

1 Reference and Counsel Number: 2014-03

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3 Received by the Secretary of the Synod: May 13, 2013

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5 **RESOLUTION** Calling upon the Metropolitan Washington DC Synod to stand in
6 prayerful solidarity with those suffering under current immigration laws

7
8 Submitted by: **Augustana Lutheran Church and the Community of Santa Maria;**
9 **Rev. John Kidd; Rev. Tom Knoll; Rev. Wendy Moen; Rev. Janice**
10 **Mynchenberg; Rev. Tom Omholt; Rev. Karen Brau; and Rev. Kathy**
11 **Hiatshwayo.**

12
13 **WHEREAS,** under current immigration laws members of our synod's congregations
14 personally suffer separation from families, perpetual fear, and social
15 isolation; and

16
17 **WHEREAS,** during the last two presidential administrations immigration law reform
18 initiatives have repeatedly stalled without any indication of when reform
19 might actually occur; and

20
21 **WHEREAS,** our faith calls us to stand with our sisters and brothers in Christ in times of
22 suffering; and

23
24 **WHEREAS,** one of the church's primary expressions of care and concern for others is
25 intercessory prayer; therefore be it

26
27 **RESOLVED,** that the Members of Metropolitan Washington DC Synod Assembly
28 together pause to pray the following in English, Spanish, Oromo, Tamil or
29 the language of their community:

30
31 Loving God... bless Latino, Oromo, Tamil speaking and all members of our
32 church and community who suffer fear and isolation under current
33 immigration laws. Provide and inspire leaders and legislators to see your
34 image in every child of God and to enact laws that clearly and fairly treat
35 our immigrant brothers and sisters. Help us to persistently stand with them
36 in Christ as long as it takes for just and fair laws to take root and blossom.
37 Lord in your mercy... **Hear our prayer!** *(English)*

38
39 Dios de amor... Entre todos los miembros de nuestra iglesia y
40 comunidad, bendice a las personas de origen latinoamericano, Oromo y
41 de otros orígenes que sufren de miedo y aislamiento bajo el actual
42 régimen migratorio. Inspire a los líderes y legisladores para que vean la
43 imagen suya en cada hija e hijo de Dios, y para que promulgan leyes que
44 establecen un trato justo a nuestros hermanos inmigrantes. Ayúdanos
45 para podemos en Cristo solidarizarnos con ellos hasta el día en que leyes

46 justas se arraigan y produzcan frutas. Señor, en tu misericordia...
47 **¡Escucha nuestra oración!** (Spanish)

48
49 Jaallatamaa kan taate yaa Waaqayyo, miseensota Waldaa fi Hawaasa
50 keenyaa kan ta'an saba Latino fi saba Oromoo akkasumas kan biroo,
51 sababa seera baqattummaa/immigration/ biyya kanaan sodaa fi
52 qoqqobamu jala kan jiraatan eebbisi. Geggeessitoota fi seera tumtootaf
53 bifa Waaqayyummaa kee ijoollee Waaqayyoo hundumaa keessatti
54 arguu akka danda'aniif kaka'umsa isaaniif kenni. Akkasumas seera
55 baqatootaa ifaa ta'ee fi obbolootaa fi obboleettota hinqoqqibne hojii
56 irra oolchuu akka danda'aniif isaan gargaari. Akkasumas hanga seerri
57 baqattootaaf haqan hojjetuu fi kan nama hinqoqqobne hiddaa fi
58 hundee godhatee dagagutti, karaa Kiristoos yaada guutuudhaan amma
59 dhumaatti isaan cina akka dhaabannuuf nugargaari. Gooftaa
60 araarakeetiin... **Kadhata keenya dhaga'i.** (Oromo)

61
62 *Kaṭavu! anpāṇavar... Lattīn ācīrvatittu, orōmō, tamiḷ pēcum marrum*
63 *tarṗōtaiya kuṭivaravu caṭṭaṅkaḷiṅ kīḷ payam, taṅimai pātikkappaṭukinṅaṅar*
64 *eṅkaḷ tēvālayam marrum camūkattīṅ aṅaittu uṅuppiṅarkaḷ. Vaḷaṅkum*
65 *tēvaṅuṭaiya piḷḷai uṅkaḷ paṭattai pārkka teḷivāka marrum mikavum eṅkaḷ*
66 *kuṭiyēṅṅa cakōtararkaḷ marrum cakōtarikaḷ cikiccai eṅṅu caṭṭaṅkaḷai iyarra*
67 *talaivarkaḷ marrum caṭṭamaṅṅa uṅuppiṅarkaḷ ūkkuvikkum. Eṅkaḷukku*
68 *toṭarntu niṅṅa atu rūṭ marrum malarum eṭukka niyāyamāṅa, nēmaiyaṅa*
69 *caṭṭaṅkaḷ eṭukkum eṅa kirīstu avarkaḷai niṅka utavum. Uṅkaḷ karuṅai*
70 *iraivan... Eṅkaḷ jepattai kēḷum.* (Tamil)

71
72 And be it further

73
74 **RESOLVED,** that Metropolitan Washington DC Synod encourage each of the synod's
75 congregations to include in the weekly Prayers of the People this or similar
76 prayers for immigrants and refugees who are separated from families, live
77 in fear, or suffer in isolation as a result of current immigration laws; for
78 leaders and lawmakers to implement just and fair changes to immigration
79 laws; and for churches to persist in these prayers until reform occurs; and
80 be it further

81
82 **RESOLVED,** that the Metropolitan Washington DC Synod endorse the Facebook page
83 *Metro DC Pray4Reform*
84 (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/697342870322680/>) as an online
85 collection site to a) enable congregations and their people to share
86 prayers that encourage and support immigrants and refugees, b) register
87 their commitment to pray for those affected by becoming a member of
88 the endorsed page or web site, and c) provide a method for recording
89 and reporting back to the synod the number of those who have joined or
90 participate in this effort.