



CULTIVATING LOVE

together

Let us pray. Gracious God, we give you thanks for all that we have and all that we are. Be with us now as we go about discerning and doing the work to which you have called us as your people. Help us to cultivate love together for all of your beloved children, as signs of your abundant and gracious love. Guide us, lead us, and show us your way. In your holy and precious name we pray. Amen.

REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS; AGAIN I WILL SAY, REJOICE.
LET YOUR GENTLENESS BE KNOWN TO EVERYONE. THE LORD IS NEAR.
DO NOT WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING, BUT IN EVERYTHING BY PRAYER AND
SUPPLICATION WITH THANKSGIVING LET YOUR REQUESTS BE MADE KNOWN
TO GOD. AND THE PEACE OF GOD, WHICH SURPASSES ALL UNDERSTANDING,
WILL GUARD YOUR HEARTS AND YOUR MINDS IN CHRIST JESUS.

—PHILIPPIANS 4.4-7—

Beloved in Christ,

It is good to be cultivating love together with you in God's Nebraska Synod. Throughout the state, communities are bettered and strengthened by the presence of the Nebraska Synod. Food pantries; sanitary product drives; rogation blessings and bag lunch drop-offs for local farmers; quilting groups; community meals; these are just a few of the ways we are cultivating love between ourselves and our neighbors.

In this resource, you'll find stories of how we are cultivating love through the work of Mission Field Nebraska in particular. Mission Field Nebraska ministries build partnerships that address critical needs within the Nebraska Synod by caring for those in need; providing a spiritually welcoming place for newcomers to our communities, our state and our nation; and seeking to share the Gospel in places where the church has traditionally been unfamiliar. This can include ministries for those within or transitioning out of the prison, juvenile, or foster care system; Latine, Indigenous and Native American populations; the Sudanese communities within the Omaha and Lincoln metro areas, and more. I encourage you to read about the impact that you are making through mission share support of Mission Field Nebraska. We, as the Nebraska Synod, are truly cultivating love together across the entire state. Thank you for the many ways you are supporting these crucial ministries, and please contact the Synod office if you'd like to know more.

Yours in joy and gratitude,
The Rev. Scott Alan Johnson, Bishop



SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2025
MAY 31 - JUNE 1
KEARNEY, NE

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MISSION FIELD NEBRASKA

Followers of Christ

Lakota Center

Nile Lutheran

San Andrés



"The reason I come here, and listen to you, is because you treat us like human beings." "Don't give up on us, like everyone else has."

-FOC participants

Pastor Rob Corum says this about the ministry connecting expectations to faith: "AA says that expectations are premeditated resentments. But 'expectations' is another word for 'faith.' If we have faith in something that is going to let us down, it will kill us. But faith in God gives us life."

The Lakota Lutheran Center and Chapel in Scottsbluff is a Native-centered ministry that serves its community in many ways: providing Sunday worship, food and clothing, hot meals and showers. The Lakota Center is known regionally as a ministry which raises awareness and speaks with and for those who have no other voice. But more than all these things, what people will tell you is that Lakota is a place of welcome to people of all backgrounds, a place where everyone is accepted as they are, with Christlike love.

"Having my children be a part of these Wednesday classes brings them closer to God and their community," states a mother of three. Weekly, South Sudanese youth aged 3-12 gather in the dining room of Nile where multiple adult members of our congregation volunteer to spend time with youth. One teaches the Nuer language, another cooks and provides dinner, one volunteer teaches Nuer gospel songs, and Pastor Gok Badeng ends the night with a study from the bible. "I like learning new songs and seeing my new friends," says 8-year-old Nyapal Zakaria. It's been fantastic bringing the word of God to our youth as Nile continues to be a staple in the community.

"I am happy to be part of a ministry that includes everyone and gives a voice to women, educates our children, and makes us grow in faith."

- Alejandra, member and Food Pantry Coordinator

"I have always looked for intelligent answers to my faith and in San Andres I have found a place where I can be a believer and witness of the love of God." - Shayra, member, volunteer at the Food Pantry, and part of the advocacy ministry of Bread for the World.

"For me, San Andrés is a home that always has its doors open and where we share not only the things of faith, but everyone's life, our joys and everything that happens to us." - Martha, member of San Andrés.

LEARN MORE ABOUT MISSION FIELD NEBRASKA



YOUR STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION THROUGH MISSION SHARE

Thank you for all of the ministry that you do and make happen in your congregation and local community. Thank you also for the ministry that you do and make possible through Mission Share. Mission Share is the undesignated offering that you share with the larger Nebraska Synod and ELCA through which you do ministry that spans the globe and changes lives. From your household's discernment and generosity, you support your local congregation. From there, a portion is shared with the larger church through Mission Share that supports the various ministries of the Nebraska Synod including Mission Field Nebraska and supporting congregations; as well as the larger ELCA including Global Mission, World Hunger and more. There is so much that you do by being part of this church together. Thank you for your faithfulness, generosity, and stewardship. You matter and make a difference as together we cultivate love as signs of God's abundant love.

INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES

