



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF IOWA



JANUARY 2024



As mentioned in Bishop's article: [Click Here for The Benedictine Way Flyer](#)

From Bishop Monnot

Many of you know that my father died this past September. At the age of 90, with significant adverse health events, this was not a surprise when it happened. It did, however, move me into a time of grief.

Grief is a funny thing. It affects all of us differently, and despite our recognition of the well-known "five stages of grief," grief does not proceed in a linear or convenient way through those stages. I have experienced an unpredictable and occasional series of intense feelings of grief, which usually come over me when I am alone. I have felt a need to reorient myself in many areas of my life, as, for the first time, I have become a person with no living parents. This reorientation has included learning to see things differently, and to ask again some of the big questions that our Christian faith can help us to answer...

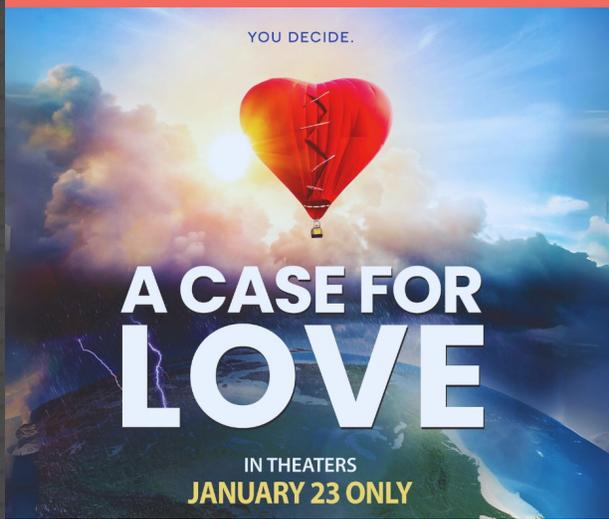
[Continue Reading](#)

New This Year:

This eNewsletter has a new look, and a new date it will arrive in your inbox! It now comes out monthly on the **third Thursday** of each month. Have something you'd like to submit for consideration? Content is due the second Thursday of the month and submission information can be found [here](#).

And be sure you're seeing all of it - the last section is the "Stay Connected" section - as some email servers cut off newsletters, you may need to click [View as Webpage](#) to see the full eNewsletter.

Upcoming Events & Opportunities



One Day Only - Get Tickets!

Inspired by the teachings and writings of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, this documentary examines the question of whether or not love, specifically unselfish love, is the solution to the extreme societal and political divisions and the current rending of our social contract.

[Tickets, Study Guide, & Journal](#)

Help Promote Religious Life

Did you know that there are monks, nuns, sisters and brothers, and friars in The Episcopal Church? We invite you to learn what religious life can offer you and to observe Religious Life Sunday on the 3rd Sunday in Epiphany.

[View More](#)

RELIGIOUS LIFE SUNDAY JANUARY 21, 2024



Celebrating the many gifts of religious orders
in The Episcopal Church

religiouslifesunday.org



Youth Ski Trip

We hope that youth (grades 4-12) and adults from your congregation will join us! Families will register individually instead of by congregation. Chaperones from each congregation will be necessary, so please check in with your congregational leaders before registering. Register by January 26.

[Learn More & Register](#)

Lent Offering

The political ideology & cultural framework of white "Christian" nationalism distorts the Christian faith & America's government & poses dangers to both. Join the Rev's Kathleen Milligan, Jean McCarthy, & Nora Boerner for an introduction to Christian nationalism and

how we can respond as Christians.

