



# THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF IOWA



APRIL 2024



*Photos from Holy Week: (top L) Palm Sunday at St. Paul's Harlan; (R) Easter Vigil at St. Paul's Cathedral, Des Moines; (bottom L) Easter Sunday at Trinity Cathedral, Davenport*

## From Bishop Monnot


I had the good fortune to be able to take two days of retreat time recently, and I stayed at the Abbey Guesthouse at St. John's Abbey in Collegeville, Minnesota. I arrived late in the afternoon, and had enough time to take a quick walk to the lake just behind the guesthouse. I could see a trail leading off along the shore of the lake, winding its way through trees and then disappearing beyond a small rise. Back in my room, I looked up the trail on Google Maps, and I could see that it continued a short distance around the lake before



ending. I decided to take that short walk in the morning.  
I kept expecting that the trail would end around the next bend, or at the top of the next small hill...

[Continue Reading](#)

## Transitions




The vestry and people of St. John's by the Campus, Ames invite you to the

**Celebration of Ministry and Welcoming of a New Rector, the Rev. Thomas Early**

The Rt. Rev. Betsey Monnot, officiating

Tuesday May 21  
two thousand twenty four  
at seven o'clock in the evening  
St. John's by the Campus Episcopal Church  
2338 Lincoln Way, Ames, Iowa

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



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

**Jacob Deng Aleer**  
to the Sacred Order of Priests  
in Christ's holy catholic Church

Saturday, August 31st  
two thousand twenty four  
at two o'clock in the afternoon  
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
5720 Urbandale Ave., Des Moines, Iowa

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

## Upcoming Events & Opportunities



**APRIL 20, 2024**



**TRAINING FOR CHURCH LEADERS**

*This training is required of all lay and ordained leaders in The Episcopal Church (including vestries, search committees, diocesan leadership, etc.).*

### 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](#)

### April 30th Masterclass

Join the Most Reverend Melissa Skelton for a transformative event tailored for churches keen on CCD but facing financial constraints. Participants will gain invaluable insights, strategies, and tools to invigorate their congregations and

foster sustainable growth. 2-4pm.

[Learn More & Register](#)

## College of Congregational Development Masterclass



### Thy Kingdom Come

A global ecumenical prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus. "In praying 'Thy Kingdom Come' we all commit to playing our part in the renewal of the nations and the transformation of communities." -*Archbishop Justin Welby*

[Learn More](#)

### It's Almost Time

Over the past 4 years, 51 GILEAD Grants have been awarded, totaling over \$348,000, and we're still going! Check out past recipients for some ideas, and get ready for applications to open May 15th. Grants help support and equip leaders, congregations, ministry initiatives, and worshipping communities across Iowa.

[Learn More](#)

### GILEAD Grants



Applications Open May 15th - July 15, 2024

*Applications Open!*

### 2024 ECOJUSTICE FELLOWS PROGRAM

Young Episcopal adults  
ages 21-30

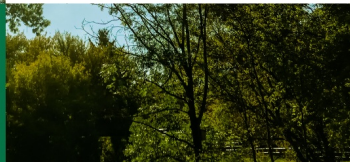
### Ecojustice Fellows

In this five-month virtual/remote program, fellows will receive training in creation care theology and advocacy and will develop a local ecojustice project in their congregation, institution, or diocese. From The Episcopal Church Department of Reconciliation, Justice, and Creation Care.

[Apply by May 15](#)



**CREATION CARE**



## 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](#)

## 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



## Applications are open!



Deadline for 2024-2025  
year: May 31, 2024

formation  
discernment  
community  
justice

## 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](#)

## EPIC 2024: June 17-21

Join staff and youth from around the diocese for a week of fun and formation! This year we will explore the many ways we can pray. Campers who are heading into 4th grade through 12th grade are invited to register for a week of prayer, community building and fun!

