

DIOCESAN OFFICES

April 6-9 (Holy Week) we will be upgrading our computer network. Diocesan staff will not have access to computers, email, the internet or any electronic records, files or schedules. You will need to contact us via phone, fax or US mail. You may want to think ahead as to any anticipated electronic information you may need.

On Good Friday, April 10 the diocesan offices will be closed.

Thank you for your patience and we will return to “the electronic age” on Easter Monday, April 13!

APRIL 30: PREPARING FOR DISASTERS WORKSHOP

From Bishop Amos: The Diocese of Davenport has experienced the effects of disasters throughout her history. In recent years, the Diocese has experienced the destruction of churches due to tornado and fire damage. Many communities were affected by the devastating floods in 1993 and 2008. The potential for disasters occurring in the Diocese remains. It is very important for us to be prepared for future disasters that may strike our parishes, schools and communities. I would ask that at least one person from each parish and school attend this workshop. While some parishes and schools have disaster plans in place, it is also important that all parishes and schools coordinate their plans for their mutual benefit. At this workshop, the new *Diocesan Disaster Preparedness and Response Planning Guide* will be distributed to attendees.

Parishes and schools are reminded that your registration is due April 20.

DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS

These corrections are for the updates that were emailed on March 23.

Fr. Joe Rogers: 563-324-1621, ext. 273 (missing a number)

Fr. Phil Ryan: add ryanp@diodav.org (missing email address)

Shirley Van Dee: PO Box 130 (not 131)

VICAR GENERAL'S OFFICE: Msgr. John Hyland

Annual Corporate Board Meeting for all Parishes: Sunday, Sept. 13, 2 p.m. at Holy Trinity, Richmond with a “make-up” meeting on **Wednesday, Sept. 16,** 7 p.m., at St. Wenceslaus, Iowa City. All pastors and lay directors are to attend this meeting as required by the parish’s by-laws. Members of the parish corporate board are the Bishop, Vicar General, Pastor and two lay directors. It is pertinent that all members attend.

VOCATIONS OFFICE

Holy Hours for Vocations: Scheduling has started for 24 Holy Hours and adoration for the gift of Vocations throughout the Diocese of Davenport. Watch the *Mini-Messenger* and *The Catholic Messenger* for the dates and locations starting in May and running through September. Come and pray for the gift of Vocations!

Pope Benedict Proclaims Year for Priests: Starting June 19 (The Solemnity of the Sacred Heart), Pope Benedict has declared a Year for Priests “highlighting the role and mission of the clergy in the Church in modern society.” This Year for Priests occurs on the 150th anniversary of the death of St. John Vianney who will be named patron saint of all the priests of the world and the theme of the year will be “Faithfulness of Christ, Faithfulness of Priests.” Watch the *Mini-Messenger* for more details and materials as they become available.

DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

The 2009 Annual Diocesan Appeal Kick-Off Weekend will be Sept. 26 and 27.

Electronic Giving: Many of us pay our utility bills on line or with a credit or debit card. Some of us do not write a check at all. Do we, as church, need to adapt our ways of accepting donations from our parishioners? Do you accept electronic fund transfer from your parishioners for their weekly offering to the parish? Do you accept credit and debit cards for the same? Have you considered expanding your ADA to these methods of giving? One parish has 20% of their ADA donors giving via electronic fund transfer.

We will be using all these methods of payment during our capital campaign. If you would like help setting this up in your parish, feel free to contact Sr. Laura Goedken, goedken@davenportdiocese.org or 563-324-1912, ext. 290.

STEWARDSHIP OFFICE

The 2009 Stewardship Institute kicks off April 7, 10 a. m. – Noon, in Muscatine at Gannon Hall. This is designed to train and develop leaders for parish stewardship ministry. Anyone interested in participating in the 2009 institute is to contact Dan Ebener at ebener@davenportdiocese.org. A complete syllabus is available at www.davenportdiocese.org/stewardship.

FINANCE OFFICE

Increase in Use Tax Audits: Iowa is looking for unpaid consumer use tax. Consumer's Use Tax is imposed when you purchase something for use in Iowa and do not pay Iowa sales tax when you purchased it. Business supplies, equipment, or any item that would have been subject to sales tax if bought in Iowa and used in Iowa is subject to use tax. **Parishes are liable for this tax** and it should be paid over to the state when you file your quarterly use tax return when you take ownership or control over the items purchased. **Schools are not liable for this tax.**

SCRIP Compliance Issues: SCRIP is considered additional income compared to the traditional forms of revenue that a parish/school receives such as contribution envelopes and tuition. Since this additional revenue can be considered taxable by the IRS, it is **required** that the SCRIP program is maintained by volunteers in order to avoid any possible taxation.

