### FIVEFOLD MISSION

**first in the series “Mission in the Diocese”**

By Fr Matthew C. Dallman, Obl.S.B.

Perhaps the most important thing my priest-mentor taught me is a way of thinking about Mission in a total or comprehensive sense. During his forty-two-year-long rectorate, he had made this conception of “total Mission” central to his ministry. His numerous teaching documents would often reference “total Mission,” and when he spoke about long-range vision, “total Mission” would be the presupposition behind his thinking and the culture of ongoing, parish-wide discernment he fostered.

As a layman as well as a seminarian, I will confess it took me a while to get my head around it, or even, quite frankly, to see its true significance. But when I began my parish ministry in Tazewell County, I discovered that it began to make a lot of sense.

What, then, are these five dimensions of Mission? Everything is rooted in an idea that many long-time Episcopalians might remember well, the acronym, “S.W.E.E.P.” When I arrived in Tazewell, I found a number of old refrigerator magnets in a kitchen drawer that advertised this “S.W.E.E.P.” concept—that’s how far it had penetrated into everyday experience of average Episcopal congregations—magnets!

What was “S.W.E.E.P.” all about? It actually came from a Resolution from the 1982 General Convention (1982-A155) named “Call Upon the Church to Renew Its Mission and Ministry.” The first part of it is what is important. It reads:

> “That this 67th General Convention of the Episcopal Church calls upon all congregations throughout the Church to evaluate their life for total mission and ministry, endeavoring to increase their effectiveness through service, worship, evangelism, education, and pastoral care…” (cont’d on p. 4)
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We are now accepting contributions for the Eastertide 2020 issue of The Current. Articles, photos, and news can be submitted by March 15, 2020 to communicator@episcopal springfield.org. Contributions to the monthly e-newsletter may also be sent to that email and are accepted on an ongoing basis.

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Thank you for your support!
+Rt Rev. Daniel H Martins
One of the classic themes in the season following the Feast of the Epiphany is mission. Two of our Sunday gospel readings narrate Jesus’ call of those who would become his apostles; the very word means “one who is sent”—sent, presumably, on a mission. In the old Mission: Impossible TV series, and in the succession of feature films of the same franchise in recent years, before the leader of the Impossible Mission Force learns the details of the proposed mission, he is reminded that he has the option of taking a pass: “… should you choose to accept it.” As we consider the question of mission in the Diocese of Springfield, then, we do well to ask: Should we choose to accept it, what does it involve?

The first thing to keep in mind is that, before the Diocese of Springfield, or any of its Eucharistic Communities, has a mission, God has a mission, and our mission as the Church only makes sense in the light of God’s own mission. The heart of God’s mission is reconciliation, the reconciliation of all things to himself. Human beings are “divided and enslaved by sin” (this language is from the collect for Christ the King). We are alienated from God, from one another, from creation, and from our own selves. God’s mission is that we be “freed and brought together” and placed under “the most gracious rule” (same collect) of Christ our King. Everything we do, mission-wise, needs to line up with that overarching objective.

Within that context, then, what are we supposed to be up to if we “choose to accept” our mission (and if we’ve taken baptismal or confirmation vows, or ever participated in the public renewal of those vows, we have, in fact, accepted such a mission)? Among other things, most likely, I would suggest at least these two:

First, our mission is to model what the Kingdom of Heaven looks like. (“Kingdom of Heaven” is St Matthew’s preferred language, and we will be hearing it a bit in this Year A of our lectionary cycle; St Luke and St John use “Kingdom of God,” but the terms are basically interchangeable.) We certainly do this in our lives as individuals and families, but, most significantly, we do it in our life together as the Church, as the community of the disciples of Jesus. Our vocation is to so live together that the outside world looks at us and sees something different, something remarkable, something compellingly attractive. The second century church father Tertullian, in a defense against certain accusations that had been made against Christianity, wrote: “It is mainly the deeds of a love so noble that lead many to put a brand upon us. ‘See how they love one another,’ they say, for they themselves are animated by mutual hatred; ‘how they are ready even to die for one another,’ they say, for they themselves will sooner put to death (The Apology, ch. 39).”

How do we handle disputes in our communities? How do we respond to hurt feelings? Do we inject our own egos, our own desire to be in control, onto our life in community? Do we cultivate the practice of costly forgiveness? Do we follow the counsel of St Paul as he writes to the Christians in Rome?: “Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.” (Romans 12:9-12) Can outsiders look at our community life and see something they don’t see elsewhere? If not, we are not being faithful to our mission!

Second, our mission is to announce the coming of God’s kingdom. The scriptures repeatedly remind us that it is not our job to confect the Kingdom of Heaven, to “usher it in” or in any other way “make it happen” by means of our own striving. We pray constantly “Thy Kingdom come,” in the knowledge that God is the one responsible for fulfilling that petition, and there’s nothing any of us can do to either advance or impede it. God is sovereign! It is, however, our job to shout
from the metaphorical rooftops, “Listen! God is on the loose! God is up to something big. Wrongs will be put right and tears will be wiped away. Perfect justice and love will prevail. Get ready!” This is our message to the world. Most of the time, the world will think we’re nuts. That’s OK. We can only control the message, not the response it evokes.

Within the context of both these elements of mission, then, at some point we need to “go retail.” We can (and should) publish books and articles and Tweet and post on Facebook. Eventually, though, we have to

THE FIVE DIMENSIONS OF TOTAL MISSION, continued

The popular acronym, then, was made from the first letter of terms in the series: from service, “S”; from worship, “W”; from evangelism and education, “E” twice; and from pastoral care, “P.” And while it was popular, I want to be clear that I regard this as a very good—in fact, fully orthodox—way to conceive of Mission, as did my priest-mentor.

As it went for my mentor, the terminology of the acronym evolved. For “service,” he used “Outreach”; for worship, he used “Liturgy”; for education, he used “Catechesis”; and he incorporated “stewardship” into “Pastoral Care.” That this no longer makes for a acronym ready-made for kitchen refrigerators (and then, well, forgotten about) is in fact an advantage, by my lights.

