

# NEWSLETTER



## *Episcopal Parish of Ames*

April 2017

### **YomHaShoah**

In our Sunday morning *Tools for the Journey* we have just finished a unit on Embracing Interfaith Cooperation. It was a very interesting five session study that began with a look at Interfaith Cooperation in American History. It then led us through some serious study of why it is important to know something about other world religions. People of other faiths are Americans too. They bring their rich traditions and beliefs to their lives as patriotic Americans. We learn much about our own beliefs from engaging in dialogue with people of differing backgrounds.

I know it is not popular in our current society to engage in such study. Many people in our nation think that diversity and understanding make us vulnerable to terrorist attacks, illegal immigration, and the loss of jobs. In actuality, by studying this topic we learn that the opposite is true. The more we know about other world religions and the people that follow them, the less fearful we become.

As a parish we have a long tradition of cooperation, study, and fellowship with the people of the Ames Jewish Congregation. They have invited us to an interfaith service, YomHaShoah. This is a Holocaust Remembrance Service to be held on Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3:00 p.m. We will light a candle in memory of the millions of non-Jews who perished, among them the handicapped, gays, Roma, Soviet POWS and members of the resistance and those who dared to protest.

I hope that you will put this service on your personal calendar and come to be part of the worshipping community that remembers the past and pledges to work together in order that the world never again sits idle while injustice and suffering are allowed to prevail.

Faithfully,

## EPISCOPAL PARISH OF AMES

### **Parish Office**

St. John's by the Campus  
Episcopal Parish and Student Center  
2338 Lincoln Way, Ames, IA 50014

### **Clergy**

The Reverend Canon Alexander A. Aiton, Jr.,  
Rector  
The Reverend Donald R. Payer, Deacon  
Emeritus

### **Parish Assistants**

Jeannie Garcia, Secretary  
David Moore, Chaplain  
Dr. Miriam Zach, Music Director/Organist  
Amy Mellies, Director of Christian Formation  
Wendy Ware, Organist  
Jane Galyon, Newsletter Editor

### **How to Communicate**

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St. John's Website: [www.stjohns-ames.org](http://www.stjohns-ames.org)  
Diocese of Iowa: [www.iowaepiscopal.org](http://www.iowaepiscopal.org)

### **Vestry, 2017**

Senior Warden: George Smith  
Junior Warden: Bruce Bjorklund  
Treasurer: Scott Saienga  
Clerk: Deb Fisher  
Nicola Bowler            Phyllis Heffron  
Michael Howell        Maddy Losby  
Doug McCay            Dorothy Yoerger

### **Newsletter, April 2017, Vol 23, Num 4**

This publication, Newsletter, is published monthly except July by the Episcopal Parish of Ames, a non-profit organization, 2338 Lincoln Way, Ames, Iowa 50014. Comments or inquiries may be sent to the church office. The **deadline for the next Newsletter is Monday, April 24.** Submit articles to Jeannie at St. John's or via email to [church@stjohns-ames.org](mailto:church@stjohns-ames.org) and [jgalyon@iastate.edu](mailto:jgalyon@iastate.edu)

### **April Coffee Hour**

#### **April 2**

8:00 & 10:00 a.m. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

#### **April 9**

8:00 & 10:00 a.m. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

#### **April 16**

Easter Brunch at 9:00 a.m.

#### **April 23**

8:00 & 10:00 a.m. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

#### **April 30**

8:00 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

10:00 a.m. Potluck

### **April Lectionary**

#### **Lectionary**

#### **April 2**

The First Lesson: Ezekiel 37:1-14

The Psalm: Psalm 130

The Second Lesson: Romans 8:6-11

The Gospel: John 11:1-45

#### **April 9 – PALM SUNDAY**

The First Lesson: Isaiah 50:4-9a

The Psalm: Psalm 31:9-16

The Second Lesson: Philippians 2:5-11

The Gospel: Matthew 27:11-54

#### **April 16 EASTER SUNDAY**

The First Lesson: Acts 10:34-43

The Psalm: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

The Second Lesson: Colossians 3:1-4

The Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10

#### **April 23**

The First Lesson: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

The Psalm: Psalm 16

The Second Lesson: 1 Peter 1:3-9

The Gospel: John 20:19-31

#### **April 30**

The First Lesson: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

The Psalm: Psalm 116:1-3, 10-17

The Second Lesson: 1 Peter 1:17-23

The Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

### **Lent Program**

Join us Wednesday evenings for some relaxing coloring for this year's Lent program. We will be coloring the Stations of the Cross and discussing what each Station means. We will hold a potluck

