From the Bishop

Planning to attend the State Fair this year? Please come on Saturday, August 12th. That is when the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa will be hosting a Revival evening at the State Fair with a Breaking Bread Eucharist. Fair organizers were impressed with the Breaking Bread event last year, and invited us back. We are returning with an expanded worship agenda and, with your help, in greater numbers. The State Fair Episcopal Breaking Bread Revival starts at 5:30pm and will be at the Farm Bureau Shelter House, located behind Pioneer Pavilion.

At the congregational level, this month Revival 2017 picks back up after a six-week summer recess. We are exactly halfway through and have held nineteen revivals impacting twenty-nine congregations and attended by 500 people. The Revival moves west over the next few months and up to the north east and north west. We held a second orientation meeting last month at the Cathedral of St. Paul which was attended by representatives from St. Andrew’s, St. Timothy’s, and the Cathedral in Des Moines. Fort Dodge, Mason City, Spirit Lake and Emmetsburg, Shenandoah and Glenwood, Cedar Falls and Waverly were all represented, as well as Trinity, Iowa City and New Song, Coralville.

I believe that God honors our efforts to draw closer and in fact is the One meeting us more than halfway through the presence of the Holy Spirit. The Revival is about our personal relationship with God in Jesus Christ. It encourages us to take stock of what is driving us spiritually, and through the various prayer stations gives us an opportunity for reflective action—whether more traditionally in renewing baptismal vows, or receiving prayer with the laying on of hands, or in the contemporary and creative ways of “prayer through coloring,” journaling, or joining me for a one on one conversation on your life in the Spirit. Some congregations are adding to these ways of responding
that I think are vital to letting God act in renewing, recharging and rekindling our lives as followers of Jesus.

We have found that music is a key ingredient for an effective weekend. Angie Dowd of St. John’s, Mason City shared at the orientation several reasons for this. She gave six reasons for music’s importance: music gathers us in; it unifies; opens hearts preparing us for new ideas and possibilities, providing a “solid emotional base”; it supports the message of the day; provides segues; and uplifts the energy level of a gathering space. She also added, “and it adds raw entertainment value.”

One thing that the Revival 2017 evening does is make us think of how to incorporate elements into more regular services. The impact of music is an obvious given, but what about offering opportunities for immediate responses through prayer stations on a Sunday? Some of this might flow into a new small group or house group movement as we follow up in the months and years following Revival.

There are some excellent referrals out there already—such as from Carl Mann of Christ Church, Burlington, or Fred Steinbach of St. Andrew’s, Chariton. Whether the attendance was large or small (rule of thumb seems to be one third of your Sunday average attendance), God has “shown up” and the evidence is in the nine filled canvass tiles which have captured people’s prayers and commitments as a result of the Spirit’s nudges. These are prayers which we carry around to each Revival as the tiles grow in number, and which will be featured throughout the Diocesan Convention in October. The final Revival 2017 weekend will be in Des Moines at the Cathedral on Saturday as St. Paul’s combines with Indianola and St. Mark’s, and wrapping up at St. Timothy’s in West Des Moines Sunday evening at 5pm, October 22nd.

Give yourself a chance—Give God a chance—to stir up the gift of the Spirit within you, which many of you received through the laying on of hands in confirmation or reception, and all of us in baptism.

In the peace and love of Christ,
+Alan

The Rt. Rev. Alan Scarfe
Bishop of Iowa
Join us at the State Fair!

Join Bishop Alan Scarfe and other Episcopalians at the Iowa State Fair! We will gather for a Revival Worship Service at 5:30 pm at the Polk County Farm Bureau Shelter House, located behind Pioneer Pavilion. This fun event will feature:
* live music
* dance performance
* prayer stations
* activities for kids
* a chance to invite ALL to experience the love of The Episcopal Church

T-shirts can be purchased at the event.

Download a color poster to share with your congregation at iowaepiscopal.org.

Share the good news!

At Diocesan Convention, we would like to highlight new things that are happening in the diocese - ministries that are growing, new things you are trying, or places where new life has been breathed into an existing ministry. We invite you to share photos, videos, and a short (1-2 minute) audio recording of what you would like to share with the other churches in the diocese.

Questions? Contact mwagner@iowaepiscopal.org.

Upcoming Youth Events

Happening #43
September 2-4, Trinity, Iowa City. [Staff and participant applications and more information](http://iowaepiscopal.org) can be found at iowaepiscopal.org

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS!

