



TIDINGS

“To walk with Christ and neighbor, healing brokenness together.”

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Readings

- April 7**
2nd Sunday of Easter
Commissioning of Justice in Action Network Members
 John 21:1-19
 Luke 24:1-12
- April 14**
3rd Sunday of Easter
JiA: Criminal Justice
 1 John 3:1-7
 Luke 24:36-48
- April 21**
4th Sunday of Easter
JiA: Mental Health
 1 John 3:16-24
 John 10:11-18
- April 28**
5th Sunday of Easter
JiA: Affordable Housing
 Acts 8:26-40
 John 15:1-8

“What Does Justice Look Like?”

On May 2, Justice in Action will hold our second annual Nehemiah Action Assembly. It is a gathering of the masses with the goal of holding our local leaders accountable to just practices and policies. But it isn't always so clear what justice looks like in the scope of our world. Is it punishment for bad deeds? We like to say we 'bring people to justice.' Is it providing safety for the community? These would be, in part, the purpose of the criminal justice system. But perhaps justice means something more.

Within the context of faith, justice is tied to God. From God's covenant with Noah and Abraham to the Ten Commandments given to Moses, God's aim for all of humanity is abundant life—for all of God's people. The prophets liken justice to water. Water can be both destructive and nurturing. Do we let justice flow like streams, or do we use it like a dam—holding it for some and denying it to others?

Biblically, justice is always about restoring life. The Year of Jubilee was supposed to take place every 50 years, restoring land lost to debt and releasing those who had been enslaved. “Every person got back their original family holding. Families that had lost their land because of poverty or back luck would have it returned. It was a periodic reboot of the economy, correcting for the inevitable over-concentration of wealth in the hands of a few.”¹ It even meant allowing all the land to lie fallow, allowing it to rest.

It was a Sabbath. A restoration of life and nourishment. A much-needed break. Even the weekly day of rest is an act of justice. It is liberation from the demands of work so that one may eat and breathe and live freely. It is a step back from the “scaffolding of institutional structures of domination and control.”

Biblically, justice is about lifting up the vulnerable and caring for the stranger. It is hospitality and hope. It is an opportunity for life. Weigh that approach to justice with how society practices justice. Punitive. Value-based. Financially driven. We can do better.

When Nehemiah recognized how justice had been perverted, he called the people to gather and hold the leaders accountable to a better way. On May 2, we challenge our own leaders to create a path to a better way. We have heard the stories of our people—stories of worry about housing; stories that share the difficulties of mental healthcare access; stories that desire another chance at life for those facing jail. We have a responsibility to seek practices that promote abundant life for all of God's people. I hope you will join Our Saviour's and the 24 other faith communities and hundreds of citizens in calling for justice in May.

In Christ,
Pastor Tobi White

NEHEMIAH ACTION ASSEMBLY

Thursday, May 2, 2024
 6:30p.m.
 St. Mark's United Methodist Church
 84th & Pioneers St.

¹ “Tzedek: The Jewish Value of Justice” by Rabbi Toba Spitzer, <https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/tzedek-the-jewish-value-of-justice/>

Fundraising for OSLC Youth

This Month's Opportunity:
April 14, 2024
 2nd Sunday of each month
 From 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.
 at BOTH Don & Millie's locations
 When you order, tell the cashier you are there for Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Youth and 20% of what you spend on food & drinks will go to our OSLC Youth.

Brought to you by OSLC Faith-to-Face Recovery Ministry

A Vision for OSLC: Imagine members of your congregation being equally comfortable publicly asking for prayer “for my father with alcohol dependence” as “for my mother with cancer.”

For more info on how you can be involved contact your Faith Partners Team : 402-483-4126 or Otto at 402-770-1974.

Call or Text.
You are not alone.

NEEDS

The Lutheran Food Pantry is looking for volunteers to help pick up food from the Lincoln Food Bank every Tuesday and deliver it to the Lutheran Food Pantry. If you know of someone who can donate their time on Tuesdays from 8:15-9:30am, please have them contact Allen Bartling at 402-416-5838. They will be helping to ensure food is available for those in need.

