Surrenders their entire being to Jesus Christ (Romans 12:1-2);

“Read [s], mark[s], learn[s], and inwardly digest[s]” (Collect for Proper 28, BCP, p. 236) the Sacred Writings so to live in obedience to God’s will (Joshua 1:7-8; Acts 2:42; Timothy 2:15, 3:14-17);

Receives the sacraments as “…inward and spiritual grace given by Christ as sure and certain means by which we receive that grace” (BCP, p. 857; Mark 10:6-9; Luke 22:17-20; John 3:5, 20:19, 22-23; Acts 8:14-17; Romans 6:3-4; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Ephesians 5:25-32; James 5:14-15);

Worships (corporately) the Lord Jesus Christ weekly (Matthew 2:2; John 4:21-24; Acts 2:46; Hebrews 10:25);

Offers their tithe to the Lord Jesus Christ (Malachi 3:6-12; Matthew 10:8; 2 Corinthians 8:7);

Loves and serves all people (Genesis...
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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.

Your contribution to this ministry of communication helps spread the word about what God is doing in our lives, in our congregations, in our diocese, and in the Episcopal Church at large. Please consider making a gift today.

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+ Rt. Rev. Daniel H. Martins, Bishop

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FROM THE BISHOP

As I sit down to write this at the end of August, two massive societal earthquakes continue to dominate the news cycle: the deadly demonstration and counter-demonstration in Charlottesville, Virginia that unmasked a shocking vein of white supremacy in our country, and the once-in-a-millennium rainfall, produced by Hurricane Harvey, that has wreaked havoc on the Texas gulf coast.

The first is easy to unpack—theologically and pastorally, at least; politically, it might be more complicated. When I was a young child in Sunday School, I learned a song that many of you probably know as well: “Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world. Red and yellow, black and white, they are precious in his sight, Jesus loves the little children of the world.”

It’s just about that simple, isn’t it? What do I really need to add? You know me. I don’t “do” politics in my official role as a Christian leader. But this isn’t politics. We can disagree on how to fund Illinois government or what percentage of the GDP we should spend on defense, or the details of immigration policy. What we, as disciples of Jesus, cannot disagree on is the essential equality and preciousness of every single member of the species homo sapiens. We just don’t have that option.

We hear a lot about “hate groups.” I wonder whether we might more appropriately call them “fear groups,” because, in my experience, anger often masks fear. Why are we fearful? Why do we exploit our fears to erect walls of hostility between groups of human beings? We do so because we live in a fallen world. We live under an ancient curse. We live in the thrall of sin and death. As we say together in Eucharistic Prayer C: “Hear us, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.”

One of my favorite Prayer Book collects, the one for Proper 29 (Christ the King, the Sunday before Advent), reminds us that human beings are “divided and enslaved by sin.” Can anyone argue that we are not divided? Some might resist the notion that we are enslaved, but repeated patterns of human behavior over countless centuries shout otherwise.

But what can we say about the horrific floods in Houston? From a theological perspective (we’re not talking about science here), they are evidence of the fallenness of creation itself. At St Paul writes to the Romans: “For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.” (8:19-22) Earthquakes, floods, volcanic eruptions, and other natural disasters are signs that all is not right, not only with the human soul, but with the world itself. (Again, this is not science; we’re not denying the geological and meteorological explanations for such things; we’re interpreting their meaning.)

The collect for Proper 29 goes on to petition God that we who are “divided and enslaved by sin” may be “freed and brought together” under the “most gracious rule” of him who is King of kings and Lord of lords. This is indeed our hope. This is indeed the good news that it is our mission to announce to and model for the world. Anger and fear, division and hostility, sin and death, do not have the last word. God has the last word, and that word is reconciliation, justice, peace, and love. The suffering wrought by either earthquake, flood, and fire or plague, pestilence, and famine does not have the last word. God has the last word, and that word is the new Jerusalem, the city of God, the marriage supper of the Lamb, the celestial banquet. If I may be allowed to channel St Paul writing to the Corinthians: Therefore comfort one another with these words.

+Daniel

FROM THE BISHOP

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+Daniel
WHAT MAKES A DISCIPLE?

Continued from Cover


Constantly forgives others (Matthew 6:12);

Ministers the Good News by exercising the use of their God-given S.H.A.P.E. -Spiritual Gifts/Heart/Abilities/Personality/Experiences- (Psalm 139:14-16; Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-10; Ephesians 4:1-16; 1 Peter 2:9, 4:10-11) for the work of ministry and mission;

Believes that lost people matter to the Father God (John 1:43-1, 3:16; Luke 15; 2 Peter 3:9);

Brings others to saving faith in Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 1:8; 2 Corinthians 5:20; 1 Peter 3:15);

Serves people in such a way that they receive holistic healing in the love of Jesus Christ (Luke 4:18-29; 7:18-23; John 10:10; Acts 3:1-10, 4:12-22);

Meets weekly with a small group of 3-12 people to be a Biblically functioning community in cells (Deuteronomy 29:29; Joshua 1:7-8; Matthew 18-20; Acts 2:42-47, 5:42, 20:20; Romans 16:3-5; Philemon 1:1-12); so to live the four values of Christ’s kingdom. For example, with Jesus Christ present (Matthew 18:20) through the Holy Spirit, cells are the best instruments to manifest the four essential principles and priorities of Biblical existence:

Upward - “Love the Lord you God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength: (Mark 12:30);

Inward - “Love your neighbor s yourself” (Mark 12:31);

Outward - “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19);

Forward - “Teaching them to obey everything I have commended you” (Matthew 18:20).

Confesses a gentle orthodox faith (Acts 20:27; Ephesians 4:4-6; 2 Thessalonians 1:15; Jude 3; Apostles’ Creed; Nicene Creed; Athanasian Creed);

Prays and works for God’s justice (Jeremiah 9:24; Amos 5:14-15, 24; Micah 6:8) “and peace among all people” (BCP, 305);

Takes a vital role and significant “place in the life…and governance of the Church” (BCP, 855);

“Pray[s] continually” (Acts 2:42; 1 Thessalonians 5:17);

Grows as a leader so to mentor, develop, and multiply other leaders (Exodus 17:14; Deuteronomy 31:1-8; 1 Kings 19:19-21; Mark 9:2-13; Acts 9:26-28; 1 Thessalonians 2:8; 2 Timothy 2:1-2);

Seeks the full empowerment of the Holy Spirit (Luke 11:13; Ephesians 5:18) for witnessing (John 15:1-17; Acts 1:8), so to manifest the “Fruit of the Spirit” (Galatians 5:22-25), as the “aroma of Christ” (2 Corinthians 5:15);


Creates a Kingdom - Building Parish (Matthew 6:10) and purpose-driven body of health (Acts 2:42-47), which grows organically (Mark 4:26-28; 1 Corinthians 3:5-9).

What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus Christ? As we have seen, it is much more than being in church, or upholding denominational loyalty. And, yes, it goes way beyond one’s citizenship. Being a disciple of Jesus is a way of life! To God be the glory!

“Risen Christ, who spoke peace to your desolate disciples, speak peace this night to us and to desolate ones we love.”

