

Sabbatical Series Part Three: *What Happens While Pastor Is on Sabbatical? How Will Congregation Rest/Renew?*

Pastor Dave's sabbatical is scheduled for Monday, July 29-Sunday, Nov. 3, 2024. While that timeframe is just around the corner, the Sabbatical Team has been preparing for this time of renewal for both Pastor Dave and congregation for several months. The Sabbatical Team consists of **Michele Disbro, Kelley Frank, Kathy Mimlitch, Dave Shull, Krista Skipper, Wendy Stoica**, and **Trina Thornton**. Key planning highlights include:

- **Hiring Pastor Brad Binau** to provide pastoral supply coverage during the sabbatical period. An agreement with Pastor Binau has recently been approved by the Congregation Council. Under Pastor Brad's pastoral leadership, the congregation can look forward to guest preachers once a month (August, September, October), a discussion series on grief and loss in conjunction with a preview of Redeemer's Memorial Garden, a Blessing of the Animals celebration, opportunity for study of the book of Revelation, a Reformation dialog, the theology of baseball, and more!

- **Rest and renewal opportunities** for the congregation as a whole. New and not so new fellowship opportunities are in the works. Ideas have included a trivia night, outings to Central Ohio locations like the Columbus Museum of Art or the Dawes Arboretum's Big Bugs exhibit, gathering for meals at specialty restaurants in the area or having a picnic, going to a Columbus Clippers game, and taking "Holy Hikes" at various Columbus MetroParks locations. What ideas do you have? Share them with someone on the Sabbatical Team!

- Celebratory blessings to begin and end the sabbatical period. There will be a special blessing for Pastor Dave at the end of the worship service on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>July 28</u> as he leaves for his sabbatical, as well as a blessing upon his return.

- Ongoing communication about sabbatical happenings. In addition to printed communication, information will be shared during announcements after worship and through other in-person opportunities. After worship on <u>Sunday, July 21</u>, Sabbatical Team members will be available for small group and one-on-on conversations at the Narthex tables. Bring your questions and curiosity!

During the sabbatical, usual office, ministry, and organizational activities and routines will continue. Staff (including Pastor Brad) will continue to manage dayto-day operations. Ministry leaders and teams will continue beloved and seasonal activities and events.

There are many ways you can support this sabbatical ...

- ... Pray, encourage, and support Pastor Dave and Mike.
- ... Pray for the Redeemer faith community and its continued spiritual growth.
- ... Get involved with a new ministry.

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OUR CONGREGATION

Ministers - All who gather here in the name of Jesus Pastor - Rev. David Shull Office Manager - Becky Trover Office Assistant - Diane Brobeck Custodian - Marshall Edgington Organist/Senior Choir Director -Kathy Rapp Pianist/Chime Choir Director -Karen Kent **Reflections** Editor - Judith Bird

2024 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

President - Krista Skipper Vice President - Brad Binau Finance Officer - Laura Warren Secretary - Sue Watson Worship - Michelle Clemence **Education - Katie Jacobs** Outreach - Diane Brobeck Member Support - Elyce Herring Property - April Smith Stewardship - Kathy Denhard **APPOINTMENTS** Treasurer - Julianne Johnson **MUTUAL MINISTRY TEAM** Margie Farnham Marques Highland Emlyn Ott **Rich Pautsch** SPECIAL FUNDS TEAM Dave Engel, chair Ashley Bird Julie Boreman Wendy Stoica Laura Warren Terry Warren SUNDAY SCHOOL Superintendent - Emily Ott **REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH** 1555 S. James Rd. Columbus 43227 614-237-1263 www.redeemerluth.com



The Redeemer Community Thank You!

THANKS to all who contributed to the Youth Rummage Sale held a week ago at Redeemer! Not only were the youth who are preparing to go to New Orleans for the Youth Gathering this summer helped financially, but the youth group was able to:

1. Deliver three carloads of goods to the Whitehall Goodwill Store,

2. Donate many pairs of "walking shoes" to **Dottie Odrosky** who participates in an organization called "Sole Care" It provides foot care (washing, massage) for unhoused men and women from the Open Shelter and then provides a pair of shoes. (See Dottie's thank you note on the bulletin board. Dottie also coordinates the Care Givers Support Group which helps those who are caring for family members and friends who are suffering from Alzheimer's Disease.)

