



Monthly Book Club

Epiphany Lutheran Church
1501 W. Chautauqua St.

Monday, October 19 » 9:30 am

Planting Clues. How Plants Solve Crimes
By David J. Gibson

Monday, November 16 » 9:30 am

Sense and Sensibility
By Jane Austen

Monthly Lunch Discussion Group*

Thursday, October 22 » 11:30 am

Sunny Street Cafe
900 E. Walnut, Carbondale, IL

Thursday, November 26 » 11:30 am

Hunan Asian Cuisine
710 E. Main, Carbondale, IL

Members are invited to join this
group to share lunch and open
conversation.



October Presenter Carol M Samarah

Native American Graves Protection

Wednesday, October 21 » 10:30 am

Carol's presentation will provide a general introduction to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) regulations and their requirements for institutions of higher education. The audience will learn about key

compliance obligations affecting universities, including responsibilities related to Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony. The presentation will also highlight opportunities that NAGPRA implementation can create for meaningful consultation and collaboration with lineal descendants, sovereign Tribes, and Native Hawaiian Organizations.

Carol Samarah, JD, CCEP, is the inaugural NAGPRA Program Director for the Southern Illinois University (SIU) System. She leads NAGPRA implementation and compliance across all SIU campuses. In this role, she works to build collaborative and enduring relationships between the university and descendant communities.



**S.I. Learning
in Retirement**

If you have any comments or suggestions regarding the newsletter, the website, or any elements of the organization, please email them to silir@siu.edu. Your observations and feedback are greatly appreciated. Thank you for your participation in Learning in Retirement.

Monthly Presentation

Wednesday, October 21

Epiphany Lutheran Church
1501 W. Chautauqua St.

9:30: Coffee, Tea and Conversation
10:30: Meeting and Program

President: Pam Matthews
Vice President: Roland Person
Secretary: Kathy Fatz
Treasurer: Carolyn Loving

*We regret the passing
of long-time member
David Pellow.*

At-a-Glance Monthly Presentations

Wednesday, October 21
Wednesday, November 18
No meeting in December

October Greeters

Susan Irwin
Susie Northquist
Esther Hays

*Group meets once a month for lunch at various restaurants in the area. Participants order from the standard menu and receive separate checks. Reservations need to be firm three days before the date. \$10 fee to join the group is good for this fiscal year, ending June 30, 2027. Communication and reservations are done by email among the group.

SILIR Fall Session Two Classes

Mondays » 1:30 - 3:30 pm

COST: \$15

FIVE SESSIONS: October 19 - November 16

INSTRUCTOR: Fran Oros

The World's Greatest Geological Wonders: 19 Spectacular Sites (Continued)

This course is a continuation of material from the spring session. As before, we will look at a number of spectacular geological wonders, and at each site the forces that formed it will be explained. Each lecture in this DVD course will cover a particular geologic formation or process. Some examples of these geological sites are Burgess Shale, Bryce Canyon, Rock of Gibraltar, Bay of Fundy, the Maldives, and the Namib / Kalahari Deserts.

Tuesdays » 9:30 - 11:30 am

COST: \$15

FOUR SESSIONS: October 20, 27 and November 3, 10

INSTRUCTOR: John Jackson

Due to Epiphany's use of the church as a polling place on the November 3, and a church meeting there on November 10, John Jackson's class will move to Redeemer Community Church at 725 S. Lewis Lane on those two dates (November 3 and 10).

The 2026 Midterm Elections: How We Got Here on the Nation's 250th Anniversary and Where We May be Going

This coming mid-term election is being held against the backdrop of the nation's celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence from Great Britain and King George's rule. It is also held at a time when Donald Trump has been President almost six years. This election will be, in part, a referendum on Donald Trump. He has now dominated much of our political process since 2015 when he came down the golden escalator in Trump Tower and announced that he was running for President although he had never held a public office previously. During this time, he has drawn power to the Executive Branch, and to the President that is truly historic and not matched by any previous President. We will analyze how that happened and its possible impact on our basic form of government.

The mid-term elections usually follow a predictable pattern. We will describe and analyze the prospects for the 2026 elections to follow that pattern or change that pattern. At the end of this election Donald Trump will become a "lame duck" with just over two years left to be President. The course will include two classes held before the election, one class on election day, and one class after the election is over, (maybe over).

Tuesdays » 1:30 - 3:30 pm

COST: \$15

FIVE SESSIONS: October 20, 27 and November 10, 17, 24

INSTRUCTOR: Steve Dollinger

Due to Epiphany's use of the church as a polling place, Steve Dollinger's class is will not meet on Tuesday, November 3, and will run an extra week, to November 24.

Hitchcock and the Censors

In this course we will learn how Alfred Hitchcock was influenced by and dealt with the Motion Picture Production Code and other sources of censorship. The primary source is John Billheimer's award-winning book, *Hitchcock and the Censors*. The first class will be a lecture with PowerPoint and videoclips from the internet. In classes 2-5, we will watch and discuss one film each week.

Wednesdays » 9:30 - 11:30 am

COST: \$15

FOUR SESSIONS: October 21 - November 11

INSTRUCTORS: Jim Renshaw

Gourd Creations

Would you like to create something from a dried gourd? A bird house or feeder, a bowl or container, an "objet d'art", a canteen? Join our class and let your hidden artist decide!

SILIR Member Jim Renshaw has grown and dried some large gourds and will bring paints, tools, and brushes to share (provided at no cost to students), but students are encouraged to bring their own supplies. Jim will be joined by Illinois gourd artist Stephanie Rushing, who will lend her expertise.

This class will be held at the Carbondale Senior Center, 409 W. Springer Street, in a room without carpeting, as students will be painting and carving.

