

WELCOME

Jeannine Allen, Missional Engagement Minister



Good
Shepherd
CHURCH

- What does scripture say
- Who is World Relief
- Understanding Global Immigration
- Personal Impact Stories
- Ways to Help
- Additional Resources
- Q & A



Good
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Opening Prayer

Tara Beth Leach, Senior Pastor



Good
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CHURCH



Welcoming the Stranger Loving Our Neighbor

Tara Beth Leach, Senior Pastor
Joel Duncan, Church Mobilizer

What does the Bible have to say?

Old Testament foundation:

- Gen 12 – blessing
- Lev 19 – social systems
- Ruth – faithful = family
- Prophets – accountability

What does the Bible have to say?

New Testament expression:

- Acts 2 – the church's first moments
- Acts 10 – Cornelius, the occupying soldier
- Eph 2 – Neither Jew nor Gentile
- Rev – every tribe; nations bringing their glory to God

Understanding Global Immigration

THE CONTEXT

- Today, over **123 million people** have been forcibly displaced worldwide.
- **1 in every 69 people on Earth** has been displaced
- For most, the possibility of returning home does not exist.



WHY FORCED DISPLACEMENT EXISTS

- Fleeing conflict
- Persecution
- Extreme poverty
- Climate-related hazards





THE CHALLENGE

- Many of our new neighbors are left isolated, lonely, and struggling without community or belonging.
- They experience a new kind of vulnerability — a poverty of *dependency, loneliness and dislocation*.
- **Left unaddressed, new neighbors remain strangers.**
- **But it doesn't have to be this way.**

World Relief + The Church

OUR SHARED MISSION

- World Relief exists to boldly engage the world's greatest crises in partnership with the church and community.
- World Relief has been working with displaced people globally for over 80 years, and for more than 45 years in Chicagoland.





Who We Welcome

- Refugees
- Asylum Seekers
- Special Immigrant Visa Holders
- Humanitarian Parolees
- Other Immigrants

INCREASED IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT

1100 people detained since
September; 2300 total this year in
Chicagoland area

over 60% have no criminal record

1.5 million arrived legally, fleeing
situations of humanitarian concern,
and since January their status has
been revoked



IMPACT ON IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY

Fear

Isolation

Distrust

Separated Families

Re-traumatization



IMPACT Stories



Partnering with Churches in Chicago





Partnering with
local Churches
and WR

Ways to Respond

What are Chicagoland churches doing?

GAPS

- Financial support
- Housing / program space
- Resources (school supplies, coats)

GAPS

- Calling Representatives
- Teaching Biblical foundations
- Accompaniment / Accountability

GAPS

- For God's healing
- For families to stay together
- For dignifying systems

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- Friendship Partner
- Tutoring (English and after school)
- Transportation support

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Providing Vital Services

- Immigration Legal Services
- Adult Education (English Language Learning)
- Immigrant Family Services
 - Workforce Development
 - Refugee Resettlement
 - Case Management
 - Children & Youth Support
 - Asylum Seeker Support
 - Mental Health

Good Shepherd Naperville

Good Shepherd Response:

Build community, advocate for good policies

Individually and Collectively

Edges of Your Field

Welcome kits, donating furniture, driving, English practice, Good Neighbor Teams, financially

Good Shepherd Response:

How many Good Neighbor Teams could a church
our size provide?

Questions?

Learn



**Monthly
newsletter**

Serve



**Volunteer
Interest**

Give



**Financial
Support**



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