3. Arrange for delivery of several boxes and bags of clothing to the Bishop Griffin Resource Center. There the leftover clothing was separated into men's, women's, youth, and babies' categories. The center was particularly thankful for the men's clothes as the shelves were nearly empty in that category; meaning that clothing was to go on the shelves immediately. (Outside, the line was already long with people waiting for assistance.)

Because of folks' generous support, many people were assisted. Thank you!

Redeemer to Provide Brown Bag Lunches for First English

On Saturday, July 20 volunteers will be assembling the brown bag lunches for First English. They will be making 150 lunches consisting of: peanut butter and jelly sandwich, bag of chips, fruit cup, cookies/treat desert, a granola bar and a juice box/pouch and water bottle.

These lunches are distributed to the people who come to First English's Sunday morning breakfast. If any lunches are left after the clean-up of breakfast, they are shared with the Friends of the Homeless shelter across the street or with those who stop at the church in need of food. No lunches are wasted.

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulleting board next to the Library for the food needed. All food needs to be to the church by 11 a.m. <u>Saturday, July 20</u>. Donations can be left in the coat room in the First English bin.

Anyone wishing to help assemble, please go to Room 3 on July 20 at 11 a.m. (Please note the time change due to the veggie giveaway.) For questions, please contact **Kay Ernsthausen** at <u>KAErnsthausen@gmail.com</u>.

Looking for Photos of Redeemer for Narthex Art!

The second installment of "Redeemer Through the Seasons" will focus on pictures of the church property throughout the years. Folks are asked to look through their photographs, paintings, old directories, etc. for pictures that celebrate the beauty of our church home.

Items loaned to the exhibit should be at church with paperwork filled out by **Friday July 19**.

Volunteers Step Up for Food Giveaway, Serve 214 Households, Distribute Total of 175 Fans



Kathy Zwanziger reports, "A HUGE thank you to all who assisted with the Lutheran Social Services-Mid-Ohio Food Collective food giveaway on an extremely hot day in June! As Pastor Dave noted in our opening prayer time, there were many (~12) more volunteers than



we had ever had! That included some relatives of members, as well as a couple people who came for the food and offered to help.



"As for the numbers: 95 degrees and plenty of humidity! We received eight pallets of food for a total of 9,572 pounds – and nearly all of it was distributed to the 214 guests. They represented 714 people, 214 of them children. Another 150 were seniors.

"We had 83 new families, up 31 compared to May. Obviously, all of the 175 fans YOU provided were given to people to help provide some relief during this heat wave.

"Because of the heat, we made some adjustments to our routine. It was helpful to have the extra volunteers making it possible for everyone to take breaks by entering the Narthex to cool down – a rule that was enforced. We adjusted our registration process to limit the time the 'registrars' had to stand on the hot blacktop and to speed up the line. That meant some people entered the names into the LSS database, one of them far into the evening (thanks, Sue!). Other registrars entered the information when they came into the church for their cooling break – and allowed me to stay in the building and enter names for the entire time.

"What a wonderful blessing you were able to provide our neighbors! Thank you all!"

Clearness Committee Holds First Meeting

Rich Pautsch writes, "Our first clearness committee met on Tuesday, June 19, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at church. We met to discuss my question, 'What is my wealth for?' I had previously distributed a summary of my relationship to wealth to the group. I invited the group to ask me open-ended questions to help me explore.

"Without giving advice or trying to 'fix' me, the group asked me questions. I was asked questions I did not expect. The group gently led me to realize that what I was asking was not my real question. I was really asking, 'What is my life for?'

"Right now, I am not sure how I answer this question. I feel now though that I am asking a better question. For me, asking the right question is a big step toward finding what I seek.

