

# DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD MARCH E-NEWSLETTER



## ECW Lenten Retreat



## ECW SAVE THE DATE

The Episcopal Church Women will have their Lenten Retreat March 24-26, 2023. The retreat will be held at Toddhall (320 Todd Center Dr, Columbia, IL 62236). Bishop Brian K. Burgess will be the keynote speaker and Claudia Byrne will be the guest worship leader on Saturday evening. There will be discussions about changing women's roles in the church, time for exploring, and opportunities for conversation with new or experienced faces! We hope you will join us. To register please [click here](#).



## Epiphanytide Springfield Current 2023

The Epiphanytide 2023 issue of the Springfield Current is out now! Check out our electronic "flipbook" version of it [by clicking here](#) or by visiting our website under "[Diocesan Publications](#)". You may have noticed that we've been using a flipbook version of our PDFs lately. An electronic flipbook is an online PDF that flips and reads like a normal book. There is a bar at the top of all of our flipbooks that allow you to download and share them.



## THE CHURCH ARMY

The Diocese of Springfield welcomed representatives of the Church Army USA in the interest of discerning opportunities for evangelism where the reach of regular parish programs and ministries now desires to be met by the priorities of street ministries.

The churches of St. Bartholomew's in Granite City and St. Christopher's in Rantoul were identified as areas that have changed demographically over the past 25 years and now seek a new way forward that incorporates an intentional reach well beyond the church doors. Founded by The Reverend Wilson Carlile in 1882, The Church Army began in London by reaching out to those who have never stepped inside a church.

Focusing on the slums of Westminster – one of the most deprived and poverty-stricken spots in London – Carlile began by hosting open-air gatherings to share faith and encourage people to put their faith into action.



Today, the [Church Army USA](#) is based in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania at [Uncommon Grounds Café](#) and has centers of ministry located in Beaver Falls, PA; Branson, MO; Farmington, MO; Hillsville, VA; Plainville, CT; Ocala, FL; and Belington, WV.

Church Army officers spent two days within our Diocese touring Granite City as well as Rantoul and then had an opportunity to make an introductory presentation to Diocesan Council on Saturday, February 25th at our Diocesan Center. Mrs. Joan Small of St. Luke's in Springfield attended the Council meeting as a guest to share her admiration for the work of the Church Army in Barbados where she grew up. This prayerful conversation being had between the Church Army USA and our Diocese now continues with Church Army officers, mission clergy, mission lay leaders, Diocesan staff, and those who represent us on Diocesan Council.

Pictured are those who met Church Army officers in the interest of extending the mission reach of St. Christopher's in Rantoul. ( L to R): Mr. John Orr, Junior Warden of St. Christophers; Bishop Brian Burgess, Diocesan; The Reverend Captain Greg Miller, CAUSA Executive Director; Captain Andrenna Williams, CAUSA, Director of Aliquippa Ministries; Fr. Steve Thorp, Vicar of St. Christopher's in Rantoul; and Canon Mark Evans, Canon to the Ordinary.

"There is a spirit of optimism, radical welcome, and evangelical zeal within the Church Army USA that I believe would fit well within some of our more challenging as well as distressed communities," said Bishop Burgess. "I invite the intentional prayers of this Diocese in the interest of extending the reach of the Church. Specifically, that we may all be faithful, true, and bold when it comes to reaching toward those who are meant to complete us."

The Church Army USA is composed of Christ-centered, mission-focused Evangelists, Candidates, volunteers, and donors, who are committed to serving, reaching, and loving broken, rejected, sad, disconnected, and hurting people with a message of hope, love, and joy. They are at the center of evangelism and on the edges of society. They specialize in working outside church buildings through addiction centers, urban farming, jails and prisons, café ministries, streets and back alleys, schools, senior centers, hospitals, nursing homes, housing developments, and more as needed.



## NASHOTAH HOUSE SUMMER COURSES

Nashotah House Theological Seminary is offering a variety of classes in biblical studies, ascetical theology, liturgics, church music, and more this summer. Poet-priest Malcolm Guite, evangelist and best-selling author Becky Pippert, and New Testament scholar Wesley Hill are among the distinguished visiting faculty scheduled to teach courses at Nashotah House's historic, lakeside campus. Offered for credit or audit, the summer classes are designed for individuals who are looking to engage more deeply in these theological disciplines, including new students current students, and returning students seeking continuing education. Scholarships are available for church groups, alumni, and those who bring a friend with them. More information is available at [nashotah.edu/summer-2023](https://nashotah.edu/summer-2023).





## FROM EMMANUEL-MEMORIAL, CHAMPAIGN

Why are things so different in the church during Lent? Lent is a penitential season in preparation for the celebration of the greatest feast of the Christian Year, the Feast of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead. From earliest times, Christians kept Lent as a time of penitence and fasting. It was also a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism, as well as a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful, were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. All of these things reminded the whole congregation of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith. (See BCP, pgs. 264-265.)



Because of the penitential nature of the season, certain changes take place in worship in Anglican churches. In place of “Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,” the liturgy begins with “Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins. His mercy endureth forever.” Instead of coming after the Prayers of the People, the Confession of Sin is right up front, at the beginning of the liturgy. In place of the Gloria in Excelsis (Glory to God in the highest), the Kyrie Eleison (Lord, have mercy upon us) is sung or said. The word alleluia is not sung or said. And in place of the blessing at the end of the liturgy, a prayer over the congregation is said. These are the most obvious changes, but there are even other, more subtle changes that you will notice in this penitential season.

