

The Springfield Current

Newsletter of the Episcopal Diocese of Springfield, Illinois



God willing
and the people consenting

The Reverend Daniel Hayden
Martins
will be ordained and consecrated
a Bishop in the
One, Holy, Catholic, and
Apostolic Church
and Eleventh Bishop of
Springfield

Saturday, March 19, 2011
being the Feast of Saint Joseph
11 a.m.

First United Methodist Church
2941 South Koke Mill
Springfield, IL 62711

Chief Consecrator will be
The Most Reverend
Katharine Jefferts Schori
Presiding Bishop and Primate of
The Episcopal Church

The Standing Committee
requests the honor of your
presence

A light reception will follow

Clergy: Red Stoles
Bishops: Cope and Mitre or
Rochet and Chimere

Greetings from Bishop-Elect Daniel Martins

Beloved in Christ,

As I write, it's barely more than three weeks before my consecration as Eleventh Bishop of Springfield (and as you read this, the time is even shorter). As you might imagine, I am both excited and intimidated by the prospect. By the time hands are laid on me, I will have been "bishop-elect" for six months and one day, and the process of transition has often felt like a slow-motion drama!

Brenda and I are now living in Springfield and slowly getting settled, both at home and in the diocesan office. I've already been able to interact with several clergy and lay leaders around the diocese, and have particularly enjoyed two opportunities to spend time with some of our youth. What an inspiration it is to be around their enthusiasm and energy.

In October, I hung a map of Illinois on the wall of my study in the rectory back in Indiana. I stuck a

colored push pin in every location where we have a congregation. That map now hangs behind my desk in the diocesan office. Every time I glance at it, I am reminded, at least subliminally, of the 38 worshipping communities that make up the Diocese of Springfield. It has given

"As we move toward the wonderful events of the consecration weekend, I do hope that you will remember me in your prayers..."

me a mental and spiritual foothold as I try to hold all 38 of these communities, and everyone in them, in my prayers. As I begin to get around central and southern Illinois, and those dots on a map are transformed into concrete memories of actual people in actual places, my prayers will, in God's grace, become more and more effective for the

building up of the Body of Christ and the mission of Christ's Church in this diocese.

As we move toward the wonderful events of the consecration weekend, I do hope that you will remember me in your prayers as well. I may know a few things about the theory of being a bishop, but I know very little about the practice. I will make mistakes, and I will need your patience and your help and—in time, as we get to know one another - your love. God has called us together at this season in our lives. The challenges are immense. So are the opportunities. May we all be found faithful.

Praised be Jesus Christ.

Daniel+
Bishop-Elect

Inspired Heights in Pekin



Melvin Kennedy and Torue Solomon from Inspired Heights of Rockford remove shingles from the steeple of St. Paul's on December 16, 2010.

According to their website, Inspired Heights exists for the sole purpose of bringing glory to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through the maintenance, repair and restoration of His Church.

Photograph by Josh Bradshaw. Used with permission from the Pekin Daily Times.

*Thanks to all
who participated
in our
Springfield
Current survey.*

*Your feedback
was of great
service and
will help guide us
as we consider
ways to improve
our online
and print
communications.*

*Look for changes
soon!*

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AROUND THE DIOCESE

The Springfield Current Contributors Thank You!

The Springfield Current is a ministry of the Department of Communication in the Diocese of Springfield. Your voluntary contributions help to support its being published, printed and distributed. The annual estimated cost for ten issues is \$24,000. If you would like to contribute to this ministry, please send your gift to the Diocesan Center, 821 S. Second Street, Springfield, IL 62704.

During the past month, we've received gifts from the individuals and families listed herein, and are very appreciative of the support. The paper is sent to all members and many friends of our 40 congregations. Following are the most recent Springfield Current contributions.

Episcopal Parish of Alton

Elizabeth Bumbacher
Joseph Cobetto
Anonymous

Belleville, St. George's

Jeanne F. Shepard
Frank and Mickey Cattaneo
Sharon & Ken Gottschall

Bloomington, St. Matthew's

Jeanne Johnson

Carbondale, St. Andrew's

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Champaign, Chapel of St. John the Divine

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Champaign, Emmanuel Memorial

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Glen Carbon, St. Thomas'

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Mt. Vernon, Trinity

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Fr. Gene & Deborah Tucker

Normal, Christ the King

Roberta Davis & Mark Donnelly

Rantoul, St. Christopher's

Margaret Orr

Springfield, Cathedral Church of St. Paul

Randall Abbott
Bill & Ann Piper

Springfield, Christ Church

Frederick & Carol Velde

Diocese of Springfield Calendar for 2011

MARCH

- 01-02 Clergy Pre-Lenten Retreat, King's House, Belleville
- 09 ASH WEDNESDAY
- 18-19 Youth Department "11th Hour" Lock-in
- 19 Consecration of the 11th Bishop, First United Methodist Church, Springfield (11 a.m.)
- 20 Bishop w/ Cathedral Church of St. Paul (8 & 10:30 a.m.)
- 25-27 ECW Annual Lenten Retreat, Toddhall
- 25-27 Happening #53, St. George's, Belleville

APRIL

- 03 Bishop w/ St. Michael's, O'Fallon (9:15 a.m.)
- 05 Trustees Meeting, Diocesan Center, Springfield (10 a.m.)
- 10 Bishop w/ St. Luke's, Springfield (8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.)
- 17 PALM SUNDAY, Bishop w/ St. Matthew's, Bloomington (7:30 & 10 a.m.)
- 17 Suggested Date for Spring UTO Ingathering in Parishes
- 19 Liturgy of Collegiality w/ lunch, Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Springfield (11 a.m.)
- 22 GOOD FRIDAY
- 24 EASTER DAY, Bishop w/ Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Springfield (8 & 10:30 a.m.)
- 29-30 Youth Department - Agape Fest, Greenville College
- 30 ECW Annual Meeting and Spring UTO Ingathering, St. Matthew's, Bloomington

MAY

- 01 Bishop w/ Chapel of St. John the Divine, Champaign (8 & 10 a.m.)
- 08 Bishop w/ St. James', McLeansboro (10 a.m.)
- 14 Diocesan Council, Diocesan Center, Springfield (10 a.m.)
- 15 Bishop w/ St. George's, Belleville (8 & 10:30 a.m.)
- 22 Bishop w/ Holy Trinity, Danville (9 a.m.)

JUNE

- 05 Bishop w/ St. John's, Centralia (8:30 a.m.)
- 12 PENTECOST, Bishop w/ Emmanuel Memorial, Champaign 8 & 10:15 a.m.)
- 12-18 Youth Work Week
- 19 TRINITY, Bishop w/ Trinity, Jacksonville (7:45 & 10 a.m.)
- 22-26 Youth Dept. - Episcopal Youth Event (EYE), St. Paul, MN (Tentative)
- 26 Bishop w/ Christ Church, Springfield (8 & 10:15 a.m.)

JULY

- 03 Bishop w/ St. John the Baptist, Mt. Carmel (10:30 a.m.)
- 03-09 Episcopal Church Camp, East Bay Camp, Hudson (Tentative)
- 05 Finance Department Meeting, Diocesan Center, Springfield (10 a.m.)
- 10 Bishop with Episcopal Parish of Alton for 175th Anniversary Celebration (10:30 a.m.)
- 16 Bishop w/ St. Mary's Robinson (6 p.m.)
- 17 Bishop w/ St. John's, Albion (9 a.m.)

AUGUST

- 13 Bishop w/ Redeemer, Cairo (TBD)
- 14 Bishop w/ St. James', Marion (11 a.m.)
- 21 Bishop w/ St. Mark's, West Frankfort (9 a.m.)
- 26 Diocesan Council, Diocesan Center, Springfield (10 a.m.)
- 28 Bishop w/ St. Laurence, Effingham (8 a.m.)

SEPTEMBER

- 04 Bishop w/ Trinity, Mt. Vernon (10:30 a.m.)
- 11 Bishop w/ St. Stephen's, Harrisburg (10 a.m.)
- 25 Bishop w/ Christ the King, Normal (10:15 a.m.)
- TBD Deanery Meetings

OCTOBER

- 02 Bishop w/ St. Paul's Carlinville (8 & 10:30 a.m.)
- 02 Bishop w/ St. Peter's, Chesterfield (9:15 a.m.)
- 09 Bishop w/ Trinity, Lincoln (7:30 & 9:45 a.m.)
- 16 Bishop w/ St. John's, Decatur (7:30 & 10 a.m.)
- 21-22 134th Synod, St. George's Episcopal Church, Belleville
- 23 Bishop w/ St. Bartholomew's, Granite City (8:45 a.m.)
- 23 Bishop w/ St. Thomas', Glen Carbon (10:30 a.m.)

