

Deportations

Greater Milwaukee Synod (5J) [2019]

WHEREAS, the Book of Leviticus states, “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,” and

WHEREAS, the policy of the government of the United States has moved from acceptance of refugees to harassment, detention and deportation; and

WHEREAS, the brutality of this policy has been visited directly upon Betty Rendón, a student pastor in the Greater Milwaukee synod, and her family; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly memorialize the 2019 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to speak in opposition to the inhumane policies of harassment, detention and deportation implemented by the United States government, policies that are in opposition to the biblical teachings at the foundation of the church and that congregation members in the ELCA are encouraged to communicate to their elected officials to:

- 1) Protect migrants, refugees and those fleeing violence;
- 2) Stop separating immigrant or refugee families;
- 3) Increase the number of refugees we are willing to accept from the current historically low numbers, and
- 4) Remove practices that create unreasonable and insurmountable barriers to those seeking asylum.

Anticipated Memorial Implementation Analysis

Memorial Title: **Memorial on Deportations**

Anticipated financial implications of memorial if adopted for:

- Churchwide Organization
 - Minimal beyond some staff time for dissemination of information.
- Synods
 - Minimal beyond some staff time for dissemination of information.
- Congregations
 - Minimal beyond some staff time for dissemination of information.

Anticipated staff or personnel implications of memorial if adopted for:

- Churchwide Organization
 - Time spent disseminating information.
- Synods
 - Time spent disseminating information.
- Congregations
 - Time spent disseminating information.