

LETTER WRITING CAMPAIGN

Join Conference Minister
Chad Abbott to advocate
helping migrant families



Write a Letter to Congress Advocating to Help Migrant Families:

Each day brings a new attack on our immigrant neighbors and the scope and breadth of these challenges can be staggering. Congregations and communities across the country are asking what can be done to help the migrant families and children being held in immigrant detention. We see children sleeping on concrete floors, parents grieving after being cruelly separated from their children, overcrowding and lack of even basic humanitarian conditions in detention facilities. As the United Church of Christ we have declared ourselves to be an immigrant welcoming church, believing that love of our neighbor extends to welcoming each migrant— and that compassion should be at the root of how our nation treats migrants.

How we invest our money reflects our values as a nation, and right now those values are corrosive and harmful. This has got to stop. Congress should instead invest in policies that uplift family unity, address the root causes of forced migration, and prioritize human needs by respecting the rights and dignity of every person.

We actively urge congress to end family and child detention, family separation, and the funding of these immoral practices; and are asking that the United Church of Christ raise up their voices to make that happen. An important way to do that is by sending in letters to Members of Congress.

Call to Action:

Join with us to write a letter to Congress. Let them know we stand strong in our belief that extending a welcome to migrants not only helps communities flourish but that it is living into a higher moral call. UCC Conference Ministers from across the country are headed to Washington D.C. this month to engage in advocacy on these issues and can hand deliver your letters to the offices they meet with.

You can also send in your letter personally; or use the Justice and Peace Action Network to send in an email here: <https://p2a.co/dXTfOSg>.

To look up your member of Congress visit: <https://p2a.co/Nmw4YqN>.

See the next page for more details.

This type of advocacy can be done by anyone, at any age. Letters can include drawings from children, personal stories, art and/or thoughts on what home and welcome mean.

The deadline for these letters is September 20th.

Along with our conference ministers, your letters might faithfully urge our leaders to:

- Reject increases in detention, deportation and border militarization funding.
- Commit to strong and meaningful oversight of DHS policies and practices.
- Earnestly seek more compassionate and humane alternatives to detention.

If your unsure what to write, you might borrow this sample letter text:

I am writing as a constituent and person of faith and am continually saddened and troubled by the administrations ongoing attacks on our immigrant neighbors. As you work on funding legislation I ask that you no longer fund the crass immigration and deportation policies being implemented now and instead invest in programs that uplift family unity, address the root causes of forced migration, and prioritize human needs by respecting the rights and dignity of every person.

Send in your letter in one of three ways:

- Email your letter directly to our Conference Minister, the Rev. Chad Abbott at c.abbott@ikcucc.org.
- Mail your letter directly to the Indiana-Kentucky Conference office at
Indiana-Kentucky Conference
c/o Rev. Chad Abbott
1100 W. 42nd Street
Suite 155
Indianapolis, IN 46208
- Mail your letter to the UCC DC Office at
United Church of Christ, Washington D.C. Office
c/o Suanne Breen
100 Maryland Ave, NE
Suite 330
Washington, DC 20002