Items that are especially needed at this time are:

- Canned fruits (all kinds)
- Canned meals (Ravioli, SpaghettiOs, etc.)
- Canned vegetables (all kinds)
- Cereals, dry
- Dry dinners (Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, etc.)
- Macaroni and cheese
- Pasta, dry (spaghetti, macaroni, noodles, etc.)
- Peanut butter/jelly
- Pork and beans and canned kidney beans, refried beans, etc.
- Spaghetti sauce
- Snack items (small packages of cookies, nuts, fruit-flavored snacks, etc.)
- Soups (all kinds)
- Personal care items (shampoo, bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes)

On behalf of those facing food insecurity, thank you for your support!
Connie Hawkins and Norene Steele
 Transition Coordinators, The Lutheran Food Pantry

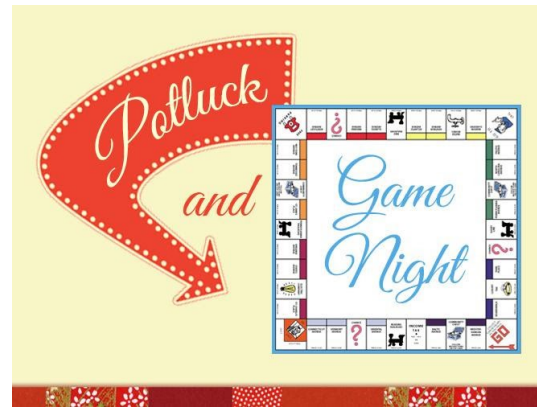
However, please keep in mind the Pantry can always use non-perishable food and personal care items not on this current list. The donations the Pantry receives allow us to provide food boxes for the People's City Mission, Good Neighbor Center, Matt Talbot Kitchen and emergency requests for those in need of help to provide food for their families.

Other items we always need include:

- Canned variety beans (chili, kidney, pinto)
- Canned meats (tuna, chicken, spam)
- Canned vegetables (**especially mixed vegetables, peas, corn, green beans)
- Instant oatmeal packets
- Fruit juice, large bottles
- Pancake mix and syrup
- Potatoes, boxed instant mashed
- Ramen noodles
- Rice, one or two pound packages
- Saltine crackers
- Tomatoes, canned

Welcome New Members

At our



New Member Welcome Potluck & Game Night! Meet our newest members at a potluck & game night, Wednesday, April 16, 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a hot dish, salad, or dessert and be prepared to have some fun!

Easter Lilies

- Rebecca & Paul Bartlett**, in honor of our family
- Mary Barton**, in memory of Nex Benedict, and in memory of Henry & Helen Ahrendt & Paul Ahrendt
- Steve Beal**, in memory of Robert Beal
- Janet Chiocchi**, in memory of husband John Chiocchi
- Betty Epp**, in memory of Dewane Gene Epp
- Diane Grabarkewitz**, in memory of Suzi & in honor of mom & dad
- Tammy Hanson**, in honor of Marlene & Roland Schafer & Coleen Reis
- Wanda Hein**, in memory of parents
- Richard & Cindy Humann**, thankful for our grandchildren
- Janette Johnson**, in memory of Lorin & Virginia Harms
- Nikki Krause & Sandra Anderson**, in memory of Ivan Anderson
- T.J. & Janet Leick**, In memory of John & Florence Leick, Jim & Jackie Robson & Aunt Joan
- Elsa & Dave Larson**, in memory of Paul & Marsha
- Karrie Licklitter**, in memory of Stanley, Dennis & Roger, & in honor of Kenny's birthday
- Imogene Matejka**, in memory of Maynard & Gladys Schneider
- Elaine Peters**, in honor of families everywhere
- Jody Rapp**, in honor of Rosie
- Alissa Ries**, in memory of Harold Ries
- Harold Roper**, in memory of Elaine
- Kimberly & Steve Rowe**, in memory of George & Anita Rowe, George & Lorraine Stanek, Jim & Inez Pettis
- Marty Rus**, in honor of family
- Laura Tegmeier**, in memory of Opegard family
- Delmar & Alice Timm**, in honor of family
- Jim & Jeanette Wagner**, in honor of our sons and daughters-in-law

