

The Sheaf

Dear Diocesan Member:

Diocesan Minister Called



Office of the Bishop

May 19, 2021

The Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota is pleased to announce the appointment of the Reverend Steven R. Godfrey as our new Diocesan Minister. Along with Bishop Provisional Ely and others he will be a part of the circle of leadership envisioned in the New Season of Ministry report adopted at the 2020 Diocesan Convention last fall. The hiring of Fr. Godfrey is the result of a three-month discernment process that included an interview team of six people from across the diocese led by Bishop Ely.

(Godfrey continued p. 2)

It is time to open our Diocesan Budget Making Process for the 2022 Budget.

For nearly all of our history as a Diocese, we have created balanced budgets that address our obligations and try to meet opportunity while remaining realistic to our income. Income is generated from Our Fair Share from the congregations, a few donations, realizing income from Reserve Funds, making a draw on our Investments, and the funding that comes from a General Convention Base Budget Grant.

Please use the attached form (p.3) to complete your budget request. If you are a Committee or Commission, please complete the request in consultation with the members of your group. Return it to finance@ndepiscopal.org.

/s/

Charlotte Peterson

Bishop Tom Ely

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(Godfrey continued from p. 1)

Since 2015, Fr. Godfrey has served as the Rector of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Des Moines, Iowa, as well as Diocesan Consultant and Missioner for Congregational Development in the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa. In our diocese, he will be developing collaborative ministries, encouraging new and renewed local leadership with a focus on small congregations without a resident priest. Believing that every community has the gifts for leadership, his role will be to support, encourage, resource, and connect "teams" to sha re the Good News of God.

In accepting the position, Fr. Godfrey said, "I am honored to be invited to serve as Diocesan Minister and very much looking forward to getting to know the people and places of the Diocese of North Dakota. Team-based collaborative ministry communities have been my focus and passion for many years now as I seek to support the vitality of local Episcopal churches. I am excited to partner with such brave and innovative leaders in creating ways to sustain the presence of the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement throughout North Dakota and Moorhead. You are at the forefront of figuring out how to be church in the 21st century and I can't wait to help."

The interview team was unanimous in their enthusiastic support for inviting Fr. Godfrey into this new ministry. Susan Owens, St. Paul's, Grand Forks



L to R: the Reverend Steven Godfrey and David Martin

observed, "Rev. Godfrey's past experience meshes nicely with the qualifications for the Diocesan Minister position. He is an excellent communicator, vibrant preacher and engaged listener. He is aware and sensitive to the histories of marginalized people." Fr. Jamie Parsley, St. Stephen's, Fargo, noted, "I am very excited that Fr. Steve has accepted the position of Diocesan Minister. I see this as a major step forward for our diocese. He brings a wealth of experience in ministry development to this unique, new role serving congregations across our diocese. I think Steve and Dave will be a blessing to our diocese in many ways." Robert Fox, St. Paul's, White Shield, commented, "Fr. Godfrey's life and ministry experiences will be a great benefit to our diocese along with his multicultural community building experience and commination skills."

Fr. Godfrey will begin his work among us July 20 and will be based in the Bismarck area. Please join me in welcoming Steve and his husband, Dave, as they join us in this new season of ministry in North Dakota. I look forward to working with Steve as a colleague who brings years of experience in the Episcopal Church, Ministry Development with congregations of different sizes and an enthusiasm for equipping leaders and congregations for deeper engagement in God's reconciling mission.

The Right Rev. Thomas C. Ely

Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota Bishop@NDEpiscopal.org

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THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NORTH DAKOTA

Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2022 (Please type or print)

(This form as a Word Document can be found on the Diocesan Website:

https://ndepiscopal.org
Administration — Finance — Budget Request 2022)

Administration Tinance Buaget Request 2022)
Program:
Chair/Contact:
Telephone:
Email:
INSTRUCTIONS:
Please complete and return to the Diocesan Treasurer no later than Monday, June 14, 2021. finance@ndepiscopal.org
1. Amount requested:
2. Program Proposal:
3. What other funding, i.e., congregational commitment, grants or other funds requested or anticipated:
4. Specifically, how does this proposal tie in with and support diocesan mission goals?
5. Summary of 2021 activities to date and those planned for the remainder of the year. Include outline of actual and anticipated expenditures:
6. Was diocesan funding received for this program in 2021 in the Diocesan Budget or the North Dakota Episcopal Foundation or the North Dakota Episcopal Foundation for Ministry in Higher Education?
7. If yes in #6, what was that amount?
8. Anticipated budget request for 2023:
This can be found as a Word Document @ https://ndepiscopal.org/documents-and-forms/finance/



