

ENGAGING DISCIPLESHIP

Open My Eyes, My Heart, My Hands MARK 10:46-52

America for Christ Offering 2012

Practicing Hospitality by Serving Our New Neighbors

American Baptists have historically been at our best when exemplifying Christian hospitality by opening our eyes, hearts and hands to our immigrant and refugee neighbors. The mission of inclusion was formalized in 1919, when the Woman's American Baptist Home Mission Society launched the Christian Friendliness program to transform fear and hostility toward strangers into understanding and friendship.



God has used this faithful response to “strangers” to profoundly shape the denomination. On any given Sunday around the United

States and Puerto Rico, American Baptist congregations reflect the eyes, hearts and hands of diverse cultures, races, languages and ethnicities.

The Office of Immigration and Refugee Resettlement of American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) continues this effort to open eyes, hearts and hands to immigrants and refugees by doing the following:

- providing support and resources to local congregations that sponsor refugees fleeing persecution and oppression, such as Westgate Baptist Church, Lancaster, Pa.;
- working with ecumenical partners to advocate for compassionate immigration reform;
- making presentations and facilitating workshops about the facts of immigration reform and immigrant impact; and
- offering grants and resources that support refugee sponsorship and immigration issues.

Your gifts to America for Christ support ABHMS in continuing God's work of weaving American Baptist Churches USA into a coat of many colors.

For more information, visit www.abhms.org > Ministries & Programs > Justice Ministries > Immigration and Refugee Services or contact the Rev. Aundrea Alexander at aundrea.alexander@abhms.org or 1-800-222-3872, x 2430.

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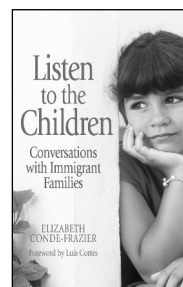
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America for Christ gifts support Christ-centered ministries that engage discipleship across the United States and Puerto Rico—through evangelism training, missional church learning experiences, discipleship resources, youth initiatives, volunteer ministries and disaster response, plus initiatives that fight poverty and so much more.

www.abhms.org > GIVE NOW

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Elizabeth Conde-Frazier

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