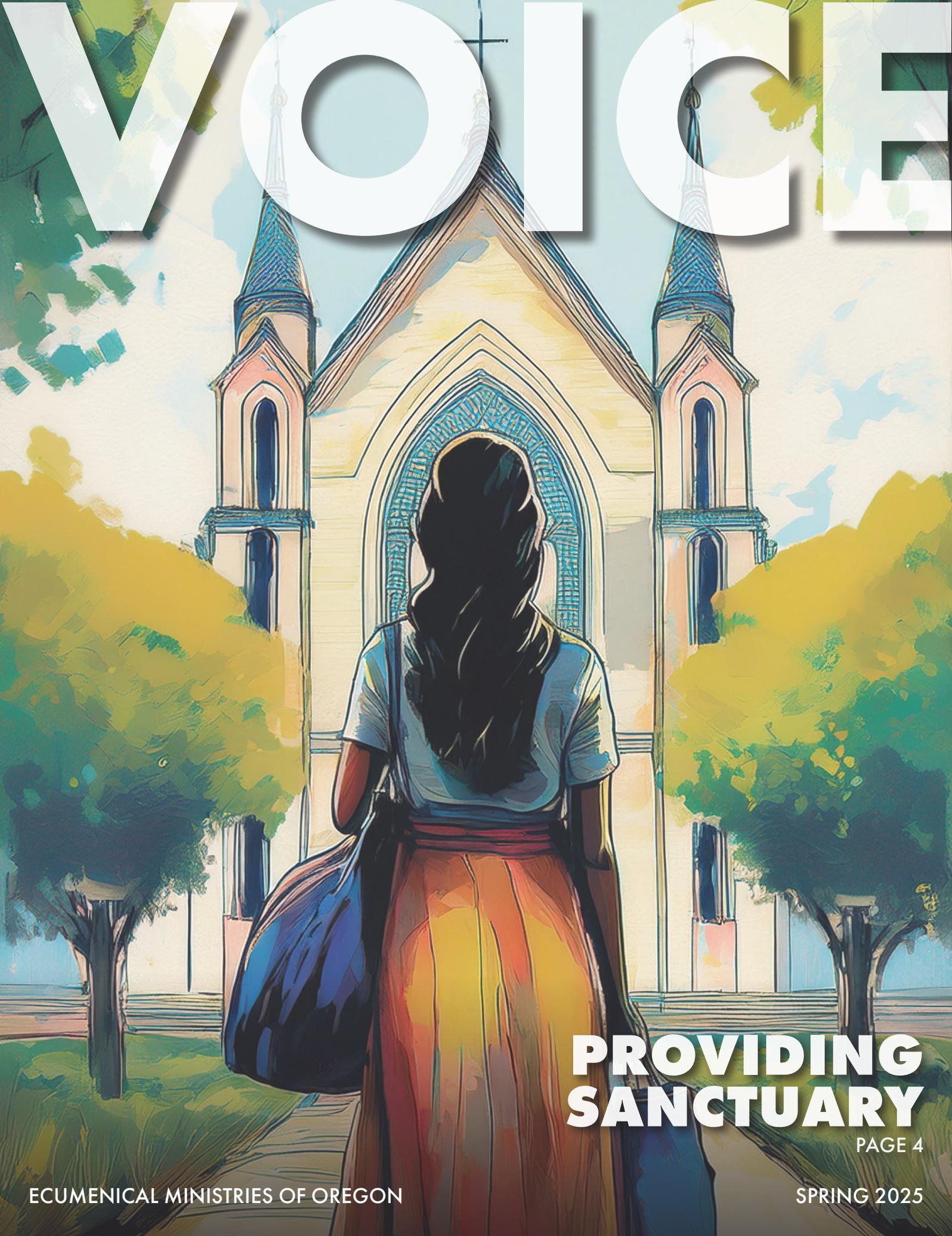


VOICE



PROVIDING SANCTUARY

PAGE 4

The VOICE is published by Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon. EMO brings together diverse communities of faith to learn, serve, and advocate for justice, peace, and the integrity of creation.

