

1 **STANDING RESOLUTION #4**
2 **2022 OREGON-IDAHO ANNUAL CONFERENCE**
3

4 **TITLE: Call to Civility**

5 **SPONSORING GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL: Methodist Federation for Social Action**

6 **SPOKESPERSON: Karen Nelson**

7 **SPOKESPERSON'S ADDRESS: 409 SW 140th Ave, Beaverton OR 97006**

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11 **LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ACTION: Recommend approval as substituted, 21-0-0**
12

13 **This petition is a revision of an existing Standing Resolution.**
14

15 **Text of the Standing Resolution as it would appear in the Conference Journal:**
16

17 In today's highly polarized cultural environment, dehumanization has become systemic,
18 spreading corrosively like a cancer in our communities, our nation, and the body politic. As
19 persons of Christian faith, it is our individual as well as corporate responsibility to call for and to
20 embody the radical love reflective of the gospel values that unite us.
21

22 Therefore, we call upon all United Methodists, clergy and laity, to act, both online and in person,
23 as agents of peace, open-mindedness, and mutual respect in the public sphere, while remaining
24 steadfast in their compassionate solidarity with persons and communities targeted by hate, fear,
25 and misinformation. Every United Methodist is called upon to respond with civility to those
26 persons who promote hate, fear, and misinformation, and to abstain from or seek to hold
27 accountable those media outlets which promote the same.
28

29 We, the members of the Oregon-Idaho Conference, define civility as resisting dehumanization
30 through truthful, persistent, and nonviolent engagement with others, which witnesses to the
31 radical love of Christ. Civility is not an issue of ideology or political affiliation; it is a value at the
32 core of our democracy as well as our faith.
33

34 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

35 **What will this action accomplish?**

36 While this is a principle that we, as United Methodists, should already embrace and follow, the
37 sponsors believe that, especially in the face of current events, both in and outside of the church,
38 we all need a reminder that there is no "other;" we are all God's children.
39

40 **Why is it important?**

41 To serve as a reminder of one of the basic tenants of our faith – "Love your neighbor."
42

43 **How will it be carried out? By whom?**

- 1 Print in Conference and District newsletters as a reminder that this is a principle that we, as
- 2 United Methodists (and human beings!) need to follow.
- 3 **Encourage one another to use civility in all of our interactions.**
- 4
- 5 **How much will it cost? Where will the money come from?**
- 6 No additional cost.