



An Evangelical Presbyterian Church

RESBYTERIAN

HURCH

Hospitality and Community: Part 1

REDEEMER

Hospitality and Community

- Week One: use of our homes for ministry to others *AND* as a means of evangelism.
- Week Two: branching out to our neighbors.

Hospitality and Community

- Week One: use of our homes for ministry to others *AND* as a means of evangelism.
- Week Two: branching out to our neighbors.
- Weeks Three and Four: how our church can offer hospitality as part of our ministry together.



REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN An Evangelical Presbyterian Church

HURCH

Hospitality and Community: Part 1

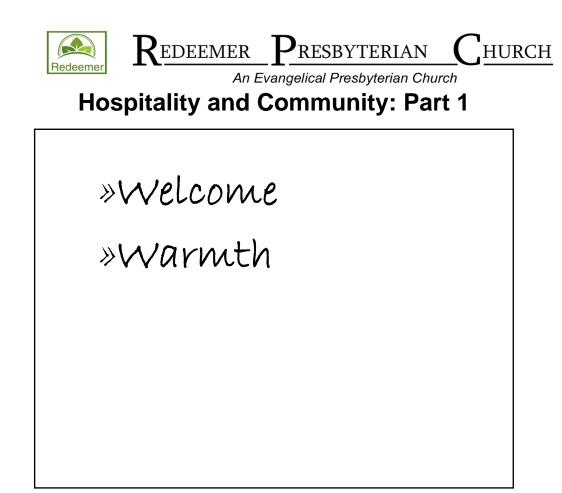
When you hear the word "hospitality," in the broadest possible sense, what other descriptive words come to mind?

Is this really "hospitality?