The point is to see that “Mission” simultaneously means five things!

It is not even one thing but in fact five—Mission = Liturgy + Catechesis + Pastoral Care + Outreach + Evangelism: synergystic, intermingling, fermenting. Mission is fivefold, each aspect bound up, and even expressed, in the others. In this approach, it is wrong, for example, think about Outreach dissociated from Liturgy, Catechesis, Pastoral Care, and Evangelism. Such fragmentation is removed when Mission is fivefold. Nor can we properly think about Liturgy without thinking about Outreach and the other three dimensions. It is all one—because the five dimensions of total Mission are at root the dimensions of God’s Mission as far as our human language can articulate what are truly heavenly patterns of being. In the end, “Mission” is not occasional or something “added-on” or “another thing.” Rather, Mission is everything we do.

In our Parish we have two “mission retreat days” every year, in Autumn and Spring. All we talk about is mission, along these five dimensions. These retreat days have led us to discern a Mission to “serve the lonely” by the intercession of St Teresa of Calcutta. So we have seen fruits of this approach to Mission, Deo gratias!

As the parish priest, my responsibility is to notice connections and correspondences between the five dimensions, share with parishioners what I have found, and do so through teaching, preaching, spiritual direction, and even informal conversations during coffee hour. In my experience, the synergy of “fivefold Mission” is the stuff of creative ministry, and a dynamic way to discern why God continues to hold His Eucharistic Communities in His hand with His purpose for our existence unfolding while yet to fully incarnate.
SACK LUNCH MINISTRY AT EMMANUEL, CHAMPAIGN
By Msrd Beth Maynard

Emmanuel’s long-running sack lunch ministry, along with feeding 24 people every weekday, gives several laity a chance to serve in ministry. Most morning distributions are covered by one of six lay volunteers, who greet guests at the door with a smile and a packed lunch—sometimes offering additional items like cough drops, hand warmers, donated fruit or other treats. A small group of Emmanuel regulars also forms the backbone of the sack lunch packing ministry, gathering every few weeks to assemble lunches whose ingredients largely come from the church outreach budget.

In mid-November, however, Deacon Chris Hopkins arranged a way for a much larger percentage of the congregation to get involved. Both Masses gave up their coffee hours, and perhaps 75% of worshippers headed off to four large assembly lines filling the first floor of the education wing and part of the parish hall to pack lunches together. Children, elders, and adults all participated, along with some of Emmanuel’s Choral Scholars and at least one first-time visitor that day. Those who needed to sit rolled plastic forks in napkins, and another crew worked in the kitchen breaking down emptied cardboard boxes for recycling.

The 8:00 Mass completed roughly 100 lunches, leaving 500 to go toward the day’s goal of 600. But when the 10:15 Mass emptied the last box of Vienna Sausage cans, the final total was 720 sack lunches completed—enough to take the ministry through Christmas.

Through this ministry, the homeless and working poor receive a nutritionally balanced meal that helps them make ends meet in a setting where they are received with respect and kindness in the Name of Jesus.

Emmanuel has previously offered sack lunch packing opportunities to local schools and others looking for community service events. A new initiative is the creation of an Amazon Wish List for the ministry, where people can purchase supplemental items that are needed and have them shipped directly to the church: visit tinyurl.com/emeclunch
Fr Hankinson earned his baccalaureate degree from the University of South Carolina, graduating Magna Cum Laude in 2009. He subsequently attended Nashotah House Theological Seminary, obtaining his Master of Divinity degree Cum Laude in 2014.

In August 2014, Bishop Daniel Martins ordained Fr Hankinson to the priesthood. Fr Hankinson became Priest in Charge at Trinity in 2014 then subsequently Rector.

Within our diocese, Fr. Ben has served in these roles (* indicates current service):

- Dean of the Eastern Deanery*
- Member of Diocesan Council*
- Coordinator for Youth Ministry*
- Chair, Department of Youth
- St. Michael’s Youth Conference Director*
- Episcopal Church Camp Board Member and Lead Spiritual Director*
- Member of Constitution and Canons Committee.

Bishop Martins continues to work with the Eucharistic Community at Trinity, Mount Vernon to discern who God is calling to be their new priest.

The Rev. Benjamin Hankinson, current Rector of Trinity, Mount Vernon, has accepted a call to become Rector of St Andrew’s as of February 1, 2020. His first Sunday at St Andrew’s will be February 2.

ST ANDREW’S, EDWARDSVILLE CALLS A NEW RECTOR

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CONGRATULATIONS TO FR DALE COLEMAN FOR HIS NEW BOOK

The decorated biblical scholar, former Bp of Durham, and current Fellow of Worcester College at Oxford N.T. Wright wrote to Fr Coleman on his book, Revelation:

“Hi Dale, thank you so much for the book. I found it—as you surely will understand—great fun, rambunctious, rambling, often quite rude, sometimes off-the-scale ridiculous but never, never boring—which is quite an achievement. I was startled at how much you went for Tillich even though showing his ‘warts and all’ side, and I am more suspicious than you are of A. N. Wilson having done a public debate with him 20 years ago after his truly appalling books on Jesus and Paul, which made me doubt him on other topics too (though I agree that his work on the Victorians, which is really his period, is very interesting and helpful). You are very kind about my work—thank you so much.

You are very sharp—and I think accurate—in your criticisms of people like John Robinson, though I think he was a Christian, if a very muddled one. We British tend not to be so clear-cut in our judgments but I do think that the American Episcopalians have lurched far further, far quicker, away from the truth of the gospel than we British have as yet—though it’s coming. I think you are a little hard on the Myers-Briggs stuff and similar—in my view they are useful tools for certain limited purposes and particular in working as a team with people of significantly different approaches. But I totally agree of course that if they (and the hinterland of squidgy pseudo-psychology they represent) are substituted for the gospel—as has obviously happened—then the air has escaped from the balloon.

