



"I was a stranger...  
and you welcomed me"  
Matthew 25:35

## Nativity's *Welcoming Focus*

Encouraging us to be actively welcoming to all  
Take this home to read, learn, use and share

### A "Welcoming" Introduction

#### Introducing a new initiative and a new tool for all of us...

Nativity's Church Growth Committee is introducing a **Welcoming Initiative**, a coordinated effort to encourage all church members to make Nativity a more intentionally welcoming community. As part of this initiative we're introducing a new tool to make us effective welcomers.

You're holding in your hands the first edition of Nativity's ***Welcoming Focus***, a short one-page insert that will be included in our weekly worship program for the next 13 weeks. You'll be able to easily spot it each week since it's going to be printed on pink paper, just like this first edition.

This weekly tool will be used to share information such as:

- Facts, and even cartoons, that help us understand the importance of welcoming.
- Tips that teach us to be more effective in welcoming guests to our church.

Wondering what specific type of information we'll be providing? While we don't have space in this first edition to tell you about everything, below are two brief examples of the ideas that might help you increase your welcoming skills.

#### Here are some examples of welcoming tips and techniques to be further explained in future editions...

- **3-Minute Rule:** Immediately after the worship service ends, spend the first 3 minutes talking with guests, newcomers, and even other members you don't know, before you begin talking with your friends.
- **Wondering how to easily start a conversation with people you don't know?** We'll show you some easy techniques to introduce yourself to people you don't know. As one example, when meeting a person you don't know, one starting technique is to simply say,  
    **"Hi, I'm \_\_\_\_\_. I don't think we've met."**  
and from there you have the start of a first conversation. This works equally well both for guests and members you don't yet know.

**Ready to learn more? We'll share more facts, tips and techniques in future editions of *Welcoming Focus*** – the pink page. Look for it in the worship program published each Sunday. (It will also be available through each week's *News & Notes* email.)