[Learn More](#)

# EPIC 2024



# PRAY & PLAY

## 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](#)

# 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



## 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  
BELOUED COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

OCT 4-5, 2024

PRECONVENTION DAY: OCTOBER 25



172ND ANNUAL CONVENTION  
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF IOWA

OCTOBER 26-27, 2024

## Diocesan Convention

Stay tuned for more information soon...

Website

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)

## Around the Diocese

One Day Seminar: 04.23.24



## GILEAD Grant Recipient Event

**April 23:** Experts from the Cedar Rapids community will guide faith & congregational leaders through the topics of mental health & suicide. *2023 Recipient: Caring Conversations, Christ Church, Cedar Rapids*

[Learn More & Register](#)



### Workshops and Panel Discussion

Aliens, AI, Augmented Reality, The Brain, Multidimensionality, Time

**SATURDAY, MAY 18. 9AM TO 11:30AM (LUNCH INCLUDED)**

**Dr. Adam Smith**  
Professor of Philosophy, University of Dubuque

**Dr. Susan Forshey**  
Professor of Formation, Dubuque Seminary

**Dr. Ben Darr**  
Professor of Politics, Loras College

**Fr. Kevin Goodrich OP**  
Pastor, St. John's Episcopal Church

1458 Locust Street



StJohnsDBQ.org

## Faith in the Future

Check out this **May 18th** conference hosted by and at St. John's Episcopal Church in Dubuque. Many of these topics are all over the news and are or will be all over our lives - take a deeper dive, wrestle with their implications, increase your understanding, and hear from others. In-person with some online options.

[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 Information](#)

## News & More

### Chaplains to Retired Clergy

#### A New Renewed Ministry

...we now have a team of chaplains to serve our retired both in Iowa and those who have moved beyond our borders as I have. The



chaplain do not take the place of any local pastoral relationship, but serve to be a helpful connection to the local parish and pastors, the bishop and your diocese, and the larger church and Church Pension Group resources. It is our call as chaplains to be a connector and conduit...

[Continue Reading](#)

*L to R: The Revs. Paul Gennett, Mary Jane Oakland, Sherri Hughes-Empke, Stacey Gerhart, Bob North*  
*Not pictured: the Revs. Mary Cole-Duvall, Marc Haack*

## Summer Ministry School & Retreat



### Early Bird Deadline: May 10

Join us at Grinnell College for a weekend of worship, learning, and relaxation. During the weekend, 8 hours are set aside for “track time” to get in-depth study in one track topic of your choice, or choose to do a solo retreat. Catch up with friends and make new ones as we worship, learn, and eat together.

**Registration deadline: May 31st**

### 2024 Tracks

#### STRENGTHEN CONGREGATIONS

- TRACK 1: **Yes, God is Calling You! The Only Question is: How?** -- *The Rt. Rev. Betsey Monnot*
- TRACK 2: **Dismantling Racism** -- *Deb Brewer-Cotlar & John Stewart*
- TRACK 3: **Soul Shop™** (faith based suicide prevention) -- *David Galvan*

#### SUPPORT CLERGY & LAY LEADERSHIP

- TRACK 4: **Ethics** -- *Suzanne Messer*
- TRACK 5: **Responding to Christian Nationalism** -- *The Rev. Jean McCarthy & the Rev. Canon Kathleen Milligan*
- TRACK 6: **A Bible Study, Three Early Christological Hymns, Their Texts and Significance For Us** -- *Paul Muhle*
- TRACK 7: **New Thoughts on the New Testament** -- *The Rev. Alice Haugen*

#### DEEPEN OUR CONNECTION TO GOD

- TRACK 8: **Dance on the Water thru Art** -- *Alescha Caldwell*
- TRACK 9: **Into the Oneness** -- *The Rev. Catherine Quehl-Engel*
- TRACK 10: **Dreams as Spiritual Guidance** -- *Helen L. Keefe*
- TRACK 11: **Spiritual Direction/Solo Retreat** -- *The Rev. Mary Jane Oakland*

[Bulletin](#)

[Brochure](#)

[Learn More &](#)

## Toward General Convention (GC81)



### About:

The General Convention—The Episcopal Church’s governing body—meets every three years as a bicameral legislature. Any resolution must be agreed upon by both the House of Deputies and House of Bishops before it becomes an official act of convention.