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Dear Readers,

Do justice, love mercy, walk humbly.

These words gained national attention at the inaugural prayer service in January, when Episcopal Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde urged President Trump to “have mercy” on the LGBTQ+ community and undocumented migrant workers. She was reminding us to do as our God asks of us in Micah 6:8: to act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

A large percentage of the people Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO) serves have felt the harm inflicted by recent executive orders of the new Trump Administration. Many of us are sheltered from the direct impact, but there is a feeling that our country is being driven towards the opposite of what Micah 6:8 describes for God’s people. While Voltaire might have coined the phrase, “With great power comes great responsibility,” the notion of those who have much should give much is also very biblical.

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon does not hide that our very essence is ecumenical, which comes from the Greek *oikos* or house. We are inclusive of all those in God’s house. While other organizations and businesses are turning away from their policies of diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI), our DEI statement is prominently placed on the front page of our website (emoregon.org).

Even though the courts have ordered the Trump administration to unfreeze federal funding for our New Americans Initiative at EMO’s SOAR Immigration Legal Services, as I write this, those funds remain frozen. Nevertheless, we will continue to carry out our citizenship classes and clinics to assist those with a legal path to citizenship become U.S. citizens. We do this because we believe in human rights and protecting our community, and we know providence shall prevail to continue to fund our work. With our faith, we cannot be subject to haphazard government policies that are unjust.

At Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, we open our doors to all those in God’s house and do not shy away from doing justice, loving mercy, and walking humbly with our God and our neighbors.

On behalf of all the staff at EMO,



Frank So
Executive Director



SANCTUARY

Always step out in faith

SOWING THE SEEDS OF SANCTUARY, SOLIDARITY AND HOPE IN TROUBLED TIMES

BY THE REV. DR. W. J. MARK KNUTSON



Photo above: Augustana Lutheran Church held a "Sanctuary Sunday Service & Teach Ins" on Feb. 16, 2025. Photo by Andie Petkus.

The Rev. Dr. W. J. Mark Knutson is the pastor of Augustana Lutheran Church in Portland. He was honored with the "Heart of Sanctuary Award" by the Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice in 2015.

Let me begin this article by saying that the true heroes in the Sanctuary Movement are our immigrant siblings who are such vital and resilient members of our congregations and communities, especially in these terribly troubled times. In my Doctor of Ministry project on sanctuary at Wesley Theological Seminary, I wrote, "To step out in faith ultimately means that we are stepping into God's future of promise."

I began my ministry at Augustana Lutheran Church in 1996, when my wife Tamrah and I had returned to Portland with our son after eight incredible years

serving in Chicago with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). During that first year at Augustana, we declared the church a Sanctuary Congregation.

At that time, Augustana was just beginning a comeback from the possibility of closure, and we were reaching out for creative partnerships. With the help of Latino colleagues, we created what would become Familais en Accion, offering volunteer staff and in-kind office space for outreach to Latina women. One day, the participants came for a class and were emotionally shaken and fearful. News had just

broken of an ICE raid at a workplace. In that moment, we told them Augustana was a sanctuary and ICE would not be allowed in. This was a statement based on faith and the love of Jesus.

Thus began our sanctuary journey at Augustana. Over the following months we had to preach, teach and dialogue about this so all would be on board. For 12 years, we shared this with other faith communities and the broader community and changed our signage to reflect this reality.

Then on Friday Sept. 19, 2014, at 7:30 a.m., I received the call that Francisco Aguirre, a labor organizer, was at home with his wife, two young daughters and teenage son, surrounded by ICE. The call was from one of our members with Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice (IMIrJ). I was told that Francisco knew his rights and

that ICE had no warrant. I was asked if they could caravan to Augustana for sanctuary, given that ICE left.

As a Sanctuary Church, I could say "yes" in that very moment. If I had hesitated, or had to call a council meeting to decide, Francisco Aguirre would not be alive today. His 18-year-old son Moises, a senior at Reynolds High School, was traumatized by ICE and went back to El Salvador to be with relatives. While there playing soccer, three armed men burst on the field and murdered him.

