

DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD MAY E-NEWSLETTER



EPISCOPAL CHURCH CAMP, JUNE 18-23

Camp is just around the corner and we encourage everyone to spread the word and get signed up soon! With camp taking place at Camp Wartburg (Waterloo, IL) this year it will look a little different than in past years. Campers will have the opportunity to experience Camp Wartburg's high and low rope courses and zipline, indoor and outdoor climbing walls, canoeing on the Kaskaskia River, archery, and many more programs we'll be offering this year! Camp Wartburg has trained staff to ensure the safety of camp activities. Any child entering **1st - 12th grade** is welcome to participate in this formative experience that the Diocese of Springfield has to offer. Sign up today by visiting our website, episcopalspringfield.org/ministries/episcopal-church-camp

EPISCOPAL FELLOWSHIP OF EFFINGHAM

Bishop Burgess designated Father Mike Clark, St. Mary's, Robinson and Danny Shuler, St. Thomas, Salem to plant seeds for new churches in the Diocese of Springfield. He gave us a list of prospective towns to consider and turned us loose.

After a multitude of phone calls, text messages, emails, in-person meetings, and a couple of zooms, we settled on Effingham, for a few reasons. We felt Effingham was ripe for an Episcopal presence. It is a thriving community on the crossroads of two interstates, two state highways, has a large Catholic heritage, and was the former home of St. Laurence Episcopal Church. It is also halfway between Robinson and Salem. A good place to start, and we did.



Father Clark did the initial leg work, scouting the town for places to meet, shaking hands, and kissing babies. We spread the word as best we could and had a meet and greet at a winery on a Saturday afternoon. There were nine people in attendance. Father Clark made arrangements to hand out free tickets for a showing of the movie "Jesus Revolution" on a Saturday night at the local theater.



After scouting out a couple of meeting place prospects, Father Clark made a connection with the folks at the Chapel at the Cross. The cross is 198 feet tall and stands alongside interstates I-57 & I-70. There is a chapel at its base, a nice one. The local Presbyterian Church had a fire recently and they use it on Sunday morning so we decided to meet there twice a month on Wednesday evenings at 6:30. They have seating for about 50 people, it's super clean, has large restrooms, a piano, an altar table and after turning the seats around, a beautiful view of the largest cross in this part of the country.

Having the Bishop and Cathedral's blessing we rifled through the storage building at the Cathedral in Springfield, gathered up some items from Robinson and Salem, talked Father Clark's mother into playing the keyboard the Presbyterians leave there and had a Holy Eucharist on March 15th, 2023. There were eleven people in attendance.

We've had services on the first and third Wednesdays of the month since then. Becky Lustig, Episcopalian, and resident of Effingham, now plays the piano. We've had as high as seventeen people. There are 33 empty seats left. We could use a little help here. If you are reading this and have connections in the Effingham area please help us spread the word. God and the people of Effingham are counting on you.

BISHOP BURGESS AT NASHOTAH HOUSE

Bishop Burgess had the honorable opportunity to be present and preach at Nashotah House's Founder's Day at the end of this past month. Along with giving the homily Bishop Burgess participated in the "Trek to Breck" where the students and faculty walk from St. Mary's Chapel to James Lloyd Breck to commemorate his grave. Breck is one of the founders of Nashotah House Seminary.

From the Bishop on Nashotah House:

"Although I did not attend Nashotah House Theological Seminary, I was prepared and influenced by many priests who did. Their witness and example still resonate deep within me today. Nashotah House Theological Seminary is





a petrichor for our entire Church. It is all that we know to be right, good, holy, true, necessary and patient, and foundational when it comes to being the people of God on exodus together. To put the definition itself at its most basic level - you know it when you experience it. We all experience it, and even a blind man can tell how it has rained here - on a barren and dry land. It has rained abundantly. Petrichor."

From the Bishop's homily: "The church has had its fill of entrepreneurial or enterprising priests over the last forty-five years. It is time that we return to pioneer priests. That is a term that is uniquely ours and it has presided over the greatest growth and expansion of the kingdom of God known to man. Yes, we are quite familiar with names like James Lloyd Breck, Jackson Kemper, and James DeKoven. But are we as familiar with names such as William Sheridan, William Hargrave, Cameron Mann, John D. Wing, Alfred Banyard, E. Paul Haynes, John Maury Allin, and Homer Rogers? These, too, were priests that went deep into the unknown and brought with them Holy Scripture, baptismal water, bread, wine, and the oil of *informorium* (oil of the sick). They were not trying to create something new - pushing the envelope if you will. They were taming the wilderness and making the new times and new places exactly what it is Christ has need of them being."