Sharing Our Talents



Altar Flower sign-up is near the front doors (cost is \$30).
FEAST Meals: Contact Lindsey at foodministry.oslc@gmail.com

Date	April 7	April 14	April 21	April 28
Altar Flowers	Lindsey Engel, in honor of her dad's retirement			
Altar Guild	Patti Horstman, Theresa Reinhard, Jozina Lekule, Marti Franti, Mike & Jodi Kocher, Tony & Lisa Dresbach			
FEAST Meal Provider	Lindsey	Lindsey	Lindsey	OPEN
OSLC Meal Delivery	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN

Staff

Pastor: Tobi White
lincolnpastor.oslc@gmail.com / 402-304-7660
Director of Discipleship: Karrie Licklitter
discipleship.oslc@gmail.com
Director of Social Ministries: Alissa Ries
outreach.oslc@gmail.com / 402-440-6791
Director of Worship, Music & Arts: Sam Eschliman
wma.oslc@gmail.com
Office Manager/Bookkeeper: Laura Pester
lpester.oslc@gmail.com
Director of Food & Sustainability: Lindsey Engel
Worship Tech Support: Kevin Gunter

Council

Council President: Mike Rapp
mrapp@stev.org
Vice President: Judd Chatelain
Council Secretary: Janette Johnson
Council Treasurer: Jeff Barton
jeffbarton52@yahoo.com
Council Property Steward: Kent Reinhard
Congregational Care Team Mission Advocate: Patti Horstman (temp)
Stewardship/Sustainability Team Mission Advocate: Mike Kocher
Outreach Ministry Team Mission Advocate: Tammy Hanson
Faith Formation Team Mission Co-Advocate: Diana Vech
OSL Foundation President: Gary Hein —gw.hein@gmail.com

April Worship Schedule

Sundays, 9am—in person & livestream

- Sun., Apr. 7** Worship w/ communion (intinction)
Music: NWU Voices; Liturgy: Now the Feast
- Sun., Apr. 14** Worship w/ communion (individual cups)
Music: Choir; Liturgy: Now the Feast
- Sun., Apr. 21** Worship w/ communion (intinction)
Music: Set Free; Liturgy: Now the Feast
- Sun., Apr. 28** Worship w/ communion (individual cups)
Music: Choir; Liturgy: Now the Feast

OSLC Leadership Mission Statement

"Called and compelled by our hope in Jesus Christ, we empower our community to care, learn, teach, lead, and serve."

OSLC Food Philosophy

Food is a gift of God's grace that brings us together for the growth and nourishment of body, soul, and community.



In our church family prayers, we remember:

Because we, the Body of Christ, carry each other through trials, struggles, and celebrations...

Those Needing Support: Mary Jo Vitamvas, Victoria Heaton, Dwaine Rogge, LaDonna Halstead, Russell Wardlow, Manny Yezinai, Melanie Fowler, Frank Moore, Lorena Moore, Jordan Hein, Kaitlyn, Becky Spike, Jesse Blackstock, Cindy Mejia, Teresa Kai, Michelle Daniel, Darlene Endsley, Bruce Cudly, Barbara Brewer, Joshua Matz, Mary & Eldon Tillberg, Hunter Flink, Kris Hubbard

Homebound: Jan Albers, Betty Alm, Cooper Dennis, Sandee Fruhling, Eloise Landgren, Norm Leach, Naomi Maske, Marlin Pals, Dorothy Wise

First Responders & Military Personnel: Coty Surrounded, Jonah Lux, Tolle Yoder, Noah Yoder

Partners in Mission: Lincoln Area Cluster Congregations, Kimangaro Parish in Tanzania

Justice & Peace: Neglected & abused pets and livestock; Gang violence in Haiti; Farmers and all affected by the drought; Those who are homeless or lack safe housing.