"If this kind of deeper, personal conversation is something you would like to spend time with, let me or **Pastor Dave** know. Is there something you wonder about that you would like to discuss?"

RLC Basketball Camp Underway; Donations of 8 Oz. Bottles of Water Needed

Redeemer's summer basketball camps for youth ages 8 to 14, led by former NBA and ABA player **Coach Larry Jones**, is now underway and members are asked to donate **8** oz. bottles of water for use by participants – especially given the heat warnings out for this week. They can be placed in the coatroom, just off the Narthex.

A total of 58 youth are registered. Redeemer provides these camps for free. They run for six weeks, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday. They conclude on **Thursday, July 18**.

Redeemer Summer Book Study Underway

In recent summer book studies, Redeemer's Book Group has focused on immigration, racism, and death and dying. This summer, they will discuss a book that begins with the statement: "The United States, the richest country on earth, has more poverty than any other advanced democracy. Why?"

Pulitzer-prize author Matthew Desmond dives into that question in his book *Poverty, By America*. He looks at causes, and, most importantly, presents his own solution for how actually to end poverty.

The group meets Wednesday evenings from 7-8:30 p.m. on **July 3**, and **July 10**. The group started early because **Pastor Dave** will be at the ELCA National Youth Gathering in the middle of July. They are meeting both in-person and on Zoom. The second discussion on June 26 will cover chapters 3 through 5. Contact the church office to receive the discussion questions before the meeting. For those not wishing to purchase the book, the library has a number of copies to take out.

To join the meeting via Zoom, go to the following link: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86071756592?pwd=dm5VN2FaZWIVcUk3bEQycTVRTmpSUT09;</u> Meeting ID: 860 7175 6592; Passcode: 322720. To join via phone, call 312 626 6799.

Both pastor and Sheryl Owens look forward to another summer of honest, enriching conversations.

RLC Garden Giveaways Now Underway

Redeemer's Saturday morning veggie giveaways are now underway. For those who are interested in volunteering, harvesting begins between 8:30 and 9 a.m. with weighing and recording the produce before starting the giveaway at 10 a.m.

Returning and new volunteers are asked to contact Jon at Jon.Disbro@nationwidechildrens.org.



Volunteers Sought to Provide Summer Hospitality following Worship

Jon Disbro writes, "I think we all enjoy the after-worship refreshments and the chance to linger and connect with other folks.

"Now you have an opportunity to support that effort by signing up to provide the refreshments for a Sunday over the summer. It's very easy and there are supplied snacks, coffee, and paper products if you need them.

"In the past we have had small groups, committees, and friends sign up to do it together and enhance the normal offerings. Sign-ups for June, July, and August are on the bulletin board outside the Library in the hallway.

"Sign up and see how much appreciation you will receive for whatever you offer!"

Noisy Offering to Support World Central Kitchen

Redeemer's "Noisy Offering" will go to the World Central Kitchen (WCK) which is first to the frontlines, providing fresh meals in response to humanitarian, climate, and community crises. Food is essential to life every single day, all over the world -- and it is more important than ever in a crisis.

Not only is a thoughtful, freshly prepared meal one less thing someone has to worry about in the wake of a disaster, it is a reminder that they are not alone, someone is thinking about them, and someone cares.

Food has the power to be the nourishment and hope we need to pick ourselves back up in the darkest times. This is the foundation of **Chef Jose Andres**, founder of World Central Kitchen. The program began after the 2010 earthquake in Haiti. For seven years they worked on resilience programs investing in long- term solutions around the food needs in the Caribbean and Central America.

Then in 2017 with Hurricane Harvey hitting Houston, WCK began to move into action and respond to areas hit by natural disasters. So 2017 they went to Houston.

Recently, members of one of WCK's relief teams were killed while going into Gaza to deliver food. **Kay Ernsthausen** writes, "Since the bombing in Gaza there has been an earthquake in Taiwan. There are so many places that need food. We do what we can for our neighbors with the food giveaways and the garden and this is an opportunity to feed those who are hungry around the world. For more information on World Central Kitchen look them up at <u>https://wck.org</u>."