Photos by The Rev. Deacon Parker Asplin

CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, DANVILLE

The Church of the Holy Trinity, Danville, Illinois, is once again preparing for our Annual Free Sack Lunch Program which will operate from the first of May to the end of October. This is the fifth year of operation. Parishioners graciously donated all food and services, volunteering their time and resources. Volunteering includes advertising, purchasing, preparing lunch bags, and helping to distribute lunches every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

This lunch program is unique as it aligns with our church's mission to provide for individuals in need within our church neighborhood, or our own backyard. Other surrounding churches have morning breakfasts and hot meals in the evenings. Our sack-lunch program satisfies the neediness for afternoon nourishment. Individuals in our area are not able to travel to the other churches but are able to walk to our doors for help. Several are homeless and some are veterans.



Although our number of individuals served this year was smaller (Result of Covid), we served over 270 lunches. In previous years we had served between 500-600 lunches.

The Church of the Holy Trinity also engages with other community businesses and programs. We distributed fliers to local social programs, housing programs, and churches. We purchased all food and supplies locally at the Danville County Market. With monies left over this year, we partnered with the Danville County Market with the purchase of fifty (50) special Thanksgiving meal bags.

The Danville County Market prepared the bags and distributed them to individuals in need of a Thanksgiving meal under the direction of General Manager Tom Hast. (See attached picture: Mary Dae Haas and General Manager, Tom Hast) In addition, the Church donated leftover food and supplies from the program to Cross Point Human Services Domestic Violence and Transitional Service Shelters.

Other yearly food programs include additional Thanksgiving Dinner Baskets assembled and distributed by the parishioners of Trinity, Danville, and the food pantry.

FIVE CITIES BAROQUE AT ST. JOHN'S, DECATUR

Decatur, IL – America's newest Early Music festival, the Five Cities Baroque Festival, will launch May 19th in Decatur. The Festival will draw together the best Baroque musicians from across the state of Illinois and guest artists from as far as California to deliver three concerts of Baroque music, including both familiar works and music never before heard on American soil.

On May 19th, nationally renowned organist Stephen Buzard will kick off the Festival with a recital of music by J.S. Bach on the Baroque-style organ at First United Methodist Church of Decatur. The following afternoon will bring a concert of chamber music by Bach, Élisabeth Jacquet de la Guerre, Arcangelo Corelli, Heinrich Ignaz Franz Biber, and Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de Saint-Georges at St.

John's Episcopal Church. The keynote concert of the Festival will take place that night back at First United Methodist Church, featuring a performance of Bach's Cantata 42 and the North American premiere of Jan Dismas Zelenka's Litaniae Omnium Sanctorum, ZWV 153, by the Festival Chorus, Festival Orchestra, and a stellar array of soloists drawn from across the United States.

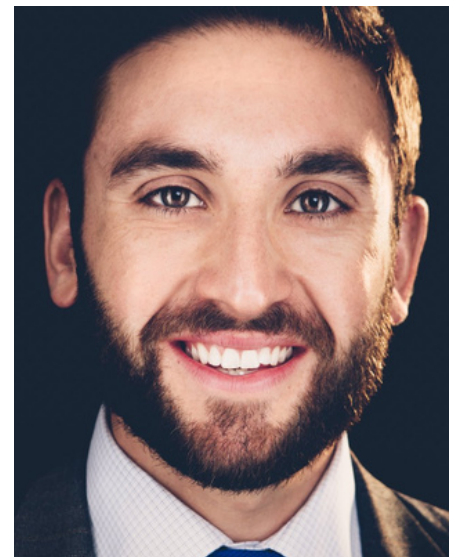
Admission to all concerts is free; donations will be accepted at the door. All concerts are open to the public through the generous support of the First United Methodist Church Belltower Concert Series, the St. John's Episcopal Church Jones Music Fund, the Symphony Orchestra Guild of Decatur's Symphony in the Community Fund, Millikin University, the Millikin Camerata, and numerous private sponsors.



About the Five Cities Baroque Festival: The Five Cities Baroque Festival brings together the best Baroque musicians from the five cities of Central Illinois—Springfield, Champaign-Urbana, Peoria, Bloomington-Normal, and Decatur—to deliver accessible, world-class performances of 17th- and 18th-century music and educational events to the communities outside the major urban centers of the Midwest.

The Festival also builds bridges between the musical and educational institutions of the region. Featured artists appear with the Illinois Symphony Orchestra, Millikin-Decatur Symphony Orchestra, Peoria Symphony Orchestra, Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra, Concerto Urbano, and Baroque Artists of Champaign-Urbana. They can also be found teaching or studying at the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana, Illinois Wesleyan University, Millikin University, Eastern Illinois University, the University of Illinois Springfield, Bradley University, and Illinois State University. For more information, please visit <https://www.fivecitiesbaroque.org/>.