The Right Rev. Thomas C. Ely, Bishop Provisional

Greetings to the people of the Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota (and beyond):

I am not sure when each of you will be reading this, some sooner than others no doubt. I write this article for this edition of The Sheaf, a few days after I have completed my fourth month as your Bishop Provisional and a few days before Ann and I leave for our first in-person visitation to North Dakota. I am very happy that I can finally start meeting many of you in person, rather than only on Zoom or Facebook, either in meetings or by watching your Sunday liturgies online. The months ahead will

find more opportunities as I begin the pattern of visitations to North Dakota one week each month.

This first week in North Dakota (May 17-24) will be full and busy, in the best sense of that word. I will visit or worship with eight congregations: St. Thomas, Fort Totten, Church of the Advent, Devils Lake, St. Stephen's Fargo, where I will dedicate their new organ, St. Paul's, Grand Forks, Gethsemane Cathedral, Fargo, where I will be "officially" seated as Bishop, St. John's, Moorhead, All Saints, Valley City and St. Mary and St. Mark, Oaks. In addition, the Diocesan Council will meet at Grace, Jamestown on May 22, and I will have several other meetings during the week. My June visitation will similarly take me to other parts of the diocese.

What excites me most about this upcoming visit and the ones to follow is the opportunity to meet folks and listen to your hopes and prospects about this new season of ministry in which we are engaged. I am encouraged by the involvement and commitment of so many people who are part of the local and diocesan leadership that is necessary if we are to accomplish the goals and engage the priorities named in the Diocesan Discernment Task Force Report (DDTF), which I like to call the New Season of Ministry Report. At its meeting on May 22, the Diocesan Council will be considering a set of goals focused on various DDTF priorities that will be our focus for this coming year. It is an ambitious and important set of goals that can help the Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota look to the future with hope and confidence. We will share that with you once it is adopted and hope that you will be part of accomplishing those goals.

I am also hopeful that as we are announcing the call of our Diocesan Minister and Office Administrator. The diocese is blessed by a very faithful and engaged team that is working on these two appointments. It is challenging and rewarding work, filled with many uncertainties and variables. I hope we have good news on both appointments soon, and if we are delayed for any reason then I have confidence that the Spirit is at work in our discernment and calling process. So, stay tuned!

One of the key priorities in the New Season of Ministry Report was to enhance our connections and communications across the diocese. An important step in that direction is our new database management system called REALM, which will help us establish a solid database for the diocese and provide an excellent platform for communication with committees and with the wider diocese. Stay tuned for more details and if you receive an invitation to activate your REALM profile, please do so.

Finally, I want to thank you for all you are doing to stay safe during the continuing reality of Covid. I appreciate how congregations are following the protocols established by our Covid-19 protocol team. Now is not the time to let down our guard but rather to strive for a safe return to the gatherings and connections we have missed for so many months. During my upcoming visitation we will continue to practice safe protocols, including wearing masks, social distancing, and other safety measures. While Ann and I are fully vaccinated and encourage you to do the same if you have not already done so, we know that our precautions are not just about protecting ourselves but about protecting others as well. Think, "love your neighbor as yourself!"

My heart and prayers go out to all who have experienced loss during this long, long season of Covidtide. I look forward to our times together this coming month and in the months ahead. May God continue to bless each of you in your various ministries at church and in your daily lives.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Gethsemane Cathedral begins Partnership with Growing Together ~ A Community Garden Ministry - Ericka Morlan

On Thursday April 15th, members of Gethsemane Cathedral and Growing Together Community Gardens in Fargo-Moorhead broke ground on a new garden project at the cathedral for people in the Fargo-Moorhead community.

