

## Learning to Welcome the Stranger

**Walk Your Streets:** Take time to get to know your neighbors and your neighborhood. Pay close attention to those who you may not normally notice.

**Make an Invitation:** Share a meal with someone you do not know well. Learn about their culture and family history. Find out what you have in common and what unique gifts you can share.

**Ask Questions:** Learn more about who has immigrated to your community and why. Then ask how your church community can welcome and serve these newer community members.

**Freely Serve:** Volunteer at your local church or at a community-based organization that serves people who have immigrated. Make this a chance to get to know people with whom you don't normally interact.

**Freely Receive:** As you get to know people who have immigrated, let them share their gifts and talents with you. Be prepared to grow and change as God works through these relationships.

**Open the Doors of the Church:** Plan an event to welcome people through your doors, and gather a group to go out those same doors to participate in community events. Use these experiences to make lasting connections between your congregation and nearby immigrant communities.

**Pray for People on the Move:** Ask God to help you see people the way that God sees them. As you do, be ready and willing for God to break your heart and change your life.