in a profound way by the grace and light which only come from the proclamation of the Gospel.

The theme this year was “The Greatest News of All” from John 3:16-19. Our three spiritual directors, Fr. Ben Hankinson in Junior Session, Fr. John Henry in Middler Session, and Fr. Shawn Doubet in Senior Session, centered their teaching on this theme.

There’s no way to describe ECC-IL without telling about the importance of the relationships found there. Just as the relationships of our volunteers with campers is significant, the relationship of campers, one to another is also. They worship, learn, pray, and play together. Younger campers often watch the older ones, and older campers often reach out to guide and care for the younger. One camper’s question is on the mind of another, and one camper’s boldness encourages another. Living out their faith with friends and growing in that faith together is a transformational experience for everyone involved.

New this fall, we will have a

ECC-IL 2015

We are thankful for another summer session at the Episcopal Church Camp of Illinois from June 27 to July 4 near beautiful Lake Bloomington. We will carry our memories with us as we go on with our lives, cherishing the changes in our hearts and faith.

Our kids enjoyed swimming, campfires, games, crafts, kayaking, archery, singing, and much more at ECC-IL. While they encounter all of these wonderful things associated with a traditional summer camp, the experience of church camp goes way beyond these activities. In a busy world full of sin and darkness, camp is a place where lives may be touched

Continued on Page 4
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Communication serves a crucial function in every ministry. Sharing information among congregations, committees and individual members is no small task. Welcoming new members to our diocesan family also requires unique communication efforts at all levels.

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Thank you for your support!
+ Rt. Rev. Daniel H. Martins, Bishop

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FROM THE BISHOP
Pursuing Companionship

You may be aware that Brenda and I, along with Fr Mark Evans (Rector of Trinity, Lincoln) spent the last ten days of July visiting our companion diocese of Peru. This was the second time an official delegation from the Diocese of Springfield has been there, and Peru's bishop, Bill Godfrey, was here in the diocese this past winter, and preached on a Sunday in one of our parishes. Next month, during the days leading up to and including our annual Synod, Bishop Elias Chakupewa and his wife Lucy will be visiting us from our other companion diocese of Tabora, Anglican Church of Tanzania. For several years prior to my arrival, Springfield had companion relationships with Barbados and Recife (Brazil)—and, before that, with the Diocese of Owerri in the Province of Nigeria. Across the Episcopal Church, it is commonplace for dioceses to have one or more such relationships in other parts of the Anglican Communion.

I can easily imagine that, from the jaded point of few of someone who is not particularly a diocesan “insider,” companion relationships might look like simply an opportunity for a privileged few to go on interesting junkets at diocesan expense, or to evade doing something concrete about third-world problems by spending money bringing some of their privileged few over for an eye-popping junket to the U.S.

Anything can be abused, of course. And, to be worth pursuing, a companion relationship needs to be a two-way street; the blessing needs to be mutual. The cynical stereotype is that, in relationships between “developed world” and “developing world” dioceses, the impetus is almost exclusively financial, with funds flowing from the wealthier to the poorer in order to satisfy a bottomless pit of material need (St Peter’s School in Tabora has suffered a destructive dormitory fire—twice!). I would say candidly that this stereotype is largely … correct. When we go to Peru or Tabora, we pay our way (both getting there and being there), and when people from “there” come “here,” we pay their way, usually both getting here and being here. In addition, we raise money for the various “black hole” needs in those dioceses; I’ve become way more familiar than I thought I would ever be with the ins and outs of international wire transfers.

So, what’s in it for us? What’s in it for us is that, by being in companionship with the people of Tabora and Arequipa (the region in Peru that will become the diocese to which we will be linked going forward)—by literally breaking bread (the literal meaning of companion) with them in their world—we can see ourselves more clearly, in a different mirror than we’re accustomed to.

Continued on Page 4
using. Let me elaborate:

One of the responsibilities of a diocese—a responsibility focused on the Bishop but shared at many levels—is to develop a strategy for the pursuit of mission, and then to raise up leaders (ordained, mostly) who can inspire and train and equip others for the implementation of the strategy. The way this is typically done in the Episcopal Church has been that an individual perceives a call to ministry (often with a nudge from one or more others), the person is vetted through several layers of a discernment process, and then invited to spend up to tens of thousands of dollars (or go into student loan debt) in order to obtain the appropriate academic formation, and then be dropped into parish ministry—yes, usually with a modicum of mentoring, but ultimately in a sink-or-swim scenario. Many do quite well, many do poorly and leave early, and some just muddle along. We do this all, as it were, “on spec,” and very expensively. In the Diocese of Tabora, here’s how they pursue mission and raising up missionary leaders: Potential evangelists and catechists are identified at the parish level and sent for three months or so in intensive training within the diocese. Those who finish this short program are deployed as evangelist/catechist/church planters in designated villages without an Anglican presence. There they do what they were trained to do, which, in that culture, involves knocking on doors and forming relationships. If a church planter gathers what looks to be a viable community, the diocese will send in a priest so it can have a regular sacramental life. Who gets ordained priest? Catechist/evangelists who have a demonstrated track record of success. Then, if the priest is successful at continuing to build up the community … then he gets sent to seminary (usually abroad, often with assistance from a companion diocese!). So, by the time the enormous investment in seminary education is undertaken, the person involved is a known quantity, someone who is clearly gifted to be an evangelist, teacher, and pastor. They don’t have to ordain on spec. So, do we have anything to learn from this Tanzanian model? Most certainly, I think we do. I think it has potential to have a revolutionary impact on mission and ministry in central and southern Illinois. It comes with challenges. We can’t just implement it wholesale next week. But it definitely points us in a fruitful direction.
“Church Camp: Fall Edition” on November 7 & 8, 2015 at our usual East Bay Camp location. Parents are welcome to attend with their children for a special view of life at church camp. The adults will have some separate activities while the campers have some games. Then, we all come together for fall events, food, and worship.

