



St. John's Episcopal Church

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IMMIGRATION & SANCTUARY STATEMENT

Approved Unanimously by a Special Parish Meeting of

St. John's Episcopal Church

April 22, 2018

The Parish affirms that Saint John's Episcopal Church is called to be a place that is welcoming, safe, and supportive of our immigrant friends, family, and neighbors. Our parish will respond to this call at this time by:

- Providing a safe place for all to worship, regardless of immigration status;
- Offering classes and resources to the immigrant community to help immigrants be aware of their rights and to assist people to pursue a legal immigration status and/or United States citizenship;
- Developing networks and relationships so that anyone known to be under threat of deportation from the United States can be connected with people/organizations with resources to legally assist.

In addition, the Parish will seek to:

- Become a signatory to the Episcopal churches' issue statement 'of shared values about immigration and refugees';
- Reflect our Latino/Latina culture, along with the cultures of other immigrants in our congregation, in and around our parish grounds and life;
- Partner with Lighthouse Immigrant Advocates (LIA) for legal services and assistance with immigration issues and, when able, consider LIA as an organization to support financially through mission and outreach;
- Establish a Joint Ministries Team to arrange activities of interest to our English-speaking and Spanish-speaking members;
- Establish an Immigration Justice Leadership Team.

Worship God. Be Transformed in Christ. Change the World.

St. John's is a diverse Christian community, following Jesus' teaching through liturgical worship, transformation in the mind of Christ, and the pursuit of reconciliation and justice in God's creation.