

Approved by Kennett Monthly Meeting, 2026-02 meeting for worship with a concern for business

Our Call to End and Reform Unjust Immigration Enforcement Practices and Laws

As people of faith who believe that the Divine dwells within every human being, we bear witness to the devastating injustices perpetrated by current immigration enforcement practices in the United States. These oppressive actions and the legal regime that supports them profoundly betray our most sacred spiritual truth: that every person is inherently endowed with dignity and worth.

Under the guise of lawful authority, our government is damaging communities, separating children from their parents, tearing the sacred bonds of family, and leaving wounds that scar the soul and psyche. Current immigration enforcement unjustly singles out communities for oppressive and traumatic action based on race, creed and national origin, stripping away basic rights and privileges without due process. Vulnerable souls are thus condemned to persecution, oppression, poverty and even death within and beyond their home countries, sometimes using foreign prisons that practice torture.

Such cruel enforcement practices intentionally sow fear and spread terror in our communities — a violation of both human dignity and fundamental rights. Moreover, these actions blatantly breach our nation's binding commitments under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Convention Against Torture, and the Refugee Convention and its Protocol, all of which affirm our sacred duty to protect human dignity and uphold the right to asylum.

Illuminated by the divine Inner Light, our consciences declare that human laws draw their legitimacy only from higher, divine truths. When human statutes defy these eternal truths—when they spread wanton suffering, division and despair—they cease to command obedience. This foundational principle resonates deeply with the core ideals upon which our nation was founded: Certain rights, inalienable and sacred, flow directly from our Creator and are entrusted forever to the people, beyond the whims of government to grant or withhold.

History reveals that spiritually awakened communities possess the clear moral vision to challenge, defy and transform unjust laws and customs. From the abolition of slavery to the dismantling of segregation and apartheid, from the advancement of universal suffrage to ongoing struggles for racial, gender, LGBTQ+, reproductive and religious freedoms, and freedom of expression, courageous souls have stood firm, willingly enduring unjust earthly penalties to uphold divine justice. Our faith communities embrace this legacy of bold advocacy, remaining steadfastly committed to nonviolent resistance and reform in the service of divine truth.

Compelled by our commitment to radical hospitality and by our sacred calling to "welcome the stranger" and to love our neighbors as ourselves, we urge all spiritually guided communities and individuals to rise courageously alongside immigrants facing persecution. We demand swift legal reform and an immediate cessation of oppressive, unjust enforcement. Together, let us build a genuine beloved community where the human and civil rights of immigrants are fully honored, protected and upheld. In this endeavor, we affirm the divine presence within each person and embrace the eternal spiritual truth upon which our faith—and our shared humanity—depend. With radical hope,

Individuals:

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Dr. Sam Lemon, Providence Friends Meeting

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