Anyway well done indeed. I am not a regular reviewer but I will nudge one or two who I know and see what can be done. Meanwhile I would get the publisher to send a copy or two to every seminary, especially Anglican/Episcopal ones. Nashotah (where I hold an honorary doctorate!) will not thank you for some of what you say, but they clearly gave you the formation which has enabled you to stay in the solid central classic tradition while so many around you have fallen by the wayside.

Thanks again and warm good wishes, Tom”
In 2012 the Sunday school and Social Concerns Committee began making “treat” bags for the home bound clients of Senior Services of Central Illinois (SSCI). We collect candies, crackers, pens, notepaper, Kleenex, lotion etc. for the lunch size bags, and Also collect non-perishable food. For several weeks ahead of time, church members and children color and decorate the bags with pictures, words of encouragement, or Thanksgiving blessings. We then meet on a Sunday before Thanksgiving have a pizza party then some form a circular assembly line to fill the bags and the others organize and pack the food. This year we filled 120 treat bags and packed several boxes of food. Everyone really enjoys the fellowship and the seniors enjoy getting well wishes from St. Paul's!

A major SKCM objective is to win general recognition of the Royal Martyr’s faithfulness unto death in defense of the Church, her episcopal government, and apostolic ministry. Founded in London on Easter Tuesday, 1894, and also active in North America since that time, the Society is one of the devotional societies initiated by Anglo-Catholics in the 19th century. Today, all Christians enjoying the patronage of King Charles the Martyr may become members of the Society.

For membership and other information visit the Society’s website at www.skcm-usa.org or contact David Lewis, FAAO, OL, Treasurer/Administrator, at membership@skcm-usa.org.
SOLVING THE PUZZLE
By The Rev. Canon David Baumann

St John’s Episcopal Church and Redeemer Lutheran Church in Centralia became a single congregation in August 2018. Their vision of “ecumenism without compromise” makes it possible for both traditions to maintain the strengths of each while living in unity. The power of that vision inspired the Pentecostal-style church across the street, the Bible Based Community Church, to host a Sunday when the churches would worship together. Its pastor, Johnnie Wilson, even invited three other churches to come together for that event on October 27. Members of the six churches and their pastors offered a “Community Unity” service, at which Episcopal priest Father David Baumann preached on the theme of unity. Following are excerpts of his sermon.

Imagine Jesus at the Last Supper; in John’s Gospel, he closes with prayer. His prayer he shows that his vision is for the future, and he prays for his disciples and for the believers to come. He prays, “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word.” That is us. And what does he pray? “That they may all be one, just as you Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.”

This kind of oneness is beyond our understanding; it is a union like that between the Father and the Son. It’s not a contract or a fellowship, but a loving and inseparable bonding like that in the divine life. What if Jesus really meant it? He prayed for it, he must have seen the need for it, and if he saw the need for it, then the threat of the breakup of the community of believers was real. And evidently for good reason, for now we believers are indeed broken. And therefore we must recognize that we have violated the will of Jesus, whom all of us call Lord and Savior.

But in his mercy, God has blessed us even in our brokenness. Think of a puzzle. A puzzle, whether of twenty or a thousand pieces, begins with a single picture, usually complex, diverse, detailed, and beautiful. When it is cut into pieces, it remains obvious that the pieces are all made to fit together and therefore each piece, by its very shape, bears testimony that it is itself incomplete and finds its true identity in being assembled with the others. And each piece, even when it is alone, still bears a small part of the whole picture, a part that is unique to itself, and vital to all.

Paul had a similar image, but one far more powerful, when he described the Church as a body in 1 Corinthians 12. A body is a single entity made up of diverse parts—eye, hand, foot—under the head which is Christ. Each is a vital part for the well-being of all. “The eye cannot say to the hand, I have no need of you.” None of us can look at any other Christian and say, “I have no need of you.”

When the Church divides, then, it is not a separation of parts, or the breaking of a fellowship; it is the dismemberment of Christ’s Body. What was the Church like in the New Testament? The things that separate us now were all there, and belonged to all. The Church was structured and hierarchical, and it was Spirit-filled; it was intellectual, and it was emotional; its people prayed in a way that could shake people up; it knew miracles; and it had Tradition; it was liturgical, and it was spontaneous; it baptized (by immersion), and it celebrated the Lord’s Supper often; its preaching was intense and challenging; the people knew and honored the Scriptures; it was prophetic; it was generous; it changed lives; it impacted its society; it rejected the world’s ways of doing things; it was the first (and still only) organization that anyone, anyone at all, could join—Jews and Gentiles, slaves and free, nobles and impoverished, educated and illiterate, young and old; it produced martyrs; it honored its heroes and heroines; and more.

And it had great variety. Look at it: The church in Jerusalem was conservative, law-oriented, Jewish.

The church in Antioch was a very busy place, socially-oriented, mission-oriented, Gentile and Jewish, filled with people from different stations in society.
Each was unique, with a mix of strengths and weaknesses, but they were one Church. If a believer traveled from Crete to Rome to Galatia to Antioch, he was in that Body which Paul describes as one, taking Christ’s prayer as a given.

Consider today: What are our gifts? What are the gifts of others that we need? Who are we in our denominations? I’m simplifying now, but bear with me: There are churches that have the gift of converting people and families with impressive results—but with little sense of history or contemplative prayer.

There are churches that draw on emotions—but with little sense of intellectual depth. And there are churches with strong intellectual content—but they are often boring. There are churches that bear prophetic witness to the world—but often without a clear definition of Christian belief and moral standards.

There are churches that manifest the gifts of the Spirit, where miracles are found, and where prayer is immensely powerful—but with little understanding of the prayers of earlier generations who wrote their prayers into a book as a gift for future believers. There are churches that have a beautiful, historic liturgy—but often depend too much on written words and repetitive patterns at the cost of direct inspiration, and with an unimpressive record of truly converting their own people.

We are puzzle pieces, each with a part of the whole, a part unique to ourselves but needed by all. By putting the pieces together, each part remains its true self with its gift, but the great picture is assembled and each gains the gifts of the others. And we all, all, proclaim Jesus as Lord, and all claim that salvation is found in him alone, through faith and not by anything that we can do to earn it.