This moment we are in now is a life-and-death moment for many refugees and immigrants. Faith communities cannot be silent.

Francisco Aguirre lived in sanctuary at Augustana for 81 days, and many people of faith and goodwill came to assist. The community and the press rose up to challenge the powers that be.

Today, Francisco Aguirre and his family are vital members of Augustana, and Francisco is on staff for worship and as executive director of the VIVA Migrant Worker nonprofit at the church. His status is still in limbo, as the church stands with him and so many others.

During the time Francisco was in sanctuary, we traveled to Washington, DC, to join five other churches actively providing sanctuary. In partnership with Church World Service (CWS), we lobbied Congress and helped to launch the CWS New Sanctuary Network, to which thousands of churches now belong. Augustana wrote a resolution calling our Oregon Lutheran churches to declare ourselves a sanctuary synod and then for our denomination to do the same, which occurred in 2019.

Today, the need for faith communities to rise up is as great as ever. Fear is rampant, and the current administration's policies are racist, cruel and violent. There are many ways to rise up in sanctuary solidarity and hope, ranging from housing undocumented siblings, to coming alongside those who are, to reaching out and standing with our immigrant neighbors, to advocacy and action born of love with Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon. ■



Photo left: The Rev. Dr. Mark Knutson (right) with Francisco Aguirre, who lived in sanctuary at Augustana Lutheran Church for 81 days. Photo credit: KATU.

FAMILY REUNITED

SOAR Immigration Legal Services helps Afghan evacuees rebuild their lives in Oregon

BY CAROLINE VAN DER HARTEN

Caroline van der Harten has served as EMO's Director of Immigration Services since 2010. She earned her law degree from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. In 2024, Caroline received the "Richard M. Ginsburg Outstanding Leadership for Immigrant Rights Award" from the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) Oregon Chapter.



Afghan refugees in August 2021 protesting outside the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, demanding to be given refugee status.

Said lived a pretty typical life of a young adult in Afghanistan. He was a dedicated student and loved to participate in robotics competitions. His dad and many of his older siblings worked for U.S. government contractors and U.S. based NGOs (non-governmental organizations). His mom also worked for a U.S. based NGO, which educated girls and women and advocated for women's rights.

Things changed drastically for Said and his family when the Afghan government fell to the Taliban in 2021.

Said's parents and siblings were all afraid of staying in Afghanistan, due to their family's strong ties to U.S. organizations and strong support of the U.S. mission in Afghanistan. After the fall of the Afghan government in August 2021, Said, his parents and several of his siblings decided to flee Afghanistan.

They tried to get into the Kabul airport. It was crowded. In all the chaos, the family was separated. The Taliban was beating people who were trying to enter the airport. Said was severely injured and blinded in one eye. His father and his younger siblings were with Said. His mother, one of his older brothers and his sister made it into the airport and were evacuated to the United States.

Once in the United States, Said's mother, brother and sister were resettled in Oregon. They began working with SOAR Immigration Legal Services to file for immigration status and figure out how to reunite with the rest of their family. Said's mother applied for asylum, and it was approved in the fall of 2022. She applied for Said and her other minor

children and husband to reunite with her in the safety of the United States.

Meanwhile, Said, his father and other siblings were in hiding in Pakistan. About a year after Said's mom applied for their visas, the family members in Pakistan had their visa interviews. Six months after the interview, the embassy approved the visas for Said's father and younger siblings, but they needed to do extended processing for Said and one of his brothers.

The embassy was concerned about Said's prior international travel for robotics competitions. Said was confused about this, since he was a good student and never got into trouble. He was concerned, afraid and stressed out about his situation in Pakistan, since the Pakistani authorities were deporting Afghans. Returning to Afghanistan was not an option.

In the meantime, Said studied on his own, and he connected with other Afghans in exile in Pakistan over their love of robotics and science.

At last, Said received good news. Almost a year and a half after his first visa interview, he received notification from the embassy that his visa was approved.