The greatest news of all

Yes, we had fun, but church camp is more than fun and games. It is a chance for us to be the body of Christ in a way that is unique to the rest of the year as we passionately engage the youth of the church in the life of Christ. At church camp we live out the truth that youth are not merely the church of the future, they are part of the church HERE AND NOW!

MINISTRIES AND COMMITTEE NEWS

DEPARTMENT OF CHRISTIAN SOCIAL CONCERNS
The Rev. Sheryl L. Black, Chair

ANTI-RACISM COMMISSION
The Rev. Christine C. Hopkins, Chair


Are you and your church looking for a way to have conversations on the issue of racial justice?

World Trust is an educational organization that for 25 years has offered films and workshops to in the field of social justice. World Trust’s goal is to deepen the conversation on race and to eliminate systemic inequity. The diocesan Anti-Racism Commission uses some of their materials in their anti-racism workshops.

For the summer of 2015 World Trust is offering 8 weeks of short film
DEPARTMENT OF EVANGELISM AND SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT
*The Very Rev. David J. A. Halt*

The first St. Michael’s Youth Conference was a rousing success. A special thanks to Fr. Wetmore for bringing this conference to the Diocese, and to Bishop Martins for supporting the planning and implementation of the event. We will offer a SMYC next year in a location to be determined.

Fr. Swan reports that Springfield Cursillo number 33 was held at Todd Hall from June 18-21, 2015. The Rectora was Ms. Audrey Waight of St. Michael’s, O’Fallon. We had 18 candidates. A Grand Ultreya was held at St. Michael’s on Saturday, July 25. Cursillo number 34 is scheduled for June 23-26, 2016 at Todd Hall.

The Fall section of RenewalWorks is beginning. Currently, there are six Eucharistic Communities who are planning on participating in the program. I will update the Council on their experiences once the program is completed. Another cohort will begin in the Spring.

DESE is in the initial stages of developing a “Father/Son” retreat in Advent. The theme will explore what it means to be a “Christian Gentleman”.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Bruce DeGooyer

DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL MISSION STRATEGY (DGMS)
*The Rev. Bruce DeGooyer*

There has been very little DGMS activity this calendar year. Working with congregations one-at-a-time is a challenge as it depends on individual schedules. Members of this group (3 people) have been largely unavailable most of this calendar year, and the ongoing challenge is lack of people to work with us on mission strategy. We continue to seek additional people to work with us on this effort.

We are hopeful that the Mission Strategy workshop to be presented on September 19 by Carrie Headington from Dallas, TX, will provide a framework and model which can be used more independently and at a parish level.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Bruce DeGooyer

National and World Missions Report
*Sandy Moore*

Activities:
1. Bishop Martins and Brenda, and Fr. Mark Evans traveled to Peru in July to attend the consecration of three new Peruvian bishops. It was a great opportunity to get acquainted with the new bishop of Arequipa, Alejandro Mesco, as they traveled throughout the region of Arequipa. Bishop Martins’ blog Moving Diagonally described parts of the trip...
in colorful detail.

2. Plans are in place for Tabora Bishop Elias Chakupewa and his wife Lucy to visit our diocese during the week October 12-19. Tentative plans are to have them visit various locations within the diocese as well as attend our Synod.

3. A laptop has been donated by Fr. Jon Griffin to one of Tabora’s seminary students. We are still in the process of seeking information on applicable tariffs, if any. It will be taken back to Tabora by Bp. Elias.

4. Long-range plans are for future visits to and from the two companion dioceses on alternating years. Financial or other means of ongoing support are still being considered.

UNITED THANK OFFERING

Mrs. Jan Goossens, Outgoing Diocesan United Thank Offering Coordinator

The Episcopal Church Women had their Planning Meeting on July 18, 2015 at St Thomas’, Glen Carbon.

Liz Hinman is the chair of the 2015-2016 Outreach Project Magdalene House in St. Louis, MO. The organization works with individuals that have been involved with human trafficking. The staff and residents will be the speakers at the March 4-6, 2016 Lenten Retreat at Toodhall.

United Thank Offering will have its Fall Ingathering at Diocesan Synod on October 16th.

The Annual Meeting will be April 23, 2016 at Bromenn Hospital, hosted by our Chaplain Mo. Mollie Ward. The Spring United Thank Offering Ingathering will happen at that time.

We have opportunities for the following positions:
Secretary, United Thank Offering, and Church Periodical Club

Respectfully Submitted,
The Very Rev. David J. A. Halt
President

DIOCESAN TRUSTEES REPORT,
SECOND QUARTER 2015
Donald Monty, Chairman

Funds invested by the Diocesan Trustees experienced a slight decline in the second quarter of 2015. Like the first quarter, the second quarter experienced some volatility. In the second quarter concerns about the economy in Greece, government insolvency in Puerto Rico and oil prices have affected the markets. By the end of the second quarter there had been investment losses of 1.8% for both the Endowment Fund and the managed portion of the Combined Fund. For calendar year 2015 the funds have declined 2.7% and 2.8% respectively.
The Diocesan Endowment Fund is invested in a managed portfolio. The value of the Endowment Fund decreased from $2,688,675 at the beginning of the second quarter of 2015 to a value of $2,613,103 on June 30, 2015. The investments lost $47,550 or 1.8%, for the second quarter. However, there were withdrawals of $30,019 during the quarter which also helps explains why the Endowment Fund had a lower balance at the end of the quarter than at the beginning of the quarter. There were contributions of $1,996 during the quarter.

