This year, as an experiment (though it is an established custom in other dioceses), between the Blessing and the Dismissal, there will be an opportunity for those who so desire to come forward and receive the Sacrament of Unction—anointing with oil and laying-on of hands with prayer for healing. All who are in any way afflicted in body, mind, or spirit are welcome to come forward.

While the principal attendees of the Mass of Chrism have always been deacons and priests, the entire community of the diocese is welcome and encouraged to attend. The liturgy begins at 11am.

The annual Mass of Chrism will be celebrated on Saturday, April 13 in St Paul’s Cathedral in Springfield. Bishop Martins will preside, and the preacher will be Father Ben Hankinson, rector of Trinity, Mt Vernon.

The Chrism Mass has two focal points: It is an opportunity for the clergy of the diocese to publicly renew their ordination vows, in solidarity with the Bishop. It is also the occasion when oil is blessed by the Bishop, and carried back to the churches of the diocese by the clergy. There are actually two categories of oil that are blessed: the Oil of Chrism, for use in baptism and confirmation, and the Oil of the Sick, for use in the administration of the Sacrament of Unction.
CONTRIBUTING

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.

We are committed to send our diocesan publication to all members and friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Springfield. It is not necessary to contribute in order to receive The Springfield Current. Nevertheless, if you choose to support The Springfield Current, your contribution will be of great assistance in this ministry and is tax deductible.

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

DONORS

Thank you to recent donors who have made this issue possible:

ST. ANDREW’S, CARBONDALE
Don Monty & Anne Gaylord

TRINITY, JACKSONVILLE
Mrs. G.R. Logsdon

TRINITY, MT. VERNON
Randy Winn

EMMANUEL MEMORIAL, CHAMPAIGN
The Rev. Beth Maynard

To contribute toward the mission of The Springfield Current, please see the form inside the back cover.

ONLINE

WEBSITE:
EpiscopalSpringfield.org

FACEBOOK:
facebook.com/EpiscopalSpringfield

BISHOP MARTINS’ BLOG & JOURNAL:
EpiscopalSpringfield.org/bishops-corner
FROM THE BISHOP

Mysta-what?

Mystagogical. From “mystagogy”—literally “words about mystery,” but it has a much richer meaning than just that.

Mystagogy is an ancient Christian practice. It involves sitting attentively with the sacred texts of our worship—scripts, hymns, prayers—as well as with the images that assist our worship—icons, crosses, etc.—and allowing them to “interrogate” us, to shine a light on our knowledge and love of the Lord. This is more than just reading or hearing. It’s even more than careful study. One could liken it to bathing in our tradition, our inheritance.

You have probably participated in mystagogy several times without even knowing it, and certainly without using such an exotic word! Have you ever attended a celebration of the Eucharist and come away thinking to yourself, “Wow! That really clicked. The hymns, the collect of the day, the readings, the sermon, the Prayers of the People—it all just held together. Everything illuminated everything else.” It you’ve ever had such an experience, you were doing mystagogy!

One of the key components of mystagogy is that it happens in community. It’s not just the blind leading the blind; there are appropriately leaders and facilitators, even teachers. But it’s not the mere passing on of information from those who have it to those who don’t. There is always an element of mutuality. There is sharing, openness. In mystagogy, we engage sacred texts with our whole selves—not just our minds, and not just our emotions or impressions, but with all that we are. It is a holistic spiritual practice.

The clergy of the diocese took part in mystagogical exercises during our recent pre-Lenten retreat. We focused on the texts of our common worship on the occasion—two celebrations of the Eucharist, and four observances of the daily office. Most of them found it a uniquely nourishing and grounding experience. We had a lively discussion about how mystagogy might be deployed and embedded in our diocesan life—from the preparation of candidates for baptism and confirmation, to the formation of adults in their various lay ministries, and even among those who are slowly being shaped into deacons or priests. In this increasingly secular cultural climate in which we live, we do well to double down on adhering to the rock from which we were hewn.

Let’s all become mystagogues!

Honoring the Life of Bishop Hultstrand

April 12

2:00pm Requiem Eucharist in the cathedral
Committal in Cathedral Columbarium follows immediately
Reception in the Great Hall
MOTHER ANN TOFANI RETIREMENT

RF Rains

The members of St. Mary’s Episcopal Church of Robinson, Illinois are sad to announce the departure of our Eucharistic leader, the Reverend Ann Tofani, as she begins the next chapter of her journey into retirement. It’s quite appropriate that Southern Illinois experienced a small earthquake as Ann was ordained June 10th, 2000. She has seemed to carry that momentum through her diaconate priesthood over the past nineteen years blessing us with her enthusiasm and guided by her wit and unvarnished honesty. It’s quite appropriate she would plan her last service with us on Easter Day. Ann will leave us with homilies, teachings and her take on the lessons that have helped open our eyes, minds and hearts to the Lord. She presented these thoughts with an understanding steeped in her own experiences, with the ability to cut out the “wheat from the chaff” presenting her take on the lessons and scripture in her own unique style. The members of St. Mary’s wish to express our appreciation to the Reverend Ann for her faithfulness and guidance and will continue to pray for her health and well-being as her new chapter begins. Watch out Arizona, here comes Earthquake Ann.

RF Rains is the Jr. Warden of St Mary’s

THE WEEK OF GRACE

The Rev. Beth Maynard

For many years, one Emmanuel Champaign member per week has delivered a week’s worth of groceries to a local family in need referred by our outreach partner empty tomb. Parishioner Lois Rath leads the ministry, in which donated nonperishables, presented at the Offertory on Sundays, combine with food brought fresh to feed a household. For the 4th week of Lent, the week when the Daily Office Lectionary sends us to the Gospel of John’s great chapter on the Bread of Life, these in-person deliveries multiplied. Working with other churches of all denominations through empty tomb, Emmanuelites visited a whole list of families between April 1-6 with bags of fresh food to last a week. The youth group, Sunday School, choir, and women’s Bible study all organized purchases and deliveries in this hunger-fighting blitz, the “Week of Grace.” Guided by Deacon Christine Hopkins, the initiative gave people an accessible chance to experience hands-on contact in mission.

Mother Beth Maynard of Emmanuel Memorial in Champaign

THE REV. JOEL J. MORSCH

Marian Smithson

The Rev. Joel J. Morsch was installed as the 33rd rector of St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church on Saturday, February 16, by The Rt. Rev. Daniel Martins, Bishop of the Diocese of Springfield at a Celebration of New Ministry service.

