



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF IOWA



MARCH 2024



From Bishop Monnot

Losing and Winning in Holy Week

I was at the House of Bishops meeting at Camp Allen in Texas the day that Caitlin Clark broke the Division I record for total points scored. I wasn't watching the game, but the next day another bishop, who has roots in Iowa, broke out his Hawkeyes jersey with Clark's number, twenty-two. I confess that I don't follow college basketball, but even I have been aware of Caitlin Clark approaching and then surpassing this record. It has gotten loads of publicity, and Iowans of every college basketball fandom are proud. Americans love a winner,

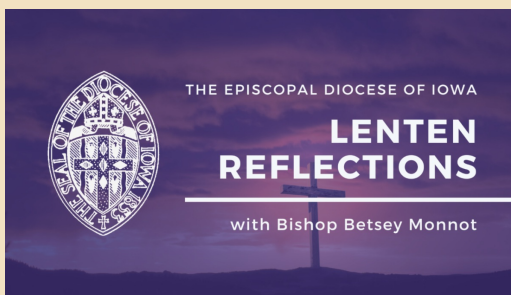


and Clark is truly a remarkable basketball player, and she deserves all the accolades that she is receiving.

Fast forward to today, and Holy Week is almost here, and of course it will bring...

[Continue Reading](#)

Lent, Holy Week, & Easter



Bishop's Video Reflections

Join Bishop Monnot for reflections on passages from Steven Charleston's book *Spirit Wheel: Meditations from an Indigenous Elder*. Videos will post on diocesan [YouTube](#) & [Facebook](#) pages Thursdays in Lent, plus Easter Sunday.



Holy Week Offering

Join centering prayer online at 10AM daily with our friend Br. James Dowd, Prior of The Benedictine Way in Omaha, NE. Email Br. James to receive the Zoom link.

[Email Br. James](#)



Good Friday Concert

As The Episcopal Church's Good Friday Offering prepares to mark 102 years, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry invites the whole church to an afternoon of sacred music and collective giving to support siblings in Jerusalem and the Middle East.

[Watch & Give Online](#)

[More Resources](#)

Upcoming Events & Opportunities



EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF IOWA

2nd Info Session Tonight

6PM on Zoom - Come learn more about this exciting new ministry and how your congregational team can participate. Find all the details on our new [webpage](#), and click the button to register to receive the Zoom info for tonight. Let's create safe and welcoming spaces together!

[Zoom Registration](#)

March 28th at the Capitol

Speakers from various beliefs will share a message that everyone is welcome and belongs. Hosted by Interfaith Action Fund, in the 1st floor rotunda of the Iowa statehouse from 7:30-9AM. Light breakfast provided, no reservations required.

[More information](#)



WEBINAR
**FINANCIALLY
POSITIONING THE
CHURCH FOR THE
NEXT QUARTER
CENTURY**



Wednesday April 3, 2024
2:00-3:00PM

EPN Webinar

This webinar will analyze where the Episcopal Church was as it entered the pandemic era, how it evolved through that period, and what it looks like as we emerge from the pandemic and into a vastly changed landscape.

[Learn More & Register](#)

Support LGBTQ Youth

This conference creates a safe space for LGBTQ youth in the Midwest to gather, show their pride, & learn about ways to advocate in their communities. We hope you'll come support LGBTQ youth, and stop by and see us at our exhibitor table! Youth scholarships available, contact the diocesan office for info.

Learn More &
Register

The 19th Annual
Governor's Conference
ON LGBTQ+ YOUTH



Learn about:

- Leadership
- Health
- Pride & identity
- Advocacy
- and more!

Join us on

April 5th, 2024

Prairie Meadows Events Center, Altoona, IA



Spring Joint Chapter Meeting

Save the Date

April 6, 2024

10am - Noon on Zoom

Spring Chapter Meeting

Important updates plus breakout time in your Chapter group with nearby churches. All are welcome; diocesan convention delegates & any in congregational leadership roles (clergy, vestry, wardens, communications, treasurer, etc.) are especially encouraged to attend.

