

METHODIST FEDERATION FOR SOCIAL ACTION  
Social Justice Prayer Network  
Prayers for the Period beginning April 1, 2010

*“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says Our God,  
“THE GOD WHO IS, THE GOD WHO WAS, AND THE GOD ABOUT TO ARRIVE.  
I’m the Sovereign-Strong.”*

*Jesus repeated his greeting: “Peace to you. Just as [God] has sent me, I send you.” Then he took a deep breath and breathed into them. “Receive the Holy Spirit,” he said.*

*...Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.”  
...Jesus replied, “Tend my sheep.”  
...Jesus said, “Feed my sheep...Follow me”*

**The good news of Easter is that God is not only our Savior, but is also with us and within us.  
And we have a job to do.**

**Prayer is the first step, but God calls us to follow Jesus in all that we do.  
God, WHO IS, WAS AND IS ARRIVING, we pray that we may be in-spired by your Holy Spirit  
to feed your lambs, tend your sheep and follow Jesus.**

We give thanks for the passage of the Health Reform Bill, but continue to pray that it will actually reform a broken and unfair system. We pray for people everywhere who are poor, hungry, homeless and sick.

We give thanks for the thousands who rallied on behalf of immigration policy reform, and pray that as a nation we will extend compassion to the “strangers” among us. We pray for people everywhere who are poor, hungry, homeless and sick.

We give thanks for the outpouring of aid for natural disasters, but remember that the need continues to be great and the disasters continue. We pray for people everywhere who are poor, hungry, homeless and sick.

We give thanks for progress in nuclear disarmament, but continue to pray for true peace among nations. We pray for all those who continue to live beset by war, terrorism, and violence.

We pray for those anywhere who are oppressed by homophobia, but especially we remember those in Uganda.

We give thanks for the 140 years of faithfulness of United Methodist Women as they gather in St. Louis April 30-May 2. May their theme of “Faith. Hope. Love in Action” become relevant to today’s women.

We pray for those in any church who have been abused, neglected, or rejected by the very persons who should be loving and protecting them. We pray for the admission of sinfulness, atonement, forgiveness, and healing.

Scripture references in order:

*Revelation 1:18, The Message adapted, Lectionary April 11*

*John 20:20-23, The Message, Lectionary April 11*

*John 21: 15-19 excerpts, NRSV, Lectionary April 18*