Fr. Joel was selected by the Mission Leadership Team to lead the church. He officiated at his first service at St. Andrew’s on December 16. Previously, Fr. Morsch was Rector of Christ Church, Bradenton, Florida for twelve years. He is married to Barbara and has three grown daughters and five grandchildren. Two of his daughters live in Bloomington, Illinois and the third lives in John’s Creek, Georgia.

Fr. Joel lived, worked and volunteered in St. Charles, Illinois for many years before hearing God’s call to the priesthood. He was ordained to the diaconate in 1997. He graduated from Nashotah House Theological Seminary in 1998.

After ordination, he went to St. John’s Episcopal Church in Naperville, Illinois as Associate Rector from 1998 until 2002. In 2002, he was called to the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection in Franklin, Tennessee as Rector. He was in Franklin, Tennessee until 2006 then became Rector at Christ Church.

St. Andrew’s is located at 406 Hillsboro Avenue in downtown Edwardsville. It was established in 1841 under its first rector, The Reverend Joseph Darrow. The present
HOLY TRINITY RENOVATIONS

In 2015, the Vestry of Church of the Holy Trinity, Danville, developed a long-term strategic plan to address the spiritual and physical strengths and weaknesses of our Eucharistic Community. Key among the parts of the plan is the continued maintenance of the physical building which was erected and consecrated in 1868.

Like so many older churches, Holy Trinity, had experienced some well-intentioned but often misguided modernizations of the Post-World War II era. Renovations over the past twenty years, though more sensitive to the purpose and nature of the Sacred, were worn and needed to be refreshed. Out of necessity, the roof of the newer gymnasium was replaced and part of the brickwork on the exterior of the church was repainted. Initially this was to be the stopping point in order to remain financially responsible.

As often happens, plans change and with the memorial gift of a wooden Communion Rail designed by local artisans, the faithful were led to continue and increase their gifts for the preservation of the building. Through the generosity of another parishioner the Sanctuary and nave were repainted, new flooring was installed, the pews were refinished, the air-conditioning system was replaced, and all exterior projects were completed. God is good and all of these wonderful gifts are blessings for us and for them we are thankful.

So now we have the great responsibility of true maintenance, the stewardship of sacred space. A holy building leads us to the Holy One and reflects the relationship that exists between the earthly and the heavenly worlds. It is a house of God expressing the faith of the people, with the sacred emblems that have been inspired by the ancient Faith. At the Altar, the gifts are received, and we are present at the tomb and the resurrection, the source of all sacramental grace. Keeping it holy is our obligation.

Fr. Richard Lewis of Holy Trinity in Danville

PLAINSONG EVENSONG IN PEKIN

The Parish of Tazewell County (Saint Paul’s, Pekin and All Saints’, Morton) celebrated Candlemas with a Plainsong Evensong service at Saint Paul’s in Pekin. The service was led by the Tazewell Plainsong Choir, made up of fourteen parishioners from our two Eucharistic Communities. In addition to the regular features of an Evensong service (incense during the Magnificat, sermon, and one congregational hymn sung during the collection), 70 candles with a prayer card tied around each were blessed and, after the service, distributed to attendees.

The tradition of Choral Evensong traces back centuries to monastic Europe, being an “even” point for prayer and contemplation between the active day and restful night. It remains popular today throughout England in cathedrals and large parish churches, including in our diocese, such as at Emmanuel Memorial, Champaign.

Candlemas—known officially as The Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple, as well as the Purification of Saint Mary the Virgin) traditionally marks the end of the Christmas cycle, and was the

ST. JOHN’S DONATION

In October, St. John’s, Decatur applied for a Mission and Ministry grant from the Springfield Diocesan Outreach fund. The grant was approved with a $500 check to Meals on Wheels of Macon County. Here in the picture Mindy Chadwick (center) is presenting the check to Laura Cullison (right) Coordinator for Macon County Meals on Wheels.

“Mary said, ‘Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.’” Luke 1:38

Fr. Dick Swan of St. John’s in Decatur
time when the Church would look toward the coming season of Lent and Eastertide, where light will shatter all darkness. From this grew the tradition of blessing candles for the year on the occasion of this liturgical remembrance of baby Jesus being brought to the Temple by Mary and Joseph, following Jewish religious custom.

Ours is a mixed choir of children and adults and we have been learning plainsong chant—a form of music that traces back at least to the 6th century A.D. We have been utilizing the classic work on chant done in the early 20th-century Episcopal Church by Canon Charles Winfred Douglas and his Saint Dunstan’s Plainsong Psalter, which follows the 1662/1928 liturgical idiom.

This was the second time we had celebrated a Plainsong Evensong service. The first was for Michaelmas last September (Feast of Saint Michael and All Angels), which was in accordance with our 2nd annual all-Parish “pie-luck,” which this year saw parishioners from both congregations gather for Sunday worship and reception following with 28 pies (both savory and sweet).

Our next Evensong service will be Saturday, June 8, 2019 at 4 pm, on the Eve of Feast of Pentecost. All are invited to attend. We take a collection to benefit the maintenance of Saint Paul’s historic Hinners organ pipes, which were installed in the 1930s.

Fr. Matthew C. Dallmann is the Priest in Charge of St. Paul's in Pekin

ST. MICHAEL’S PILGRIMAGE

The Rev. Ian Wetmore

Ever wanted to go to Greece? Well then, this is a fabulous opportunity! Working with a core group from St Michael’s Episcopal Church, O’Fallon, IL, Insiders Tours has put together a pilgrimage/vacation to Greece, departing on Sept 17th from St Louis, O’Hare or wherever you choose, and returning Sept 27th, arriving home on the 28th. The trip will include a tour of Athens, including the old Agora (=marketplace) the Acropolis-- those aren’t Christian pilgrimage sites-- and the Areopagus, which has a rich pre-Christian history as well as being the place where St Paul preached his famous sermon in Acts 17:16-34, in which he pointed out the Greek altar “to an unknown god” in order to proclaim the Good News of the living God and his risen Son.

Then we’ll proceed north through Thermopylae, site of the famous 5th century BC battle between the Greeks and the Persian Empire, visiting the complex of monasteries at Meteora, on our way to Thessaloniki (as in St Paul’s letters to the Thessalonians), where we’ll begin walking in Paul’s footsteps. Then we’ll head to Kavala, called Neapolis way back then, and Philippi (as in Paul’s letter to the Philippians), where Paul baptized Lydia the purple merchant of Thyatira (Acts 16:11-15), and where we’ll celebrate Sunday Mass.