The term, volunteer, refers to any one not receiving a form of compensation for time worked for the SCRIP program. Anyone volunteering to work for the SCRIP program should not receive money, SCRIP or any additional tuition benefit above and beyond the typical tuition credit applied to families participating in the program.

Parishioners do not receive gift acknowledgement letters for purchases of SCRIP since parishioners are receiving dollar for dollar value.

Any profit directed to a student's tuition bill is in effect a commission the purchaser is receiving for their efforts to resell SCRIP. That results in taxable income.

SCRIP certificates must be stored on parish or school premises. Allowing SCRIP to be stored in an individual's home creates risk both to the parish/school and the individual.

Employees of the parish/school are responsible for assisting in the safeguarding of SCRIP. Employees are not allowed to sell or promote SCRIP. Responsibilities for safeguarding SCRIP include supervising inventory counts and creating disbursements. A separate checking account should also be used for SCRIP sales. An employee would be responsible for reconciling the SCRIP checking account.

Perhaps the most common mistake related to SCRIP sales made by organizations is as follows:

The school has volunteers sell the SCRIP at specified times during the week (perhaps after Mass on Sunday and after school during the week). Then during other times, the SCRIP is for sale in the school office. The school secretary handles the sale. This could render the volunteer exception null and void and trigger taxability for the entire proceeds of the SCRIP sales. Even though the school secretary is not paid to sell the scrip, they are paid employees involved in a fund-raising program.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

Sessions are open to all adults in the Diocese of Davenport and are mandated for all employees and those volunteers who work on a regular basis with children. To schedule a session contact your deanery facilitator listed on the diocesan website, www.davenportdiocese.org (Offices, Protecting Children, Safe Environment, Protecting God's Children) or Virginia Trujillo, trujillo@davenportdiocese.org or 563-324-1912, ext. 256. Current training scheduled (as of March 25):

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
5/17/09	Assumption High School, Davenport	3:00 p.m.

To report child abuse contact: Iowa Department of Human Services Child Abuse Hotline: 800-362-2178 and if it involves clergy or church personnel also notify Alicia Owens, the Victim Assistance Coordinator, 563-349-5002, or yacdav@attglobal.net or PO Box 232, Bettendorf, IA 52722-0004.

PASTORAL SERVICES

Social Action . . .

Available Grants:

- Operation Rice Bowl grants are made to support direct service (the first foot of Social Justice) to people who are hungry.
- CCHD grants are made to organizations for projects that promote systemic change (the second foot of Social Justice).

If your organization is interested in applying, send your request in a 1-2 page letter to: Esmeralda Guerrero, Diocese of Davenport, 2706 N. Gaines St., Davenport 52804-1998. If you have any questions, please call Loxi Hopkins at 324-1912, ext. 246. **Deadline for both grant requests is before May 29.** Grant criteria are available at <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/socialaction/salibrary.htm>.

St. Vincent's Home Corporation Grant: There will be no grant distributions this spring 2009.

Conscience Protection: The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is inviting public comment on a proposal to rescind an important December 2008 federal regulation that protects the conscience rights of health care providers. Help protect the rights of our Catholic health care professionals and institutions. Please visit <http://www.usccb.org/conscienceprotection> and click on the "ACT NOW" tab at the left of the page to make a comment and to find more information. **Comments must be posted by April 9, 2009.**

Madagascar Trip Update: The Diocese of Davenport delegation will not be travelling to Madagascar in June. The trip has been cancelled as there is not a Director of Social Action to coordinate the trip and there are safety concerns with the current political upheaval in Madagascar. Please continue to pray for peace and stability to overcome political unrest that has resulted in many deaths and even more injuries. The Church in Madagascar is attempting to play a leading role in the peacemaking process.

The Diocesan Immigration Program is an agency within the diocese which helps to reunite families split by immigration. They help immigrants to adjust their immigration status and act as an advocate on their behalf. To learn more about the services provided contact Karina Garnica or Anna Zepeda, 563-324-1912, ext. 232/262 or go to: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/socialaction/saimmigrationprogram.htm>.

Faith at Work: Periodically, the Social Action team, working with *The Catholic Messenger* staff, produces a page devoted to a particular social action or social justice theme. We are always seeking information about your parish and the activities there to promote or to create social justice for the page. If you would like to see your activities featured in the *Messenger*, contact Glenn Leach or Loxi Hopkins, 563-324-1911, leach@davenportdiocese.org, or hopkins@davenportdiocese.org.