An executive order signed on Jan. 20, 2025, titled, "Protecting the United States from Foreign Terrorists and Other National Security and Public Safety Threats," indicated that a new travel ban would be implemented, and this could include a ban against entrants from Afghanistan. [Note: At the time of publication, the ban had not yet been implemented.]

So, once Said's visa was granted, his family quickly purchased his airline

ticket. In March 2025, he was able to reunite with his family for the first time since August 2021 and finally reach safety in Oregon.

SOAR Immigration Legal Services' Afghan Legal Project has assisted hundreds of Afghans—like Said and his family—with filing for asylum, green cards and reuniting with their families. Our team is proud to have played a part in this brave young person's journey. ■

SOAR IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES

Since 1992, EMO's SOAR Immigration Legal Services has provided culturally competent, immigration-related legal representation and education to refugees and immigrants with limited income throughout Oregon and southwest Washington.

Last year, our team provided legal services, educational services and legal consultations to over 2,000 people.

SOAR Legal is recognized by the U.S. Department of Justice as an authorized provider of immigration legal services. Our attorney-driven legal program has a staff of six attorneys and five Department of Justice accredited representatives. We also have an ESL education team, a mental health advocate and an outreach coordinator to support our clients.

To learn more about our program, including volunteer opportunities and how to give, visit soarlegal.org.

Q&A

Yekaterina Kozachuk Program Manager, Slavic Oregon Social Services (SOSS)

Tell us about your background.

I was born in Ukraine and came as a refugee to the United States in 1994 with my family. I grew up in upstate New York and spent most of my life on the east coast. I moved to Oregon after completing a Master of Theological Studies at Duke Divinity School. During my time at Duke, I focused on ethics, art, trauma and the body. Due to both my education and having grown up in the Slavic refugee and immigrant community, I have the empathy and understanding required to lead the Slavic Oregon Social Services (SOSS) team and program.

Why did you choose to work for SOSS?

I joined SOSS because I wanted to help my community heal from domestic and sexual violence. I started working at the program as a domestic violence advocate. As one of the only Slavic and Eastern European culturally specific domestic and sexual violence programs in the United States, SOSS receives calls from across the country asking for support.

In the Slavic community, domestic and sexual violence is a systemic issue that only in the last 30 years has begun to be named for what it is: gender violence, as it disproportionately affects women. We need to heal from this generational and systemic trauma. Having a program like SOSS in our community creates a safe space and access to healing, empowerment and

freedom. Many of our refugee and immigrant clients receive for the first time the support and resources they need to leave a life of violence for a life of freedom. We often have clients tell us that they can't believe a program like ours exists, because in their homeland, they have no support, thus the cycle of abuse continues. There's also something special about receiving support from someone who not only understands your culture but also speaks your language.

What is your vision for your program?

My vision is that SOSS will be a healing center for all survivors in the Slavic and Eastern European communities. Over the last two years, SOSS received funding to start four new projects, and we grew from an eight-person team to a 16-person team. The additional funding means more domestic and sexual violence survivors get the support they need, including housing, mental health support and financial empowerment. One of the new grants has also allowed us to launch a program to support the children of domestic violence as secondhand trauma survivors. We hope to expand this program and eventually offer services to not only secondhand trauma survivors, but all Slavic youth/teens who might be struggling with abuse.

We have also expanded our services to domestic violence survivors in rural areas of Oregon who have been underserved for years.

What do you find most rewarding about your work?

What I find so rewarding about my work is the SOSS staff team—the biggest resource our clients and community members have. As a team supporting survivors of domestic and sexual violence, we deal with painful situations on a daily basis. Despite these difficult experiences, they remain gentle, empathetic, compassionate and supportive. This is why I show up for work every day. They are fierce advocates, and, if not for them, SOSS wouldn't exist.

Anything else you'd like to add?

I am grateful to be a part of EMO, because it has created a place and a program for my community to heal. ■

SLAVIC OREGON SOCIAL SERVICES

Slavic Oregon Social Services (SOSS) was founded in 1994 by EMO. For over 30 years, we have helped survivors of domestic and sexual violence in Oregon, regardless of their gender, orientation, religion or immigration status. Our services are free and strictly confidential.