That will be the end of the pilgrimage part of the trip. From there we’ll fly to the famous island of Santorini for a few days of vacation, where we’ll have lots of time to relax on the beach and tour the island. Then we’ll switch back to pilgrim mode and visit Corinth, the site of one of Paul’s two dysfunctional churches (Galatia being the other one), which is why he had to write two letters to them. After that it’s back to Athens, departing for home the next morning.

We don’t expect to be a large group—fewer than 20- which means we’ll have an awesome time together! The cost is $2500 + airfare per person. Once on the ground, 4-star accommodations, transfers and most meals are included. Aleka, our wonderful (Greek-American) tour guide, advises that we book our flights early so as to take advantage of lower fares. When you book, you’ll receive info on departure dates, etc. For more info, visit https://insiderstours.com/greece-odyssey-blending-footsteps-of-st-paul-and-vacation-from-vacation/ or feel free to contact Fr Ian Wetmore of St Michael’s at iancwetmore@gmail.com. Let’s go!

Fr. Ian Wetmore is vicar of St. Michael’s in O’Fallon

HERE I AM, FOR YOU CALLED ME

Cindy Lynk

Just as Samuel answered God’s call in the Old Testament, Cursillistas must answer that call now. A Cursillista is someone who has made a Cursillo weekend. Cursillo 37 is
approaching and there are many ways for Cursillistas to serve the Cursillo community.

One possible way to serve is to consider sponsoring a candidate to the next Cursillo weekend. This is considered the heart and soul of the Cursillo Movement. Each person who has made a weekend had been invited by another Cursillista who thought highly of their leadership ability.

Opportunities to provide Palanca throughout the weekend are endless. One way is to gather the Cursillistas within the parish families to host a Palanca party or two. Individually, Cursillistas can begin gathering supplies to create their own Palanca at home. Items that might be useful for the weekend can be gathered and brought down to Toddhall through members of the weekend team.

At any time, the Fourth Day is always welcome to offer assistance on the weekend. This, too, is considered Palanca because it is self-sacrifice. Cursillistas are needed to set up the supplies in each area and then again, to return the supplies to their allotted storage areas at the end of the weekend. Most Cursillistas are familiar with the Agape Dinner on Saturday. Assistance is needed to decorate the dining hall and then to tear down the decorations afterwards. Later on Saturday evening, many hands are required to set up the candles for the Candlelight Walk, as well as to show Fourth Day support by singing to the candidates as they walk from St. Cecilia’s Chapel to Wilson Hall. Clausura is another opportunity for the Fourth Day community to give their support as well as welcoming the new Cursillistas into the community.

Cursillo 37 is scheduled from August 22nd through the 25th. With the Holy Spirit giving inspiration, please answer His call to assist throughout the weekend.

Cindy Lynk is a member of St. George’s, Belleville

2019 ST. MICHAEL’S YOUTH CONFERENCE: CALLED BY GOD

Fr. Ben Hankinson

June 16-22, 2019
St. Michael’s Episcopal Church, O’Fallon

2018 was our 4th Annual SMYC, and the first time since its inception that we haven’t moved to a new location.

Having found a home that affords us the blend of living, worship, class, and recreational space, we found ourselves pondering what this program might be for the years to come.

Up to this year, we had not developed a theme for our yearly gathering of Michaelites, in fact, I'd suggest that we weren't actually looking for one. Rather, during our deliberations over courses and schedules and liturgies, a theme found us: “Called, Consecrated, Commissioned”.

We began with a class on Acts, a look at the life of the early church, the call to the first generation of Christians. Next, a practicum on what the church does as it prays and sings the liturgies of the church, entering into sacred time and space together. Naturally, the desired outworking of such close encounters with the holy is the multiplication of the same, and so we considered just what holiness looks like in the people, places, and things of the church. And finally, we took time to consider what the vocation of holiness might look like in the life of youth in today’s church, discussing the nuance of listening for what and where that call might take us as both laity and clergy.

On top of all this, of course, was our ever-present practice of praying the Offices and celebrating the Eucharist, while engaging in the ministries and leadership of the same. Youth led us in Morning Prayer and Compline. They carried out the ministries of lectors, intercessors, acolytes, and even Eucharistic ministers.

They served each other daily in obvious ways by cleaning and maintaining shared spaces, but they
also ministered in the not so obvious: sitting with someone having a hard time, inviting someone to join in on a game, being Christ to one another even if we were just hanging out on the lawn.

We weren’t looking to change anything, and we weren’t even really looking for a theme. But what we believe we found was a place in the life of the diocese and the local church into which we could really sink our teeth. In this, we believe that we can be an intentional part of the process of raising up tomorrow’s leaders, today, not only for the good of the local congregation but for the life of the church on the whole.

And so, we will be doubling, or I guess tripling, down on this year’s appointed theme. In the course of the next 3 years we will flesh out each of the components of “Called, Consecrated, Commissioned” individually so that our core curriculum will continue to invite the youth of our diocese and beyond to actively engage with the call of God to each of them, the consecrating work of the Holy Spirit in their lives, and the commission of Christ to go forth and be holy people for the sake of the world.

For more information, check out the diocesan website or contact frbenhankinson@gmail.com. Most importantly, make plans to send your youth to join us June 16-22, 2019 as we journey with them and discern together just what it means to be Called by God.

Fr. Ben Hankinson is the rector of St. Michael’s in O’Fallon

REPORT FROM ST. GEORGE’S, BELLEVILLE

The Rev. Canon Dale Coleman

The following is Father Coleman’s annual report for 2018. It appeared in the annual report booklet.

This is now my twelfth report to you, members in Christ’s Body, the Church, at St. George’s Episcopal Church. As priest among you, I am to follow what is said in the Catechism in our Book of Common Prayer in this office:

Q. What is the ministry of a priest or presbyter? A. The ministry of a priest is to represent Christ and his Church, particularly as pastor to the people; to share with the bishop the overseeing of the Church; to proclaim the Gospel; to administer the sacraments; and to bless and declare pardon in the name of God.

If you wish to know my “job description”, there it is. Actually it is not a “job description” because a priest (and bishop) carry out their vocations, having been called by God to these special offices in the Church. These are descriptions of what this priestly office entails. One who is an ordained priest is called to endeavor to build up the Body of Christ by doing this ministry as spelled out above. It is crucial to the well running of St. George’s that all of us, the laos or people of God pray for the priest to carry out this priestly ministry, for such is the Kingdom of God, as given to us by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ himself, for his Church. This moves us to the question,

Q. What is the mission of the Church? A. The mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ. Q. How does the Church pursue its mission? A. The Church pursues its mission as it prays and worships, proclaims the Gospel, and promotes justice, peace, and love.