Since the ground-breaking, there has been a flurry of activity. The gardens, located on the east side of the cathedral, have been staked, sod has been removed, and the ground has been tilled. May 4th was the first day volunteers gathered to begin the work of planting. Volunteers will meet every Tuesday from noon to 2:00 pm during the growing season. Produce from the garden will be shared by the volunteers, sold at a weekly community market, and given to food pantries and other

organizations that help feed the hungry in the community. During the summer, students from NDSU will be testing recipes in the Gethsemane kitchen using fresh garden produce to develop a Growing Together cookbook.

The work and ministry of Growing Together Community Gardens is "to create sustainable gardens in the community to address food insecurity by reaching out into the community, cultivating volunteers, mentors, and leaders who will uphold the core values of Growing Together with integrity and respect, honesty toward individuals, the community, and the earth." For information about Growing Together visit growingtogetherfm.org.

Gethsemane Cathedral is delighted to be partnering with Growing Together Community Gardens. This garden, named "Cathedral Grace Garden," is the seventh community garden in Fargo-Moorhead. The

goal is to have 80,000 square feet devoted to garden space by next year. Additional plans are in the works for a future orchard of fruit trees.

[pictures: Ground Breaking on the Cathedral Lawn / Tilled up Garden at the Cathedral / People Gathered for the Ground Breaking)





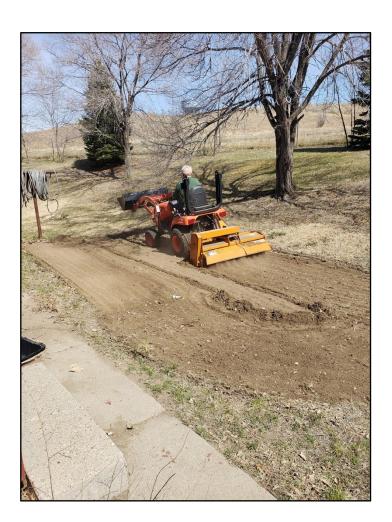


Creation Care On Standing Rock

Fr. John Floberg has tilled up more than twenty garden plots around the communities of Cannon Ball, Porcupine and Fort Yates. Some of the plots are new, some are expanded and others are tilling up the ground for this year's fresh planting. Tilling also included getting some ground ready for grass to be planted in the new Cannon Ball Pow Wow grounds.

The offer was made on Facebook for this free service to be provided to Standing Rock residents. Potatoes, corn, watermelon, beans, carrots and other vegetables will be planted, tended and harvested in the weeks and months ahead.





Make Your Plans Now To Attend

NDCIM Convocation June 26 & 27, 2021

Hosted By
The North Dakota Council on Indian Ministries

St. Sylvan's, St. Thomas, St. Paul's, St. James', St. Luke's, Church of the Cross

The Convocation will be held at St. Gabriel's on the Standing Rock Nation

Fellowship + Worship + Memorial Meal & Feed + Steps in Reconciliation + Lodging & Camping On Site + Lodging @ Prairie Knights Casino & Lodge

Schedules, Registration Forms, and more to follow on the diocesan web site: www.ndepiscopal.org and on Facebook -

The North
Dakota
Council on
Indian
Ministries

June 26 - 27, 2021

Haiti Update



Working together in Haiti: the North Dakota Episcopal Foundation and St. George's Episcopal Church

Dear ... gracious, generous, life-giving friends in North Dakota,

..... your gift of \$8,700 for Medical Lab equipment arrived yesterday. WHAT A GODSEND! I hope you can fathom the difference this will make for our patients and physicians. If you've not been to Haiti, you cannot imagine Port-au-Prince traffic and how long it takes to get anywhere. Families are saved from this now - not only finding another place for blood and urine analysis, but also the time and effort of getting there; and oh yes, the cost! You have made their oh-so-complicated lives easier; and for the dedicated physicians who work at the Clinic? You have enabled quicker diagnoses and therefore, quicker treatment. Your gift is truly a life-changer. Right out of the 25th Chapter of Matthew - for you have visited the sick - you "have done it unto one of the least of these." And there are no words adequate to express our thanks for that. May God bless you richly.

Gratefully, Elizabeth Lowell + St. Vincent's Trustee

The North Dakota Episcopal Foundation recently approved a grant application from the Haiti Outreach Committee for funds to purchase laboratory equipment for a medical lab at St. Vincent's Center for Children with Disabilities in Haiti (www.stvincentshaiti.org). Because the grant was for less than the total need, St. George's Episcopal Church drew on funds held for Haiti outreach and was able complete the request.

