

EMERGENCY RESOLUTION TO END THE DEATH OF MIGRANTS ON THE UNITED STATES-MEXICO BORDER BY OFFERING WATER IN CHRIST'S NAME

WHEREAS our Bible gives a clear description of how we are to greet, treat and embrace the alien, migrant and neighbor in our midst.

WHEREAS the number of migrants dying as they cross into the United States is at an all-time high and needs an emergency response from our church and all sectors of our society;

WHEREAS Humane Borders is an active faith-based organization capable of providing humanitarian assistance and substantive policy change;

WHEREAS following at least seventeen deaths in one twenty-four hour period (May 24, 2001), federal, state, county, and private land managers are now calling on Humane Borders to install and maintain water stations on their property;

WHEREAS the United Church of Christ through its One Great Hour of Sharing offering has supported Humane Borders and its efforts to minister to the migrants; and WHEREAS our U.S.-Mexico border is increasingly militarized with the continuous addition of US Border Patrol agents;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the General Synod of the United Church of Christ meeting July 13–17, 2001, in Kansas City, Missouri, endorses the efforts of Humane Borders giving humanitarian assistance to migrants and seeking positive change in the U.S. border policies;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that individuals, congregations, and denominational organizations are asked to share the joys and cost of supporting this lifesaving ministry through contributions, membership, and communications;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service be advised that our General Synod objects to policies that systematically endanger migrants; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the president of the United States is urged to effect policy changes to reduce the number of migrant deaths.