

## **First Impressions Team — GREETERS MAIN DOOR ~ DRAFT #2**

### **How important is this ministry?**

BAC greeters are warm, smiling faces that make all who enter feel welcome and comfortable. For those who regularly attend and for those who are new, you help people feel that they are seen. For those who are searching for God and looking for answers, the church can be an intimidating place, and the first impression we give them could make all the difference in showing God's love!

### **Philosophy of ministry**

It's easy to think that your ministry is simply "greeting" people as they come into the church — it's actually bigger than that. You help set the person's experience for worship. You represent how God welcomes them! You are opening God's arms to receive them. For those struggling with shame this is a very powerful moment! For those needing to feel wanted and included you call them to join us! You can be soothing for those who experienced stress that morning getting ready or even as they came to worship God. You set the tone.

### **Ministry requirements**

- Review ministry description then fill out a ministry application form that can be found online at: [www.bachurch.com/ministries/worship/](http://www.bachurch.com/ministries/worship/)
- Arrive 20 minutes before the first service.
- Stay until 10 minutes through the start of the service (after the first song), or use your discretion to see if more people are coming in / cars entering the parking lot.
- Return to the Main Doors 20 minutes before the second service (if two services), and you may leave 10 minutes into the service, or as per your discretion if people are still coming in.
- We use Planning Centre Online in order to schedule people / teams. This also enables you to go online and put in your "blockout" dates for when you are unavailable.
- Please check your email for "invitations" for when you are scheduled. Printed copies are available upon request.

### **What do I do?**

- Together with a partner (can be a spouse/friend) you welcome all who come into the building with a friendly handshake and a smile.
- Assist those with accessibility needs (e.g. having lift ready, opening doors, etc.).
- Recognize if someone new / a visitor comes in. Many people come to a new place with fears about the unknown and whether or not they will be welcome.
- You can introduce yourself then use this simple tool, the acronym FEARS:
  - Family - "Tell me about your family..."
  - Employment - "What do you do for work?"
  - Association - "Who do you know here? Who are you connected to?", "How did you come to hear about us?"
  - Respond - "Do you have any questions I might be able to answer for you?"
  - Significance - Everyone wants to feel seen, welcome and significant. "We are so glad you are here with us today!" Leave them with a point of encouragement.
- Encourage them to visit the Welcome Centre to fill out blue card & receive a gift.
- Encourage them to visit the Welcome Hall for bulletin boards & coffee following the service.

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- Direct them to different areas of the church (e.g. service in the sanctuary, coffee & bulletin boards in the Welcome hall, Welcome Centre in the foyer, washrooms, KidZone desks).
- If they are new, try to introduce them to a regular attender so they get connected and have someone to talk to.

### **Time requirements**

- You will be scheduled with your partner on a two week or a monthly rotation.
- If you are unable to make the date you are scheduled, please make arrangements with other greeters on the team to switch or cover your scheduled date