

# WHY WELCOME MATTERS

***Romans 12:13 NIV***

***“Share with the Lord’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.”***

Sometimes congregations underestimate the value of welcoming when preparing for Sunday morning worship service. Sometimes more focus is placed on whether there will be cookies after church at coffee hour while possibly overlooking the possibility that guests may be seeking a place where they can find hope, peace and a spiritual connection. If more congregations were to recognize the value of a smile and a friendly hello, they would more likely communicate the love of Christ in a compelling way that more effectively reaches strangers in the midst of the church family.

Experiencing God’s love through people’s actions and the entire experience can be just as meaningful or more to first time visitors than anything that may be said during a worship experience. Why because first time visitors are often looking for the signs of what makes a worship experience different than going to a baseball game or a club meeting.

As you read the musings shared in this e-book, we encourage you to share them with friends and ministry team members as you make room to welcome.

Blessings,

