

# “Our” Cultures → ← “Their” Cultures

Gaining Closer Understandings of Modern Middle-East Challenges



**Bishop Jim Justman** recently journeyed with 43 other Lutheran bishops to Jordan, the West Bank, and Israel to gain first-hand experience with some of the cultural and societal issues that challenge that part of the world.

Join us on Thursday, May 21 at 1:00 PM at St. John's Lutheran Church of Oshkosh for presentations by Bishop Justman and others who have recently spent time in the Middle East. Each will offer some of their reflective impressions about cultural thinking in this part of the world – differences and commonalities.

A light buffet of Palestinian foods will be served beginning at 12:30 PM. Join Us! No registration is needed; there is no charge for the event. Information is available at: [www.OurCulturesTheirCultures.org](http://www.OurCulturesTheirCultures.org)

## An New Addition – a “Pre-Event” beginning at 10:00 AM (May 21).

As a prelude/preparation to the 1:00 PM event (described above) seminary intern Peder Johanson will provide a photo presentation of his travel in March to many of the places visited by the bishops' tour. Peder's photos and sharing can help provide information and perspective to some of the complex issues and realities faced by the Palestinian people. Also, Firas Abu Taha (a Jordanian with Palestinian roots who recently moved to the USA) and Marna Johanson (married to Firas) will share some of their perspectives. Firas and Marna will provide a Palestinian-style lunch at noon to pre-event participants.

There is no cost or registration for the day's events. Because a lunch concludes the morning's "pre-event" it would be helpful to indicate your interest in that event. Email: [PadrePoint@gmail.com](mailto:PadrePoint@gmail.com) or go to [www.OurCulturesTheirCultures.org](http://www.OurCulturesTheirCultures.org)

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St. John's Lutheran Church is part of the ELCA  
(Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)  
This event is organized and sponsored by Pastor Ted  
Johanson – Interim Pastor of St. John's

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