

1 **RES 25-06 | STANDING WITH THE IMMIGRANTS**

2 SUBMITTED BY: Jason Takagi, Dori Fotsch, Frank Wolf, Joel Hortiales, Tona Rios, Raphael Rios,
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5 **ESTIMATED FINANCIAL IMPACT: NONE**

6 **SOURCE OF STAFF TIME: Conference Leadership, The Cabinet**

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8 WHEREAS the Word of God implores all Christians to welcome migrants into our churches and
9 communities and to treat noncitizens as our native-born citizens (E.g., Leviticus 19:33-34, Matthew
10 25:35); and

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12 WHEREAS Jesus, Mary, and Joseph fled Herod’s persecution and sought refuge in Egypt (Matthew
13 2:13-18). Likewise, refugees and asylum-seekers from around the world have fled persecution on
14 account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion, and
15 sought refuge in the United States; and

16 Whereas in the California-Pacific Conference of The United Methodist Church, “[w]e oppose all laws
17 and policies that attempt to criminalize, dehumanize, or punish displaced individuals and families based
18 on their status as migrants, immigrants, or refugees” (Social Principles); and

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20 WHEREAS the California-Pacific Conference opposes separating immigrant children from their parents
21 (RES 18-17, Journal 2018, H 72); and

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23 WHEREAS the California-Pacific Conference, “affirms the worth, dignity, and inherent value and
24 rights of all persons regardless of their nationality or legal status (RES 19-12, Journal 2019, H 89-90);
25 and

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27 WHEREAS “We call upon all United Methodist churches to... advocate for legislation that will uphold
28 the civil and human rights of all migrants to the United States and will provide an opportunity to attain
29 legal status for all undocumented migrants currently in the United States, as well as for those arriving in
30 the future (RES 19-12, Journal 2019, H 89-90); and

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32 WHEREAS “California-Pacific churches are encouraged to adopt a policy that respects privacy by not
33 asking members of their congregation or members of the public who interact with the congregation
34 about their immigration status, and adherence to a policy of not recording any information about any
35 individual’s immigration status (RES 18-2, Journal 2018, H 61); and

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37 WHEREAS “We call upon all United Methodist churches to... welcome newly arriving immigrants into
38 our congregations. (RES 19-12, Journal 2019, H 89-90)

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40 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California-Pacific Conference re-affirms resolution 19-12
41 Immigrants in the United States, that calls upon all United Methodist churches to engage in the
42 following:

43 • advocate for legislation that will uphold the civil and human rights of all migrants in the United
44 States and will provide an opportunity to attain legal status for all undocumented migrants
45 currently in the United States, as well as for those arriving in the future;

- denounce and oppose the rise of xenophobic, racist, and violent reactions against migrants in the United States, and support all efforts to build relationships among people, instead of building walls among diverse ethnicities and cultures;
- welcome newly arriving immigrants into our congregations;
- oppose the building of a wall between the United States and Mexico, which the communities of both sides of the border are in opposition to;
- call the United States government to immediately cease all arrests, detainment, and deportations of undocumented immigrants, including children, solely based upon their immigration status until a fair and comprehensive immigration reform is passed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California-Pacific Conference of the United Methodist Church denounce and oppose the use of the National Guards, Marines and other military personnel for the use of immigration raids; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California-Pacific Conference of The United Methodist Church denounce and oppose the use of church property by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement personnel, that our Chancellor's office take all possible legal action to stop the use of church property by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement personnel; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California-Pacific Conference urges all local churches to take steps to protect all immigrants and prevent the use of church property by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement personnel.