



SIX MILE RUN REFORMED CHURCH

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March 2020

RE: **Immigration Reform and Refugees**

BE IT RESOLVED: The Consistory of Six Mile Run Reformed Church in Franklin Park, New Jersey affirms a position of compassion and hospitality to all immigrants and refugees, and advocates for policies that keep such families intact.

WHEREAS: Several scriptural references towards immigrants and refugees affirm this position:

- “When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.” (Leviticus 19:33-34, NRSV)
- “For the Lord your God...who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.” (Deuteronomy 10:17-19, NRSV)
- “You shall not oppress a resident alien; you know the heart of an alien, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt.” (Exodus 23:9, NRSV)
- “Then I will draw near to you for judgment; I will be swift to bear witness against...those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.” (Malachi 3:5, NRSV)
- “...’for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me...Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.” (Matthew 25:42-43,45, NRSV)

THEREFORE: The Consistory of Six Mile Run Reformed Church challenges official government policies which separate families and seek to marginalize or vilify immigrants and refugees based on ethnicity, race or religion. We understand that discussions regarding immigration, welcoming refugees, race and other religions are complex and may stir passionate emotions. We acknowledge that we do not have all the answers to these difficult questions, but we resolve that as Christians, we will seek peace, justice, and mercy and respect for immigrants, refugees, and any persons who face oppression on the basis of race, ethnicity, immigration status, or refugee status.

A Multicultural, Multiethnic Congregation