

1 UNYAC2023.11 - A Resolution on Ministry Supporting Immigration

2
3 *Book of Discipline* (¶): n/a

4 *Book of Resolutions* paragraph (¶): n/a

5 Conference Committee/Agency, et al. that would be affected by/responsible for implementation if
6 passed: None

7 Financial Implications: None

8
9 **Whereas** the inscription on the Statue of Liberty who has greeted numerous immigrants to this country
10 seeking a better life reads: “Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breath free,
11 The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.”

12
13 **Whereas** Matthew 25: 31 - 40 tells us “The righteous will answer him “Lord, when did we see you
14 hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and
15 invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit
16 you?”

17
18 **Whereas** the Upper New York Annual Conference has proclaimed that we are a people with “Open
19 Hearts, Open Minds, and Open Doors.

20
21 **Whereas** the lines of immigrants seeking asylum, seeking safety, seeking better lives, seeking to breath
22 free are being refused refuse and shelter from areas within our state and from the very county are now
23 holding our Annual Conference, Onondaga County.

24
25 **Be it resolved** The Upper New York Annual Conference vote to support in spirit and in action to
26 welcome immigrants to our country to our counties, and to all cities and towns where the people of the
27 United Methodist Church live, breath, and worship.

28
29 **Be it further resolved** that the leadership of our Annual Conference both clergy and lay be invited to
30 speak and write to the law makers and policy makers to welcome and assist immigrants as they arrive to
31 our neighborhoods and communities.

32
33 **Be it further resolved** that congregations be urged to open their buildings, to provide shelter and food
34 to our sisters and brothers who are among us as immigrants to our country but are welcomed as
35 children of God.

36
37 **Be it finally resolved** that the people of the United Methodist live into the spirit that greets the poor,
38 tired and huddled masses, the spirit that see Jesus hungry and naked and a stranger, a people who do
39 not say open hearts, open minds, open doors but have the courage and faith to live into it.

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41 Date of Submission: May 30, 2023

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