Faith Formation . . .

"Christ Reigns in Our Ministry," a retreat for youth ministry leaders will be held April 19-21 at Our Lady of the Prairie retreat center near Wheatland. Fr. Marty Goetz will be our retreat director. An invitation flier will be e-mailed to all parish youth ministry leaders.

June Institute: “Ministry 2.0: Embracing Technology to Share the Good News,” is the theme of our annual June Institute on June 11. A registration flier for this event is attached to this edition of the *Mini-Messenger*.

Catholics in Action, our annual diocesan youth service retreat, will be held June 28-30 at Clear Creek Amana High School. Parish groups from around our diocese will gather for three days of service, prayer, fun and growth. More information will be available soon at www.davenportdiocese.org.

A TEC (Teens Encounter Christ) Retreat will be held July 11-13. TEC is a 3-day retreat for high school juniors and seniors (college freshmen also are welcome) that focuses on the Paschal Mystery. Applications for youth participants will be emailed to all youth ministry leaders in the diocese, and will be available soon online at www.davenportyouth.org.

Christian Leadership Institute (CLI) is the premier training opportunity offered in Iowa for Catholic youth to learn leadership skills. It brings together youth from around the state for six days to learn how they can grow their God-given gifts for service to the Church. CLI participants return to their parishes to be more effective leaders. Information about CLI has been sent out to parish leaders and will be available online soon at www.davenportdiocese.org. A limited amount of scholarship funding also is available to youth interested in CLI. For more information, contact Pat Finan at finan@davenportdiocese.org.

Youth Ministry Dates:

- Retreat for youth ministry leaders, April 19-21, Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat Center
- Catholics in Action: June 28-30, home-base site at Clear Creek Amana High School
- TEC Retreat: July 11-13 at Sacred Heart Parish in Newton
- Christian Leadership Institute (Week 1): July 19-24 at Twin Lakes Christian Center, near Manson
- Christian Leadership Institute (Week 2): July 26-31, Christian Conference Center, Newton
- High School Youth Rally: Oct. 18, Coralville Marriott featuring ValLimar Jansen
- National Catholic Youth Conference: Nov. 19-21, 2009, Kansas City, MO

Marriage Preparation Weekends:

April 25-26: Williamsburg, St. Mary (registration deadline April 17)

Date is set → June 27-28: Sigourney, St. Mary (registration deadline June 19)

August 15-16: Newton, Sacred Heart (registration deadline August 7)

October 17-18: Muscatine, SS. Mary & Mathias (registration deadline October 9)

The registration form is on the diocesan website, www.davenportdiocese.org (Faith Formation Office, Marriage Preparation). Registration is \$125 per couple. For information about marriage preparation in our diocese or neighboring dioceses contact Barb Butterworth, 563-324-1912, ext. 265 or butterworth@davenportdiocese.org or IlaMae Hanisch.

Marriage Preparation-Sponsor Couple Training: If you would like to schedule a training session in your area or deanery contact IlaMae Hanisch, hanisch@davenportdiocese.org or 641-791-3435. This is for married couples who are currently a sponsor couple or couples wanting to begin this ministry.

Free Marriage Resource: Weekly “news bites” are available from *Family Matters*, a website designed by Susan Vogt. *A Marriage Moment and a Parenting Pointer* will be emailed each week and you have permission to include them in your parish bulletin or newsletter (giving the appropriate source information as a footnote) or have a link to them on your parish website. Sign up to receive these free news bites and other very useful family information on her web site, www.susanvogt.net. Susan has worked in diocesan family life education for the Catholic Church and been a consultant with the ecumenical Parenting for Peace and Justice Network for over 30 years. She is currently editor of the Journal of the National Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers (NACFLM) and content editor for the USCCB website on marriage, www.ForYourMarriage.org.

Training Sessions for Leaders of Parish Programs: Do you ever get this response when you ask someone to lead a discussion or study group in your parish, “I just don’t know enough or how to facilitate a group?” There are so many good resources and programs, but what is really needed is a facilitator. A two-session training program is being offered for people interested in leading small-groups (Book clubs, faith sharing groups, bible

study, Why Catholic?, Little Rock Scripture Study, etc.). To offer a training session in your deanery contact IlaMae Hanisch, 641-791-3435 or hanisch@davenportdiocese.org.