The essence, the heart of Christianity, rediscovered and proclaimed by the churches of the Reformation, is now taken by all to be central, vital, and unquestionably true: Jesus first, Jesus always, Jesus only, Jesus all, and for all.

And what of Jesus’ prayer? There was a purpose in it: “…that the world may believe that you have sent me.” The unity of believers is a powerful evangelical witness. When we are broken, our ability to bear effective testimony to the world is compromised. We are hiding our light under a bushel.

I am convinced that when we come together, none of us will lose anything of what is important to our identity or our tradition, but each one of us will provide a blessing to others, and receive blessings back from those others, within the will of God, and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, and in answer to the prayer of Jesus.
Report to Diocesan Council
November 22, 2019
On September 28, 2019, the Standing Committee reviewed the Bishop Martins ministry with him, as part of what is intended to be a regular annual process. In the Standing Committee’s canonical role as Council of Advice to the Bishop, there was discussion about various other concerns that the Bishop raised.

On October 19 during Synod, the Standing Committee met with William Carter Aiken and recommended him as a candidate for Holy Orders.

On October 19, after the close of Synod, newly elected members, the Ven. Shawn Denney and Mr. Gerry Smith, were welcomed. The Rev. Mark Evans was elected President and the Rev. Beth Maynard was elected Secretary. As Bishop Martins had announced his retirement, the Committee met with him to receive his counsel on electing his successor. The Committee discussed first steps in this process and scheduled a meeting at the Diocesan Center on November 23, 2019.

On October 24, Consent documents for the election of the Rev. Dr. Lennon Yuan-Rung Chang as the next Bishop of Taiwan were distributed electronically. On November 2, a letter consenting to the election was mailed.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Mark Evans, President

Fall Ingathering
Twenty Churches in the Diocese participated in the 2019 UTO Fall Ingathering. The total amount for the Fall Ingathering was $4,456.04. Those who participate in UTO discover that thankfulness leads to generosity.

UTO 2020 Grant
Churches that are interested in applying for a UTO 2020 Grant should contact Joyce Wright, UTO Diocesan Coordinator at jwright117@gmail.com, or Gail Donovan, UTO Province V Representative at gadonov@aol.com. The 2020 UTO Grant session focus will be the following: “BLESS: Share faith, practice generosity and compassion, and proclaim the Good News of God in Christ with hope and humility.” More information about the grants, including an information webinar at Noon and at 8:00 p.m. on January 14, is available on the UTO webpage.

Blessings,
Joyce C. Wright, Coordinator
RESOLUTION ALLOCATING UNDESIGNATED OUTREACH FUND MONIES

[Note: In accordance with the resolution adopted by the Diocesan Council on October 20, 2003, funds not designated by Parishes and Missions (Eucharistic Communities) to be paid to the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society (National Church) may be distributed by order of the Council, with the approval of the Bishop, “for mission efforts outside the Diocese or beyond ordinary Diocesan administrative commitments.” Based upon the percentage allocation derived from Eucharistic Community determinations, it is estimated that approximately $27,500 from line 5302 of the 2019 Budget will be available for distribution by the Bishop and Council. The funds to be distributed under this resolution are from 2019, along with unexpended funds from prior years. This Resolution was moved by the Dept. of Finance, and adopted by Council, Nov. 21, 2019.]

Resolved, that the Council of the Diocese of Springfield, subject to the approval of the Bishop of Springfield, authorizes the distribution of undesignated Outreach Fund monies for 2019 to fund the following grants, such grants to be prioritized and paid in the order set forth below:

1. To Episcopal Relief and Development for the U. S. Disaster Response Fund and Hurricane Relief Fund, $3,000.00.

This grant is to assist with relief efforts associated with hurricanes, fires and other natural disasters that have struck the United States, its territories and the Bahamas. It is to be applied by Episcopal Relief and Development where most needed.

2. To the Diocese of Tabora, Anglican Church of Tanzania, to assist with Diocesan Ministries, $2,000.00.

The Anglican Diocese of Tabora, inaugurated in July 1989, was formed out of the Diocese of Western Tanganyika to enable efforts to reach people in this area to be more concentrated and effective. When the Diocese was inaugurated, there were 10 parishes with a total of 35 congregations. Now there are 27 parishes with over 120 congregations of which 34 were started between 2001 and 2003. The Diocese of Tabora occupies an area of 96,000 sq km of rural western Tanzania. It is about one tenth of the area of mainland Tanzania. Approximately 2.3 million people live in the region, with around 227,000 in Tabora municipality. Most people are involved in subsistence agriculture - in other words they grow the food they need to feed themselves and their families. The 135th Synod established a companion relationship with the Diocese.

3. To the Diocese of Peru, to assist with Diocesan Ministries, $2,000.00.

The 135th Synod established a companion relationship with the Diocese of Peru. This grant will help the Diocese to maintain and enhance its program for compensation of clergy and those engaged in other ministries.

4. To the Central Illinois Food Bank, for assistance in the Counties of Bond, Cass, Christian, Effingham, Fayette, Greene, Jefferson, Logan, McLean, Menard, Montgomery, Morgan, Sangamon, Scott and Shelby, $1,250.00.

To the Eastern Illinois Food Bank, for assistance in the Counties of Champaign, Clark, Clay, Coles, Crawford, Cumberland, DeWitt, Douglas, Edgar, Jasper, McLean, Moultrie, Piatt and Vermilion, $1,250.00.

To the Peoria Area Food Bank, for assistance in the Illinois Counties of Mason and Tazewell, $500.00.

To the St. Louis Area Food Bank, for assistance in the Illinois Counties of Clinton, Franklin, Jackson, Jersey, Madison, Monroe, Perry, Randolph, St. Clair, Washington and Williamson, $1,250.00.

To Tri-State Food Bank (Evansville, Indiana), for assistance in the Illinois Counties of Alexander, Edwards, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Johnson, Lawrence, Massac, Pope, Pulaski, Richland, Saline, Union, Wabash, Wayne and White, $1,250.00.