Register & Learn
More

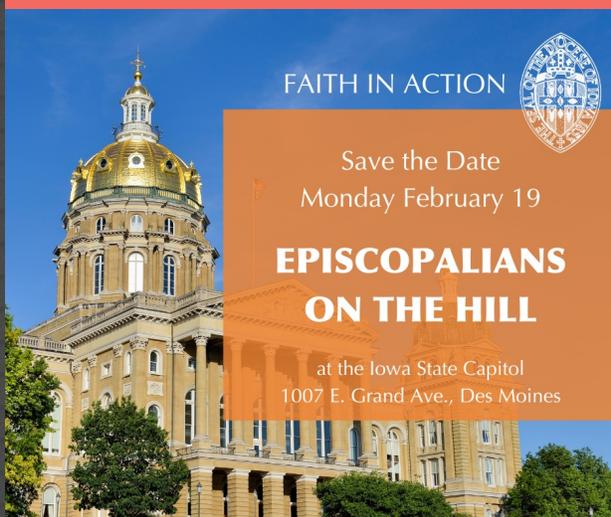


LENT OFFERING

RESCUING THE GOSPEL FROM "CHRISTIAN" NATIONALISM

TUESDAYS
FEBRUARY 20, 27,
MARCH 5, 19

ON ZOOM



FAITH IN ACTION



Save the Date
Monday February 19

EPISCOPALIANS ON THE HILL

at the Iowa State Capitol
1007 E. Grand Ave., Des Moines

Save the Date

Gather at the Capitol with Bishop Monnot and fellow Episcopalians to learn about public policy ministry and advocate with our legislators. Whether it's your first time at the Capitol or you'd consider yourself a "regular," all are welcome to join!

More Coming
Soon

Relax and Restore

Set aside some time to care for your whole self and join Rev. Catherine Quehl-Engle for a retreat day which includes gentle movement, meditation, and healing. This retreat is open to all and is free to attend! Download a flyer [here](#).

Register & Learn
More

THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH MINISTRY TEAM AND
REV. CATHERINE QUEHL-ENGLE PRESENT

MIND, BODY, SPIRIT RETREAT



March 2, 10am-3pm
St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Fort Dodge



Save the Date

SUMMER MINISTRY
SCHOOL & RETREAT
JUNE 14-16, 2024



Mark Your Calendars

Our annual Summer Ministry School & Retreat will be on Grinnell College Campus June 14-16. Tracks and more information to follow at a later date.

Website

ORDINATIONS & TRANSITIONS



God willing and the people consenting
The Right Reverend Betsey Monnot
Bishop of Iowa
will ordain

Jacob Deng Aleer

to the Sacred Order of Deacons
in Christ's holy catholic Church

Saturday, February 10th
two thousand twenty four
at two o'clock in the afternoon
St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral
815 High Street, Des Moines, Iowa

Your prayers and presence are requested
Festal color is red Streaming available



The vestry and people of
Christ Episcopal Church, Cedar Rapids
invite you to the

Celebration of Ministry and Welcoming
of a New Rector, the Rev. Brian K. Gross

The Rt. Rev. Betsey Monnot, officiating

Sunday, February 25
two thousand twenty four
at ten fifteen in the morning
Christ Episcopal Church
220 40th St. NE Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Your prayers and presence are requested
Festal color is red Reception to follow
Streaming available

- Christ Episcopal Church in Clinton has called the Rev. Kevin Emge to serve as their Priest in Charge beginning on Jan. 15, 2024

Around the Diocese



Photo from article
Zachary Oren Smith / IPR

A Small Church's Essential Ministry

Check out this article from Iowa Public Radio that highlights the Hot Dog Friday ministry of St. James' Episcopal Church, Independence and how it builds community there.

[Read Here](#)



The Rev. Maureen Doherty Receives Award

Seminary of the Southwest's Hal Brook Perry Outstanding Alumni Award is conferred upon a graduate of Seminary of the Southwest who exemplifies exceptional ministry to parishes, dioceses, and/or specific communities or ministries – locally, regional, or worldwide.

[Read Here](#)

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

Leadership Notices & Trainings



Reminders for Congregational Leaders:

Send your church's subscription list for Iowa Connections to the diocesan office

- Diocesan policy requires that every Episcopal household receive this biannual mailing

At your annual meeting: **invite everyone to subscribe to the diocesan eNewsletter**

- make sure all vestry members, clergy, and Convention delegates have subscribed
- [sign up here](#)

After your annual meeting: **send the diocesan office your updated leadership** (vestry, wardens, etc.)