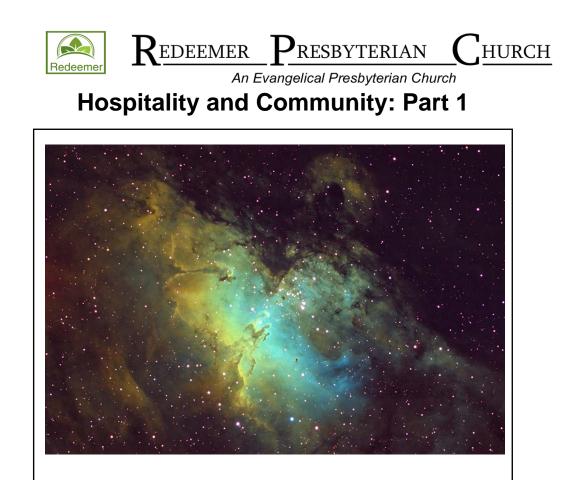




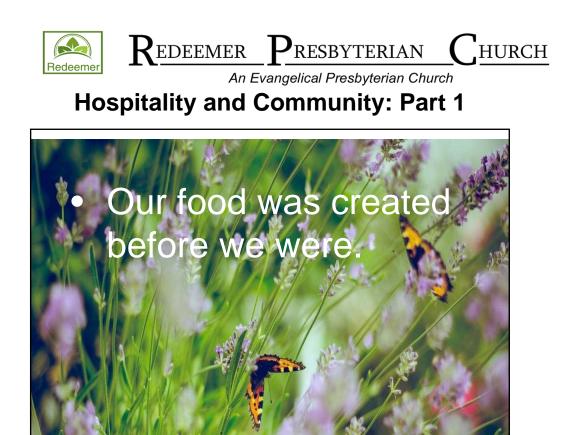


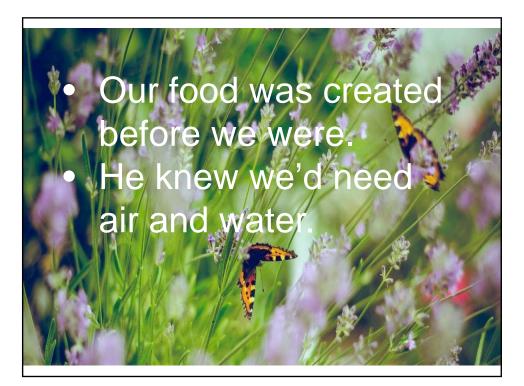
»Welcome »Warmth

»Open-Handedness











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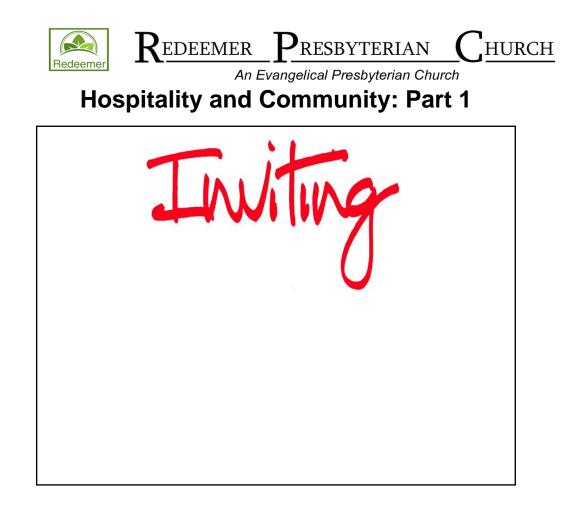




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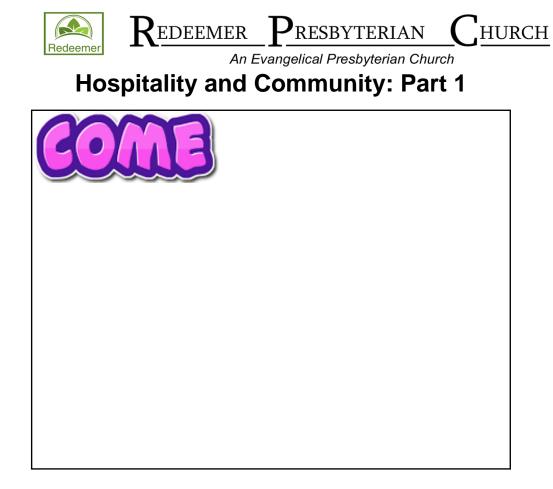
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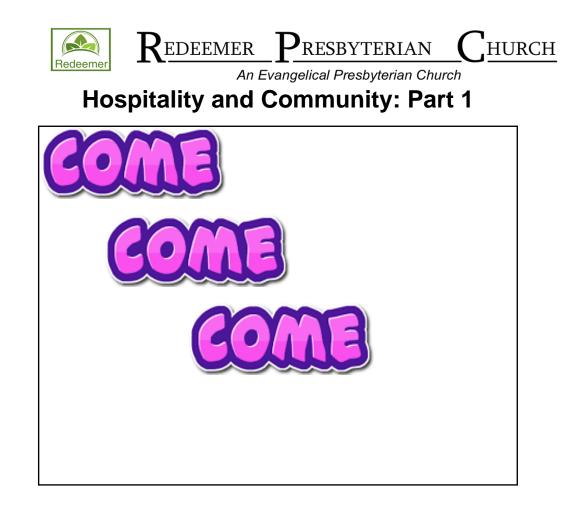
Hospitality and Community: Part 1

"Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost...

...Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and you will delight in the richest of fare. —Isaiah 55:1-2











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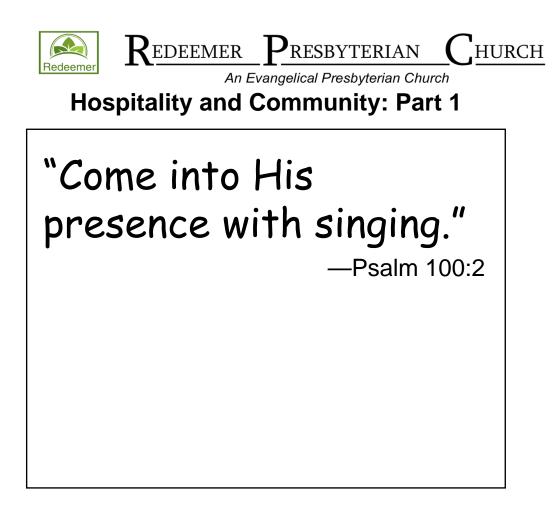
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Hospitality and Community: Part 1

"With matchless condescension the Lord invites us to come to Himself. He presses upon us the calls of His mercy...