Q. Through whom does the Church carry out its mission? A. The Church carries out its mission through the ministry of all its members. It is of the utmost importance that we keep this mind. If we pursue other ways of thinking about the Church, or the priestly mission of the Rector, we do damage to the Church and harm the actions of the Holy Spirit among us. In today’s Epistle, St. Paul alerts us to this, and states that we know we have the Holy Spirit if we say Jesus is Lord. That is the simplest Creed there is in the New Testament. We all affirm this by our presence in Church, as St. John the Divine notes, on the first day of the week, in Revelation 1:10.

We gather to become who we are: The Body of the Lord Jesus. And by virtue of the gifts of ministry the Holy Spirit graces us with, we witness to the Community and the world around us. This happens when we treat each other as People of God, as members of the Body of Christ, as vessels of the Holy Spirit. This is the only way for us to build up the kingdom of God. This is seen among us by reconciliation between ourselves and God, and then with one another.

We have been offered reconciliation by God in His Son Jesus, by his atoning for our sins on the cross. We know this to be true first by the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead, and then by His sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Without God’s own Spirit, we would be nothing. There would be no church, no community of faith...
The deficit was primarily driven by General Convention travel expense for the Bishop (5116) and Delegation (5310) and Clergy Group health insurance (5452).

Rod Matthews, Treasurer


(The Very Rev.) Richard A. Swan
President

Every Spring Anglican Churches across America anxiously prepare for UTO Spring Ingathering. Parishes will be receiving more information on The Spring Ingathering by the end of the March.

Spring Ingathering is Sunday following Ascension, however parishes can set their own dates if they wish too.

Those who participate in UTO discover that thankfulness leads to generosity. Please contact Joyce Wright, UTO Coordinator if you have any questions or need blue boxes etc., jcwright117@gmail.com

Thanks for your participation in this great ministry of the Episcopal Church.

Happy Spring!!

Joyce C. Wright
UTO Coordinator
As Always, our Christmas Day has always been one of the lowest attended service but we had 11 people in attendance.

We also want to thank God for this New Year which started a bit unusually extreme weather that we had to cancel service on January 20, 2019. But had a good time to fellowship with a number of people who joined together in a conference call. We did the morning prayers over the phone. It was an interesting experience.

Our Church Picnic for our Bowling schedule was postponed due to extreme weather on the 20 January, 2019.

On 26 January, 2019 The Redeemer Martial Arts program took 5 students to a Tournament in Franklin Tennessee to compete. We won one grand championship in forms, two first place and two third place. God is good.

It was a great opportunity to for the Redeemer Group to participate for the first time our Area. We just want to thank God for our own Bishop’s Warden who doubles as the Chief of Police here in Cairo.

It is my pleasure to submit this report from the Church of the Redeemer in Cairo.

The Rev. James K. Muriuki

St Mark’s
West Frankfort

St Mark’s kicked off this quarter with a potluck celebration of my 10th anniversary of ordination—it was a delightful evening, plenty of great food and fellowship. Making it extra special was the fact that we had people present from all of the active deanery churches – what a blessing!

The following Saturday we were pleased to host the annual deanery ECW quiet day, led by Father Tim.

In Advent our children’s Sunday School decorated our Jesse Tree with 24 ornaments bearing the names of Jesus, adding 6 ornaments each week. With the leadership of Nancy Summers, these same ornaments were mailed to over 27 recipients: shut ins and those we simply wanted to know they matter.

Our adult study group took a hiatus in December and is reconvening as we continue to work our way through Max Lucado’s 10 Women of the Bible.

Our continuing lunch bag program to an area grade school is very appreciated, and we always have enough people to fill the bags and get them ready for delivery. In December we also had the opportunity to help the high school provide food to some of the needier teens over the holiday break.

Our blessing box is getting a lot of use, and we are still fine-tuning how best keep it supplied with basic food and supplies; we have seen how this...
DEANERY REPORTS

too is making a difference to those in need; we heard from one man who said it provided food for his family on Christmas.

As other churches in the area; we canceled services on January 20th due to weather/roads/ice – which postponed our annual meeting. I am pleased to say that our average Sunday attendance last year was up about 3 people from the prior year, and the last quarter average was even 3 people higher! Blessed indeed!

The Very Rev. Sheryl L. Black

ST. ANDREW’S

Carbondale

We began our third quarter with our annual Taize service moved from the Feast Day of St. Andrew’s to All Soul’s Day. It was as lovely as usual, this time highlighted with harpsichord music. On St. Nicolas’ Day, the children of the parish enjoyed making gold and white Chrismon ornaments and used them to decorate a Jesse tree in the sanctuary. St. Nicolas (aka Henry Kammerer) made a guest appearance. Not finding any heretics to punch, he distributed chocolate coins wrapped in gold, and wished everyone a holy Advent.

We added semi-monthly Eucharistic celebrations at a local nursing home to our worship schedule. Residents, including two of our own parishioners, participate enthusiastically, and were especially grateful for a Christmas Eve Mass.

Weather and other issues delayed the installation of our solar panels. We anticipate the completion of that happy cost-saving project as soon as the current cold snap is over. Generous donations in honor of the rector’s birthday in mid-January enabled the purchase of solar ovens for both St. Andrew’s and St. James. We anticipate using the ovens for evangelism by offering workshops on their use, something for which there is considerable interest within the university community.

Our organization of the Neighborhood Crime-watch in Marion has boosted membership at St. James. Laurel Petrich, our newest St. Andrew’s member and the wife of our new music director, lent her sewing skills to the project by making seven distinctive yellow vests to be worn by Neighborhood Watch members while doing community outreach. The wearing of distinctive clothing was recommended by the police, so that elderly shut-ins could see the vests and recognize a friendly, helpful presence at their doors.

Mat-making for the homeless continues at both St. Andrew’, with 120 mats now produced and distributed, and over 100,000 plastic bags recycled.

Kathryn Jeffrey+

EASTERN DEANERY

ST. JOHN’S

Albion

Subsequent to the synod and later November meeting of the Diocesan Council in 2018, the people of St. John’s have had full services during Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany. We look forward to Lent, with full services and with Stations of the Cross on Wednesdays after Ash Wednesday. Our people continue to be faithful in worship attendance, participation, fellowship, and in prayer.