Most of the Combined Fund is also invested in a managed portfolio, but a portion of the Combined Fund is also invested in a short-term mutual fund. The managed portion of the Combined Fund decreased in value from $2,972,436 at the beginning of the second quarter of 2015 to a value of $2,883,986 on June 30, 2015. The investments lost $53,954, or 1.8% for the second quarter. There were contributions of $99 and withdrawals of $34,596 in the managed portion of the Combined Fund for the quarter. The portion of the Combined Fund invested in short-term mutual funds decreased in value from $247,495 at the beginning of the second quarter of 2015 to $247,321 on June 30, 2015. It is important to remember that the Diocesan Treasurer uses the short-term mutual fund as a place to invest money on a short term basis, and that amount will vary from time-to-time during the year depending on cash flow as revenues are received and expenses incurred. Overall, the value of the Combined Fund decreased from $3,219,961 at the beginning of the second quarter of 2015 to $3,131,338 at the end of the second quarter of 2015.

The beginning of the third quarter of 2015 continues to show some daily volatility in equity markets and oil prices have dropped again.

Submitted by Donald Monty Chairman, Trustees of the Diocese of Springfield

DEANERY REPORTS

DARROW DEANERY

ST. PAUL’S CHURCH AND TRINITY CHAPEL
The Episcopal Parish of Alton, Alton, IL

There has been no change in the status of the Episcopal Parish of Alton in regard to the search for a new rector. We are still seeking the names of interested candidates and invite recommendations from anyone!

We held a small but very successful Vacation Bible School in July, and the parish continues to focus on its outreach ministries. We again helped to host a health fair that served nearly 500 people.

Judy Roth, the parish nurse for several years, retired at the end of July and the parish honored her with a lovely reception. The new Parish Nurse is Amy Bohn.

The Rev. Gary Goldacker

ST. GEORGE’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Belleville, IL

A prayer from Evening Prayer II reads thus:

O God, you manifest in your servants the signs of your presence: Send forth upon us the Spirit of love, that in companionship with one another your abounding grace may increase among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP p. 125)

This prayer is one which is prayed often at St. George’s, and which is continually noted in many aspects of our life together.

On Easter VII we celebrated our
Sunday School classes, where our use of Godly Play has led to a lively, growing group of children. Sunday School is ably coordinated by May Scott and led by about a dozen folks - many of whom have children in the class. We have placed our children's formation as a priority for the entire parish, and they are visible and lively at both the 8 and 10:30 Eucharists on Sundays. Many of our youngsters were also recognized as choristers, who received variously colored ribbons for their years of service from our music Director, Dr. Nancy Ypma. (The choristers sing every other Sunday during the school year.)

Our choir sang through Pentecost Sunday before taking a summer break. Led by Nancy, they are a tremendous asset for the Parish’s worship at the 10:30 Eucharist. We extend gratitude to the choir members at various times during the Church year, and their presence as a choir will be noted once again after Labor Day. Nancy is quite adept at choosing hymns which are in keeping with the seasons and Sundays when they are sung. We are fortunate to have her.

We celebrated Trinity Sunday at Toddhall with our Parish picnic. Over 60 folks came to this beautiful retreat center which is blossoming under the restored leadership of the Vestry, the Todd Hall Board, and the leadership of Jim Moeller, executive director. The present board and chair Dan Duncan, and the Vestry of St. George’s, are all working to make Toddhall much more an Episcopal center, and we offer discounts for any Episcopal groups in the Diocese. We have changed the look of the Chapel in making this a recognizable catholic worship space. Fr. Ian Wetmore has found a baptismal font, as well as an aumbry and sanctuary lamp for the chapel, and they will be in place by the end of summer.

Many of our parishioners were involved as team members in the Diocesan Cursillo weekend, which met at Toddhall in June. A large group of folks from around the Diocese made their Cursillo and Bishop Martins was very visible, teaching the meaning of the Sacraments, and then celebrated and preached at the Claeura (closing Eucharist). His sermon was inspiring as he noted that the closed in series of meetings and teachings in a Cursillo weekend always produce in many people great emotion tied to faith in Christ. But the test of this weekend was how those involved continue to worship and minister in their home churches. And the bishop noted that we rely not on emotions alone, but on the presence of Christ found in the Bible and worship, in the Eucharist, and prayer, in community, in small groups, and individually. (This emphasis by Bishop Martins was honest and crucial for the meaning of Cursillo, which is corporate in nature and not individualistic.) The closing Eucharist was deliberately moved to the Chapel so that the focus would be on the worship of God, and not on emotions. A glaring problem was discovered with the inaccessibility of St. Cecilia’s Chapel because of many steps. The Toddhall Board is now working to provide ramps for everyone’s accessibility.