The church itself looks different. Ornate textiles, vessels, and other symbols have been removed or are covered. Stations of the Cross, depictions of 14 points of our Lord’s journey to his crucifixion and death, are hung on the walls of the nave of the church. The 12th Station, “Jesus Dies on the Cross,” is marked by a special votive candle in front of it. In place of the elaborate brass cross over the altar, a plain wooden cross stands. These changes make our worship environment more somber, yet are still beautiful in their simplicity. Lent is a time for deepening our faith and devotion. May it be such a time for all who enter here.



## FROM ST. BARNABAS', HAVANA

St. Barnabas' in Havana extends an invitation to the Northern Deanery and the Diocese for the offering of the Rosary every Wednesday at 4 PM and Stations of the Cross every Friday at 5:45 PM.

## CURSILLO SUMMER 2023

Cursillo XXXIX: Ezra 10:4 "Rise up...take courage and do it." Are you seeking an environment to recharge your spiritual batteries? Do you need some direction for tapping into God's power in your life? Perhaps you are looking to join with others who are doing their best to walk with the Lord in this challenging world. If the answer is yes, consider signing up for the Cursillo XXXIX weekend at Toddhall, **July 13-16**, in Columbia, IL. Rise up and join us!

For additional information contact your priest, or Dawn Jung at 618-792-6035; dawnjung@juno.com.

## FROM ST. ANDREW'S QUILT GUILD

The St. Andrew's Quilt Guild held its annual Fabric Art and Quilt Show this past weekend at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Edwardsville. Although attendance was low on the first day due to weather conditions, they raised \$1,358 through ticket sales. Most of the quilts were only on display but several were able to be purchased and 13 were sold this year. Attendance was high on Saturday due to the presentation of three Quilts of Valor which are quilts that are crafted for the remembrance or recognition of a service member or veteran.



From reporter Scott Marion of the Edwardsville Intelligencer: "It's a special honor to be here in my hometown and my childhood church and the quilt was sewn by women in the Quilts of Valor chapter who knew me when I was a kid and had a hand in raising me," said Robert Timothy Schultheis. 'They rarely give a quilt to someone they know, so that makes it even more special for me.'

Schultheis, 61, was a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army and served from 1983 to 2004. He was stationed across the nation and had numerous overseas tours in Germany, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq. 'I wish that all the guys that I served with who are still alive today can have the same special honor,' Schultheis said. 'It takes a community to raise a soldier and for me, that community was here today. They gave me this quilt and personally sewed it and it's a very high honor for me.'"

# EPISCOPAL SUMMER CAMP 2023

The Episcopal Church Camp of Illinois 2023 will be held on the campus of Camp Wartburg in Waterloo, Illinois from June 17th through June 24th. This year's summer camp will take on a new look with a new direction including plans for fellowship, worship, learning, games, challenges, and growing in God's grace. More information is to follow as the Camp Board finalizes the plans for camp this year. Although heavy winter jackets and snow shovels are the order of the day today, it won't be long until shorts and t-shirts are packed for our time together at Camp Wartburg. "We'll see ya in Waterloo."



## PROVINCE V EVENTS

Province V is sponsoring a conference for sustained creation care called "Rooted in Soil and Grounded in Faith." The conference will be held at Nazareth Retreat Center in Nazareth, Kentucky. It will be focused on deeper theological study, sharing of resources (pertaining to creation care ministries), ideas, and an opportunity for fellowship, nature contemplation, and spiritual renewal. For more information please follow [this link to their website](#).

Province V is also hosting a weekly online Bible Study over Jonah called Escaping the Whale, Queen, and Valley: Healing and Understanding the Suicidal Crisis. It takes place Mondays in Lent (Mar 6, 13, 20, 27, Apr. 3), 7:30-9 pm ET / 6:30-8 pm CT. [Please register here](#) - it's not too late to join in

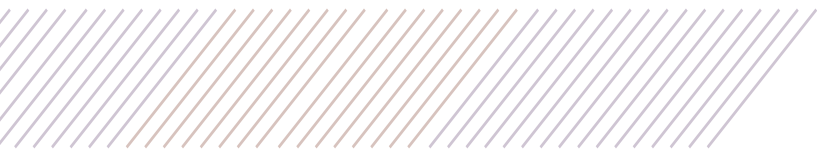


# PROVINCE V

## UNITED THANK OFFERING

Greetings from the Diocesan UTO Coordinator! As we observe the Lenten Season and the anticipation of Spring I want to remind all churches and parishes of the upcoming UTO Spring Ingathering. The Spring Ingathering is the Sunday following Ascension, however, churches and parishes can set their own dates if they wish. UTO Coordinators should be receiving letters in the coming weeks. Many thanks to all who support UTO Ministry.

Faithfully,  
Joyce Wright, UTO Diocesan Coordinator



## SAVE THE DATE

### **Annual Mass of Chrism -**

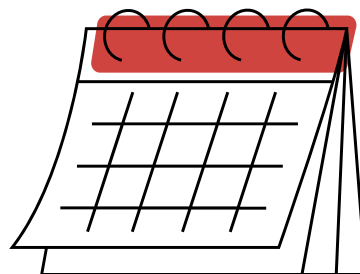
The Chrism Mass will be at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 4th, at which the clergy will renew ordination vows. The blessing of holy oils will also take place at that time. The faithful of the Diocese are welcome. Clergy will receive a separate email to RSVP.

### **146th Annual Synod -**

Friday October 20th to Saturday October 21st  
More information to follow soon.



For the most up-to-date  
Diocesan and prayer calendar  
information please visit our  
[website here](#)



**Please include those in our Diocese who are pursuing Holy Orders in your prayers:**

Pete Sherman, Postulant - St. Luke's, Springfield

Danny Shuler, Postulant - St. Thomas, Salem

*Jesus & Nicodemus by Henry Ossawa Tanner (1899)*



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