at 6 p.m. and the discussions will start at 6:30 p.m. This is an event for all ages! We will meet April 5.

### **Easter Sunday Brunch**

Easter Brunch will be Sunday, April 16, between services. All are welcome to come enjoy fellowship and good food.

A signup sheet is in the Parish Hall. Please sign up. We especially need egg casseroles, fruit, baked goods, but please bring something! We are asking people to sign up so we can make sure we will not run out of food.

We have 20 people who have signed up. Here is what is being brought: 3 casseroles, 2 rolls, 1 baked goods, 1 stuffed eggs, 1 Easter eggs, 1 fruit, and 2 desserts.

If you are coming to the Easter Sunday Brunch, please sign up and let us know what you are bringing.

### **Book Club**

Book Club will be reading and discussing "Cold Case Christianity" by J. Warner Wallace on Wednesday, April 29 at 6 p.m. Please grab a copy and join us!

### **Food At First**

On March 25, we had an amazing crew of 16 volunteers to serve 40 guests at Food at First! Thanks to head chef Michael Howell, Joanna Muggli, Dave Oakland, Keith Phillips, Beverly Baustian, Helen McRoberts, John and Marlene Lowthian, John and Greta Muller Levis, Laurie Bryant, Steve Prater, Maddie Rogers, and Daniel and Helena Appau.

Our next meals will be April 22, May 27, June 24, and every 4th Saturday of the month that follows. For more information contact Ed Gillott, Michael Howell or Jeannie in the parish office. For more information on the Food at First ministry, check out the Web Site at <https://foodatfirst.wordpress.com/>

**Landscaping Work Day** - Saturday, April 8,

2017 - 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Spring is here at last and it is time to get outside and spiff up the landscaping around St. John's. The more volunteers we have, the more we can get done! For more information please contact George Smith or Ed Gillott.

Other news: A post and chain pedestrian barrier will be installed along the new retaining wall in April to replace the temporary snow fence that has been there since last fall.

We are also looking into the costs of removing the evergreen tree in the southwest corner, removing the existing curb and pouring new curb and concrete to create three more parking spaces in the parking lot. More information on this option will be available later.

### **Emergency Residence Project**

If you are willing to provide the evening meal for the Emergency Residence Project shelter on a Wednesday in 2017, please sign up on the signup sheet on the table in the Parish Hall. St. John's provides a meal on the second Wednesday of each month. We need volunteers for the following dates: August 9, September 13, and November 8. Contact person is Dorothy Yoerger (232-4384) for scheduling and questions.

### **Sanctuary Candle**

The Sanctuary Candle burns in remembrance of memorials or celebrations. A sign up sheet is on the Parish Hall table. You are also welcome to call 292-6655 or email [church@stjohns-ames.org](mailto:church@stjohns-ames.org) if you are interested in a certain date. We do ask that you pay \$3 per entry as this offsets the cost of the candles. **Dates available:** April 9, 16 & 30; May 7 & 28; June 4; July 2, 9, & 16; Aug. 20; Sept. 3; Oct. 22: and Dec. 17 & 24.

## Reggies Sleepout



We had a few members of the congregation brave the elements for the sleepout. Daniel and Helena Appau stayed the night and had a great experience. Olivia Galyon also attended with a group she is involved with at Ames High.

### Music

If you have any hymns that you would like to sing, please sign up in the Parish Hall. Dr. Miriam Zach would like to see what you are all interested in singing.