Note: John A. Logan carried a gourd canteen in the Mexican-American War of 1847 that is on display at his museum in Murphysboro.

SILIR Fall Session Two Classes

Wednesdays » 1:30 - 3:30 pm

COST \$15

FIVE SESSIONS: October 21 - November 17

INSTRUCTOR: Paul Mundschenk

You, Me and Buddha

Buddha was a first century prince in a small but prosperous kingdom in the northern Himalayan mountains, but he gave it all up in pursuit of viable answers to life's existential questions. He found something that was satisfying to him, and his words of explanation are still being studied and followed 2509 years after he died. In this course, I'll provide an overview of his life story, but then we'll all wrestle with selected bits of his advice with one question in mind: "does this really apply to us in our day and age?"

Thursdays » 1:30 - 3:30 pm

COST: \$15

FIVE SESSIONS: October 22 - November 19

INSTRUCTORS: Suzanne Schmitz

The U.S. Constitution

This class will update your 7th grade civics class by examining the seven Articles of the Constitution, reviewing the history behind the Constitution and traditional understanding of the Constitution. We will briefly consider modern theories about the Constitution and proposed amendments. We will not include the Bill of Rights. If you have a pocket-sized copy of the Constitution, bring it or any copy you may have. I will have extras.

Go to Court to Observe Detention Hearings

Tuesday, October 12 or Monday, October 26



Two more chances to observe the new detention hearings that are part of the "cashless bail" system in Illinois. Jackson County Courthouse, Murphysboro, on Tuesday, October 12, time to be announced, or Monday, October 26, 1 pm.

If interested, email Suzanne Schmitz at sjschmitz619@gmail.com. No fee; no need to register.

Reminder: the courts, except for juvenile matters, are open to the public. You can attend court at any time.

OnTheRoad with LIR Symphony on Tour

ITINERARY

Friday, October 16

7:00 am	Park and board, SIU Arena South Lot
7:15 am	DEPART CARBONDALE
9:35 am	Arrive Powell Hall, St. Louis
10:00 am	Preconcert Lecture
10:30 am	SLSO "Scenes from the Rhine"
12:20 pm	DEPART POWELL HALL
12:30 pm	Lunch at St. Louis Food Hall
1:35 pm	DEPART ST. LOUIS FOOD HALL
1:45 pm	Arrive Powell Hall
2:00 pm	Tour of Powell Hall
3:30 pm	DEPART POWELL HALL
5:45 pm	ARRIVE CARBONDALE

THE BUS FOR THIS TRIP IS FULL.

Park free in the southernmost Banterra Center parking lot. Access from Hwy. 51 and turn at the Banterra lighted sign. Take the first left and drive south.

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES

Our newsletter is published online, as well as in print, and can be found at conferenceservices.siu.edu/silir.

The site also contains information about membership, current and upcoming classes, meetings, road trips, and the guiding principles that determine our organization's purpose and activities.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

Dues are \$25 a year.

Annual membership dates run
from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.

SILIR Registration Form

Please fill out and send entire form with payment.

First Name _____ Last Name _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Day Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

E-mail _____

NEW MEMBERS: How did you hear about us? ☐ Friend ☐ Newspaper ☐ Social Media/Online ☐ Radio/TV

If you are registering more than yourself for a class/trip, please list the name(s) of the SILIR member you are registering.
July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027

Name _____ (27M0901901) FY27 Membership Dues \$25 x _____ = _____

INTEREST GROUPS AND CLASSES

Name _____ (27M0901904) Book Study Group \$10 x _____ = _____

Name _____ (27M0901905) Lunch Discussion Group \$10 x _____ = _____

Name _____ (27M0901906) Powell Hall (members).....\$145 x _____ = _____

Name _____ (27M0901906) Powell Hall (non-members)\$158 x _____ = _____

Name _____ (27M0901907) Gourd Creation \$15 x _____ = _____

Name _____ (27M0901913) Geological Wonders \$15 x _____ = _____

Name _____ (27M0901914) 2026 Midterm Elections \$15 x _____ = _____

Name _____ (27M0901915) Hitchcock and the Censors..... \$15 x _____ = _____

Name _____ (27M0901916) You, Me and Buddha..... \$15 x _____ = _____

Name _____ (27M0901917) The US Constitution..... \$15 x _____ = _____

Additional Name(s) _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

Learning in Retirement program waiver disclaimer: Most SILIR activities require very little mobility. When an activity requires traveling up to one mile or more or navigating 10 steps or more, or involves longer waiting or standing times, we will alert you so that you may choose wisely.

Signature _____ Date _____

My signature confirms that I have read and understand the activity level of any trip sponsored by Learning in Retirement and accept the risks and conditions of the trip. I am aware that some trips may encounter rough terrain and closed-toe shoes will aid in maintaining my safety.

Make check payable to *SIU Carbondale* or enter credit card information below:

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. _____

Name on Card _____ CVC _____

Email (for receipt) _____

Mail form and check to:
Events and Outreach
Anthony Hall – Mail Code 6705
Carbondale, IL 62901

Register online with credit card:
conferenceservices.siu.edu/silir



EVENTS AND OUTREACH
STUDENT CENTER – MAIL CODE 6705
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
1265 LINCOLN DRIVE
CARBONDALE, IL 62901

Non-Profit Org.
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Carbondale, IL

«cont_id»*«gpb_id»*****«endorse»

«first» «last»

«address»

«city», «st» «zip»

Questions or suggestions
Email: silir@siu.edu
Phone: 618/536-7751

**S.I. Learning
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What will you learn today?
Visit the SI Learning in Retirement webpage at:
conferenceservices.siu.edu/silir