

St. John's Worship Offerings

Live Streamed on our Facebook page and website

Along with In person Worship

Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. and

Compline Monday & Friday evenings at 8:00 p.m.

You don't have to sign up with Facebook to watch. As long as a person has internet access and a computer, tablet, smartphone or other device, they can watch. Sunday service can also be viewed on our website at www.stjohnsmasoncity.org

Join us for in person worship in the Sanctuary at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday.



Join us at <https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsmcia/>

If the weather is bad
check **KIMT** for cancellation of Worship Services

St. John's Vestry Members

Newly Elected Vestry members are Dale Schirmer and Jane Reynolds.

Sr. Warden is Jeanne Cornick

Vestry Clerk is Mara Linskey-Deegan

Jr. Warden is Laura Bernemann

Recording Secretary is Mary Pieper

Teams

Worship Team: Mara Linskey-Deegan, Stephanie Prohaski, George Riesen, Sue Stone
(planning worship services)

Regional Missioner Team: Karen Jacobs, Katherine Evans, Jan Willeke
(meeting with Rev. Stephen Benitz)

Transition Team: Jeanne Cornick, Dale Schirmer, Jane Reynolds
(meeting with Meg Wagner from the Diocese of Iowa, planning the search for a priest)

Fellowship Team: Terry Allen-Burns, Sue Stone, Parish Members (food activities)

St. John's Episcopal Church

120 First Street NE, Mason City, Iowa 50401-3302

Phone: 641.424.1300 E-mail: sjecmc@gmail.com

www.stjohnsmasoncitysecureversites.net

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Clergy, Staff, and Ministry Volunteers

The Rt. Rev. Betsey Monnot, Bishop of Iowa

The Rev. Barbara M. McCaulley, Priest Associate * The Rev. Kathryn S. Campbell, Priest Associate

The Rev. Canon Elliot Blackburn, Rector Emeritus

Susan Stone, Parish Administrator * Dan Hardy, Treasurer

The mission of St. John's is to welcome and reach out with the love of God to all our neighbors



March 2025

Volume 95 Issue 3

The WORD

St. John's Episcopal Church
120 First Street NE
Mason City, IA 50401-3302

It is finally SPRING! This is an exclamation I have heard every March since moving to the Midwest in 2001. At first, I could not figure out why anyone would be so happy about spring. Growing up in the Pacific Northwest, springtime is not always rejoiced. It is dreary and wet, the land is muddy and brown, and your shoes are always damp. Many easter egg hunts of my youth were held inside my grandparents' house, so as not to muddy my "good shoes."

Now that I have lived in the Midwest for quite a while, I get it. I understand why springtime is so celebrated. Winters here can be harsh, and people rush to get indoors to escape the elements. Spring is a time when Midwesterners can break free of their homes and offices and enjoy the outdoors once more. It is a time of rebirth for the land, the animals, and ourselves. It is because of this realization that springtime, leading up to Easter, has taken on a new meaning for me. As a child, Easter was all about dying eggs, jellybeans, and egg hunts in my grandparents' basement. As an adult living in Iowa, I now make connections of rebirth in body, mind, and spirit.

Springtime is also a relief for many. Winter is over. The threats winter can bring - cold, ice, snow - are gone for now. This is how I process the Resurrection. Things were bad. Jesus was arrested, sentenced, and crucified. But when things seemed at their worst, there came a wondrous celebration. The stone was moved. Jesus had risen. Life began anew. We, as Episcopalians, rejoice in this cycle as we do the seasons. Harshness begets celebration, winter leads to spring.

Easter is coming - It is finally SPRING! – Mara Linskey-Deegan

Christ the Lord is risen today – Alleluia!
Sons of men and angels say – Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high – Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply – Alleluia!

Lenten Resources

Each Sunday in Lent, there will be a bulletin insert from the Diocese with "Prompts for Thought." You may use these as a daily reflection during Lent. You can also find resources on the Diocese of Iowa website www.iowaepiscopal.org.



Safe Church Courses Are Required

I have been set up as the administrator of Safe Church Training for St. John's, which seems appropriate to my role as Junior Warden. I'm told an admin's role is to set up accounts for people who need to take or renew their training (every 3 years). I am also expected to check to make sure that people are completing their training. I am beginning (with our Vestry) to add names and get us up to date. I have the support of Amy Mellies, Missioner for Children and Youth, of the diocesan office. Please reach out if you have questions or comments. Go to The Episcopal Diocese of Iowa, Resources, Safe Church <https://www.iowaepiscopal.org/keeping-gods-people-safe> or contact Laura Bernemann641-210-8605

Easter Flower Offering

Beginning March 5th, St. John's will be accepting offerings to purchase Easter Lilies and other spring plants. The plants will be decorating the church sanctuary Easter Sunday and as long as we can keep them blooming.