Being Good Stewards of Earth #5: A Reminder of 3Rs

Michele Disbro writes, "As a final wrap up to how you can be a good steward of the earth, I want to remind you of the 3R's: Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle.

1. "**Reduce** – This is the first and best thing to do. Reduce the amount of waste you produce. For example, reduce the smaller-sized items of things you use and choose to buy the larger refill sizes. Reduce the items you buy that are available in non-recyclable containers. Reduce your food waste by meal planning. Consider using cloth napkins. There are many ways to reduce your waste so take that first small step.

2. "**Reuse** - Instead of buying water in plastic bottles, bring your own refillable water bottle. Consider packing your lunch in washable containers. Rather than simply throwing out something that is broken, see if it can be fixed. If you don't want certain items anymore, donate them so someone else can use them. Be creative and find new uses for something that you don't use anymore.

3. "**Recycle** – There are many places to recycle paper, cardboard, and plastic so give it a try! Remember: you can always check out the SWACO website with any questions you have at <u>https://recycleright.org/recycle-reuse-search-tool/</u>."

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- ... Be curious and open to a new perspective.
- ... Continue to worship in community, either in person or online.
- ... Volunteer to serve when a need arises.
- ... Connect with others during a fellowship opportunity.

While Pastor Dave is away, we will continue to care for our faith community, our ministries, our worship life, and each other. We trust that we will all use this time to reflect on our mutual ministry in Christ and how we can live more fully into our call as God's hands and hearts in this world.



Quotes from June 30th message, Better Angels

From Jon Meacham, *The Soul of America: The Battle for Our Better Angels*, Random House, 2018:

In 1961, Eleanor Roosevelt said, "The course of history is directed by the choices we make and our choices grow out of the ideas, the beliefs, the values, the dreams of the people. It is not so much the powerful leaders that determine our destiny as the much more powerful influence of the combined voice of the people themselves.... Surely, in the light of history, it is more intelligent to hope rather than to fear, to try rather than not to try" (p. 14).

The message of Martin Luther King, Jr. – that we should be judged on the content of our character, not on the color of our skin – dwells in the American soul. So does the menace of the Ku Klux Klan. History hangs precariously in the balance between such extremes. Our fate [depends on whether] hope or...fear...triumph[s] (p. 7).

History shows us that we are frequently vulnerable to fear, bitterness, and strife. The good news is that we have come through such darkness before.... Periods of public dispiritedness are not new and...they are survivable. In the best of moments, witness, protest, and resistance can intersect with the leadership of an American president to lift us to higher ground. In darker times, if a particular president fails to advance the national story – or worse, moves us backward – then those who witness, protest, and resist must stand fast, in hope, working toward a better day (p. 5).

Fear feeds anxiety and produces anger; hope...breeds optimism and feelings of well-being. Fear is about limits; hope is about growth. Fear casts its eyes [anxiously] across the landscape [looking for all kinds of threats]; hope looks forward, toward the horizon. Fear points at others, assigning blame; hope points ahead, working for a common good. Fear pushes away; hope pulls others closer. Fear divides; hope unifies. (p. 16) In our finest hours...the soul of the country [leads us] ... to open our arms rather than to clench our fists; to look out rather than to turn inward; to accept rather than to reject (p. 8)

Important Emails

Dshull@RedeemerLuth.com – use for communicating directly with Pastor Dave.

<u>Info@RedeemerLuth.com</u> – use for communicating with the office, *Reflections* newsletter, **Office Manager Becky Trover**, healing prayer requests or for general information.

<u>MemberCare@RedeemerLuth.com</u> – use for communicating with the Member Care team about needs for

personal ministry such as in-home communion, a home visit, meals, etc.

<u>FinSec@RedeemerLuth.com</u> – use for stewardship campaigns.

<u>Itgroup@RedeemerLuth.com</u> – use for communicating with Redeemer's IT Team for items related to the website. Property@RedeemerLuth.com – use to report items that need repair in the church building.

SundaySchool@RedeemerLuth.com – use to offer suggestions for our Sunday School ministry.