NOVEMBER

- 01 ALL SAINTS DAY
- 06 Bishop w/ St. Paul's, Pekin (9 a.m.)
- 06 Bishop w/ All Saints', Morton (11 a.m.)
- 13 Bishop w/ St. Thomas', Salem (10 a.m.)
- 19 Diocesan Council, Diocesan Center, Springfield (10 a.m.)
- 20 Bishop w/ St. Andrew's, Edwardsville (8 & 10 a.m.)
- 27 ADVENT, Bishop w/ St. Christopher's, Rantoul (9:30 a.m.)

DECEMBER

- 04 Bishop w/ St. Andrew's, Carbondale (10 a.m.)
- 10 Bishop w/ St. Andrew's, Paris (TBD)
- 11 Bishop w/ Trinity, Mattoon (10 a.m.)
- 18 Bishop w/ St. Barnabas', Havana (10 a.m.)
- 24 Bishop w/ Cathedral Church of St. Paul (TBD)
- 25 CHRISTMAS DAY

Organist/Pianist Job Opening

Trinity Episcopal Church in Lincoln, Illinois, has a opening for a full-time organist. Interested parties should contact Stacie Wachtel, Senior Warden, at 309-533-1122 or email her at staciewachtel@yahoo.com for complete information on this position.

The Springfield Current

The Standing Committee of the Diocese of Springfield ~ The Very Rev. Christopher L. Ashmore, President

Betsy Schroeder, Editor **ECW:** Chris DeWitt **Youth:** Joe Hooten

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ADDRESS CHANGES AND CANCELLATIONS FOR THE SPRINGFIELD CURRENT MAY BE SENT TO:

Dena Toth (tothd@emissourian.com) or Al Eckelkamp (mailings@emissourian.com), Missouriian Publishing Company, P.O. Box 336, Washington, MO 63090 (Include complete new name and address with zip code, the parish or mission, and the community in which it is located. Also, include the old address or mailing label.)

Diocesan Prayer Calendar ~ March 2011

Tuesday, March 1

David, Bishop of Menevia, Wales, c. 544
 ANGLICAN CYCLE: Matlosane - (South Africa) The Rt Revd Stephen Molopi Diseko

DIOCESAN CYCLE: Pray for the Clergy of the Diocese as they gather for the Pre-Lenten Retreat, King's House, Belleville; Pray for the Bishop-elect as he begins his ministry in the Diocese and prepares for his Ordination and Consecration.

Wednesday, March 2

Chad, Bishop of Lichfield, 672
 ANGLICAN CYCLE: Mbaise - (Province of Owerri, Nigeria) The Rt Revd Bright Joseph Engemasi Ogu

DIOCESAN CYCLE: Pray for the Clergy of the Diocese as they gather for the Pre-Lenten Retreat, King's House, Belleville; Pray for the Bishop-elect as he begins his ministry in the Diocese and prepares for his Ordination and Consecration.

Thursday, March 3

John and Charles Wesley, Priests, 1791-1788

ANGLICAN CYCLE: Mbale - (Uganda) The Rt Revd Patrick M Gidudu
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: Pray for the Bishop-elect as he begins his ministry in the Diocese and prepares for his Ordination and Consecration.

Friday, March 4

ANGLICAN CYCLE: Mbamili - (Province of Niger, Nigeria) The Rt Revd Henry Okeke
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: Pray for the Bishop-elect as he begins his ministry in the Diocese and prepares for his Ordination and Consecration.

Saturday, March 5

ANGLICAN CYCLE: Mbeere - (Kenya) The Rt Revd Moses Masamba Nthuka
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: St. Thomas, Salem, Anniversary of the Consecration of Church building, 1926; Pray for the Bishop-elect as he begins his ministry in the Diocese and prepares for his Ordination and Consecration.

Sunday, March 6

LAST EPIPHANY
 ANGLICAN CYCLE: The Most Revd Stephen Than Myint Oo, Archbishop of Myanmar and Bishop of Yangon
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: St. Andrew's, Carbondale, The Rev Dr Keith R Roderick, Rector; St. Matthias Church, Christ Church Parish, Barbados, The Rev Canon De Vere Murrell, Rector; Birthday of The Rev Mary Christine "Mollie" Ward, Bloomington; Pray for the Bishop-elect as he begins his ministry in the Diocese and prepares for his Ordination and Consecration.

Monday, March 7

Perpetua and Her Companions, Martyrs at Carthage, 202
 ANGLICAN CYCLE: Meath and Kildare - (Dublin, Ireland) The Rt Revd Dr Richard Lionel Clarke
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: Birthday of Sue, wife of The Rev Thomas A Davis, Kell; Pray for the Bishop-elect as he begins his ministry in the Diocese and prepares for his Ordination and Consecration.

Tuesday, March 8

ANGLICAN CYCLE: PRAY for the International Anglican Women's Network (IAWN) as it connects Anglican women across the world.

DIOCESAN CYCLE: Pray for the Bishop-elect as he begins his ministry in the Diocese and prepares for his Ordination and Consecration.

Wednesday, March 9

Ash Wednesday
 ANGLICAN CYCLE: Medak - (South India) The Rt Revd Badda Peter Sugandhar
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: Anniversary of the organization of the Diocese of Illinois at Peoria, 1835; Trinity Church, Jacksonville, Admitted to the Diocese of Illinois, 1835; Pray for the Bishop-elect as he begins his ministry in the Diocese and prepares for his Ordination and Consecration.

Thursday, March 10

ANGLICAN CYCLE: Melbourne - (Victoria, Australia) The Most Revd Philip Leslie Freier; Melbourne - Eastern Region - (Victoria, Australia) The Rt Revd Stephen John Hale; Melbourne - Northern Region - (Victoria, Australia) The Rt Revd Philip James Huggins; Melbourne - Southern Region - (Victoria, Australia) The Rt Revd Dr John Warwick Wilson; Melbourne - Western Region - (Victoria, Australia) The Rt Revd Paul White
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: Pray for the Bishop-elect as he begins his ministry in the Diocese and prepares for his Ordination and Consecration.

Friday, March 11

ANGLICAN CYCLE: Meru - (Kenya) The Rt Revd Charles Ndiga Mwendwa
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: Birthday of Elisabeth, wife of The Very Rev John C Bettmann, Carlinville; Pray for the Bishop-elect as he begins his ministry in the Diocese and prepares for his Ordination and Consecration.

Saturday, March 12

Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, 604
 ANGLICAN CYCLE: Michigan - (Province V, USA) The Rt Revd Wendell Nathaniel Gibbs; Milwaukee - (Province V, USA) The Rt Revd Steven A Miller
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: Gene R Tucker, Ordination to the Priesthood; Pray for the Bishop-elect as he begins his ministry in the Diocese and prepares for his Ordination and Consecration.

Sunday, March 13

LENT I
 ANGLICAN CYCLE: Minna - (Province of Abuja, Nigeria) The Rt Revd Daniel Abu Yisa
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: Emanuel Memorial, Champaign, The Rev Alan Herbst, ossje., Rector; St. Patrick Church, Christ Church Parish, Barbados, The Rev Angela Phillips, Priest-in-Charge; Pray for the Bishop-elect as he prepares for his Ordination and Consecration.

Monday, March 14

ANGLICAN CYCLE: Minnesota - (Province VI, USA) The Rt Revd Brian N. Prior
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: Birthday of Linda Holt-Monson, Decatur; Pray for the Bishop-elect as he prepares for his Ordination and Consecration.

Tuesday, March 15

ANGLICAN CYCLE: Missionary Area of Macau - (Hong Kong) The Revd Simon Fan
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: Pray for the Bishop-elect as he prepares for his Ordination and Consecration.

Wednesday, March 16

ANGLICAN CYCLE: Missionary District of Oeste-Brasil - (Brazil) The Rt Revd Almir Dos Santos
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: Pray for the Bishop-elect as he prepares for his Ordination and Consecration.

Thursday, March 17

Patrick, Bishop and Missionary of Ireland, 461
 ANGLICAN CYCLE: Mississippi - (Province IV, USA) The Rt Revd Duncan M Gray
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: Birthday of Margaret, wife of The Rev James W Evans, NY; Pray for the Bishop-elect as he prepares for his Ordination and Consecration.

Friday, March 18

Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem, 386
 ANGLICAN CYCLE: Missouri - (Province V, USA) The Rt Revd George Wayne Smith
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: Pray for the Bishop-elect as he prepares for his Ordination and Consecration.

