

Immigration Month - Next Steps

(Underlined items link to designated groups)

LEARN:

Episcopal Migration Ministries (EMM) provides a variety of educational resources for congregations that you may find interesting.

Interfaith Immigration Coalition is a partnership of faith-based organizations (including the Episcopal Church) committed to enacting fair and humane immigration reform that reflects our mandate to welcome the stranger and treat all human beings with dignity and respect. Great, timely information and action suggestions.

Connect to immigrant community-based organizations in your local area, like Faith in the Valley, that may be welcoming asylum seekers and ask them how you can support their work.

Sign up to receive the SJRAISE Newsletter and/or “Like” our page on Facebook - EDSJ: A Safe Place for All God’s People.

Participate in the **Civil Discourse** presentations planned for July of this year by the Diocese and led by Alan Yarborough from the Episcopal Office of Governmental Relations.

To learn more about what's happening at the U.S. southern border lately see these two excellent updates by International Rescue Committee and Church World Service. Or follow the work of our sister Dioceses on the Border: The Diocese of San Diego is providing chaplaincy services to young women currently housed at the San Diego Convention Center. The Diocese of Arizona, Rio Grande, and West Texas likewise are engaged in providing direct service to immigrants as well as speaking out on their behalf.

PRAY:

Include the struggles of immigrants in your parish's intercessory prayer throughout the year. Join in or organize local ecumenical prayer vigils on behalf of immigrants. For prayer resources consult Episcopal Migration Ministries and the Interfaith Immigration Coalition.

Also see **Vigil and Prayer Resources** for groups to grow compassion and build solidarity with migrant children and families.

ACT:

Join the **Episcopal Public Policy Network** (EPPN). They provide alerts and updates on immigration and a variety of other issues. Encourage others in your congregation to join, too!

Write **letters to the editor** of your local newspaper regarding your concerns about immigrants.

Follow **Faith in the Valley** on Facebook and join in their public witness events on behalf of immigrants.

Make Quilts wrapped in Love!

This is new initiative in our Diocese where we send handmade quilts to our immigrant siblings at the Border to let them know they are "wrapped in love." The quilters are in need of supplies and financial support to distribute the quilts. If you or your congregation/group would like to support this project financially or with your quilting talents, please contact Pastor Julie at: pastor@ecsaviour.org. To view the video of the blessing of the blankets and hear from Pastor Julie and quilter Jean Wright, [click here](#)

Visit immigrants in detention or become a Pen Pal with someone in detention.

Donate your miles through [Miles4Migrants](#), a nonprofit organization helping reunite and relocate families. Miles4Migrants uses frequent flyer miles, credit card points, and cash to help people impacted by war, persecution, or disaster start a new beginning in a new home. Learn more and pledge to give [here](#)!

Consider sponsoring asylum seekers as a congregation. Episcopal Migration Ministries has produced an excellent guide book on the steps involved, "Supporting Asylum Seekers: A Toolkit for Congregations. Free [download](#) at <https://episcopalmigrationministries.org/asylum-toolkit/>

Assist refugees in our area through [International Rescue Committee](#).

Connect to a community of welcomers and advocates - join EMM's Asylum & Detention Ministry Network. These are vibrant virtual spaces for conversation, collaboration, and taking action together. [Sign up here](#): <https://dfms.formstack.com/forms/emmmministrynetwork>