



Refugee  
Empowerment  
Center



## Vigil for Refugees 11/23/15

Trust and hope develops when we develop relationships with one another. Take 5 minutes to meet someone you don't know and to share: *Why did you come here tonight? What connection to refugees do you have?*

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| Overview and Why We Gather                | <i>Scott Larsen, Refugee Empowerment Center (REC)</i> |
| Why Refugees Come to Omaha                | <i>Rev. Tut Keat, New Life Family Alliance</i>        |
| Universal Call to Welcome the Stranger    | <i>Sr. Kathleen Erickson, Sisters of Mercy/OTOC</i>   |
| Brief Explanation of Refugee Resettlement | <i>Ann Marie Kudlacz, REC Executive Director</i>      |

### Brief Reflection & Petitions Before Lighting Candles

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| Introduction to the prayers of petition<br>"Let us bring light into the darkness, let hope overcome fear"  | <i>Jean Schule</i><br><i>OTOC</i>                          |
| <b><i>For those fleeing persecution</i></b><br>Response: Let us bring light into darkness, give hope to overcome fear  | <i>Netra Gurung</i><br><i>from Bhutan</i>                  |
| <b><i>For those persecuting others and causing them to flee</i></b><br>Response: Let us bring light into darkness, give hope to overcome fear                  | <i>Mary George</i><br><i>from South Sudan</i>              |
| <b><i>For those who are now giving temporary shelter and processing refugees</i></b><br>Response: Let us bring light into darkness, give hope to overcome fear | <i>Jaques Mustavana</i><br><i>from Burundi</i>             |
| <b><i>For people living year after year in refugee camps—</i></b><br>Response: Let us bring light into darkness, give hope to overcome fear                    | <i>Knae Eh</i><br><i>from Burma</i>                        |
| <b><i>For congregations, agencies &amp; communities active in resettlement</i></b><br>Response: Let us bring light into darkness, give hope to overcome fear   | <i>Fr. Mike Eckley</i><br><i>St. Pius X/OTOC</i>           |
| <b><i>For local, state and federal elected officials and candidates</i></b><br>Response: Let us bring light into darkness, give hope to overcome fear          | <i>Rev. Dr. Damon Laaker</i><br><i>Grace Lutheran/OTOC</i> |

### Moment of Silence

Call to Action— See the reverse side for Dates for Upcoming Events

Closing -- The New Colossus by Emma Lazarus



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## Actions and Events

### Refugee Empowerment Center

**Tuesday, Dec 1** –Open House at REC (3610 Dodge Street, Suite 100)

9:00 to 5:30 p.m. Formal Information Sessions at 11:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Made for Trade gift shop will be open to purchase items made by refugees

**Wednesday, Dec 2**—REC Info Session at Urban Abbey (1026 and Jackson Street)

5:30 to 7:30 pm

Learn the FACTS about refugee resettlement in Omaha, programs and opportunities

**Sign letter** to local, state and federal elected officials —See Sign Up Sheet

**Volunteer to help** a family resettle –See Sign Up Sheets

### Omaha Together One Community

**Monday Dec. 14 at 7:00 p.m--Learn about Resettlement and talk with Refugee Families**

At Augustana Lutheran Church, 3647 Lafayette Ave

**Ask clergy and faith leaders you know sign a “Call to Prayer and Action to Welcome Refugees”**

**Go to [www.OTOC.org](http://www.OTOC.org) to find the link to the letter or go directly to:**

<http://tinyurl.com/CalledtoWelcomeSyrianRefugees>

Take the” **Refugee Prayer Card** and pray for refugees this week and especially on Thanksgiving

**Sign up for Action Alerts** on this issue from OTOC at [www.otoc.org](http://www.otoc.org)

### Community Activities

Dec 10 International Human Rights Day, 9:00 a.m. Civic Center 1819 Farnam Street, LC chambers

Dec 12 South Sudanese Cultural Performance 1255 Royal Drive, Papillion at 6 p.m.



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