Saturday, March 19

Saint Joseph
 CONSECRATION OF THE ELEVENTH BISHOP OF SPRINGFIELD
 ANGLICAN CYCLE: Mityana - (Uganda) The Rt Revd Dunstan Bukunya
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: St. Mark's, West Frankfort, Anniversary of the Consecration of church building, 1939; PRAY for the Rev. Daniel Hayden Martins as he is Ordained and Consecrated as the 11th Bishop of Springfield.

Sunday, March 20

LENT II
 ANGLICAN CYCLE: Mombasa - (Kenya) The Rt Revd Julius Robert Katio Kula and the Rt Revd Lawrence Dena
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: Christ the King, Normal, The Rev Dr. Desmond Francis, Rector; St. Andrew's Parish Church, Barbados, The Rev Edward Gatherer, Rector; The Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Springfield, Consecration of church building, 1913; St. Paul's, Pekin, Anniversary of the Consecration of church building, 1876; Birthday of Ruth, widow of the Rev. Eric B. Asboe, Nebraska City, NE; PRAY for the Rt. Rev. Daniel H. Martins as he begins his Episcopate.

Monday, March 21

Thomas Ken, Bishop of Bath and Wells, 1711
 ANGLICAN CYCLE: PRAY for the International Anglican Liturgical Consultation and its mission to resource and communicate liturgical issues across the Anglican Communion
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: PRAY for the Rt. Rev. Daniel H. Martins as he begins his Episcopate.

Tuesday, March 22

James De Koven, Priest, 1879
 ANGLICAN CYCLE: Monmouth - (Wales) The Rt Revd Dominic Edward Walker
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: Birthday of The Rev Charles John Reischman, Decatur; PRAY for the Rt. Rev. Daniel H. Martins as he begins his Episcopate.

Wednesday, March 23

Gregory the Illuminator, Bishop and Missionary of Armenia, c. 332
 ANGLICAN CYCLE: Montana - (Province VI, USA) The Rt Revd Charles Franklin Brookhart

DIOCESAN CYCLE: Birthday of The Rev. Dr. William N. Malottke, McLeansboro; Birthday of Stephanie, wife of The Rev Brant V Hazlett, Mt. Carmel; PRAY for the Rt. Rev. Daniel H. Martins as he begins his Episcopate.

Thursday, March 24

Oscar Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador, 1980
 ANGLICAN CYCLE: Montreal - (Canada, Canada) The Rt Revd Barry B Clarke
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: St. Paul's Carlinville, Consecration of church building, 1881; PRAY for the Rt. Rev. Daniel H. Martins as he begins his Episcopate.

Friday, March 25

The Annunciation of Our Lord Jesus Christ to the Blessed Virgin Mary
 ANGLICAN CYCLE: Moray, Ross and Caithness - (Scotland) The Rt Revd Mark Strange
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: Patronal Feast Day for St. Mary's, Robinson; Pray for the attendees at the Annual ECW Retreat this weekend at Todd Hall; PRAY for the Rt. Rev. Daniel H. Martins as he begins his Episcopate.

Saturday, March 26

ANGLICAN CYCLE: Morogoro - (Tanzania) The Rt Revd Dudley Mageni
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: Birthday of The Rev Gene R Tucker, Mt. Vernon; Birthday of The Rev Maurice C Lee, Atlanta, GA; Pray for the attendees at the Annual ECW Retreat this weekend at Todd Hall; PRAY for the Rt. Rev. Daniel H. Martins as he begins his Episcopate.

Sunday, March 27

LENT III
 ANGLICAN CYCLE: Mount Kenya Central - (Kenya) The Rt Revd Isaac Nganga; Mount Kenya South - (Kenya) The Rt Revd Timothy Ranje; Mount Kenya West - (Kenya) The Rt Revd Joseph M Kagunda
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: St. Paul's Parish, Alton, The Rev David Boase, Rector; St. Saviour's Church, St. Andrew Parish, Barbados, The Rev Fequel LaPlante, Priest-in-Charge; Pray for the attendees at the Annual ECW Retreat this weekend at Todd Hall.

Monday, March 28

ANGLICAN CYCLE: Mount Kilimanjaro - (Tanzania) The Rt Revd Simon Elilekia Makundi
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: Timothy J Hallett, Champaign, Ordination to the Priesthood; Christ Church, Springfield, admitted to the Diocese, 1889.

Tuesday, March 29

John Keble, Priest, 1866
 ANGLICAN CYCLE: Mpumalanga - (South Africa) The Rt Revd Leslie Walker
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: Pray for the observance of a Holy Lent.

Wednesday, March 30

ANGLICAN CYCLE: Mpwapwa - (Tanzania) The Rt Revd Jacob Erasto Chimeledya
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: Birthday of the Rev Eugene A Stormer, Springfield.

Thursday, March 31

John Donne, Priest, 1631
 ANGLICAN CYCLE: Mthatha - (South Africa) The Rt Revd Dr Sitembele Tobela Mzamane
 DIOCESAN CYCLE: Birthday of Donna, widow of the Rev William Davis, Granite City.



You're Invited!

Happening #53

St. George's, Belleville

March 25-27



Open to all high school youth who have not previously attended a weekend and adults who work with youth.

Happening Application Form

HAPPENING EXPERIENCE: In today's world can Christianity penetrate the many areas of life? Can it transform the world and keep up with the changing times? The Happening Movement thinks so. It proposes no new type of spirituality, but it does provide a method through which one's spirituality may be developed, lived and shared in fellowship with Christians willing to dedicate their lives to God in an on-going manner.

INSTRUMENT OF RENEWAL: The Happening Experience is a powerful instrument of renewal in the Church. Its aim is to concentrate on the person and teachings of Jesus Christ. Happening gives those who attend a desire to understand and serve the Church. What's more, it provides a means to continue the Christian formation which is just begun in the three day program.

FORMAT OF THE PROGRAM: During the three days (Friday evening through Sunday afternoon) we gather for teaching, prayer, fellowship and worship. Happeners learn the meaning of the sacramental life of faith through the ministry of other young people. Happeners discover what Christian love is all about and how to deepen their relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

NOT A RETREAT: A Happening can only be made once in a lifetime, therefore it is not a substitute for a retreat. During the three days, the teachings of Christ are discussed in an environment of joy and happiness. A Happening is an event in spiritual growth in the loving community of Christ's Church. It results in changing lives and a lot of new insights into one's self and into one's surroundings.

ENCOUNTER WITH CHRIST: Happening is an encounter with Christ. That sounds simple, but is it? Think about it. It is a real meeting with Christ—the power, the beauty and the joy of being with Him. Interested? Join us!

WHO CAN ATTEND? The Happening experience is an Episcopal ministry that is open to all high school age students and interested adults of any faith. Before serving on staff for Happening, everyone must participate in a Happening weekend as a candidate.

WHAT TO BRING? Bring casual clothes, sleeping bag, pillow, towels, soap and other personal items. If you are taking medication, please label it with your name and necessary instructions, including the times you need it. All medication will be given to an adult upon arrival at the weekend.

WHAT NOT TO BRING: Please do not bring cameras, MP3 players, CD players, etc., leather jackets, expensive jewelry/clothing or other things of value to you either. Cell phones will be surrendered during the weekend.

WEEKEND COST
The cost for the Happening weekend is \$40 if application is received before March 11th. The cost is \$50 if received after March 11th. The absolute deadline is March 19th. Please include a check payable to HAPPENING with your application. Registration must be paid in full by the deadline or any fully paid application received thereafter will take priority. Scholarship assistance is available.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The weekend does not begin until everyone has arrived. It is important to plan to arrive within the scheduled arrival time. More detailed information will be provided upon receipt of your application.

Name _____ Address _____
City _____ Phone (____) _____
Email address: _____ Grade _____ Male/Female _____
Date of Birth _____
Baptized _____ Confirmed _____

Emergency contact:

Please provide information for someone other than your parents/guardian in case your parents cannot be contacted in an emergency

Name _____ Address _____
Phone (____) _____ Parish _____

RETURN TO: Frank Rogers, 500 South Missouri Ave., Belleville, IL 62220

More information and a map to the church will be sent to you upon receipt of your application. For more information please call: Frank Rogers at 618-277-1406.

COMMUNITY LIVING AGREEMENT

I agree to participate fully in all community activities, programs, worship, talks, meals, and clean up as required. I agree to comply with mandatory quiet times. I agree to comply with the stated no smoking policy at Diocesan youth events. I understand that alcohol, drugs, and/or sexual situations will not be tolerated and I could be removed from the community and/or sent home.