~ from Celtic Worship Through the Year
St. Michael’s Youth Conference

Ann Tofani

Oh, to be a kid again! And for one week in July I was. Or at least I felt like I was. It was the St. Michael’s Youth Conference and I had been asked to participate. I was to teach on prayer; a rather elusive subject at best. I accepted with some anxiety, open to the opportunity to learn more about this conference. I was also looking forward to working with the other clergy who would be present. I set off on Sunday afternoon for O’Fallon and St. Michael’s Church with trepidation. My bag was packed and I had borrowed a mattress and cot from a parishioner at St. Mary’s. Ready or not, this was going to be an experience for me and I was certain to learn something.

For an entire week I got up early, nothing new for me; attended and participated in the worship services (three a day); ate three meals plus snacks each day; listened while others taught and did my thing with prayer. Mornings were busy times. Following breakfast and Morning Prayer there were four classes: Theology 101; followed by the Christian Life and #3 Our Faith taught by Bishop Martins. My session on prayer was the last formal teaching of the day.

Afternoons were fairly relaxed and filled with fun activities. I was to learn the efficacy of prayer the evening we went bowling. Having not bowled in over forty years I thought it might be prudent to sit this one out, but what fun is that? So I prayed for grace that I might not at least embarrass myself and fall down. God is good! I did not fall down. I was indeed a bowler. Another activity included a day of swimming. I did sit this one out. I know the miracles God can perform, but I also know I am no bathing beauty. Pride won that day. There also was an evening of baseball in St. Louis. The Cardinals played and lost.

I love baseball, but opted for the quiet of an evening alone and some time to catch up on what I needed to do for the upcoming Cursillo weekend.

The kids were wonderful! They were attentive and bright and anxious to share and to experience what the week had to offer. Father David and Elisabeth Bauman fixed breakfast each day and we even had birthday french toast one morning - a first for all of us. Everything we needed, our hosts, the parishioners of St. Michael are provided and meals were a treat. We were all made aware of the fact that we needed to eat balanced meals which included salads and fruit, pizza and barbecue and other kid favorites. Father David Halt, aka Father Law diligently patrolled as plates were filled. I think I have to confess for the evening I had ice cream twice - once with the parishioners and again when the kids returned from the baseball game. After all what’s one supposed to do when asked?

I did indeed learn much. I learned that being a kid in a Christian environment is a whole lot of fun. I learned that we have some amazing clergy and lay persons in this diocese. I learned that if you really want to have a good time step out of your comfort zone and take risks. Thanks to all of you young and old (Hey, that’s me) who participated. It was a wonderful weekend.
ST. MICHAEL’S YOUTH CONFERENCE

The Very Rev. Canon David and Elizabeth Baumann

The Diocese of Springfield’s third St. Michael’s Youth Conference for teens and pre-teens took place June 11-17 at St. Michael’s, O’Fallon. The original SMYC began in Connecticut in 1960 and has been going on ever since in dioceses across the country.

In our Diocese, leaders have been regular staff clergy Ian Wetmore, Dave Halt, Ben Hankinson, and David Baumann. Of course, the Bishop is always a participant. Guest clergy have included Tony Clavier, Beth Maynard, and Ann Tofani. In 2017 Danny Shuler was our first lay presenter; telling why he chose to be baptized as an adult.

Classes are offered mornings Monday through Friday; four topics are chosen each year to cover a range of areas including Bible, Anglicanism, Prayer, and Liturgy. This year, Michaelites (as those who attend are called) were given a Bible overview, a look at the Anglican Communion, a prayer workshop, and a practical class on Christian life which included topics from dating and relationships to making a sacramental confession.

In the afternoon, recreational activities are enjoyed. Attending a baseball game is the high point for many Michaelites! There have also been swimming, a karate class, and rope obstacle courses.

Each day at St. Michael’s includes Morning Prayer and Evensong, Compline, and Holy Eucharist, with Michaelites taking turns leading prayers, reading lessons, and serving as Acolytes. In a daily music lesson preceding Holy Eucharist, they practice singing the service music and psalms.

Michaelites also help in food preparation and clean-up throughout the week to reinforce a sense of being a community.

The program has been in-depth and comprehensive enough so that the Bishop counts attendance at two SMYCs as sufficient preparation for confirmation.

Fred Townsend, a fourteen-year-old who attended SMYC for the first time this year, said on the last day, “I’m going next year even if I have to cross the country!”

Several of our Michaelites have been repeaters. One is Shalom Muriuki, who wrote on her own, “My experience at St. Michael’s Youth Conference was beyond amazing!! For one, the people are great! They are all around loving and caring. The classes are AMAZING!! I’ve learned so much that I would’ve never thought I would learn. All the information they give you helps you have a better relationship with God and help you share God’s Word with other people. It’s not something you learn during the week and then forget about it. It’s something you carry with you! At SMYC we like to have fun!! Going bowling, learning karate, swimming, and going to Cardinals games are a better way to get to know everyone on a personal level! All in all St. Michael’s is the place to be!! I plan on going every year until I’m too old.”

AROUND THE DIOCESE

TRINITY CENTENNIAL ORGAN CELEBRATION

Allen D. Webner
Director of Music/Co-Organist

Trinity Episcopal Church of Mattoon has been celebrating the Centennial of the Reuter Pipe Organ since January of 2017. It resonates melodic sounds from its chambers each Sunday morning as the organist plays the keys of the 100 year old instrument.

The Trinity congregation signed a contract with Reuter Schwarz Co. of Trenton, IL. August 22, 1917. Fr. J.J. Compson was the rector. This was the first contract the Reuter Schwarz Co. had signed. While it was being erected at the factory, Trenton was hit by a tornado and Opus 1 was destroyed. The building was soon restored and Opus 2 was soon produced. The 2 manual/8rank instrument was shipped to Mattoon November 1, 1917 via The Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern Railroad Co.

It was sent in 21 containers, boxed & braced and weighed 7,050 lbs. It was shipped 1st Class.

Continued on page 7
Summer 2017

AROUND THE DIOCESE

On November 3, 1917 a letter was sent to Reuter Schwarz Organ Co. informing them of the receipt of the November 1, 1917 letter with bill of lading.

The Reuter Schwarz Organ arrived in Mattoon on November 7, 1917. A 30 cent telegram to the organ co. was sent at 6:23 a.m. telling them of the arrival. They were instructed “You can start erecting Thursday.”
The Trinity congregation first heard their new organ on Sunday, November 18, 1917.

Trinity Church will finish the 5-concert series with 2 final recitals slated for this fall. Dr. Richard R. Rossi, Director of Orchestra and Choral Activities and Organist at Eastern Illinois University will present the 4th Recital along with a string quartet. This recital is scheduled for September 10 at 3:00 p.m. The final recital will be presented November 19, 3:00 p.m., one hundred years and one day from the date the organ was first played. Ronald Krebs, Vice-President of Reuter Organ Co., Lawrence, Kansas will present the program.

Receptions are held in the church undercroft following each recital.

Trinity Church is located at 2200 Western Avenue, Mattoon, Illinois. www.facebook.com/TRINITYEPISCOPALMATTOON
217-234-4514

A NEW SEASON FOR EPISCOPAL CHURCH CAMP

Fr. Ben Hankinson

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven. - Ecclesiastes 3:1.

New seasons come to every life and church and ministry. Each year brings with it new opportunities and new challenges. There are seasons for planting, tending, reaping, and resting. There are seasons of change and seasons of stability. Regardless of whatever season we find ourselves in, it is always just a matter of time before the seasons change once more.

This summer was a seasonal shift for us at Church Camp. Striking out on our own this year, we said farewell to many friends and families in the Diocese of Quincy who are unable to join with us as they entered a new season of ministry of their own. Though they were far from us in geography, they were and continue to be very near to us in heart by our years of fellowship and by our love for them and their love for us.