Ministry Formation Program (MFP): The offerings for the 2009-10 year are:

1) Year I Basic (of the two-year program):

Ecclesial Ministry/Ministries	Baptism	Eucharist	Confirmation
Anointing & Reconciliation	Holy Orders	Matrimony	Catholicism
Personal & Pastoral Themes for Ministry			

2) Catechetical Specialization. This specific ministry formation will be offered again this coming year as a review of the data from the parish catechetical leader surveys shows a number of Directors/Coordinators of Faith Formation and Coordinators of Youth Ministry need certification or updating of their credentials.

Fees for Year I of the basic MFP and the Catechetical Specialization courses will remain the same as this past year. A brochure for both of these 2009-10 programs, including dates and courses, will be available in late April or early May.

HOPE AND HEALING MINISTRIES®

Invitation for parish youth ministry: We would enjoy speaking with your youth and we also offer educational seminars for all interested groups. To schedule a visit or for information contact: 877-896-HOPE, 563-322-1645, or hopeandhealing@mchsi.com.

Hope and Healing Ministries is a ministry that offers healing retreats, toll-free hotline and counseling referrals to those (including family members) who are struggling with the emotional or spiritual pain of an abortion or sexual abuse. The retreats were created to help one experience the mercy, compassion, and love of God. The weekend also provides an opportunity to surface and release feelings of anger, shame, guilt and grief in a safe setting. The next scheduled retreats are July 24-26 and Nov. 20-22 both in Rock Island, IL.

SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL, DAVENPORT

The History of Sacred Heart Cathedral 2008 is now available to purchase for \$10. To order contact the parish office, davsacredheart@diodav.org, or 563-324-3257 or Mary at 563-326-2158.

CONTEMPLATIVE OUTREACH-EASTERN IOWA AREA

Upcoming events:

April 3-4: Spring Retreat, Our Lady of the Prairie, Wheatland
April 17-19: Deepening the Practice of Lectio Divina, Dubuque
Silent Saturdays: May 16, June 13, July 11, August 8, Humility of Mary Center, Davenport
Sept. 18-19: Fall Retreat, Our Lady of the Prairie, Wheatland

Support groups are located in Bettendorf, Blue Grass, Clinton, Davenport, Maquoketa. For information and questions regarding any of the above contact Lolita Dierickx, 563-285-7242.

MOBILITY EQUIPMENT FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

On April 24 and 25, Iowa Wheels for the World will be collecting wheelchairs and other mobility equipment to people with disabilities around the world. Manual wheelchairs, aluminum crutches and canes, foldable walkers and jogging strollers are being accepted. Cities in the diocese that collecting are: Burlington, Clinton, Coralville, Davenport, Fairfield, Fort Madison, Iowa City, North Liberty, North English, Oskaloosa, Ottumwa, Pella, Sigourney, Washington and West Liberty. For locations and times go to this link on the website of St. Ambrose University, www.sau.edu/pt and click on Iowa Wheels for the World under announcements.

To support the ministry of your parish, school and the diocese these groups automatically receive the *Mini-Messenger*:

Deacons	Diocesan Corporate Board	Youth Ministers	Pastoral Associates
Diocesan Liturgical Commission	Parishes	Parish Lay Directors	Sisters
Priests	Principals	Diocesan Board of Education	Bookkeepers
Diocesan Pastoral Council	Seminarians	Directors/Coordinators of Faith Formation	RCIA Parish Contacts
Diocesan Planning Commission			

Other interested persons are welcome to subscribe. If you have questions regarding your subscription contact Laurie Hoefling, hoefling@davenportdiocese.org.

ministry 2.0

embracing technology to spread the Good News

Thursday, June 11, 9:30a.m. – 3:30p.m.

@ Assumption High School, Davenport

Diocese of Davenport
2009 June Leadership Institute

How can we use tech to evangelize & teach?
What's the potential, and what are our limits?



Get these and other questions answered! We will explore:

- The prevalence and pervasiveness of technology today
- What makes today's learners unique
- Tools and sites you can use, plus sharing of best practices
- How we can help learners unplug

We will gather in the Assumption High library and have access to the adjoining computer lab for some hands-on learning.

Chris Weber will be our presenter.

He is director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry for the Muscatine Catholic Community. He presented workshops at the National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry in 2006 & 2008, has given deanery and parish workshops in our diocese, and blogs at www.2smallcoins.org



Registration deadline: May 29th

Cost: \$15 (includes registration and lunch)

For information, contact Barbara Butterworth butterworthb@davenportdiocese.org (563) 324-1912, ext. 265

Name:

Day Phone Number:

E-mail:

Parish/School:

Parish/School Town:

Make checks payable to Diocese of Davenport and return form and payment to:
Diocese of Davenport, attn. Barbara Butterworth, 2706 N. Gaines St., Davenport, IA 52804-1998



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