X _____
Participant's Signature

X _____
Parent/Guardian if participant is under 18

MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION

Insurance Company _____

Policy Number _____

Group # _____ Private _____

(type of policy) _____

Physician's Name _____

Physician's Telephone Number _____

I understand that my signature authorizes the Happening Program of the Diocese of Springfield, acting through the Happening Staff, to secure medical treatment needed for

(Candidate's name) _____

I further understand that I will be responsible for all expenses incurred and will reimburse the Happening Program of the Diocese of Springfield for any expenses they pay.

Adult Participant/Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Relationship to Participant _____

MEDICAL INFORMATION

Allergies/Medications/Health Problems Vegetarian/Other Dietary Restrictions: _____

IMPORTANT NOTE: The weekend does not begin until everyone has arrived. It is important to plan to arrive within the scheduled time. More detailed information will be provided upon receipt of your application.

Name _____

Address _____ City _____

Phone (____) _____

Email address: _____

Grade _____ Male/Female _____ T-Shirt Size _____

Date of Birth _____

Emergency contact:

Please provide information for someone other than your parents/guardian in case your parents cannot be contacted in an emergency.

Name _____ Address _____

Phone (____) _____ Parish _____

Baptized yes no

Confirmed yes no

Next Happening

Happening #54 is tentatively scheduled for November 2011

Diocesan Council Meeting Reports - February 25

Department of Christian Social Concerns

- The chair has nothing new to report.

Anti Racism Commission

The Rev. Christine C. Hopkins, Chair
Due to the winter weather the anti-racism training planned to be held in Champaign in January was postponed until a later date.

Chemical Dependency Commission

The Rev. Sheryl L. Black, Chair
The members of the commission are available to consult with congregations in the diocese addressing problems related to substance abuse by laity and members of the clergy.

Ministry to the Incarcerated

There are currently 25 graduates of the first Kairos at Menard who are regulars at the monthly reunions. In the past month-and-a-half there have been three team formation meetings at Chester. About half of the team are new volunteers, which will help to build our volunteer base. Volunteers are currently coming from Peoria, Chicago, St Louis, Bloomington and across Southern Illinois. The weekend is scheduled for March 24-27, with weekend #3 scheduled for Sept. 22-25, 2011. If you are interested in serving this ministry as it grows in Illinois, please contact Fr. Dick Swan at 618-841-1146.

*Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Sheryl L. Black, Chair*

Communications Department

I visited with Father Denney and Bishop-elect Martins to discuss Bishop-elect Martins' ideas for both The Current and the diocesan website. His ideas and suggestions track nicely with the direction the committee has been discussing, but had put on hold to wait for input and guidance from the new bishop. Talks and plans will resume soon, but we're at a good new starting point.

*Respectfully submitted,
Pete Sherman, Chair*

ECW

As a board, we concentrate on the two things that we do best; the annual retreat and raising funds for the chosen outreach project.

Plans for our Lenten Retreat are nearly complete. We have over 30 women registered for the weekend. The retreat will be held March 25-27, 2011 at Todd Hall near Columbia, IL. The theme for this retreat is "Celebrating the Disciplines ~ Learning to Use God's Toolbox" and was inspired by a book by Richard Foster. The speakers for this event will be 3 women clergy from our diocese. Additionally, Mr. Henry Evans will return to delight us with his musical talent and lead us in a hymn sing at St. Cecilia's Chapel on Saturday evening. We will continue to take last minute reservations for the next week or so, by contacting Rev. Ann Alley at adlalley@gmail.com and completed forms can be mailed to: Ann Alley, 913 W. Washington, Champaign, IL 61821.

The 2010-11 Diocesan Outreach Project was announced by the Rev. Mollie Ward our outreach coordinator. In her "power point" presentation at the Synod she extended a personal challenge to the attendees to support "Trickle-up" - www.trickleup.org. Trickle up is an international loan program that works closely with local partner agencies in Africa, Asia and Central America to provide the very poorest people with the right resources to help them start or expand a micro-enterprise to improve their families' quality of life. Donations should be

sent to: ECW Outreach c/o Judy Ellison, 122 Hightide Drive, Decatur, IL 62521.

Dates on our calendar are:
March 25 - 27, 2011 - ECW Lenten Retreat at Todd Hall, Columbia, IL
April 17, 2011 - Suggested date for the churches Spring UTO Ingathering
April 30, 2011 - ECW Annual Meeting and Spring UTO Ingathering at St. Matthew's, Bloomington
May 13 - 15, 2011 - Province V Meeting at Columbus, Ohio

We invite you to see our website at - <http://mysite.verizon.net/ecw.board.springfield>

*Respectfully submitted,
Chris DeWitt, President, ECW*

Department of Evangelism and Spiritual Enrichment

The Department of Evangelism and Spiritual Enrichment is in the process of reforming after the departure of the previous chair, Fr. Desmond Francis, and Bishop Beckwith. At present the membership consist of the chair, Fr. Kellington, and the Archdeacon, Fr. Shawn Denney. We decided it was not wise to try to hold Pausing for Prayer this year because of the consecration of our new bishop at about the same time. We will be seeking the counsel and membership of our new bishop as we make plans for the future of this important area of diocesan ministry.

*Respectfully submitted,
The Very Rev. Brian Kellington*

Standing Committee Report

Since the last meeting of the Diocesan Council on November 20, 2010, the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Springfield met on December 10, 2010; and on January 13 and February 10, 2011. The following actions were taken:

Received the following correspondence pertaining to the status of Orders:

From Bishop Smith, North Dakota - Notice of Remission of Sentence and Restoration of Priestly Orders - Cherian Mathews;

From Bishop Thompson, Louisiana - Notice of Renunciation of Ordained Ministry in this Church and Declaration of Removal and Release - Jerome Alan Kramer, Priest;

From Bishop Ray, Northern Michigan (Assisting) - Notice of Deposition following Renunciation of Ministry - Mathew E. Me-

tor;
--Noting that none of these actions was taken for causes affecting the person's moral character.

Reviewed the details of the Customary for the Consecration of Bishops sent from the Presiding Bishop's office, noting that that the Consecration would also be the occasion for the Presiding Bishop's Canonical Visit, and that Bishop-elect Martins wants to be deeply involved in the planning of the liturgy for Consecration. The Standing Committee resolved that Frs. Ashmore and Denney would act as coordinators for the Consecration and Canonical Visit in consultation with Bishop-elect Martins.

Arranged for the re-painting and re-carpeting of the Bishop's office, and the purchasing of new office furniture.

Reviewed and finalized the Letter of Agreement between the Standing Committee and the Bishop-elect.

Discussed possibilities for a Diocesan gift to the Bishop-elect on the occasion of his consecration, and decided on his Episcopal Ring and Crosier; and arranged for an invitation to go out to all the parishes and

missions of the Diocese to participate financially in the purchase of the gifts.

Continued conversations with the following congregations of the Diocese with respect to securing the service of Ordained Ministry:

St Thomas, Salem
Trinity, Lincoln
St. Paul's, Carlinville, and St. Peter's, Chesterfield;
Darrow Deanery Cluster Ministry

Ruled favorably on a request for marital judgment from Fr. Alan Herbst, Emmanuel, Champaign.

Passed the following resolution regarding the Diocese's relationship with the Episcopal Church Camp of Illinois:
After consideration, the Standing Committee feels that the issue of Diocesan Camp is properly in the purview of the pastoral office of the new Bishop. We are fully aware that time constraints may preclude a disposition for the upcoming camp year.

Voted to consent to the Ordinations of:
the Rev. Michael Pierce Milliken, Bishop-elect of Western Kansas;
the Rev. Jeffrey Ray, Bishop-elect of Northern Michigan;
the Rev. Martin Scott Field, Bishop-elect of West Missouri;
the Rev. R. William Franklin, Bishop-elect of Western New York.

Voted to accept the resignation of the Rev. Anthony B. Holder as Vicar of St. Michael's, O'Fallon, and to issue Letters Dimissory for Fr. Holder to the Diocese of Southeast Florida.

Confirmed the following Diocesan Council meeting dates for 2011:

Friday, February 25, 2011;
Saturday, May 21, 2011;
Friday, August 26, 2011; and
Saturday, November 19, 2011.

Received word from the Rev. Canon Charles Robertson, Canon to the Presiding Bishop, on January 4, 2011, that consent to the ordination of Fr. Martins had been given by majorities of both the House of Bishops and the several Standing Committees. At that time sixty-seven (67) Standing Committee consents had been received; eleven (11) dioceses had withheld their consent.

Arranged to purchase a Diocesan Bishop's seal for the use of the newly consecrated Bishop and his successors (his Ring has only a jewel, which cannot be used for signing).

