

Having trouble viewing any of the images in the email? [View as Webpage](#)



# THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF IOWA

August 2023  
E-NEWSLETTER



Photo from EPIC  
Summer Camp 2023

## From Bishop Monnot



We are thrilled to be hosting the third leg of a young adult pilgrimage with our companion dioceses of Brechin in Scotland and Swaziland in Eswatini this August. The first happened in 2014 when a group from Iowa and Brechin went to Eswatini. In 2016 a group from Iowa and Eswatini went to Brechin. Iowa's turn to host was originally to take place in 2020, but needed to be pushed back to 2023. We look forward to growing in friendship and faith during our time together.

You are cordially invited to attend both or either of these gatherings Friday, August 11 at 6:00pm at Christ Episcopal Church, [220 40th St. NE, Cedar Rapids](#),

- Welcome Picnic + Worship. Dinner will be served at 6:30pm (if you plan to attend please bring a salad or dessert to share), and worship will begin at 7:45pm.
- Sunday, August 13 at 10:00am at St. Paul's Cathedral, [815 High St. Des Moines](#), Sunday Eucharist + Presentations, Q&A with our companions after the service

We don't want to miss this opportunity to invite your support of these travelers with your prayers and a gift. My office has created a PayPal link to accept donations online, or checks may be mailed to the diocesan office: Episcopal Diocese of Iowa, Attn: YA

Pilgrimage, 225 37th St. Des Moines, IA 50312. Donations will be gladly received.

Thank you for your support of these important and life-giving relationships.

Yours in the abundant life of Christ,  
+ Betsey

The Rt. Rev. Betsey Monnot, Bishop of Iowa

[DONATE HERE](#)

## Upcoming Events & Opportunities

### Rural Shrink Smart Workshop



**HOW CAN WE PROTECT QUALITY OF LIFE IN IOWA'S SMALL TOWNS?**  
Strategies from the Rural Shrink Smart Initiative

**RURAL SHRINK SMART**

**Saturday August 12, 2023**  
**10:00am - 3:30pm**  
at St. John's by the Campus  
Episcopal Church  
2338 Lincoln Way, Ames, IA 50014

 Learn More & Register  
[iowaepiscopal.org](http://iowaepiscopal.org)

Join a group of faculty researchers from Iowa State University for this workshop with discussions and interactive activities focused on quality of life in Iowa's small towns. This workshop builds on five years of engagement by members of the team with a group of shrinking towns in Iowa where residents have been actively and positively working to protect, sustain, and even improve their quality of life even as they experience population loss.

[Download a Flyer](#)

[Read More & RSVP](#)

### Diocesan Convention



*Save the Date*

**171ST ANNUAL CONVENTION | OCTOBER 21-22, 2023**  
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF IOWA

#### Pre-Convention Budget & Resolutions Hearings:

Monday October 9, 6:00-7pm

Saturday October 14, 10:00am-Noon

[Convention Website](#)

Keep an eye on the website, more information coming soon...

## Joint Chapter Meeting



All are welcome to attend, and diocesan convention delegates and any in congregational leadership roles (clergy, vestry, wardens, treasurer, communications, etc.) are encouraged to come and bring a friend.

Each congregation in the diocese is part of a "Mission Chapter" and in recent years it's been the pattern that all Chapters meet jointly twice a year. The first part of the meeting has information/news/discussion relevant to everyone, and then each Chapter goes into its own breakout room for check-in and discussion with area churches.

[Find Your Chapter](#)

The 2024 Discussion Budget will be available on 8/4/2023 on the diocesan website at <https://www.iowaepiscopal.org/diocesan-budget>.

[Register Here](#)

## Preaching Conference



Wartburg and Dubuque seminaries are hosting a one day preaching conference, hosted by St. John's, Dubuque in October.

It is open to all preachers: lay and ordained, new and seasoned.

[Website](#)

## Dismantling Racism Training

Grounded in The Episcopal Church's commitment to dismantling racism as essential to our formation as Christians, this ONLINE training is open to all persons who would like to deepen their understanding of racism, prejudice, and privilege. The training will consist of 2



# DISMANTLING RACISM

## TRAINING FOR CHURCH LEADERS

SEPTEMBER 16

NOVEMBER 4

sessions from 10:00am-12:00pm and 12:30pm-2:30pm Sessions are limited to 30 attendees, so you may be placed on a waiting list when the session is full.

Dismantling Racism: Training for Church Leaders is a training day that is required of all lay and ordained leaders in The Episcopal Church (including vestries, search committees, diocesan leadership, etc.).

Some email servers may shorten our newsletter. Click [View as Webpage](#) to see the newsletter in its entirety.

