STANDING RESOLUTION #3
2019 OREGON-IDAHO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

TITLE: Call to Civility
SPONSORING GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL: Methodist Federation for Social Action, Holy
Land Task Force, Oregon-Idaho Peace with Justice
SPOKESPERSON: Karen Nelson
SPOKESPERSON'S ADDRESS: PO Box 19965, Portland, OR 97280
SPOKESPERSON'S E-MAIL: pastorkaren@gknelson.net
SPOKESPERSON'S TELEPHONE: 503-957-6815

AMENDED IN YELLOW, ADD IN BOLD, DELETE IN STRIKEOUT
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY RECOMMENDATION: Passed, 23-0-1.

This petition is
A renewal of an existing Standing Resolution (no or minor revisions)

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

"Civility is more than a rule for polite conduct. It is a way of life formed around values that unite
rather than divide." These words of Will Rogers are no less true today than when he said them
during the Great Depression. In today's highly polarized cultural environment, incivility
and dehumanization has become systemic, spreading corrosively like a cancer in our communities,
our nation and the body politic. As persons of faith, it is our individual as well as corporate
responsibility to call for and to embody the civility radical love reflective of the gospel values that
unite us. Therefore, we call upon all United Methodists, clergy and laity, to act as agents of
peace, tolerance and mutual respect of all persons. Further, every United Methodist is called
upon to respond with radical compassion to those persons and media who promote
hate, fear, misinformation, and lies. Civility is the currency of civilization, of community. We, the
members of the Oregon-Idaho Conference, define civility as resisting dehumanization in
exchange for radical love. Civility is not an issue of ideology or political affiliation. It is an issue a
value at the core of our gospel faith.
SUPPORTING INFORMATION

What will this action accomplish?
While this is a principle that we, as United Methodists, should already embrace and follow, the sponsors believe that, especially in the face of current events, both in and outside of the church, we all need a reminder that there is no “other;” we are all God’s children.

Why is it important?
To serve as a reminder of one of the basic tenants of our faith – “Love your neighbor.”

How will it be carried out? By whom?
Perhaps it could be printed in Conference and District newsletters as a reminder that this is a principle that we, as United Methodists (and human beings!) need to follow. Encourage one another to use civility in all of our interactions.

How much will it cost? Where will the money come from?
No additional cost except for the cost of compiling and publishing the journal.