OFFICE CLOSING
The Diocese will be closed December 23- January 1. The Catholic Messenger will be closed December 23-25 with limited hours the week of Dec. 28. Normal business hours resume Monday, January 4.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS
Deacon M. Anthony Mouzon: 1155 Iowa Ave., Muscatine 52761-3365
Deacon John Weber: 2233 Hogan Ct. N, Bettendorf 52722-1412

THE YEAR OF MERCY
December 8, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, begins the Year of Mercy. There is a wealth of information available on the diocesan website, http://www.davenportdiocese.org/YearOfMercy.htm. It includes events hosted by the Diocese, deaneries, and individual parishes. There are six pilgrimage sites in the diocese, one in each deanery; printable prayer cards with the Year of Mercy prayer on one side and the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy on the other side; and resources for parish faith-sharing groups including Movies of Mercy suggestions. The webpage is updated frequently, so please check back often. For information or questions contact Deacon Frank Agnoli, agnoli@davenportdiocese.org or 563-888-4257.

STEWARDSHIP OFFICE
Best Practices in Parish Stewardship—Tips from the Diocesan Stewardship Commission to effectively promote stewardship in the local community.

- Regularly publish stewardship reflections and clip art in the bulletin or newsletter. Visit the International Catholic Stewardship Council webpage, www.catholicstewardship.org for helpful suggestions from a number of sources. (Click on Resources & Publications/Parish Resources/Bulletin) A parish e-newsletter is also available at this site on the home page. Content may be reproduced in your local publication.

SOCIAL ACTION OFFICE
Shop Fair Trade this Holiday Season: Fair Trade supports farmers and craftspeople in developing countries who are socially and economically marginalized. Fair Trade is about making an impact on artisan and farmer communities while offering great products to the public. Go to http://www.serrv.org/?gclid=CNP-3rLqICFW5o7Aod8jAAmg. If your parish is interested in hosting a sale for the holidays and needs assistance please contact Lori Ferris at guerrero@davenportdiocese.org.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) Collection: Thank you for participating in this year’s collection. Your generous support will give those in poverty the support they need to make lasting changes. If you missed the collection, it isn’t too late to make your donation. Make your check payable to the Diocese of Davenport and marked CCHD Collection. You may submit it to your parish or mail it directly to the Diocese of Davenport, 780 West Central Park Ave., Davenport IA 52804-1901.

2016 National Migration Week January 3-9: Migration Week materials are now available. Contact USCCB publishing at 800-235-8722 or visit http://www.usccb.org/about/migration-and-refugee-services/national-migration-week/ to browse material. The theme for this year is "A Stranger and You Welcomed Me".

The Iowa Catholic Conference 2016 Legislative Concerns and Priorities have been approved. For more information go to http://iowacatholicconference.org/2015/10/2016-icc-legislative-concerns-and-priorities/. The office of Social Action has some copies available. If you would like a copy please e-mail Esmeralda Guerrero, guerrero@davenportdiocese.org.
The 2016 CRS Rice Bowl Collection starts Ash Wednesday, February 10: Last chance to place your order for your free CRS Rice Bowl materials which will be shipped in early January. Place your order by going to http://www.crsricebowl.org/ or calling 800-222-0025. If you have any questions about the collection please contact Loxi Hopkins, 563-888-4212 or hopkins@davenportdiocese.org.

Project Rachel understands the emotional pain that follows an abortion; provides free referrals for confidential and caring counseling and reconciliation by trained professionals and can help get you on the road to spiritual recovery. The Project Rachel Helpline is available to take calls: 563-333-4107 or 1-888-456-HOPE. Calls are answered personally Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Voice messaging available all other times. All calls returned promptly and discreetly. You may contact Project Rachel staff by calling the local Helpline: 563-333-4107 or email projectrachel@diodav.org. Please post the attached flyer or insert in your bulletin as space allows.

The Vote to End Hunger Rally was held November 8, in lieu of the Iowa Institute for Social Action. Three of the PowerPoint presentations are attached for your viewing. You also have an opportunity to make a commitment to help us end hunger by completing the attached commitment card and return it to info@iowacatholicconference.org or print and mail to Iowa Catholic Conference, 530 42nd St., Des Moines, IA 50312.