Seasons change in every ministry, and change is often perceived as loss, and we have lost some by the changes of the past year. However, change is also an opportunity to engage with the challenges which lie before us, the greatest of which is ever to proclaim in word and deed the good news of Jesus Christ to those entrusted to our care for the brief time we share together. Thus, the old adage, “The more things change, the more they stay the same” seems an apt description of the time we shared together at the beginning of July at East Bay Camp. As has always been the case, we enjoyed fun, food, fellowship, and friends. We worshiped, studied, and grew together by Word and Sacrament. We were, as our theme for the year indicated, “Molded by the Father.”

Yes, the wonder of God’s providence

Episcopal Church Camp campers sitting around the fire pit at East Bay Camp in Hudson, IL this summer.
and the mystery of his movement in the lives of every camper, counselor, and staff at Church Camp is nothing less than the molding of our heavenly Father. We saw and encountered this great love of the Father through the grace offered to each of us by his Son, Jesus Christ, through the cross and resurrection. All of this we celebrate in the power of the Holy Spirit which dwells in the heart of the faithful and at the heart of our life and ministry together.

If you have or know of a child who would be blessed by a week of fun-filled faith, then consider sending them to Church Camp. If you feel called to serve youth from within the churches of the Diocese of Springfield and beyond, then consider applying to serve as a counselor or sponsoring a camper through scholarship. Whatever the case may be, please pray for the ministry of Church Camp. Pray that we may plant, tend, reap, and rest by “the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost” in this season and forevermore.

Farewell...but not goodbye
Jason Cerezo

In late Spring of 2013, my wife Lisa and I were approached by Bishop Martins, Dana Meek (the former Current editor), and Pete Sherman (the Diocesan communications director at the time) and asked if we would like to take over the responsibilities of editing and publishing the Current as well as managing the Diocesan website. We had started a small graphic design and web development firm less than two years earlier. As a new company, we jumped at the opportunity.

Over the last four years, in addition to publishing the Current, we designed a new logo for the Diocese and redesigned episcopalspringfield.org to be mobile friendly and have a consistent image. Bishop Martins mentioned numerous times that even though we were meeting the communications needs of the Diocese as best as possible, those needs would be best fulfilled by having a regular employee who was present at the Diocesan office and able to travel to events as needed. This summer, when Paige Daugherty was hired as the new Communications Coordinator for the Diocese, we turned the responsibility for the Current over to her. This issue of the Current is all her work.

Lisa and I, through our company ThirdSide, will continue to maintain the technical side of episcopalspringfield.org. We will also continue to maintain a few individual parish websites that we developed. As active members of Emmanuel in Champaign, you may see us at various events throughout the Diocese as well.

The past four years have been a blessing to us and have allowed us to see a side of our Diocese that few are privileged to see. We have enjoyed working with each person involved with the Current and look forward to continuing our work with episcopalspringfield.org.

New Beginnings
Paige Daugherty

I started working for the Diocese of Springfield as their Communication Coordinator June 1st and I couldn’t be any happier to have the privilege to work for the Episcopal community.

I grew up in Springfield, IL and attended Sacred Heart Griffin High School, then I went on to Lincoln Land Community College to get my associates. After Lincoln Land, I attended Illinois State University where I pursued my Bachelor’s degree in Communication. I graduated with my Bachelor’s degree in May of 2016. I recently moved back to Springfield in May before starting my career at the Episcopal Diocese of Springfield.

The Communication Coordinator position is a brand new position that the Diocese has never had before. The first couple weeks of this position required learning more about the Episcopal community and what was expected from this position.

My job includes, but not limited to; creating the Current, managing the Facebook and website, taking pictures at events, video editing, and managing the Gnosis database. I have already felt very welcomed and I am looking forward to getting to know everyone and this community even more.
Howard, will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary in December, are the parents of one son, and have two grandchildren.

He has been a practicing attorney in Mt. Vernon from 1959 to the present and has served in many civic and educational capacities, including Trustee of the University of Illinois, board of Visitors of the College of Law, and Director of the Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education.

Matthews, Rod: Rod was confirmed in the Episcopal Church in 1992 at All Saints, Frederick, MD. He served on the Vestry at St Paul’s, Murfreesboro, TN. He completed Cursillo in the Episcopal Diocese of TN in the spring of 1997. Rod has been a member of Christ the King, Normal, since November 1998. He has served multiple terms on Christ the King’s Mission Leadership Team and served as Rector’s Warden 3 times. He also has served the Diocese of Springfield as a member of the Diocesan Council, a synod delegate, a Deanery representative, and member of the Standing Committee. Rod was one of Christ the King’s delegates to the Nominating and Election Synods for the 11th Bishop of the Diocese of Springfield. He currently serves as Treasurer of the Diocese of Springfield.

Rod retired from State Farm Insurance Companies after 38 years of service. He joined State Farm in 1979 in the Charlottesville, Va. office and held a variety of positions in Pennsylvania, Florida, Maryland, Illinois, and Tennessee. Rod held various senior executive positions over the last 20 years of his career. He returned to corporate headquarters in 1998,
Matthews is a past chair and director on the board of the Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety (IBHS). In addition, he served on the boards of the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS), Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH), and the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF).

Rod resides in Bloomington with his wife of 36 years, Dee Matthews. Rod and Dee have two sons, David (reporter for DNAInfo.com, Chicago, IL) and Michael, (Doctoral Program at UCLA). A native of Virginia, Matthews received a bachelor's degree from Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Virginia. He earned the Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter (CPCU) designation in 1985.

Maynard, The Very Rev. Beth H.: The Rev. Beth Maynard grew up unchurched in Nashville, Tennessee. After a conversion to Christ in her late teens, she worked first in classical music publishing and then as director of the Salem Mission, a shelter for homeless women and men. Ordained in the Episcopal Church in 1994, she has been the Rector of Emmanuel Memorial Episcopal Church in Champaign, Illinois since 2014. Before moving to the Diocese of Springfield, she founded and led Mill Street House, a Christian intentional community of 20s-30s in a poor neighborhood north of Boston, and was an adjunct instructor in liturgy and spiritual formation at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. Previously, she has served as a parish priest and a college chaplain in West Virginia and Massachusetts.

Along with pamphlets, sermons and articles on themes of social justice, spiritual formation and stewardship, she has also edited Kindle versions of several out-of-print works of ascetical theology and published three books: Meditations for Lay Eucharistic Ministers, the collaboration The Bread of Life: A Cookbook for Body and Soul, and an anthology of sermons in dialogue with U2 songs, Get Up Off Your Knees: Preaching the U2 Catalog (co-editor). She has been married since 1986 to Mark Dirkson, who works as the Business Manager for John-Paul Buzard Pipe Organ Builders in Champaign.

Babb, Kevin: Kevin Babb is a member of St. Andrew’s, Edwardsville. He has been the Chancellor of the Diocese since 2012, and served as Deputy Chancellor of the Diocese from 2002 to 2012. He has been the Parliamentarian of Synod since 1993. He was a deputy to General Convention in 1997, 2000, 2003, 2006, 2009, 2012 and 2105, and is an elected Deputy to the 2018 General Convention. He was chair of the Springfield Deputation in 2003, 2006, 2009, 2012 and 2015. He was a member of the House of Deputies Committee on Rules of Order at the 1997 General Convention, and was on the Legislative Committee on Canons at the 2000, 2003, 2006, 2009, 2012 and 2015 Conventions. From 2006 to 2012, he was a member of the Episcopal Church's Standing Commission on Constitutions and Canons, which advises the General Convention on matters pertaining to church law and discipline.