My wife Jody and I attended Alumni Day at Nashotah House, which was a joyful time for us. We know many of those present at Nashotah, and joined Bishop Martins, chairman of the Board of Trustees, and Bishop Edward Salmon, who has become a friend of St. George’s. Bishop Salmon was Interim President and Dean of Nashotah, and his efforts were obviously fruitful at this place for Episcopalians, Anglicans at home and from around the world. While we were there we noted the happiness and hopefulness found in so many. The new Dean, Stephen Peay, is an accomplished scholar and delightful gentleman. (A side note: he was taught in Greenville College - a conservative Episcopal Church Camp is a great way to bring our youth together in prayer.)
Methodist school - by a distinguished Professor who also taught me at Lake Superior State University in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan). The rather young faculty of Nashotah was everywhere at the gatherings of the Alumni Day and Graduation Day. It was the most joyous time I have experienced at Nashotah in nearly 15 years - Thank God!

At the Bishop’s request, I coordinated pastoral care for Fr. Tim Goodman while he was in Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis. Bishop Salmon and Father Arnold Hoffmann were particularly helpful, and not only did Fr. Tim receive clergy visits 4 or 5 times a week, but he also received communion 6 times during the 3 ½ weeks he was there.

Back at St. George’s, new members and new children, folks in need of pastoral care, new sexton Jeff Holtgrewe, our thriving Food Pantry, collecting donations for the Franklin Neighborhood Community Associations summer day camp, collecting school supplies for Franklin School children, other various Outreach ministries, and a couple of funerals has all kept us busy this summer! We welcomed Salvation Army officer, Captain Heath Sells to preach in August.

We also maintain a Facebook page and website that members and newcomers in the area, the nation, and even the world visit daily! Our Facebook page has become a very successful ministry tool for evangelism, Christian formation, and interaction with the social and political world around us.

We look forward to the start of a new Sunday School year in September. The Rector’s Forum will focus on a careful study of the earliest of the Gospels in the New Testament, St. Mark, to which all are encouraged to bring Bibles (preferably NRSV)!

I am grateful for our Wardens, Frank Rogers and Candi Hamill, and Vestry, and Toddhall Board for their assistance with this lively parish.

Respectfully submitted,
Fr. Dale Coleman, Rector

The Church of Saint Andrew is enjoying the relaxed pace of summer. We are operating on a modified schedule that affects worship and office hours. Many of our ministries are in recess; however, others continue to gather. Despite these changes, our parish continues to serve God and the community.

Here’s a brief list of our summer events.
- Celebration of the Holy Eucharist - 9 am on Sundays, 8 am on Wednesdays, and 10 am on the 1st Tuesday of each month
- Church School - 9 am on Sundays
- Regular Meetings and Gatherings - Contemplative Prayer Group, Julian of Norwich Prayer Group, Book Group, Parish Life Committee, and Charlie’s Lunch Bunch
- Book Fair, August 7-8 - This was the third of what has become a quarterly fundraiser.
- Vestry - Under the leadership of Father Ralph McMichael and Jane Weingartner (Rector’s Warden), the vestry met regularly.
- Outreach Committee - Outreach initiated the annual School Supply Collection and the Shoeman Project.
- Building and Grounds - Efforts were made to prevent flooding in the undercroft.
- The Shield - Saint Andrew’s is preparing to inaugurate a quarterly magazine. This publication will include articles by the priest-in-charge and ministry heads. The new

Campers coming back from a group outing
“Shield” seeks to educate and inspire our congregation. You will read more about this in my next report.

It is truly good to leisurely navigate through the quieter summer months and to experience some much needed renewal. Saint Andrew’s extends wishes for rest and renewal to all parishes and missions of the great Diocese of Springfield.

Respectfully Submitted,
Henry Evans, Parish Administrator

ST. THOMAS’ EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Glen Carbon, IL

St. Thomas’ ECW will have a White Elephant and Bake Sale on September 12th from 8:00 am until 2:00 pm

With St. Bartholomew’s, Granite City, we are planning a Celebration for the 50th anniversary of Father Tony Clavier’s ordination. The event will take place Tuesday, September 29th, at 7:00 pm at St. Thomas’, with a reception following. Bishop Martins and Bishop Salmon will participate, and everyone is invited to attend.

The Child Care Center and Preschool is increasing in all classes. The Child and Adult Food Program is up and running effective in July. It took a long time to complete all training and paper work, but being reimbursed for our food costs is wonderful. The school age children went on field trips and had a wonderful summer at the day care. Bible Class was provided on Thursdays for the Twos, Pre K, 1 & 2s, and school age children. A graduation celebration was held at St. Thomas’ on August 12th for the six children graduating to Kindergarten, complete with red caps and gowns.

Jan Goossens

ST. BARTHOLOMEW’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Granite City, IL

We have had our old sign and the wood frame around it repainted, and it looks like new!

We have a new AA group meeting on Monday evenings in our Parish Hall. They started Monday, July 6th.

On Monday, September 7th, we are having a fund raiser at Ravenelli in Granite City from 4:00 to 9:00 pm. We will receive 25% of each check if you take our fund raiser form in with you. If you are interested in attending, contact anyone from St. Bartholomew’s and we will get the form to you.

We are also planning a spaghetti dinner sometime in the fall.

Robert Butler

ST. MICHAEL’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
O’Fallon, IL

It’s been a busy summer in O’Fallon. For the third year running, we participated in Feed My Lambs, a community church effort to provide simple bagged lunches to kids in low-income neighborhoods. Every other Wednesday while school was out, we packed and delivered 125 to 150 lunches. We did the work, and another small church footed the bill. Other churches covered the other weekdays, so that children in the designated neighborhoods had lunch five days a week, who may not have had much to eat otherwise.

