

Evangelicals Vow to Denounce Immigration Reform Opponents

"We are announcing the gospel that welcomes the stranger and we will denounce those that block immigration reform."

Some would call them fighting words; others, a declaration of faith. They rang out recently within shouting distance of the U.S. House of Representatives, at the church where I serve as pastor, as over 300 leaders gathered for the "Evangelical Immigration Table Day of Prayer and Action for Immigration Reform."

House leaders of both parties would have done well to come witness the breadth and depth of support for immigration reform: Pentecostals and Baptists; Mega-church leaders and small congregation ministers; Republicans and Democrats; natives of Arizona, North Carolina, Indiana, Ohio, Virginia, and other states; and African Americans, Whites, Cuban Americans and other Latinos born and raised in the United States.

White people and African-Americans at the gathering told how they've been converted by experiences with Christ present in immigrants and their families. Immigrants told how they are making compacts across religious, ethnic, and political lines to work for justice and end the cruelty perpetrated by the U.S. immigration system.

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