### Parking Reminder

The 10 parking spaces along Stanton Ave. are available for lease Monday through Saturday for \$50 per month. The vestry has approved leasing 10 more parking spaces along the east property line. Vehicles who have leased spaces display a numbered blue and white parking decal in the rear window.

The terms of the lease state that the cars must be out of the parking lot early Sunday morning to make room for those attending Sunday Services. *On Sunday, all parking spaces designated by the **white lines** are available to those attending services.* If our parking lot is full, public parking is available along Chamberlain Ave. or in the City parking lot to our southeast. It is not necessary to feed the meter on Sundays. If you are parking at St. John's during the week, please use the parking spaces in the two center rows of

spaces.

**Please be careful not to park in the apartment building parking spaces designated by the yellow lines or you may be towed.** Your help is needed! If you are attending a public event at St. John's sponsored by a community group, please help the organizers monitor where attendees are parking. The fee to recover a towed vehicle can exceed \$250.

### Metro Chapter Events

St. John's is one of 10 Episcopal Churches in the Metro Chapter of the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa. On April 29 we will host the Spring Metro Chapter here at St. John's. Please join us!

### Saturday, April 29, 2016. 9 am to 12 pm

Metro Chapter Spring Meeting, St. John's by the Campus, Ames. Find out more about what is happening in the Diocese. This is a chance to provide input into the Diocesan budget and programming priorities. Anyone who is interested in attending the 2017 Diocesan Convention should try to attend the chapter meetings. For more information, contact Ed Gillott or Amy Mellies.

### June 3 & 4, 2017 - REVIVAL 2017 - St. John's by the Campus

REVIVAL 2017 is an opportunity to gather together in local congregations to reawaken and rediscover God's Holy Spirit at work among us. It is an invitation to rekindle and recharge your faith and ministry and to share in Christ's abundant joy and strength.

Volunteers will be needed to help prepare for the event and encourage participation. Additional information is available at:

<http://iowaepiscopal.org/Ministries/revival-2017.html>

### June 23 - 25, 2017 - Summer Ministry School and Retreat, Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA

Information about the 2017 Summer Ministry School and Retreat is now on-line at the Diocesan Website.

[Ministry School and Retreat](#)

### **Readers for the 10 a.m. Service**

We need volunteers to sign up to read for the service. A signup sheet is in the Parish Hall.

### **Monday Daisies**

We need volunteers to take flowers to shut ins or to people who are in need of encouragement.

**May through August are available as no one has signed up for any of these months.**

### **Christian Formation Announcements:**

#### **Sunday School Classes**

4yo - 4th grade will be in Godly Play.

5th-8th will be known as #JesusSquad.

9th - 12th will be in The Den.

Godly Play and #JesusSquad will meet on April 2nd at 9am. All classes will meet on April 9th.

### **Happening #42**

April 21-23 at Trinity Cathedral in Davenport. Applications are live for staff and participants at [iowaepiscopal.org](http://iowaepiscopal.org). Happening is for youth 9th-12th grade. If you have any questions please contact Amy.

### **April 30 Service**

On April 30th the children will be assisting with the liturgy. I need volunteers to help with the first lesson, Psalm and the second lesson. If there are any other roles that children may be interested in, please contact Amy Mellies.

### **Pilgrimage Meeting**

Any youth who will be in 10th or 11th grade next year, 2017-2018, are eligible to go on pilgrimage in the summer of 2018. We will have a meeting on April 9th at 4:30pm. This meeting is for youth and parents.

### **Mark Your Calendar for these Upcoming Youth Events:**

April 2 - Sunday school for Godly Play & #JesusSquad

- No EYC

April 5 - Lenten Program - Coloring the Stations of the Cross

April 9 - Sunday school classes for all at 9am - EYC at 5pm

April 13 - Potluck and stripping of the Altar

April 16 - No Sunday school classes - No EYC

April 23 - Classes for Godly Play and #JesusSquad

April 30 - Classes for all at 9am - EYC at 5pm

### **February Vestry Minutes**

**Clergy Present:** Father Al Aiton, Rector

**Vestry Members Present:** George Smith, Michael Howell, Maddy Losby, Nicola Bowler, Doug McCay, Phyllis Heffron, Bruce Bjorklund, Dorothy Yoerger, Deb Fisher.