Our one in-house activity in the summer is the Red, White and Blue Auction, a white elephant auction in which parishioners wrap items (junky, kitschy, nice, functional, useful, useless, etc.) in nice packages to be sold to the highest bidder – usually another parishioner. This occurred during Father Ian’s vacation, but Bishop Salmon, who was filling in that day, took part and enjoyed himself immensely.

The really big event of the season was Convoy of Hope on August 15th. This is a “poverty-free day”, an expression of God’s unconditional love toward all who come. All the churches in O’Fallon, including St Michael’s, plus some from further abroad, totaling 50 in all, along with 27 businesses and several service organizations, participated in this one-day event in which we provided haircuts, health screening, veteran services, shoes for women and children, backpacks, breast cancer screening, family portraits, lunch, prayer and groceries – all absolutely free! It was a tremendous witness to what we pray for in the Proper 16 Collect: “Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name…”

As we head into fall, we are resuming confirmation classes, looking forward to our episcopal visitation when we will celebrate our patronal festival. And we are planning a six-week adult class on Christian ethics, led by one of our parishioners who is a lawyer and philosophy professor.

Fr. Ian C. Wetmore
The clergy of the Eastern Deanery met on Monday June 22, at the home of Fr. and Mrs. Elizabeth Baumann in Salem. All of the clergy, minus Fr. Tom Davis who was hospitalized, were present. We shared a wonderful meal preceded by Evening Prayer. We had a joyous time of sharing prior to heading home. Our next meeting will be in Mt. Vernon on September 20th for the Deanery Convocation. At this time we will elect a new dean.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Albion, IL

During the summer months our faithful lay worship ministers led Morning Prayer for two Sundays during Father Bill's July vacation with excellent participation from the congregation.

A donation was made for missionary work by an Episcopalian for youth work overseas.

The congregation continues to participate fully in services and the mission of the church. We have lively discussions during coffee hour and fellowship, including “ask the priest” sessions.

The planned work day in June has been delayed until September due to weather and vacations. In the meantime, members of the church have tended plantings and our church grounds have been carefully mowed by the son of a fellow pastor in Albion.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Bill Howard, Vicar
is also the Mother of the Rev. Laurie Kellington. Barbara shared her vision for where she felt God was calling her to serve and the people of St. John the Baptist are stepping up to support her. We were thankful for all that she was able to share with us. During May and June the office was being worked on to bring it up to standards for the times and a new desk and furniture were ordered and installed.

July started out with participation by Fr. Hazlett in a Pray for the City program that was held on Wednesday, July 1st. Some of the local churches got together along with some of the city government leaders to have a community service to pray for the leaders of the community and to ask for God's guidance upon the city and our nation. Later in the month we had a storm blow through the area early one morning that caused a tree from the neighbor's yard to split and some of it to fall on the church building. By the next day a crew was busily working and was able to remove the fallen section from the church. Surprisingly no damage was done to the building.

Finally at the beginning of August we were able to participate in the city wide School Supply Sunday ingathering sponsored by the local Ministerial Alliance. Each year the MA gathers supplies for needy students along with raising money to provide gym shoes and uniforms for those who could not pay for them. About 350 to 400 students were aided this year.

Outreach continues to be an important focus for us. We have been able to provide funding for some high school students to attend a Business Professionals Conference in Anaheim, California. We helped buy a piano for the music department of our local Middle School. We provided materials for the local homeless shelter along with monthly support. And we have provided help for food, utilities and rent for those who have fallen on hard times in our area. We continue to try to be faithful servants.

Respectfully submitted,
Brant Hazlett+ Rector

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN MARION COUNTY
St. John's, Centralia, IL and St. Thomas, Salem, IL

The Episcopal Church in Marion County has focused on bringing Christ to the un-churched and those whose membership in a church had lapsed, and deepening the devotional life of its members. St. John's, Centralia mobilized its people toward hosting a Vacation Bible School for the community. A new family, a mother and nine-year-old girl, started the ball rolling by raising funds for refreshments and by inviting friends of the girl to church. Established members of St. John's cleaned the facility and made repairs to make the church and hall attractive to newcomers. Selected members distributed flyers in local shops and visiting the neighborhood door-to-door, as well as placed advertisements in local newspapers. St. John's coordinated the dates of its VBS so as not to compete with similar programs offered by other churches in town.

As a result, the energy level at St. John's and the morale got a good boost, and the VBS was a grand success. Seven children took part, where just two months earlier we had no children at all. Two of the children were from the local community and came as a result of the door-to-door campaign.

St. John's second quarterly ecumenical Evensong was well attended by its own members and about ten members of the wider
community. The preacher was the Rev. Pam Mitcham, pastor of one of the two local Lutheran churches. The September Evensong will feature a healing service for the community as well as a sermon by Pastor Johnny Wilson of the Bible-Based Church across the street from St. John’s. The local clergy and visitors appear to enjoy high liturgy! And the people of St. John’s put together wonderful receptions.

St. Thomas’ has begun a ministry to the youth of both St. Thomas’ and St. John’s, with an appeal to the children to bring friends. Monthly events have been established, beginning with a July swim party and an August picnic.

St. Thomas’ hopes to follow the example of St. John’s and offer Evensong to the wider community, with special invitations to the local churches, whose pastors will be invited to preach in turn. It is noted that the Ministerial Alliances in both communities are active, but put their attention mostly on social ministry and fellowship. The ecumenical Evensong services are the only regular opportunity for the local Christian churches to come together for worship and for preaching the Word. St. Thomas’ continues its good tradition of high level of social ministry and care for the local poor. In June, St. Thomas’ celebrated Flag Day with an outdoor service on its grounds, celebrating the diversity of families in the community by honoring as many people as could be found who came from other countries. About two dozen families attended and shared a bit of their cultural background with poetry, story, and song to an audience of about 70 people. St. Thomas’ provided a flag for each of the different countries, concluding the ceremony with two long lines of colorful flags waving over the audience.