About the Artistic Director Nate Widelitz: Deeply committed to high-level music-making and the education of young musicians, Nate Widelitz has traveled to three continents so far as a singer, conductor, scholar, and teacher. He has performed at New York's Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, Los Angeles's Disney Hall and Hollywood Bowl, Singapore's Esplanade, Osaka's Izumi Hall, and Barcelona's Palau de la Música under the batons of Zubin Mehta, Franz Welser-Möst, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Gustavo Dudamel, Sir Bramwell Tovey, Nicholas McGegan, Masaaki Suzuki, and Helmuth Rilling. He has collaborated with Bach Collegium Japan, the New York and Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestras, the Cleveland Orchestra, and solo artists such as Emanuel Ax, Kelley O'Connor, Rod Gilfry, Charles Castronovo and Ingrid Michaelson. He has conducted choirs in Salzburg Cathedral, participated in masterclasses with Max van Egmond, David Hayes, and Erwin Ortner, prepared choruses for Helmuth Rilling, Carl St. Clair, and Sir Gilbert Levine, earned numerous television and film credits, and taught music all over the United States.



Upcoming dates in central Illinois include May 19th, 7:30 PM at First United Methodist Church of Decatur, May 20th, 2 PM at St. John's Episcopal Church of Decatur, and May 20th at 7:30 PM at First United Methodist Church of Decatur. Tickets are open to public, donations are accepted at the door and please visit their website for more information.

CHRIST THE KING, NORMAL

Shortly after Jonathan Chilaka left his home in Nigeria to earn his M.A. in Chemistry at Illinois State University he found himself in need of new kidneys. Unexpected as this was for the young grad student, he was speedily taken into the care of the good people at Christ the King in Normal. The Rev. John Richmond was interviewed by the Pantagraph, a Bloomington-Normal-based news source, on the congregation's involvement in helping Chilaka through his kidney transplant and

how the community came together for someone in a foreign land without anyone to help them. You can view the full article on the Pantagraph's website (must subscribe to access) or [click here for a short clip of Father Richmond's interview with the Pantagraph](#).



ST. CHRISTOPHER'S, RANTOUL



Saint Christopher's, Rantoul, is raising awareness this month for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) in Champaign County. One of the members of St. Christopher's participates in CASA's outreach to the 391 children currently involved in CASA in Champaign County. There are many children in Rantoul under CASA's care. This means that they are going through the Juvenile Court because they

are neglected and/or abused. The courts order CASA to check in on the children monthly, write a report for the court's review, and be the voice for the children.

Champaign CASA serves Champaign County children and helps with outreach across Illinois for CASA. Champaign County CASA believes that every child in our community who has experienced abuse or neglect deserves to thrive in a safe and permanent home. If you see something, please report it. This is not an easy topic to learn about, but it is critical to the health of our children. You can visit Champaign County's CASA website at casa4kids.org or look up CASA in your county for more information.

RECENT ORDINATIONS

On the Feast of Saint Mark the Evangelist, April 25, The Rev. Deacon Parker Asplin was ordained into the Holy Orders of Deacons at the Cathedral Church of Saint Paul. On Saturday May 6th, The Rev. Mark Klamer was ordained into the Holy Order of Priests at St. Thomas' Episcopal Church in Glen Carbon.

"Make him, O Lord, modest and humble, strong and constant, to observe the discipline of Christ. Let his life and teaching so reflect your commandments, that through him many may come to know you and love you. As your Son came not to be served but to serve, may this deacon share in Christ's service, and come to the unending glory of him who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever."



PROVINCE V SAVE THE DATE

Province V's Synod and Big Provincial Gathering will be **April 26-27, 2024** in South Bend, Indiana. This gathering will include all Synod Deputies and Bishop's from the Friday afternoon meeting. More details to follow.



UNITED THANK OFFERING

United Thank Offering Blue Box Prayer: "Almighty God, I give you praise for blessing me in many ways. Create in me a grateful heart and with this gift a blessing starts. Amen."

Happy Spring to all UTO Coordinators. Spring Ingathering 2023 is upon us. Congregations should schedule your ingatherings any Sunday during the month of May.

Blessings to all,
Joyce C. Wright, UTO Diocesan Coordinator



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

For the most up-to-date Diocesan and prayer calendar information please visit [our website here](#). The monthly e-newsletter comes out with the first ten days of the month (usually between 7-10th depending on the amount of information we receive that month). Articles and other relevant information for the upcoming Petertide 2023 *Springfield Current* is June 15th.



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SPRINGFIELD**



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