**Others Present:** Amy Mellies, Director, Christian Formation, Ed Gillott, Diane Bjorklund

**Election of Officers:** George Smith, Sr. Warden; Bruce Bjorklund, Jr. Warden, Deb Fisher, Clerk

**Minutes:** There were no minutes presented from the last meeting.

**Christian Formation/Youth:** Amy provided a report to the Vestry on the activities of our youth. St. John's had seven youth attend the Diocesan ski trip in Boone this year. Five youth will represent St. John's at New Beginnings, a weekend retreat for 6<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> graders, in Cedar Rapids, March 3-5. Ian and Cole Hillier will be helping staff during the weekend and Cole will be a co-shepherd, helping to lead the weekend. Ian Hillier has been asked to serve as a youth representative on the Youth Ministry and Development Team for the Diocese. On February 19<sup>th</sup>, we have five families and 11 youth attending a Family Skating day at the Ames Ice Arena. On February 25<sup>th</sup> the EYC will volunteer at the Overflow Thrift Store from 2-4 P.M. The entire parish is invited to participate in Reggie's Sleepout at Jack Trice Stadium. This is an event to raise awareness for teen homelessness. Happening #42, a weekend retreat for high schoolers, will take place on April 21-23 at Trinity in Davenport.

**Treasurer's Report:** As volunteer bookkeeper, Diane gave an explanation of each report to help

the Vestry understand the financial information that will be provided each month.

**Audit Report:** Ed Gillott presented the findings and recommendations of the Audit of our 2015 financial records. The audit was completed by Bob Joy. The audit for 2016 will be due to the Diocese in September of 2017. It was discussed whether to retain a CPA, use a volunteer audit team, or swap records with another parish to complete the audit. The Vestry will revisit at a later date.

A motion was made by Dorothy Yoerger, and seconded by Phyllis Heffron to accept the consent agenda. Motion unanimously approved.

**Announcements:** The Bishop's Revival 2017 will be held at St. John's on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Michael Howell agreed to write the Easter Letter.

**Prayerful Considerations:**

**First Sundays Program:** It was suggested that we add Habitat for Humanity, and Reggie's Sleepout to our First Sunday's Program. Nicola suggested that it might be educational for parishioners if someone from those organizations could speak to the parish about their organization's needs.

**Discussion with Gilbane:** Ed spoke about the status of discussions with Gilbane, and stated that at this point discussion is preliminary at best.

**Search:** Fr. Al challenged the Vestry to begin to think about the process. There was a good discussion of the next step in the search process, and agreement that it would be better to start sooner rather than wait. A motion was made by Doug McCay and seconded by Nicola to have a special meeting of the Vestry to further discuss the search for a new Rector. Fr. Al will not be involved in the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

**Closing Prayer:** Fr. Al

**Adjournment:** 8:30 p.m.

**Submitted by:** Deb Fisher, Clerk of the Vestry

**April Events 2017**

**April 4 & 11 (Wednesday) 5:00 p.m.**  
College Student Bible Study

**Holy Week Services Monday – Friday**

Monday 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday 7:00 p.m.

Thursday (Maundy Thursday) 6:00 p.m. potluck  
& Stripping the Altar

Good Friday Services: Noon

**April 16 (Sunday)**

Daughters of the King meeting

Easter Brunch between services 9:00 a.m.

**April 18 (Tuesday)**

**Vestry Meeting 7:00 p.m.**

**April 21 - 23 (Friday - Sunday)**

Happening #42 Cathedral in Davenport

**April 22 (Saturday)**

Food at First 10:30 a.m.

**April 30 (Saturday)**

Potluck Goodbye for Students after the 10 a.m.  
service

Ordered May Baskets distributed