We have continued with our study of 2nd Corinthians and will finish that study before the Council meeting and will then move on to the next topic. In addition to monthly Sunday school, our coffee hours are frequently filled also with discussion of the lessons of the day, with questions to the Priest,
and with the needs, concerns, and joys of the people. We truly have fun as well as seriously considering scripture, liturgy, worship, and the needs of each other and others.

Financially we are still self-sufficient, meeting our pledge to the Diocese and the cost of operating and maintaining St. John’s. Substantial work, replacements and repairs during our preparation for and celebration of our 175th anniversary have resulted in the physical plant being in reasonably good shape. Father Bill continues in participation with the Edwards County Ministerial Alliance. The Church plans to again participate in the Good Friday “Cross Walk” sponsored by the ECMA and we will be one of the stops on that walks.

We are the Episcopal and liturgical presence in Edwards Country and surrounds.

The Rev. Bill Howard

**ST. JOHN’S**

**Centralia**

Attendance and morale at St. John’s remain high as the congregation continues to enjoy its relationship with Redeemer Lutheran Church which merged with St. John’s last summer. A Lenten program is in the planning stages, to be shared with five other churches in Centralia in a partnership called the “Covenant Churches”. The linked congregations of St. John’s and Redeemer worship together with a rich blend of the best of both liturgical and musical traditions, and are currently considering how to make a larger impact on the community for both outreach and evangelism.

The Rev. Canon David Baumann, The Rev. Dcn. Sylvia Howard

**ST. MARY’S**

**Robinson**

St. Mary’s is preparing to take a look at contemplative prayer during Lent. God’s Grace has abounded as we prepare for transition following the Easter day service. We look forward to receiving more of what God has prepared for us as we open our hearts and minds to God. We continue serving meals at the ark of the covenant and have found blessings as we do so. God continues to expand our ministry in this endeavor. Working side by side with the Mennonites and others had blessed us all. As we look forward to change and continued ministry, we are profoundly aware of God’s grace and mercy towards us.

The Rev. Ann Tofani

**ST. THOMAS’**

**Salem**

St. Thomas’ lost ten members last year, but it is hoped that a new atmosphere in the Eucharistic community may make both spiritual growth and growth in numbers more likely to occur than was previously possible.

The Rev. Canon David Baumann

**TRINITY**

**Mount Vernon**

On March 5, we will have our Shrove Tuesday pancake supper along with the preparation of ashes to be used on Ash Wednesday, March 6. The Proper Liturgy will be observed at a local nursing home, Countryside Manor, at 10 am and then with Mass and music at Trinity at 5:30 pm. On Friday, March 8, we will renew our yearly Stations of the Cross hosted in conjunction with St. Mary’s Catholic Church, alternating weeks between the two locations. Sundays in Lent will be marked by liturgical change, most notably the Great Litany (Lent I), The Decalogue (Lent II & V), and the Exhortation (Lent III & VI).

Approaching Holy Week we will prepare to enter once more into the Passion of our Lord with the Liturgy of the Palms, daily Mass, Tenebrae, and the Proper Liturgies. We hope to cap off our journey with a joyous dinner celebration following the Great Vigil of Easter which was a great success last year. Then, we are tentatively scheduled to keep the whole Octave of Easter as we strive to enter more fully into the glorious joy of the Resurrection.

While Lent will mark a transition in our liturgical life, it will also see us change our studies. Sunday school will move from spiritual gifts to lives of the saints, with presentations to be made by individuals on those figures of interest to them. Midweek studies will conclude a study of prophets and prophecy and turn to our now 3rd annual soup and study with weekly meals and a video series (TBD) for our...
discussions. The midweek study will begin March 13 following our regular Wednesday Mass. Down the road, there will be a discussion of hymns and service music during the Easter season.

The Rev. Ben Hankinson

NORTHERN DEANERY

Trinity
Lincoln

The fall and early winter season has been exciting at Trinity, Lincoln.

In late October, Fr. Mark blessed the animals at the local Humane Society. On All Hallow’s Eve, the people of Trinity hosted over 100 children for treats and witnessed to the Christian meaning of the holiday. Fr. Mark joined the clergy of the diocese at the Clergy Conference in November and as a member of the Trustees, helped to secure a new investment manager for the diocesan accounts. That same month kicked off meetings of the deanery priests to share insights and to build relationships.

Two funerals occurred at the beginning of December. The Christmas Eve service showed a material increase in attendance from prior years. The Episcopal, ELCA Lutheran, Presbyterian and United Church of Christ clergy have begun meeting to inspire new collaboration between the denominations. A joyous celebration of Evensong on Epiphany hosted by St. Matthew’s, Bloomington was a highlight of early January. Fr. Mark spent a week at Nashotah House for continuing education mid-month. Bishop Martins made his Annual Visitation on Jan. 27 and confirmed two young adults. Fr. Mark, his wife Sandy and Ellen Burbage attended the Cursillo Retreat at St. Michael’s O’Fallon and Trinity’s Annual Meeting rounded out the month.

Mark Evans+ - Rector

CHRIST THE KING
Normal

On many levels 2018 was a great year for Christ the King - the church in the neighborhood. God continued to shepherd, provide for, and equip the faithful at CTK for the collective mission to which we are called. Many people worked very hard to help CTK remain viable and sustainable. There is plenty of work remaining, but with God’s help, we are alive and flourishing. We have come to trust more passionately in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We offer regular worship and study opportunities. Attendance at worship services, educational offerings, and events is stable or increasing. Outreach and Service Ministries are active and expanding. Giving continues to increase and our financial position is strong. God is indeed good!

In addition to God’s faithfulness, a key factor in our renewed hope is the wonderful blessing that Fathers Stormer, Wells, Cravens, and Richmond have been to CTK. For 2018, Fr Stormer’s availability on Sundays was restricted to twice a month. God continued to provide for CTK through the supply priest ministries of Fathers David Wells, Jim Cravens, and John Richmond. In May, it was our honor to host a special worship service and banquet celebrating the 50th anniversary of Father Stormer’s ordination to the priesthood. In October, we celebrated Clergy Appreciation Day/A Day of Thanksgiving to say thank you to Fathers Stormer, Wells, Cravens, and Richmond and to also thank God for all the blessings he has provided CTK.

In 2018, average attendance at Sunday Services was down slightly. Weekday Eucharists were offered 8 times compared to 30 times in 2017. These trends were primarily the result to the 2 Sundays a month restriction on Father Stormer’s CTK supply ministry, a weather cancellation, inability to secure a supply priest for 1 Sunday, and moving a Sunday service to Saturday for Fr. Stormer’s 50th ordination anniversary celebration. Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, Tenebrae (Holy Wednesday), Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, 50th Anniversary of Fr Stormer’s ordination, Pentecost, plus Wednesdays in Lent and Advent, were just a few special worship offerings provided in 2018. The Altar Guild and servers continued to work their magic humbly and inconspicuously to always have things ready for worship services.

