



Frequently Asked Questions

Q What is the GILEAD Campaign?

GILEAD is an opportunity to engage and empower disciples to participate in the mission of God in our local communities and our world. It is a campaign to raise \$5 million for the entire Diocese of Iowa, One Church in Many Locations. GILEAD is an invitation to Episcopalians across Iowa, to make a strategic investment to grow the church in Iowa for future generations.

GILEAD is a ministry of the diocese of Iowa and is overseen by our Board of Directors. Grants from the funds raised in the GILEAD Campaign will be evaluated by a sub-committee of the Board that will include other members of the Diocese. The Board will oversee evaluative and funding mechanisms and is responsible for the investing and stewarding of the funds. Grants will be considered for new initiatives, the development of new leaders, and activities that promote effective Christian mission and ministry.

Q What impact will my donation have?

Across Iowa, GILEAD funds will: **SUPPORT** the growth of leaders and ministry initiatives by providing leadership training and resources to inspire and energize members across the state, **EQUIP** congregations to thrive into the future by helping churches use all the technology and tools at our disposal to connect and engage people with our communities of faith, **STRENGTHEN** our global partnerships by sharing resources with our sisters and brothers in our companion dioceses of Brechin (Scotland), Swaziland (Southern Africa) and Nzara (South Sudan), and provide opportunities to **COLLABORATE** for local needs.

Q Who will be asked to support GILEAD?

Each individual Iowa Episcopalian will be asked to prayerfully consider making a gift to the GILEAD Campaign. The Campaign invites direct personal engagement rather than a congregational pledge.

Q My congregation has significant local needs, may I choose where my pledge goes?

Yes, in addition to all of the ways that your congregation will benefit directly from GILEAD, donors in Collaborating Partner congregations will have the opportunity to designate a portion of their gift for local capital or ministry needs in their congregation. For those congregations who choose not to collaborate, 100% of donors' pledges will be used for the GILEAD resources.

Q What is the timing of the GILEAD campaign in 2019?

The GILEAD campaign and Collaborating Partner congregations will distribute communication about the campaign, host simple kick-off and in-gathering events, and be invited to prayer before and during the season of Easter. On Pentecost Sunday, June 9th, 2019, individuals will be asked to make a three-year pledge to the GILEAD campaign.

Q How will members of non-collaborating congregations participate?

All Iowa Episcopalians will take part in the Campaign, either with their Collaborating Congregation or by way of an invitation, by mail, to pledge during Eastertide.

Q Who is responsible for collecting and tracking the pledges and donations? Do the staff and volunteers at the congregation have to take on that task?

No. All campaign pledges and donations will be received by the diocese. **COLLABORATING PARTNERS** receive coordinated planning, solicitation, reporting, and tracking of donations designated for your congregation.

Q My congregation is small and our volunteers are stretched. How much work are we expected to do?

The diocesan Board engaged Church Development, a stewardship organization, to provide a very significant portion of the campaign work. Church Development is developing a campaign template that will be used at collaborating partner congregations. While each congregation will be asked to help with the campaign, diocesan leadership and Church Development are working closely together to ensure that the congregation's duties will be manageable. Local leaders will be asked to partner in announcing and promoting the campaign.

Q Is our weekly giving going to decrease because of our pledging to the GILEAD Campaign?

No, annual giving increases because of greater engagement. In addition, all congregations will receive resources to strengthen and equip their annual stewardship efforts.

Q Why is a portion of the funds going to our companion dioceses? Do we have an ongoing relationship with them?

Yes. We have established companion relationships with the dioceses of Brechin (Scotland) and Swaziland (Southern Africa), and Nzara (South Sudan), some since 1982. In addition to praying daily for specific persons, ministries, offices and congregations in each diocese, we support one another by our communication with them and our involvement in the ministries of each diocese. Our tithe of GILEAD campaign funds will be designated to sustain and build our companion relationships.

Q How is the Bishop helping to make this campaign a success?

As you can imagine, a diocesan-wide program and campaign like GILEAD is a major undertaking. Bishop Scarfe has been involved in this process

from the very beginning. This means holding meetings with rectors and other congregational representatives, diocesan advisors, Church Development consultants, active donors and prospective donors, as well as many others. Bishop Scarfe developed the acronym GILEAD because he wants to Grow Iowa Leaders and Engage All Disciples, and he is devoting the next two years of his episcopal ministry to make those dreams a reality.

Q What will the campaign cost the congregation?

Generous donors supporting the work of the Diocese of Iowa have underwritten the administrative campaign expenses.

Q How much has been donated already?

A starter donation of \$600,000 has been received already and is funding the campaign to this point. This donation has also underwritten the Growing Iowa Leaders initiative in 2018 and will support Engaging All Disciples in 2019-2020. In addition, that generous donation funded the Connectivity project in all of our congregations.

Q How/when will Collaborating Partner Congregations receive the funds designated for them?

The diocesan financial office will mail a check to the congregation with the funds designated for that Collaborating Congregation on a quarterly basis as they are received.

Q How will every congregation benefit from GILEAD?

The benefits of GILEAD will be available to all congregations in the form of a community fund. Applications for special grants will be accessible to all congregations through a consultative process overseen by the Diocesan Board of Directors. The GILEAD campaign has been set as a priority for all of the Diocese of Iowa.