St. Vincent’s Home: Just a reminder that spring grants are no longer awarded. The next grant deadline will be September 15, 2016. For more information please go to http://www.davenportdiocese.org/socialaction/sastvincenthomecorporation.htm

MINISTRY FORMATION PROGRAM

Basic Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12/5/15</td>
<td>Baptism</td>
<td>Dr. Corrine Winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/20/16</td>
<td>Reconciliation/Anointing</td>
<td>Fr. Paul Appel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/16/16</td>
<td>Eucharist II</td>
<td>Dr. Corrine Winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/16/16</td>
<td>Matrimony</td>
<td>Dc. Frank &amp; Marianne Agnoli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/20/16</td>
<td>Personal/Pastoral</td>
<td>IlaMae Hanisch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/8/16</td>
<td>Commissioning Liturgy</td>
<td>Location TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/16/16</td>
<td>Confirmation</td>
<td>Don Boucher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/19/16</td>
<td>Eucharist I</td>
<td>Dr. Corrine Winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/21/16</td>
<td>Cultural Diversity</td>
<td>Miguel Moreno &amp; Guest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/16/16</td>
<td>Holy Orders</td>
<td>Bishop Amos, Fr. Thom Hennen &amp; Deacon David Montgomery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/17/16</td>
<td>Catholicism</td>
<td>Dr. Corrine Winter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On-Site Format: All courses held at the Diocese of Davenport, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. DVD/YouTube Format: The order of courses is as stated above; however each group will determine its monthly meeting time. Application form and additional information may be found on the diocesan website, www.davenportdiocese.org (Chancery-Faith Formation-Lay Ministry-MFP Forms). For information regarding the courses or the Ministry Formation Program contact John Valenti, valenti@davenportdiocese.org or 563-888-4244.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

Worldwide Marriage Encounter: December 4-6, Iowa City. Encourage couples in your parish to participate in this marriage enrichment program designed to give married couples the opportunity to examine their relationship. The emphasis of the weekend is on communication between husband and wife. Couples are able to spend quality time together away from the distractions and tensions of everyday life to concentrate on their marriages and the weekend is a positive, renewing experience for couples that have a good marriage, but want to make it even better! For more information go to http://www.davenportdiocese.org/faithform/Marriage%20and%20Family.htm.

Marriage and Parenting Resource: Attached is the December issue of “Marriage Moments and Parenting Pointers.” These may be used in parish bulletins or as links on parish websites.

Marriage Preparation: The Diocese of Davenport offers several marriage preparation program formats: One-day, Weekend (two-day), Sponsor Couple (through your parish) and Online (under special circumstances-with parish approval).

One-Day
- January 30, 2016: Bettendorf, St. John Vianney, registration deadline is January 22
- February 27, 2016: Bettendorf, St. John Vianney, registration deadline is February 19
The fee is $125 per couple and is payable by credit card or PayPal. To register or for more information go to [http://www.davenportdiocese.org/faithform/Marriage%20and%20Family.htm](http://www.davenportdiocese.org/faithform/Marriage%20and%20Family.htm). For questions contact Barb Butterworth, 563-888-4240, butterworthb@davenportdiocese.org.

**Online:** To be used only under special circumstance with parish approval. Go to [http://www.marriageministries.com/courses/catholic-marriage-prep-class/](http://www.marriageministries.com/courses/catholic-marriage-prep-class/)

**Natural Family Planning Links:**
*Billings Ovulation Method NFP course* is available on line at [http://learnnfponline.com](http://learnnfponline.com). A certificate of completion will be issued.

**Couple to Couple League (Sympto-thermal) Method** offers the *CCL Home Study Course* for those couples who do not have a local CCL Teaching Couple, or for those whose schedule prevents them from attending local instructions. Couples will receive the same materials as those attending class, plus access to a **professional chart until couples are confident in their method skills.** To order the “Kit” version call 800-745-8252 or order on line: [http://ccli.org/productsservices/nfp-instruction/home-study-course.php](http://ccli.org/productsservices/nfp-instruction/home-study-course.php).

Engaged couples are encouraged to begin NFP instruction at least four to six months prior to the wedding date.

Additional NFP contacts information can be found on the diocesan website, [http://www.davenportdiocese.org/faithform/Marriage%20and%20Family.htm](http://www.davenportdiocese.org/faithform/Marriage%20and%20Family.htm)

**PROTECTING GOD’S CHILDREN**

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, Victim Assistance Coordinator: 563-349-5002, vac@diodav.org or PO Box 232, Bettendorf, IA 52722-0004.

**SISTERS OF HUMILITY, DAVENPORT**

7th Annual Gift Swap: Dec. 3, 6:00-8:00 p.m., Humility of Mary Center, Davenport. Doors open 6 p.m. beginning with a short talk, “The Pope’s Message to the Paris Earth Summit” by Fr. Bud Grant, professor of environmental theology at St. Ambrose University. After Fr. Bud’s talk participate in the Holiday Gift Swap. As a way to reduce, reuse and recycle everyone is invited to bring new or gently used items that are perfect for re-gifting … then shop the swap for that perfect gift for one or more on your list! No money necessary. Leftover items will be donated to Humility of Mary Housing and Shelter programs. Also enjoy homemade goodies and visit with the sisters!

