

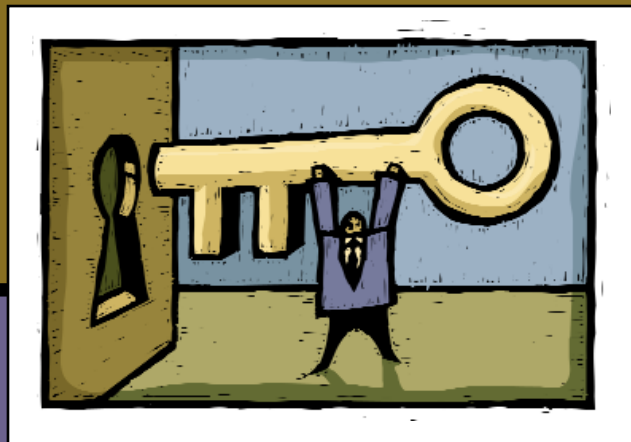
W I S C O N S I N C O U N C I L O F C H U R C H E S

750 Windsor Street, Suite 301 ■ Sun Prairie, WI 53590

Phone (608) 837-3108 ■ Fax (608) 837-3038

Web site www.wichurches.org ■ E-mail wcoc@wichurches.org

Opening Doors to Affordable Housing



STUDY-ACTION GUIDE

for Wisconsin congregations

W I S C O N S I N C O U N C I L O F C H U R C H E S

Opening Doors to Affordable Housing

*An affordable housing project
of the Wisconsin Council of Churches*

The Wisconsin Council of Churches (WCC) is a community of Christian denominations that covenant to pray and work together for the unity and renewal of the church and the healing and reconciliation of the world. Tracing its roots back to the early 1940's with an inter-denominational recreational ministry for young people, the Council was incorporated in 1962 and now encompasses 12 denominations with approximately 3,000 congregations and over one million church members. The Council's network of individuals and congregations reaches every corner of the state.

Current members of the Council include: American Baptist Churches of Wisconsin, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Church of the Brethren, Episcopal Church, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Greek Orthodox Church, Moravian Church, Orthodox Church in America, Presbyterian Church (USA), Reformed Church in America, United Church of Christ, and the United Methodist Church. The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee and Diocese of La Crosse sit as observer members on the Council's Board of Directors.

About the Curriculum Writer: Carol Wickersham is a pastor in the Presbyterian Church (USA). She has served both urban and rural congregations and worked on a wide-variety of social issues, at both grass-roots and global levels. She currently works as Coordinator of the Beloit College Community Partnerships, a hands-on field education program. Carol lives in Clinton, Wisconsin with her husband, Roy; son, Jesse and daughter, Talia.

Editorial Team: Rev. Carol Wickersham, Curriculum writer; Scott Anderson, WCC Executive Director; the Rev. Ken Pennings, WCC Coordinator for Local Ecumenism; and Kristin Groth, graphic designer.

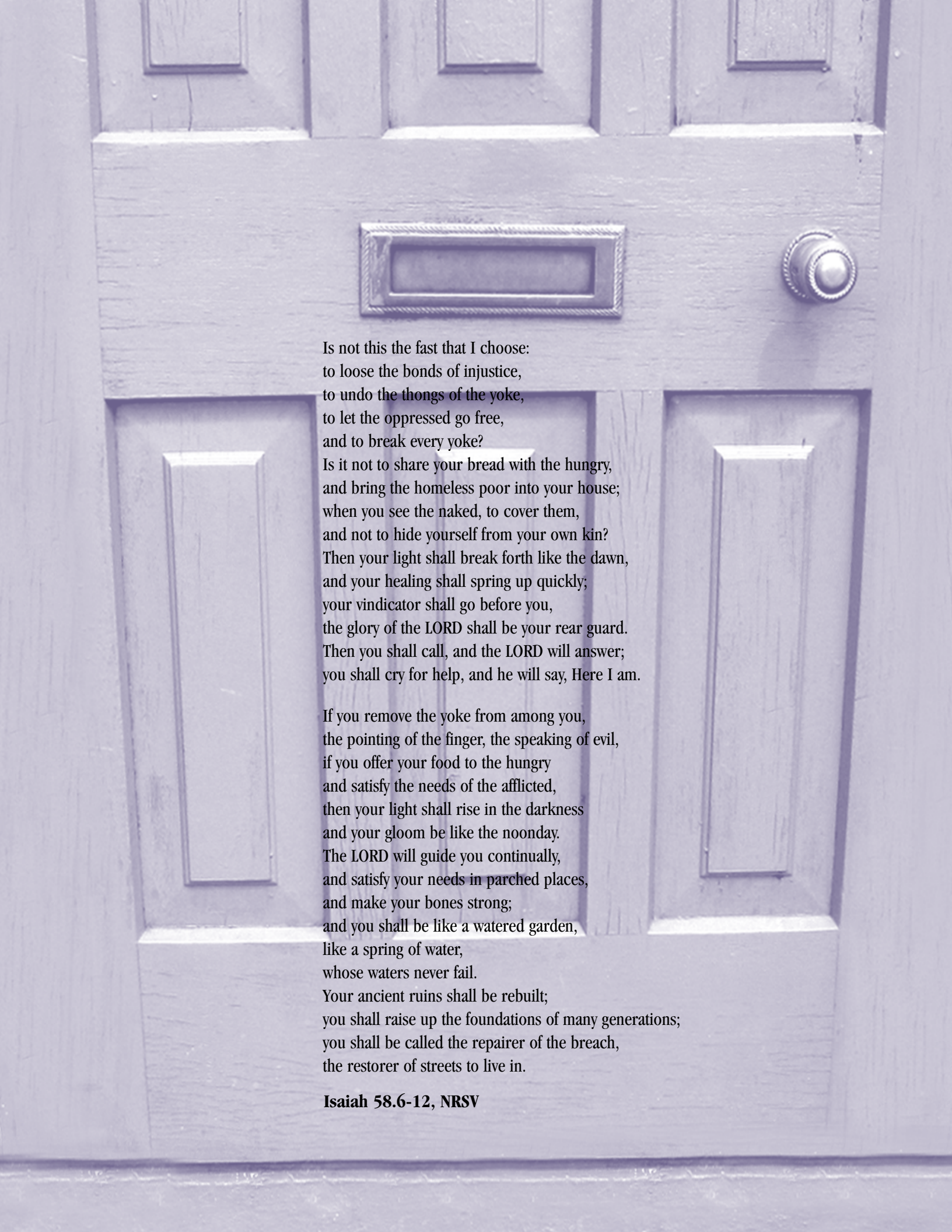
Funding: Funding for this curriculum has been provided by Housing Ministries of American Baptists in Wisconsin. Reverend Carmen Porco is Executive Director.

W I S C O N S I N C O U N C I L O F C H U R C H E S

750 Windsor Street, Suite 301 ■ Sun Prairie, WI 53590

Phone (608) 837-3108 ■ Fax (608) 837-3038

Web site www.wichurches.org ■ E-mail wcoc@wichurches.org

A close-up photograph of a wooden door. The door has a mail slot in the upper middle section and a doorknob on the right side. The wood grain is visible, and the door is set against a light-colored wall.

Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.
Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.
The LORD will guide you continually,
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters never fail.
Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

Isaiah 58.6-12, NRSV