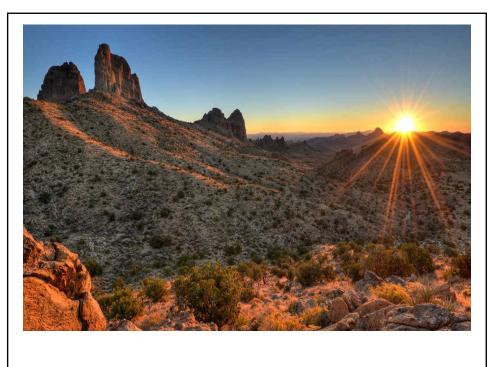
... The gospel provides for all our spiritual needs in the amplest manner, and it gives us everything for nothing. We have but to receive freely what God gives gratis."

-Charles Spurgeon

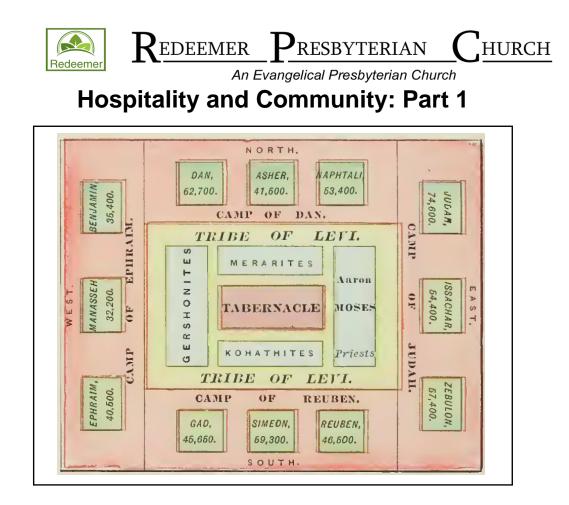


















"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." —Matthew 11:28-30



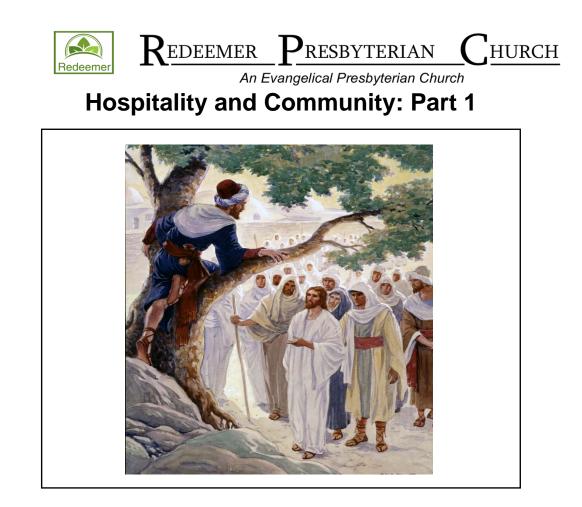
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Hospitality and Community: Part 1

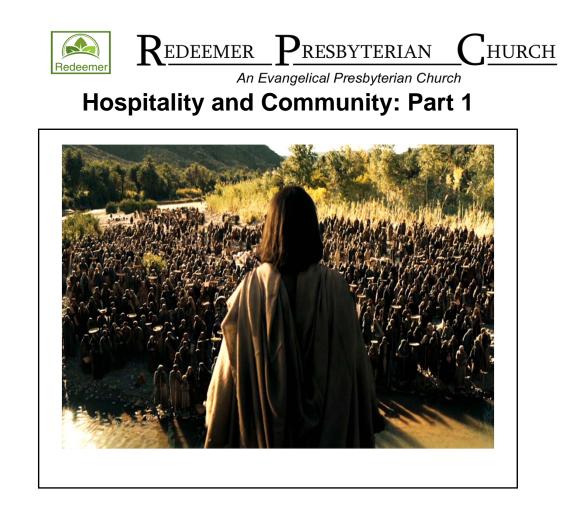
"All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away."

