



Invite • Welcome • Connect



Building a Vital Newcomer Ministry

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**EPISCOPAL
CHURCH FOUNDATION**
empowering congregations

Connect via....



#invitewelcomeconnect

@gatheringleader

#teamjesus

@ecfvp



maryfosterparmer

ecfvp

episcopalfoundation

Let us pray...

*O God of peace,
who hast taught us that in returning
and rest we shall be saved,
in quietness and confidence shall
be our strength:*

*By the might of thy Spirit lift us,
we pray thee, to thy presence,
where we may be still and know
that thou art God;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Amen.

-- A Prayer for Quiet Confidence, BCP, pg. 832



Newcomer Ministry Vision Statement

Cultivating new practices of
Invitation, Welcome, & Connection
that are rooted and grounded
in the Gospel of Jesus Christ
will transform our congregations
and help shape an authentic culture
of effective newcomer ministry.

Core Values

Prayerful

Intentional

Relational

Accountable



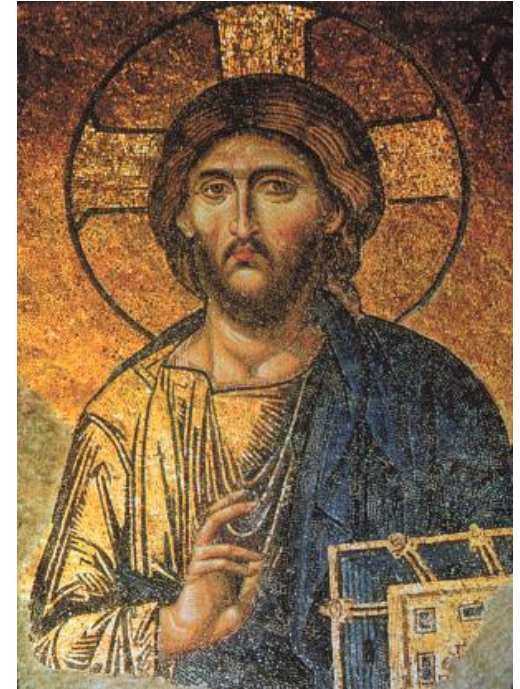
The Challenge

Essentials of Newcomer Ministry

INVITE Evangelism

WELCOME Hospitality

CONNECT Closing the Back Door



INVITE



I NVI TE.....EVANG ELI SM

DEEP TRUTH OF INVITE

Courage
Versus
Fear

WELCOME . . . ministry of **Hospitality**

*Welcome one another, therefore, just as
Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.*

Romans 15:7

The Episcopal Church...
invites
welcomes
connects
you....



Greeters & Ushers

are

God's stand-ins & ambassadors



DEEP TRUTH OF WELCOME

**Seeing
the
Other**

CONNECT...closing the back door

Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: Romans 12:6

- Giving meaning to membership
- Discerning Giftedness
- Empowering Laity for Ministry



DEEP TRUTH OF CONNECT

**Sacred
Act of
Listening**

Relationship

Relationship

Relationship

Imagine the possibilities
for the Episcopal Church

**.....if we lived into our
calling to be Fully Engaged in living out
God's Transformative Mission of
Hospitality to the World!**

Interactive Check Lists

With embedded
Ideas & Resources

INVITE

Check List / Ideas / Resources

This list is a starting place for you to assess and create your congregation's system of INVITATION.
It is not intended to be either all inclusive or size specific.

	We do this well	We need to work on this	We do not do this YET
INVITATION~EVANGELISM - Tools			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Physical tools for invitation are provided to members i.e., business cards, postcards, etc. Idea #1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education & Training			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Opportunities to learn about invitation & evangelism are offered on a routine basis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Classes and/or teaching resources are provided to help parishioners learn how to effectively evangelize, i.e. how to share their faith story Resource #1 Idea #2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Church offers numerous creative ways of invitation to the local community Idea #3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Intentionally connect these activities with information about your church, always asking the question.. <i>Why are we doing this and how does it align with our mission?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

WELCOME

Check List / Ideas / Resources

This list is a starting place for you to assess and create your congregation's system for WELCOME.
It is not intended to be either all inclusive or size specific.

	We do this well	We need to work on this	We do not do this Yet
FIRST IMPRESSIONS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Greeting message on church answering machine Warm, friendly voice with clear information about current service times & instructions for leaving a message Idea #1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Road signage and/or banners Resource #1 Contain easily readable information while driving by	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Facilities inside & out Clean, inviting, attractive, clearly tended & cared for	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Designated guest parking Located near the front doors & clearly identifiable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interior signage Clearly marked entryways, walkways, & map of facilities available	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nursery Accessible, clean, attractive to adults & children	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Restrooms Well marked, clean, supplies on hand	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

CONNECT

Check List / Ideas / Resources

This list is a starting place for you to assess and create your congregation's system for CONNECTION.
It is not intended to be either all inclusive or size specific.

	We do this well	We need to work on this	We do not do this Yet
CONNECTING			
• Process for connecting newcomers			
❖ Intentional system in place for tracking & follow up	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
❖ Decision regarding preferred software system Resource #1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
❖ Clergy & Vestry have flow chart of newcomer process [See "Welcome" segment-Resource #1]	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Staff and/or lay ministry volunteer interaction with newcomers			
❖ Written job descriptions for staff and/or ministry volunteers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
❖ Annual performance reviews for staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Designated person(s) who will connect & keep track of newcomers Resource #2 & #3			
❖ Intentional conversations to hear newcomer's story ~ Listening for the Holy in their lives Idea #1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
❖ Connect newcomer with the people & ministry that matches his/her particular life phase, gifts, talents, passion Idea #2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

CHURCH ~ SCHOOL

Check List / Ideas / Resources

This list is a starting place for you to assess your congregation's relationship with your school.
It is not intended to be either all inclusive or size specific.

	We do this well	We need to work on this	We do not do this Yet
SCHOOL AS MISSION FIELD			
Identify ways to intentionally build upon idea of the school as an evangelism asset/mission field Idea #1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Intentionally connect school activities with information about your church Idea #2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
RELATIONSHIP BUILDING			
Rector/clergy meet regularly with head of school Idea #3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Rector/clergy are intentionally visible & known by school board, parents, and students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Consideration of cost saving employment structure Idea #4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Connect is where my heart is. All three are invaluable, but to me INVITE is like buying paint, and WELCOME is like pulling out the canvas. CONNECT however is where the art is. It is how the painting takes its shape. It is in blessing each others gifts and finding belonging that we discover the beauty in every contour the body of Christ.

The Rev. Les Carpenter @ Camp Allen 2014

Contact Info



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Invite • Welcome • Connect



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