

# Diocese of Brechin: News Bulletin

## 28th July 2021

### Scottish Episcopal Church: “Season of Creation”—Sundays in September—Liturgical Resource

What is the Season of Creation?

The Faith and Order Board and College of Bishops of the SEC have approved the experimental introduction of a Season of Creation to our liturgical calendar. This reflects the commitment of our Church to responding appropriately to the global environmental and climate crisis, which has drawn attention to what has perhaps become a neglected aspect of our faith: that God created the world, that it is good, and that we, as human beings created in God’s image, have a particular responsibility for the care of God’s creation. It is right that this be reflected in our worship.



The proposed/offered Season of Creation runs from the first Sunday of September for four weeks, concluding with Thanksgiving for Harvest on the fifth Sunday. The lectionary will be the Revised Common Lectionary one usually followed, to ensure that the continuity in Scripture readings is not disrupted. The readings in the Revised Common Lectionary for that period are entirely appropriate for the Season of Creation.

The Liturgy Committee has prepared material for use during this Season, which have been approved for experimental use by the Faith and Order Board and the College of Bishops.

The Liturgy Committee will be offering an introduction to this material, and to the new on-line form for feedback which will be created. This introduction will be available on the morning of Friday, 13 August

2021, and the evening of Wednesday, 18 August 2021. In compliance with General Synod Office policy, it will be necessary to register in advance for these events. Please contact Sandra Brindley, GSO Administrator, at [office@scotland.anglican.org](mailto:office@scotland.anglican.org) to register, and you will be supplied with the necessary log-in information. The liturgical resources are at: <https://www.scotland.anglican.org/who-we-are/publications/liturgies/season-of-creation-worship-material-for-experimental-use/>

Please contact the bishop via the office for any queries on the adoption and use of this material. All are encouraged to follow this season—noting that it is not a mandatory matter.

### Diocesan Deadline for Covid ‘Recovery and Renewal’ Fund Applications: 5th August

This is a reminder that the Recovery and Renewal fund applications deadline for the diocese to receive applications is next Thursday, 5th August. This allows the diocesan officers to integrate the charge applications in a single diocesan submission to the province. This fund is to offer modest grants towards activities/kit that will help charges to emerge from the pandemic, build up their ministry, enhance online presence, support clergy wellbeing etc.

Not every church will need or want to make a submission—that is absolutely fine. There will be some ‘diocesan-level’ elements to the application, so all charges will benefit from the fund whether they make their own application or not. Guidance notes have been sent out to vestry secretaries and clergy. Applications should be sent to Elliott at [office@brechin.anglican.org](mailto:office@brechin.anglican.org).

### Ongoing Prayers for Southern Africa

Please pray for the situation in eSwatini where civil unrest continues. Communications with our Companion Diocese of Swaziland have become intermittent and reports from the country remain very worrying. South Africa also needs our prayers as unrest continues in that country neighbouring eSwatini.

## Companionship Diocese of Iowa: News

### **Election of 10th Bishop of Iowa: 31st July**

The Diocese of Iowa are holding their special convention to elect the 10th Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa on July 31st in Des Moines Marriott at 1pm (CDL)—7pm British Summer Time. Please keep the process, the candidates and all of the Diocese in your prayers.

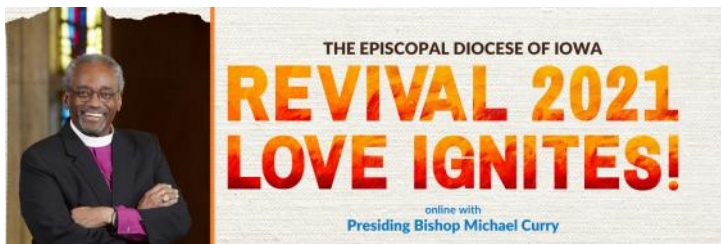


The three candidates (shown above) are the Rev Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly, the Rev Betsey Monnot and the Rev Elizabeth Duff Popplewell.

All in the Diocese of Brechin look forward to greeting the new bishop and building on the warm and fruitful relationship between Scotland and the US that has grown over the past decades.

### **Diocese of Iowa: Revival 2021**

The Diocese of Iowa held their Revival 2021 event this past weekend (24/25 July). Recordings of the event are available through their [Facebook page](#) or online at <https://www.iowaepiscopal.org/revival>.



Brechin Diocese was represented (in the middle of the night UK time) by pre-recorded music from the cathedral choir and testimony from Brechin members. Some Scottish reps also attended the 'Zoom' conversations held with Presiding Bishop of TEC, Michael Curry.

In future years, we hope to be able to have delegates attend these and other events in-person including the third leg of the Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage, tentatively planned for 2022.

## SEC Environmental Action

### **Diocesan Environmental Working Group**

The General Synod 2021 tasked each Diocese with setting up a group to support charges in meeting the challenging target of the SEC achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2030. In Brechin, this group is being set up as a Working Group of Diocesan Council and will (once established) provide oversight and guidance to all of our churches. Some churches have started their own eco-groups (see cathedral item below)—and support to such groups and guidance in applying toolkits/producing strategies are anticipated priorities for the Working Group. Watch this space for more news.

### **St. Paul's Cathedral Eco-group**

The St. Paul's Cathedral Eco-group reconvened in May and has been meeting regularly since then. We are planning to mark the period leading up to the November United Nations international climate conference (COP26) both in worship and in inviting members of the Congregation to join us in a short challenge aimed at reducing our personal carbon footprints. Groups or individuals in the diocese are very welcome to get in touch and share ideas - please email Julie the group convener at [julie.curran7@btinternet.com](mailto:julie.curran7@btinternet.com)

### **Online Worship for the SEC**

The Scottish Episcopal Church continues to offer 'national' worship online. A Sunday service, each from one of the Dioceses, will continue in the form of a service broadcast at 11am each Sunday. Some changes to the format of this worship are planned: watch for future notices.

This service has an option to hear the worship by telephone for those without internet access. There are more details and downloads of previous weeks' services at:

<https://www.scotland.anglican.org/broadcast-sunday-worship/>

### **News to share? Please send...**

If you have any events, ideas with worship or anything else to report, please send copy to Elliott at [office@brechin.anglican.org](mailto:office@brechin.anglican.org).