Parochial Reports due March 1: fill out online [here](#)

- new this year: reporting of online worship participation is required
- Check out [The Episcopal Church Register App](#). This online system that can be accessed from any device is fully integrated into the Parochial Report filing system. That means that if you use it to track your service attendance each week, when you get to the end of the year all the information on how many services you held and what your attendance was will already be in the filing system.

Questions/More Information: diocese@iowaepiscopal.org

**WORSHIP LEADER
TRAINING COURSE**

January 28 - March 23



Register by January 25

Designed for any who want to explore more deeply the Daily Offices of The Episcopal Church and for laity who wish to be equipped to lead weekday offices and Sunday worship in the absence of a priest. Check with your congregational leader before registering to learn about licensure.

[Learn More &
Register](#)

Diocesan Ministries, Formation, & News

- PUBLIC POLICY & ADVOCACY -

Faith in Action

Did you know we have registered diocesan lobbyists and many Episcopalians active in advocacy efforts? With the Iowa State Legislature now in session, learn more about

this ministry, how our faith guides and grounds our work, and the issues we follow.



Get Involved



Keep up with the session

Learn more about what's happening in the session and how to get involved by signing up for Interfaith Alliance of Iowa's weekly Legislative Update. They follow many of the issues we do, organize the update by topic, and include ways to take action.

Sign Up

- YOUTH MINISTRY -



2024 Calendar Available

Ski Trip, EPIC Summer Camp, General Convention, and more! Keep up-to-date with youth events and formation opportunities throughout the year on the diocesan website and the [Youth Facebook page](#).

Events &
More

- BEHAVIORAL HEALTH MINISTRY TEAM -



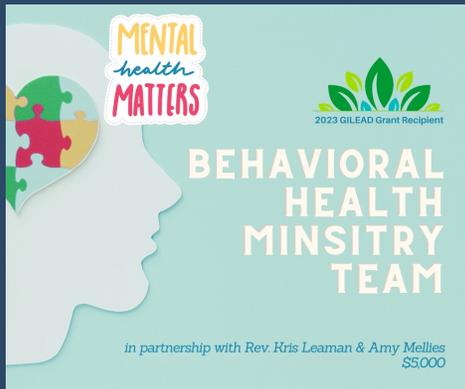
New Year: Are Resolutions Necessary?

"New Year's Day always invites us to reflect and think about a fresh start...
...Self-reflection can be a healthy exercise to take stock of the ways we handle ourselves with other people. ...
... It is difficult to love one another when loving yourself is avoided or ignored..."

Continue Reading

- GILEAD GRANTS -

Spotlight: 2023 Recipients



The Behavioral Health Ministry Team, which began from previously received GILEAD Grants, moves into their third year with plans of expanding their offerings. Having built relationships with several local mental health organizations, they provide educational opportunities for those around the diocese on how to help in a mental health crisis, take care of themselves and others, and provide open and safe spaces for mental health discussions.

[Read More](#)



The Listening Post, a ThreeHouse Campus Ministries collaboration on the UNI campus, provides a safe space for students and faculty to have conversations and connect with compassionate and encouraging listeners, and is centered on modeling the radical message of the Gospel, "God loves you. No exceptions." As this ministry moves into its second year, they plan to double their listening offerings and expand their partner organizations.

[Read More](#)

Resources



Lent Begins February 14

Ash Wednesday this year is February 14th. Find links to daily meditations, stations of the cross, activities, and other resources for Lent, Holy Week, and Easter on our website. Additional resources will be added as they become available.

[View Here](#)



Stay Connected

- Calendar
- News & eNewsletter
- Magazine
- Upcoming Events



Caution! About Unsubscribing

If you click "Unsubscribe" below it removes you from ALL diocesan emails (including the e-news, letters from the Bishop, Convention information, 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](#). If you wish to be taken off of a specific email list or have questions, email diocese@iowaepiscopal.org

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



Try email marketing for free today!