

## **RESOLUTION ON WELCOMING IMMIGRANTS FROM SOCIAL JUSTICE AND OUTREACH**

**Whereas** we have a Biblical commandment to love our neighbors and also to love the stranger; and

**Whereas** 1000 attendees at the General Convention of 2018, including Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, gave witness at the Hutto Detention Center about 28 miles away in support of the women seeking asylum, many separated from their children, who are being held there; and

**Whereas** the convention recommended (Resolution C009) that Episcopal congregations become place of welcome, refuge, healing and support for immigrants, and should connect with other organizations seeking their safety, security, and due process, and

**Whereas** the separation of children from immigrant families and the deportation and imprisonment of many immigrants is leading to many deaths and traumatized lives; and

**Whereas** the acceptance of immigrants has been one of our country's best ideals, if not always realized, economists say we need immigrants, and statistics say they commit fewer crimes than the native-born, therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh urges its members and all in the greater Pittsburgh area to respect the human dignity of immigrants, and its congregations to work together to provide linguistic, legal, social, medical, housing, financial and other help for them, and

Commends the work done in this region by many members of the diocese, including those in Hello Neighbor at St. Paul's Mt. Lebanon and St. Andrew's Highland Park, the English conversation and letter writing groups at St. Brendan's Franklin Park, the legal assistance and English conversation groups at Redeemer, Squirrel Hill and the collection of belts and shoelaces there and at St Andrew's Highland Park, and All Saints, Brighton Heights, and the New Beginnings pre-school program at Calvary, East Liberty, and

Also commends the work done in our area by organizations such as Casa San Jose, the New Sanctuary Movement, and Jewish Family and Community Services, as well as nationally by Episcopal Migration Ministries.

**Explanation:** Included above

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## **RESOLUTION THANKING PITTSBURGH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

**Whereas** the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary has graciously undertaken the many tasks associated with hosting the Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh; and

**Whereas** this convention has enjoyed use of PTS's fine facilities on both the night of November 15, and the day of November 16, 2019, therefore be it

**Resolved** that the officers, deputies, bishop, and visitors participating in this convention tender our sincere thanks for the many ways large and small that the people of PTS have worked to smooth the course of events and provide us with a welcoming site for our convention.

**Explanation:** Pittsburgh Theological Seminary has extended its generous hospitality to the diocesan convention, accommodating numerous set-up needs as well as helping to handle various unexpected last minute issues. This resolution will serve as an official expression of gratitude.

**Sponsor:** The Convention Committee