

RESOLUTIONS – AC 2017

Drivers' Licenses for All Florida Drivers - Pages 206-208

- *Calls on the State of Florida to give all Florida drivers the opportunity to apply for a driver's license.*
- *Calls on the Florida Conference to support the “Drive Safe Sunshine State” campaign.*
<https://floridaimmigrant.org/our-work/drive-saf-sunshine-state-2/>
- *Implemented by South Florida Justice for Our Neighbors <http://fljfon.org/about/>*

Welcoming the Migrant in our Midst - Pages 208-211

- *Commit ourselves to work to eliminate racism and violence directed toward newly arriving migrants . . . and express our opposition to any immigration policy that excludes refugees solely on the basis of their religion or national origin*
- *provide guidance to churches seeking to be in ministry to immigrants in Florida*
- *Encourage all churches to provide hospitality and welcome to migrants and refugees in their communities . . . take further actions and advocacy for just policies through prayer and discernment*
- *An excellent resource would be the Resolution approve by the 2016 General Conference*
<https://umc-gbcs.org/resolutions/welcoming-the-migrant-to-the-united-states>
- *The Conference calls upon our political leaders and policy makers to assure our laws affirm the worth, dignity, inherent values and rights of immigrants.*

Support Equality of Love and Value for Both Born and Unborn Children - Pages 211-212

- *Recognize unborn children as our “neighbors” (Matthew 22:39) whom we are to love and as “strangers” (Matthew 25:35) whom we are to welcome as “the least of these” (Matthew 25:40)*
- *Support the belief that both born and unborn children are equally loved by God and are of equal value to God and God's church*
- *Encourage all pregnant mothers and fathers to love their unborn children and do them no harm*
- *Florida LifeWatch does support the sanctity of life with this resolution and encourages the Church to assist in the ministry of crisis pregnancy centers and pregnancy resource centers that compassionately help women find feasible alternatives to abortion. 2012 BOD Para.161.J.*
- *<http://lifewatch.org/>*

Death Penalty Reform in Florida - Page 213

- *The Florida Conference, in the love of Christ, who preached nonviolence in all human interaction, calls for an end to the death penalty in Florida and recommends that our individual churches and members support advocacy efforts toward this goal.*

Abolishing the System of Mass Incarceration - Pages 214-216

- *The Florida Conference identifies mass incarceration as a critical human and civil rights issue in the United States*
- *The Conference reaffirms its commitment to speak and act prophetically to disrupt and abolish the growing prison industrial complex in the United States*
- *The Conference, its Social Justice Ministry, and local congregations are encouraged to provide opportunities for education, mobilization, public witness, and advocate for public policies that will advocate against mass incarceration*
- *The Conference and its constituents stand firmly on the Rights of Racial and Ethnic Groups as they pertain to the statement found in the 2012 BOD, Social Principles*
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mass_incarceration

Protecting the Right to Peacefully Address Injustice through Boycotts, Divestment and Sanctions - Pages 216-217

- *The Florida Conference opposes any state or federal legislation that seeks to restrict the right to address injustice through boycotts, divestment and sanctions . . . and calling on our elected officials to “to resist efforts to stifle the movement toward justice for Palestinians through the current wave of 'anti-BDS' legislation”*
- *Calls upon the Conference Secretary to write a letter to the President of the United States and to the Governor of Florida, the congressional representatives and members of the Florida legislature, informing those elected officials of this resolution.*
- *The Conference urges all UM annual conference, congregations, and church members to contact their local, regional and national elected officials, to communicate this resolution and to advocate against anti-BDS legislation.*
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boycott,_Divestment_and_Sanctions
- <http://mondoweiss.net/2017/04/grassroots-activists-legislation/>

Black Lives Matter: A Movement for All United Methodists - Pages 218-219

- *The Florida Conference will support Black Live Matter by sharing awareness; supporting and encouraging our congregations to be safe spaces and sanctuary for peaceful protesters, participate in and host sacred conversations and dialogue on race relations and inclusion, and be spiritual allies in prayer, for God to enable the pursuit of justice through those who take a stand and lift their voices for justice*
- *The Conference will not ignore this opportunity to embrace the new generation of peaceful protesters, non-violent demonstrations and young leaders who come from all races creating today's cross-cultural movement*
- *The Conference will live into our mission imperative to “make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world . . .”*
- <http://blacklivesmatter.com/>

Combating the Erosion of Human Dignity - Pages 220-222

- *The people and churches of the Florida Conference should stand in the light of Wesleyan social holiness and historic Methodist praxis by valuing the dignity and worth of all humans through acts of hospitality, compassion, mercy and grace*
- *Further, these acts can include speaking out about injustice and the erosion of human dignity*
- *As followers of Christ, we will model “commitment to addressing the needs of the poor, marginalized and suffering through social and sometimes political engagement. commit to do everything in our power to ensure that all persons are afforded their dignity and human rights.*