New Beginnings #19
October 13-15 at Trinity Iowa City.

Diocesan Convention
October 27-28 in Des Moines. Childcare available, a lock-in for youth in grades 4-9, and high school youth attend as delegates or guests.

The [2018 Youth Event Calendar](http://iowaepiscopal.org) is now available to download!
2017 Jubilee Ministry Grants

Applications are now accepted for the 2017 Jubilee Ministry grants to further the mission and ministry of the Episcopal Church.

Every year, the Episcopal Church provides grants to assist currently-designated Jubilee Ministries in their work. These grants are intended to help ministries in their mission to create a more just society and confront structures that promote cycles of poverty and inequality.

Application forms are available at https://dfms.formstack.com/forms/jubilee_ministry_grants_2017
Deadline for applications is September 29 at 5 pm Eastern.

JustFaith and the Center for Social Ministry

Are you longing to be connected with a small group that provides a safe place to discuss social issues through the lens of your Christian faith? JustFaith is an energizing and inspiring program that engages participants in our call to serve others with compassion.

ReThink Poverty Simulation - November 8

Center for Social Ministry's next scheduled Rethink Poverty simulation is on Wednesday, November 8, 2017, from 6 pm until 9 pm. The ReThink Poverty simulation is designed to help participants begin to understand what it might be like to live in a typical low-income family trying to survive from month to month. For more information or to participate, visit http://www.centerforsocialministry.org/.

Urban Immersion for Adults - November 17-19

Join the Center for Social Ministry for an Urban Immersion experience for Adults! The immersion will take place from 5 p.m. on Friday, November 17 until 12 pm on Sunday, November 19. This Des Moines area immersion will be a wonderful opportunity for all JustFaith graduates and Center for Social Ministry friends who would like to participate in an in-depth exploration into the needs of our community. Through community-building activities, simulations, and visits to organizations that help those in need, we will learn how we can follow our call to care for others. For more information or to participate, visit http://www.centerforsocialministry.org/.

Unheard Voices from the Heart of Palestine

Saturday, September 30th at First Methodist Church, Des Moines; sponsored by the Middle East Peace Education Coalition, with support from the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa. Whether you are new to this issue of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict or you have studied the topic for years this symposium is for you. Learn about America's role in the occupation, faith perspectives on the conflict, and becoming active in peacemaking.
One of the speakers, The Rev. Naim Ateek, is Palestinian priest in the Anglican Church and an Arab citizen of Israel. He is the founder and director of Sabeel, an ecumenical theology center in Jerusalem. He lectures widely and is author of several books, including *Justice and Only Justice: A Palestinian Theology of Liberation* and *A Palestinian Christian Cry for Reconciliation*.

To register, download and print the brochure here:
http://files.constantcontact.com/c5a73cae301/608b3e9f-e032-4b9a-a2ba-4d7b85c5e889.pdf

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**Official Certification Forms** are on the website. Delegations may be certified and registered for Convention as of now and these forms must be filled out by September 20 even if you are not sending anyone to Convention. If you've already chosen your delegates at your annual meeting, please consider filling out the paperwork now.

**Request for Reports to Convention** all reports for Convention should be sent to eadams@iowaepiscopal.org by August 30. In addition to reports from commissions and committees of the diocese, we would also like to hear reports of how your congregation is engaging in ministry with young adults.

**Request for Nominations and Resolutions**
The Nominations and Resolutions Committees are now accepting submissions for consideration. Below are links to the slate of offices for which elections will be held, the nomination form, and the guidelines for resolutions.

We will be electing:
1 cleric and 1 lay member to the *standing committee*,
3 cleric and 2 lay members to the *disciplinary board*,
1 cleric and 1 lay member at large to the *board of directors*, and confirming 3 chapter representatives.

