**SUBJECT: SANCTUARY CHURCHES \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Resolved that** the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan will support congregations that have committed themselves to providing shelter and sanctuary to people whose immigration status is being litigated,

**Be it further resolved that** all Episcopal Diocese of Michigan congregations will seek to learn about the meaning of immigration sanctuary and consider their role in this issue and,

**Be it further resolved that** all Episcopal Diocese of Michigan congregations will offer tangible and spiritual support to sanctuary congregations as their resources allow and,

**Be it further resolved that** sanctuary congregations will provide guidance to others who are considering this type of outreach and support to immigrants.

**EXPLANATION - RATIONALE**

The Episcopal Church’s fifth baptismal covenant proclaims that we will strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being. Millions of human beings in this country are caught in conflicts over immigration laws. Many immigrant families are being separated from their loved ones. Many people have been arrested and detained because of their official immigration status, and many others live in jeopardy of being captured and detained. Many immigrants are being forced to live where they do not wish. We pray for the well-being of our new neighbors, who give us the gift of their presence among us. Some churches have discerned a call for responding to this human crisis in the United States, and Some congregation(s) in the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan have committed themselves to providing shelter and sanctuary for people whose immigration status is in doubt.