**OUR LADY OF THE PRAIRIE RETREAT, WHEATLAND**

To register contact: 563-336-8414 or olpretreat@gmail.com. All programs include a delicious homemade meal prepared with local and organic ingredients. To learn more about Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat visit [www.chmiowa.org](http://www.chmiowa.org).

**Come to the Quiet: Darkness:** Wed, December 9 | 9:30am – 3:30pm. In the darkness and stillness of Earth, light is born. December blesses us with the gift of darkness – the place of gestation, quiet, seeing things not visible in the light. By embracing the darkness we inspire our soul-seeing–“It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye.” *Le Petit Prince* (1943) Antoine de Saint Exupéry. Fee: $20.

**Marriage Spirituality:** Sat, December 12 | 9am – 4pm. Deacon Daryl and Pat Fortin will facilitate a day of reflection on what it means to live out your marriage vocation with God as the third partner. A day for prayer, talks, walks and conversation on how to grow together spiritually as a couple. Day concludes with Mass at 4pm with Msgr. Frank Henricksen. Fee: $40/couple.

**Advent Taize’ Vigil Service with special guest artist: David Haas:** Wed, December 16 | 6:30pm. Taize is an ecumenical movement, drawing Christians of all denominations together in unified and compassionate prayer. All people of faith are invited to participate. Pre-registration encouraged. No fee.

**Come to the Quiet: The Gift of Mercy:** Thurs, January 21 | 9:30am – 3:30pm. We begin our first 2016 Come to the Quiet with reflection on the gift of mercy. What does it mean to see with the eyes of mercy? Fee: $20. Kathleen Storms, SSND
Essential Oils for Healing: Thurs, January 28 | 9:30am – 3:30pm. Through an integrative approach, experience healing for the mental, physical, emotional and spiritual aspects of life. Experience the potential of oils for relaxation, rejuvenation and restoration. Fee: $30. Cynthia Huffman and Judy Nyquist

The Second Step of Mercy: A Men’s Retreat: January 29 – 31 | Fri, 5pm – Sun, 10am. The first step of mercy is God's love for us. God initiates mercy. The second step is our response to God's mercy - recognition, acceptance, gratitude and transformation. This retreat will focus on this second step, especially on recognizing and accepting God's mercy in our lives. Fee: $125. Fr. Michael Schaab

EAGLES’ WINGS COUNSELING AND RETREAT CENTERS, DAVENPORT
To register, for questions or information about obtaining a spiritual director, or Christian counseling contact Marcia Moore, marcia@eagleswings.ws or 563-324-7263, http://www.eagleswings.ws. Located at 5816 Telegraph Rd., Davenport.

Healing Mass and Adoration: Dec. 8. Adoration begins at noon with Mass at 1 p.m. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available and prayers for healing following Mass. (No Mass in January)

BENET HOUSE RETREAT CENTER/ST. MARY MONASTERY, ROCK ISLAND, IL
Contact Sr. Jackie Walsh, OSB at 309-283-2108, retreats@smmsisters.org or online at www.smmsisters.org/retreats/retreats-and-programs to register for programs mentioned below.

Preparing for Advent with Lectio Divina: Sat., Dec. 5, 9-11:30 am. This morning retreat will provide an opportunity to focus on the Advent Season and the coming of Christ among us. The practice of Lectio Divina will be used to break open the Advent Scriptures and provide a focus for your Advent journey. Fee: $20. Presenter: Sr. Margaret Murphy, OSB.

Day of Wonder: Dec. 15, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Take time out from busy! Make time to WONDER about the mysteries around us. The day will begin with a reflection on Wonder with the use of media, literature and music. Spend the rest of the day in quiet and prayer perhaps enjoying the walking paths, the lake area, the chapel, the library, porches, patios and other reflective places. Optional discussion and prayer will close the day. Bring your own lunch or have lunch at the Monastery. Facilitator: Sr. Bobbi Bussan, OSB. $20/day fee, plus an option for lunch for $8. Chair or full body healing touch available for additional cost.

Silent Directed Retreat: “The Lord Delights in You” (Isaiah 62:4): Sun., Jan. 17 (Check-in: 4-6:30 pm; Conference: 7 pm)-Wed. Jan. 20, 4 pm. Register now for this popular retreat which fills early. You will receive personal time with a spiritual director. In addition to daily Eucharist, there will be opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Centering Prayer, personal prayer, silence, rest, prayer with the Benedictines and walking the grounds. Spiritual Directors: Sr. Margaret Murphy, OSB; Sr. Mary Schmidt, OSB; Toni Petersen; Fr. Mark DeSutter. Register & pay in full by Dec. 17: $315. After Dec. 17: $325. Commuter fee: $225, includes all lunches and dinners.