The wonderful communication included above clearly shows how meaningful this gift is.

This Center is one of two organizations in Haiti supported by the National Episcopal Church. It was founded in 1945 by the Episcopal Order of St. Margaret, which remains active in the US and Haiti today. St. Vincent's is known throughout Haiti as a place where children with physical disabilities are educated and cared for. The original school was destroyed in the 2010 earthquake, and the school has been rebuilt in a new location. The Medical Center and Brace Shop is still located in Port au Prince.

The Medical Center and Brace Shop offers pediatric, orthopedic, diagnostic and ophthalmic services to children up to age 15. Patients pay a minimal amount for all visits.

Without an on-site laboratory, patients that need blood or other diagnostic tests must leave the site, and seek these services elsewhere, later returning to the clinic. Try to imagine taking a child, perhaps in a wheelchair or on crutches, out into traffic-choked streets to find public transport, pay for the tests, and return. Having simple medical tests performed on-site will relieve families of this burden and allow the doctors to more efficiently treat their patients.

Happily, I can report that the laboratory is complete and functional as of January 4, 2021. I think the very rapid deployment of the funds provided from North Dakotans, in a place where doing anything is difficult, points to the urgency St. Vincent's felt about getting this facility done and in use!

Once the security and Covid situation improves and travel is possible, perhaps we can put together a trip to visit the school and lab and see some of this interesting country.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Andrea Stomberg at andrea.stomberg@yahoo.com

NDEF

FOUNDATION AWARDS GRANTS - Peter Halbach

At its March 2021 meeting, the Board of Trustees of the North Dakota Episcopal Foundation approved grants to support 3 Episcopal

Church congregations and ministries in its first round of this year's funding. NDEF encourages grant applications from congregations and affiliated Episcopal organizations in the Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota and may award grants for charitable, religious, literary, or educational purposes as may be undertaken, approved, or supported by the Diocese. The three recipients in the first grant cycle of this year are:

- St. Stephens Episcopal Church, Fargo, North Dakota, towards organ replacement - \$8,000
- St. John the Divine Episcopal Church, Moorhead, Minnesota, -\$2,400
- St. Gabriel's Episcopal Camp – towards remodeling of bath facilities - \$10,000

The trustees were much impressed by St. Stephen's own capital program in support of the replacement of its old organ, which fails at times. The vitality of hymn-singing and worship is one aspect of parish life mentioned by newcomers to the church. So this growing church could continue to enrich its services through its ministry of music it needed approximately \$19,000 for the lower cost option, considered the best value for its money. St. Stephen's dedicated itself to raising the majority, \$11,000, through its campaign. Combined with the NDEF grant of \$8,000, it will once again equip itself with a reliable new organ so its music ministry can fully continue, even on occasions when an organist is unavailable.

In support of its Sudanese Ministry, the St. John the Divine sought a grant to assist an educational project, entitled "Equipping the Next Generation of Leaders." The purpose of project is to equip lay leaders, Mothers Union, and Young Emerging Leaders who are currently serving in the Sudanese Ministry. The training will focus on transformational leadership in preparing youth as future church leaders. The \$2,400 grant will defray the cost of presenters for the weekly training via Zoom over a period of six months. The Sudanese Ministry is covering the cost of needed materials.

For 25 years, St. Gabriel's Camp has been home to several hundred students on the Standing Rock Reservation. St. Gabriel's Camp reaches around 40 youth in grades six to grade twelve or ages 11-18 at each of the camps it offers during the summer. The camp has also welcomed mission and work groups to do projects around the camp and to strengthen their own ministries at their home churches. Bishop Ely reported to the trustees that St. Gabriel's is engaged in a great

deal of work on its grounds and buildings. At present, the remodeling the bath facilities is a high priority, at a time of rising construction costs, including for lumber. The \$10,000 NDEF grant will help address this priority, while freeing resources to address other goals, such as the completion of the new lodge, a place to welcome any group wishing to visit and learn more about cross-cultural ministry.