Register
Here

Religious Freedom Day

We are glad to be one of the sponsors for this free event, which includes breakfast in the Capitol Rotunda for legislators to come and meet participants from Iowa's diverse religious communities & an afternoon interactive symposium with speakers & panels at Drake University.

Learn More

11th Annual
Iowa Religious Freedom Day

Wednesday April 10, 2024

"What good is religion in the 21st century?"

Youth Grades 6-9

This is an opportunity for young people to "retreat" from their ever hectic world to consider some of the important relationships in their lives, and be led by caring youth and adult mentors. [Click here](#) to learn more & register.

Download a
Flyer

NEW BEGINNINGS

APRIL 12-14
ST. TIMOTHY'S, WEST DES MOINES

GRADES
6TH-9TH



Dismantling Racism

Grounded in The Episcopal Church's commitment to dismantling racism as essential to our formation as Christians, this training, required of all lay & ordained leaders, is open to all persons who would like to deepen their understanding of racism, prejudice, & privilege.

[Learn More & Register](#)



DISMANTLING RACISM

TRAINING FOR CHURCH LEADERS

2024

Online:

- April 20
- September 21
- November 2

In Person:

- June 14-16 at Summer Ministry School & Retreat

LIVING GOD'S FUTURE NOW



with the Rev. Dr. Sam Wells

A formation event for clergy, musicians, and other lay leaders of parishes and institutions, available to our diocese through our partnership with Bishop Kemper School for Ministry.



MAY 15-16
in Mission, Kansas



Formation Event

Focusing on themes of evangelism, community and parish development, and the Church's role in God's future. Music directors are especially invited as several seminars will focus on the role of musicians in the parish-neighborhood relationship.

[Learn More](#)

Calling Young Adults

Episcopal Service Corps equips young adults ages 21-32 to transform themselves and the communities around them through faithful commitment to prayer, practice, and self-discovery.

[Learn More & Apply Today](#)

Applications are open!



Deadline for 2024-2025 year: May 31, 2024

formation
discernment
community
justice



YOUTH WORKING TO END GUN VIOLENCE

JOIN OTHER YOUTH FROM THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH WHO ARE CALLED TO BE ADVOCATES AND WITNESSES AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE IN THEIR COMMUNITIES.

WHO: RISING 9TH GRADERS THROUGH 12TH GRADE

WHEN: JUNE 25-27 (TRAVEL ON JUNE 24 & 28)

WHERE: GENERAL CONVENTION, LOUISVILLE KY



CONTACT AMY MELLIES AT
AMELLIES@IOWAEPISCOPAL.ORG
FOR MORE INFORMATION



Youth Against Gun Violence

Calling youth rising 9th-12th graders: work with and learn from experienced community organizers in the gun violence prevention movement, spend time with Bishops United Against Gun Violence participants, and experience the General Convention of the Episcopal Church.

Download a
Flyer

October Pilgrimage

You are invited on a journey of discovery aboard an Underground Railroad pilgrimage - a journey exploring sites and history of the Underground Railroad in SE Iowa and a journey within ourselves. Space is limited, register today!

Learn More &
Register

UNDERGROUND RAILROAD PILGRIMAGE

SOUTHEAST IOWA

SPONSORED BY
BELOVED COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

OCT 4-5, 2024

Around the Diocese

One Day Seminar: 04.23.24

When the Topic is Suicide and Faith



GILEAD Grant Recipient Event

Experts from the Cedar Rapids community will guide faith and congregational leaders through the topics of mental health and suicide. 2023 Recipient: Caring Conversations, Christ Church, Cedar Rapids

Learn More &
Register

Join St. Tim's Trip to Scotland

You're invited to join members of St. Timothy's, West Des Moines for a trip to Scotland **September 10-19**, including a stop at the Cathedral in our Companion Diocese of Brechin.

Flyer & More



Congrats to Rev. Oakland

Rev. Mary Jane Oakland receives certificate from Self-Help International Ghana staff recognizing her work to advance human nutrition for programs serving rural communities in Nicaragua and Ghana.