On the 26 Sundays after Pentecost, there is an alphabetical sermon series with a hymn selected for each letter of the alphabet, designed to match the theme of the lessons. While intended to be more for fun than for serious theological or devotional instruction, the sermon series does provide a measure of continuity for the long season after Pentecost, as well as providing some Biblical and historical context.

Attendance at both churches is measurably higher than it was a year ago at this time, both have new members, and financial contributions are steady and healthy.

The Rev. Canon David M. Baumann, SSC Priest-in-Charge

HALE DEANERY
The Very Rev. Kathryn G. Jeffrey, Dean

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
Cairo, IL

Father James Muriuki reports that Redeemer Episcopal Church and the entire “community of Cairo is still in high spirits remembering the great Celebration of New Ministry we had on May 16.” He continues, “We are still serving the community at the Daystar Nursing home and the Senior citizens place. We have been serving communion at the Highrise Housing community to the residents who have been inviting us to them. We are also involved in serving communion to the sick and the shut-ins. We have been holding weekly Sunday school at 9:00am. We also have weekly Bible study every Wednesday at 12:30pm.

“The church had planned for a vacation Bible school on June 23-27, but it could not take place” because Father Muriuki needed to be in Kenya following the unexpected death of his companion diocese of Peru.
brother, and he needed to extend his visit when his mother was hospitalized after the funeral. “Thank God she has improved greatly. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all of you who prayed for us, and more so to my dear brothers, Fr. Arnold Hoffman, Fr. Jon Griffin, and Fr. Bob Harmon, for doing supply at the church of the Redeemer while I was away. I am so grateful for that.”

“We teamed up with another church to have a cookout and give school supplies on August 5, 2015. The cookout was rained out, and therefore we are planning to hold it in September.”

ST. ANDREW’S
Carbondale, IL

The people of St. Andrew’s, Carbondale spent a quiet summer beautifying the church grounds and continuing to gather resources for their Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program. A San Damiano cross has been installed by the north entrance, now clearly marking the space as holy ground and giving greater visibility to the church.

The choir welcomed back old friend Joyce Hesketh as director, and Joyce has already added sparkle to our liturgical music with new settings and anthems. She will be offering harp lessons at the church, and has made available six harps for that purpose. The college ministry team exceeded expectations by running out of water bottles within a couple of hours of their “Water and Welcome” event for SIU students, and will continue to offer bridging opportunities between “town and gown.” Meanwhile, at our mission, St. James Chapel in Marion, a Book Exchange box was built and installed on the church grounds. After surveying reading interests in the community, we hope to start a reading group there.

ST. MARK’S
West Frankfort, IL

Mother Sherry Black reports from St. Mark’s Church in West Frankfort, “On the Feast of Pentecost, we baptized 3 children into our family. June 7th, Fr. Jon supplied as Mother Sherry was in Louisville becoming a Board Certified Chaplain. She also had the great privilege of being a Deputy to General Convention, and we had Fr. Harmon supply the Sunday she was gone in June. On Saturday, July 18th, we had a fish fry potluck with Bishop Daniel and Brenda as the guests of honor. The next day Bishop Daniel presided, preached, and baptized another new member.”

ST. STEPHEN’S
Harrisburg, IL

After celebrating five Masses following his heart attack, “it was off to St. Louis for open heart surgery,” reports Father Tim Goodman of St. Stephen’s in Harrisburg. “I am feeling much better and plan to be back in church on September 6. I would like to offer many thanks for all the prayers. I know it made a difference.”

Respectfully submitted,
Kathryn Jeffrey (The Very Rev.) Dean

NORTHEASTERN DEANERY

THE CHAPEL OF SAINT JOHN THE DIVINE
Champaign, IL

The summer has been a lively and grace-filled time in the life of the Chapel of Saint John the Divine.

Canterbury Student Gatherings

Our Canterbury gatherings have continued throughout the summer. Students are engaging in the life of this parish both on Sunday mornings and at our weekly Canterbury gatherings on Wednesdays. Chapel parishioners provide a free home-cooked meal to our Canterbury gatherings each week, and the students are appreciative.

Our Canterbury program is also well represented at a Provincial and National level. Fr. Sean participated in the national young adult and higher education ministries conference at General Convention last July.

The Parish

Over the past few months, our vestry has been in the process of crafting a new mission statement, and considering future options of how to best utilize our Canterbury House in a way that best serves the mission of the Chapel as a parish and a chaplaincy.

The Parish is thriving and we have added lots of programmatic opportunities for participation. Our music programs continue to thrive. The Chapel continues to be an outpost for the Royal School of Church Music program. Three chorister programs are being held to train children in music, and our
Canterbury Choir continues to be one of the highlights of our life together.

Our social concerns committee completed an outreach project this summer called “Eat In to Help Out.” This project involves several families eating at the home of a parishioner and contributing the funds they would have paid dining out to an outreach cause. We raised $2000 in this effort. In this case, the funds are being directed to Episcopal Relief and Development.

The Chapel of Saint John the Divine is alive and well and we invite all from the diocese to stop by any time you find yourself in the area.

The Reverend Sean Ferrell, Rector and Chaplain

ST. CHRISTOPHER
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Rantoul, IL

St. Christopher welcomed Bishop Martins on June 21 for his annual visit. He confirmed Zoe VanMeter, who had just completed her week at St. Michaels Youth Conference.

