

Hello Everyone,

Here comes the Update with a wide range of opportunities for everyone. We do appreciate hearing from people so let us know what resonated - or send along any feedback, questions, etc. The November election is on our minds so check out the various opportunities to engage on that issue. And come eat at LUMC's Good Together this Wednesday - and come sing at St. Luke's on the 20th.

Commemorating our Founding Values: Several of us joined the July 4th celebration at Ketrington Park and commemorated the 250th anniversary of our nation's birth by reading the Declaration of Independence and singing together (Thanks Nell). And thanks to Littleton Indivisible for organizing. ([See more pictures on our website.](#))

Julie sent me the [speech that Frederick Douglass](#) gave to commemorate this holiday in 1852. This was two years after the passing of the Fugitive Slave Act, which required all American citizens, those in the North as well as the South, to assist in capturing and returning freedom seekers, and which stripped all "suspects" of due process.

I include a few of Frederick Douglass's words here.

"That which is inhuman, cannot be divine! Who can reason on such a proposition? . . . At a time like this, scorching irony, not convincing argument, is needed. O! had I the ability, and could I reach the nation's ear, I would, to day, pour out a fiery stream of biting ridicule, blasting reproach, withering sarcasm, and stern rebuke. For it is not light that is needed, but fire; it is not the gentle shower, but thunder. We need the storm, the whirlwind, and the earthquake. The feeling of the nation must be quickened; the conscience of the nation must be roused; the propriety of the nation must be startled; the hypocrisy of the nation must be exposed; and its crimes against God and man must be proclaimed and denounced.

Upcoming opportunities for your calendar:

Good Together, Wed. July 8, 4:30 - 6:30, Littleton UMC. Come join our monthly community neighborhood meal at Littleton United Methodist Church. Volunteer - or come just to eat! [JULY VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP](#)

Singing with the Flobots. Wed., July 8, 6 - 7:30 pm, GEO Detention Center, 11901 E. 30th Ave, Aurora. The Flobots, Denver's socially active hip-hop band, will be co-hosting a vigil at the Aurora GEO Detention Center. This vigil is an opportunity to show up in community for our neighbors currently in detention. The theme for the vigil is "Free Them All". We will gather outside of the detention center's side entrance. If you are interested in carpooling, please contact Jane.

[Here is a link](#) to learn more about the Flobots and their work to defend the human dignity of our immigrant neighbors.

Dialogue and Encounter with the Vatican's Fr. Mattia Ferrarie, Thurs., July 9, 6 - 7 pm. Join with Together Colorado, as we welcome Fr. Mattia Ferrari, a close advisor to Pope Leo and chaplain to the Vatican's migrant efforts in the Mediterranean and the World Meeting of Popular Movements. We'll gather to share stories from our communities about how we are experiencing this moment, hear about Fr. Mattia's ministry, and learn how Pope Leo and the Vatican are accompanying migrants and refugees. [More details and register here.](#)

How Can We Reclaim Jesus from Empire? Fri., July 10, 11 am – 12:30 pm, Online with Recorded Replay. There is a fee for this event. Imagine a Christian faith grounded not in empire, but in relationship with creation. This is an online gathering for those seeking a restorative vision for Christian life. Featuring Brian McLaren, Randy Woodley and Edith Woodley. [Link here for more info](#)

What Every Coloradan Should Know About State Finances. Sun., July 12, 2 – 3:30 pm, Bemis Public Library, 6014 S Datura St., Littleton. Colorado's state budget shapes nearly every aspect of public life — from schools and transportation to housing, healthcare, water, and economic opportunity — yet the process behind it often feels opaque even to engaged citizens. In this conversation, Caroline Nutter of the Colorado Fiscal Institute will offer a clear, accessible look at how Colorado's finances actually work, the constitutional and political constraints that define state budgeting, and the major fiscal challenges and tradeoffs facing policymakers today. [Link here for more info and to RSVP](#)

Together Colorado Southern Front Range Gathering, Wed., July 15, 6 - 8 pm, Parker United Methodist Church, 11805 S Pine Dr #7308, Parker. Faith communities from across Douglas and Arapahoe counties are working with Together Colorado to build relationships with our local elected officials to advocate for just policies that advance human dignity in our communities. [More Info and RSVP.](#)

Support Trans Neighbors in Detention. Fri., July 17, Fort Greene, 321 E 45th Ave, Denver, CO 80216, 6 - 10 pm. The Aurora ICE/GEO facility is one of two detention centers in the country with a trans-specific pod. Through this event we will support our Trans friends currently in detention at the Aurora GEO facility by recruiting volunteers for visitation, uplifting their stories, fundraising, and raising awareness about the realities faced by Trans folks who are detained. This will be an evening of political education, music, dancing, and community connection. The Colorado Trans and Queer Immigrant Support Fund welcomes and offers aid to folks both inside

and recently released from immigration detention as they make their way to their final destination. Donate to support the Trans Fund [here!](#)

Interfaith Vigil for Peace and Justice: Silent Meditation and Prayer, Sat., July 18, 9:30 - 11 am, Denver ICE Field Office, 12445 E. Caley Ave., Centennial. Sponsored by the Interfaith Immigration Alliance.