To learn more about our services, or to support our work with a financial gift, visit emo-soss.org.

Yekaterina Kozachuk, Program Manager of EMO's Slavic Oregon Social Services (SOSS).
Photo by Alexandra Obmanets.

A CHANCE TO THRIVE

Providing a home, creating hope

BY DR. IAN BEATY

“Together, we can ensure that no youth has to face the uncertainty of homelessness alone.”



Photo: Dr. Ian Beaty with his wife Lacey Beaty (right), mayor of Beaverton, and Beth Jay (left). When he was a high school student experiencing homelessness, the Jay family took Ian into their home and gave him a chance to rebuild his life. Photo by Anne Scarce.

Ian Beaty is a keynote speaker, Army officer, and educator with over 24 years of leadership experience. He specializes in helping organizations bridge gaps in leadership by equipping high-performing employees with the skills they need to succeed in management roles. Ian’s engaging keynotes inspire audiences to build trust, foster retention and create a culture of growth. To learn more, email ian@ianbeaty.com.

Growing up, my life didn’t follow the path many would consider typical. My mother struggled with addiction, so my grandmother stepped in to raise me. Despite her best efforts, there were times when I faced uncertainty—about where I would sleep, what my future might hold or whether I mattered to anyone. Those moments of instability left an unforgettable mark, shaping how I view the world and the people in it.

Teen homelessness doesn’t always look the way people imagine. It’s not just kids living in tents or under cardboard boxes downtown. Often, it’s much harder to see. For me, it meant moving from one friend’s couch to another, carrying everything I owned in a single bag. I didn’t want to be a burden, so I kept my situation hidden. Like so many teens in similar circumstances, I was trying to stay in school and piece together a future, all while navigating the uncertainty of not knowing where I’d sleep next.

Many teens are escaping dangerous or unstable homes. They aren’t running away from responsibility—they’re running toward safety, doing what they

can to survive. Some live in their cars, others rely on friends for temporary shelter, and yet they show up to school every day, doing their best to hold it all together. They’re resourceful and resilient, but what they need most is stability, a safe place to call home and someone who believes in them. That’s what made all the difference for me.

At one point in my youth, when I was most unsure of what lay ahead, an unlikely family stepped into my life, took me in and gave me a chance to rebuild my life. They had no obligation to help me, yet they recognized potential in me that I couldn’t see in myself. By offering me a temporary place to stay, they gave me more than just a roof over my head: they gave me a sense of safety, dignity and belief that I had value. That act of kindness became the foundation for everything I’ve built since then.

Because of that experience, I resonate deeply with the mission of programs like Second Home. They don’t just provide unaccompanied houseless youth with a place to stay; they provide hope. For these teens, finding a safe and stable home can mean the difference between survival and the chance to thrive. The families who open their doors are giving more than physical shelter—they’re offering a pathway to a brighter future.

I know firsthand how transformative it can be to have someone believe in you. That stability and support propelled me forward, eventually allowing me to serve my country in the military, pursue my education to the doctorate level and build a meaningful career. I’m living proof of what’s possible when someone invests in a

young person’s potential.

Becoming a host family through Second Home may seem like a big commitment, but the impact is immeasurable. By opening your home, you’re not just meeting someone’s immediate needs; you’re giving them the confidence to dream, to grow and to succeed. For these youth, knowing someone cares enough to share their space can be the catalyst for lasting change.

Second Home’s work is a reminder that we all have the power to make a difference. Whether you choose to host, volunteer or simply spread the word about their mission, every small act matters. Together, we can ensure that no youth has to face the uncertainty of homelessness alone. By stepping forward, you might just change a life—just as someone once changed mine. ■

SECOND HOME

Second Home connects volunteer host homes with unaccompanied high school students experiencing homelessness. As students have assurance of stable housing and ongoing support, they can focus on completing their secondary education and realize their full potential.

Our program is a ground-breaking example of how a community can respond to the issue of youth homelessness.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer host home provider, visit emo-secondhome.org.