Passed the following resolution regarding the Bishop's compensation package:

Whereas, the Rev. Daniel H. Martins is to be employed, effective February 1, 2011, as a minister of the Gospel and Chief Pastor by the Episcopal Diocese of Springfield, which does not provide a residence for him, the Standing Committee Resolves that, of the total compensation of \$106,700 to be paid to the Rev. Daniel H. Martins during 2011, \$33,000 be designated a housing allowance within the meaning of that term as used in Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and the Standing Committee further

Resolves that \$33,000 of compensation is designated as housing allowance for this and all future years unless otherwise provided.

Confirmed its earlier determination (conducted by email survey on December 23, 2010) to rehire Mrs. Sue Spring as Diocesan Administrator. Mrs. Spring returned to work on Monday, January 3, 2011.

Passed the following resolution regarding

provision for housing for the Bishop-elect:

Whereas, Mr. James R. Donkin, Treasurer of the Diocese, has determined, in consultation with the Diocesan accountant, that it is appropriate to advance the sum of \$52,600.00 to assist the Rev. Daniel H. Martins, Bishop-elect of Springfield, with the down payment on the residence he has contracted to purchase in Springfield; and

Whereas, the amount provided will be an advance on monies which will be due to Fr. Martins as a housing allowance from the time he begins his responsibilities on February 1, 2011, to be secured by a note and second mortgage on the residence in question; and

Whereas, because clergy relocating often move from church-provided housing, they have not accumulated the equity that persons in other professions would have been able to accumulate; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Standing Committee endorses the advance of the sum of \$52,600 to the Rev. Daniel H. Martins, for the down payment on a residence in Springfield; and be it further Resolved, that this advance is being made as a matter of Diocesan policy to assist our new chief pastor in his relocation to Springfield.

Voted to authorize the Rev. David Halt to use the 1559 Book of Common Prayer during Lent as part of a commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the publication of the Authorized (King James) Version of the Bible.

Accepted the resignation of the Rev. Sheryl L. Black from full time ministry in the Hale Deanery.

Voted to accept Letters Dimissory for Fr. Martins from the Diocese of Northern Indiana, the effective date of the transfer of canonical status being February 9, 2011.

Approved the appointment of the Rev. Deacon John Henry as Deacon Administrator for St. Paul's, Carlinville and St. Peter's, Chesterfield.

Voted to send the Rev. Daniel Karanja, a military chaplain canonically resident in the Diocese, \$1,000 from the Bishop's Discretionary Fund. In an email from Fr. Karanja, he detailed a need for financial assistance to cover medical bills, following an attack on Fr. Karanja's family in Kenya which left his brother incapacitated and his sister-in-law and unborn infant dead.

*Respectfully submitted,
The Very Rev. Christopher L. Ashmore
President, Standing Committee*

ADDENDUM: As of Wednesday, February 16, 2011 - the final day of the 120-day Consent Period for our Bishop-elect - the totals for the Standing Committees of the Church were:

Consent = 78
Non-consent = 18

Department of Youth Work Report to Council

The Diocesan Youth Department hosted an Episcopal Youth Event at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Springfield, Illinois.

on Dec. 30 - Dec. 31, 2010. The Evening began with a Eucharist celebrated by Bishop-elect Dan Martins and was attended by teens from the metro east area, Rantoul and Springfield. The event included information about upcoming youth events, music provided by Skip Clarquist, team building exercises led by Kevin Korte, Julie Herr and Tom Heiting from St. George's, compline,

continued, next page

Diocesan Council Meeting Reports - February 25

Dept. of Youth Work continued

morning prayer, games and social time.

New Beginnings was held the weekend of Feb 18 - Feb 20, 2011 at Epworth Camp in Louisville, Illinois. There were 4 youth and 3 adult candidates involved in the weekend, which was staffed by 10 youth and 8 adults. The closing Eucharist was celebrated by Bishop-elect Dan Martins.

Looking ahead:

There will be a lock-in called 11th Hour for youth in conjunction with the consecration of Bishop-elect Martins on March 18-19, 2011.

A Happening weekend will be held at St. George's Belleville the weekend of March 25 - 27, 2011.

Agape Fest will be held on the campus of Greenville College the weekend of April 29 - 30, 2011.

Work Week will be held the week of June 12- 18, 2011. The project for this year has not been selected as of yet.

We are investigating attending EYE sponsored by the national church in St. Paul, MN June 22 - 26, 2011. There is a focus of mission work in this year's EYE, and the Youth Dept. is looking to find some suitable mission work in which we can engage youth after we return from EYE.

Church Camp will be held in conjunction with the Diocese of Quincy ACNA from July 2 - 9, 2011. The theme of the camp this year will be Come to God's Kingdom, and it is planned to connect this theme to Paul's journeys.

Information about all of these events has been sent to all churches in the diocese, and it is hoped that from there it is disseminated to the youth. Several churches have helped by putting the information into the Sunday bulletins, but some churches have not responded to emails, so it is not known if all youth in the diocese are getting information about youth events.

*Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Moore, Chair*

Darrow (Western) Deanery Report to Council

St. George's, Belleville - Christmas services had good attendances in spite of snowfall Christmas Eve. The 5:30 pm service included the Blessing of the Creche and involvement of children. We noted many new pre-school kids who came up for the filling of the Creche, and Fr. Dale's children's homily. At the late service, the choir and music directed by Dr. Nancy Ypma was outstanding, alone with the singing of the Choristers.

Epiphany was celebrated as a joint Eucharist with St. Mark Lutheran Church, and interim Pastor Joseph Bleakly was our preacher. St. Mark is engaged in a search for a pastor following the 30+ year service of Pastor Ron Neustadt.

Todd Hall has had some ups and downs in the past few years, but now is moving ahead smoothly with the new chairperson of their board, Dr. Margaret Brown. The fairly new Executive Director of Todd Hall, Jim Moeller, brings great energy to promoting the retreat center, and they now have a new Business manager. We encourage churches to use Todd Hall.

We had a lively Annual Meeting, with reports, elections, and presentation of the 2011 budget. While the budget is pretty much the same as 2010, we were pleased not to have to make any cuts. Our staff received no increases from 2010, in keeping with much of many of parishioners' own situations. Ed Parsons was honored for his two years of stable, level headed leadership as Senior Warden, and guiding the Vestry through the selection of our new Rector.

Fr. Coleman presented a series of Adult Forums on "God and the Philosophers", using Antony Flew's book "There is a God", a memoir by this former atheist who reached belief in God particularly by the Design argument for God's existence. The small book includes a fine 25 page appendix by Bishop N. T. Wright on clear reasons for believing the truth of the Christian faith, an outstanding section in apologetics.

Our Spirituality Commission led by Betsy Rogers has put together what promises to be an excellent program in Lent, both with a series on the meaning of "Messiah" - with Muslim, Jewish, and Christian presentations, capped with new Bishop Daniel Martins making the last talk on April 14th; and a Saturday Lenten Quiet Day on April 9 led by Fr. Alan Herbst.

We are promoting the consecration of our new bishop, Fr. Martins, and eagerly anticipate his leadership in our diocese.

*Respectfully submitted
The Rev. Dale Coleman, Rector*

St. Andrew's, Edwardsville December, 2010

- Advent Lessons and Carols followed by Potluck Dinner and parish-wide sharing of Nativity sets
- ECW Holiday Gathering
- The Rector's Class completed "Embracing an Adult Faith"
- Church School presents Annual Christmas Pageant
- Outreach Committee donated needed items/gifts to 14 families
- Once again the baby Jesus from our outdoor Creche was stolen

January, 2011

- Epiphany Evensong
- Rector's Class begins "Mysteries - Not Magic: The Sacraments of the Church"
- The Annual Parish Meeting

February, 2011

- The ECW will present an English Tea on Sunday afternoon, February 27th

Plans being made for:

- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- Lenten Wednesdays
- A Lenten "Taize" worship service joining St. Andrew's Choir with
- St. Boniface (RC) Choir (next door) to be held April 8th.
- Our Annual "Mayfest" event

*Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Virginia L. Bennett, D. Min., Rector*

Northern Deanery Report to Council

St. Matthew's, Bloomington - Over the past several months St. Matthew's has actively participated in the life of our community in serving at the Midwest Food Bank, supporting the Salvation Army in the annual coat drive, collecting hats and mittens for the underprivileged, and providing holiday food baskets for families in our neighborhood.

At our Annual Meeting we elected Julie Bennett to serve as Rector's Warden, Diana Holderby as Parish Warden; Tyson Mohr, Robin Levine, Chante Forde, Roy Laws to the Vestry; John Iliff, Stephanie Davingman, and Chris Bennett to Synod. Chuck Palm and Justin Palm were elected to serve as alternate delegates to Synod.

The new Vestry held a very successful planning retreat on February 19 and are

looking forward to implementing a vision for mission at St. Matthew's.