You can give in memory, thanksgiving or celebration of family and friends. Please be sure to mark your offering and include any information you would like printed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Thank you.



Saint John's by the Campus Episcopal Church, Ames, IA offers Wednesday Evening Compline

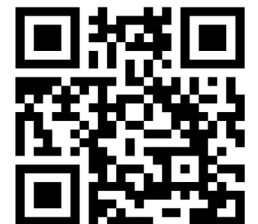
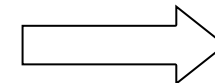
Compline at 8 pm every Wednesday evening. Look for the zoom link. The New Zealand Compline prayer is said. Come join for a peaceful end to your day. Contact Kathleen Sallee at ksallee1911@gmail.com.

To Make a Monetary Donation to St. John's Episcopal Church

Your check can be mailed to
St. John's Episcopal Church
120 1st Street NE
Mason City, IA 50401

You can go to [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly)
to make a monetary donation to
St. John's
or go to www.stjohnsmasoncity.org

Use this QR Code to make a contribution to St. John's

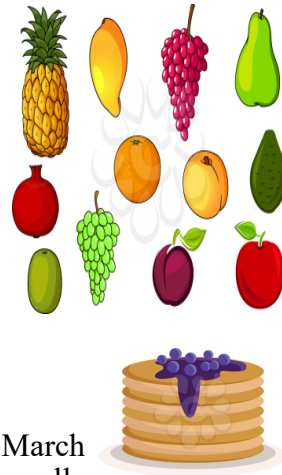


How can I help?

Calling for Fruit Cobbler or Crisp

St. John's Fellowship Team is asking for fruit desserts (cobbler, crisp, etc.) to serve during the live Nonsemble Concert on Saturday, March 1. Any flavor of fruit and any type of topping you would like to make.

If you have questions or are able to provide a dessert, please contact Terry Allen-Burns or Sue Stone. Thank you.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please be sure to sign up to help with Shrove Tuesday Pancake Day, March 4th. Lots of tasks to choose from. You can work one shift, two shifts or all day if you choose. No experience necessary. Join in the celebration.

Build a Mountain of Coffee

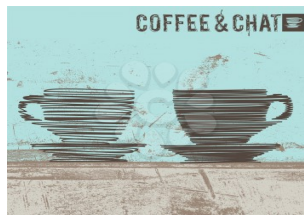
St. John's Fellowship Team is in need of coffee. About once a year we ask for coffee donations. If each household brought one can of coffee in we would be in great shape for the year. Coffee is not only served on Sunday, it is also served for all other events here. If you are so moved to donate a can of coffee (dark brew is the best) we sure would appreciate it. Thank you.



Coffee Hour is in the Parish Hall

Thank you to all who have signed up to serve as host at Sunday Coffee Hour.

There are many dates left to choose from. No experience is required. Treats are not necessary.



1st Congregational UCC Church Food Cupboard

Thank you for your continued support. The cupboard continues to feed those in need.



No Wonder it is Cold in the Sanctuary

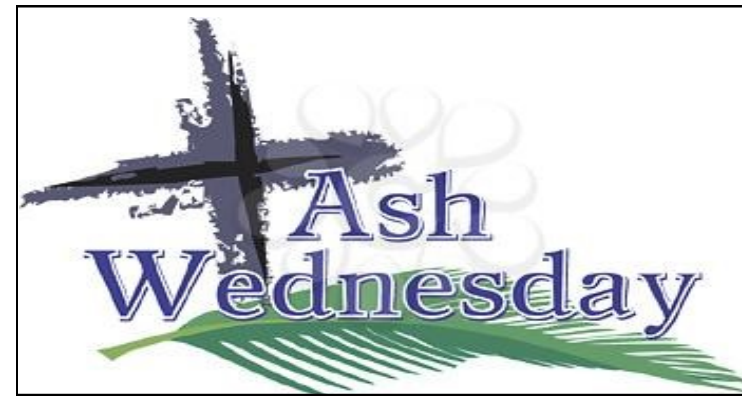
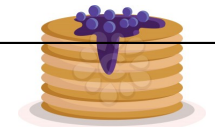
A day doesn't go by that a door or doors are left open to the sanctuary. Every time this happens the heat from the sanctuary escapes to other areas. **Please** shut the doors behind you. The same goes for the hallways and other area doors. **Please** keep them closed. The church is a hard place to heat and the furnaces work extra hard as it is.

