



Episcopal  
Diocese of  
Northern  
California

# ENews

News from the Diocese and Wider Church

December 14, 2021

## News from the Wider Church



### Episcopalians join communities responding to deadly, destructive tornadoes in central US

BY DAVID PAULSEN  
Posted Dec 13, 2021

[Episcopal News Service] Episcopal leaders and church members are working with their communities to provide disaster relief and assistance to areas affected by the powerful storm system overnight Dec. 10 that produced deadly and destructive tornadoes across a wide swath of the central United States.

Communities in western Kentucky were among the hardest hit. At least 64 people there were killed in the storms, Gov. Andy Beshear said in an update on Dec. 13, and more deaths were reported from the tornadoes that ripped through parts of Arkansas, Illinois, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee.

The Diocese of Kentucky, based in Louisville, announced on Facebook that it was working with Episcopal Relief & Development and the staff of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry to coordinate assistance to those impacted by the storms. Episcopal Relief & Development is accepting donations online.

[Read more](#)

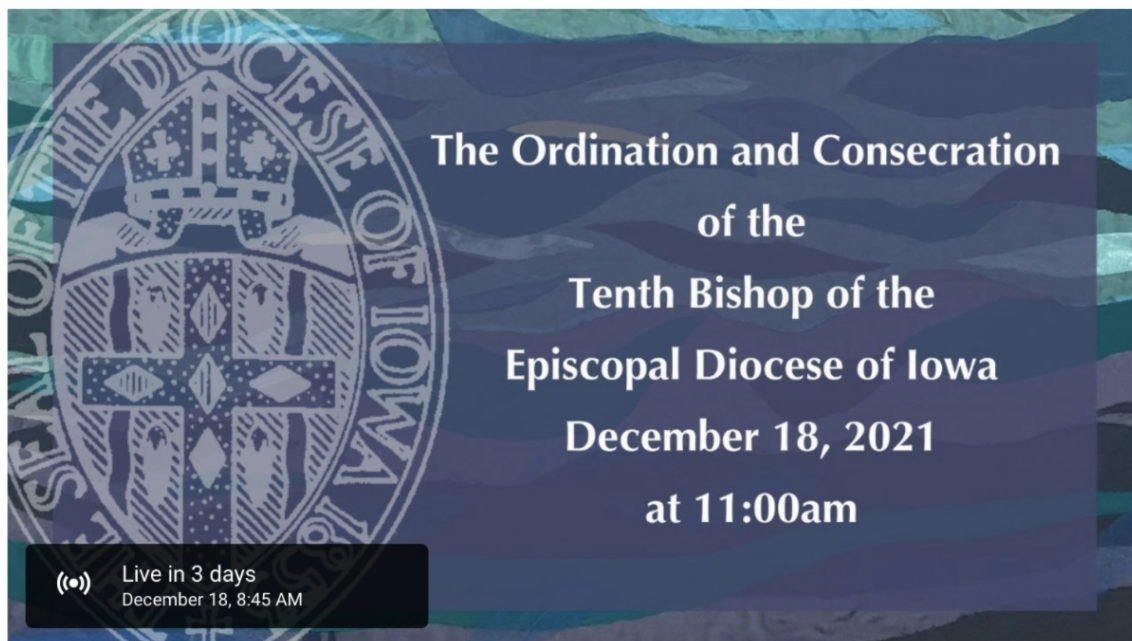
Here are links to give directly to support disaster relief:

Diocese of Kentucky <https://episcopalky.wufoo.com/forms/znwk9cz1cslzfg/>

Episcopal Relief & Development <https://www.episcopalrelief.org/what-you-can-do/give/donate-now/individual-donation/>

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## Witness the Ordination and Consecration of The Rev. Betsey Monnot as the Bishop of Iowa!



Tune in **Saturday, December 18 at 9am** (PST) to watch the livestream of our very own Betsey Monnot's consecration as the first woman bishop of Iowa!

Bishop Megan will be there to join in consecrating Betsey and to present the pectoral cross, a gift made possible by the generosity of members in our diocese.

Click here to watch live: <https://youtu.be/N2-5hWtv7XE>

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### Office of the Bishop

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## Dates and Location for 2022 Convention Set

The 112th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Northern California will take place *in person* **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21 – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2022** at the Redding Civic Auditorium. The **DEANERY CONVOCATION** will be held via zoom on **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17.**

The 2022 convention will be about two weeks earlier than usual, due to availability of the venue. As a result, deadlines for registration, nominations and resolutions will be adjusted. A calendar of key dates will be available mid January, 2022.

