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IMC Statement on Deportations:

The Illinois Mennonite Conference Missional Leadership Team and Conference Ministers call on Illinois Mennonite Conference (IMC) churches and church members not to remain silent as fear, family separation, and uncertainty affect many within our immigrant communities. These deportations are not distant political matters; they impact our neighbors, our church members, our friends, and our families.

As followers of Jesus Christ in the Anabaptist tradition, we are called to stand with the vulnerable, to welcome the stranger, and to uphold the God-given dignity of every human being. Scripture reminds us: “Learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed” (Isaiah 1:17), and again, “I was a stranger and you welcomed me” (Matthew 25:35). Our faith compels us not toward indifference, but toward compassion, courage, and solidarity.

We recognize that immigration is a complex national debate involving laws and policies. Yet amid those conversations, we must never lose sight of the humanity of the people affected. No child should live in fear of losing a parent. No family should be treated as disposable. No person created in the image of God should be dehumanized because of their immigration status.

As the leadership of IMC, we feel a moral responsibility to walk alongside those who are suffering, anxious, and unheard. The church must be a place of refuge, prayer, accompaniment, and advocacy. We are called not only to preach the Gospel, but also to embody the love and justice of Christ in tangible ways.

Therefore, we reaffirm our commitment to support immigrant families in our communities. We call upon our congregations to pray faithfully, to support affected families compassionately, and to engage these realities with both truth and grace. We also urge policymakers to pursue immigration approaches rooted in mercy, human dignity, family unity, and justice.



In moments such as these, may the church be known not for fear or silence, but for faithful witness, Christ-centered love, and unwavering solidarity with those who are hurting.

“Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves; ensure justice for those being crushed.” –
Proverbs 31:8