

Welcoming Tips

Here are some ideas that might make it easier for you to welcome others to our church. Feel free to come up with other ideas or adapt these on your own. These are just to get you thinking about welcoming as a personal ministry, right there in the pew, and a lifestyle for our church.

Circle of 10: Greet anyone, member or guest, who comes within ten feet of you. Make a special effort to greet the people you don't already know within your Circle of 10.

Rule of Three: Please do not talk to other members for the first three minutes after the service. Talk only to those you don't know or people you know are guests. It takes guests about three minutes to exit the church after worship and we need to make sure someone has made contact with them before they leave.

Don't know what to say to a guest? Here are a few conversation starters:

1. Offer a handshake and say, "Hello. My name is _____, and you are ...?"
2. Wait for a response and repeat the person's name so you make sure that you get it right and so you can more easily remember it.
3. If you think you know the face but can't recall the name, try this approach:

"Hello, I'm _____. I believe I've seen you here before but I don't know that we've had the opportunity to meet. What is your name?"

4. Don't be embarrassed if you're greeting a member and don't know that person's name—or be offended if someone doesn't remember yours. We need to offer grace to one another, just as we would to new people.