Kevin has served two terms on the Commission on Ministry. He has been a member of Diocesan Council since 1992, serving at various times as an elected representative of the Darrow Deanery, an elected representative of the Synod, an appointed member, as Chair of Diocesan bodies, and as Chancellor. He served four years as Chair of the Diocesan Department of Christian Social Concerns, four years as Chair of the Department of National and World Mission, and four years as Chair of the Department of Young Adult and Higher Education Ministries. He has served two terms on the Standing Committee. Kevin has gone on medical missions to El Salvador and the Dominican Republic, and has participated in mission work to rebuild tornado-damaged property in Perryville, Missouri.

Kevin was confirmed at the Chapel of St. John the Divine when he was an undergraduate at the University of Illinois. He subsequently was a Peer Minister at the Chapel and served on the Bishop’s Committee/Vestry. He has attended St. Andrew’s, Edwardsville since 1989. He is currently on the Vestry, and also served on the Vestry from 1992 to 1995. He is the current Senior Warden of St. Andrew’s, and has served as Senior Warden in 1995. He is a delegate to this Synod, and was a Synod delegate from 1992 to 2003, and has been a Deanery delegate during the same years. He is also a Lay Eucharistic Minister and serves on the Finance Committee and the Audit Committee.
Committee.

Kevin is married to Michelle Babb, and they have two grown children. He is a lawyer in private practice in Edwardsville. He also serves as the volunteer legal counsel for the Main Street Community Center/Edwardsville Senior Citizens Center, which provides a variety of educational, recreational and supportive services in the Edwardsville/Glen Carbon area.

Winn, Randy: is a member of Trinity Church, Mt. Vernon; he has served on Trinity's vestry and was the rector's warden for two years. He also has served on the Standing Committee, Diocesan Council, Chaired the Diocesan Stewardship Commission and has been a Diocesan Trustee for 10 years, its secretary for the past four years. Winn was a deputy to General Convention in Anaheim in 2009 and in Salt Lake City in 2015. Reared in a Methodist parsonage, Winn was confirmed by Bishop Beckwith in 1994.

Randy was a member of Ward, Dreshman & Reinhardt, Inc., from 1980 until his retirement in 2011, serving as chairman and CEO since 1991. He taught at Washington University prior to his work with Ward, Dreshman & Reinhardt. Winn served as development director for The United Methodist Children’s Home in Mt. Vernon, IL from 2011 until 2016. His undergraduate studies were at Illinois Wesleyan University and graduate work at Wesleyan and Illinois State University.

Brooks, The Rev. Zachary: The Rev. Zachary Brooks has been Rector of Trinity Episcopal Church since his ordination to the priesthood in Dec. of 2016. He grew up in Lafayette, IN without any exposure to the Church, but made the decision to be baptized a Methodist at the age of 18. He attended Purdue University and studied English. After college, he came to the Episcopal Church while he worked as a bookseller and case manager for children and adolescents. He attended seminary at Boston College, where he discerned a call to the priesthood. During formation he served at the Church of the Holy Spirit, Mattapan, the Church of the Advent, Beacon Hill, and the Church of the Good Shepherd, Watertown. He and his wife Leah married in Boston, and had their first child, Abraham, there. He and his family moved to Jacksonville, IL in 2016 after being called to lead Trinity Church. They have since greeted their second child, Jude.

Tucker, Lawren: Lawren has been a member of Christ Episcopal Church in Springfield since 1988. He and his wife, Nancy, were married in the Christ Church garden in 1989. They have four children and five grandchildren, and are looking forward to the birth of their sixth grandchild in September 2017. Lawren was employed as a member of the Illinois Senate Democratic staff from 1984 through 2007, when he left the position of Policy Director to become the Deputy Director of the Illinois State Library. He retired from the library in 2016. He has served on the vestry at Christ Church, and is currently church treasurer. He first joined Nancy in representing Christ Church as a lay delegate to the Synod of the Diocese of Springfield in 2016.

Lynk, Cindy: Cindy Lynk has been nominated for a lay member to the Diocesan Commission on Ministry for 2017. She is active in a number of ministries at St. George’s, including: Synod Delegate, Deanery Representative, member of the Mission Leadership Team (MLT) and MLT Liaison to the Liturgical Commission, Adult Choir, Altar Guild, Lector and Chalice Bearer Coordinator, Lector and Chalice Bearer. She has also served two terms on Diocesan Council as Darrow Deanery Representative and Synod member at large.

She was received into the Episcopal Church in 1988 and has attended St. George’s since 1998.

Cindy successfully completed Education for Ministry (EfM) in 1995, and participated in Cursillo through the Roman Catholic Church in 1985. This year, she also served as Rector for Cursillo XXXV in the Episcopal Diocese of Springfield.

Following graduation from Mount Mary College in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Cindy served in the United States Marine Corps for four years as a Communications Officer. While in service, she met and married her husband, a Marine aviator. Following her end of active duty, she settled with her husband in the Collinsville area and started a family. During this time she also worked for five years as a high school German
teacher, and four years as a high school Guidance Counselor. Subsequently, to meet the evolving needs of her family, she elected to focus her full attention on actively rearing her two children and maintaining a stable household.

Cindy also actively supported her children's athletic efforts, served as a Stroke Judge in both YMCA and USA Swimming venues. Her varied hobbies include: Weight Training, Spinning, Swimming, Knitting, Sewing, and Reading.

**Kozuszek, Fr. Jeff:** Fr. Jeff Kozuszek has served as Priest in Charge at Trinity Episcopal Church in Mattoon, IL and as a member of Campus Ministries at Eastern Illinois University at Charleston, IL since December 2013. He was received into the Episcopal Diocese of Springfield by Bishop Beckwith in April 2003 at St. John's in Centralia, IL. As a lay person at St. John's, he served in many functions including Acolyte/Chalice Bearer, Lector, Vestry member, Treasurer, Synod/Deanery Representative, Mission Warden and Bishop Warden. Fr. Jeff attended the Springfield School for Ministry in the Diocese of Springfield, The Rev. Christopher L. Ashmore, Academic Dean. He was ordained Deacon in November 2010 by Bishop Parsons and was ordained Priest in June 2011 by Bishop Martins. He has previously served as Vicar at St. Thomas in Salem, IL and Supply Priest at St. James in Marion, IL.

In the past years, he has also served as a member on the Commission on Ministry, the Department of General Mission Strategy and on the Cursillo Secretariat, Episcopal Diocese of Springfield. Fr. Jeff lives in Centralia, IL with his son Nick. Fr. Jeff is employed by Kaskaskia Special Education District and teaches at Hoyleton Youth and Family Ministries in Hoyleton, IL.

**Dirksen, Mark:** A parishioner of Emmanuel Memorial in Champaign, Mark is the Business Manager for Buzard Pipe Organ Builders. He was raised at the Washington National Cathedral where his father Richard Wayne Dirksen was Precentor / Organist-Choirmaster. Early positions as a church musician were followed by positions in arts programming at Marshall University in West Virginia and Episcopal diocesan administration in Rhode Island where he was responsible for financial, communications, and Synod operations.