Young Adult 24-Hour Retreat: Fri., Jan. 22, 7 pm (Check-in: 6:30-6:45 pm) - Sat., Jan. 23, 7 pm. The Davenport Diocese Theology on Tap planning team is sponsoring a 24-hour retreat for young adults in their 20s and 30s. The theme is to be determined. Call and express your interest in attending and details will be available. Facilitators: Young adult planning team. $115 (private room), $108 (shared room). Register and pay in full by Dec. 22. After Dec. 22: $125 (private room), $118 (shared room). Commuter fee: $65, includes lunch & dinner.

Catholic Sister for a Day: Jan. 23-24, Sat., 9am to Sun., 1pm. Experience life as a Benedictine Sister with other single Catholic women 18-50 years old. Enjoy prayer, meals and conversation with Sisters. Join the Benedictines as they serve God with personal and communal prayer and hear about the process of discernment and Benedictine life. Join us and take the step you need to discover whether God is calling you to religious life. Fee: There is no cost; you are our guest! For information contact Sr. Stefanie MacDonald, OSB (309) 283-2300 or vocation@smmsisters.org.

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  Directors/Coordinators of Faith Formation
Parishes  Catholic Foundation Board  Sisters  RCIA Parish Contacts  Diocesan Liturgical Commission
Priests  Parish Lay Directors  Bookkeepers  Diocesan Board of Education  Diocesan Planning Commission
Seminarians  Diocesan Pastoral Council  Principals  Parish Life Coordinators

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

Project Rachel Can Help

Helpline: 563-333-4107
E-Mail: projectrachel@diodav.org or 1-888-456-HOPE

Calls answered personally Monday, Wednesday and Friday
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Voice messaging available all other times.
All calls returned promptly and discreetly.

PROJECT RACHEL

• Understands the emotional pain that follows an abortion.

• Provides free referrals for confidential and caring counseling and reconciliation by trained professionals.

• Can help get you on the road to spiritual recovery.

Sponsored by the Diocese of Davenport
Program made possible through funding from the Annual Diocesan Appeal
and public donations.

August 2014

**TWITTER: @Vogt_Susan **

**EDUCATORS, LEADERS, & MINISTERS:** You are welcome to reprint these MM's and PP's in bulletins, newsletters, and on your website with proper credit, (By Susan Vogt, [www.SusanVogt.net](http://www.SusanVogt.net)). When used on a website, please also link to my website: [www.SusanVogt.net](http://www.SusanVogt.net)

**MARRIAGE MOMENTS**

653. Dec. 7: Do you have a pet name for your spouse (baby, honey, a nickname that only you use)? It's not essential but often it can remind both of you of your special relationship. It's like calling God, "Abba."

654. Dec. 14: In the spirit of Advent waiting, practice waiting on your spouse today. While waiting for your spouse to arrive, calmly remember the good person you are awaiting (instead of stewing if he or she is late). Or "wait on" your spouse in the sense of doing a favor for him or her.

655. Dec. 21: (Winter Solstice) The winter solstice brings the longest night of the year. Warm it with candlelight. For some couples, however, dark nights bring depression. If you are among those who are currently struggling in your marriage, turn to the power of prayer as one resource.

656. Dec. 28: The feast is over but the visiting and company may continue through the Christmas holidays. Although generally a happy time of family togetherness, Christmas can also be a time when stress causes short tempers. Be mindful and merciful with your beloved these days when you might be together in extremely close quarters.

**PARENTING POINTERS**

653. Dec. 4: St. Nick's Day is Dec. 6. It's a nice custom to put a treat in your child's shoe the night before. BUT...also remember there are children in our world without shoes. If your child is old enough tell him/her about [Soles4Souls](https://soles4souls.org/). Maybe your child will offer to give an extra pair of shoes.

654. Dec. 11: Too busy? "A traditional Hindu attitude toward service is for parents to pull back from doing much outside service while their children are young. When the children are raised, they jump fully back into the service area. To everything there is a season." ([Raising Kids Who Will Make a Difference](http://raisingkidswhomakeadifference.com))

655. Dec. 18: These last few days before Christmas can be hectic - concerts, cooking, creating gifts... As the nights grow longer, a candle can be your friend. Light the 3rd Advent candle tonight and pause, gaze, take a deep breath. Let the pause refresh and calm you.

656. Dec. 25: It's Christmas. Relish the glee of giving and receiving a gift. After the hubbub dies down, pause as a family not only to thank each other, but to be thankful that you have the resources to give gifts and that you have a family to share this time with. Don't let the day slip slide away without this pause.

Vote to End Hunger Advocacy Training
November 8, 2015
Grand View University
What is RESULTS?