We held a very successful rummage sale in July.

After discovering major damage to our roof, the church building will be getting a new roof very soon.

Respectfully submitted,
Deacon Ann Alley

EMMANUEL MEMORIAL
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Champaign, IL

Summer at Emmanuel kicked off to a good start with an all-ages Pentecost celebration, the final intergenerational formation event of the program year. After an interactive retelling of the Pentecost story, we split up into ministry groups to chalk the sidewalks of our block with messages about God’s love and the Spirit’s power, to distribute cards with messages of blessing to cars parked in our neighborhood, and to decorate our property with red pinwheels.

In early July we continued our focus on Dwight Zscheile’s People of the Way with a dessert and discussion evening at which about 30 participants generated a “vocabulary list” and ideas for capacity-building as we continue looking at doing ministry in a way that does not depend on Establishment assumptions about the place of the church in society.

July was also a big month for outreach ministry at Emmanuel: First, about 40 parishioners joined in offering a free Saturday Mobile Market with food for the hungry purchased from the Eastern Illinois Food Bank, paid for by our Lenten fundraising offerings. We served approximately 225 individuals that morning, plus made 480 lunches for our regular sack lunch ministry and sent a large donation of leftover goods to the TIMES Center. Second, Emmanuel provided two weeks of Meals on Wheels delivery to our neighbors.

In August we are putting on what we call the Emmanuel Grillfest, a group of cookouts all over our geographical parish at the same time on the same day. It is meat and right so to do! We are discovering through our Incorporation Team that we need more small group opportunities allowing newer and older parishioners to mix and build up the community fabric of our congregation. A similar goal was served this summer by monthly informal “Coffee with the Rector” gatherings right after Mass, which combined a very brief piece of Christian formation with an opportunity to get to know the other 9-15 people who attended. August also includes a Saturday open house in which we host free self-guided tours for adults and an “art treasure hunt” for kids who are already across the street attending the Taste of Champaign in West Side Park.

A major event of the summer was preparing for the retirement of our beloved parish administrator, Lori Dobrik, after 11 years of service. The personnel committee did an excellent job researching options, and we ended up outsourcing our bookkeeping functions while bringing a new administrative member to our team, Mary Sievers, who comes to us with wide professional lay ministry experience. She began her work at Emmanuel on August 1st. While we will miss Lori in the office, we are sending her off to retirement in style with a festive reception, and look forward to having her in the pews with us for many years to come.

Most importantly, we glorified God in Christ by celebrating Mass twice every Sunday (our average Sunday summer attendance was 111) and on two weekdays most weeks (our average weekday attendance over both Masses was 18), in addition to daily Morning and Evening Prayer. We look forward to the return of our choir, our regular Sunday formation activities, and much more in the fall.

The Rev. Beth Maynard, Rector
The following information reflects activities at the Church of the Holy Trinity:

- Garage Sale sponsored by Vermilion County Animal Shelter in church gym
- Thanksgiving baskets distributed with generous donation from Vermilion County Animal Shelter
- Parish Thanksgiving Dinner with neighborhood senior and low-income apartment residents as invited guests
- Weekly Advent devotions in addition to weekly Rosary
- Special Advent instruction and discussion on the Incarnation
- Traditional Christmas Masses and devotions
- Pre-Lenten series of classes on prayer and physical health
- Weekly Lenten devotions with Stations and instruction on Apostolic Succession
- Traditional Holy Week devotions and observance of the Triduum
- Easter Vigil and Mass of the Resurrection
- Began First Friday devotions to the Sacred Heart in May
- One First Communion made on Feast of Corpus Christi
- Began outreach relationship with Downtown Neighborhood Association and The Vermilion County War Museum
- Vestry is developing long term strategic plan to identify parish strengths and weakness and address them over the course of the next five years-introductory skill building session begins in September

Honored Father Geoffrey Scanlon, retired priest of parish, with title, Priest Emeritus

We have been busy in the Episcopal Parish of Macoupin County. In spite of the summer holidays, attendance is up to 28 at the week-end services. We have also welcomed a new family at St. Paul's.

Our kitchen remodeling project at St. Paul's is nearly complete. As soon as the dishwasher is fully installed we will lay the new floor and celebrate.

We have signed a contract to re-roof the church and then will be re-painting the entire outside of the church and parish hall at St. Paul's.

It seems like we just congratulated our graduates but last week we recognized our teachers and students as they returned to classes. We are also really looking forward to the return of our choir from its summer break and our annual visit from the Bishop in early November.

Fr John served as Priest in the Palanca Chapel at Cursillo in June.

Respectfully submitted,
John R. Henry+, Rector

We began the summer months with a wedding on the 6th of June, Elizabeth Murphy and Nicholas Lombardo pledged their vows to a full Church. On the 16th of June we celebrated the life of lifelong member Bob Peoples.

Respectfully submitted,
John R. Henry+, Rector

Bishop Elias Chakupewa (center) and other clergy in the Diocese of Tabora, Peru
DEANERY REPORTS

Our July Cursillo Ultreya was held on Sunday the 12th. On the 14th of July a Discernment Committee was established to meet with a member who is examining a call to the Vocational Diaconate. On July 18th Annette Bass and Christopher Leigh were joined in Holy Matrimony. On Sunday the 26th of July two month old Xander Johnson was baptized.

