

September 23, 2022

Greetings,

This note is an invitation to open a conversation around the Underground Railroad, its role in US history and how that can inspire and challenge us in today's culture. I, for one, have been very influenced as I discovered and studied Iowa's involvement in the Underground Railroad in the 1800s.

I have also become aware of others in The Episcopal Church sharing this interest – specifically the Underground Railroad and those who participated in this movement toward freedom. For me, the UGRR has become very symbolic and applicable for us today.

I'd like to see if there might be an opportunity emerging for a small network that takes a look at the abolitionist movement (symbolized by the Underground Railroad) in the Episcopal Church today.

In the past I've led pilgrimages to several of the Underground Railroad sites in Iowa and have discovered how visiting sites enables the deeper conversations about freedom among those who make the physical journey. I see such journeys as one possibility amongst several that can help shift to a more just culture for all.

I would love to know about your experiences, dreams, passions around this significant movement that symbolizes so much for us today.

Below is a registration for a zoom link to an initial gathering of those who share this interest and want to see who else across this Church has an interest in The Underground Railroad and/or the various abolitionist movements today and how we might collaborate and co-create.

We will gather on Tuesday October 25 at 8:00pm ET/7:00pm CT via Zoom for one hour. You will need to register in order to get the link.

If you know of someone else who might share this desire, don't hesitate to share this information.

Yours in Christ,

*Ellen*

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To register:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpdumgpzMrHd0LbVhrGL2P\\_ypJQbqZYxJ](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpdumgpzMrHd0LbVhrGL2P_ypJQbqZYxJ)