Good Trouble Lives On! Sat., July 18, 1 - 3 pm, Denver Public Library, Bob Ragland Branch. Join Indivisible Denver Action as we learn about Voters Rights and how we take action by registering people to vote! [More information here.](#)

Singing Resistance Circle: Mon., July 20, 6 - 7 pm, St. Luke's UMC, 8817 S. Broadway. We'll use the skills we learned from Emily Lauher, our guest leader on June 8, to sing together and spread positive messages of justice, equality, and love for our neighbors. Come with friends, neighbors, and family members. No experience or expertise needed! For more info or to let us know you'll be there, contact [Jane Staller](#). Come join us to sing!

Together Colorado Democracy Protection Training: County Clerks & Recordors. Thurs., July 23, 6 - 8 pm, Zoom. Join Together Colorado for the first in a series of Power Building Trainings! You'll learn about the role County Clerks and Recordors play in protecting free and fair elections, and how organized communities can hold local election officials accountable to serving every voter. Together, we'll prepare for the months ahead by building the leadership, skills, and relationships needed to protect our democracy. [Register here](#)

Remembering Amache: History and Storytelling with Local Author Jolene Gutierrez. Thurs., July 23, 3 -4 pm, Bemis Public Library, 6012 S. Datura St., Littleton. Join local author Jolene Gutiérrez as she shares information about Amache, a Colorado incarceration camp, and reads the book *Unbreakable: A Japanese American Family in an American Incarceration Camp*, co-written with Minoru Tonai and illustrated by Chris Sasaki. Copies of *Unbreakable* will also be available for purchase from local bookstore Spell Books and the author will sign copies at the end of the presentation. Caregivers are encouraged to stay for the presentation so that conversations can be continued at home.

Bringing Transparency to the Courts Inside GEO. Tues., July 28, 5:30 p.m. Virtual and free. Presented by The Court Transparency Project (CTP) and Shut Down GEO Aurora. Come learn about the realities of immigration proceedings for people in detention at the Aurora ICE/GEO Detention Center. And learn what the community is doing to fight back against these injustices, and how you can join the effort. [More details and RSVP here.](#)

Nonpartisan Voter Protection Convening, Sat., Aug 8, 10 am - 3 pm. Denver. Common Cause is hosting a day of trainings, workshops, and community building for our members and volunteers, in preparation for our nonpartisan election protection program this fall. [More information here.](#)

We the People: A Multifaith Call to Consciousness for the United States, Mon., Aug. 17, 6 pm, online. Do you want to help shape a [multifaith effort supported by the UMC to create a shared vision](#) for our country's future? [Register to participate here](#)

Covenant for the Future: Week of Action. August 23-30, 2026. We are calling for the repeal of HR. 1 (known as the One Big Beautiful Bill Act) and renewal of the Federal government's commitment to justice. Faith communities are asked to join together and create an event (such as a vigil, prayer walk, sermon, etc.) in their local community to protest & repeal HR-1. [Link here for more info.](#) And here for [Covenantforourfuture.org](#).

Ongoing opportunities:

Preparing for the November election:

- **Arapahoe County Info**
 - a. Arapahoe County needs to hire 600 election judges for Nov. election - paid 16.50-18.50 per hour - [Link here for info](#)
 - b. To get the word out about election security follow Arapahoe County Elections - @arapahoeclerk
 - c. Read more about Arapahoe County's incredible security protocols and bipartisan oversight [here](#).
- **Two Indivisible Opportunities.** Indivisible offers these two opportunities to support our November elections. I completed the survey at *Just Vote Colorado* and agreed to be a distributor of voting PSA Yardsigns and stickers. Check out the options here:
 - a. Sign up for Indivisible's new campaign, [Hands Off Our Vote 2026](#)
 - b. Join the [Just Vote Colorado](#) campaign.