In order to give these Committees adequate time to do their work prior to Convention, make your submissions as soon as possible and before these deadlines:

**Nominations - August 27**  **Resolutions - September 10**

If you have any questions, please contact:
Convention coordinator **John Doherty**
Nomination committee chair **The Rev. Raisin Horn**
Resolution committee chair **The Rev. Lauren Lyon**
Transitions

The Rev. Curtis Moermond retired as rector of Grace Church, Cedar Rapids, at the end of July. The Rev. Meg Wagner completed a term as consulting priest in partnership with Trinity Ottumwa at the end of July and began as priest in charge at Grace, Cedar Rapids on August 1. The Rev. Don Keeler retired as priest in charge of All Saints, Storm Lake, at the end of July. St. Thomas, Sioux City has called the Rev. Jay Denne to be pastor, a permanent appointment. He has been serving as pastor in charge on a contractual basis, and continues to serve as pastor of St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Sioux City. Christ Church, Burlington, has called the Rev. Carl Mann to be rector. He has been serving there as priest in charge. The Rev. Stephanie Moncrieff has been appointed priest in charge of Trinity Church, Waterloo. She was most recently clergy associate at Trinity Church, Fort Worth, Texas.

Diocesan Calendar

August 2    Stewardship Commission Meeting, Diocesan House, 1:00-3:00 pm
August 12   Ordination of Joan Farstad to the Sacred Order of Priests
            Breaking Bread Revival at the State Fair 5:30 pm
August 19-20 Happening #43 Staff Training, Trinity, Iowa City
August 20   Convention Reports due
August 26   One World, One Church Meeting, St. Luke's, Cedar Falls, 10:00-2:00 pm
September 1-4 Happening #43, Trinity, Iowa City
September 12-26 Diocese of Iowa Swaziland Work Trip
September 14 PINTS, St. Andrew's, Des Moines, 12:00-4:00 pm
            Ways and Means, Diocesan House, 1:00-4:00 pm
September 16 Board of Directors, St. John's, Ames, 10:30 am
September 27 Certification Deadline for Convention
September 29-30 Pathways to Serenity Fall Retreat, St. Thomas More Center, Panora, IA
October 1    New Beginnings #19 Staff Training, Trinity, Iowa City

See the latest calendar listings on iowaepiscopal.org
The diocesan office will be closed on Labor Day, September 4
Chapter Meetings

August 6  **West** Chapter Meeting, St. Paul's Indian Mission, Sioux City, 10:30 with Eucharist (1pm) and Picnic at Riverside Park (Pavilion 5).
August 19 **Metro** Chapter Meeting, Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 10:00-12:00 pm
**North Central** Chapter Meeting, St. Mark's, Fort Dodge, 10:00-12:00 pm
August 20 **Central** Chapter Meeting, St. Stephen's, Newton, 2:00-4:00 pm
**Southwest** Chapter Meeting, Location TBA, 2:00-3:00 pm
August 27 **East Chapter** Meeting, Christ, Clinton, 2:00-4:00 pm
**North Cedar Valley** Chapter, St. Luke's, Cedar Falls, 2:00-3:30 pm
**Southeast** Chapter Meeting, St. John's, Keokuk, 2:00-3:00 pm
**Three Rivers** Chapter Meeting, Grace, Cedar Rapids, 4:00-5:30 pm

Bishop's Calendar

August 5  REVIVAL, Grace, Charles City with St. Matthew's, Iowa Falls at St. Matthew's, 2:00pm
August 5  REVIVAL, St. John's, Mason City, 7:00pm
August 6  St. John's, Mason City
August 11 Grace, Boone with St. Martin's, Perry at Grace, 6:00pm
August 12 REVIVAL, Breaking Bread at the State Fair, 5:30pm
August 18 REVIVAL, St. Luke's, Des Moines, 7:00pm
August 19 REVIVAL, St. Andrew's, Des Moines 7:00pm
August 20 St. Andrew's, Des Moines
August 25 REVIVAL, St. Andrew's, Waverly with St. James', Independence at St. James', 7:00pm
August 26 REVIVAL, Trinity, Waterloo, 7:00pm
August 27 Trinity, Waterloo
September 8 REVIVAL, Trinity, Iowa City, 7:00pm
September 9 REVIVAL, New Song, Coralville, 7:00pm
September 10 New Song, Coralville
September 15 REVIVAL, St. John's by the Campus, Ames, 7:00pm
September 16 REVIVAL, St. Thomas, Algona and Good Shepherd, Webster City, with St. Mark's, Fort Dodge at St. Mark's, 7:00pm
September 17 St. Mark's, Fort Dodge
September 29 REVIVAL, St. John's, Shenandoah with St. John's, Glenwood at St. John's, 7:00pm
September 30 REVIVAL, St. Paul's, Council Bluffs, 7:00pm

*See the complete REVIVAL schedule at [iowaepiscopal.org](http://iowaepiscopal.org)