Members of the Board are: Andrea Stomberg, St. George's Bismarck, President; George Abdilnour, St. Peter's Williston, Vice President and Secretary; John Baird, St. Stephen's, Fargo, Treasurer; Beth Lipp, St. George's, Bismarck; Bart Davis, Grace Church, Jamestown; Amy Oksa, St. John's, Dickinson; Peter Halbach, Advent, Devils Lake; and Bishop Provisional Thomas Ely, ex-officio. The application deadline for the second 2021 grant cycle is September 2, 2021.

Information and application forms are available at https://ndepiscopal.org/about/ministries/north-dakota-episcopal-foundation/, or simply search for the North Dakota Episcopal Foundation or go to the Diocesan web site. The application is not lengthy, and the Foundation trustees are interested in what YOU are interested in supporting to advance God's work at your church, in our country or in the world.

UTO

The United Thank Offering Announces COVID-19 Grant Awards

North Dakota to receive UTO Grant to respond to COVID-19

Fargo—April, 2021 — The United Thank Offering announced the grant recipients for the Spring 2021 granting cycle, and we are excited to share that the Diocese of North Dakota will receive funding for Memorial Feeds - Feeding Recovery from Covid-19. The focus of the granting process this year was 'Recovering with Love and Gratitude: An Episcopal Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic in Local Contexts.'

This year of Covid-tide has hit Native American communities hard. Most every family has experienced the death of a close family member. At the same time, due to Covid-19 Protocols, those families were unable to Feeds and Giveaways were not able to be held in typical ways and thereby making it difficult for families to process their grief. This grant will help several families in each our congregation

"Choosing which grant applications to fund and not fund is always difficult, but during this extraordinary time of suffering in the global Covid-19 pandemic we had to prioritize mere survival over thriving. As always, if we'd had more money to grant, we would have been delighted to fund more the excellent grant projects submitted, so please continue to be thankful and make your thank offerings to UTO." Shared Sherri Dietrich, UTO Board President.

Food will be provided to families in the church and in the communities on the Reservations in North Dakota. The food will be given for Feeds and Memorials in the months ahead and distributed through NDCIM to its congregations the Convocation and upcoming camps at St. Gabriel's.

United Thank Offering Funding

Every penny given to the United Thank Offering is given away the following year to support innovative mission and ministry in the Episcopal Church. Through the gratitude and generosity of those who contributed through Blue Box donations, UTO awarded over \$400,000 in grants during the second round of grants to address the pandemic.

The North Dakota Council on Indian Ministries (NDCIM) applied for and received a \$17,000 UTO Grant. It will be divided between the Six NDCIM Congregations, Convocation and St. Gabriel's Camp where the funds will be used to help provide memorials and feeds for those who have died during Covid-Tide. The traditions surrounding funerals, which aid in grieving, were abruptly changed from the spring of 2020 until the present. These funds will help provide times of fellowship that aid families in their grieving process.

The United Thank Offering (UTO) is a ministry of The Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. Through UTO, individuals are invited to embrace and deepen a personal daily spiritual discipline of gratitude. UTO encourages people to notice the good things that happen each day, give thanks to God for those blessings and make an offering for each blessing using a UTO Blue Box. UTO is entrusted to receive the offerings, and to distribute the 100% of what is collected to support innovative mission and ministry throughout The Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion.

For more information on the UTO call or write:
The Rev. Canon Heather Melton - Staff Officer, The United Thank Offering
917.771.3366 - https://www.episcopalchurch.org/united-thank-offering

Camping Dates Set for St. Gabriel's

These Sessions are for Rising Middle
School through Senior High
\$25.00 Registration Fee Per Camper
St. Gabriel's accommodates 50
Campers and Staff at each session

Tubing, Hiking, Campfires, Swimming, Group Games, Free Time, Worship, Club Talks, Star Gazing, Chapel, Singing, Fishing, Making new friendships



June 14 - 17

Starting at 4 pm

Monday and completing after lunch on

Thursday

July 12 - 14

Diocesan Camp - Starting at 4 pm on Monday and completing after lunch on Thursday August 2 - 5

Starting at 4 pm on Monday and completing after lunch on the Thursday

Contact Fr. John Floberg

jffloberg@gmail.com

for a release form to be filled out and signed by a legal guardian

What to bring:

Swim wear, Bedding/Sleeping Bag, Changes of cloths for hot and cold weather, some canteen money for some pop, candy or flavored coffee, sunscreen, fishing equipment (optional) | Covid masks and bug spray is provided.

