



WESTMORELAND
CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

1 Westmoreland Circle • Bethesda, MD • Bethesda, MD 20816

January 31, 2017

Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The people of Westmoreland Congregational United Church of Christ unanimously passed a resolution expressing our communal opposition to the recent executive order banning the free travel of people from certain countries into the United States.

As people of faith we feel compelled to oppose this order and to act in compassionate ways that show faith-inspired hospitality.

Members of and participants in our congregation come from Haiti, Iran, Iraq, Benin, Canada, Portugal, Hong Kong, Korea, Kenya, South Africa, Australia, France, Turkey, Germany, Bulgaria, the United States, and other countries.

And while we are a Christian congregation, we have participants who identify as Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, theist, agnostic, and atheist.

Our life together life together as a community of faith, and as neighbors, is enriched by our diversity.

We invite you to worship with our congregation any Sunday at 10:00 am to experience the richness of our diverse, inclusive community of faith.

Sincerely,

Timothy Tutt
Senior Minister

Alexis Kassim
Associate Minister

// Attachment: *Westmoreland Motion in Support of Immigrants and Refugees*



Motion in Support of Extravagant Welcome to Immigrants and Refugees of All Faiths

Whereas our sacred texts and faith traditions call us to love our neighbor, accompany the vulnerable, and welcome the sojourner, regardless of religion or national origin, and

Whereas the President's recent executive order limiting access to the United States of America stands in opposition to these calls

Therefore, be it resolved that Westmoreland Congregational United Church of Christ in Bethesda, Maryland, stands firmly in opposition to this immoral and unjust order and encourages its members and friends to boldly take collective and individual actions that reflect that opposition and show faith-inspired hospitality;

That Westmoreland staff and leadership develop and publicize a list of such actions and organize and lead the community in implementing the actions;

That the list of actions include these items among others:

- Begin immediately to contact members of Congress asking them to oppose the immoral executive order;
- Contact state, county, and local officials stating the same position;
- Offer practical and moral support to people affected by the order;
- Leverage personal skills/connections/strengths in practical activism opposing the order;
- Insist that local officials and school boards develop, publicize, and enforce policies that support and protect vulnerable students and their families;
- Make support of Muslim neighbors visible and unmistakable;
- Contact media, expressing opposition to the order and support of our tradition of extravagant welcome;
- Join UCC's Justice and Peace Network and take actions recommended by that group;
- Offer faith-based sanctuary to vulnerable immigrants and refugees.

*Passed by a unanimous vote of the congregation
meeting in Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 29, 2017*