



## THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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June 18, 2018

I write on behalf of the Central Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church, which met last week for its annual session with approximately 900 delegates representing churches across the Central Texas region. By an overwhelming margin, they passed the attached resolution condemning the separation of children from their families currently taking place. In doing so, the Central Texas Conference laity and clergy joined with other Christians across the nation in indicating our deep desire that this behavior cease.

I wish to strongly add my personal voice in agreement with the delegates from the Central Texas Conference. The Christian faith has long held an understanding that the relationship between parent and child is a part of God's creative order; as such it is both sacred and blessed by the Lord. While recognizing legitimate concerns for border security, efforts separating children from their families is not a moral way to achieve border security.

Partisan arguments and political advantage have no place in actions that are morally degrading of society as a whole and destructive of our best values as Americans. I urge you as a leader in our federal government and a representative of our nation to take all specific actions to end this unjust and immoral policy.

Yours in Christ,

Bishop Mike Lowry