-public area in a health center?

- ▶ No, unless they have a valid judicial warrant. The health center's legal counsel should review and validate the warrant by before decisions about access are made.
- ▶ A judicial warrant must be signed by a judge, name the location where the agent is permitted to enter, and name the patient.
- ▶ A deportation order or arrest order is not the same as a judicial warrant and does not permit an agent to enter.

Know Your Rights --Immigrants at Hospital or Clinics

Does a health care facility need to collect information about patients' immigration status?

- ▶ No, there is no legal obligation for health care centers to collect immigration status information.
- ▶ As an ethical best practice, health care providers should avoid asking for patients' immigration status or immigration-related information. If they must collect such information, they should not include it in patients' medical and billing records.

Are health care workers required to protect patients' privacy?

- ▶ Health care providers are legally obligated to protect patient privacy, including immigration status, and should not disclose any information without a judicial warrant, except in the case of an emergency that poses immediate harm.

What can my Church Do?

RESISTANCE, ACCOMPANIMENT, ADVOCACY & RELATIONSHIP



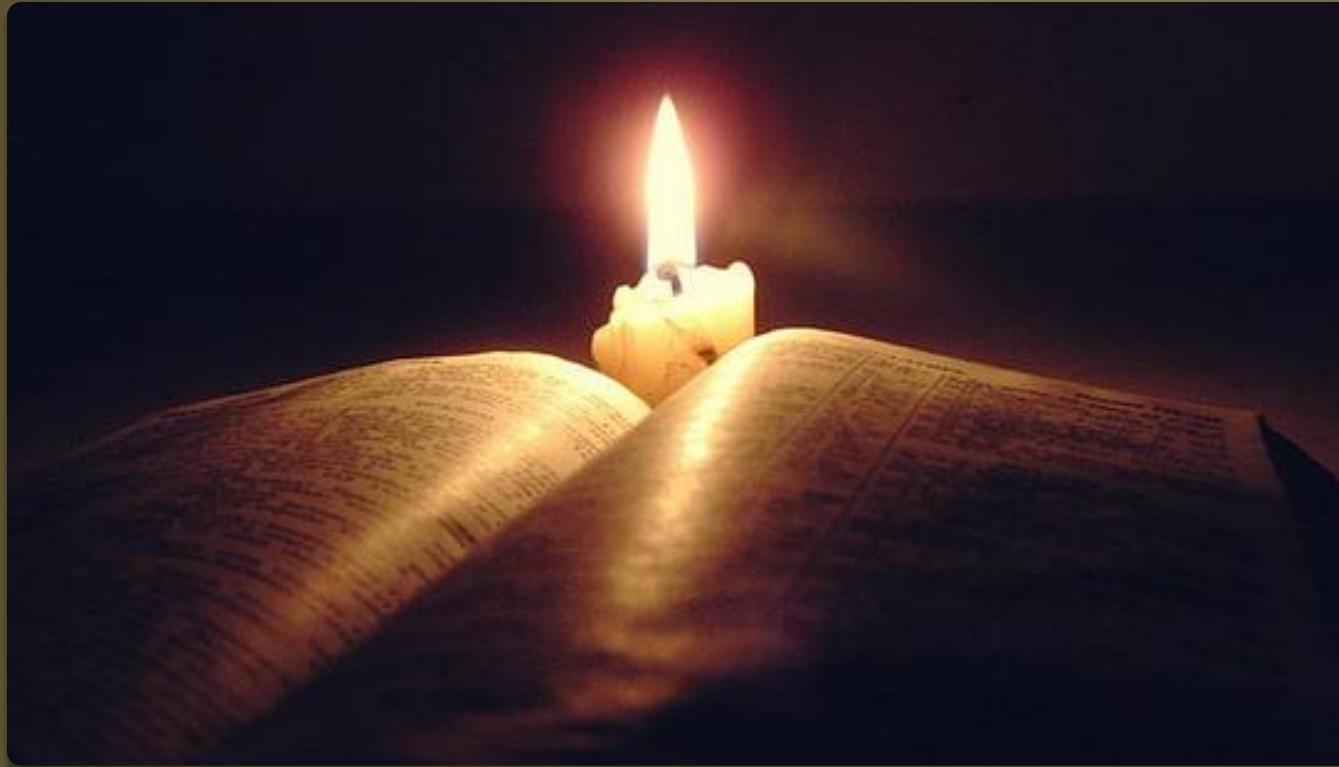
What can my Church do?

- Cal-Pac Conference Immigration Strategy, <https://www.calpacumc.org/immigration/>
- Local Church ICE Encounter Policy, see above link
- Family Preparedness Plan, see above link
- Know Your Rights Training Sessions, see above link
- Court Accompaniment-- Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE). <https://www.cluejustice.org/working-for-justice/justice-for-immigrant-workers-and-families/>
- Adopt a Corner – National Day Laborer Organizing Network (NDLN), <https://ndln.org/adopt-a-day-labor-corner/>
- Adopt a School, <https://utla.net/resources/community-support-sign-up/>
- Border Engagement and Immersion, <https://www.calpacumc.org/volunteers/opportunity-for-mexican-border-immersion-tour/>

What can my Church Do?

- OC Vigils for the Taken, Every Thursday at 12pm
<https://support.cluejustice.org/a/women-led-prayer-vigil-our-community-5>, (Oct. 16, Santa Ana Immigration Court)
- Connect with local Rapid Response Network,
<https://www.ccijustice.org/carrn>
<https://ocrapidresponse.org/index.php/other-socal-networks> 714-881-1558
- ICE Verification Training, Oct. 13, 6-8pm Register:
<https://tinyurl.com/4ymxz39f>,
Grocery Delivery, Ride Service,
OC Rapid Response Network (@ocrnn)
- ADELANTO VISITATION & Advocacy NETWORK (AVAN)
Blanca Malpartida-Girard, blancamg2040@gmail.com
- Spiritual Discipline and Prayer, including, Theological Reflections, Bible Studies., Supoort Groups
- Take Legislative Actions,
<https://www.umcjustice.org/what-you-can-do/take-action-2025>
- Develop Relationship with Immigrant Communities
- Vigils--Organize vigils, partnering with interfaith partners, and immigrant communities
- Hygiene Kits for the Border, Susan Harris, slharriss.77@gmail.com
- GCORR Vital Conversation on Immigration,
<https://www.resourceumc.org/en/content/vital-conversations-on-immigration>

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.. John 1:10
Monalisa S. Tu'itahi,
mtu'itahi@calpacumc.org
(714) 721-6764



A WORD...

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