NEWSLETTER

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The Olmstead Act

The Olmstead Act stems from the 1999 Olmstead v. L.C. decision by the U.S. Supreme Court, which affirmed that the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires public services, including healthcare and housing, to provide individuals with disabilities the opportunity to live in the least restrictive setting possible—such as in the community—rather than in institutional settings. This landmark decision was a major victory for people with disabilities, reinforcing their right to live independently and participate fully in society.

While the Olmstead Act and the disability rights movement have made significant strides toward equality and independence, much work remains. The fight for inclusion and community living continues to be a vital issue today, and the Olmstead Act serves as a foundational framework in ongoing legal, social, and policy efforts.

Nebraska Olmstead Workgroups

If you're interested in getting involved, you can join one of the workgroups, which meet regularly to address various issues related to the Act.

- Community: Third Wednesday of each month, 11:00 AM 12:00 PM
- Housing: Second Monday of each month, 10:00 AM 11:00 AM
- Education: Third Wednesday of each month, 10:00 AM 11:00 AM
- Employment: Fourth Monday of each month, 11:00 AM 12:00 PM
- Transportation: Fourth Thursday of each month, 11:00 AM 12:00 PM

These workgroups include people with disabilities who share their lived experiences in these areas. To join a workgroup, email the Olmstead mailbox at: DHHS.NEOlmstead@nebraska.gov.

"Serving Jesus Christ by enabling people with developmental disabilities to creatively explore and live full meaningful lives in their communities"

Thank You for joining us in our mission!

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FEEDBACK

We want to make ABLED the best agency. Please use the link at the top of this email to let us know how we're doing and provide suggestions. Your survey comments are anonymous, unless you choose to submit your name.

You may also contact us by phone, email, mail or on our website.

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JOIN US AT ABLED EVENTS!

Grand Cinema Movie
April 11, Friday
1101 P St, Lincoln NE
9:45 am-11:00 am

Schramm Education Center April 14, Monday 925 Robbers Cave Rd, Lincoln, NE 11:00 am

> Nebraska History Museum April 24, Thursday 131 Centennial Mall 1:00 pm-2:00 pm

Southpointe Cinema Movie
April 29, Tuesday
2920 Pine Lake Rd, Lincoln NE
TBD















SCATTER JOY ACRES is a tranquil ranch in Murray, NE. It's home to over 88 animals, offering animal therapy, healing and joy. We explored the magic on Mar 28th!







March 19th Was Movie Day



gather |enjoy | create memories

ABLED's community events are *free* for participants and staff!



March 28th Choir Event at Bethany Park

joy music harmony



LIVING WITH INTENTION



Bowling Championship



Special Olympics VB



Make a Wish Fundraiser





















MAKING MOMENTS LAST FOREVER







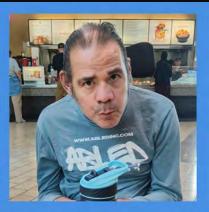


















Easter Message: The Other Empty Tomb

From Grief to Glory

In John 11 we read that Jesus had heard His good friend was sick, but instead of immediately going to visit Lazarus, Jesus "stayed where he was for two more days" (v.6). He explained to His puzzled disciples that the sickness was "for God's glory, that God's Son may be glorified through it" (v. 4). After Lazarus died, Jesus began a journey to Bethany, Lazarus's home. Significantly, when Jesus informed His disciples that Lazarus was dead, He simply said His friend was "asleep, but I am going there to wake him up" (v.11).

The Resurrection and the Life

When Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life," He was claiming to be the source of both. There is no resurrection apart from Christ, and there is no eternal life apart from Him. Beyond that, Jesus was also making a statement concerning His divine nature. He does more than give life; He *is* life, and therefore death has no ultimate power over Him. Jesus confers this spiritual life on those who believe in Him, so that they share His triumph over death. Believers in Jesus Christ will experience resurrection because, having the life Jesus gives, it is impossible for death to defeat them.

Hope Beyond the Grave

Jesus shows that neither death nor time is an obstacle to Him. Outside the tomb, "Jesus called in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come forth!' The dead man came out" (John 11:43). It's one thing to *claim* to be the resurrection and the life, but Jesus *proved* it by raising Lazarus, who was dead for four days. With Christ, death is but "sleep". Death has no dominion over Him who is Life itself, nor does death have dominion over those who are in Him. Because He lives, we live. Because He is Life, we have eternal life.

Resurrection is a Person

Jesus' statement that He is the resurrection and the life provides a godly perspective on several spiritual matters. Martha believed that the resurrection is an event; Jesus showed her (and us) that the resurrection is a Person. Martha's understanding of eternal life was an abstract idea; Jesus proved that knowledge of eternal life is a personal relationship. Martha thought victory over death was a future expectation; Jesus corrects her, showing that victory is a present reality.

The Question That Changes Everything

After presenting Himself as the resurrection and the life, Jesus asks Martha an all-important question: "Do you believe this?" May Martha's answer be ours as well: "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God who was to come into the world" (John 11:27).

Wishing you a blessed and joyous Easter!