



# One Great Hour of Sharing

is our direct response to God's call in Isaiah 58.

With your gift, you . . .

## **Loose the bonds of injustice** *Self-Development of People (SDOP)*

You partner in projects like Jobs Not Jails, which has already assisted over 7,000 people with access to jobs and education as they establish new lives after prison, thus reducing the probability of repeat offenses.

## **Share your bread with the hungry** *Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP)*

You engage in sustainable agriculture and water projects as well as initiate and support programs like Joining Hands, Peru, and Earth Care Congregations that creatively work to address long-term care of the earth to end hunger and poverty for the most vulnerable.

## **Bring the homeless poor into your house** *Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)*

You provide food, shelter, and education to refugees fleeing the civil war in Syria and helped the National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon rebuild 40 homes in Homs, Syria, for those who wish to restore the Syria they love.

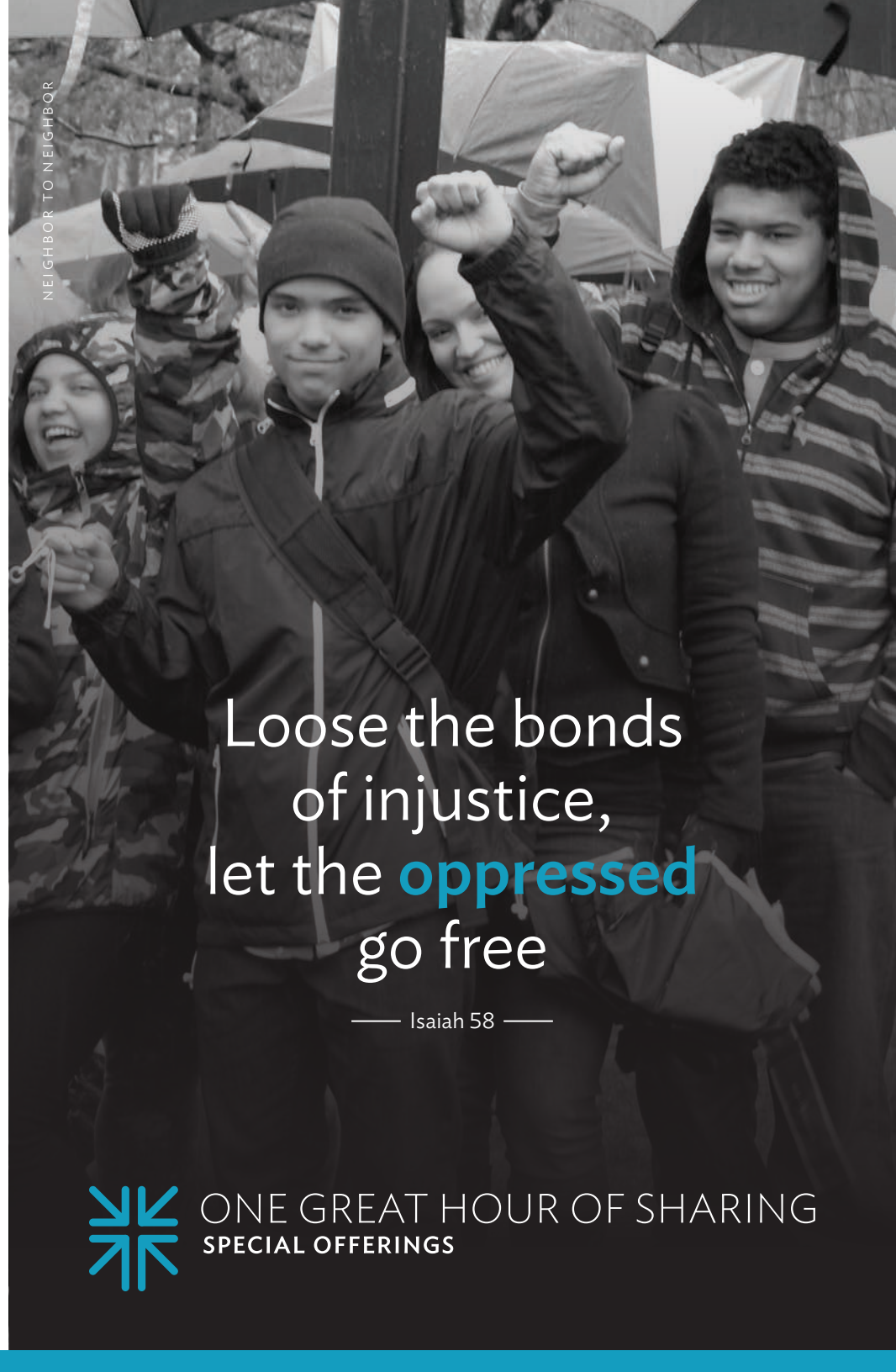


Resources:

- <sup>1</sup>"Race and the Criminal Justice System." Equal Justice Initiative. Accessed November 03, 2016. <http://eji.org/history-racial-injustice-race-and-criminal-justice>.
- <sup>2</sup>Pew Center on the States. "State of Recidivism: The Revolving Door of America's Prisons" (Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts, April 2011).
- <sup>3</sup>"Report: The War on Marijuana in Black and White." American Civil Liberties Union. June 2013. Accessed November 03, 2016. <https://www.aclu.org/report/report-war-marijuana-black-and-white>.
- <sup>4</sup>"Felony Disenfranchisement | The Sentencing Project." The Sentencing Project. Accessed November 03, 2016. <http://www.sentencingproject.org/issues/felony-disenfranchisement/>.

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NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR



Loose the bonds  
of injustice,  
let the **oppressed**  
go free

— Isaiah 58 —



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