These regional hunger ministries are a resource for food pantries within their regions. The designated food banks cover all 60 of the Diocese’s counties.
5. To the Nashotah House Theological Seminary, $5,000.00.

Founded in 1842 as a mission to the frontier and incorporated in 1847 as “a College of learning and piety,” Nashotah House is a seminary of the Episcopal Church whose mission is the preparation of men and women for ministries in the Catholic Tradition, including: the formation of priests for parish ministry, the continuing education of the clergy, and the education and training of persons for other forms of ministry, both lay and ordained. The grant will support the work being undertaken by the House.

6. To the Living Church Foundation, $2,500.00.

The Living Church Foundation, Inc., is an independent, not-for-profit foundation of communion-minded and committed Anglicans from several nations, devoted to seeking and serving the full visible unity of the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. The Living Church Foundation publishes The Living Church, a biweekly magazine of news, cultural analysis, and teaching; The Episcopal Musician’s Handbook, offering guidance on hymn selection in coordination with appointed lectionary texts and seasonal customs; Illuminations, a lector’s aid for Sunday worship to encourage congregational comprehension; and Covenant, a weblog community of evangelical and catholic Christians. For more than 130 years, The Living Church has been a vital part of the Episcopal Church’s life and has depended upon the support of its readers. Only about 70 percent of the cost of publishing TLC is covered by subscriptions and advertising.

7. To the Anglican Centre in Rome, $2,000.00.

The Anglican Centre, which dates to the visit of Archbishop Michael Ramsey to Pope Paul VI in the 1960’s, is a forum for study and for Ecumenical Dialogue between the Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches. The Centre offers courses throughout the year focusing on Ecumenical and other church issues. Bursaries are made available to assist clergy from all parts of the Anglican Communion to participate in this dialogue. This grant is to assist with bursaries for those who would otherwise be unable to take advantage of these programs and to assist with necessary operational expenses for the Centre. The allocation of funds between the two purposes will be done by the Bishop.

8. Forward Movement Publications, $500.00

Since 1935, Forward Movement has provided people of faith with Forward Day by Day. Over the years they have also offered numerous pamphlets, booklets, and books—both for personal reflection and contemplation, and for ministry and service to the greater church. Forward Movement has also developed RenewalWorks, a ministry in the Episcopal Church that focuses on spiritual growth by deepening love of God and neighbor in the lives of congregations, in the lives of ministries that animate those congregations, and in the lives of the individuals who bring life to those ministries. RenewalWorks has been employed in several of our Eucharistic Communities. Forward Movement receives no funding from the Episcopal Church. As a non-profit agency, it relies on what is received from sales of its resources. Ultimately, the organization depends upon the gifts and contributions of readers, supporters, and friends.

9. Mission and Ministry Grant Fund, $5,000.00.

All remaining non-designated calendar year 2019 Outreach Fund monies, along with monies not distributed in prior years, are to be placed in a special fund to be distributed to Eucharistic Communities for the support of ministries in their geographical parishes, including ministries supported by their congregations. Grants shall be awarded by the Bishop and shall not exceed $500.00 per congregation.
We praise God for who He is to us and to this community.

_The Rev. James K. Muriuki_

**St Andrew’s**

**Carbondale**

St. Andrew’s Parish Church is engaging an entire church effort to encourage and build the Body of Christ. And this taking place with the severe injury Senior Warden Maria Hafford suffered in an auto accident four days after being appointed.

It has now been two months since this accident. At the time of hearing from Trish Guyon who relayed a call from Maria’s husband John, at ten o’clock in the evening, with anyone’s guess if Maria would be dead or paralyzed or brain damaged, from getting struck outside her own car to assist animals crossing the road, she was surprisingly able to move limbs, eyes, and even talk. Over several days at Deaconess Hospital in Evansville, to which she had been transported by helicopter, it was found that she had face fractures, a broken leg, and a broken collarbone. This would mean nearly a month at Deaconess, the finest Trauma care facility in the area, and then several weeks at the Hospital in Herrin, known for excellent rehabilitative work, where she had regular visits from Mother Sherry Black, staff chaplain at Herrin Hospital. Maria is now able to walk with a walker, but has been all this time eating only liquid foods. It is hoped she will be back active with her legal work and church attendance by mid-December. Everyone involved, especially her husband John, and son Jack, numerous friends, and members of St. Andrew’s are thanking God for answered prayer and intense prayer for her recovery. Please continue to pray. If you wish, use the prayers in the BCP for illness and sickness in the section on Healing. They are deeply moving. The Prayers of the Prayer Book focus the mind and spirit on the Healing acts of our Savior.

St Andrew’s Vestry and Interim Rector worked out a Mission Strategy from the time of their first official meeting, and then was the focus for the Vestry Meetings in September and October. Personally, as interim Rector, I am deeply grateful for each member of the Vestry as well as Treasure and Clerk. It has been rare for me as a parish priest in my fortieth year, to find such a Vestry so engaged with the active ministry of pastoral care for the entire parish, including those who had dropped away over the last few years, in conjunction with their priest (notice the comma before you get cute!). We are witnessing a tremendous renewal, due to this entire parish’s prayer, and frankly due the working of the Holy Spirit. There is no true Christian growth without the work of the Holy Spirit.

The major work of the Parish is found at the Sunday Eucharist. Attendance had lagged into the high twenties and now is nearing the mid-forties. Our last Friday Eucharist had seven in attendance, filling the chapel. The choir has grown under Music Director Roger Petrich’s leadership, and we are singing in four parts! We just hosted the Deanery ECW, which is not only active, but lively. Everyone said they had been praying for the recovery of both Fr Tim Goodman, and Maria. Our Rural Dean, Mother Sherry was there also. And, of course, there is the everyday presence of Don Monty and his wife Anne Gaylord.

