The following resolution was approved by the delegates at a plenary of the Thirty-Second General Synod.

**PROTECTION OF IMMIGRANT CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES**

**A Resolution of Witness**

WHEREAS, the 1959 UN Declaration of the Rights of the Child include Principle 2 “The child shall enjoy special protection, and shall be given opportunities and facilities by law and other means, to enable him to develop physically, mentally, morally, spiritually, and socially in a healthy and normal manner and in conditions of freedom and dignity…” and Principle 6 “The child, for the full and harmonious development of his personality, needs love and understanding. He shall, whenever possible, grow up in the care and under the responsibility of his parents.”

WHEREAS, the history of the United States demonstrates that the forced and government-sanctioned separation of children from their parents, as often occurred to African American children during the era of slavery and also to Native American children who at one time were compelled to live away from their families in boarding schools, results in a multigenerational legacy of trauma.

WHEREAS, as the United Church of Christ, we believe that we must be servants in the service of others and must follow the teaching of Jesus to love one another.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Thirty-Second General Synod of the United Church of Christ calls upon the United Church of Christ to advocate for the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, and other applicable governmental departments and agencies to immediately end the practice of separating minor children from their parents, except for the rare cases when the parents pose a threat to their own children, and that minor children who already have been taken from their parents be quickly reunited with them.

**FUNDING**

The funding for the implementation of the Resolution will be made in accordance with the overall mandates of the affected agencies and the funds available.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

The Officers of the Church, in consultation with appropriate ministries or other entities within the United Church of Christ, will determine the implementing body.