—John 6:37





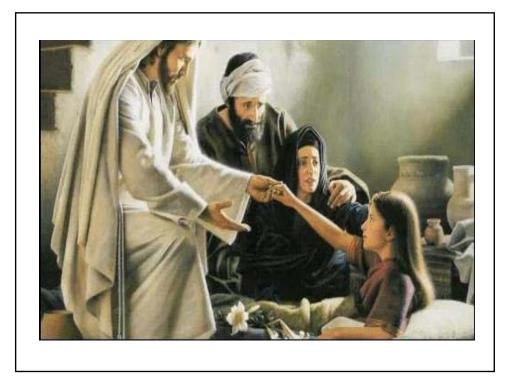


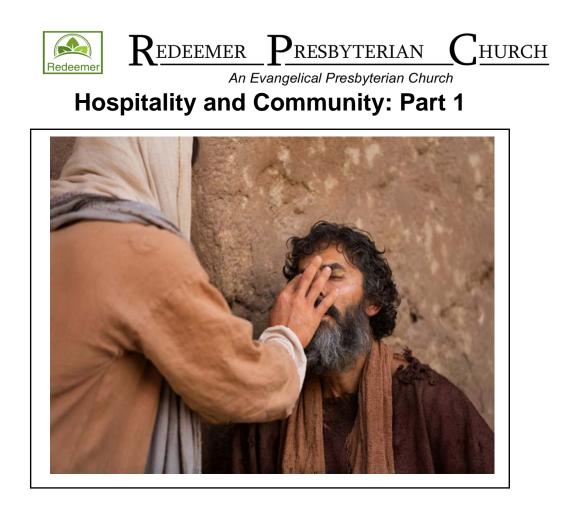


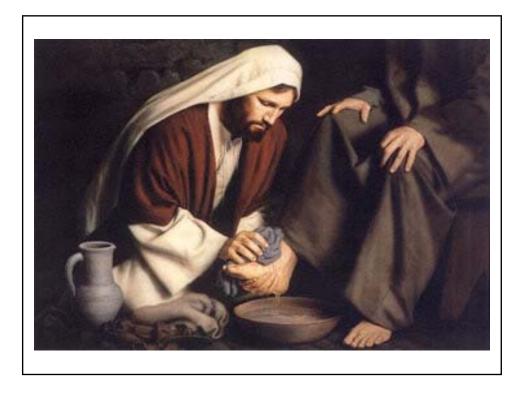
















"Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."

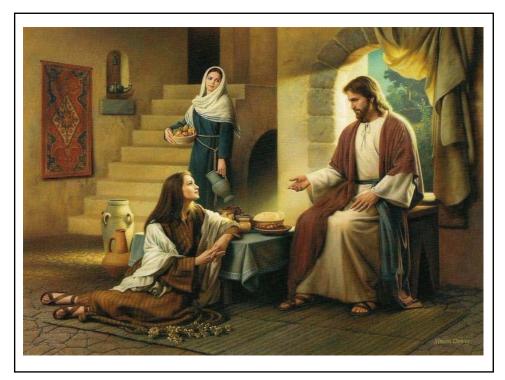
-Revelation 3:20

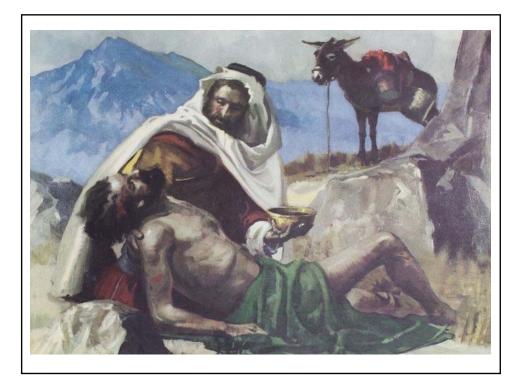














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"He [the Samaritan], went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man [the victim], on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him...

... The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'"

