



MFSA IOWA CHAPTER MEMO

Eloise Cranke, Iowa Chapter Coordinator www.mfsaiowa.org

OCTOBER 2021

It's easy to be overwhelmed. So many things need our attention and action. Too many meetings to attend. Too many books to read. Too many webinars to see and hear. Too many issues that must be addressed. When I begin to feel like giving up, I remember a poem by Edward Everett Hale:

*I am only one, but I am **one**.*

*I cannot do everything, but I can do **something**.*

*And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I **can** do.*

Joy and peace as you continue the struggle! *Eloise*

MFSA Fall Statewide Gathering – Saturday, October 30

We are excited that the presenter for our Fall Statewide Gathering will be the **Rev. Dr. Jacqueline Thompson!** Her keynote address is **“Stand Up and Speak Out: Moving from Silent Non-racist to Brave Anti-racist.”** Social Action Awards will be presented at that time. The recipients are **Kate Milligan and the Rev. Alejandro Alfaro-Santiz.** There will also be election of officers for 2022. The Gathering will be held at **Walnut Hills UMC, 12321 Hickman, in Urbandale from 9:30-Noon.** Please wear a mask. A virtual option will also be available. Watch for a link in the October Mid-Month Update, and on our web page and Facebook page.

National “Call to Action: A Day of Atonement”

Places of worship around the nation are calling for a day of atonement for 20 years of war and terror against the people of Afghanistan, Iraq and elsewhere on **Thursday, October 7th, 11:00 AM, on the front steps of St. Ambrose Cathedral, 8th and High Street in Des Moines.** You are invited to join the hour-long witness.

Climate Solutions 101

Project Drawdown is presenting this video series with information and insights leading toward a brighter climate reality. Remaining series are **1:30- 2:30 on Sundays, October 10, 24 and November 7.** In-person sessions are at **Trinity Presbyterian Church, 200 S. Howard, Indianola.** Masks encouraged. A Zoom option is available from: heidemanron@gmail.com.

Virtual Racial Wealth Gap Simulation

Bread for the World through the Center for Social Ministry is hosting this Simulation on **Thursday, October 14 at 6:00 PM.** It will guide participant to and understanding of why racial equity is so important to ending hunger and poverty in the U.S. Register here: <https://csm.coursestorm.com/course/racial-wealth-gap-learning-simulation-with-bread-for-the-world>

Called to Climate Action 2021: Awe-Inspiring World

Iowa Interfaith Power and Light is hosting this virtual event on **Saturday, October 16, at 10:00 AM.** Keynote speaker is KCCI's Chief Meteorologist, **Chris Gloninger,** followed by a response panel. Iowa college student leaders, who organized the event will share IIPL's 2021/2022 faith statement. Register and learn more at: <https://iowaip.org/2021/09/03/called-to-climate-action-2021/>



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MLK Freedom Bus Tour 2021!

October is the deadline for this week-long journey exploring iconic human and civil rights spaces in Memphis, Birmingham, Montgomery and Selma. Dates are **November 8-12**, starting from Allen College in Waterloo where participants may leave their cars for the week. Cost \$399, send checks or money orders to: MLK New Jerusalem - Waterloo Commission on Human Rights, 620 Mulberry St, Waterloo, IA 50703.

Payment deadline: October 15. Contact Rev. Abraham Funchess: Abraham.funchess@waterloo-ia.org or 319-291-4441. [Link to online Bus Tour flyer](#)

Children of Abraham

The topic for **October 21 at 7:00 PM** is **“Medicine and Healing.”** The meeting will be held at **Emmaus Bible College**, 2570 Asbury Rd., Dubuque.

“The American Dream”

This Art Show features the personal effects and belonging of people apprehended in the desert by W.S. Border Patrol agents that were confiscated and subsequently discarded. The artist, om Keifer, saw this as cruel, and wanted to sow his respect for the people who carried them across the desert. The exhibit can be seen through the month of **October, at Plymouth Church**, on Ingersoll and 42nd Street, **Des Moines**. The hours are Monday – Friday 9:00 – 4:00. Enter on the west side and ring the bell. Tell them you’re there to see the art exhibit. Masks are required.

CPM Seeks Director

CPM (Catholic Peace Ministry) is an independent, faith-based, grass-roots peace and justice group based in Des Moines, whose mission is to help individuals and congregations answer God’s call for us to be “Instruments of Peace,” in our world. (Note: MFSA often partners with CPM in peace and justice efforts.) They are seeking a director to work half-time, with flexible hours. For more info: Kathleen McQuillen (kathleenmcquillen@gmail.com; 515-710-9902) or Steve Gude, (smgude@gmail.com; 515-778-4195).

Shut Down DM’s Drone Command Center

Weekly vigils continue to be held on **Saturdays, at 4:00 PM**, at the **Air National Guard Drone Command Center**, 3100 McKinley Ave. in Des Moines. Contact Ed Bloomer at 515-305-5591 or Frank Cordaro at: 515-490-2590 or: frank.cordaro@gmail.com

Recurring Notes, Peace Vigils & Walks – [information is found on mfsaiowa.org/memo](http://mfsaiowa.org/memo)

Please Send Information:

We want to publicize **events around the state** that might be of interest to MFSA folk. Please send information about events in your area by the last week of each month for the next month’s E-Mail Memo. You can contact me at: ecranke@mchsi.com

Questions about Membership or Contributions?

Contact Mike Biklen at 515 East Eleventh St., Muscatine, IA 52761 or by phone at: 563-263-1439, or by e-mail at: wmbiklen@hotmail.com. Contributions can be mailed to Mike or given through PayPal on MFSA’s website and linked here: [PayPal donation link](#)