

# RESOLUTION TO THE 2018 CENTRAL TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

## RESPONSE TO PROPOSED TENT CITIES FOR MIGRANT CHILDREN

**Whereas**, The United Methodist Church in our Social Principles, "recognizes, embraces, and affirms all persons, regardless of country of origin, as members of the family of God." and "We urge society to 'recognize the gifts, contributions and struggles of those who are immigrants and to advocate for justice for all.'"

**Whereas**, Holy Scripture in Exodus, Leviticus, and Deuteronomy call us to love sojourners, as indeed the Israelites were, as ourselves and to work for the redemption of the most vulnerable.

**Whereas**, our UMC Social Principles in The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church state that "any legislations to reform the US immigration system must affirm the worth, dignity, and inherent value and rights of migrants, and must also include: elimination of indefinite detention, incarceration of children, and the expanding prison population."

**Whereas**, Bishop Mike McKee expressed grave concerns in Sunday evening's [June 10, 2018] worship for the separation of children from parents at our borders;

**Whereas**, Bishop Mike Lowry has also called for immigration reform;

**Whereas**, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and other news organizations have just reported a plan to house migrant children, separated from their parents, in tent cities near El Paso;

**Therefore**, be it resolved that the Central Texas Annual Conference states our opposition to this inhumane treatment of God's most vulnerable persons - children.

**Be it further resolved** that the delegates of the Central Texas Annual Conference affirm the value of all persons and support the humane treatment of all vulnerable persons.

Submitted by: **Jerrilyn Woodard-Entrekin**  
Lay Delegate, First United Methodist Church of Arlington

*This Resolution was approved by the Central Texas Annual Conference on June 13, 2018*