

Motion to the Presbytery of Boston, September 24, 2018

The 223rd General Assembly (2018) adopted a resolution which says in part:

“Standing in the conviction that all people are created in the image of God and that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is good news for all people, the 223rd General Assembly affirms its commitment to the full welcome, acceptance, and inclusion of transgender people, people who identify as gender non-binary, and people of all gender identities within the full life of the church and the world. The Assembly affirms the full dignity and the full humanity of transgender people, their full inclusion in all human rights, and their giftedness for service. The Assembly affirms the church’s obligation to stand for the right of people of all gender identities to live free from discrimination, violence, and every form of injustice.”

In concurrence with the action of our Presbyterian family in the wider church, **we move:**

- **that the Presbytery of Boston concur with the resolution “Affirming And Celebrating The Full Dignity And Humanity Of People Of All Gender Identities” adopted by the 223rd General Assembly in response to Overture 11-12, to affirm that Jesus Christ calls us to welcome those who are transgender, gender non-binary, and of all gender identities, into full participation in the life of the church, and also to stand firm against injustice toward them wherever we find it in the world;**
- **and that the Presbytery of Boston take a public stand in favor of Question 3 on the Massachusetts ballot in November of 2018, and that this decision be communicated by the stated clerk to member churches of the Presbytery and to the news media. [A “yes” vote on this referendum is a vote to affirm and keep the current law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender identity in places of public accommodation.]**

The Rev. Christiane Dutton

The Rev. Donald Dutton

The Rev. Barton Kelso

The Rev. Dr. Nancy Hayes Kilgore

The Rev. Catherine MacDonald

The Rev. Roderick MacDonald

The Rev. Rick Otty

The Rev. Andrew Parmelee

The Rev. Jean Southard

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Sullivan

The Rev. John Wuestneck

Attached are:

- General Assembly Overture 11-12, approved as a resolution by unanimous consent, which includes definitions of terms used in the motion.
- Massachusetts Ballot Question 3.