He co-led a Christian intentional community of 20s – 30s north of Boston with his wife the Rev. Beth Maynard before moving to the Diocese of Springfield in 2014. He is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts (BMus) and Temple University (MMus) as well as Education for Ministry (1993).

**Tournoux, The Rev. Dr. Gregory A.:** Fr. Gregory Allen Tournoux has been married for 31 years to his wife, Nada. They have four children: son Justin Gregory, and daughters Seton Marie, Brigid Kildare and Bernadette Lourdes (identical twins). Fr. Greg has served in 2 congregations as an assistant, and as a Rector. As Rector in a small upper-Midwest community, he led the transformation of a desperately declining congregation into a thriving kingdom-building body based upon holistic missional communities living the four values of Christ’s kingdom, namely, experiencing the Upward (Mark 12:30), Inward (Mark 12:31), Outward (Matthew 28:19), and Forward (Matthew 28:20), as well as gathering collectively for inspiring liturgical worship comprising Word and Sacrament. His current congregation is in the very early stages of systemic renewal.

Fr. Greg has a Master’s in Divinity, Doctor of Ministry, a Doctor of Religious Studies, is a trained consultant in Natural Church Development, and has completed over 150 days of leadership development. He’s also served as an Adjunct Professor at a seminary, and has authored the book, Evangelizing Postmodern Pre-Christians Through Holistic Cells and Liturgical Celebration. Additionally, Fr. Greg serves the church in a variety of capacities, such as: training, coaching, and mentoring several clergy and lay leaders in the areas of church health and growth; Numerous parish, seminary, and diocesan teachings; Initiated a Leadership Training Institute for clergy and laity; Developed a Seminarian Internship; Initiated a clergy support group that met monthly for prayer, study, sharing, and mutual encouragement; Diocese of Springfield: Commission on Ministry; Diocese of Eastern Michigan: Initial stage of Bishop’s Search Committee; Teaching Ministry (Pioneer Training); Diocese of Michigan: Executive Council,
For year to date July 31, 2017, total revenues were $462,088.62 or $36,866.02 more than budgeted revenues of $425,222.60. This was primarily driven by Current Year Pledge Income of $280,364.48 ($59,049.79 under budget) and Pledges-Prior Years of $111,032.23.

Total Expenses were $401,284.91 or ($106,411.04) less than budgeted expenses of $507,695.95.

The quarter ended with a surplus of $60,803.71. The full Clergy Group Insurance premium has yet to be paid in 2017.

A communication was sent to the churches in June to remind them of the Constitutional and Canonical changes requiring the current year pledge payment to be current as of June 30 on a pro rata basis by the beginning of Synod. There are only 2 communities not in compliance as of August 25, 2017. If a church is not current on this basis by the start of Synod then their Lay Delegates will not be seated (Constitution- Article XIV Section 3 and Canons 3 Section 2, Canon 4 Section 3).

The committee has met in camera only once, which was for the purpose of meeting postulant Christine Gregory and to discuss with the Bishop what our working, advisory, etc relationship with him ought to be, in addition to canonical responsibilities. Otherwise we have convened electronically (= by email) several times, as permitted by canon, for the purpose of consenting, or not, to the election of various bishops.

That is all.
Fr Ian Wetmore, President of the Standing Committee.
consecration of our church building by Bishop Philander Chase, June 23-24, 1842. The Bishop will be joining us for his annual visitation on June 24, 2018.

The Rev. Bill Howard, Vicar

ST. JOHN’S
Centralia, Illinois

St. John’s is excited about working with Redeemer Lutheran Church in Centralia (ELCA), founded nearly a hundred years ago. Redeemer became unable to support a full-time pastor and decided to sell its building. After a negotiated merger with another congregation in Centralia fell through at the last minute, St. John’s offered to provide a home for the people of Redeemer. The Lutherans gladly and excitedly accepted. They will begin to meet at St. John’s in September, conducting their own services at a separate time, but a merger of the congregations is planned for January 2018.

A months’ long project of refurbishing of St. John’s vestibule and bell tower was completed in midsummer. The project, which includes the main entryway to the church, was dedicated on August 6, the Feast of the Transfiguration.

Due to several members’ being ill, St. John’s reluctantly decided not to host a Vacation Bible School this year in spite of a record of successful VBSes in the past two years. However, a children’s Sunday will take place on September 24, with neighborhood children (and their parents) invited to participate in the service and come to a reception afterwards.

The Rev. Ben Hankinson, Rector

DEANERY REPORTS

DARROW DEANERY

The Very Rev’d Ian Wetmore, Dean

Little to report. It’s been a quiet summer, except that St George’s, Belleville, and St Michael’s, O’Fallon, participated with 100 other Metro East churches in the Convoy of Hope East St Louis community event, which welcomed around 3,000 “guests of honor” who were given all sorts of completely free gifts such as lunch, groceries, health and dental screening, haircuts, full backpacks, children’s shoes, family portraits, and were prayed over and connected with churches, if requested. It was during the hottest week of the summer, but it was awesome. God is good!

EASTERN DEANERY

ST. JOHN’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Albion, Illinois

The people of St. John continue their faithful attendance, participation and fellowship.

We continue to enjoy adult clergy led Sunday School featuring 1st Corinthians. We have started church school led by laity to study the Apocrypha.

Many of us attended the funeral service of one of our longtime members who had been incapacitated. Fr. Howard led the service.

We continue plans for the celebration of the 175th anniversary of the consecration of our church building by Bishop Philander Chase, June 23-24, 1842. The Bishop will be joining us for his annual visitation on June 24, 2018.

The Rev. Bill Howard, Vicar

ST. JOHN’S
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The Rev. Ben Hankinson, Rector

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

TRINITY
Mt. Vernon, Illinois

Trinity kicked off the summer with the Bishop’s visitation and a cookout to celebrate our namesake on Trinity Sunday. Fr. Ben and one of our youth attended the third annual St. Michael’s Youth Conference hosted at St. Michael’s in O’Fallon. Two of our Cursillists helped to serve at the Cursillo weekend this year. Fr. Ben served the Junior Session at Church Camp over the week of the Fourth. We welcomed the University of Illinois Extension Office into our facility for the third summer to hold a free cooking class for area youth. Looking towards the Fall, we blessed backpacks, students, and teachers in preparation for the upcoming school year. Trinity is preparing to return to Sunday school for both children and adults. Our Fall midweek study will begin in September with a look at Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis. We will have our annual parish picnic mid-September to ring in the fall and the program year.

As always, we continue our year-round ministries. Our intercessory prayer ministry meets for Anglican Rosary before Mass on Sunday mornings. The local hospital welcomes us once a week to pray Morning Prayer which can be viewed by patients in their rooms. Our youth continue to serve with other local churches to provide dinner once a month at the homeless shelter. And of course, we have regular celebrations of the Holy Eucharist on Sundays, Wednesdays, and Holy Days.

The Rev. Ben Hankinson, Rector
DEANERY REPORTS

St. Mary’s Eucharistic Community
Robinson, Illinois

When it comes time to report on the activity that has taken place in our communities we can easily become frustrated with numbers, maintenance and lack of finances. So often we forget the many ways God is at work in our lives and the lives of others we encounter. St. Mary’s has seven faithful parishioners who come to church, worship God and give thanks, share their weekly experiences and go out to minister. Two parishioners are social workers and as best as they can in today’s culture they share their faith. One parishioner will be recognized by the local Lions Club for her volunteer services in the community. Another is a leader in the company he works for and encourages and helps those he encounters and works with. There is always a smile on his face. On occasion parishioners may be absent, but only because they are ministering to and sharing with their biological families. Our retired member really isn’t. She assists others with their tax preparations and financial needs and is active in community affairs as well. All of us serve and love our Lord. We go forth into the world each week in the name of Christ to love and serve the Lord. We share with the elderly, the poor and the shut-ins. Ours is a ministry driven by God’s love. We joyfully serve our Lord and are blessed and I as vicar more than I can express. We are the Church!

