Dear President Trump and Vice President Pence,

As Christian pastors and leaders, we are deeply concerned by the recently announced moratorium on refugee resettlement. Our care for the oppressed and suffering is rooted in the call of Jesus to “love our neighbor as we love ourselves.” In the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37), Jesus makes it clear that our “neighbor” includes the stranger and anyone fleeing persecution and violence, regardless of their faith or country.

As Christians, we have a historic call expressed over two thousand years, to serve the suffering. We cannot abandon this call now. We live in a dangerous world and affirm the crucial role of government in protecting us from harm and in setting the terms on refugee admissions. However, compassion and security can coexist, as they have for decades. For the persecuted and suffering, every day matters; every delay is a crushing blow to hope.

Since the inception of the refugee resettlement program, thousands of local churches throughout the country have played a role in welcoming refugees of all religious backgrounds. Ministries to newly arrived refugees are ready and desire to receive many thousands more people than would be allowed under the new executive order.

As leaders, we welcome the concern expressed for religious minorities, including persecuted Christians. Followers of Christ face horrific persecution and even genocide in certain parts of the world. While we are eager to welcome persecuted Christians, we also welcome vulnerable Muslims and people of other faiths or no faith at all. This executive order dramatically reduces the overall number of refugees allowed this year, robbing families of hope and a future. And it could well cost them their lives.

As Christians, we are committed to praying for our elected officials. Our prayer is that God would grant President Trump and all our leaders divine wisdom as they direct the course of our nation. We also pray for the vulnerable individuals whom their decisions directly impact.

To stand with refugees, add your name to the hundreds of other church leaders who have already signed on at worldrelief.org/refugee-letter.

Top evangelical leaders from all 50 states call on President Trump and Vice President Pence to support refugees.

Tim & Kathy Keller
Pastor & Author
Bill & Lynne Hybels
Willow Creek Community Church
John Perkins
Christian Community Development Association
Ed Stetzer
Wheaton College
Ann Voskamp
Gorrie Bible Fellowship
Max Lucado
Oak Hills Church
Leith Anderson
National Association of Evangelicals
Brenda Salter McNeil
Guest Church
Stuart & Jill Briscoe
Telling the Truth
Eugene Cho
Guest Church
Scott Sauls
Christ Presbyterian Church
Cal & Lisa Jernigan
Central Christian Church
Michael Housholder
Lutheran Church of Hope
Kenton Beshore
Mariners Church
Rich Nathan
Vineyard Columbus
Matthew Mason
The Church at Brook Hills
Derwin Gray
Transformation Church
Jason Webb
Elmbrook Church
Dave Ferguson
Community Christian Church
Daniel Akin
Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary
AJ Sherrill
Mars Hill Bible Church
Joel Hunter
Northland, A Church Distributed
John Jenkins
First Baptist of Glenarden
Shirley Hoogstra
Council for Christian Colleges & Universities
Convening a Christian conscience on behalf of refugees.