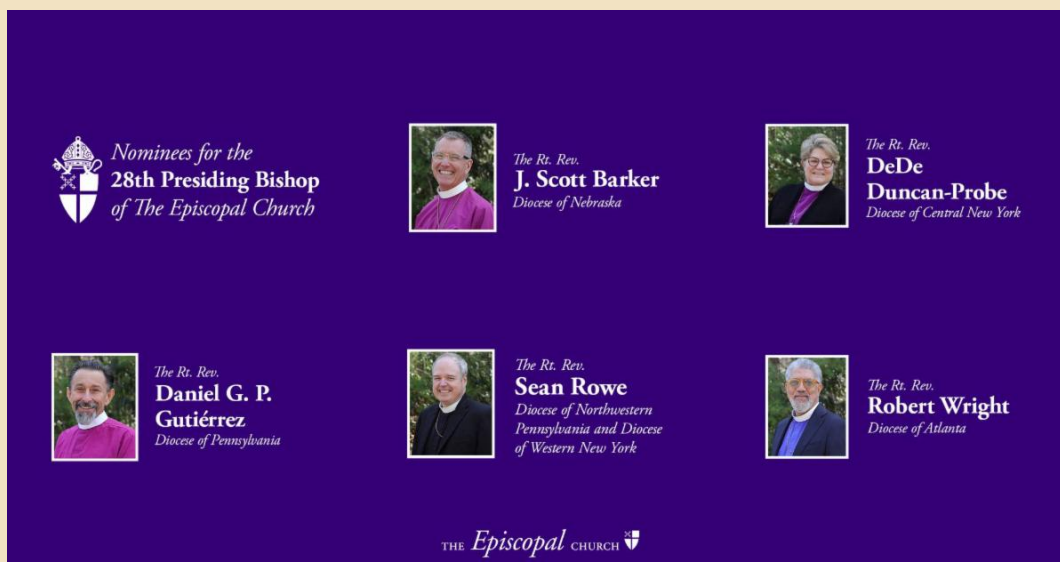
### Legislative Committee Hearings:

The work of GC81 has already begun, with legislative committees meeting online. These committees will bring resolutions to the floor at the in-person convention in June. Anyone is welcome to attend committee meetings/hearings as an observer, and if you wish to speak at an open hearing you should register at least two business days prior to the hearing.

[Diocesan GC Webpage](#)

[Register Online](#)

## Nominees for Presiding Bishop



The next Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church will be elected at this General Convention. The House of Bishops elects one of the nominees, and the House of Deputies is asked to confirm that election. If confirmed, the presiding bishop-elect takes office on Nov. 1, 2024.

[Nominee Bios](#)

[Check Out This Pod](#)



## HOUSE OF DEPUTIES BLUE BOOK PODCAST



Follow this resource to explore resolutions and topics that will shape the direction of GC81. Hosted by House of Deputies President Julia Ayala Harris and produced by the church Office of Communication.

HOD Blue Book  
Podcast



### Young Adult Festival

This festival is designed for those ages 18-30 to meet peers from across the globe, pray and learn together, engage in the church's legislative process, and help discern God's call for The Episcopal Church.

[Learn More](#)

### Revival

Get immersed in inspiring worship and community, deepen your love for God, kick off the 81st General Convention, and extend a warm welcome to folks discovering The Episcopal Church. In-person and livestreamed.

[Learn More](#)

## Resources



### Why Church? Webinar

Check out this panel discussion from Episcopal Parish Network's Annual Conference. Led by Bishop Andy Doyle, this discussion explores new ways of building community, connection, meaning, and purpose in life.

[Watch Online](#)

### What It Means to Vote and Vote Faithfully

This podcast explores aspects of election engagement, emerging concerns for this year, how Episcopalians can get involved, and why it is important to embody healthy, faith-informed civic engagement.



Listen Here



## 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](mailto:diocese@iowaepiscopal.org)

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

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