Mother Ann Tofani, Vicar

St. Thomas’
Salem, Illinois

St. Thomas’ put on a wonderful Vacation Bible School in early July, the first VBS in twenty years. Eight children attended, and a terrific curriculum supported by a dedicated volunteer staff made for a memorable experience.

The church also organized a rummage sale in midsummer which received a very large amount of items for sale. A fine set of volunteers ensured a successful sale with good participation from the wider community. Even so, only a moderate income of $515 was received for outreach projects.

One of our long-time members, Chonita Smith, moved to New Mexico. Her loss ended four generations of membership at St. Thomas’, as Chonita’s great-grandparents became members of the church in the late nineteenth century.

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

Cursillo: Donna and Edward Price, Mary Steele, Anna Maria Spence and Robin Thornquist took a step closer to Christ through attending the Cursillo weekend in June. The Redeemer supported Cursillo #35 with Father James Muriuki serving as one of the spiritual leaders, Len Harris as a table leader, and Dana Harris in the Palanca barn.

Children’s Summer Camp:
Redeemer held a two-day fun and faith-filled children’s camp June 29-30 that included arts and painting led by Robin Thornquist, karate by Len Harris, yoga by Marcella Woodson-Ursery, kickball by Father James, and music and refreshments by Wilma (Bernadine) Johnson and Dana Harris.

Rice and Beans Ministry/Bread Ministry: Rice and Beans Ministry continues every third Saturday of the month. One pound of dried beans and two pounds of rice are given away to all who stop by.

Panera Bread donates bread to the Episcopal Church in Cape Girardeau

Mother Ann Tofani, Vicar

HALE DEANERY

Church of the Redeemer
Cairo, IL

Gifts from God: A New Roof
Inez Donnigan developed and presented a request to the Hastings Foundation, which awards grants to improve the community. The Foundation awarded Church of the Redeemer $36,850. Along with the $12,052 already in our building fund, the church will be able to replace our leaking roof. Contractors will begin repairs no later than October of this year. We are still $1,000 away from the cost of the roof, but by the grace of God, we will raise the money by October.

Confirmations in the Church:
Edward Harris, Ronnie Harris, and Austin Brent made a public confession of their Christian faith during Bishop Daniels’ June 4th visit, and were confirmed.

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DEANERY REPORTS

Dana Harris

ST. STEPHEN’S  
Harrisburg, Illinois

Father Tim Goodman reports from Harrisburg, “I started this quarter with an invitation to open the monthly City Council meeting with prayer, a first for me. At St. Stephen’s Mission Leadership Team meeting, it was directed that we donate $500 to the local Shop with Cops program, and $100 to The Annex, a local AA operation. It was also decided to once again forward a check for $200 to Kairos so that they could purchase copies of the booklet, “PRISONER TO PRISONER”, which will be sent to Menard prison. We are preparing two adults for baptism this month. Looking over the church records I see where God has added an increase to our Sunday gatherings. Father James and I will be exchanging pulpits, a chance for our two churches to meet, greet, and break bread with a different priest of our Deanery.”

ST. ANDREW’S  
Carbondale, IL

St. Andrew’s Church in Carbondale has enjoyed a particularly busy and fruitful season. Early summer was spent in planning an eclipse-themed quilt show honoring our multi-talented choir director, Joyce Hesketh, and planning improvements to our grounds, all in anticipation of eclipse visitors. Joyce designed a magnificent queen-sized quilt with a creative depiction of a total eclipse. The quilt will be raffled off the last Sunday in August. So popular is her design, that we are considering ways to console those who don’t win the quilt by producing photo-printed facsimiles of her artistry.

We fenced off an area at our north entrance, refurbished the San-Damiano-style cross there, and added an attractive new bench and a flower display. In the northwest corner, we paved the area with flagstone, added a large urn of flowers, modern bench, and a community library box. We hope that college students will peruse the Bibles and other books offered, and thereby meet Christ, or deepen their relationship with Him. We also added a fresh-looking sign to mark

Joyce Hesketh playing a harp prelude for the hymn sing on the evening before the eclipse.
The Rector and three communicants (Brad, Chuck, and Cris) traveled with Bishop and Mrs. Martin to visit our partners in Tabora. They attended Synod in Tabora and were able to visit the reconstructed girl’s dormitory that the ECW of Springfield so generously supported. They also delivered funds for Bishop Elias and for the roof on the rectory in the Parish of Ndala. All will happily travel again to support our partners in mission.

The Incorporated Eucharistic Community of St. Matthew’s
Lincoln, Illinois

Our last report was just before Ash Wednesday. We continued our practice of changing to Rite I during Lent to draw particular attention to the Season. Our Lenten Study was a close reading of Who Moved the Stone. The Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday services were well attended.

Attendance has been stronger this year in general versus last. The Holy Spirit has drawn new people to our church for which we give thanks.

Sandy and I hosted meals at our home to thank various groups for their service. We gathered the Leadership Team for a “No Business” dinner and the “Grande Dames” (ladies of a certain age who have been members for a long time) for a luncheon. Both were a lot of fun.

Our Trinity Sunday celebration included a communal meal of smoked and grilled meats prepared by one of our members with sides from the

Joyce’s eclipse quilt premiered at St. James’ Annual Peach Festival. Henry Kammerer added peach smoothies to this year’s menu, which proved to be very popular. St. James also enjoyed an unexpected flowering of its Godly Play program. The Godly Play presentations keep children happily engaged while their parents attend the Narcotics Anonymous meetings held in the fellowship hall. Graduate student Simone Roby assists me with the teaching.

We welcomed many visitors to Sunday worship the morning before the eclipse, and in the evening, we celebrated with a singing of the many hymns that note God’s grandeur through His creation of the sun, moon, and “planets in their courses.” Honoring the request of some local quilting groups, we will extend our quilt exhibit into September, to allow more members to study Joyce’s artistry. Churches throughout the Diocese are cordially invited to come and see the three dozen-plus creations that are on display.

Bookending the summer was sending a graduate student, Alex Carpenter, to Cursillo in June, and now preparing for our “Welcome Back, Students!” Barbeque on Sunday. We are looking forward to a very eventful program year.

Kathryn G. Jeffrey, Rector of St. Andrew’s Parish and Regional Dean

NORTHERN DEANERY

ST. MATTHEW’S
Bloomington, Illinois

St. Matthew’s has had a fairly busy spring and summer. In March, the Rev. Tim Leighton was ordained as a Deacon. He is focusing his ministry on pastoral care and outreach.

The MLT has been reorganized to focus on the Mission Strategy Plan. Each member has volunteered for a specific task planning and coordination activity. If you would like more information, please email our Rector (rector@stmattsblm.org).

The MLT accepted a generous donation and approved additional funds to replace the 40 year old red carpet in the Nave and Sanctuary. The Sanctuary is now a beautiful wood that has enhanced its beauty as well as its acoustics. The aisle runner is a pale green that compliments the existing tile.

