



“I was a stranger and you welcomed me.”

U.S. refugee policies and the churches’ response

Monday, October 29, 2018 at 7 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.

A Webinar presented by Susan Krehbiel for churches in the Presbytery of Baltimore

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/webinar-i-was-a-stranger-us-refugee-policy-and-church-response-tickets-50980752804>

People in crisis seek safety in the U.S. Families and children from around the world, the majority from Central America, continue to arrive at the U.S. southwest border to find freedom and hope. The U.S. Government has responded with a series of policies set to deter them.

Even as the U.S. pulls back refugee resettlement to its lowest commitment in the history of the program, refugees continue to flee the violence in their home countries, while millions more linger in refugee camps, abandoned lots and squatter dwellings. Most refugees want to stay close to home until they can return. For others, however, return is not a real option and they yearn for a place to welcome them.

Susan Krehbiel, in addition to working for the Presbytery, works part-time for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance as the associate for refugees and asylum. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is responding in cooperation with Presbyterians and ecumenical partners across the country. Susan will share the behind the scenes news and information for you to go beyond the headlines to learn what is happening and reflect upon our response as Christians.

The webinar will be divided into 3 sections:

- **Asylum seekers and the Southwest border** – what has happened to the families who were in the headlines this summer, what is happening now, and how are Presbyterians and other people of faith providing humanitarian assistance and speaking out.
- **Refugee Resettlement** – October 1st marked the end of the last federal fiscal year and the beginning of a new one. Learn about how many refugees were ultimately resettled in FY2018, the government’s lowest ever goal for the year ahead, how national and local organizations are coping with these changes and what you can do.
- **Local Opportunities** – a discussion of what you can do within your own congregation.

The program will be offered via webinar so you can join as a group or from your own home.