Grieving: Marianne & David Meyer at the death of brother-in-law, Jim Wood; Friends and Family of Frankey & Gordon Ostlund.

First Communion: Megan Hinkle, Leigha Kreber, Dennison Jensen, Brea Rathje, Vivian Vech, William Zohner



- 2—Don Warnke
- 3—Kayla Farmer, Kyler Hahn, Alice Timm
- 4—Derek Baumfalk, Jill King
- 5—Dwayne Rogge
- 6—Gary Hein, Mike Kocher
- 8—Tiegann Gunning, Shirley Rodgers
- 10—Betty Alm
- 11—Parker Hansen
- 14—Norma Bartels, Elaine Peters
- 18—Robert Andrews, Katherine Cooper
- 19—Anna Jungck
- 20—Diana Vech
- 22—D.J. Gaye, Jr.
- 23—Brandon King
- 24—Shirley Hadley
- 25—Dayle Mautz
- 26—Jacob Leak
- 27—Nick Engel
- 28—Imogene Matejka
- 30—Terri Hemphill, Marika Kalnins, Denise Pohlma



- 5—Tex & LaVina Leber
- 15—T.J. & Janet Leick
- 19—Randall & Tina Kolman
- 22—Kevin & Arin Gunter
- 24—Fred & Tawny Snider
- 25—Kent & Sherrill Baumfalk
- 26—Egils Augstums & Norma Bartels

In November, Team Leaders and Network Members met to decide on future goals and plans for JiA. At that gathering, we chose to take on the additional issue of Affordable Housing. Below is a snapshot of what our teams are currently working on. (See pg. 3 for upcoming meetings.)



Mental Health Navigation Team

- Seeking to build support among community allies by inviting organizations to sign a letter promoting our goal of creating a mental health navigation center.
- Will host a summit meeting at Christ UMC so that we can present our case to community allies.
- Holding monthly strategy and listening sessions

Adult Pre-Trial Diversion Team (Criminal Justice)

- Have an upcoming meeting with Councilman Rick Vest and County Attorney Pat Condon
- Developing a specific 'ask'—goals and strategies that will increase access to diversion
- Working on developing suggested policy changes to achieve these goals

Affordable Housing Team

- In the info-gathering phase in order to develop a specific problem statement
- Defining 'affordable housing'
- No more than 30% of household income goes to rent/mortgage
- Housing is unaffordable for 45% of Lincolniters who rent
- Are there options for households who make less than \$25,000/yr.?

Plan to attend the Nehemiah Action Assembly on Thursday, May 2, 6:30p.m. at St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 84th & Pioneers.

Announcements...

Discipleship

Because we know we learn and grow best in faith when we do it together. And we value that growth in children and adults of every age...

Cool Beans Bible Study Cool Beans Bible Study meets Tuesdays, at 6:30pm in the Basement Activity Center. April 2: Shroud of Turin; April 9: The Story of Jacob. Contact Dan Warren or Karrie Lickliter with questions or call the church office. 402-483-4126

Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study Is studying Book of Daniel on Tuesdays 1pm in the Founder's Room with a zoom option.

Family Good Stuff Parents and anyone wanting to know how to convey family values to your kids, don't miss this presentation on "Family Good Stuff" by Teri & Derek Effle on April 7th during the Education Hour.

EDUCATION HOUR (Sundays, 10:15a.m.)

April 7—Family "Good Stuff": Learn from Region V resources how to convey family values to your kids.

April 14 & 21—Funeral planning sessions. Take the pressure off of your kids/grandkids and design your service for the future. We'll discuss important service elements and why we do what we do. This is a good process for any age.

Events & Notices

Because we believe in relationships, opportunities to bless one another, and grow together...

Tech Team Training We are creating a TEAM of leaders to run the livestream and powerpoint, hoping to work people into a rotation. If you are interested in learning to do either the cameras or the powerpoint (they're not as difficult as they may seem), plan to attend our training on Monday, April 15, at 5:30p.m. in the Sanctuary.