Time to Say Farewell to a Congregation

BY DR. HOWARD KENYON



SERVICE

I had attended several funerals in that sacred space. On Jan. 26, 2025, I went once more, not to pay my respects to someone who had died, but to say farewell to a congregation that—after eight decades of service—was dissolving.

Over those years, the city grew up around Luther Memorial Lutheran Church in the heart of the Cully neighborhood in northeast Portland. Pastor Carol Kyllingstad faithfully ministered to that aging gathering of believers, until it was time for her to let go as well. As her staying on had extended the life of the congregation, her departing triggered what Lutherans call a “holy closing.”

Although their physical strength and numbers diminished with every memorial service, I never called it a dying church. A dying church is one with no vision. This church of 30 people had a vision for its community, a vision that saw 50,000 people fed each month during the COVID pandemic by Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon’s Northeast Emergency Food Program (NEFP), which operates out of the church basement.

For several years as I ran NEFP, I came to know every member in the congregation. Some I worked beside as they fed and clothed their neighbors. Some I assisted in their church councils and fellowshiped with after service. Pastor Carol and I often met to share vision and encouragement. Often, I preached in their worship gatherings. Over and over, I prayed for them, and they prayed for me.

A church ministering to thousands of people a month is by no measure a dying church. A church where people tenderly care for one another and for

anyone who walks through their doors is not a dying church.

But by January, they were down to a handful. A handful of elderly saints who had a hard time attracting young people. They couldn’t keep up with a building aging like them. They were too few to support a pastor. Their time had come.

And yet, their vision remained strong. So strong, they passed on their building and property to the organization operating that ministry. NEFP remains a thriving partnership of many churches and hundreds of volunteers and donors. My friends at Luther Memorial made way for the next generation to carry on their vision of ministering to their neighborhood—a neighborhood where lower income folks, pushed out from the city’s hub, come to find more affordable housing. But as housing is never truly affordable in this region, their material needs remain great.

The congregation knew this and, to the last, continued to support NEFP at heroic levels. But they knew it was time. So, in January, they sold their property and building to EMO and the food program they allowed to flourish in their space for the past couple of decades. EMO is raising funds to cover the congregation’s obligations and for much needed work on a building with significant deferred maintenance.

Though the food program won’t be holding Sunday services on the property, lots of other forms of ministry will take place, as services to those in need spill out of the basement and fill every nook and cranny of that property, thanks to the blessings of a people who have shown great vision late in life. ■

INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF NEFP

On Jan. 31, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon signed the paperwork to purchase the Luther Memorial Lutheran Church building and property (photo left), the location where EMO’s Northeast Emergency Food Program (NEFP) has been housed since 2007. As the most active food pantry in Oregon, NEFP meets the urgent food needs of nearly 10,000 people each month!

To help EMO pay the purchase price of \$300,000 for the building, Oregon Food Bank has generously pledged a matching grant of \$100,000 over the course of four years. You may give online at emo-nefp.org/give/building; or send a check to NEFP c/o EMO, 245 S Bancroft St. Ste. B, Portland, OR 97239, indicating “building” on the memo line.

Any amount you give will bring us closer to our goals of meeting the current match and eventually owning the building outright. If we are fortunate enough to raise funds beyond the purchase price of the building, we will create a fund for maintenance and upgrades.

Learn more about NEFP at emo-nefp.org.

Dr. Howard Kenyon was the program manager of NEFP from 2010 to 2015, and he retired as vice president of EMO in 2023. He earned a Ph.D. in ethics from Baylor University.

GIVING

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon's Board of Directors and staff extend their appreciation to those who support EMO's ministries. The following is a partial list of foundation and community support of \$1,000 or more received by EMO from Aug. 2024 to Feb. 2025.