RESULTS is a movement of passionate, committed everyday people. Together we use our voices to influence political decisions that will bring an end to poverty.
About RESULTS

- 800 active volunteers in about 100 communities around the country
- Everyday people who want to make a difference
- In 2014, our activists had...
  - Over 600 meetings with congressional offices, including 233 face-to-face meetings with U.S. House members and 60 face-to-face meetings with U.S. Senators
  - 438 strategic media placements, including editorials, Op-eds, and letters to the editor
  - Over 150 outreach and community events around the country
Advocacy Is Essential

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

— Margaret Mead
A 1984 study showed that Presidents from Woodrow Wilson to Jimmy Carter kept their campaign promises 75 percent of the time. Also, Politifact analyzed 500 promises made by President Obama in his two presidential campaigns, finding that he has kept or tried to keep 80 percent of those promises.
Don’t Forget about Congress

If your Member/Senator has not already arrived at a firm decision on an issue, how much influence might the following advocacy strategies directed to the Washington office have on his/her decision?

- In-Person Issue Visits from Constituents: 46% (A Lot of Positive Influence), 51% (Some Influence)
- Contact from a Constituent Who Represents Other Constituents: 36% (A Lot of Positive Influence), 60% (Some Influence)
- Individualized Postal Letters: 20% (A Lot of Positive Influence), 70% (Some Influence)
- Individualized Email Messages: 19% (A Lot of Positive Influence), 81% (Some Influence)
- Phone Calls: 14% (A Lot of Positive Influence), 72% (Some Influence)
- Comments During a Telephone Town Hall: 17% (A Lot of Positive Influence), 83% (Some Influence)
- Visit From a Lobbyist: 8% (A Lot of Positive Influence), 74% (Some Influence)
- News Editorial Endorsement of an Issue: 10% (A Lot of Positive Influence), 90% (Some Influence)
- Individualized Faxes: 8% (A Lot of Positive Influence), 92% (Some Influence)
- Form Postal Letters: 1% (A Lot of Positive Influence), 99% (Some Influence)
- Form Email Messages: 1% (A Lot of Positive Influence), 99% (Some Influence)
- Postcards: 1% (A Lot of Positive Influence), 99% (Some Influence)
- Comments on Social Media Sites: 1% (A Lot of Positive Influence), 41% (Some Influence)
- Form Faxes: 0% (A Lot of Positive Influence), 30% (Some Influence)

# A Lot of Positive Influence   # Some Influence

RESULTS Advocacy Training
Find Your Members of Congress and Candidates

• Attend town halls, candidate forums, and debates and ask a question
• Schedule a face-to-face in their state/local office
• Other Public Appearances
  • County/State Fairs/Parades
  • Local events
• Check newspapers and visit their campaign websites for events and contact information
• Find schedulers and contact information for Congress at: http://capwiz.com/results/dbq/officials/
Make the Most of Town Halls

PREPARE AHEAD OF TIME

• **Research the candidates.** Find out what your elected official or candidate has said about ending hunger and poverty
  - Websites, newspapers, Votetoendhunger.org

• **Recruit others to go with you.** Better chance of getting to ask a question if there are more of you to choose from.

• **Prepare what you will ask ahead of time.** Use the RESULTS EPIC Laser Talk format.

• **Dress conspicuously.** Wear conspicuous clothing (bright colors) but avoid shirts with writing.
Make the Most of Town Halls

AT THE EVENT

• **Arrive early to scope it out.** Find the stage and where the microphones are. Arrive early in case they do written questions (sometimes first come, first serve).

• **Spread out, but sit strategically.** Don’t sit together; decreases chances of getting called on. Sit near the front and close to any microphones.

• **Be “first, fast, high!”** When they start taking questions, raise your hand immediately, raise it high, and keep it up there.

• **Hold on to the microphone.** If you can, keep the microphone in your hand and don’t give it up until the candidate answers (may need ask a follow-up question).
Make the Most of Town Halls

• **Work the “rope line.”** Introduce yourself and ask your question or follow up on one you already asked.

• **Handshaking Trick:** Use both hands and don’t let go until you’ve said your piece.

• **Talk to staff:** Swap contact information and any additional material you brought with you.
  
  o Have a one or two page, easy-to-read sheet you can leave with their staff that outlines the issues and your request or “ask”
  
  o Have local data and stories

• **Work the media:** Find the media to share your story and/or facts to shape the coverage of the issue
Follow-up after the event

- Follow-up can be almost as important as the meeting itself
- It holds them accountable and helps you develop a relationship with the candidate/campaign staff
- **Contact staffpersons** who handle your issue to see what progress has been made on your request
- **Send supplemental information**, if appropriate
- **Offer to be a resource** on your issue
You can be EPIC!

Use the EPIC Laser Talk to help you create a powerful message

- **ENGAGE** the listener into the conversation
- Identify the **PROBLEM** you want them to address
- **INFORM** (or ILLUSTRATE) about the solution to the problem
- State a clear and specific **CALL TO ACTION**
E = Engage

Engage: Engage the listener into your conversation with a shocking statistic or by thanking them for something specific

- 48.1 million Americans are food insecure
- 1 in 5 American children are food insecure
- Children who live in persistent poverty are 43 percent LESS likely to go to college
Problem: Specify the problem they can address.

