



**Lutheran Immigration
and Refugee Service**

*Texas has a proud legacy
of welcoming refugees.*

Texas has a proud legacy of welcoming refugees. In fact, Texans have responded with welcome and hospitality in the aftermath of every major war or conflict – resettling refugees from Africa, Southeast Asia, Eastern Europe, and the Middle East.



In late September, Gov. Greg Abbott announced that Texas would withdraw from the federal refugee resettlement program after nearly 40 years of participation.

This decision reflects cynical, careless, self-serving politics at best and is dangerous, divisive, and dehumanizing at worst. This is not who we are as Lutherans, as Christians, as Americans, or as Texans.

As people of faith, we are called to love our neighbors and to welcome refugees, not to turn our backs on human suffering. Withdrawing from the refugee resettlement program in Texas would leave vulnerable people, including women and children fleeing violence, in extreme danger. Texas must continue to Stand for Welcome in the midst of this global refugee crisis.

What can I do?

Call Governor Abbott's office: 512-463-1782

Sample script: "Texas has a proud history of helping refugees. We cannot turn our back on families who are seeking refuge and a chance to rebuild their lives in peace. This is not who we are as Texans. I am extremely disappointed by the Governor's decision and urge him to reverse course and maintain Texas' welcoming tradition by staying in the refugee resettlement program."

Sign the petition at www.LIRS.org/texas

Celebrate the blessings new Americans bring to our communities and lift up our faithful call to *welcome the stranger* by holding a **Refugee Sunday** at your church. **Find materials at refugeesunday.lirs.org.**

Texas' proud legacy is at stake. #StandForWelcome



**Lutheran Immigration
and Refugee Service**

*Texas has a proud legacy
of welcoming refugees.*

Texas has a proud legacy of welcoming refugees. In fact, Texans have responded with welcome and hospitality in the aftermath of every major war or conflict – resettling refugees from Africa, Southeast Asia, Eastern Europe, and the Middle East.



In late September, Gov. Greg Abbott announced that Texas would withdraw from the federal refugee resettlement program after nearly 40 years of participation.

This decision reflects cynical, careless, self-serving politics at best and is dangerous, divisive, and dehumanizing at worst. This is not who we are as Lutherans, as Christians, as Americans, or as Texans.

As people of faith, we are called to love our neighbors and to welcome refugees, not to turn our backs on human suffering. Withdrawing from the refugee resettlement program in Texas would leave vulnerable people, including women and children fleeing violence, in extreme danger. Texas must continue to Stand for Welcome in the midst of this global refugee crisis.

What can I do?

Call Governor Abbott's office: 512-463-1782

Sample script: "Texas has a proud history of helping refugees. We cannot turn our back on families who are seeking refuge and a chance to rebuild their lives in peace. This is not who we are as Texans. I am extremely disappointed by the Governor's decision and urge him to reverse course and maintain Texas' welcoming tradition by staying in the refugee resettlement program."

Sign the petition at www.LIRS.org/texas

Celebrate the blessings new Americans bring to our communities and lift up our faithful call to *welcome the stranger* by holding a **Refugee Sunday** at your church. **Find materials at refugeesunday.lirs.org.**

Texas' proud legacy is at stake. #StandForWelcome



Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service



Do you remember this story about refugees?

Now after they [the wise men] 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...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..."(Matt 2:13-14)



"Then the righteous will answer him... when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you?"... "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

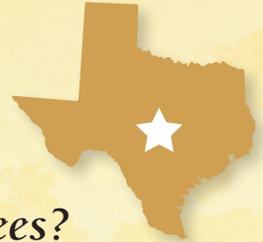
(Matt 25:37,40)

Find more information at LIRS.org

Texas' proud legacy is at stake. #StandForWelcome



Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service



Do you remember this story about refugees?

Now after they [the wise men] 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...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..."(Matt 2:13-14)



"Then the righteous will answer him... when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you?"... "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

(Matt 25:37,40)

Find more information at LIRS.org

Texas' proud legacy is at stake. #StandForWelcome