

**JUSTICE
TOGETHER**

FAITH IN ACTION

"What does the Lord require of you, O Mortal? But to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God." - Micah 6:8



Thank You

NEHEMIAH ASSEMBLY
MAY 27, 2026

Thank you for bringing your congregations, your prayers, and your people power to the Nehemiah Assembly. More than 1,400 people of faith packed the auditorium. Because of you, we got commitments from Council members Shepard, Johnston, and Glasscock on affordable housing.

The City Manager declined to show up and would not address gun violence prevention.

Nehemiah Assembly Commitments

Transparency – The council agreed to adopt nationally recognized best practices for the Affordable Housing Fund.

\$30 million over three years – Council members committed to voting YES on Wichita Housing Director Sally Stang's braided funding plan for affordable housing.

A vote for the people – They committed to putting affordable housing and homelessness on the ballot as a stand-alone sales tax issue by the end of 2027.

Results

On May 5th, the City Council voted YES on the first step of Director Stang's housing plan. This is just the beginning. Full implementation requires an additional council vote in October. But a first step in the right direction is still a step. And we took it together.

Nehemiah Assembly (cont.)

Here's where we need to turn up the heat.

At the Nehemiah Assembly, grassroots leaders impacted by gun violence stood at that podium and shared their pain. They named the crisis, and called on City Manager Dennis Marstall to come to the table and use his authority to launch a Community Violence Problem Analysis, the evidence-based first step that cities like Knoxville and Columbus used to significantly reduced homicides.

City Manager Marstall didn't attend. Although we were disappointed the city manager was not in attendance, Justice Together will continue to attempt to work with his office to implement a Community Violence Problem Analysis.

As Wichita's chief official, Mr. Marstall has the power to move our city from reacting to tragedies to taking steps toward preventing them. The analysis will provide data which can be used to identify areas of the community and people who are most likely to fall victim to gun violence. This information will be shared with city officials including the Wichita Police Department and Sheriff's Department as a basis for creating a plan to address the violence.

We cannot let up now. Our officials need to know we are watching. We are ready to support them when they do what is right – and ready to hold them accountable when they fail to act.

We will show up. We will lift our prayers. We will say clearly: **Invest in affordable housing. Act on gun violence. Keep your commitments.**

Save the Date

6/18 Justice Ministry Celebration

6PM, Calvary UMC
2525 N. Rock Rd, Wichita

Come and enjoy good food, music, games, and a celebration of our work together and the kickoff of our investment drive!

Time to Celebrate!

On **June 18th** at **6 pm** the Justice Together community will gather at **Calvary United Methodist Church**, 2525 N. Rock Road to celebrate our accomplishments. Join us for good food, music, games, and a celebration of our work together and the kickoff of our investment drive!

We're counting on all Justice Together members to attend this fourth and final assembly of the year!



Large Justice Together Turnout for the Community Listening Session Held on May 27, 2026

Approximately 150 Justice Together members showed up at Wichita City Hall to once again encourage our Mayor, City Council Members, and City Manager to honor their commitments and to remind them of the community's concern on the issues of Affordable Housing and Homelessness and Gun Violence in and around Wichita.

City Manager Dennis Marstall presented the budget outlook for 2027. Part of his presentation addressed the commitment the city has made based on Housing Director Sally Stang's proposal to provide \$30 million over the next three years toward affordable housing in Wichita.

Once again Justice Together asked for a commitment to include money for a Community Violence Problem Analysis (CVPA) as a first step to addressing gun violence in the Wichita area. The City Manager agreed to meet with Justice Together in the next 30 days to discuss our proposals. We already have secured the support for a CVPA from Council members Shepard and Hoheisel. We met with both of them on June 1st.



Housing Director Sally Stang presented her affordable housing proposal at the Solutions Rally in March.



Members of Justice Together assembled outside the chambers to pray for solutions to our communities pressing needs.



FAITH LEADERS PUSH FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING SOLUTIONS AT WICHITA TOWN HALL
12NEWS
KWCH Channel 12 News reported on the faith communities push for affordable housing as shown from their FaceBook post.

Invest in Justice

We believe in the power of community investment. When you choose to support our organization financially, you're actively investing in a locally-led, locally-resourced effort that will shape the future of Sedgwick County.

Your investment in Justice Together answers the scriptural call to "do justice" on long term, systemic initiatives that directly benefit the people and places we call home.

Become a stakeholder in sustaining our local, multi-faith justice initiative's ability to bring people of different walks of life and faith traditions together to make a lasting change.

Scan the QR Code to make a donation via the Give Lively portal or via check. Checks, can be made out to Justice Together and mailed to 1200 S. Broadway, Wichita, KS 67211. We greatly appreciate any donated amount. Thank you for supporting our efforts to serve our community

dojusticetogether.org/invest



Volunteer Opportunities

To successfully host the organization's events requires teamwork. If you are someone who has a heart to serve, we have a variety of positions that need you. You can sign up to help assemble the folders for each event, to be a Greeter, to be an Usher, or to help with Set up or Clean up. Click this link to add your name to the [Volunteer list](#).



Building Our Story

Meet Floyd Jones the Justice Together intern. Floyd, born and raised in Wichita and a graduate of Collegiate High School, is currently enrolled at Wichita State University and majoring in English Education. Floyd feels a sense of duty when it comes to doing good for others. So when he saw the Direct Action Research Training (DART) Center was hiring, he applied. They referred him to the Wichita Justice Together organization, which created an intern position for him.



Justice Together has been in Sedgwick county for three calendar cycles. During that time people of all faiths have come together to work on community problems. As part of Floyd's internship he will be gathering stories from the organization's members on why they chose to be a part of Justice Together.

He will be recording interviews so they can be used on the website or on social networks to help others understand the importance of doing justice TOGETHER.

If Floyd contacts you for an interview, please say YES. If you are interested in sharing your story, contact info@dojusticetogether.com.



Am I My Brother's Keeper

Jim Woody

In Genesis 4:9, God asks Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" And he said, "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?" The question Cain asks is a profound one, and it has profound ramifications, not only for Cain, but for us still today.

Clearly, Cain sees the answer to his question of God to be "no." And if Cain is right that he is not his brother's keeper, then he is not responsible in any way for his brother Able. And if he bears no responsibility for Able, he bears no responsibility for what has happened to Able. But any fair-minded person would argue that Cain is in the wrong. He is, after all, a murderer. His position is motivated entirely by his desire to avoid justice, and justice is the basis of this whole episode in Genesis.

As people of faith, we are called to take responsibility for the wellbeing of the people in this world, especially those who are suffering in this life. We must adopt the posture of being our brother's keeper. Cain disagreed with that stance, but Cain was wrong, and the consequence of Cain's desire to escape justice was severe.

