

S GA Annual Conference
Undocumented Neighbors Resolution, Task Force Continuation
Book of Resolution

The Undocumented Neighbors Task force has met and will continue to meet through the 2017 – 2018 Conference year in efforts to accomplish the Charge of the Task force:

Charge: "...a specific task force for the purpose of developing a strategy to:

1. provide education to the members of the South Georgia Conference, both clergy and laity, about the history of immigration throughout the centuries and human and civil rights concerning our undocumented members, and
2. encourage members of our South Georgia United Methodist churches who so choose to engage in concrete Wesleyan works of piety and mercy— seeking justice, ending discrimination and addressing the needs of the poor— on behalf of our undocumented neighbors.

"...that due consideration be given to the cost and duration of such efforts to educate and engage this important issue.

"...that...those entities relating to social issues, such as Advocacy Discipleship Team, Connectional Ministries, and the Cabinet, along with pastors, congregations, and individual members who share or want to be in ministry, unite to promote education and works of mercy in a number of ways, including:

1. Identify or develop a curriculum that teaches our churches the Biblical foundations regarding aliens and foreigners and examines our Wesleyan roots and Social Principles in a way that promotes working on behalf of undocumented neighbors among us;
2. Identify, recruit, and equip churches, clergy and individual members to imagine and strategize, in partnership with our undocumented neighbors, social action and advocacy opportunities in which all interested parties may engage;
3. Provide for the Conference published tools, both print and online, in collaboration with the Connectional Table, including pertinent publications to educate and update on specific issues related to the struggles of "the foreigner among us" at local, state, and federal levels;
4. Build bridges with other religious and non-religious organizations in our region to cooperate in these efforts and so multiply our effectiveness in this endeavor;
5. Form a research and work group, in cooperation with Global Ministries and any pertinent agency, to promote mission cooperation in the countries of origin of many of our undocumented neighbors to support and create development in these communities to alleviate the problems that cause our undocumented neighbors to flee their beloved countries in the first place."

The task force has discussed and validated the justification to continue to meet through the 2018 – 2019 Conference year.

We request for the continual approval of the resolution by the Conference.