Children’s Sunday School was offered every Sunday. We have enough volunteers to teach every Sunday and enough children to hold the classes even when some are absent. We had Adult Sunday School when Fr Stormer visited and offered mid-week worship
and studies in Lent and Advent. In December, 15 members completed the required Safeguarding our Children course.

The Craft Ministry continues to serve others outside of CTK. Our efforts with the Regional Alternative School expanded. We continue to donate to the Center for Hope and their Kingdom Closet. We began taking part in Advocate BroMenn’s Partners in Healing Prayer Ministry. Our Fellowship events were well attended and increased in number.

The MLT began the work of restructuring CTK’s leadership structure. After much prayer and discussion, we decided to begin a deliberate evolution from the Stewardship, Worship, Education, Evangelism, Pastoral Care, Service + Fellowship (SWEEPS+F) structure to becoming a Worshipping, Learning, Caring, Giving, and Evangelizing church (John Stott - The Living Church). This new simplified and more flexible organizational structure should fit better with the shared responsibility way of overseeing church functions and activities to which CTK has out of necessity moved over time.

In the first 6 months of 2018, CTK members were surveyed and the feedback used to develop a robust Mission Strategy Plan as required by the Diocesan Canons. In 2019, we look forward to building on that foundation and enhancing our efforts.

Financially, Christ the King remained debt free and paid our annual Diocesan Pledge on time and in full. Total pledge income increased from $73,332.13 in 2017 to $91,170.00; +$17,838, a 24% increase in total pledge income. That is the highest pledge income since 2014. Current income covered current expenses for the 3rd consecutive year! In 2018, Total Liquid Assets increased from $71,112.46 in 2017 to $240,201.59 (includes $42,369.60 of insurance proceeds held for the final roof replacement bill – net liquid assets of $197,831.99) in 2018, a net increase (less insurance proceeds) of +$126,719.53. Our Total Liquid Assets are the highest level in at least 20 years.

In 2018, improvements were made to the playground area, exterior doors, and the heating and air conditioning system. By far the major improvement and blessing was the installation of the new roof.

King Construction did an excellent job at a highly competitive price. The quality of their workmanship was excellent, and they included “the little details” that made an enormous difference. Phil and Joshua King have a strong Christian faith and since November 2017, they helped Christ the King shepherd this major undertaking through the insurance claim process and were responsive to any questions and concerns along the way. Phil and Joshua as well as the roofing crew very much appreciated CTK’s Christian hospitality and the cold drinks, snacks, and lunches that CTK members donated throughout 90+ degree days in June!

The total cost of all repairs and cleaning were $95,412.39. Our insurance carrier covered $94,412.39. When all was said and done CTK had out of pocket expenses for this major undertaking of only $1000! Thanks to the insurance carrier, the contractors, suppliers, and thanks be to God for this blessing!

There are several capital improvement projects teed up for 2019. There are plans for the spring to make the old playground into a prayer garden. Also, we plan to repair, seal, and paint the acoustic tile ceiling in the classroom, chapel, and sacristy. We are exploring re-coating the back flat roofs. This could further waterproof those roofs and add 8-10 years of life to the flat roof coverings.

In September and with Bishop Martins’ permission, CTK commenced a search process for a
permanent Part-Time, Retired, or Bi-vocational Rector. The Search Team was named in November. The team has reviewed interested candidates’ submissions and developed a search process timeline. Please keep the team and candidates in your prayers.

2018 was a wonderful year for CTK. With God’s grace and provision, plus the efforts of all who have given of their time, talents, and treasures, Christ the King has made remarkable progress these last 4 years. It appears we are strong, viable, and sustainable for the first time in many years. PRAISE BE TO GOD!

Thanks to all who shared their time, talents, and treasures for the advancement of the Mission of CTK—“To become joyful disciples of Jesus Christ and to make joyful disciples of all people.”

As the church in the neighborhood, we will continue to look outward to find where Jesus is at work and/or needed in the community and go there. In 2019, we recommit ourselves to radiating the light of Christ to all with whom we come in contact.

There will always be challenges, just as there have been in the past. The one for whom our Eucharistic Community is named has not once forsaken or abandoned us. Christ the King, our Lord and Savior, has always provided for us in His perfect will and time. On that, most blessed assurance CTK moves forward not knowing what tomorrow may bring.

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen. Ephesians 3:20, 21

Rod Matthews – outgoing Sr. Warden

NORTHEASTERN DEANERY

CHAPEL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE
Champaign

The Chapel of Saint John the Divine continues to share God’s love on the campus of the University of Illinois, and in the Champaign Urbana community.

We have been considering how best to move forward with our Canterbury House for the past couple of years. In May, several designs were presented by architectural students. In December, we met with BLDD Architects and are pressing forward with a suitable design.

December offered a full house at our Advent Lessons and Carols and Christmas Eve services. In January, we had planned to hold our annual parish meeting on the 20th. Our parish administrator’s husband had a heart attack and is recovering. However, that pushed our annual meeting to February 3. A couple of the highlights of the meeting were as follows:

• Jamie Weber, Sally Chamberlain, and Ben Norton were elected as members of our Vestry.
• Our parish contributed over $18,000 in Social Outreach in 2018.
• Our Sunday and Wednesday services have a combined weekly attendance of 131.
• Our life in stewardship continues to grow as we received an increase of over $15,000 over 2018 in pledges.

The Chapel continues to be alive and well. Our liturgy, programs, and outreach are quite healthy, and we are growing. Come and join us when you’re in the neighborhood.

The Reverend Sean Ferrell

TRINITY
Mattoon

On November 4, 2018 Bishop Daniel Martins had his annual visit at Trinity where he confirmed Lloyd and Lisa Jenkins and received Ryan Hill. A reception was held after the service. On November 18, Trinity held an organ recital to celebrate the church organ’s 101st Anniversary. This concluded a five organ concert series at Trinity that started on November 17, 2017 in observance of the church organ’s 100th Anniversary. Linda Buzard, Organist/Choirmaster at the Episcopal Chapel of St. John the Divine in Champaign, IL presented the recital. A special recognition was given to the Rev. Allen Webner, Trinity’s Music Director, for organizing the organ recital series.