Transportation@redeemerluth.com – use to request temporary transportation assistance.

<u>Communications@redeemerluth.com</u> – use to send church related announcements or pictures for sharing on Redeemer's social media sites. Another way is to tag Redeemer in the posts.

Publishing Deadlines for Reflections, Sunday Bulletins

For Reflections

• PLEASE SUBMIT PRIOR TO 5 P.M. ON SUNDAYS.

• Send to info@RedeemerLuth.com and put Reflections in subject line.

• Or leave a note in the *Reflections* mailbox at the top of the stairs outside the church office.

For Sunday Bulletins

The deadline for information to be published in Sunday bulletins is the **Wednesday morning** before. That information can be sent to the above email: just put "Bulletin" in the subject line.

Prayers and Personals

On Sunday, Ruby Jacobs and Caroline Ott participated in their first communion with their church family.

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Brad Binau writes on Facebook that **Trevor Binau** recently won the 2024 Boyd Quaich (Cup) Tournament in Saint Andrews Scotland. Trevor shot 74 - 68-65-71 for a 278 total, the second best in the 78-year history of the tournament. He finished at eight under par, winning by four strokes. Congrats, Trevor!!!



July Birthdays

1-Bruce Collins 1-Karen Riccio
3-Caroline Ott 5-Sachio Phillips
7-Diane Montgomery 8-Kathy Zwanziger
11-Evelyn Boreman 12-Payton Amon
16-Kandice Hoddinott 17-Cora Marquez
18-Kelley Frank 19-Terry Warren
21-Grace Jones 22-Alta Boreman
22-Noah Gosnell 25-Tracy Hoddinott Ervin
27-Tom Mimlitch 29-Kathy Mimlitch
29-Becky Trover

The Wider Church

First English to Hold Speaker Series

First English Lutheran Church and Urban Connections are sponsoring a speaker series on "Impacting Community" on the fourth Sunday of every month. The first presentation, set for <u>Sunday, July 28</u>, will feature **Sam Gresham** and **Molly Shack** of the Ohio Organizing Collaborative. It begins at 6:30 p.m. at First English (1015 E. Main St.)

Prayer Concerns from ELCA

July 2 Pray for the needs and ministries of congregations, synods, the churchwide organization and the community organizations that serve with us as we do God's work in the world. Pray for the Spirit to help us support each other through prayer, shared resources, volunteerism and Mission Support.

3 Thomas, the Apostle Give thanks and praise to God for the grace embodied in Jesus Christ, which brings purpose to our lives and assures us that God loves us — questions, complexities and all.

4 Independence Day Promise God to cherish and not abuse the blessings of liberty, to work for change wherever there is injustice and inequity, and to accompany our global neighbors and companion churches in striving for freedom, justice and voice.

5 "Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!" (Psalm 130:1-2). Lift up your worries and fears to God, trusting that God listens and responds to our lamentations.

6 Ask God to guide and bless the ELCA's AMMPARO strategy to accompany migrants as the church expands it to respond to humanitarian crises that drive migration and displacement in other areas of the world.

7 "[Jesus] called the twelve and began to send them out two by two" (Mark 6:7). Give thanks for the companionship, support, encouragement and wisdom we receive from our faith communities and siblings in Christ, which strengthen our ability to share the good news, care for our neighbors in need and inspire hope and peace in the world — together.

8 Pray that the Spirit will stir enthusiasm, creativity and wisdom in the leaders, volunteers and staff of the churchwide organization as they serve youth and adults from congregations across the country during the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans.

The Community Beyond Gaza and Palestine Update

Julie Johnson submitted the following update on Gaza and Palestine:

- The death toll in Gaza has now topped 38,000 Palestinians, with untold numbers buried in the rubble. Over 500 have died in the occupied West Bank – the other portion of Israel that is meant to be Palestinian land.

- This past weekend at least 100 Gazans died in an Israeli attack on Gaza City in the north, and at least 25 were killed in bombing in the humanitarian area in the south that Israelis had designated for people of Rafah to flee to.

