

Guidelines for Greeters

Greeters are our front line ministers of welcome. Greeters usually provide the first official point of contact with the congregation. Your role as a greeter is critically important to set the tone of welcoming in the congregation. As you serve in this ministry, keep these guidelines in mind.

Remember to:

- Welcome each person who enters the worship area.
- Identify newcomers, ask their names, quickly answer their questions, and introduce them to an usher.
- Leave the doorway to assist people when necessary.
- Shake hands and smile; these are always appropriate greetings that say “welcome.”
- Arrive early at your assigned door and stay there until after worship begins to assist those arriving late.

Try to avoid:

- Getting caught up in lengthy conversations with people.
- Interrogating newcomers or keeping them too long at the doors, especially if your conversation keeps others outside.
- Leaving people hanging while waiting for an answer or assistance with a problem.
- Kissing and hugging; some people (regulars and newcomers alike) feel awkward about being touched in such a personal way by an acquaintance.
- Leaving your assignment unattended, especially close to the start of worship when newcomers are likely to arrive.