SUPPORTER	PROGRAM
Augustana Lutheran Church	Annual Fund
Benson Family Foundation	Creation Justice, NEFP, Public Policy, SOAR, SOAR Legal
Boys & Girls Aid	Second Home
Central Pacific Conference of the United Church of Christ	Annual Fund
Church of the Vine	SOAR
Church World Service	SOAR
City of Beaverton	Second Home
City of Gresham	Second Home
City of Hillsboro	SOAR Legal
Clark Foundation	NEFP
Columbia Riverkeeper	Creation Justice
Congregation Beth Israel	NEFP
DevNW/HUD	Second Home
Earth Advantage / City of Portland	Cooling Program
Elevate Oregon	NEFP
Fremont United Methodist Church	NEFP
Gilhousen Family Foundation	NEFP
Harris Family Foundation	NEFP
Health Share of Oregon	NEFP
Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization	SOSS
The Jackson Foundation	NEFP
Kasa Nightclub Portland	SOAR Legal
LARJ Fund, Oregon Community Foundation	NEFP
Lutheran Community Services	SOAR
Marquis Foundation	NEFP
Meyer Memorial Trust	SOAR Legal
Moreland Presbyterian Church	Annual Fund

SUPPORTER	PROGRAM
Multnomah County, Ryan White Program	HIV Day Center
Multnomah County, ADVSD	NEFP
Multnomah County, DSVCO	SOSS
Northwest Industrial and Foundry Supply Co., Inc.	NEFP
Olive Bridge Fund, Oregon Community Foundation	NEFP
Oregon Food Bank	NEFP
Oregon State Bar	SOAR Legal
Piedmont Presbyterian Church	NEFP
Presbytery of the Cascades	Annual Fund
Providence Health Plan	Refugee Rapid Response
Rose E. Tucker Charitable Trust	NEFP
St. Luke Lutheran Church	NEFP
Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace	Annual Fund
State of Oregon, Oregon Health Authority	Creation Justice
State of Oregon, CACFP	HIV Day Center
State of Oregon, YEHP	Second Home
State of Oregon, Department of Justice	SOSS
State of Oregon, Department of Human Services	SOAR Legal, SOAR
Trillium Health	Cooling Program
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	SOAR Legal
Valley Community Presbyterian Church	Second Home
Westminster Presbyterian Church	NEFP
Joseph E. Weston Public Foundation	HIV Day Center, NEFP, Public Policy, Second Home

NEFP = Northeast Emergency Food Program SOAR Legal = SOAR Immigration Legal Services
 SOAR = Sponsors Organized to Assist Refugees SOSS = Slavic Oregon Social Services

AUGUST 2024-JANUARY 2025

GIFTS IN HONOR

in honor of the Azimi Family
Bill and Diane Savage

in honor of Jim Brooks
Albert and Bonnie Brooks

in honor of Gaile Baack – Eric Baack

in honor of Kristi Baack & Bernie Deazley
Eric Baack, Gaile and Don Baack

in honor of EMO's 50th Anniversary
Mark and Donna Brocker

in honor of Jenna Eliel
Patricia and Thomas Campbell-Schmitt

in honor of Aly Ensrud
Karen Mitchell-Yakymi & Larry Yakymi

in honor of Debbie Ferrari
Dana and Jerry Schwartz

in honor of Rachael Garrett
Dana and Jerry Schwartz

in honor of Norene Goplen
Wayne and Loyce Forsgren

in honor of Jenny Hale
Sam and Marilyn Connell, Robin and Roger Garvin

in honor of Dana Herbert
Isaac Regenstreif

in honor of Carleen Jannsen Van Demarr
Charles Jannsen

in honor of Jermecia Watkins-Lari & Jon Lari – Richard Lari

in honor of Joyce & Ted Liljeholm
Eugene and Patricia Ross

in honor of Sally Marie – Jeanette Busse

in honor of Shann and Rachel Mortimer
Anita Mortimer

in honor of Robert Moses
Dana and Jerry Schwartz

in honor of the Mrazai/Jerde Family
Chris Finlayson

in honor of Rodney Page
Elizabeth and Gilbert Eklund

in honor of Karen Pancheau
Marc and Kristine Fuller

in honor of Eileen Parfrey
Joseph Robertson, Jr.