- NPR and the Associated Press this week ran a story detailing how some extended families have been nearly completely decimated by the war in Gaza – including one family that had 173 family members killed in December 2023. The death toll for that family alone now tops 270. There are hundreds of Palestinian families who have experienced over 25 deaths. To a degree never seen before, Israel is killing entire families. Grandparents, parents,



children, uncles, aunts, cousins and more had often settled in the same areas to maintain close family ties. Even when evacuations from one area of Gaza would take place they would gather in new locations. Entire families are buried in mass graves, in hospital courtyards or beneath staircases in the homes where they were killed.

- Tensions have increased in northern Israel with bombing to and from Lebanon based Hezbollah.

- The Israeli defense minister is flying to Washington for talks this week.

- U.S. House Speaker Mike Johnson has invited Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to speak to Congress and he has accepted.

- Over 120,000 Israelis protested in Tel Aviv on Friday, June 22 against Prime Minister Netanyahu and member of his far right coalition.

- Humanitarian aid remains much lower than the needed amount, and aid that gets into Gaza often does not get delivered to those in need.

Pray for peace – a just peace for all.

Getting Ready for Worship 7th Sunday after Pentecost July 7, 2024 – 10 a.m.

Lessons

Readings: Ezekial 2:1-5; Psalm 123; Mark 6:1-13

Prayer of the Day

God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

A Prayer for Peace

Gracious God, grant peace among nations. Cleanse from our own hearts the seeds of strife: greed and envy, harsh misunderstandings and ill will, fear and desire for revenge. Make us quick to welcome ventures in cooperation among the peoples of the world, so that there may be woven the fabric of a common good too strong to be torn by the evil hands of war. In the time of opportunity, make us be diligent; and in the time of peril, let not our courage fail; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Intercessions & Thanksgiving

+ For the people of St Mark's Lutheran Church in Delaware.

+ For Redeemer community members Kevin Bailey and John Kennedy.

Each week we remember in our prayers in worship those who cannot be with us and those with special needs and concerns: Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Bonnie Hegreness, Heidi Carman, Mary Kennedy, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Jeremy Davis, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and her sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Mary Bowling's sister Val, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, Becky Trover's sister Maddie Sutphin and her niece Olivia Theissen, Skye Andree, Carolyn Moehring, Kris Kauffman, Emily Ott's aunt Kathy Richter, Ruth Murray's daughter Ellen Rose, John Kennedy's sister and brother-in-law Becky and Vic Wolfe, Kathie Ehrich; Terry Warren's sister Elaine Warren, Nathaniel Bird's in-laws Rose and Wendell Jordan, Lorien Dana, Kandice Hoddinott-Ward, Brittany Amon, John Huber, Mary Watts, Barbara and David Hairston, Dottie and Larry Bird, Paul Johnson, Carol Heacock.



Worship Leaders

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Presiding Minister	Pastor Dave Shull
Assisting Minister	Connie Criswell
Reader	Ruby Jacobs
Cantor	Scott Steiner
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Zak Hinkle-Moore
Verger	Michelle Clemence/Wendy Stoica
Producers	Judith Bird, April Smith
Communion Prep	Kay Ernsthausen, Michele Disbro
Hospitality	Laura and Terry Warren

Noisy Offering will go to World Central Kitchen.

This Week at Redeemer July 1– July 8, 2024

Monday	6:30 - 8 p.m.	Basketball Camp
Tuesday	5:15 p.m.	ZOOM Outreach Team
	6:30-8 p.m.	Basketball Camp
	7:00 pm	Berwick Civic Association
Wednesday	12:30 p.m.	RLC at LSS Food Pantry
	6:30-8 p.m.	Basketball Camp
	7:00 p.m.	Summer Book Study
Thursday		July 4 – No Basketball Camp
Saturday	10:00 a.m.	Garden Giveaway
Sunday	10 a.m.	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship
Monday	6:30 - 8 p.m.	Basketball Camp

Redeemer's mission: To be followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all Redeemer's vision: To foster understanding and healing in community Redeemer's Values: Inclusion, Compassion, Justice