An Evening of Music with the Nonsemble Band

Saturday, March 1
6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
St. John's Parish Hall



Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Day
Tuesday, March 4
11:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.



Imposition of Ashes
and Holy Eucharist
March 5, 2025
5:30 p.m.
in St. John's Chapel

Sunday Worship Moves to the Chapel for the Sundays in Lent Beginning on Sunday, March 9

Join us Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m.
for Worship
also livestreamed on Facebook

Set Your Clocks Forward
1 Hour
Saturday, March 9
Daylight Savings Begins

Dates to Remember.

March

- 1 - Nonsemble Live Concert 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall
- 2 - Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.
- 4 - Shrove Tuesday Pancakes 11:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
NO Lectio
- 5- Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist 5:30 p.m. in the Chapel
NO Game Night
- 9 - Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m. on Facebook & St. John's website
- 13 - Centering Prayer 6:00 p.m. in St. John's Chapel
- 16 - Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Livestream on Facebook & St. John's website
- 19 - Game Night 6:00 –8:00 p.m.
- 23 - Morning Prayer at 10:00 a.m. on Facebook & St. John's website
- 25 - WORD deadline
- 30 - Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Livestream on Facebook & St. John's website

Wednesday Chapel a time of prayer, scripture & silence 12:10 p.m. Wednesdays
Join Compline on Facebook weekly Monday-Friday at 8:00 p.m.

Weekly Community Group Meetings at St. Johns

- Tuesday Pickleball in the Parish Hall 5:00 –7:30 p.m.
- Thursday-10: 00 a.m. to noon Knitting Group “Natter of Knitters” in the Kuhn Room (weekly)
- NOON AA Meeting in the Parlor (weekly)
- 5:00 p.m. TOPS Meeting & weigh in, in the Parlor (weekly)
- Friday The group that met here no longer is using St. John's
- Saturday 9:00 a.m. Alanon Meeting in the West Alley basement (weekly)
- Pickleball in the Parish Hall 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Memorial Candle

Bringing back these items after the pandemic

Did you ever notice the candle that hangs in the sanctuary to the left, facing the altar? To keep that candle burning all week long, St. John's offers to members the opportunity to sponsor the candle and have your loved ones name prayed for in the worship weekly prayer list. The cost is \$10 per week. If you have a date you would like to reserve please contact Sue Stone in the Parish Office. Let us fill every Sunday.



NO LECTIO in March

Please join us for Lectio-inspired Reflection, the **first Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m.** in St. John's Parlor or via Zoom. Park and enter from the east side / Pennsylvania, the north door. If in need of an accessible option, there are ramped entrances. Be prepared with a pen for writing.

Evening Centering Prayer

the **second Thursday of the month in St. John's Chapel** and the fourth Tuesday of the month at St. Joseph's Catholic Church Chapel. Both opportunities begin at **6:00 PM.**

Please join us for one or both!

Questions? Contact Laura Bernemann

St. John's Game Night

Join the fun on the **1st & 3rd Wednesdays from 6:00-8:00 p.m.** in the Kuhn Room. Bring your favorite game, a beverage and treat, and invite a friend.

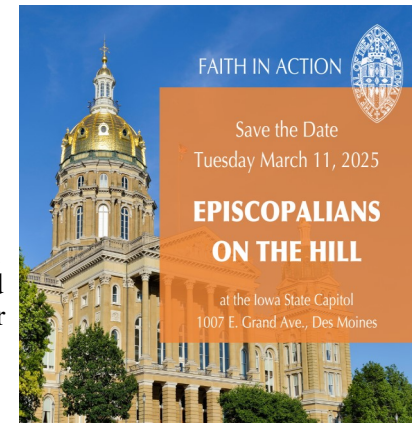


FAITH IN ACTION

AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

MARCH 11, 2025

Each year, Episcopalians gather at the Capitol with Bishop Betsey Monnot, our diocesan lobbyists, and fellow Episcopalians and advocate for public policy with our legislators. This year (2025) we will again join with Interfaith Alliance of Iowa and our Lutheran siblings for the day, and it is also One Iowa's LGBTQ+ Day on the Hill. We go over some bills before the General Assembly, look at where our diocese stands on them, hear from lawmakers, and then each have an opportunity to try to meet face to face with our senators and representatives to share our positions with them. Whether it's your first time at the Capitol or you'd consider yourself a "regular," all are welcome to join! Keep an eye out for more information, including a general schedule for the day, soon.



A "Natter of Knitters"

If you would like to learn knitting, have a project you need help with, or are an experienced knitter, you are invited to join the group 10:00 a.m. to Noon in St. John's Kuhn Room. Great conversation is had and friendships are formed. Coffee and often times treats are served.