<u>A Rapid Covid Test will be administered as the Campers arrive.</u>

What not to bring:

electronic devices, anything that requires the user to be 21 and over, fireworks

The Episcopal Foundation for Ministry in Higher Education

SCHOLARSHIPS

Episcopal Foundation for Ministry in Higher Education (EFMHE)

With your EFMHE scholarship, the Episcopal Church helps you finance your education. By participating in an Episcopal church in your college community, you become part of a supportive community as well as give back to the church. For several decades both students and churches have mutually benefited from this college-and-church program. The EFMHE is offering three levels of scholarships, ranging from \$500 to \$1,000 per semester, depending on your level of time commitment.

Levels of Support

Three levels of support are available. Applicants are to specify the level of support they are seeking when they apply for EFMHE money. Students can receive a lower level of support than the one for which they applied, but not a higher level. The level of continuing support received by a student (either the level specified in the application or a lower level) will depend upon the report form filled out by an official of the receiving church.

Level One

At Level One, students receive \$500 per semester (or 1/2 of the academic year) for a total of \$1,000 for the academic year. In order to receive Level One support a student must attend the nearest Episcopal church for 70% of the Sundays during each semester (or trimester). A part-time student must be enrolled for a minimum of six hours, and would receive half the Level One support.

For application, visit: www.ndepiscopal.org/ministries

Level Two

At Level Two, students receive \$750 per semester (or 1/2 of the academic year) for a total of \$1,500 for the academic year. To receive Level Two support, a student must attend church for 70% of the Sundays during each semester and volunteer for at least three special events. These events could be field trips, Bible study sessions, home fellowship meetings, child care for special occasions, cleaning, serving at funerals or weddings, lectorships, acolyting, special music or the like. A part-time student must be enrolled for a minimum of six hours, and would receive half the Level Two support.

Eligibility

Students accepted at two- or four-year colleges, universities, or trade schools are eligible. The awards are for undergraduate degrees only. Students do not have to be lifelong Episcopalians but must be active in an Episcopal church while attending college or a university. EFMHE support is for any student who meets criteria A, B, or C as follows: those who attend North Dakota Episcopal Diocese churches; those who are members of North Dakota Episcopal Churches outside of North Dakota; or those from out of state who attend North Dakota Episcopal Diocese churches while in college.

Level Three

At Level Three, students receive \$1,000 per semester (or 1/2 of the academic year) for a total of \$2,000 for the academic year. To receive Level Three support, a student must attend 70% of Sunday services per semester and provide regular volunteer (unpaid) service to the church. Regular service is defined as engaging in sanctioned activities at an Episcopal Church, which require attendance (other than at Sunday services) on at least 10 occasions. The following activities would qualify: choir, vestry, groundskeeping, secretarial office volunteer, or Sunday school. Applicants for summer school are asked to send the board a proposal, stating how they might serve a church during the summer. Some of the above suggested activities might be modified, or you might propose an alternative way of serving. A part-time student must be enrolled for a minimum of six hours and would receive half the Level Three support.



Diocesan Calendar – God Giveth The Increase

Mav

Bishop Ely's Schedule

17 - Arrival into Fargo

18 - lunch @ Ft Totten, later meeting @ Advent, Devils Lake;

19 – AM leadership meeting @ St. John's, Moorhead, noon meeting with 5 Rectors @ the Cathedral, evening worship @ St Stephen's, Fargo:

20 - Lunch with ELCA ND Synod bishop, later Evensong @ St Paul's, Grand Forks;

21 - Visit to Oakes & Valley City

22 – Diocesan Council meets 10-3 @ Grace & via zoom;

23 - AM 10:00 worship including seating of a bishop @ Gethsemane, 2PM worship @ St John's, Moorhead;

24 - Flying Out

June

14 - 17 - St. Gabriel's Camp Reopens for Middle and High School Youth24 through 27 - NDCIM Convocation on Standing Rock

July

12 - 14 - St. Gabriel's Camp is Open for Middle and High School Youth

August

2 - 5 St. Gabriel's Camp is Open for Middle and High School Youth

Congregations wishing to arrange virtual visitations for worship and/or conversation should contact Bishop Ely directly at bishop@ndepiscopal.org