



CARING FOR LGBTQ REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS, PART 1



MORE LIGHT
PRESBYTERIANS



Presbyterian Mission
**Presbyterian
Disaster Assistance**



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TODAY'S TRAINERS

Susan Krehbiel, she/her

Associate for Refugees and Asylum Seekers,
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Alex McNeill, he/him

Executive Director, *More Light Presbyterians*

Jess Cook, they/them

Program & Communications Manager,
More Light Presbyterians



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WHAT WE WILL COVER TODAY:

- Language and terminology related to the experiences of LGBTQ refugees and asylum seekers
- A theological/biblical grounding for the importance of responsible ministry with LGBTQ refugees and asylum seekers
- A general understanding of the circumstances LGBTQ refugees coming into the U.S. face
- Ways congregations can have the conversation about the WHY of offering responsible care for LGBTQ Refugees and Asylum Seekers



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HOW THIS PARTNERSHIP CAME ABOUT



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MORE LIGHT'S MISSION



MORE LIGHT
PRESBYTERIANS

Following the risen Christ, and seeking to make the Church a true community of hospitality, the mission of More Light Presbyterians is to work for the full participation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) people in the life, ministry and witness of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and in society.



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PDA'S MANDATES



Presbyterian Mission
**Presbyterian
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1. A ministry of relief and response to national and international disasters.
2. Aid to refugees and displaced persons, including resettlement.



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PDA'S ROLE



Presbyterian Mission
**Presbyterian
Disaster Assistance**

- Basic information on refugees, resettlement
- Educational events & resources
- Referring congregations to local providers
- Working with Presbyterian Mission Networks
- Financial support for Presbyterian led efforts
- Connecting concern to larger response - international, public policy, etc.



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LOVE

WELCOME

A FAITH-BASED FORUM ON SUPPORTING
LGBTQ REFUGEES

FRIDAY, OCT. 20-SATURDAY, OCT. 21, 2017



THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
12 WEST 12TH STREET NEW



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THE TIMES WE ARE IN



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MATTHEW 2:13-18

13 Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him."

14 **Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, 15 and remained there until the death of Herod.** This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

16 When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and **killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under**, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men.

17 Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

18 "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."



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PERSONAL REFLECTIONS



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LANGUAGE AND TERMINOLOGY



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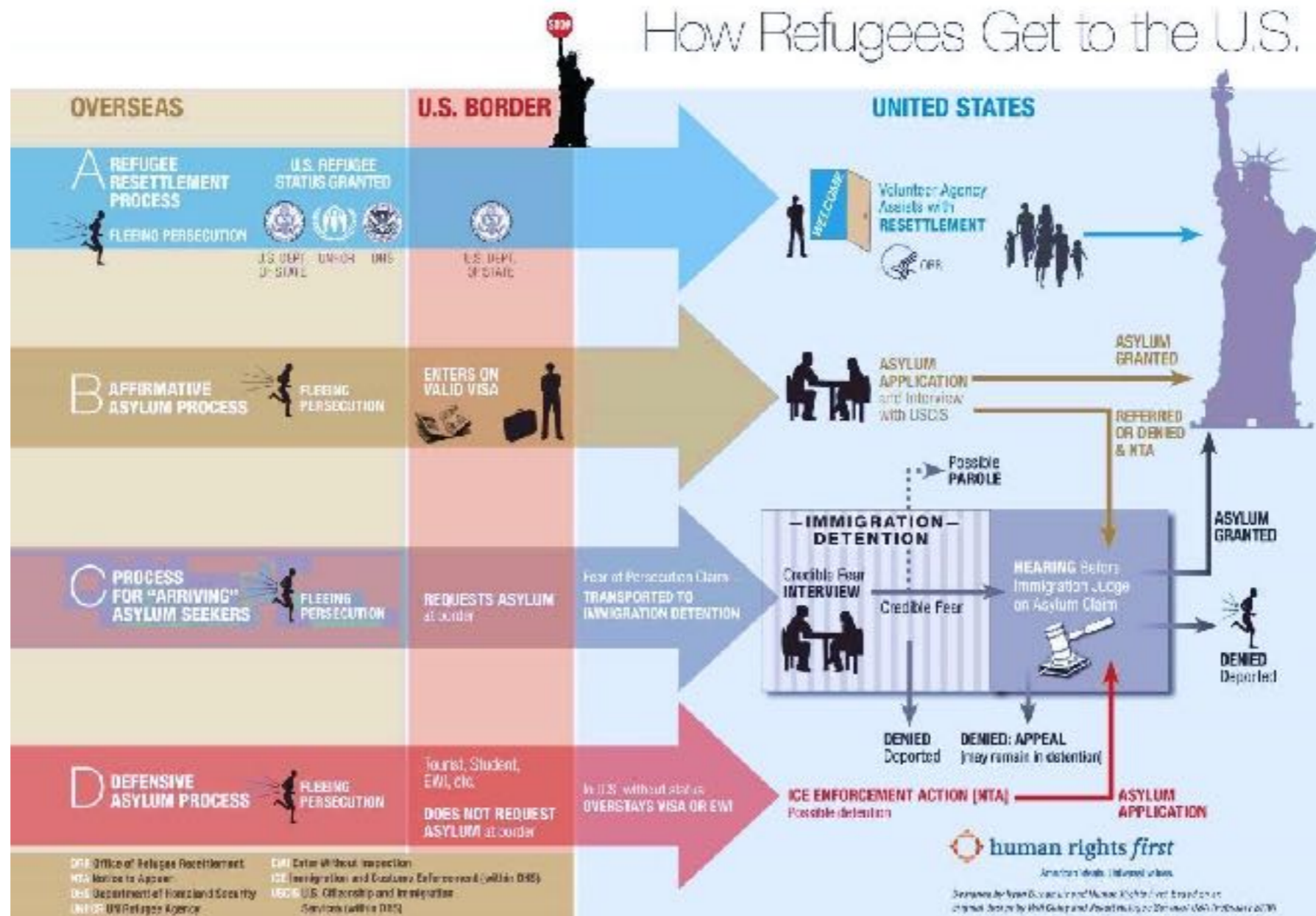
WHO IS A REFUGEE?