August has brought us to another Baptism, on the 16th Austin Craig was baptized. Our Sunday school, both youth and adult, started up again on the 23rd of August. Our annual “Mix and Mingle” social will be held in the evening of the 29th.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard A. Swan+, Rector
Trinity Church
Jacksonville, IL

In mid-July, Father Ashmore announced his intention to retire at the end of January 2016. Bishop Martins will meet with the Vestry in September to begin the discussion of interim Clerical Ministry and the calling of a new Rector.

Trinity Church celebrated the 183rd anniversary of its founding on August 9. After the Celebration of the Holy Eucharist, parishioners enjoyed a potluck luncheon.

When the MacMurray College football players returned to campus for practice, Trinity Church again hosted a supper for them. Before giving the Blessing, Father Kip told the players about his football experiences and how they changed his life, and how they could change theirs. Approximately 115 young players and coaches devoured every morsel of food available. Cub Scout Pack #101, which meets at Trinity Church, assisted the parishioners.

Respectfully submitted,
Christopher L. Ashmore +, Rector

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE
Springfield, IL

By God’s grace and the generosity of the Cathedral parishioners along with the greatly appreciated gift from the good people of Saint John the Baptist in Mt. Carmel, the Cathedral roof was replaced just in time for monsoon season. The daily hard rains gave the new roof a workout and there were no leaks! With this important project taken care of we are now looking to see what other projects need to be tackled before winter is upon us. Several dedicated volunteers have worked hard beautifying the outside of the Cathedral.

Father Andy is settling in and learning the ropes. He has recently hired an assistant which is making his life much easier. Many new ideas and ministries have begun to bubble up to the surface and we are excited to see these come to fruition.

Respectfully submitted, Andrew S. Hook+, Provost
St. Luke’s
Springfield, IL

The summer at St. Luke’s has been a little quieter than usual since we took a break from VBS after 12 consecutive years. This was due in part to the absence of the Denneys for about seven weeks. During that time, Fr. Denney served for a month as the locum chaplain at St. George’s, Taormina, Sicily and for a week at All Saints’, Milan, Italy. Both churches are part of the Church of England’s Diocese in Europe, and serve primarily English-speaking ex-patriots. It was a marvelous change and presented new opportunities in ministry for the whole family.

During Fr. Denney’s absence, St. Luke’s was well cared for by Fathers David Boase and Bruce DeGooyer, who served as supply priests, and our new Deacon, David Wells, who served and protected the home front. Fr. Boase baptized two children on the first Sunday in June.

St. Luke’s celebrated the high school graduations of four of our young people, with a fifth receiving a Master’s Degree. Two of our girls left this week for college, and the two boys are enrolling in trade schools. We are proud of their success.

Our meal program is continuing with some changes in volunteers. A particular highlight was when one of our mothers prepared a special farewell brunch on her daughter’s last Sunday before leaving for college.

Our two adult classes are going strong, and we continue with three masses each weekend.

The Bishop’s Committee is making plans for a retreat to explore aspects of the implementation of our vision, with a special focus on whether it continues to be consistent with that of God for our work.

Respectfully submitted,
Shawn W. Denney+, Vicar
### DIOCESAN CALENDAR

#### SEPTEMBER 2015

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<td>Bishop w/ St. John's, Albion</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Bishop w/ St. John's, Decatur</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Northern Deanery Meeting, St. Matthew's, Bloomington</td>
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<td>Mission Strategy Workshop</td>
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<td>Bishop w/ Emmanuel Memorial, Champaign</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Eastern Deanery Meeting, Trinity, Mt. Vernon</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Darrow Deanery Meeting, St. Andrew's, Edwardsville</td>
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<td>Northwestern Deanery Meeting, Cathedral, Springfield</td>
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<td>Northeastern Deanery Meeting, Chapel, Champaign</td>
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<td>Bishop w/ St. Michael's, O'Fallon</td>
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<td>Hale Deanery Meeting, St. James' Chapel, Marion</td>
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<td>Bishop w/ All Saints', Morton</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Bishop w/ St. Andrew's, Edwardsville</td>
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<td>138th Synod - Trinity, Jacksonville</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Bishop w/ St. Luke's, Springfield</td>
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#### NOVEMBER 2015

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<td>1</td>
<td>ALL SAINTS DAY, Bishop w/ St. Matthew's, Bloomington</td>
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<td>3-4</td>
<td>Clergy Conference, Toddhall, Columbia</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Bishop w/ St. Paul's, Carlinville</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Trustees Meeting, Diocesan Center, Springfield (10 a.m.)</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Bishop w/ St. Thomas', Glen Carbon</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Diocesan Council, Diocesan Center, Springfield (10 a.m.)</td>
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<td>Bishop w/ St. John's, Centralia</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Bishop w/ St. Thomas', Salem</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>ADVENT</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>Bishop w/ St. John the Baptist, Mt. Carmel</td>
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#### DECEMBER 2015

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<td>6</td>
<td>Bishop w/ Trinity, Mt. Vernon</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Bishop w/ Christ Church, Springfield</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>CHRISTMAS DAY</td>
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### CONTRIBUTE

I want to contribute toward the ministry of The Springfield Current.

For more information about contributing to The Springfield Current, please see the message from Bishop Daniels inside the front cover.

Contributors will be acknowledged in a future issue.

Thank you.

This calendar was correct at the time of printing, but is subject to change without notice.

For the most recent Diocesan Calendar and the full prayer cycle calendar, please visit www.episcopalspringfield.org.

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**DIOCESAN CALENDAR**

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**OTHER**

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**Thank you.**