

Resolution: Dignity: Not Hate, Not Mass Deportation, Not Silence

Passed by ECMN Convention 2025

Resolved, that the Convention of The Episcopal Church in Minnesota, as people of faith, honor our baptismal covenant to seek and serve Christ in all persons loving our neighbors as we love ourselves, to strive for justice and peace among all people and to respect the dignity of every human being. Therefore we reaffirm our support for Migration with Dignity, the immigrant justice policy adopted by the 81st General Convention of The Episcopal Church (Resolution C031; see page 44 of this booklet) and confirmed at ECMN Convention in 2024; and be it further

Resolved, that “dignity” is not just a word, but rather a framework of principles declaring that all migrants have: (1) a universal right of movement as defined by Article 13 of the UN Human Rights Convention, including freedom to leave and return to one’s country of origin, freedom of movement within one’s country of origin or country of settlement. (2) the right to be secure from arbitrary and abusive detention, forced labor and sexual violence; (3) the right of equality; (4) the right to a basic quality of life; (5) the right to access services; and (6) civil and political rights. Therefore, The Episcopal Church in Minnesota opposes all policies and actions that deprive migrants of these rights including, but not limited to, the U.S. Government’s current program of mass detention and deportation; and be it further

Resolved, that the Episcopal Church in Minnesota opposes U.S. Government actions that: (1) halt refugee resettlement programs; (2) terminate temporary protected status (TPS) and humanitarian parole for many categories of migrants; (3) sharply restrict migrants’ ability to seek asylum; (4) conduct mass arrests of migrants; (5) deport migrants without due process to foreign prisons and countries other than their countries of origin; (6) give the green light to enforcement within houses of worship, schools and hospitals; (7) defy U.S. courts by failing to carry out their orders; and (8) harass or detain public officials for investigating detention facilities or accompanying migrants to court hearings;

Resolved, that The Episcopal Church in Minnesota calls upon all Episcopalians to advocate that local, state, national and international governing bodies promote Migration With Dignity by cancelling and repealing these actions and programs and by enforcing existing laws and policies on behalf of refugees, migrants, asylum seekers and displaced persons and enacting new laws and policies guaranteeing their welcome, protection and integration into our communities; and be it further

Resolved, that, acknowledging the current state of emergency for migrants and their families and the daunting challenges facing migration ministries across the Church, The Episcopal Church in Minnesota urges the Presiding Bishop, the President of the House of Deputies and the Executive Council of the Church to establish the Task Force on Migration With Dignity as called for in the Migration with Dignity resolution (C031; see following page) adopted by the 81st General Convention to: (1) inventory current assets and resources of the Church for serving and

supporting migrants; (2) conduct a gap analysis to identify missing elements that could strengthen the Church's response; (3) recommend a whole-of-church strategy for supporting migrants and for information and resource sharing; and be it further

Resolved, that the Episcopal Church in Minnesota urges the Presiding Bishop, the President of the House of Deputies and the Executive Council to establish an annual Migration with Dignity Sunday for The Episcopal Church during the season of Epiphany as called for in resolution C031; and be it further

Resolved, that The Episcopal Church in Minnesota continues to participate in a Migration with Dignity formation program, known as ECMN Immigration Caucus, to engage with the plight of refugees, migrants, asylum seekers and displaced persons and encourage actions that can be undertaken to assist them and advocate on their behalf; and be it further

Resolved, that The Episcopal Church in Minnesota strongly opposes the 287(g) program, which delegates federal immigration enforcement authority to local law enforcement, resulting in racial profiling, erosion of community trust, and separation of families. We call for the immediate termination of all current 287(g) agreements in our state and urge local jurisdictions to reject participation in any form of this program. We affirm that public safety depends on trust between immigrant communities and local authorities, and that such trust is undermined when police act as immigration agents.