

The following outline is based on the event held in London in December 2015, arranged by the Churches' Refugee Network with participants from a range of churches and faith groups. It can be adapted for use in your community.

20,000 welcomes: a Vigil for Refugees

ALL WELCOME - for all or part of the time

Speakers, silence, meditation, discussion, and engagement

During the vigil you are invited to ...

... light a candle, praying for migrants as they journey in search of safety and seek to make a home in a foreign land;

... put your signature to a 'Refugees welcome here' banner;

... visit the tables with displays and information about

(i) Detention (ii) Destitution and (iii) Families and Immigration;

... write a message on a postcard expressing support and prayer to be sent to a Christian worker currently seeking to alleviate the suffering of migrants;

... share in discussion.

RE-MEMBER, RE-MEMBER: EXODUS AND EXILE

10.00-12 noon

Speakers a Jewish Rabbi
 a Muslim representative
 a refugee

Prayer

SILENCE

Reading Deuteronomy 10: 17-22

Meditation

Hymn 'Inspired by love and anger'

Prayer

SILENCE

Time for action/sharing as above.

BLOWN BY THE WINDS: CONFLICT, CLIMATE CHANGE & CURRENT PRESSURE

12 noon-2.00 pm

Speakers a volunteer working in Calais
 a Christian leader

Prayer

SILENCE

Poem "Concerning the label 'Emigrant'" by Bertholt Brecht

Speaker a refugee

Hymn 'See them line the dusty pathways burdened with the pains of life'

Reading Matthew 25: 31-41

Meditation

Prayer

SILENCE

Time for action/reflection as above.

SILENCE

Speaker a Muslim representative

CONSIDER YOURSELVES AT HOME

2.00-4.00 pm

Speakers on a legal theme
from a local church working with refugees
a refugee

Prayer

SILENCE

Poem 'The Refugees' by Edwin Muir

Hymn 'When I needed a neighbour, were you there?'

Reading Genesis 18:1-8

Meditation

Prayer

SILENCE

Time for action/reflection as above.

SILENCE

Speakers representative of a charity or community group
a Jewish Rabbi

EPILOGUE

Theological Reflection

Concluding Prayer and Blessing