Fr. Dave Halt was invested as a Benedictine Oblate Novice at St. Meinrad Archabbey during his annual retreat in December.

The youth of St. Matthew's are in the process of raising funds for a mission trip to Annunciation Mission in New Orleans this July.

St. Barnabas, Havana - The year 2011 has been very good for St Barnabas. We elected two new BAC members. Mr Jerry Hurley is our new Sr. Warden replacing Mrs. Vickie Hailey. Attendance has remained stable, while morale is high and THERE IS A GOOD SPIRIT here. Finances remain a challenge but hopefulness abounds. St Barnabas has a tremendous outreach to the Greater Havana through the Havana Christian Day Care Center. The Vicar functions informally as the day care chaplain assisting whenever necessary at special functions and reading stories for the children. A few members of St Barnabas also volunteer to help the staff and the children.

The future here remains hopeful because people love Jesus Christ and want to live and share that hope with others. The new vicar has been here one year now and there is a warm relationship between him and the St Barnabas family. The vicar works here full time but receives less than full stipend. His endorsed chaplain ministry by the Bishop of the Armed Forces, enables him to serve our country and denomination as priest in the United States Air Force, Air National Guard. He will be deployed for a few months this year helping our wounded military members in the combat zone. His duty to military service helps the parish financially by compensating him for this challenging ministry. In addition, his enrollment in Tri-care Medical (benefit from his military service) has saved the Diocese \$12 K and St Barnabas \$8 k.

Things look very positive for St Barnabas. People are being enabled for ministry to each other, the community, and beyond!

*Faithfully In Christ's Service and Glory
St. Barnabas Havana*

Trinity, Lincoln - No Report

All Saints' Morton - All Saints' held their 17th Annual Cookie Walk this on December 12th. We had many come out for the Cookie Walk despite the wintery weather.

This year St. Paul's Pekin and All Saints' Morton joined forces and put together a Guest Speakers Series. The Series started in September with Fr David Halt, who spoke to the group on Thanksgiving, and then in November we enjoyed Fr. Charles Reischman who spoke on the Holy Spirit and Grace and then in January Arch Deacon Shawn Denny spoke to the group about Outreach. Our next speaker is Fr. Desmond Francis who is scheduled to speak to us about God's Dream for His Church. Our last speaker will be our new Bishop Dan Martins in May.

*Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Kellington, Deacon Administrator*

Christ the King Episcopal Church, Normal - Christ the King Episcopal Church continues to affirm our Parish Vision which is to become a "Community of Joyful Disciples who make Joyful Disciples of all people."

In this report, we high light just a few of the new possibilities we have initiated to fulfill our Vision.

First - Evangelism. This year our focus is on three aspects of making joyful people of others. We are intentionally preparing and initiating our parish to be and to become

a neighborhood parish by reaching out to our immediate neighbors [demographically and geographically] as we personally visit them and invite them to consider the claims of Jesus Christ and possibly [and eventually] become members of our parish. We are also intentionally, ministering to our preschool children's families to also encourage them to consider the claims of Jesus Christ and possibly become members of our parish. We are also reaching out to our two Universities-- Illinois State University and Illinois Wesleyan University and reach students with the gospel of Jesus Christ. We ask your prayers as we initiate these ministries for the glory of God.

Second - Pastoral Care. We have begun a Sunday evening Bible study and prayer fellowship in the home of our Rector, Desmond Francis, where about 10 - 12 members of the parish gather and we are studying the New Testament book of, James - Divine Wisdom for Living the Christian Life in the Market Place! This began on Sunday the 13th of February, 2011 at 6 pm.

Third - Leadership. We had a wonderful Vestry [we call ourselves Christ the King Mission Leadership Team] retreat where our theme was, Fears, Faith and Fruitfulness, as we zeroed in on the, "Jesus Creed," a book by Scot McKnight. The same theme will be used during our season of Lent when our whole parish will be focused on, "40 Days of Living the Jesus Creed" which is focused on Jesus' words to "Love God, Love neighbor and love Self."

As we pray and plan for the days ahead, our parish is singularly committed to our parish Mission which is a take [off] from our Vision which is "To Become a Community of Joyful

Disciples who make Joyful Disciples of all people through Stewardship, Worship, Education [Christian and Preschool], Evangelism, Pastoral Care, Service [Outreach] and Fellowship." Pray with us that God's perfect will be done in our parish. To God alone be the glory!

*Joyfully submitted
Desmond C. Francis, Rector, CTK parish*

St. Paul's, Pekin - Our fourth annual Kids' Christmas Craft Day was a big success. We again had the Angel Tree recipients join in the fun. We did not have as many Angel Tree participants this year.

St. Paul's has been participating in the Speakers Series with All Saints', Morton.

On Sunday, December 5, we anticipated the feast of Saint Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, with a visit from the saint, this year ably played by Clair Park. He told the congregation a bit about himself, and gave the children each a bag of gold coins made of chocolate.

In January we switched Service times from 9 to 11 a.m. in accordance with our agreement with All Saint's, Morton.

Our Lenten Program will again include soup supper, the Way of the Cross, and a short program on Wednesdays. We are alternating locations with All Saints' in Morton.

In December, January and February, Inspired Heights of Rockford, Illinois have been re-roofing the steeple, removed the asbestos shingle roofs on the church and rectory, and installing "Leaf Defiers" in the gutters. The project took longer than anticipated because of the late start and difficult weather. We are glad to have a good tight roof that should last us many years.

*Respectfully submitted
Brian Kellington, Rector*

Diocesan Council Meeting Reports - February 25

Eastern Deanery Report to Council

Deanery Doings - The clergy of the Eastern Deanery met in Clericus on Monday, February 21, 2011 at St. Thomas' Church, Salem. Acting as host for the first time was Deacon Jeff Kozuszek. Since our last meeting in November, some clergy changes have taken place: Father Tom Davis formally retired on November 30, 2010, and Deacon Jeff was ordained on the same date at the Cathedral in Springfield. Deacon Jeff was then appointed to be Deacon Administrator for St. Thomas by the Ecclesiastical Authority. The clergy of the Deanery meet in Clericus meet quarterly for a time of fellowship, mutual support, and worship.

Respectfully submitted,

The Very Rev. Gene R. Tucker, Dean

St. John's, Albion - St. John's, Albion, continues to have steady attendance and a committed congregation, under the leadership of Deacon Bill Howard. Everyone donated candy, diabetic candy, candy canes and gift bags to be filled for the residents of Rest Haven Manor as favors for December, with a hand-crocheted angel made by a mother of one of our members. We had extra candy and made goody bags for Rest Haven's employees to enjoy, as well. We had Christmas Eve service on the 24th of December, and continue to collect food items for the Hope Center and Bingo prizes for the local nursing home. We also donated a large artificial Christmas tree to the Hope Center for them to use or to give away. Everyone stayed to help decorate the church for the Christmas season with fresh greens and ornaments.

St. John's was chosen and depicted on the Edwards County Historical Society's ornament and sun catcher for the year 2010 that they do as a fundraiser. We have a historical display at the back of the church, and continue to care and preserve our history in the County and the Diocese.

Our Annual Meeting and carry-in luncheon was held in January. Business was discussed, finances gone over, and elections taken care of. A lunch was then enjoyed by all with visiting and fellowship.

We are hoping to participate with a display this coming December on the courthouse lawn.

Plans are in the works for confirmation classes to be held, donations to worthy causes, clean up outside on the property, favors for the nursing home, Stations of the Cross during Lent, as well as some other special services to be determined later. We hope to have representation at the special service for our new Bishop, with one member joining the choir, as well as several of us attending from St. John's. We look forward to more good things happening, with repeat visitors and interest in our church.

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Holly Scherer, Clerk

St. John's, Centralia - The congregation of St. John's continues to show a very high level of commitment, both in midweek and Sunday worship, in attendance at our Thursday evening study series (which is using the ALPHA Course), and in outreach to the community.

As a percentage of St. John's active members, our Sunday attendance would have to show that a large majority are in church Sunday by Sunday. Likewise, our Thursday Mass also has enjoyed growing numbers who come to gather in this sacred place. Each week, the saints of God in times past are chosen from Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2006 to serve as the subjects of the homilies which are heard at that time.

Our Annual Meeting was held on January 22nd. At that time, three new members of the Bishop's Committee were elected and recommended to the Ecclesiastical Authority for appointment. We

thanked Mr. Keith Carter for his service on the Bishop's Committee as his term came to an end. Recommended for re-appointment were Bishop's Warden Tom Walsh, Mission Warden Ivan McCrary, and Karen Walsh, Clerk. Keith Carter was re-elected to serve as Synod Delegate, with Tom Walsh to be Alternate Delegate. Treasurer Kathryn McCrary reported that the 2010 calendar year ended with a significant surplus. For 2011, the proposed budget predicts a small deficit, though pledge income is up from 2010.