## Diocesan Ministries & Formation



### YMDT 2023-2024 EVENTS CALENDAR

SEPT 08-10	CONFIRMATION RETREAT (CCC) 7TH-12TH
SEPT 22-24	SMALL ACTS, BIG IMPACT (TRINITY, IOWA CITY) 9TH-12TH
OCT 20-22	CONVENTION (DES MOINES) YOUTH GUESTS & DELEGATES (9TH-12TH) SMALL ACTS, BIG IMPACT (4TH-8TH) CHILDCARE (PREK-3RD)
FEB 02-04	SKI TRIP (ST. JOHN'S, AMES) 4TH-12TH
FEB 17-19	HAPPENING (KANSAS) 9TH-12TH
APRIL 12-14	NEW BEGINNINGS (ST. TIM'S, WEST DES MOINES) 6TH-9TH
JUNE 14-16	SUMMER MINISTRY SCHOOL & RETREAT (GRINNELL)
JUNE 17-21	EPIC (CCC) 4TH-12TH
JUNE 23-28	GENERAL CONVENTION (LOUISVILLE, KY) 9TH-12TH

"YOU WERE MADE FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS." ESTHER 4:14

KEEP UP TO DATE ON OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA.

### YMDT Calendar

Our 2023-2024 calendar of events is out! We have a lot of great things happening in the diocese and we hope you and the youth in your congregations can join us! If you have any questions please contact Amy Mellies at [amellies@iowaepiscopal.org](mailto:amellies@iowaepiscopal.org). Keep up to date on our website.

YOUTH MINISTRY WEBSITE



Thank you for all of your prayers as our group of seven youth and two adults traveled to EYE23 at the University of Maryland, College Park. We had a great time, met some amazing people, and came away feeling emboldened and ready to make change in the Glory of God!

---

## Confirmation Retreat

7th-12th grade - September 8-10 at the Christian Conference Center, Newton

Have you heard the phrase "the youth are the future of the church" before? I have and you know what, you are the church now! One way you can show your congregation, family, and friends that you ARE a part of the church is by being confirmed. This is a commitment that you will share your life with Christ.

We will hold an informational meeting for you and your parents/guardians on August 6 at 6:30pm. Register [HERE](#).



## Small Acts, Big Impact (9th-12th)

In today's world, we think about taking care of ourselves before we take care of others. We have created a society and a system that places value on personal success. Small Acts, Big Impact is a weekend event full of fun, community building and taking care of others. In each act of service we do, we are impacting others in the community in small ways, but nevertheless, having an impact. Small acts that will reach far beyond your circle of friends or your church.

The fee for this event is \$35. Scholarships are always available and confidential. You can fill out a request [HERE](#).

You do not have to be Episcopalian to attend this event.

Youth will meet and stay overnight (Friday and Saturday) at Trinity, Iowa City (9th-12th). We will visit congregations in the area and learn about their outreach ministries as well as build community with one another. Our weekend will conclude with a Sunday morning worship service.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

---

FALL & SPRING

# CARE PACKAGES



FOR RECENT  
HIGH SCHOOL  
GRADUATES

IF YOU KNOW A YOUNG  
ADULT IN THIS LIFE  
STAGE WHO MIGHT  
LIKE ONE, CONTACT:

AMY MELLIES  
AMELLIES@IOWAEPISCOPAL.ORG



MORE INFORMATION  
HERE

EfM helps the faithful encounter the breadth and depth of the Christian tradition and bring it into conversation with their experiences of the world as they study, worship, and engage in theological reflection together.

There are online groups in the Diocese of Iowa and elsewhere. If you are interested in joining a group or mentoring a group, speak to your church leadership and email: [jdoherly@iowaepiscopal.org](mailto:jdoherly@iowaepiscopal.org)

## Resources





## Stay Connected

[Calendar](#)

[eNewsletter](#)

[Iowa Connections  
Magazine](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)



### ***NOTE ABOUT UNSUBSCRIBING:***

*if you click "Unsubscribe" below it removes you from ALL diocesan emails (including the e-news, letters from the Bishop, etc.) and our office cannot re-subscribe you. You'll need to re-subscribe yourself by clicking on "start sending me the news!" at this link: <https://www.iowaepiscopal.org/news>. If you wish to be taken off of a specific email list or have questions, email [diocese@iowaepiscopal.org](mailto:diocese@iowaepiscopal.org)*

Episcopal Diocese of Iowa | 225 37th Street, Des Moines, IA 50312

[Unsubscribe \[awagner@iowaepiscopal.org\]\(mailto:unsubscribe@iowaepiscopal.org\)](mailto:unsubscribe@iowaepiscopal.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [diocese@iowaepiscopal.org](mailto:diocese@iowaepiscopal.org) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!