In December, the Mattoon Jewish Center invited the members of Trinity to join them in celebrating Hanukkah. At the celebration, a meeting was held between the two religious communities where the
Jewish Community announced they had received a grant to spread Judaism in Mattoon. The Jewish community asked Trinity’s members for assistance in this project. Trinity agreed to assist in the planning and implementing of the program and allowing them to use Trinity’s undercroft for community educational classes.

Two AA/NA communities began using Trinity’s undercroft for evening meetings. They meet on Monday and Thursday at 6pm In January, Isabella Lucy Staton, was baptized. Isabella is the daughter of Michael and Kathleen Staton. Isabella, who is four years old, grew up at Trinity often helping Fr. Jeff proclaiming the Good News by joining Fr. Jeff in the aisle as he read the Gospel to the congregation.

EMMANUEL MEMORIAL
Champaign

Apart from our regular offering of Sunday Masses and weekday Daily Offices to God, some of the highlights of the Advent, Christmas, and early Epiphany seasons at Emmanuel have been as follows:

• Continued formation opportunities happened through our men’s fellowship, Sunday School, women’s Bible study, lectio divina group, youth group (including family film nights), and Common Table for 20s-30s
• Our early Christmas Eve Mass featured a newly-written pageant, and, as has been increasingly the case, the late service saw perhaps 70% guests from the community.
• Emmanuel once again was the host site and warming station for Champaign’s downtown Holiday Trolley rides, in collaboration with the Champaign Center Partnership, during which perhaps 100 people came through the building.
• With guidance from our curate we launched an Instagram presence; we also redesigned our website.
• Emmanuel celebrated the conclusion of all the work funded by our Centennial year capital campaign, including the launch of our coffee-table book “Emmanuel: The Life of a Parish.” We had already tithed the proceeds of the capital campaign to our outreach partner empty tomb; however, since we also committed to donate any unused funds to outreach, this gives us over $24,000 to use for the benefit of others beyond our walls. We hope to be free to announce plans for this soon.
• We took part in empty tomb’s Christmas outreach by supplying gifts for children to give parents or parents to give children, as well as companions to accompany both groups of gift-givers through the “store”
• Advent brought the dedication of three new stained glass windows, visible both from the chancel and from the Great Hall, in memory of members of the Keck family and designed and installed by a local artisan.
• Phase 1 of the work on our rectory (significant structural repairs, roof repair, fire odor remediation, and new slate for the roof) made good progress, at the same time that planning for Phase 2 (remodeling of the inside into gathering, community outreach, and office space to be offered at cost to nonprofits) was actively taking place.
• During the polar vortex, when the building was closed, we offered our first Daily Office via Facebook Live.
• Considering the turnover we see in a congregation like ours, we repeated an initiative from three years ago of presenting both a sermon series on Anglican Essentials and an instructed Eucharist.
• When our fellow Christians at Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church in Champaign experienced a devastating fire in mid-January, one year after the fire we had gone through, we were honored to be able to support them in prayer and to have raised over $2200 as a gift for their rebuilding fund.

The Reverend Beth Maynard

ST. CHRISTOPHER
Rantoul

St. Christopher held its annual Fall Bazaar on December 8th. This is always a fun event enjoyed by everyone. On January 6th, we held our annual Epiphany Party after the church service. It was well attended and, as always, everyone was in great party spirits.

We held our annual meeting on February 3rd. Deacon Ann Alley announced that she would be retiring from her position as Assisting Deacon on December 29, 2019.

The Rev. Ann Alley
DEANERY REPORTS

HOLY TRINITY
Danville

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

• Held annual parish Thanksgiving Dinner and prepared food baskets for distribution
• Observed Advent with special devotions in addition to daily Masses
• Celebrated Christmas by adding Children’s Crib Devotions to the liturgies for Christmas Eve
• Celebrated Midnight Mass and Christmas Day Mass with choir and guest celebrant
• Special Mass and party for Epiphany
• Began using food cards for some parts of our food pantry distribution
• Preparing for sack lunch program to begin again in March with an increase in volunteers and large increase in financial support

The Reverend Richard Lewis

NORTHWESTERN DEANERY

ST. JOHN’S
Decatur

On November 11th we had a “picture Sunday” where the archive committee brought to the parish hall numerous pictures from past years (and decades) that were duplicates in our files. They were available for viewing and for taking home as mementos. Many memories and stories were shared during Coffee Fellowship as a result.

Our first recital funded by the Dr. James and Mary Jones Music Fund was held on November 18th with close to 90 attending and many more watching via live streaming on our Face Book page.

As in past years, in December we gathered toys and other items for the Women’s Prison so that they could send home Christmas gifts when their family visited before Christmas. On December 9th we had our Annual Advent Service of Lessons and Carols with a reception following. On the 13th of December St. John’s hosted a table at the annual Red Kettle Gala for the Salvation Army. Our Christmas Eve Masses and Christmas Day were well attended.

Winter storms made travel treacherous at times but we did have our scheduled services for the first couple of Sundays of the year. We had to cancel the Cursillo Ultreya as a result of the weather. Our annual meeting was held on January 20th, following on 9:00 am service.

Our weekday Bible Study is 2/3 of the way through the Gospel according to Luke. Our Sunday Adult Study worked through the book of Ecclesiastes and then examined passages shared by the synoptic Gospels in order to more fully appreciate the individual themes reflected in each text. Currently, they are beginning a study of Mark’s Gospel.

We are looking forward to our next Recital, which is scheduled for March 3rd, at 3:00 pm.

Richard A. Swan+, Rector

TRINITY
Jacksonville

At Trinity Church, Jacksonville, our annual Christmas Bazaar and Luncheon, which reaches hundreds of people from outside our congregation, collected over $4,000 for the mission of Trinity Church to the City of Jacksonville. Our congregation collected over one hundred cans of soup for our first annual “Souper
DEANERY REPORTS

Bowl Sunday” food drive, and we are collecting shoes for the Jacksonville Area Conference of Churches and the Shoeman Water Project. Our shoe drive is the result of renewed participation in ecumenical initiatives in Jacksonville. We are planning our Fat Tuesday pancake supper and will soon begin planning our Mothering Sunday breakfast. The Trinity Fellowship Group, our main educational opportunity, has been reading through the parish histories written by past parish historians, and Fr. Brooks has been placing local parish life in the wider movements of Anglican history. We have opened our doors to the Boy Scouts and are hoping we can help establish a new troop for an under-served population of children. We have established a new Choral Scholars program, which provides scholarships for college-aged singers who assist in our choral program. We have our first intern, and hope to expand to four singers in the coming year.