The Parish has many members engaged in outreach ministries, especially the gathering of food for the Pantry of the Good Samaritan. Junior Warden Ryan Horn is now working to get parish assistance for an especially needy family. Terri Goodin has been successful in getting parishioners to take part in distributing Angel Gifts for a number of children.
The TGIF potluck meals for all parishioners occurs at a parishioner’s home every last Friday in the month.

The Vestry and priest all participated in putting together a Stewardship campaign with Mathew Keefer’s chairing and preaching a fine Stewardship sermon on November 10. The In Gathering will take place on November 17. The theme Matthew chose was, “Gratitude to God: The Heart of Stewardship.”

We await the November 24th visitation of our Bishop, which is a big day here. Our theme for the Bishop’s visit will be, “Here’s Your Chance to See a Real Crook”. The Bishop will also speak at the Adult Forum at nine which now averages 10-15 folks as we study the Gospel of St Mark. The Bishop will also celebrate the Eucharist at the irrepressible St James’ Church, Marion, on Saturday night. The average is now 4-5 folks including the irrepressible Henry Kammerer. He is active daily in some aspect of St James’ ministry. And the Bishop will visit and bless the new Rector’s office! It has been almost entirely renovated thanks to the Senior Warden and Trish Guyon.

We will have an Advent Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 15, at 3:30 pm. Our Christmas Services include a Solemn High Mass at 7:00 pm at St Andrew’s, and 10:00 am Christmas Day at St James’. Please pray for our churches.

The Rev. Dale Coleman

St Mark’s
West Frankfort

With the children back at school, we are back to filling snack bag each week for the neediest children to take home in order to have some food for the weekends. We ended last school year with 77 bags per week, and now we are doing close to 100 bags per week. It is a lot of work, but it is super rewarding knowing we are making a difference for the vulnerable children in our community. We are so very grateful to have a very generous anonymous donor who funds this outreach project, while we get the reward of being Christ’s hands and feet on the ground in West Frankfort.

The Very Rev. Sherry Black

St Stephen’s
Harrisburg

St Stephen’s continues to worship faithfully while Father Tim Goodman is recovering from a lengthy hospital stay in Barnes Jewish Hospital, St Louis. His recovery is an absolute miracle and we can’t wait for his return. We miss him and we send our love and prayers to him and his wife Carol!

In Father Tim’s absence, members lead our congregation in Morning Prayer on Sunday mornings. On October 27, we welcomed Father Jon Griffin to lead Mass. Everyone enjoyed his sermon and had a smile on their faces. We greatly appreciate his support. We look forward to his visit soon.

We have chosen to take on two outreach projects in our community. The first project was called “Undie Sunday” in which members collected underwear for the needy children in the Harrisburg school system. The donation was given to the district and was so appreciated by the district staff. The second project was called “Sock It Sunday” and once again members of St. Stephen’s pulled through and these were donated to the school system for children in need.

On September 29, St Stephen’s welcomed Bishop Martins for his annual visit followed with a potluck. Everyone enjoyed the fellowship as well as the food. And, Bishop Martins was very gracious to bless the collection of socks for the children. He commented this was a first for him.

Last but not least, We are now preparing for donations and collections for the Shoebox Ministry to be sent off in November. Members choose a male child or female child and buy needed and fun items for them to enjoy. Everyone realizes what a positive and loving impact this makes for these children and we are so happy to help!

Cheri King, warden

A Note from Mtr Sherry Black:
Fr Tim Goodman returned home on Friday, November 15th, after about 2 months in hospitals and rehab. Thanks be to God! I was able to supply recently and the St Stephen’s family looks forward to his return!

NORTHERN DEANERY

St Matthew’s
Bloomington

Early Fall has been a busy time at St. Matthew’s. In addition to our Level I Atrium, we opened a Level II Atrium for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. This necessitated a good bit of space utilization reorganization. This is an exciting ministry, and one we pray continues to grow. Thank you to Emily Lavikoff and Justin Brooks for supervising this endeavor. We have added an additional music studio offering Violin lessons on Monday afternoons. We also opened our facilities to a non-profit home school co-op for the purpose of science and music education. Over 40 children attend this co-op on a weekly basis, and we are excited for the opportunity to partner with them in their growth.

In terms of our physical plant we have continued to upgrade and refresh. The stone and tile floors in the Parish Hall and the Nave have been refinished, the carpet in the education facilities was cleaned, and we are working on refinishing the restroom floors in the next
quarter. Additionally, a new electronic sign has been approved by the MLT and should be installed in January. This will replace the current reader board.

Bishop Daniel made his annual visitation on the 10th of November and three adults were confirmed. The home school co-op music class also provided the offertory for that Sunday and it was a joy to have so many new faces in worship that day.

The Very Rev. David Halt

NORTHEASTERN DEANERY

Chapel of St John the Divine
Champaign

These past few months have been a lively and grace-filled time in the life of the Chapel of Saint John the Divine.

The Parish continues to thrive and we have added lots of programmatic opportunities for participation this fall:

• We held a Labor Day parish wide gathering
• We held a Quad Day outreach to the returning university of Illinois students. We gave away 1000 cookies and copious amounts of information about the Chapel.
• We held the Blessing of the Animals service on the feast of Francis of Assisi.
• We have continued with the program called, “Dinners for Eight” or “Foyers”. Parishioners are now working through the second cycle of this program.
• We held a newcomer gathering for our many newcomers to the parish
• Our Canterbury Student Gathering continues to run strong with 15-20 students joining us each Wednesday evening.

Our music programs continue to thrive. The Chapel continues to be an outpost for the Royal School of Church Music program. Choristers programs are being held to train children in music, and our Canterbury Choir continues to be one of the highlights of our life together. Many of our Choristers attended an RSCM retreat/festival in North Carolina in the late summer.

On All Saints’ Sunday, November 3, we dedicated two icons at the beginning of the service. The icons were given by Mr. Tim Fuller, father of Chapel parishioner, Amy Weber. The first icon is John the Divine, or John the Apostle: the Beloved Disciple of Jesus, and the one for whom the Chapel is named. John is painted in a “portrait,” rather than as part of a Biblical scene. He is depicted as the elderly John “the Theologian.” This is John who, sixty years or so after the Resurrection of Christ, is exiled upon Patmos and writing both the Gospel of John and the Book of Revelation.