- Despite hunger being a serious problem in the U.S., few leaders in Washington are willing to address it head on. In fact, some would make the problem worse by cutting critical nutrition programs like SNAP and WIC.
Inform/Illustrate: Inform the listener about the solution to the problem and/or share a story that shows what the problem or success can look like.

• Ideal place in your Laser Talk to share a story
• Stories engage us, we want to know what happens next
• We are also very visual – stories allow us to “see” the issue, rather than just hear it
• Stories can be up to 22 times more memorable than facts and statistics alone
• Stories help people empathize with your cause
• If you don’t have a story, use facts that answer your problem statement
I = Inform or Illustrate

- Share your hunger story
- Children who are persistently hungry have trouble learning and have a higher risk of chronic health problems
- Studies show that kids who receive nutrition assistance grow up healthier and do better in school
- Charities cannot do it alone - for every 20 bags of groceries given out in food assistance, 19 come from federal nutrition programs
- Ending hunger in America requires a strong commitment from the U.S. government
Call to Action: Make a specific, targeted request of the listener in the form of a YES or NO question.

- In this country – the richest one on Earth – no person should have to wonder where their next meal is coming from. That’s why I am voting for the candidate who makes ending hunger and poverty a top national priority. If elected, what will you do to end hunger, alleviate poverty, and create opportunity in the U.S. and worldwide?
Media Advocacy

• Powerful tool in education and advocacy
  • Editorial page most read section in the paper
• Strong media work can move decision-makers to alter their behavior, positions, and perceptions on an issue
  • Print media is still very influential with elected officials
• Gives you the chance to educate the public about your issue
  • Key component of building political will
  • Reaches a much wider audience than any other medium
Organizing in your Community

• Building political will requires people
• Grassroots pressure creates and sustains change
• Starts with simply talking to people, telling them your story and why you choose to be engaged
• Activities can include letter-writing, rallies, press conference, lobby meetings, media outreach – whatever it takes to move your issue forward
• Must be ongoing! You cannot hope to create political will if you don’t take action persistently and consistently
Take Action Now!

Thank you for being here! Please take a moment to share your contact information with us. Later in the meeting we will be inviting you to consider the “take action” steps. These forms will be collected at the conclusion of our rally.

Please print neatly!

Name: ________________________________

Congregation/Organization: ________________________________

Phone Number: ________________________________

Email: ________________________________

(Turn over)
Take Action Now!

TAKE ACTION!
Yes, I want to be a part of making hunger and poverty priorities in our upcoming elections!

Check all that apply....
1. Spreading the word and building the campaign:
   _____ I would like to help by hosting a “house meeting” at my congregation or organization;
   _____ I would like to help by using social media #votetoendhunger

2. Taking action:
   _____ I would like to learn about and attend a town hall meeting and/or a caucus meeting.
   _____ I would like to be a part of a delegation to an upcoming debate.
   _____ I would like to join Bread for the World’s grassroots lobbying network.
   _____ I would like to join Iowa Catholic Conference’s legislative network.

3. Share your own idea for a next step: ______________________

   ______________________
   ______________________
   ______________________
RESULTS is proud to be part of the Vote to End Hunger Campaign

Advocacy Resources

• Vote to End Hunger website: www.votetoendhunger.org
• RESULTS website: www.results.org
• RESULTS Activist Toolkit: http://www.results.org/skills_center/activist_toolkit/
• RESULTS Elected Officials page: http://capwiz.com/results/dbq/officials/

Jos G. Linn
Grassroots Manager, RESULTS U.S. Poverty Campaigns
jlinn@results.org, (515) 288-3622
"Do your little bit of good where you are; its those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world."

- Archbishop Desmond Tutu
State of Hunger in Iowa
Agenda

• Iowa Food Bank Association
• Hunger in Iowa: By the Numbers
• Hunger in Iowa: Behind the Numbers
• Addressing the Issue
Mission: coordinate efforts to alleviate hunger by supporting Feeding America food banks that serve Iowa

- Policy and Advocacy
- Food and Fund Procurement
- Disaster Preparedness
- Food Assistance Outreach
- Collaboration and Unification
HUNGER IN IOWA

By the Numbers
Hunger in Iowa: By the Numbers

Stastistics:
- Food Insecure People: 389,250
- Food Insecurity Rate: 12.6%
- Estimated Program Eligibility among Food Insecure People:
  - Above Other Nutrition Program threshold of 185% poverty: 40%
  - Between 160%-185% poverty: 8%
  - Below SNAP threshold 160% poverty: 52%
Hunger in Iowa: By the Numbers