in honor of Michael Powell – Iris Gibson

in honor of Jan Rinehart – Beth Madigan

in honor of Pat & Gene Ross
Ted and Joyce Liljeholm

in honor of Erik Running – Anita Mortimer

in honor of Schwartz Family & Amy Simpson – Dana and Jerry Schwartz

in honor of SOSS staff
Keith Walters and Jonathan Tamez

in honor of Joe & Jane Snyder
Sara Margaret Brown

in honor of Frank So – Reilly & Kyle Martin

in honor of SOAR Legal's Citizenship Day in Oregon – Polina Olsen

in honor of June Tanis
Janice and Tom Harvey

in honor of Pat & Debbie Walsh
Emily and Timothy Walsh

in honor of Chanell Wilson
Holly Blakeslee-Gordon

GIFTS IN MEMORY

in memory of Elizabeth Ackerman
Slavica Gokul

in memory of John L. Anderson
Peggy Anderson

in memory of Don & Delvon Barrett
Marsha Grosjean

in memory of Lowen Berman
Julia Lager-Mesulam & Steven Mesulam, Carla & Matthew Starrett-Bigg

in memory of Paul Bowman
Elizabeth Bowman

in memory of Trudy Bradley – Dan Bradley

in memory of Richard Burton
Holly and Reed Fowler

in memory of John Casas
Raymond Barnes

in memory of Barbara Crandall
Kathleen Van Winkle

in memory of Kevin Guy Daley
James Daley

in memory of Ron Elliott & Mack Johnson – Kathleen and Robert Joy

in memory of Dick Evans
Rosemary and Bernard Carlsen

in memory of Harry Flescher
Saint Luke Lutheran Church

in memory of Don Frueh
Nancy Blair Loudat

in memory of John Gray, Jr. – Cindra Gray

in memory of Lois Grumm – Maile Grumm

in memory of Marygolde Hanson
David and Susan Hanson

in memory of Rosina Hereth
Marilyn Horton

in memory of Eugene Lee Hudson
Lucille Bridgewater

in memory of Gary Kasper
Frances and Theodore Ames, Virginia and John McCormac

in memory of Jacob Kever – Tiah Kever

in memory of Georgianne Kimberly
Sara Laughlin

in memory of Louise Knoll – Robert Knoll

in memory of Gary Logsdon
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in memory of Margaret McPherson
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in memory of David Niederloh
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in memory of Robert Oga
Rosendo and Leslie Pont

in memory of Barbara Whalin Olsen
Frankie Anderson, Elizabeth Johnson, John and Nancy Stephenson

in memory of Nancie Peacocke Fadeley
Shira Fadeley

in memory of Maria Pratt – Jeffrey Pratt

in memory of Jan Rinehart – Beth Madigan

in memory of Robert Rumble
Kathy Rumble

in memory of Dave Simmons
Marianne Arden, Joan Bridgman, Richard & Helen Keagle, Janice Petersen

in memory of Relma Siirila – Marilyn Horton

in memory of Jake Stein-Ross
Lydia Anderson-Dana, Katy Connolly, Claire Stein-Ross

in memory of Mary Jo Tully
Douglas and Cathy Wirt

in memory of David Waler
Erika Nakamoto

in memory of Maybelle Wood – Judy Rooks



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Annual Gala

LOVE IN ACTION

Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2025

Reception 5:30 p.m.
Dinner, Live Auction & Awards 6:30 p.m.

Sentinel Hotel Portland
614 SW Eleventh Avenue

Reservations will be available this summer.
Learn more at emoregon.org/events



Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon presents the
2025 Collins Lecture

A CALL TO JUSTICE

How Faith Communities Can
Support LGBTQIA2S+ Rights

THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2025 | 7 P.M.

PENDLETON CENTER FOR THE ARTS
214 North Main St., Pendleton, Ore.
Virtual option available

RESERVE TICKETS
\$25 in person & virtual
emoregon.org/events



FUNDED BY THE COLLINS FOUNDATION

This event is not sponsored by the Pendleton Center for the Arts. PCA invites private groups to rent the facility for a wide range of functions.