OSLC WorkDay Saturday, April 20, 8am-noon. Help us 'wake up' the planting beds and clean up the property for the spring. Bring rakes, bags, and other 'yard work' items.

Because we know that it takes a whole community to make a difference in the world...

Justice in Action Upcoming Meetings Our next important meetings to be aware of:

- Solutions Briefing Rally (ALL team leaders AND network members to attend) on **Monday, April 8, 6:30p.m. @ First Plymouth Congregational Church**
- Nehemiah Action Assembly (EVERYONE to attend) on **Thursday, May 2, 6:30p.m. @ St. Mark's UMC**

Created Concert: A Celebration of Queerness and Christianity Thursday, April 18, 6:30p.m. at the Lutheran Center, 535 N. 16th St. Come for an evening of music, food, and fellowship. Music provided by Spencer LaJoye, food provided by Table Grace Food Truck. For more info, go to: <https://thelutherancenter.org/created-concert>

Matt Talbot's annual Feeding the Soul of the City fundraiser will be April 25th, 2024 at the Scottish Rite Ballroom. There will be a social hour, silent auction, heavy hors d'oeuvres, a short program including inspiring stories of hope, and a live auction. There will also be a new, interactive experience with


Matt Talbot staff to learn how their 4 key programs - hunger relief, outreach, housing, and substance use - are moving our community closer to defeating hunger and homelessness. More details to come at mtko.org/events.

Movies That Matter: "Divisible" The History and Impact of Redlining - OLLI at UNL is hosting a free and Open to the Public event on Thursday, April 18th at Southeast Community College or Zoom. Learn about "redlining," a discriminatory practice of systematically withholding services from those who reside in specific neighborhoods through the documentary "Divisible," followed by an impactful discussion led by experts on this issue. Registration required and seats are limited both in person and on Zoom. To register, go to <https://olli.unl.edu/>.


VBS
June 17, 2024 - June 21, 2024
"Who is My Neighbor?"

"Who is My Neighbor?" invites children and youth to re-imagine what it means to be neighbors in Christ. Based on the Good Samaritan story, this full, five-day program contains skits, games, crafts, snacks and intentional activities for children to enjoy and learn how our faith calls us out into the world to love and serve our neighbors.

On-Line Registration is available for Students & Volunteers. Just click on the appropriate QR Code.



Student Sign Up



Volunteer Sign Up

CREATED TO BE

ELCA Youth Gathering, 2024 in New Orleans

Support our youth in the following ways.

- **Have brunch before/after Easter worship and make a donation on Sunday, March 31, 7:30-10:30a.m.**
- Eat at Don & Millie's on the 2nd Sundays of the month. Make sure to tell them you are supporting OSLC!
- Pray for our youth attending the gathering: Mason Rathje, Daniel Lekule, and Lane Vech.
- **More fundraisers on the way!**