Food Insecurity Rates
- 4-14%
- 15-19%
- 20-24%
- 25-29%
- 30%+

Food Insecure Children: 139,850

Food insecurity rate (overall): 12.6%
Food insecurity rate (child): 19.3%

Estimated Program Eligibility Among Food Insecure Children
- Likely ineligible for federal nutrition programs (incomes above 185% of poverty): 41%
- Income-eligible for nutrition programs (incomes at or below 185% of poverty): 59%
Food-Insecurity as reported past four years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Child</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>138,340</td>
<td>408,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>137,120</td>
<td>395,620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>139,200</td>
<td>389,730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>139,850</td>
<td>389,250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Numbers released two years after data collected*
Hunger in Iowa: By the Numbers

4-year Comparison: Total and Child

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>380,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>360,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>340,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Child

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Child</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>150,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hunger in Iowa: By the Numbers

4-year Total Food-Insecurity in Iowa

2010 2011 2012 2013

410,000 405,000 400,000 395,000 390,000 385,000 380,000 375,000
Hunger in Iowa: By the Numbers

4-year Child Food-Insecurity in Iowa

Year | Number of 4-year Child Food-Insecure
-----|-------------------------------
2010 | 135,500
2011 | 136,000
2012 | 136,500
2013 | 137,000

Graph showing the increase in 4-year child food-insecurity from 2010 to 2013.
Hunger in Iowa: By the Numbers

4-year Iowa vs. United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Iowa</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STATE OF HUNGER IN IOWA

Behind the Numbers
Face of Hunger

- Trends
  - Grandparents caring for grandchildren
  - Working families
  - Retirees
- Hunger has no face
- Competing expenses
- Medical bills
- Cheap food not cheap anymore
- Low-wage jobs
ADDRESSING THE ISSUE
Addressing the Issue

Collaboration

Hard Work and Dedication

Advocacy
Addressing the Issue
For More Information

Cory Berkenes, State Director
Iowa Food Bank Association
cberkenes@iowafba.org

Website: www.iowafba.org
Facebook: Feeding Iowa; Iowa Food Bank Assoc.
Twitter: IowaFBA
Blog: iowafba.wordpress.com
Vote to End Hunger Rally

Grand View University – Sisam Arena
1500 Morton Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa

Sunday, November 8, 2015

Presenters: Meghan Malloy Esq. & Larry Murphy,
Heartland Strategies, LLC

Larry Murphy (larry@llmurphy.com)
The Presenters

Meghan Malloy (Heartland Strategies, LLC, General Counsel)

*State House news reporter in both Maine & Iowa
*Drake University Law School graduate (2014)
*Volunteer legal work for Disability Rights Iowa & Drake Legal Clinic
*Legislative Staff and internship, Iowa House of Representatives

Larry Murphy (Heartland Strategies, LLC, CFO)

*Consultant/lobbyist: 1998-present
*Elected Official (30 years: Mayor, State Senator & County Supervisor)
*Federal, State & Local campaign director (1972-present)
## De-mystify the legislative process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What the legislative process “is”</th>
<th>What it is “not”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>It is year-round</td>
<td>Not January – April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It is complex to everyone</td>
<td>A secret game that only elected officials and state government officials understand and play</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It requires the expertise and experience of many more people than elected officials, lobbyists, and government officials</td>
<td>A closed-door process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It is a tool to shape all policies that benefit all citizens</td>
<td>An instrument to carve out the holes that benefit only a few Iowans with power, money, or special connections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It is decision-making through negotiation and it is democratic</td>
<td>Autocracy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It is useless without information</td>
<td>Not effective in spite of information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It is a process that produces more effective results when consumers speak for themselves</td>
<td>An exclusive country club available for card-carrying members only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It is a process that demands follow-up</td>
<td>A spectator sport</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Vote to End Hunger Agenda
Social Service professionals
Churches and Faith-based groups
Anti-poverty alliances
Grocery and food vendors
Farm and food processor groups
Social Media: Facebook, Twitter, etc.
### Demographics of Iowa Legislature - 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SENATE (50)</th>
<th>HOUSE (100)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Males</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Females</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attorneys</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmers</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educators/former</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-employed/other</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Owner</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full time</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Annual income:** $25,000 (+$11,550 per diem, +$200/month + mileage)

**Leaders:**
- Pro-tem $27,000.00 (+$8,600 per diem, +$200 per month + mileage)
- Minority/Majority $37,500.00 (+$8,600 per Diem, +$200/month + mileage)

- Ave. phone messages: 10-25/day out/in-session - 100-300/day
- Ave. mail load: 15-50/day out/in-session - 100-300/day
- Ave. mileage per year: 25,000-50,000 miles
- Ave. email/in session: 200-400/day
- Ave. email/out session: 50-100/day

Income information: Legislative website 2015 and from Legislators
WHAT IS YOUR LEGISLATOR’S JOB?

