



## DIOCESE OF DES MOINES

# PRESSRELEASE

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### **For Immediate Release**

**Date:** March 1, 2010

**Contact:** Anne Marie Cox, (515) 237-5057

### **Sioux City meeting on sustainability**

The Diocese of Sioux City's Peace and Justice Commission invites the public to a meeting on sustainable local community development featuring Dr. John Ikerd, professor emeritus of agricultural economics at the University of Missouri, Columbia. The gathering will be Friday, March 26 from 6:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. at St. Boniface Church, 5<sup>th</sup> and Omaha Streets in Sioux City. The snow date is Saturday, March 27 from noon to 2:30 p.m.

Dr. Ikerd, raised on a small dairy farm in southwest Missouri, went on to receive his doctorate in agricultural economics at the University of Missouri. He has worked in private industry, in academia and, since retiring, was project leader for a three-state, five-year program on sustainable agriculture and sustainable community development funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

“There's a whole movement of concern about sustainability, especially of communities in rural areas and farming practices,” said Father Marvin J. Boes, director of the Sioux City Diocesan Peace and Justice Commission. Dr. Ikerd has developed programs with the U.S. Department of Agriculture regarding sustainability, he said.

The presentation will be taped. A DVD or VHS of the presentation can be ordered from G. R. Lindblade & Co. Productions, Sioux City, 712-255-4346.

For more information, contact Father Boes at 712-277-2046.