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“EN ΑΡΧΗ ΗΝ Ο ΛΟΓΟΣ” or in English, “In the beginning was the Word.” He is depicted with an Eagle to his left, the symbol of both John and his Gospel. John’s Gospel is the one of the four which most clearly points to the divinity of Christ, and to represent this, an angel is depicted whispering in the ear of the aged theologian. Colors were carefully selected to match colors already seen in the Chapel.

The second Icon is of Mary and the boy Jesus. It is modeled after the Byzantine image called in the Easter Church, “Theotokos of the Passion,” and called in the West, “Our Lady of Perpetual Help.”

In it, Mary’s eyes, filled with compassion and love, are directed toward us. She is clothed in the colors of virgins (red) and of mothers (blue). The boy, Jesus, is depicted in blue and red. The star on Mary’s veil reminds us that she is the dawn announcing the coming of Christ.

Mary’s hands hold her Son securely, and her right hand directs our gaze to him. The Christ Child grasps his mother’s hand as though he is frightened by what he sees. In his hurry to reach his mother, Jesus has almost lost one of his sandals.
This portrayal of Jesus is famous because it so clearly depicts his humanity. This portrayal of Jesus is famous because it so clearly depicts his humanity.

On Mary’s left and right we see the reasons for the child’s fear. On the right sits the Archangel Gabriel, holding a cross and four nails. On the left is the Archangel Michael, holding a lance, a pole with a sponge, and a vessel of vinegar. This vision of the instruments of the crucifixion has driven the young Jesus to his mother’s protective embrace. The Greek on the icon read, “ΜΗ-ΘΥ” (Mother of God), “ΟΑΜ” (Michael the Archangel), “ΟΑΓ” (Gabriel the Archangel), “ΠΝ-ΘΥ” (Jesus Christ), respectively. As “IC-XC” (Jesus Christ), colors on the icon read, “MP-ΘΥ” (Mother of God), “ΟΑΜ” (Michael the Archangel), “ΟΑΓ” (Gabriel the Archangel), and “IC-XC” (Jesus Christ), respectively. As with the John the Divine Icon, colors were carefully selected to match colors already seen in the Chapel.

The Chapel of Saint John the Divine is alive and well and we invite all from the area.

The Rev. Sean Farrell

Emmanuel Memorial

Champaign

Highlights of this fall have included:
- The calling of Christopher Mason as our permanent Choirmaster
- Blessing of the Pets in West Side park for the second year, with notably more community participation
- A presentation by the Rector on insights for ministry in a post-Christian society gleaned from her research in the Diocese of Paris on sabbatical
- A number of members walking in the annual Walk to Defeat ALS in memory of Page Parkhill
- The launch of a weekly men’s Bible study in addition to our long-running women’s Bible study and Sunday lectio divina group
- Continued daily sack lunch ministry to the homeless led mostly by laity
- Involvement in a nonprofit roundtable along with other organizations such as the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Lodgic Everyday Community, The Orpheum Museum and Habitat for Humanity to discuss issues and needs we all face
- Our Wonder in All month, based on the Baptismal service, in which 8 members witnessed to God’s action at Emmanuel and over 50 shorter testimonies were added by parishioners to an installation in the parish hall
- A weekday Service of Renaming for one of our members who has taken a new name
- A 1662 Choral Evensong on All Saints Sunday attended by 126 people
- Regular visits in homes and institutions with members who are unable to get to church by two lay visitors and the clergy
- A number of physical plant repairs including to the steam boiler and to the alarm system
- Being part of an interfaith vigil on the issue of gun violence in our communities
- The creation of a new fund in our endowment to support future ordained leadership in memory of Rosann G. Noel
- The Mission Leadership Team’s decision to bring in the nonprofit Partners for Sacred Places to begin working with us to design a community-wide asset-mapping event to help maximize the new resource for mission we will have when our rectory space is completed and accessible
- Two plays put on between the services by our Sunday school
- Two family film nights on Sunday evenings (free popcorn!)
- And the most important thing we do: Sunday Mass at 8 and 10:15; Daily offices twice a day five days a week; Mass one evening a week. Come pray with us any time!

The Rev. Beth Maynard

The Church of the Holy Trinity

Danville

The following information reflects activities at the Church of the Holy Trinity, Danville:
- Observed the Feast of the Assumption with Mass, Rosary and Devotions
- In honor of St. Francis of Assisi, animals were blessed and Holy Cards were distributed on Oct. 4th.
- Devotions to Our Lady of Walsingham were held on Sunday, Oct. 13th, with other churches from the surrounding area and the diocese as our guests. A reception followed the Liturgy and Procession.
- All Saints was celebrated on Nov. 1
- Matins of the Dead and a Requiem Mass were said on Nov. 2
- Received a thanksgiving gift of a new outer frontal for the main Altar
- Distributed over 200 more sack lunches than last year
- Reorganized our food pantry distribution method.

The Very Rev. Richard Lewis

St Christopher’s

Rantoul

Exciting things are happening at St. Christopher’s. New families with young children are attending. It’s very long time since that has happened here. They fit in so well into our small community—adults linking up with folks who have been coming a long time; and, children involved in Sunday school. It’s wonderful to hear their laughter, being surrounded by all that energy, and watch as the smallest one crawls around the church and speaks a language known only to God.

Even more special: one family has chosen to be baptized. Mom already on Nov. 3. Her three sons on Nov. 17. The bishop was here in Oct. for his visit. We celebrated with him and he with us.

The Rev. Steve Thorp
DARROW DEANERY

St Andrew’s
Edwardsville
We have had some interesting times lately at St. Andrew’s. We called a new priest, and after a few months, he decided to retire. So, we are looking for a new priest again. While he was with us, Father Morsch was very active both with the worship and education programs and also community involvement, such as moderating programs for the League of Voters, which were held here in our parish hall. He is missed.