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## Trinity Cathedral

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### A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols Saturday, December 18, 2021 at 7:30 pm

Please join the Trinity Cathedral Choir and Cathedral Handbell Ringers for our traditional service of Lessons and Carols.

**The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols** is a service celebrating the birth of Jesus, which is traditionally followed at Christmas. The story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus is told in nine short Bible readings, interspersed with the singing of carols, anthems, and hymns. The service was originally designed by the Reverend Eric Milner-White, and has become known worldwide through the broadcasts from the Chapel of King's College, Cambridge, England.



An offering will be taken to benefit the River City Food bank, and all are invited to join us in-person or via [Facebook livestream](#)

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### **Difficult Words of Jesus: An Advent Study**

Bud Swank will lead a conversational Zoom class on **Tuesdays at 1:00 pm** during Advent. We'll prepare ourselves to welcome the Christ Child by thinking together about some of the hard-to-understand teachings of the grown-up Jesus.

Each session will launch with some thoughts from *The Difficult Words of Jesus: A beginner's guide to his most perplexing teachings* by Amy-Jill Levine; from there we'll go wherever the discussion leads us.

- **December 21** | *Did Jesus teach us to hate "the Jews"?*

Please email [shotchkiss@trinitycathedral.org](mailto:shotchkiss@trinitycathedral.org) to register.

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### **Thursday Night at the Cathedral - Advent 2021**

**7:00 – 8:30 pm**

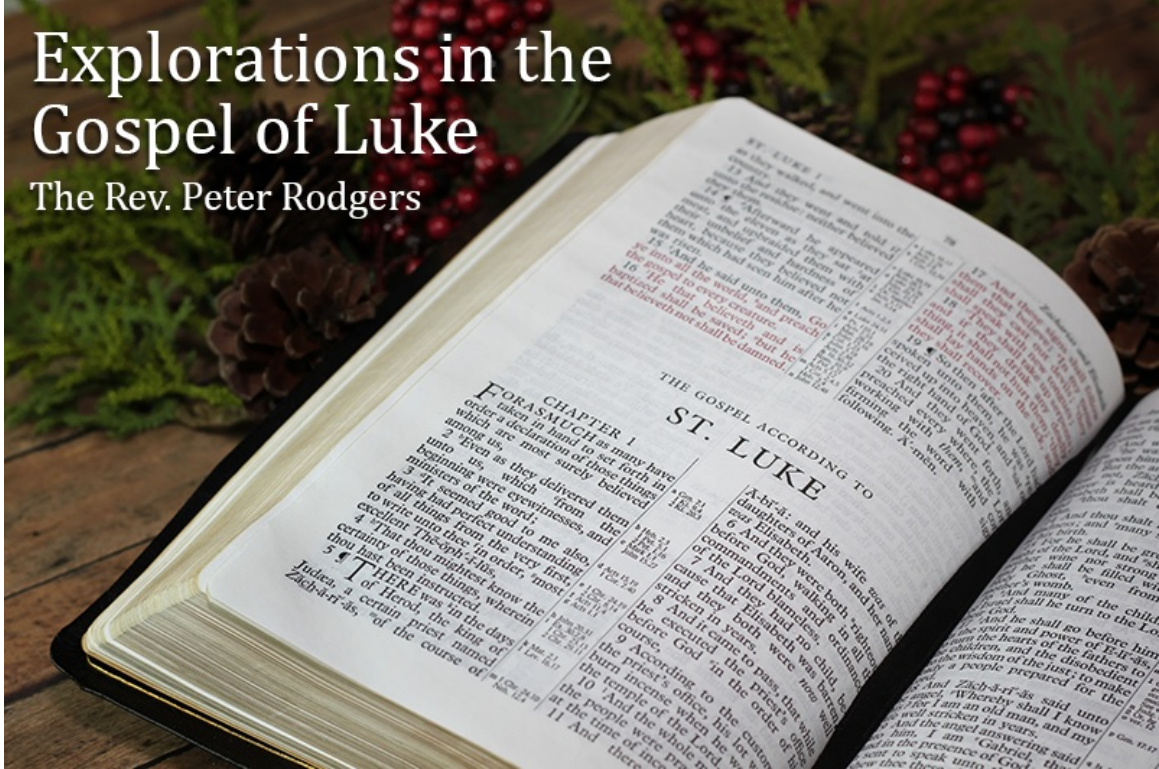
- **December 16** – Join a Trinity Cathedral tradition for all ages *in person*. Singing of carols and viewing of "A Christmas Carol" in the Assembly Area with popcorn, hot chocolate and other treats.
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**Spiritual Formation**

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# Explorations in the Gospel of Luke

The Rev. Peter Rodgers



**Advent 4, December 19, 2021**

**Luke 1:46-55, *The Magnificat*, “My soul magnifies the Lord...”**

The Song of Mary, which is the first canticle of our Evensong service, is remarkably rich in theology and devotion. One of the most striking features of this song is how fully it quotes from the Old Testament. Not only is it similar to the *Song of Hannah* (1 Samuel 2) but it freely quotes or alludes to the Old Testament.

