

Immigration Reform Now: Resources

American Baptist Churches, USA

<http://www.abc-usa.org>

See the **Declaration on an Issue of Importance on Immigration Reform (June 2007)** click on resources, then **ABCUSA Resources**, then General Board Documents, then **Policy Statements and Resolutions** and see Immigration and Refugee Policy.

Baptist Center for Ethics (BCE)

<http://www.ethicsdaily.com>

EthicsDaily.com is a division of the Baptist Center for Ethics. BCE was founded with the mission of providing proactive, positive and practical ethics resources to churches. Go to <http://www.ethicsdaily.com> and insert “immigration” in the search engine to access articles.

Christians for Comprehensive Immigration Reform (CCIR)

<http://www.faithandimmigration.org>

CCIR is a coalition of Christian organizations, churches, and leaders from across the theological and political spectrum, united in support of comprehensive U.S. immigration reform. The signatories share common moral and theological principles that compel them to love, care for, and seek justice for the stranger among us. American Baptist Churches, USA has signed on to the Statement of Principles. Go to <http://www.faithandimmigration.org/> and click on Resources. Some resources available at this site include:

- **Welcome the Stranger: An Organizer’s Tool Kit** – This kit provides resources ranging from a biblical overview of immigration to a guide on how to write a press advisory. It is designed to help people of faith educate their communities, advocate with policymakers, and get the word out through the press about a compassionate stance on immigration reform. **(available in English and Spanish)**
- **Welcoming the Stranger National Brochure** - Why is immigration policy important to evangelicals? Certainly because we believe what the Bible teaches about treatment of ‘aliens in the land.’ It is also because so many Hispanic, African and Asian immigrants are evangelical Christians who are in our denominations and churches by the millions. They are us.
- **Immigration: Myths and Facts** - There is a great deal of misinformation regarding the effects of immigration. The U. S. Chamber of Commerce’s Labor, Immigration & Employee Benefits Division has compiled this document to refute many of the most common immigration myths.
- **Sermon Illustration Packet on Immigration** - This resource is designed to equip and inspire pastors with preaching material on the Christian teaching of hospitality and the biblical call to “welcome the stranger”.

Church World Service (CWS)

<http://www.supportimmigrationreform.org>

CWS is an ecumenical cooperation of Christian denominations coming together to “do in partnership what none of us could hope to do well alone.” American Baptist Churches, USA is a founding member of CWS. Go to <http://www.supportimmigrationreform.org/> and click on the **Resources** tab.

Evangelicals for Social Action (ESA)

<http://www.esa-online.org>

Evangelicals for Social Action (ESA) is an association of Christians seeking to promote Christian engagement, analysis and understanding of major social, cultural and public policy issues. ESA emphasizes both the transformation of human lives through personal faith and also the importance of a commitment to social and economic justice as an outgrowth of Christian faith. Go to <http://www.esa-online.org> and click on “holistic ministry” and resources can be found in article titled “Arizona, Immigration and the Gospel”.

National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) – Immigration 2009

<http://www.nae.net/resolutions/347-immigration-2009>

The significant increase in immigration and the growing stridency of the national debate on immigration compel the National Association of Evangelicals to speak boldly and biblically to this challenging topic. The website provides: A Biblical Foundation, National Realities and A Call to Action from an evangelical perspective.

America’s Voice

<http://www.americasvoiceonline.org>

The mission of America’s Voice is to realize the promise of workable and humane comprehensive immigration reform. The goal is to build the public support and create the political momentum for reforms that will transform a dysfunctional immigration system that does not work into a regulatory system that does. The website resources are in English and Spanish.

To Contact your Senators and Representative and tell them that fair and humane immigration reform cannot wait go to:

www.supportimmigrationreform.org click on **Get Involved** and then **Click here to Speak Out!**
www.faithandimmigration.org/ click on Take Action and then click “**Tell President Obama and Congress to Pass Comprehensive Immigration Reform**” and join thousands of Christians in a petition supporting humane comprehensive immigration reform

For guidance on discussing this issue see the Evangelical Lutheran church of America’s Division of Church in Society’s publication “**Talking Together as Christians about Tough Social Issues**”

Books

Carroll, R. M. Daniel. Christians at the Border: Immigration, the Church, and the Bible, Denver Seminary, Baker Academic Press, 2008

Daniels, Roger. Coming to America: A History of Immigration and Ethnicity in American Life. New York, NY: Harper Collins Press 2002

Guskin, Jane and Wilson David. The Politics of Immigration: Questions and Answers. New York, NY: Monthly Review Press, 2007.

Soerens, Matthew and Hwang, Jenny. Welcome the Stranger: Justice, Compassion & Truth in the Immigration Debate. Downers Grove, IL.: Intervarsity Pres 2009

For questions and additional resources contact Rev. Aundreia Alexander, with American Baptist Home Mission Societies at aundreia.alexander@abhms.org or 610-768-2430.