In November, we had farewell to a long-time member of St. John's, Clinton Harms. His loss represents the second such loss for St. John's during 2010.

Fr. Tucker gave a presentation on the Episcopal Church to a class at Christ our Rock Lutheran High School, located in Centralia, on Monday, February 7, 2011.

Finally, beginning in March, St. John's will welcome a new organist, Barbara Crane. Barbara had been serving as organist for an Episcopal Church in St. Louis. Since she lives in Centralia, it is our hope that her close proximity to the church will prove to be a blessing for her and for the church, as well.

Respectfully submitted,

The Very Rev. Gene R. Tucker, Priest-in-Charge

St. Laurence, Effingham - Nothing new has happened at St. Laurence in Effingham since our last report except that our pastor, Rev. James Fackler, suffered a heart attack on Tuesday of this week. He is recuperating at Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis. Our love, thoughts, and prayers are with him as he makes a full recovery. Anyone wishing to send him a get well card may send it to: 621 N. 8th St., Vandalia, IL 62471.

Until next time here's wishing everyone a happy early Spring and no more ice storms!

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Carolyn Pogue, Bishop's Warden

St. John the Baptist, Mt. Carmel - Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! These past few months have been very busy for the good people of St. John's. We've seen a slight increase in attendance since the holiday season. We ministered to approximately 50% more people at Christmas Eve than at other normal services. We've done many social activities. On the 4th Sunday of Advent, we all gathered for lunch after a "trimming" of the church. We hosted a parish-wide Epiphany party for well over 20 people. We then gathered at a parishioner's home for lunch following our annual meeting. Another parishioner has graciously opened her home to a Shrove Tuesday pancake supper. We have also been very active in community outreach. Our parish collected and allocated enough money to provide Christmas gifts for nine area children. We have continued to support our local food pantry and assistance agency with various food items for Thanksgiving and Christmas. We have, as a parish, pledged to have a monthly in-gathering of specified items for the same agency. Our outreach fund has assisted 3 different families in crises to meet rent or utility bills. Our Sunday adult study group continues to meet with four people attending regularly. For three months during this past year we have supported our troops serving in Iraq by sending care packages to Iraq. This effort was enhanced by other parishes and individuals throughout the diocese and beyond. After the parish received a bequest of \$150,000, the Vestry has approved a plan to spend an additional \$1000 monthly during the current year for outreach to individuals in need in our community. God has blessed our small parish, and in gratitude, we want to pass along His blessings to others.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Don Kensell, Rector's Warden

Trinity, Mt. Vernon - The past three months have been eventful ones in the life of Trinity, Mt. Vernon.

During Christmas, a Children's Choir was composed of children in the congregation, who were joined by some of their parents for moral and musical support. They provided an anthem for Christmas Eve, an offering that we hope will be repeated soon.

Beginning in February, Trinity began offering a Children's Homily just before the sermon. Children come forward to sit on cushions to hear the homily, which usually focuses on the gospel text for the day. Thus far, the reaction from children and adults alike has been positive.

Trinity's Annual Meeting took place on January 30th. Three new Vestry members were elected to three year terms: Mrs. Shirley LaVielle, Mrs. Linda Welch, and Mr. Jason Newell. Trinity's Rector's Warden, Mrs. Esther Schelosky, was reappointed, and a new Parish Warden, Mr. John Lewis, was elected. Mr. David Campbell, Trinity's long-time Treasurer, was also re-elected, as was Mrs. Joyce Bruce, who will continue to serve as Clerk. Mr. and Mrs. Barney Bruce were re-elected to serve as Synod Delegates, while Mr. Don Welch and Mr. Art Pryor were elected to serve as Synod Delegate Alternates.

Trinity's 2010 financial statement showed that the parish ended the year with a 3% budget surplus. The Rector made the comment during his address that Trinity is now giving about 10% of its revenues to various sorts of outreach ministries beyond its walls. This is directly due, it was noted, to the generosity of Trinity's members.

For 2011, pledge income has declined by about 10% over 2010's totals. The budget adopted at the Annual Meeting projects an 18% deficit.

On Sunday, January 30th, Trinity was blessed to have two persons to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism: Wendy and William Newell, mother and 10 month old son, were baptized on that occasion.

Trinity will join our neighbor to the west, St. Mary's Catholic Church, in ecumenical Stations of the Cross again this Lent. These services alternate between St. Mary's and Trinity each week. Trinity also continues to be active in the Jefferson County Ministerial Association (of which the Rector was President for 2009 - 2010), and in this capacity, has become a sponsor of a proposed homeless shelter, the Lifeboat Alliance shelter. We also continue to support Mt. Vernon's only current shelter, the Hope in Christ Ministries, with monetary support, and with monthly food collections for its food pantry ministry.

Respectfully submitted,

The Very Rev. Gene R. Tucker, Rector

St. Mary's, Robinson - Advent saw the introduction of Nooma tapes during coffee hour. This was only an introduction and now we will begin using them and discussing them Wednesday evenings during Lent. Nooma tapes are short films that explore our world from a perspective of Jesus. They allow and present an invitation to search, question, and join in the discussion.

Christmas Eve was a joyful celebration that did not end with the service. It continued in the undercroft with spontaneous hymn singing by our younger parishioners. We were all blessed.

The Annual Meeting brought some new ways of looking at things and opened the door for ministry by all. Also as the new year began we were pleased to have Fr. Tucker offer to do a Eucharistic service on the last Wednesday of each month.

In February we began investigating several outreach programs. We have been setting aside money each week for these projects and will decide in March what we will do with the funds and how we personally can get involved locally.

We will have our Ash Wednesday

service at 7 p.m. and each week during Lent we will have Stations of the Cross, followed by a Nooma tape, discussion, and Compline.

Several of our parishioners participate and provide a service for residents at the Oblong Nursing Home. Deacon Ann provides a teaching twice a month for residents at the Supportive Living Facility in Mt. Carmel.

We continue to have Morning Prayer on Wednesday morning at 10 a.m. and fellowship during lunch which is preceded by Noon Prayers.

We are joyful, thankful people growing in our knowledge of, and understanding of, Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior as we reach out to others in their daily life.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Ann H. Tofani, Assisting Deacon

St. Thomas, Salem - For St. Thomas, the last three months has been a time of change, transition and celebration. After serving as deacon and priest at St. Thomas for many years, Father Tom Davis (and wife Sue) retired following his last service November 21, 2010. The parish held a fond farewell with a well-attended church luncheon complete with stories, pictures and gifts. On November 30, the Right Reverend Dr. Donald James Parsons, Assisting Bishop of Springfield, ordained Jeffrey Frank Kozuszek a Deacon of the Episcopal Diocese of Springfield. The parish is delighted to have Deacon Jeff, appointed as Administrative Deacon to St. Thomas, and his family as we transition into a new era.

During the Christmas season, Saint Nicholas arrived one jolly evening with presents for the children, and the fantastic chefs of St. Thomas conducted their annual cookie sale, eagerly anticipated by many Salemites. Parishioners celebrated Christmas Eve with pageantry and pageant as, surrounded by the wonder of lights and music, the young children of the church became Mary, Joseph and the angels. Lessons and Carols, coordinated by our esteemed organist/harpsichordist Martha Stiehl, featured vocal and instrumental music assimilated with the beloved hymns of Christmas.

Also during this time, St. Thomas delivered gifts to our adopted nursing home residents and distributed food baskets to the needy. The ECW also completed its delivery to area nursing homes of decoratively wrapped "Dignity" boxes, which families utilize to bring home the belongings of a deceased family member.

Epiphany denotes a time of celebration, and St. Thomas did just that with a special Epiphany service held January 6 followed by a "De-greening the Church" party. The parish annual meeting heralded new members for the Bishop's Committee, a balanced budget for the first time, and much discussion regarding growth. The Bishop's Committee has affirmed the need for a strategic plan and is forming a development committee to assist in furthering goals of the parish.

February did not slow down as opportunities for fellowship continued with, believe-it-or-not, the Cheeseheads Party, a Super Bowl gathering that allowed parishioners and new friends to enjoy the camaraderie of St. Thomas, and, of course, football! ECW members shared their favorite "Love Stories" at the February meeting.