John Stott noted that in the Greek New Testament out of one hundred and two words, sixty-one are taken from the Old Testament. This means that about sixty percent of the canticle is made up of phrases taken from the Old Testament. It is clear that Mary was steeped in Scripture. But she not only knew the scripture, she also knew and loved the God of scripture. Her praise of God emphasized especially that that God comes to the rescue (*God my savior*, Luke 1:46) that God lifts the lowly (*He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted the lowly* Luke 1:52) and that he is faithful to his promise (*According to the promise he made to our ancestors...Luke 1:55*).

But Mary’s song is not just *about* God; it is a song of praise to God. Thus she reminds us the most important thing God’s people do is to worship God.

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## Job Opportunities Around the Diocese

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**St. Michael’s | Carmichael** is seeking an Assistant/Associate Priest. Read the job announcement [here](#).

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**St. Patrick’s | Kenwood** is seeking an organist/pianist. Click [here](#) for more information.

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**St. Paul’s | Sacramento** is seeking a **Music Director**. Read the job announcement [here](#).

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St. Paul's | Benicia is seeking a **Contemporary Music Leader**  
For more information, click [here](#).

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## Commission for Intercultural Ministries

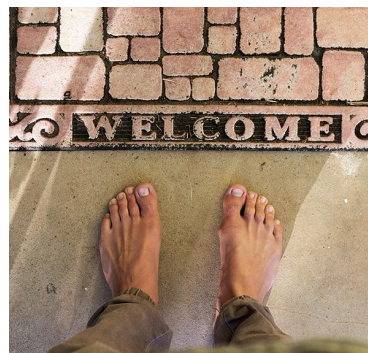
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### AFGHAN RESETTLEMENT UPDATE

#### Sharing our Blessings

Advent finds our local Afghan Community growing steadily everyday. Some individuals and families arrive not knowing anyone, while others are celebrating reunions with beloved family members. How can we add to our new neighbors' relief and joy?

There are many ways to share our blessings this Holiday season. Consider adding a [Winter Welcome Kit](#) or [Economic Empowerment Kit](#) to your Christmas shopping list. These kits will provide much needed goods for the cold and rain and the basic equipment needed to find a job and begin working.

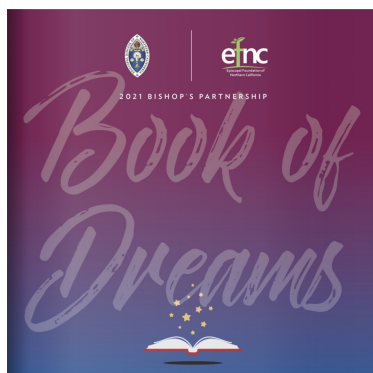


Click [here](#) for the latest **Ways to Help** flyer.

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## Episcopal Foundation

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### The 2021 Bishop's Partnership Appeal is off to a great start!

So far, **nearly \$16,000** has been given to ministries in the Bishop's Partnership Appeal Book of Dreams. We are ahead of last year's amount raised at the same time last year!

Click [here](#) to view the book and learn more about how to donate to these projects.

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## Episcopal Relief & Development

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### Give before the end of 2021 and double the impact!

Episcopal Relief & Development has announced that all donations until the end of the year will be doubled, thanks to the generosity of a group of donors. The matching funds will apply to **Gifts for Life** selections and **One Thousand Days of Love** selections. The matching funds will be sent to the global fund.



**ONE THOUSAND  
DAYS OF LOVE** ♥

To donate or learn more, visit:

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## Diocesan Commissions | Committees | Ministries

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[Commission for Intercultural Ministries](#)

[Commission on Ministry](#)

[Christian Formation Committee](#)

[Episcopal Community Services](#)

[Ministries of Health Committee](#)

[Investment Fund Committee](#)

[Disaster Preparedness](#)

[Recovery Ministries](#)

[Episcopal Foundation of Northern California](#)

[Center for Bible Study](#)

The *ENews* is published weekly on Tuesdays.  
To submit news/events, please email  
[communications@norcalepiscopal.org](mailto:communications@norcalepiscopal.org) by Wednesday  
of the prior week

[Submit a Calendar Event](#)

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*Making Disciples, Raising Up Saints & Transforming Communities for Christ*

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