Andrew S. Hook+, Dean

St. Luke's
Springfield

Having faithfully kept the Advent Season, and celebrated the Nativity of our Lord, we are faithfully journeying through the challenging weather that has been our lot in recent weeks. Christmas services were well attended, with a spirit of joy and celebration. Again, special food bags were provided to nearly two dozen children who are part of our ministry.

Responding to the continuing problems of homelessness in our community, and the challenges that come especially in these cold months, the women of St. Luke's again prepared “Blessing Bags” -- this time over 100 -- to be taken by members and distributed to those on the street. With gloves and other warming apparel, snacks and personal items, these bags are a bit of relief to those who receive them. Most importantly, they show our love and concern to those who are struggling.

Our Sunday meal program is in full operation. As before, Sundays are covered by volunteers, pizza orders and generous contributions.

We had a good Annual Meeting despite the freezing temperatures and challenges of the day. Solid leadership continues to emerge as some take on new roles. At the same time, we give thanks to those who retire having served faithfully for so many years. Among the decisions taken this year was to begin the process of streamlining our Mission Leadership Team by a slight reduction in numbers. It is hoped that this will assist with quorum requirements and with focus.

We are delighted by recent improvements at the church, and are looking forward to a couple of new projects. One of furnaces gave yeoman service throughout the subzero temperatures only to break down when the outside temperature rose to 50 degrees. The timing was good, but the cost was significant. Painting the Parish Hall area is the next item on the agenda.

We are delighted that one our young adults will be traveling to Chile in April to spend some time with SAMS missionaries Russ and Heidi Smith. A visit from the Smiths last January created a lot of new interest in their work, which we have long supported. Our adult class, which meets every Tuesday at the Diocesan Center, is completing its study of Isaiah. After a short course focusing on the Epistle of James. Subtitled “Faith That Works”, our study book was written by authors connected with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship and published by InterVarsity Press. Following this, we will undertake a study of Romans, using study material from the Knowing the Bible series edited by J. I. Packer. Our regular group attends the mass celebrated by Fr. Denney at 12:15 in the Cathedral Chapel. Our African Bible Study group also continues with weekly meetings, which focus on the Gospel for the

Zachary D. Brooks+, Rector

Cathedral Church of St. Paul the Apostle
Springfield

The past many years have been difficult for the Cathedral, but God has been faithful and good things are beginning to happen. Due to a generous donation we have installed a digital carillon and are having our actual bell, which rang at President Lincoln’s funeral, repaired. Several new ministries are coming online, including a reconstituted Coffee Hour Ministry, and we are looking, hoping, and praying for 2019 to be a Year of Revival at Saint Paul’s. We ask your continued prayers for your Cathedral and for the Bishop who sits enthroned within it.

Andrew S. Hook+, Dean

St. Luke’s
Springfield

Having faithfully kept the Advent Season, and celebrated the Nativity of our Lord, we are faithfully journeying through the challenging weather that has been our lot in recent weeks. Christmas services were well attended, with a spirit of joy and celebration. Again, special food bags were provided to nearly two dozen children who are part of our ministry.

Responding to the continuing problems of homelessness in our community, and the challenges that come especially in these cold months, the women of St. Luke’s again prepared “Blessing Bags” -- this time over 100 -- to be taken by members and distributed to those on the street. With gloves and other warming apparel, snacks and personal items, these bags are a bit of relief to those who receive them. Most importantly, they show our love and concern to those who are struggling.

Our Sunday meal program is in full operation. As before, Sundays are covered by volunteers, pizza orders and generous contributions.

We had a good Annual Meeting despite the freezing temperatures and challenges of the day. Solid leadership continues to emerge as some take on new roles. At the same time, we give thanks to those who retire having served faithfully for so many years. Among the decisions taken this year was to begin the process of streamlining our Mission Leadership Team by a slight reduction in numbers. It is hoped that this will assist with quorum requirements and with focus.

We are delighted by recent improvements at the church, and are looking forward to a couple of new projects. One of furnaces gave yeoman service throughout the subzero temperatures only to break down when the outside temperature rose to 50 degrees. The timing was good, but the cost was significant. Painting the Parish Hall area is the next item on the agenda.

We are delighted that one our young adults will be traveling to Chile in April to spend some time with SAMS missionaries Russ and Heidi Smith. A visit from the Smiths last January created a lot of new interest in their work, which we have long supported. Our adult class, which meets every Tuesday at the Diocesan Center, is completing its study of Isaiah. After a short course focusing on the Epistle of James. Subtitled “Faith That Works”, our study book was written by authors connected with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship and published by InterVarsity Press. Following this, we will undertake a study of Romans, using study material from the Knowing the Bible series edited by J. I. Packer. Our regular group attends the mass celebrated by Fr. Denney at 12:15 in the Cathedral Chapel. Our African Bible Study group also continues with weekly meetings, which focus on the Gospel for the
DEANERY REPORTS

upcoming Sunday.

We will be missing our Deacon, Thomas Langford, over the next several weeks as he travels to Nepal to teach a short course at a Seminary there. We are pleased to have several endeavors going on that involve looking outside ourselves and our own context.

Shawn W. Denney+, Vicar

CONTRIBUTE

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>GOOD FRIDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>EASTER DAY, Bishop w/ Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Springfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Bishop w/ St. Andrew’s, Edwardsville</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MARCH 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Bishop w/ St. Paul’s, Pekin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>ASH WEDNESDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22-24</td>
<td>ECW Annual Lenten Retreat, Toddhall, Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Bishop w/ St. Thomas’, Salem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Bishop w/ Emmanuel Memorial, Champaign</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

APRIL 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
<td>Bishop w/ Church of the Redeemer, Cairo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Hultstrand Funeral at 2 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Mass of Chrism, Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Springfield (11 a.m.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>PALM SUNDAY, Bishop w/ Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Springfield</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MAY 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Trustees Meeting, Diocesan Center, Springfield (10 a.m.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Bishop w/ Episcopal Parish of Alton, Alton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Diocesan Council, Diocesan Center, Springfield (10 a.m.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Bishop w/ St. John’s, Decatur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>ASCENSION</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

JUNE 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Bishop w/ St. John’s, Albion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09</td>
<td>PENTECOST, Bishop w/ St. Michael’s, O’Fallon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>TRINITY, Bishop w/ Trinity, Mt. Vernon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-22</td>
<td>St. Michael’s Conference, St. Michael’s, O’Fallon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Bishop w/ St. John the Baptist, Mt. Carmel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Episcopal Church Camp, East Bay Camp, Hudson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.