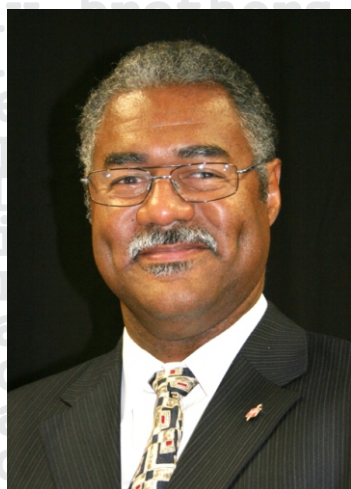




FALL STATEWIDE GATHERING

**Saturday, October 25
10:00 AM**



Can Christ be divided?

**Bishop Julius Trimble
Iowa Annual Conference**

addresses issues
that divide
United Methodists
and the potential
for schism

**Aldersgate United Methodist Church
3600 75th St., Urbandale, IA 50322**

Lunch will be prepared by the Youth Group for a free will offering, with the proceeds going to the fund for their annual trip to Appalachia Service Project.

FALL REGIONAL GATHERINGS

**Putting Your Money
Where Your Mouth Is:
Moral Divesting;
Impacting
Israel/Palestine**

Dates & Locations:

Sunday, September 28
2:30 PM
Polk City UMC, 1421 W.
Broadway, Polk City

Saturday, October 4
10:00 AM
First UMC, 214 E.
Jefferson, Iowa City

Saturday, November 1
2:00 PM
HomePlace, between
Clinton and Quad Cities

Saturday, November 8
10:00 AM
Hope UMC, 2203 S. 3rd
Ave., Marshalltown



A KAIROS MOMENT

By Christine Anders, Eloise Cranke and Darrell Mitchell, First UMC Des Moines

A KAIROS MOMENT: "Walking with Palestinian Christians" was the title and theme of a recent Conference, sponsored by the General Board of Global Ministries and the Ginghamburg UMC, in Tipp City, Ohio. About 250 United Methodists from annual conferences across the United States, including eight persons from Iowa, attended.

Many speakers spoke of the suffering of the Palestinian people as a result of the occupation and the blockade, and cited those things as the primary obstacles for achieving true peace. While everyone longs for an end to the violence, a cease fire is only the beginning step toward justice for the Palestinian people. Some called this a Kairos Moment, the present moment, a time to act for justice.

Several speakers emphasized the importance of the BDS (Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions) Movement as the most effective nonviolent way to work for peace in Palestine. This would be similar to the action our UMC took in South Africa that helped to bring about an end to the apartheid there. (read more online...)

The Driving Power of a Great Ideal
by David Osterberg

What makes people march for eight months across the United States — 15 miles most days in all sorts of weather? It must be the driving power of a great ideal.

I spent two weeks with my friend Ed Fallon and the crew of the Great March for Climate Action. I started in Omaha and finished in Des Moines. I spent hours talking and walking with people, each with a reason to make a statement that climate change is upon us and action is necessary.

All the marchers hope to show Americans they must support great changes in policy to confront the global warming that is destroying species, ruining habitats and making a new, worse and disruptive climate. Each person had her or his story.

When Ed Fallon asked about making a journey across the nation to make people think about the changes we are making to the atmosphere, I said, "Great idea."

It is a great idea but it is no small task. Marchers are awakened at 4:30 a.m. to start their day and are on the trail by 6 a.m. Their support equipment consists of a big gear truck, a smaller kitchen truck, a trailer that holds solar panels to charge everyone's cell phones and computers, and a trailer carrying composting toilets. The toilet truck and a few other vehicles, which carry bikes and just a lot of stuff, also can be used as sag wagons for those having a hard time with the day's walk.

The climate march is rich with personal stories, and connections that you could not make otherwise. After one hard day of marching along gravel roads in Southern Iowa, I set up my tent in the Cumberland city park and walked a few blocks to see what the small town had to offer.

Continued on mfasiowa.org...read more online

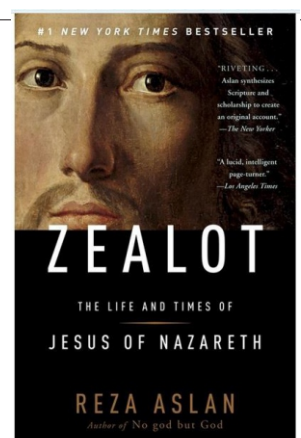


Interfaith Prayer Service for Peace - Sunday, Oct. 19
Tiokasin Ghosthorse, Keynote Speaker

4:00 PM Intentional Eucharistic Community 3300 University Ave, Des Moines. Ghosthorse will connect concerns for peace and the environment/creations. Attendees will pray for and strengthen their resolve to end war through nonviolent solutions. MFSa is a co-sponsor.

The Jesus Seminar on the Road - November 14-15 at Grace United Methodist Church, 3700 Cottage Grove Av., Des Moines

The recent book by Reza Aslan (*Zealot: The Life & Times of Jesus of Nazareth*) once again raises the question of Jesus' agenda. Was Jesus a religious zealot eager for the fierce judgment of God to burn away injustice and oppression? Or was he dedicated to uplifting God's people with the tools of service and compassion? Bernard Brandon Scott (Darbeth Distinguished Professor of New Testament at the Phillips Theological Seminary, Tulsa, Oklahoma) and Perry Kea (Associate Professor of biblical studies and Chairperson of the Philosophy and Religion Department at the University of Indianapolis, Indiana) will lead this seminar examining Jesus' message and ministry in relationship to Roman imperialism, the divide between rich and poor in Judean society, and the leaders in Jerusalem.



Some Thoughts on Why I was Arrested
by the Rev. Brian Carter

After days of prayerful discernment, seeking God's guidance, and considering the example of our Bishop Julius Trimble, and the call for action from a Trinity United Methodist friend Wendy—who had been in prayer with me and others for months at Rep. Latham's office—I decided I could no longer stand by and do nothing while many immigrants to our dear land have seen their families torn apart by a harmful immigration system and by President Obama who has directed the deportation of two million immigrants during his term of office. John Wesley directed his new Christians who were called "Methodists" to first, Do No Harm. And by standing by while millions were being deported, I was doing harm to millions of families.

As Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. so wisely proclaimed, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." Our immigration system is unjust.

I had never broken the law—except traffic tickets.

Continued on mfasiowa.org...read more online

Help the Children:

UMCOR is working to respond to the needs of the immigrant children on the border in a way that maintains their dignity; they have already responded by providing emergency funds to the episcopal areas along the border. To help, you may give to the "US Disaster Response Advance #901670," with a designation on the check "For Children at the Border." Give through your local church, or send to the Louisiana Annual Conference, 527 North Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70802.



Faith, Food and Climate Workshops:

One third of the world's greenhouse gas emissions are connected in some way to our food system. These workshops are exploring these connections and how we can be part of the solution. Registration is \$35.00 and includes lunch. The last workshop is Saturday, Sept. 27, 10:00 -2:00 PM at Baker Commons, Luther College, 700 College Drive, Decorah.