The MLT also approved funds for improving the lighting in the Parish Hall. This upgrade is in progress. Further improvements have been made to the sound system and the installation of a wireless projector in the Parish Hall. With these expenditures a tithe of the cost was given to the Diocese of Tabor and delivered personally by representatives of the Parish.

Churches throughout the Diocese are cordially invited to come and see the three dozen-plus creations that are on display.
local grocery store. We distributed checks totaling $3,000 to 3 local organizations and to our Companion Dioceses of Peru and Tabora.

Father Mark was invited by members to play golf in two outings to raise money for Lincoln College athletic scholarships and the Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital Foundation. In his capacity as Dean of the Northern Deanery, Father Mark traveled to Havana to welcome Father Michael to the diocese.

Fr. Mark Evans - Rector

NORTHEASTERN DEANERY

THE CHAPEL OF SAINT JOHN THE DIVINE
Champaign, Illinois

We have had another great summer in the life of the Chapel of Saint John the Divine.

Canterbury Student Program:
This summer, three persons who have been active participants in our Canterbury program made significant life transitions. Jaena Manson completed her Master’s Degree in Library Science and took a position in Victoria, Texas. Patrick Moses completed his PhD in nuclear engineering and he and his fiancée, Katie Graham, relocated to the Chicago to begin a new position.

Matthew Cross and Ben Norton will be serving as peer ministers this semester, and continue to help build our outreach to the university community.

Quad Day, a student activity fair that includes hundreds of organizations and thousands of students will be held on Sunday, August 27. The parish supports our efforts to connect with students as we will give away over 500 home baked cookies and invite students to be part of the life of the Chapel and our Canterbury program. College students, children of the parish, and other parishioners help us in this venture. Our student services and meal program begin August 30.

The Parish:
Summers are often a quieter time in the life of the Chapel with the academic year complete and many in the academic community travelling. Our vestry has received design proposals this summer from the architectural firm BLDD that has been helping us discern what we want and need in a new Canterbury House.

During the summer, five persons participated in the Royal School of Church Music chorister program held on the campus of East Carolina University in Charlotte, North Carolina. Our choral programs resume on Sunday, August 27.

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.

EMMANUEL MEMORIAL
Champaign, Illinois

Summer has been unusually full at Emmanuel, with major highlights being two ordinations. We were

Diane and Allen Wakabayashi with the Bishop after their ordination at Emmanuel Memorial in Champaign, IL on June 22nd, 2017.
delighted to host the ordination to the transitional diaconate of Diane Mumma-Wakabayashi and Allen Wakabayashi, having helped them discern their calls to priesthood, sponsored them, and financially supported them at seminary. We bid them a proud and wistful farewell as they move to curacies at St. Luke’s Gladstone NJ. We were equally delighted to host our new curate Caleb Roberts’ ordination to the priesthood on behalf of the Diocese of Oklahoma, and so appreciative of the very strong and supportive turnout of diocesan clergy for that occasion. Each service had an enjoyable reception following.

We also continued a campaign to update some of our facilities for better mission and ministry in preparation for the Centennial year of our building (October 2017 – Pentecost 2018.) Our Junior Warden John Aquino has given heroically of his time and talent to see several projects through to completion already. A completely new sound system and assistive hearing loop system have transformed the acoustic environment in our nave and made participation in Mass much easier both for those playing verbal roles in the service and for those doing the work of the people in the pews. We have also had pledges of support for a digital controller for our tower bells, new exterior signage, a nursery upgrade, and a wide range of repairs and improvements to our pipe organ. We hope to give 10% of all that is raised to outreach, as part of our partnership with local social service organization Empty Tomb, and are about a quarter of the way toward that goal.

Other than that, the pace was slower. One group worked throughout summer: The discernment group we convened in spring to begin seeking God’s guidance on how to use our vacant rectory for ministry and mission. They took guided prayerful walks through our mission field, studied scripture, and began to explore dreams rooted in the Anglican concept of the geographical parish.

Our adults were offered a chance to participate in a summer book read of Rowan Williams’ Being Christian, and Fr. Caleb organized a large gathering of 20s-30s both to say farewell to last year’s leader who has moved out of town and to plan for future ministry, as well as an evening of visioning and tacos with free childcare for young families. Emmanuel continued sponsorship of the Champaign Farmers Market, and welcomed two walking tours from the Champaign County History Museum for an architectural tour of our building and information about downtown church history.

As fall comes, we are excited about entering this program year with greater capacity for ministry, rejoicing to have not only the continued faithful service of our deacon extraordinaire, Chris Hopkins, but also two full time priests in Fr. Caleb and Mother Beth, as well as a dedicated lay staff (administrator Mary Sievers, musicians Mike Fisher and Geoffrey Williams, and sexton Tim Valentine.) If you are in the Champaign-Urbana area, please come worship with us on a Sunday or weekday!

The following information reflects activities at the Church of the Holy Trinity:

- Observed Rogation Sunday with Mass and procession and blessing of crosses
- Observed Ascension Thursday with two Masses
- Observed Corpus Christi with Mass and procession and blessing of the city
- Celebrated First Communion of one child
- Celebrated one funeral Mass
- Replaced bell tower roof and painted exterior of tower
- Had exterior brickwork of church repointed
- New exterior doors installed in gym and basement
- New windows installed in offices, gym, and basement
- Added decorative cement patio to unused area on north side of church
- Replaced gutters and downspouts on building
- New Altar rail installed
- Continue to address building improvements needed
- Continue to study methods for more substantial outreach into the surrounding area.

The “Sound of Music” was in the air this year at Trinity as we expanded and improved our existing music program.

“Lift Every Voice and Sing” was
purchased this year as well as additional copies of “Wonder, Love and Praise”. Both hymnals are incorporated in the Sunday service. Both of these hymnals have brought a fresh spirit to our services.

Our Reuter Organ is celebrating its 100th year with a five concert series. An organ committee was formed in 2016. Dates were chosen and recitalists invited to play. A lovely tri-fold brochure was developed by Dr. David Knox.

It began in January with Miguel Ruiz, Organist of Mattoon’s St. John’s Lutheran Church playing the recital and Saint Hildegard von Bingen Schola (Girl’s Chorale) singing to a capacity crowd. The second recital was held March 12 with Michael Fisher, organist of Emmanuel Memorial Episcopal Church, Champaign serving as recitalist. Dr. David Ouzts, Organist and Minister of Liturgy of the Church of Holy Communion (Episcopal), Memphis, Tn. was scheduled as the third recitalist. However, his mother was taken gravely ill that week and he was called to her side in South Carolina. Michael Fisher graciously offered to step in at the last moment and execute the third recital. Dr. Richard Rossi, head of the Eastern Illinois University Orchestral, Voice Department and organist at 1st Presbyterian Church, Champaign will be organist in September, assisted with the Downstate String Quartet. The fifth and final recital will be held November 19, one hundred years and one day from the date it was first played. This recital will be presented by Ron Krebs, V. President of Reuter Organ Company of Lawrence, Ks. This Centennial Organ Series has generated excitement in Trinity Church and throughout central Illinois. We have seen capacity crowds at the recitals. One dream of the Organ Committee was to add a new voice to the organ. It was decided to add a 4’ Principal to the Great manual of the organ. The monies have been donated to the Glory of God and the pipes are en route and should be installed soon by Buzard Organ Co. of Champaign. The gift originating the furthest came from Albuquerque, N.M. The morning of January 29, 2017 a young man was in the congregation for the first time. He was there to hear the organ. He attended the first recital that afternoon and has been faithful in his attendance ever since. Receptions have followed each recital. Preparing for these gala events has been wonderful fellowship and has helped deepen relationships within the congregation. Plans are underway to attend a recruitment event at EIU, Charleston, to invite students to church. Plans are to organize a choir this fall.

