

Greeter Instructions

Revised January 2024

What is a Greeter?

A greeter is someone who greets! This is a ministry of hospitality and first impressions aimed at connecting and reconnecting the congregation to itself. In fact, the word “religion” is derived from the Latin word “religio,” or “re-binding.”

Qualifications of Greeters

Not everyone is cut out to be a greeter, and that’s okay. Greeters should be:

1. **People people** — who thrive from conversation with a wide variety of people across the congregation.
2. **Not shy** — Willing to go out of their way to make a connection with someone they don’t already know.
3. **Willing to “go the extra mile”** — There are few “instructions” for greeters, so they must look for opportunities to serve and connect people and seize the day!
4. **Able to see the holy in the ordinary** — Not every weekend is a high festival weekend, but every weekend is an opportunity to better connect the Body of Christ.

Tools of the Trade

- **A Jacket or Coat, as appropriate** — so that you can stand outside to greet people
- **Umbrella** — For helping people into the building in inclement weather.
- **Transport chair** — For helping people with mobility issues.
 - *Calling it a “transport chair” works way better than calling it a “wheelchair.”*

Dos and Don’ts

- Do open the door for each person who comes to church whenever possible.
- Do go out of your way to show hospitality. If someone asks for help finding something (e.g. the bathroom) don’t just point, walk them over.
- Do make an effort to introduce a newcomer to Pastor.
- Don’t allow newcomers (or returners) to become overwhelmed.
- Don’t ignore a guest. When someone is new, don’t just greet them, make a connection to someone else and “hand them off.”