In the interim, Father Boase and Father Pence kept our worship schedule running smoothly until Father John Thorpe stepped in as supply priest. He is doing an outstanding job. We are so blessed that we have been able to continue our regular Sunday services uninterrupted.

Our ECW has been busy hosting a variety of receptions, lunches and potlucks. These wonderful ladies give so much of their time to us. Their hard work has provided us with tables, chairs and other improvements to our church. They recently raised money by holding a boutique of gently used and unused articles that was successful. A side benefit to all their work is that it brings people into St. Andrew’s. As a small church aware that our presence by the community at large is a very beneficial thing.

Our quarterly used book sales have also achieved this benefit as well as providing much needed positive cash flow. The volunteers who organize the hundreds of books that we have for sale have done an extraordinary job. Our old undercroft has become a permanent book sale facility. It is a great use for an otherwise rather uninviting space.

Our church also is the home of the St Andrew’s Quilt Guild. We hold a fiber art and quilt show the first week end in March. This is a non-juried show so everyone who chooses to, can participate. In addition to making quilts to be displayed, our members are active in the Quilts of Valor program and have presented quilts that we have made to veterans the last few years. Our guild is open to the community at large. We have gained some new parishioners this way.

Opera Edwardsville is using our space for rehearsals, again, letting the community know we are here. We are pleased to be part of this vibrant new program.

We are a busy place and are thankful for all the blessings we had in the last year. Elizabeth Jayne Edwards, warden

St George’s
Belleville
St. George’s continued to worship and spread the Gospel in the Belleville community. Many of our members joined with St. Mark’s Lutheran church on Saturday evening, once a month, for a contemporary Shine service that is well attended.

We bid farewell to Fr Dale at the end of August after over 12 years of ministry as our rector at St George’s. On his last Sunday we celebrated his ministry with us with a reception between our two services, saying thank you for all he has done for us. We have started the search for an Interim Rector, and are organizing the search process for our next rector.

We are blessed to have Fr Samson as our supply priest through the season. We are supporting Lutheran Family Services again this year through the Angel Tree, providing gifts for families that would otherwise not have a joyous season. On the Eve of the Nativity we will have a 5pm children’s service, with a Christmas Eve Mass at 10pm, preceded by a chorale prelude.

Looking to Advent and Christmas, we are supporting Lutheran Family Services again this year through the Angel Tree, providing gifts for families that would otherwise not have a joyous season. On the Eve of the Nativity we will have a 5pm children’s service, with a Christmas Eve Mass at 10pm, preceded by a chorale prelude. Brian Maves, warden

St Michael’s
O’Fallon
Fr Ian Wetmore has moved to his new church in New York in late October, leaving St. Michael’s O’Fallon with Supply coverage until a new vicar is called. The Mission Leadership Team has met with Bishop Martins regarding the transition plan, and he is providing information on potential candidates for
BISHOP SEARCH

Feast of St Lucy (13 Dec. 2019)

To the faithful of the Diocese of Springfield,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (Phil. 1:2)

At Synod this year, Bishop Martins announced his retirement as the 11th Bishop of Springfield. We, the Standing Committee, write to update you on what we are doing and where the coming weeks and months will take us as we enter further into the season of transition ahead.

First of all, know that we are actively laying groundwork. Since the Bishop’s announcement, we have been in regular contact, meeting twice and beginning broad discussions of what we anticipate the next steps will be. We reached out to the Office of Pastoral Development, the national office which serves as a resource for the transition, election, and deployment of bishops, and we are considering what sort of expectations and timelines might best serve us all in searching for the 12th Bishop of Springfield.

Next, we invite you to be on the lookout for upcoming news and information. We will begin posting information to the Diocesan website and reaching out electronically so that each of you and your respective communities can stay up to date on where we are in our corporate discernment.

We also want to invite your participation in the process. This will include opportunities for much needed input on our present and future needs. Additionally, we will be looking in the coming months for representatives from across the Diocese to assist in facilitating the search process itself.

Finally, we invite you to pray. Prayers for use in corporate worship and private devotions are included at the conclusion of this letter; others will be provided as the process continues. In particular, we bid your prayers on behalf of:

+ Bishop Daniel and Brenda as they look ahead to the completion of their ministry among us.

+ The Diocese of Springfield, the Standing Committee, our congregations, the clergy, and all the people.

+ The movement of the Spirit on those candidates which might be called to become a part of our search in God’s time.

+ Wisdom in the ordering of this process and fortitude in the execution of the same, that the Lord’s will may be fulfilled as we give the glory and honor to God in all that is said and done.

The following prayers are suggested for use by the faithful of the Diocese of Springfield both in corporate worship and in private devotions. These may be adapted as necessary for use in different contexts.

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a bishop for this Diocese, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. – BCP page 818, #13

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel for the choosing of a bishop for this Diocese. Teach them in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide them to perceive what is right, and grant them both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. – Adapted from BCP page 818, #12

DEANERY REPORTS

they arise. A new Office Administrator is also in place starting in late October. The Senior and Junior Wardens are ensuring the congregation’s pastoral needs are met with other local clergy resources. Amy Konieczny, warden

St Thomas’
Glen Carbon

The Episcopal Church Women (ECW) had their successful Spaghetti Fest on October 5th. They made a generous contribution to St. Thomas’ donation to the Diocese of Tabora’s clergy health insurance. The ECW has also purchased replacement signs at the front door and the back door.

We contributed to United Thank Offering, and our Daycare will have their Christmas Pageant on December 13th at 6:30 p.m.

Jan Goossens, mission administrator
### JANUARY 2020

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<td>Bishop w/ St. Thomas’, Glen Carbon</td>
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<td>Clergy Pre-Lenten Retreat, King’s House, Belleville</td>
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<td>Finance Dept. Meeting, Diocesan Center, Springfield, 10 am</td>
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<td>28-29</td>
<td>ECW Annual Lenten Retreat, Toddhall, Columbia</td>
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<td>Diocesan Council, Diocesan Center, Springfield, 10 am</td>
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### APRIL 2020

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PARISH