LAWMAKING
- Studying, discussing, and voting on proposed legislation
- Allocating money to state agencies and programs
- Creating, modifying, and abolishing state laws and programs as necessary
- Settling conflicts, righting injustices, and making authoritative decisions

REPRESENTING
- Serving constituents living in the district
- Doing what is in the best interest of the state as a whole
- Acting as a liaison between citizens and state government

MONITORING
- Overseeing the work of departments and agencies funded by the Legislature
- Ensuring that laws are being carried out according to legislative intent
- Confirming the Governor’s appointments and responding to vetoes.
- Keeping the lawmaking process open and honest

Senator Horn’s “small ball bill”.
Focusing public attention = CHANGE

Your Iowa legislator does more than just vote “aye” or “nay” on bills. Your legislator helps set the quality of life in Iowa. That’s an important job.
About the Caucuses

- First in the Nation status
- Early bellwether of Presidential politics
- Activist driven, relies on grassroots
- Party building activity, discuss key issues
- 1,682 precincts statewide
- Caucus location in each precinct

*Democratic Party Process Ppt 2015*
Democratic Presidential Preference **vs.** Republican Presidential Poll

A. Simply a straw poll: Where are preferences on Feb. 1, 2015

B. Opportunity for advocates for each candidate to speak

C. Secret Ballot on preference after speeches

**D. Biggest contrast to Democratic Process: Public support for candidate**

E. Most people leave after the straw poll: Opportunity regarding Public Health issue -- platform resolution & platform committee membership

F. **PATIENCE:** *Wait for platform resolution adoptions: Last item of business*
Caucus Goals & Eligibility

**Caucus Goals**
1. Elect Party Central Committee members (*Party management*)
2. Elect delegates to county convention
3. *Discuss and recommend Party Platform*
4. Elect County Convention committee members
   --Including Platform Committee
5. Discuss and vote on Presidential candidates
   *(Straw Poll for GOP & Preference/Viability for Democrats)*

**Eligibility**
*(Don't be scared away...maintaining your "independence")*
A. Citizen
B. 18 years old by Election Day (Nov. 8, 2016)
C. Registered as Democrat or Republican
   *(You can register at the caucus for the respective party &
then re-register as independent after meeting is over...if you
haven't been selected...)*
Caucus and Convention Standing Committees
What Are They – And What Do They Do?

Platform Committee: The Platform Committee meets to put together a proposed Platform for the entire caucus or convention delegation to discuss and subsequently vote on to form the official platform for each level; county, district, state, national. To determine the process for your county or your district, you must contact either your county chair (see listing of county chairs and co-chairs on your party website) or one of the state central committee members from your district (also found on state party websites). The process for electing a group of individuals to serve as a platform committee in each county varies greatly.

Credentials Committee: A Credentials Committee is either elected or appointed at each Caucus or convention level. This committee is commissioned with the duties of credentialing the members to the convention. Their duties include signing in the delegates, making sure that the delegates have appropriate credentials, keeping a running total of delegates in attendance and reporting this number to the convention secretary and or chairman. This number is important to determine the accurate number necessary to achieve a majority.

The Credentials Committee must also be prepared to resolve any disputes regarding delegate status. It will be up to this committee to determine whether, during a dispute, a delegate should, or should not be seated.
Resolution Discussion and Adoption

- Caucus will discuss and adopt resolutions to be submitted to the County Platform Committee.

- Caucus participants propose resolutions and time should be allowed for discussion before calling resolution to a vote.

- Caucus Chair may wish to limit discussion by setting reasonable time limits.

- Official Resolution Submission Forms will be made available.

- Must include contact info of person submitting resolution.

- Good idea to bring enough copies of the resolution for all eligible caucus attendees.
Caucus Resolution

Be it resolved that food is a fundamental human right. We support ending hunger in Iowa, in the United State and worldwide by 2030.
QUESTIONS?
Thank you for being here! Please take a moment to share your contact information with us. Later in the meeting we will be inviting you to consider the “take action” steps. These forms will be collected at the conclusion of our rally.

Please print neatly!

Name: ____________________________

Congregation/Organization: ____________________________

Phone Number: ____________________________

Email: ____________________________

(Turn over)
TAKE ACTION!
Yes, I want to be a part of making hunger and poverty priorities in our upcoming elections!

Check all that apply....
1. Spreading the word and building the campaign:
   ______ I would like to help by hosting a “house meeting” at my congregation or organization.
   ______ I would like to help by using social media. #votetoendhunger

2. Taking action:
   ______ I would like to learn about and attend a town hall meeting and/or a caucus meeting.
   ______ I would like to be a part of a delegation to an upcoming debate.
   ______ I would like to join Bread for the World’s grassroots lobbying network.
   ______ I would like to join Iowa Catholic Conference’s legislative network.

3. Share your own idea for a next step: __________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________