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HOW DO REFUGEES GET TO THE U.S.?



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PAUSE FOR QUESTIONS



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**Do we, as Christians, really need to understand
these differences?**

Yes and No



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DEUTERONOMY 10:17-19

17 For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, 18 who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. 19 **You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.**



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WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM?



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Detainees

Families

Asylee

Illegals

Alien

Neighbor

**Sisters,
Brothers,
and Siblings**

Threat to
National Security



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AS THE PC(USA)



- Called to respond to all human beings as children of God
- Concern for the ways in which people are made vulnerable - by their home country government, by smugglers and traffickers, by US immigration system

Do we as a country and Government live up to our highest humanitarian principles?



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QUESTIONS?



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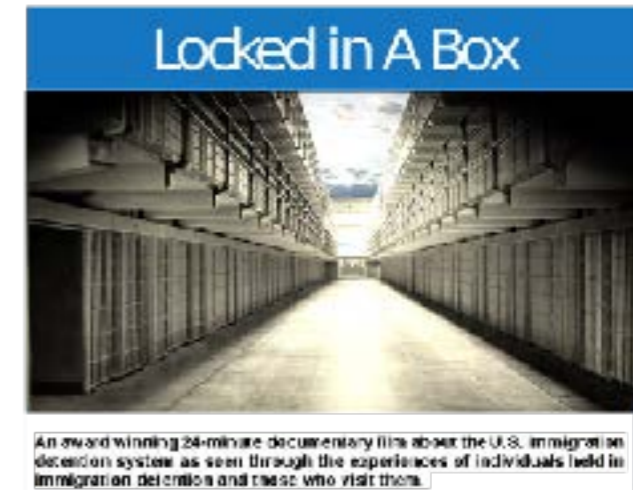


HOW TO CONNECT TO PDA



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Disaster Assistance**

- Find resources at:
pda.pcusa.org/page/refugee/
- Follow us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/PDACARES/
- Sign up for our new PDA Blog
<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/pda-blog/>
- Email us at: pda@pcusa.org



<http://pda.pcusa.org/pda/resource/video-immigration-detention/>



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HOW TO CONNECT TO MORE LIGHT



- Find resources at:
<https://mlp.org/international-lgbtq-issues/>
- Follow us on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/more.light.presbyterians>
- Email us at: hello@mlp.org



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FOR PART 2

Explore Freedom for Immigrants information on immigration detention & visitation programs:

<https://www.freedomforimmigrants.org/>

**Part 2: Join us on Wednesday,
May 30
3:00 pm Eastern**



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We Choose Welcome

Elegimos dar la bienvenida

Nous choisissons l'accueil

نحن نختار الترحيب



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