



I See You: Mission Engagement Ideas

Listen.

At times we are so busy serving that we miss the opportunity to really connect with those whom we encounter. For instance, you may be too busy serving food during your food ministry event that you miss the opportunity to eat with those being served. Next time you are engaging in a mission ministry, get to know someone who is being served. You may leave with a friend.

Learn.

Attend a cultural fair or event in your community with a church small group. The event can be in person or virtual. If the event is in person, conduct some informal interviews with people to ask questions about what you experience/observe and to learn more about the culture. Share your experiences and learning with your small group. You can find a list of Multicultural Events in New Jersey [here](#).

Welcome.

Who are “the strangers” in your community? Commit to learning more about them. What are their hopes, dreams, goals, gifts, challenges? Through conversations with those considered strangers, or with those who work with those considered strangers, identify how your congregation can befriend and build relationships with those considered outsiders. For instance, you can support an organization that works in immigrant justice by donating financially or serving as a volunteer. Justice for our Neighbors of the Delaware Valley and First Friends of New Jersey and New York are Hope Centers that are working on behalf of immigrants locally.