# Self-Development of People helps people establish new lives after prison

Olga Pedraza left prison drug-free and excited to start her new life and career as a counselor in Holyoke, Massachusetts. But there was a catch. Olga's new job required a driver's license, which was revoked when she was convicted. The state demanded more than **\$4,500 to have it reinstated**—money she had no realistic hope of raising.

## But Olga didn't despair

Olga joined the OGHS-supported **Neighbor to Neighbor** organization, which promotes investment in jobs and education instead of prison. Their **Jobs Not Jails** campaign aims to change public policy to help ex-offenders reestablish new lives and reduce the likelihood of returning to prison.

And on March 20, 2016, they won a major victory. Gov. Baker signed a law repealing the suspension of driving privileges for most drug offenses and the accompanying fine. With her license reinstated, Olga was able to **start her new life and career as a counselor**, helping others recover from their drug addictions.

You can be part of this work by giving to One Great Hour of Sharing.

**Please give generously.**

# Patterns of Systemic Injustice

Systemic injustice is much more difficult to recognize than overt acts of racism, making it a much more difficult problem to address. Studies have shown that social institutions—such as schools, judicial systems, banks, and government organizations—give unfair treatment to people based on race or class. Over time, this has led to unequal opportunities for people of color and hindered the growth of their communities.



**Mass incarceration** has a clear racial impact: **70 percent** of American prisoners are non-white.<sup>1</sup>



**More than 40% of offenders** returned to state prison within **3 years** of their release from custody.<sup>2</sup>



Staggering Racial Bias: **Marijuana use is roughly equal** among Blacks and Whites, yet Blacks are **3.73 times** as likely to be arrested for marijuana possession.<sup>3</sup>



**1 in 13** African Americans is **unable to vote** due to laws that deny ex-felons the right to vote.<sup>4</sup>

Ministries supported by OGHS are providing education and assistance to ex-offenders, and working to change public policies that make it more difficult for people to establish new and thriving lives for themselves.

## Three Ways to Give



Through your congregation



Text OGHS 20222 to give \$10 now



[presbyterianmission.org/give-oghs](https://presbyterianmission.org/give-oghs)