Court Watch - [PowerPoint](#) - Contact Cheryl or Carol to learn more or to shadow.

- c. Cheryl Stearns @ clstearns2017@outlook.com
- d. Carol Harr @ carolmharr@hotmail.com

North Littleton Promise Summer Needs

- e. [Fresh fruits and veggies](#) Ideas, quantities and drop off details on the sign up sheet.
- f. "Field trip ready" [Fresh Lunch/Snack items](#) like Lunchables or pre-made Uncrustable sandwiches for students with no lunch.
- g. Easy meal options such as mac & cheese cups and Cup of Noodles. Use this [Snack Drive](#) sign up.

Giving Heart - Ongoing Needs. Men's jeans, shorts, new underwear - men and women sm, adult belts, adult shoes (size 13), shoe laces, boots, socks, blankets, sleeping bags, cough drops, hair brushes, baseball hats, readers, eyeglass cases, tweezers. Bring donations to the LUMC breezeway.

Defend Disability Rights. For nearly 27 years, the Supreme Court's landmark 1999 decision in *Olmstead v. L.C.* has protected Americans with disabilities from being forced into institutional care and nursing homes against their will, affirming their right to live independently in their own communities. Recently, the Trump Department of Justice released a memo undermining that decision and arguing that *Olmstead* and related disability rights laws actually contribute to homelessness. Legal experts say [the claim is not supported by the facts](#) or by virtually any court, and [the DOJ's own memo](#) acknowledged that their interpretation is "out of step" with legal consensus. [See 5Calls to call our reps and our governor](#)

St. Andrew Market. Help feed 450 families weekly with this outreach out of East Community Center near the corner of Broadway and Littleton Blvd. [Link for more information and to volunteer](#)

Grocery Delivery - Megan has organized a valuable service delivering groceries to those who are not able to pick them up in person. To volunteer, email Megan at meganbrookhart1011@gmail.com to help deliver needed groceries at 4 pm on Wednesdays. Even once a month is a huge help.

HAAT Force - Resource Days are Fridays, 10 am – 1 pm at Spirit of Hope (4300 S Lincoln St, Englewood). People may stop by for a hot breakfast and lunch, shelf-stable and frozen meals, RTD tickets, hygiene items, clothing, shoes and case management. The next three Resource Days are July 10, 17, 24. Here are volunteer signups for each: [July 10](#), [July 17](#), [July 24](#). As always, volunteers can come for whole or partial shifts. Contact Julie @ jhall@haatforce.org with questions.

The Graduated Income Tax on the 2026 ballot. The 97% of Colorado taxpayers making less than \$500,000 would receive a tax cut; those at the top will pay more. Learn more on [this page from the League of Women Voters](#). To take action check out [this website to volunteer](#) to collect signatures. (At LUMC, contact Mary at best.mary@gmail.com to sign.) Time is short to get this on the ballot.

Ending Temporary Protective Status for Haitians and Syrians. The Supreme Court decision (6-3) in *Mullin v. Doe* cleared the way for the administration to proceed with revoking protective status from 350,000 Haitians and 6,000 Syrians who have built lives, careers, and families here. There are 1.3 million overall on TPS who are now likely to lose protective status. I know several of

you have sent letters. If you have not yet you may use [5calls](#) or mail your elected rep using this [template](#).

Restricting people from requesting asylum: In the 6-3 decision *Mullin v. Al Otro Lado*, the Supreme Court ruled that the government can turn back asylum seekers at the U.S.- Mexico border by physically preventing them from setting foot on U.S. soil. Under federal law, persons may request asylum once they have arrived in the country. The Court determined that migrants stopped on the Mexican side of the border have not "arrived" in the country, meaning legal protections for asylum seekers do not apply. Justice Sotomayor read her searing dissent from the bench. [Story linked here](#)

[Learn "What The United Methodist Church believes about immigrants and migrants." by Laura Buchanan](#)

To Take Action:

Write a letter to your elected representatives

Write a letter to the editor expressing our responsibility to immigrants as people of faith.

Write a letter to the editor comparing our approach to immigrants after these two Supreme Court decisions to the US's refusal to admit Jews from Europe during WW II.

Update on Reverend Edward Nalwamba. Thanks to all who signed a petition requesting the release from ICE detention of Rev. Nalwamba. Here is a [CBS News Update as of June 29](#)

The next Justice Team meeting at LUMC is Sunday, July 26, 11:40 am - 1 pm, in the Reception Hall at Littleton United Methodist Church. Bring a snack or lunch, and a friend. All are welcome!

[Justice Team Website linked here](#)