[Read More](#)

There's more below -
make sure you see it all!

- advocacy alerts, general convention, gilead grants, etc. -

The last section is "Stay Connected" - if you don't see it, [CLICK HERE](#) -> "[View as Webpage](#)" to view the full enews



(some email servers shorten this newsletter)

News & More

Public Policy & Advocacy

Passing SF2095/HF2454 could allow discrimination in the name of "religious freedom," which is contrary to Jesus' command to love God and to love our neighbors.

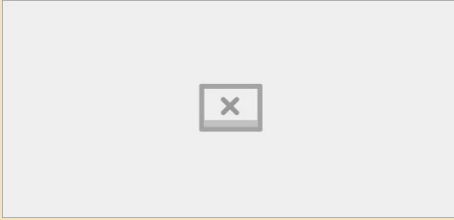
Bishop Betsey Monnot
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF IOWA



Action Alert

The "Religious Exemptions" bill that could allow anyone to use their religious beliefs as justification to discriminate against another Iowan will be sent to the Governor for her signature. [Read about why we oppose this bill](#) and contact the Governor's office and ask the Governor to veto the legislation.

[Contact the Governor](#)



Through the 2nd Funnel

The 2nd funnel has passed. If you're wondering what legislation is "dead" and what's still "alive," check out this Moral Monday's video or their email update.

[Email with Funnel Update](#)



Get Involved

Learn more about what's happening during the state legislative session, the bills we follow and declare on, and how to get involved in our advocacy & public policy ministry by checking out our website and Facebook page.

[Get Involved](#)

GILEAD Grant Spotlight: 2023 Recipients



St. Martin's, Perry is using their grant funds to improve the quality of the audio for those who are hearing impaired and also to improve the audio and video quality for those who worship with with them online, which includes several homebound members.

[Read More](#)



Too often faith leaders don't have the training and resources to work with those in their congregations who might be dealing with suicidal ideation, a mental health crisis, or the aftermath of a suicide. Christ, Cedar Rapids is using their grant to host a day-long seminar with community experts to guide faith and congregational leaders through the topics of mental health and suicide.

[Read More](#)

This project involves a transformation of gathering facilities, encompassing furnishings, space, and technology. St. Timothy's goal is to better serve the spiritual needs of their in-person community while

Small Gathering Space Renewal



at St. Timothy's, West Des Moines
\$10000



expanding the reach of programs through enhanced technology.

[Read More](#)

Summer Ministry School & Retreat



Our annual Summer Ministry School & Retreat will be on Grinnell College Campus June 14-16.

Tracks and more information coming soon!

Youth Ministry



Save the Date for Camp

June 17-21: EPIC Summer Camp (grades 4-12)

[Events & More](#)

Toward General Convention (GC81)

The Episcopal Church's General Convention, the bicameral governing body of the Church, is this summer in Louisville, Kentucky, and a new Presiding Bishop will be elected.

We'll have a lot more coming soon, including information on:

- what it is
- why it matters
- our deputies
- best ways to follow along



**TOGETHER
IN LOVE**



**LOUIS
VILLE
KY '24**

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH

In the meantime, check out:
"House of Deputies Blue Book Podcast" is your go-to resource for staying informed, engaged, and connected with the ongoing developments within the General Convention and its interim bodies.

HOD Blue Book
Podcast

Resources

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH

**EDUCATIONAL
SCHOLARSHIPS
AVAILABLE**



Educational Scholarships

Some scholarships are designated for students enrolled in theological education and training; others provide modest scholarships for children of missionaries, bishops or clergy, as well as other groups covering a wide range of eligibility. Deadline to apply: April 15.

[Learn More](#)



**Children &
Youth
Ministry**



**Faith in
Action**



**GILEAD
Grants**



**Joint
Intercession
List**



**Lent
Resources**



Stay Connected

Calendar

News & eNewsletter

Magazine

Upcoming Events



ENews Submissions:

Content is due the 2nd Thursday of the month and submission information can be found [here](#). This eNewsletter comes out monthly on the **3rd Thursday** of each month.

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

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