April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 31 Easter Sunday 7:00a.m. Sunrise service (Courtyard) 7:30-10:15a.m. Easter Brunch (FH) 9:00a.m. Worship (S)—live-stream 10:30a.m. Worship (S) 7:30p.m. AA Meeting (FH)	Office Closed 7:00p.m. Ray of Hope (FC)	1:00p.m. Bible Study (FC) 3:30p.m. Jubilee Rehearsal (S) 7:00p.m. Mary/Martha Group (FC)	5:30p.m. Set Free Rehearsal (CH) 5:30p.m. Bells Rehearsal (S) 6:45p.m. Firelight (BAC) 6:45p.m. Catechism—Lecture (CR) 7:00p.m. Choir Rehearsal (S)	7:00a.m. Men's Study (FC)		10:00a.m. Layettes with Love (FH)
7 8:30a.m. Coffee/Fellowship (A) 9:00a.m. Worship (S)—live-stream 10:15a.m. Sunday School/Education Hour (BAC/CR) 11:30a.m. FEAST Lunch (FH) 7:30p.m. AA Meeting (FH)	8 10:30a.m. Freed for Life Planning (FH/zoom) 6:30p.m. Justice in Action Solutions Rally (First Plymouth, 16th & D)	9 9:30a.m. Martha Circle (FC) 1:00p.m. Bible Study (FC) 3:30p.m. Jubilee Rehearsal (S) 6:00p.m. Faith to Face Recovery Team (zoom)	10 9:30a.m. Esther Circle (FC) 11:30a.m. Wonder Seekers (BAC) 5:30p.m. Set Free Rehearsal (CH) 5:30p.m. Bells Rehearsal (S) 6:45p.m. Firelight (BAC) 6:45p.m. Catechism—Homework 6:45p.m. 7th-8th Grade Faith Companion Mtg. (CR) 7:00p.m. Choir Rehearsal (S)	11 7:00a.m. Men's Study Group (FC) 10:00a.m. Staff Meeting (FC) 7:00p.m. Oversight Team Meeting (FC) 7:00p.m. Optional Team Meetings	12	13
14 Don & Millie's Day 8:30a.m. Coffee/Fellowship (A) 9:00a.m. Worship (S)—live-stream 10:15a.m. Sunday School/Education Hour (BAC/CR) 11:30a.m. FEAST Lunch (FH) 7:30p.m. AA Meeting (FH)	15 5:30p.m. Tech Team Training (S) 7:00p.m. Ray of Hope (FC)	16 1:00p.m. Bible Study (FC) 3:30p.m. Jubilee Rehearsal (S) 6:00p.m. New Member Welcome Potluck (FH) 7:00p.m. Mary/Martha Group (FC)	17 9:00a.m. Chat & Tie (FH) 5:30p.m. Set Free Rehearsal (CH) 5:30p.m. Bells Rehearsal (S) 6:45p.m. Firelight (BAC) 6:45p.m. Catechism—Small Groups (CR) 7:00p.m. Choir Rehearsal (S)	18 7:00a.m. Men's Study Group (FC) 6:00-9:00p.m. Created Concert @ The Lutheran Center	19	Tiding's Deadline 8:00a.m.-noon OSLC Work Day
21 8:30a.m. Coffee/Fellowship (A) 9:00a.m. Worship (S)—live-stream 10:15a.m. Sunday School/Education Hour (BAC/CR) 11:30a.m. FEAST Lunch (FH) 7:30p.m. AA Meeting (FH)	22 10:30a.m. Freed for Life Planning (FC/zoom) 7:00p.m. OSL Foundation (FC)	23 1:00p.m. Bible Study (FC) 3:30p.m. Jubilee Rehearsal (S)	24 9:00a.m. Chat & Tie (FH) 5:30p.m. Set Free Rehearsal (CH) 5:30p.m. Bells Rehearsal (S) 6:45p.m. Firelight (BAC) 6:45p.m. Catechism—Lecture (CR) 7:00p.m. Choir Rehearsal (S)	25 7:00a.m. Men's Study Group (FC) 10:00a.m. Staff Meeting (FC) 7:00p.m. Women of Grace (FC)	26 7:00p.m. Serendipity Group (BAC)	27
28 8:30a.m. Coffee/Fellowship (A) 9:00a.m. Worship (S)—live-stream 10:15a.m. Sunday School/Education Hour (BAC/CR) 11:30a.m. FEAST Lunch (FH) 7:30p.m. AA Meeting (FH)	29	30 1:00p.m. Bible Study (FC) 3:30p.m. Jubilee Rehearsal (S) 7:00p.m. Mary/Martha Group (FC)	May 1 5:30p.m. Set Free Rehearsal (CH) 5:30p.m. Bells Rehearsal (S) 6:45p.m. Firelight (BAC) 6:45p.m. Catechism—Homework 7:00p.m. Choir Rehearsal (S)	May 2 7:00a.m. Men's Study (FC) 6:30p.m. Nehemiah Action Assembly for Justice in Action @ St. Mark's United Methodist Church	May 3	May 4 10:00a.m. Layettes of Love (FH)