In November Cheri Prahl arranged the painting of the interior of Trinity. In July, Trinity Episcopal Church continued its community outreach by handing out bottled water to the participants of Mattoon’s 4th of July Parade. The parade began at the steps of Trinity Episcopal Church.

Book discussion is offered every second and fourth Tuesday night, immediately following the midweek service. This past year, we studied
the Gospel of Mark while using N.T. Wright’s study guide.

NORTHEASTERN DEANERY

ST. PAUL’S
Carlinville, Illinois

Summer is over and vacations have been enjoyed. I am certain that we will start having perfect attendance at St. Paul’s and St. Peter’s any day now.

We have missed the choir this summer but our worship has been enhanced by the contributions of individuals. We honored our students, teachers, and retired teachers as we began another school year. Our coffee hour following mass is a time of good fellowship. We enjoyed the annual Parish Fish Fry. We continue to staff the Carlinville Food Pantry on the fifth Wednesday of the month. We are looking forward to our annual church picnic on October 1 and the Bishop’s visit on October 29 (with two students studying for confirmation).

Our lone acolyte is thrilled (truth be told: ECSTATIC) to announce the presence of a second and THIRD acolyte in our parish and looks forward to the future with two more growing closer to the age for training.

Father John served once more as the Spiritual Director of the Midler Session at Church Camp. Three young people from our parish attended. We look forward to welcoming our fellow deanery members to the Deanery Meeting on September 17.

We enjoyed Bible Study on Thursday night when we studied different approaches to Bible Study. A survey was taken and our next Bible Study will be taught in the manner found to be most enlightening according to the survey results. These sessions were taught by our very own resident Blackburn theology professor, Rev. Dr. Carter Aikin.

Father John continues to serve as Secretary-Treasurer of the Carlinville Clergy Fellowship. We have welcomed in a period of four weeks new pastors at the Lutheran, Nazarene, and Federated churches.

The Very Rev. John R. Henry, Rector

ST. JOHN’S
Decatur, Illinois

On May 16th, we hosted the Decatur Ecumenical Clergy monthly meeting. On the 3rd of June, we held a Memorial Service for long-time member Chuck Kraeger. On the 4th we held our annual outdoor Eucharist and Parish Picnic at Spitler Woods. On June 14th members of St. John’s filled a table at the annual Decatur Community Prayer Breakfast.

Suzi Rotz and Jason Crutcher were united in Holy Matrimony on July 1st. The Nave was full. On the 19th we had our annual Blood Drive with Central Illinois Community Blood Center. During July our outreach committee organized a drive to gather 47 items for Dove, Inc. Domestic Violence Shelter to honor their 47th anniversary. Over 200 items were gathered and delivered to Dove.

On the 12th of August, we held the interment service at our Columbarium for Dr. James Jones, a former parishioner. This included musical selections and a four plane “missing man formation” fly over. On the 19th of August, we held our annual “Mix and Mingle” fellowship evening. This year it was held at Richland Community College’s Culinary Art’s Café. With children and college students back in school, we look forward to our Choir re-assembling for the rest of the Church Year.

The Rev. Richard A. Swan, Rector
DEANERY REPORTS

St. Luke’s
Springfield, Illinois

We have had a quiet summer at St. Luke’s. Earlier this year we decided to eliminate our long-standing Saturday service, and we now have only the two services on Sunday---8 and 10:30. The small group attending on Saturday was generally supportive of the change, and the result has been larger attendance on Sunday, particularly at our 8 a.m. service. We have also been joined at 8 a.m. by the Rev. Thomas Langford, who has recently been appointed by the Bishop to serve as Assisting Deacon at St. Luke’s. It is good to have his assistance liturgically and as a back-up for pastoral needs.

We are excited about the continuation of the Episcopal Church Camp. Three of our young people, along with four friends, attended from St. Luke’s. Barb Sherman also went along as a counselor—we thank her for that work and thank all the adults in the Diocese who work to make this ministry possible.

Fr. Denney was away this summer to serve again as Locum Chaplain at St. George’s, Taormina (Sicily). It was again a busy time there with weddings, baptisms and the regular round of services. The Vigil of Pentecost was spent with the Congregation of Sant’Alberto di Trapani, Randazzo—an Italian-speaking parish of the Church of England—affording Fr. Denney an opportunity to celebrate the Eucharist in Italian. It is exciting to see the church expanding its ministry in this way. Fr. David Boase covered the Sundays Fr. Denney was away, and is much appreciated (date I say, beloved) at St. Luke’s.

On the second Sunday of August we acknowledged the departure of two of our young men—Ethan McQuillan and Lucas Denney—for college. Lucas and Ethan are 6 days apart in age and have grown up in St. Luke’s. Lucas is going to Grinnell College in Iowa and Ethan is going to Indiana State University in Terre Haute. We have been pleased over the years to see so many of our young people go on to further their education, both in college and trade school.

Our adult class began a study of the Book of Acts in July, using the Knowing the Bible series by J. I. Packer. A study group also meets weekly for an African Bible Study program focusing on the readings for the coming Sunday.

We are looking forward to a busy fall program.

Shawn W. Denney+
Vicar, St. Luke’s Church
DIOCESAN CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2017

03 Bishop w/ All Saints’, Morton
10 Bishop w/ Trinity, Yazoo City, MS (DEPO)
10 Eastern Deanery Meeting, Trinity, Mt. Vernon (2 p.m.)
10 Northern Deanery Meeting, Trinity, Lincoln (2 p.m.)
17 Bishop w/ St. Mark’s, West Frankfort
17 Northeastern Deanery Meeting, Emmanuel Memorial, Champaign (4 p.m.)
17 Northwestern Deanery Meeting, St. Paul’s, Carlinville (2:30 p.m.)
23 Hale Deanery Meeting, St. James’ Chapel, Marion (5 p.m.)
24 Darrow Deanery Meeting, St. Bartholomew’s, Granite City (2 p.m.)

OCTOBER 2017

01 Bishop w/ St. Mary’s, Robinson
08 Bishop w/ St. Stephen’s, Harrisburg
13-14 140th Synod, St. Matthew’s, Bloomington & Christ the King, Normal
15 Bishop w/ St. Matthew’s, Bloomington
29 Bishop w/ St. Paul’s, Carlinville

NOVEMBER 2017

01 ALL SAINTS DAY
02 Trustees Meeting, Diocesan Center, Springfield (10 a.m.)
05 Bishop w/ St. Andrew’s, Edwardsville
06-08 Clergy Conference, Toddhall, Columbia
12 Bishop w/ Trinity, Mattoon
17 Diocesan Council, Diocesan Center, Springfield (10 a.m.)
19 Bishop w/ St. Barnabas’, Havana

DECEMBER 2017

03 ADVENT, Bishop w/ St. John’s, Centralia
10 Bishop w/ St. Michael’s, O’Fallon
17 Bishop w/ St. Luke’s, Springfield
25 CHRISTMAS DAY
31 Bishop w/ St. Bartholomew’s, Granite City

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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