Last, but not least, St. Thomas has redesigned its newsletter, now called The Red Door Express and developed an exciting website. Truly, there has been change and transition at St. Thomas, and we celebrate God's many gifts as we move forward to serve Him.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Jeffrey Kosuszek, Administrative Deacon, Assisted by Mrs. Liz Hinman

Diocesan Council Meeting Reports - February 25

Northeastern Deanery Report to Council

Chapel of St. John the Divine, Champaign - Students form the Chapel of St. John the divine traveled by train to Colorado with a large group from Province V for the biennial national student gathering held at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park. on December 29—January 1. Rebecca Greenlee from St. John's was a member of the Student Leadership Team for the event. She is the twelfth student from St. John's to be part of the planning team since these gatherings were revived in the 1980's. A number of Chapel alumni now living in Denver joined us for lunch one day in Estes Park.

At this year's Annual Meeting, Fr. Timothy Hallett announced his retirement, effective Pentecost this year, having been at the Chapel for 35 years.

We are looking forward to the visit of the Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schiori on the Sunday following the Consecration of the Bishop-Elect. We also look forward to Bishop Martins's first episcopal visitation to the Chapel in May.

A number of musical performance groups will be presenting concerts in the Chapel during the current semester. We will also present a series of noonday organ recitals during Lent. These have been well-attended since their inception two years ago.

*Respectfully submitted,
Timothy J. Hallett*

Church of the Holy Trinity, Danville - The Church of the Holy Trinity, Danville, like the rest of the deanery, spent the winter months battling ice, snow and frigid temperatures. The Sunday before Thanksgiving, we held our Traditional Parish Thanksgiving Dinner, a time of joy and fellowship for our own families, their extended families, and those we reach out to in our neighborhood.

A beautiful Advent was celebrated, using the Children of Mary's gift to the Parish: a beautiful Advent Wreath. After an entire month of snow, Christmas Eve's blizzard still came as a surprise, but still brought people to the church from as far as Covington, Indiana to the east and Champaign/Urbana to the West for the Midnight Mass. Earlier in the day we were privileged to rescue a homeless, stranded traveler, and our oldest (99 year old) parishioner hosted Father Scanlon for a Christmas Eve meal. People continued to struggle through bad weather to celebrate The Feast of the Nativity, the Feast of the Holy Family, and Epiphany. It was a winter of parishioners helping each other out in illness, as well as the bad weather.

January 30 was the Annual Meeting, which honored five retiring Vestry Members, and saw five new Vestry members elected. Kathie Schmitt will be the new Rector's Warden, Mary Dae Haas the Parish Warden, and Tina Cornell the new Treasurer. Plans were announced for the Bishop's Consecration on March 19, and for Katie Schutz's 100th Birthday on March 12.

The Children of Mary represented our Parish at the Martin Luther King Community Celebration as a group (while one of our Vestry members represented the church in the Martin Luther King Mass Choir), and are planning the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, as they continue their Christian Education classes and their upcoming Lenten Devotion.

*Respectfully submitted,
Marti Coffman*

Emmanuel Memorial Church, Champaign - It has been an exciting and productive Fall at Emmanuel Memorial Church, Champaign. Although we entered 2010 with a significant projected deficit, we ended the

year with a several thousand dollar budget surplus. We are grateful for all of those who paid pledges on time and even paid beyond their pledges. We are especially grateful to our treasurer and assistant treasurer and the parish trustees who have so skillfully guided the parish through the trying financial times facing this nation.

We are grateful to our Welcoming and Fellowship Committees who have created a truly remarkable atmosphere of hospitality and community in the parish. We are grateful that the parish welcomed 36 new members in 2010 through the efforts of these persons.

Parish Formation continues to be very healthy. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is now in its third year and continues to be well received. Youth Group and Acolyte meetings have seen some of the best attendance in recent years, and the spirit of Christian Community among these young people is excellent. The Adult Forum is studying the Bart Erhman text on the New Testament. This series was kicked off with an excellent lecture by Dr. Rick Layton (a parishioner) who is an associate professor of Religious Studies at the U. of I.

We continue to reach out to those in need in a variety of ways -- sack lunch program, food pantry, food give-aways. We generated over \$32,000 in outreach giving in 2010. This does not include the gifts-in-kind to the food pantry nor the number of volunteer hours of service.

We are looking forward to an active Lenten Program Season which will include a diverse series of programs on Sunday evenings.

We are grateful for God's many blessings on this parish church.

*Respectfully submitted,
Tom Barnard, Rector's Warden
Craig Russell, Parish Warden
Alan A. Herbst, Obl. SSJE, Rector*

Trinity Church, Mattoon - There is a new sense of excitement in the congregation after hearing the bishop's visitation is scheduled for December 11, 2011. That will be exactly one hundred thirty-three years and six months after George Seymour was consecrated as the first bishop of the new diocese of Springfield in Trinity Church, New York City.

More than one hundred years ago the Bishop Seymour Guild became active in Trinity Church and in the last fifty years provided monumental spiritual and financial support for the congregation and diocese. One of the Guild officers remembered her grandfather talking about how the congregation provided fresh mules when Bishop Seymour visited Mattoon. A discussion soon started if the Seymour Guild could supply fresh mules in December for the new bishop's first visit to Mattoon.

Plans are developing for events occurring long before December. The immediate concern is the beginning of Lent. For as long as anyone in the congregation can remember a Shrove Tuesday supper has been held. This year things will be different. Our Shrove Tuesday chef, Carl Curran, has retired after many successful years of attending to the shroves. Chef Carl's fame in the community developed when he would bake several hundred small loaves of bread which the congregation distributed at the Coles County Fair. Without chef Carl's Shrove Tuesday night magic touch in our kitchen, the Bishop's Committee decided to replace the supper with a breakfast following the regular Sunday Eucharist at 10:00 a.m. on March 6.

Our past Bishop's Warden, Dr. Bailey K. Young,, in the History Department at Eastern Illinois University, leads a class of students in a summer course at Walhain Castle, in the archeological site in Belgium. In alternate years the congregation has given scholarships to two students who have been able to take the class with the

help of the two thousand dollar grant from the congregation. The first student graduated from law school and is a member of the bar in Missouri. The most recent student is finishing his master's degree at Eastern. We anticipate funding a student for the summer class in 2012. Want to take a summer course and discover more of the history of Walhain Castle? A Trinity woman went one summer and found the experience extremely rewarding. Our scholarship is given in her memory.

Some churches have found that a Sunday morning adult class has been an important part of the renewal and revitalization of that congregation. We're looking

at that as a possibility. Our previous Bishop's Committee took an important step. It opened a new page for us on Face Book and we want to develop that project.

We certainly wish to acknowledge how much we appreciate the support we receive from Emmanuel Memorial Church in Champaign. That congregation shares its scriptural bulletin inserts with us and we are grateful every Sunday morning! Kenneth Truelove, supply priest

*Respectfully submitted,
The Very Reverend Geoffrey E. L. Scanlon,
Dean*

Series to explore the meaning of Messiah for Muslims, Jews and Christians

St. George's Episcopal Church, Belleville, will explore "The Meaning of Messiah" in Judaism, Islam and Christianity in its annual Lenten Lecture Series March 17-April 14. Six visiting speakers will explore the messianic expectations to be found in the three great "religions of the Book" beginning each Thursday at 7 p.m.

The schedule will be:

- March 17: Imam Nadir Sanhaj and Abdul Kazi, MD — Muslim concepts of Messiah

- March 24: Rabbi Mordecai Miller - Jewish messianic traditions

- March 31: Father Warren Crews-- Messianic expectations in the early church

- April 7: Pastor Ron Neustadt — Millennialism, the rapture and what we really believe

- April 14: Bishop Daniel Martins — Who is the Messiah for me? How do we as Christians live into the Messianic

expectations of our faith?

Imam Nadir Sanhaj leads Swansea's Masjid and Islamic Education Center; Dr. Kazi is a founder and long-time lay leader there. Rabbi Mordecai Miller comes from the Brith Shalom Kneseth Israel congregation in Richmond Heights, Missouri. Warren Crews is a priest in the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri and has taught at Eden Seminary, the Lutheran School of Theology and elsewhere. Pastor Ron Neustadt recently retired from St. Mark Lutheran Church, Belleville. Bishop Martins will join us just four weeks into his new episcopate in the Episcopal Diocese of Springfield.

Each evening the programs begin at 6 p.m. with a light supper of homemade soup, bread and relishes. A free-will offering for supper will benefit local charitable organizations. The program follows at 7 p.m.

For more information: The Rev. Dale Coleman, 618-233-6320.

Annual Clergy Pre-Lenten Retreat Held



The annual Clergy Pre-Lenten Retreat was held February 28 through March 2 at Kings House in Belleville. Bishop-elect Martins lead the retreat.

Deadline for the April edition of the Current is March 20th!