–Luke 10:34-35



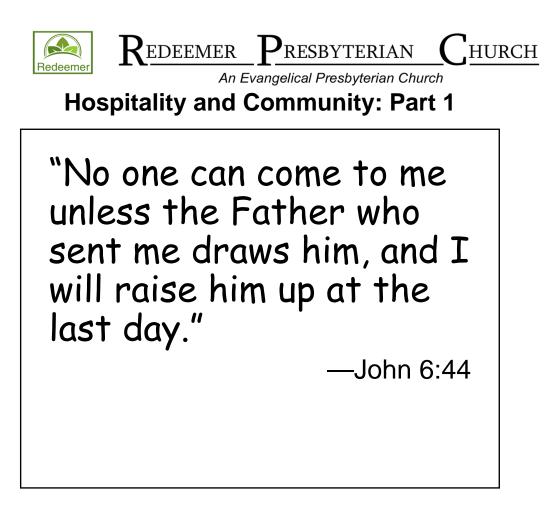
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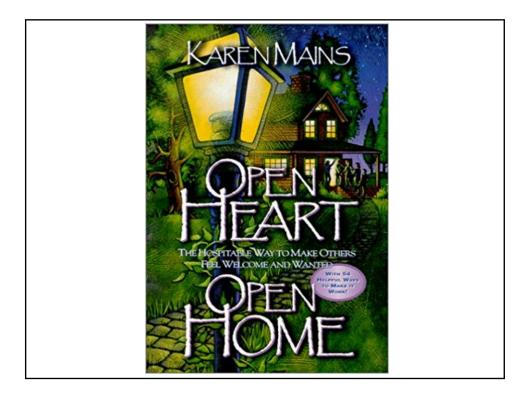
Hospitality and Community: Part 1

"He who receives you receives me, and he who receives me receives the one who sent me. Anyone who receives a prophet because he is a prophet...

...will receive a prophet's reward, and anyone who receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man's reward."

-Matthew 10:40-41



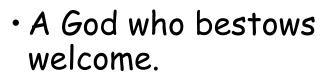




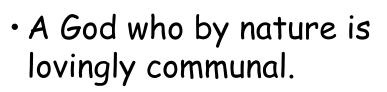
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HURCH

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church



- A God who creates a home of peaceful beauty for His family.
- A God who wants to include others in his extended family.



- A God who is neighborly to His very core.
- A God who invites the wanderers, the lost, even the rebellious.



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HURCH

Hospitality and Community: Part 1

REDEEMER

- A God who seeks to bring an international community to His doors.
- A God who is not afraid to bring home the most unlikely of sorts.

"The very act of welcome and invitation is a God-like act. When we extend welcome, we are showing to others what God is like."

-Karen Mains







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Hospitality and Community: Part 1

Testimony of a Federal Express Driver





PRESBYTERIAN

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An Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Hospitality and Community: Part 1

Redeemer

A Prayer for Hospitality

A Prayer

Lord, Thank You for having given Yourself in intimate, inexplicable hospitality. You have been the Host of all creation.

Without a dwelling, You have contained the whole world and habited Yourself in the winds, the corners, and the depths, inviting us to be at home with You. Beneath the shadow of Your wing You bid us hide, and in the depths of Your Being You shelter and refuge us.

Without meat You have nourished us. Without beverage You have refreshed us. By Your very Word came sustenance. On bread and water without price have we been fed. You have been manna in the wilderness of our lives.

Without a table You have banqueted us. Inviting us, yea, to be married unto You. Over our heads flies the banner of Your love. We are entertained with the mysteries of faith, the songs of the Spirit, holy laughter. You have garmented us in festal righteousness.

As we wandered in wastelands, You have sought us before we called. You extended eager welcome though we had scarcely knocked. You embraced us when we were filthy and oppressed and undeserving.

You are the Samaritan who passes not by, Who finds lodging for us in the warm inns by the way. You bake fish over coals, waiting for us, though we have forgotten to wait for You. With broken hands You break the loaf of blessing. Those same wounds caress our leprous spirits. You do not fear to openly accept the intimate worship of our harlot hearts.

You are Host of all mankind. Lifted up, suffering, without breath, You yet extend greeting to all the masses, "Come unto me... come..."

You give us the mystery of Your presence in this supper of the ages, this remembrance of Your intimate hospitality

O Lord, Make my hospitality as unto Yours. Be forever my archetype of endeavor, My firstfruit of harvested goodness: Love for the battered, misused child, Grace to bind running ulcers of flesh and soul, Eagerness for the wealthy without servility, And for the poor without superiority.

Through eternity You have been and will be utterly hospitable. Help me, poor, faltering, unfeeling me, to be like You, with breath-beat and soul-heart poured out emptied opened. help me, To be given to hospitality. Amen.

Mains, Karen B., *Open Heart, Open Home*. Elgin, Ill: David C. Cook Publishing Co. ©1976, pp. 197-199.